

STATE OF INDIANA

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

**PETITION OF INDIANA NATURAL GAS)
CORPORATION FOR AUTHORITY TO) CAUSE NO.: 45889
CHANGE ITS RATES, CHARGES, TARIFFS,)
RULES, AND REGULATIONS)**

VERIFIED PETITION

To the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission:

Indiana Natural Gas Corporation. (“Petitioner,” “Indiana Natural,” or “Company”) respectfully petitions the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (“Commission”) for authority to increase its retail rates and charges for natural gas service rendered by Petitioner and for approval of related relief. This filing is made pursuant to Ind. Code § 8-1-2-42.7. In support of this Petition, Community represents the following:

Petitioner’s Corporate Status

1. Petitioner is a corporation duly organized and existing under and through the laws of the State of Indiana and has its principal office at 1080 West Hospital Road, Paoli, Indiana

2. Petitioner provides pipelines, distribution systems, land, land rights, equipment, materials, supplies, working capital, and other property that is used and useful for the rendering of natural gas service to its customers. Petitioner operates under franchises obtained from various municipalities and necessity certificates obtained from this Commission or its predecessor. Petitioner supplies gas to both rural and municipal areas in Bartholomew, Brown, Crawford, Dubois, Lawrence, Harrison, and Orange Counties, Indiana. As of December 31, 2022, Petitioner served approximately 8,086 customers.

Petitioner's "Public Utility" Status

3. Petitioner is a public utility as defined by Indiana Code § 8-1-2-1 and as such is under the jurisdiction of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission ("Commission"). Further, Petitioner believes that by virtue of Indiana Code § 8-1-2-61, Indiana Code § 8-1-2-76, and Indiana Code § 8-1-2-42.7 the Commission has jurisdiction over this matter.

Petitioner's Existing Rates

4. Petitioner's current base rates, charges and tariffs; except as may have been amended from time to time by various GCA proceedings, or amended tariffs including those related to Cause No. 45032 and subdockets; are those base rates, charges, and tariffs last approved by this Commission in Cause No. 44453 through its Order dated July 30, 2014. Such rates and charges are unjust, unreasonable, and confiscatory of Petitioner's used and useful property. Further, such tariffs, rules, and regulations are insufficient for the appropriate provision of natural gas service.

5. The petition initiating Cause No. 44453 was filed with the Commission on January 3, 2014. Therefore, in accordance with Ind. Code § 8-1-2-42(a), more than fifteen months have passed since the filing of Community's most recent request for a general increase in its basic rates and charges.

Test Year, Rate Base Cutoff Dates

6. Petitioner requests authority to change its current base rates, charges, tariffs, rules, and regulations as supported by the evidence of record in this cause; based on an accounting test year of December 31, 2022; as adjusted for fixed, known and measurable changes occurring within 12 months following such test year. Petitioner also requests the use of a cutoff date for its utility plant in service for purposes of valuing its rate base in this cause as of December 31, 2022.

Petitioner’s Proposed Rates and Charges

7. As explained in greater detail in Petitioner’s case-in-chief, Petitioner’s current rates are insufficient and confiscatory. Petitioner’s proposal is detailed in its case-in-chief filed contemporaneous herewith and includes, but is not limited to, an adjustment to its base rates and charges so as to increase its revenue by \$1,144,537, or 1.910% as compared to Petitioner’s current rates and charges and to revise its gas depreciation rates applicable to its gas plant in service as proposed in its evidence to be presented in this proceeding. Indiana Natural continues to use the depreciation rates applicable to its common plant as approved by the Commission in Indiana Naturals last electric general rate proceeding in Cause No. 44453.

Procedural Schedule

8. Pursuant to 170 IAC 1-1.1-9(8), undersigned counsel is authorized to represent that Petitioner and the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (“OUCC”) stipulate and agree to the following procedural schedule which is consistent with the Commission’s GAO 2013-5 standard procedural schedule:

	Wed. May 17, 2023	Petition & Filing of Case in Chief.
Stipulated Day 0	Wed. May 24, 2023	
Day 98	Wed. August 30, 2023	OUCC and Intervenors Filing of Case in Chief.
Day 126	Wed. September 27, 2023	Rebuttal/OUCC & Intervenors Cross Answering, if any.
Day 133	Wed. October 4, 2023	Settlement Agreement
Day 154	Wed. October 25, 2023	Evidentiary hearing.
Day 182	Wed. November 22, 2023	Petitioner proposed order/post hearing brief.
Day 203	Wed. December 13, 2023	OUCC and Intervenor proposed order/brief.
Day 210	Wed. December 20, 2023	Petitioner Reply.

9. Petitioner and the OUCC agree that discovery should be conducted on an informal basis, with responses due within ten calendar days of the receipt of discovery. After August 30, 2023, discovery is to be conducted on a five business day basis. Discovery requests received after 5:00 p.m. on Monday through Thursday, or after noon on Friday or the day before a state holiday, are treated as received the next business day.

Customer Notification

10. In accordance with Ind. Code § 8-1-2-61(a), Petitioner will publish notice of the filing of this Petition in a newspaper of general circulation published in each Indiana county in which Community renders service. The proofs of publication of notice will be late-filed as an exhibit.

Attorneys for Petitioner

11. Service of all petitions, motions, reports, testimony, exhibits, or papers of any kind to be served upon Petitioner should be served upon Petitioner’s counsel of record as here noted:

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WHEREFORE, Indiana Natural Gas Corporation respectfully requests this Commission promptly establish a procedural schedule and associated terms, make such investigation and hold such hearings as are necessary or advisable in this Cause, and thereafter make and enter an

appropriate order in accordance with the 300-day time frame provided in GAO-2013-5 and Section 42.7:

to enter this Petition of record; hold such other public hearings as are necessary; authorize appropriate changes in Petitioner's rates, charges, tariffs, rules, and regulations; and for all other appropriate relief justice and the evidence in this cause would require.

Respectfully submitted,



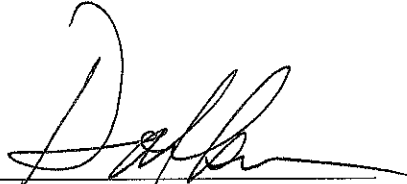
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Counsel for Petitioner,
Indiana Natural Gas Corporation

VERIFICATION

I affirm under the penalties of perjury that the foregoing is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief as of this 17th day of May, 2023.

INDIANA NATURAL GAS CORPORATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Osmon', written over a horizontal line.

David A. Osmon

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing has been served upon the following
counsel of record electronically this 17th day of May, 2023:

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Matthew Kappus
Heather Poole
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