

**STATE OF INDIANA**

**INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**VERIFIED PETITION OF NORTHERN INDIANA )  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY LLC FOR )  
APPROVAL OF PETITIONER’S TDSIC PLAN FOR )  
ELIGIBLE TRANSMISSION, DISTRIBUTION, AND )  
STORAGE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS, )  
PURSUANT TO IND. CODE § 8-1-39-10(a) )  
INCLUDING TARGETED ECONOMIC )  
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS PURSUANT TO IND. )  
CODE § 8-1-39-10(c) AND EXTENSIONS TO )  
RURAL AREAS PURSUANT TO IND. CODE § )  
8-1-39-11, FOR AUTHORITY TO DEFER COSTS )  
FOR FUTURE RECOVERY AND APPROVING )  
INCLUSION OF NIPSCO’S TDSIC PLAN )  
PROJECTS IN ITS RATE BASE IN ITS NEXT )  
GENERAL RATE PROCEEDING PURSUANT TO )  
IND. CODE § 8-1-2-23. )**

**CAUSE NO. 45330**

**INDIANA OFFICE OF UTILITY CONSUMER COUNSELOR’S**

**PUBLIC’S EXHIBIT NO. 2 – PUBLIC REDACTED TESTIMONY OF  
OUCC WITNESS BRIEN R KRIEGER**

With the current requirement that all staff work from home, signatures for affirmations are not available at this time.

**April 9, 2020**

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ T. Jason Haas \_\_\_\_\_  
T. Jason Haas  
Attorney No. 34983-29  
Deputy Consumer Counselor

**PUBLIC (REDACTED) TESTIMONY OF  
OUCC WITNESS BRIEN R. KRIEGER  
CAUSE NO. 45330  
NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY LLC**

**NOTE:** [REDACTED] INDICATES CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1 **Q: Please state your name and business address.**

2 A: My name is Brien R. Krieger and my business address is 115 W. Washington Street,  
3 Suite 1500 South, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

4 **Q: By whom are you employed and in what capacity?**

5 A: I am employed by the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (“OUCC”) as  
6 a utility analyst in the Natural Gas Division. For a summary of my educational and  
7 professional experience and general preparation for this case, please see Appendix  
8 BRK-1.

9 **Q: What is the purpose of your testimony?**

10 A: The purpose of my testimony is to determine if Northern Indiana Public Service  
11 Company LLC’s (“NIPSCO” or “Petitioner”) 6-Year Plan (“2020-2025 Gas Plan”  
12 or “Plan 2”) meets Ind. Code ch. 8-1-39 requirements as an eligible Transmission,  
13 Distribution, and Storage System Improvement Charge (“TDSIC”) Plan. I consider  
14 if Petitioner’s proposed improvement projects are for purposes of safety, reliability,  
15 or system modernization with established incremental benefits and detailed project  
16 cost estimates.

17 **Q: Please summarize the results of your analysis.**

18 A: Petitioner presented 33 projects (“projects”) in Plan 2 as eligible Transmission,  
19 Distribution, and Storage System Improvements, and eligible for recovery.

1 NIPSCO's first TDSIC Plan ("Plan 1"), Cause No. 44403, Final Order on April 30,  
2 2014, was terminated on December 31, 2019 with all remaining Plan 1 cost  
3 estimates cancelled. Petitioner states Plan 2 actual costs started on January 1, 2020.  
4 I found no duplicative costs between the two Plans and did not find any Plan 2  
5 projects contained within rate base from Petitioner's last rate case in Cause No.  
6 44988.

7 As part of the 2020-2025 Gas Plan, NIPSCO reviewed transmission,  
8 distribution, and storage assets. (Petitioner's Exhibit No. 2, Verified Direct  
9 Testimony of Don Bull, page 8, lines 9-15 and page 13, lines 6-10.) NIPSCO  
10 provided a risk analysis performed by EN Engineering that evaluated transmission  
11 projects completed in Plan 1 and transmission projects NIPSCO anticipates  
12 completing in Plan 2 on reducing overall transmission risk.<sup>1</sup> Petitioner's  
13 confidential best estimates included detailed work order level or unit cost estimates,  
14 depending on project type.

15 My analysis evaluated whether the 2020-2025 Gas Plan meets the  
16 requirements of Ind. Code ch. 8-1-39. I recommend denial of NIPSCO's  
17 application. My analysis indicates NIPSCO's Plan 2 does not fully meet the  
18 requirement for Ind. Code § 8-1-39-10(b)(3). This section requires a "determination  
19 whether the estimated costs of the eligible improvements included in the plan are  
20 justified by incremental benefits attributable to the plan." NIPSCO has not provided  
21 evidence to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission ("Commission") of

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<sup>1</sup> Confidential Attachment 2-A, Confidential Appendix 1, page 1 – Executive Summary

1 quantifiable benefits for risk reduction of chosen projects versus excluded projects.

2 While NIPSCO provides the cost of the projects and demonstrates the benefits of  
3 the plan through the reduction of risk, there is no demonstration that links or  
4 supports how or why these costs justify the anticipated benefits.

5 With regard to the other requirements of Ind. Code ch. 8-1-39, I determined  
6 the proposed projects are eligible transmission, distribution, and storage system  
7 improvements under Ind. Code § 8-1-39-2, and NIPSCO provided the best estimate  
8 of the eligible improvements under Ind. Code § 8-1-29-10(b)(1). However, as  
9 explained below, I recommend a 2% inflation factor be applied to NIPSCO's  
10 estimates. I determined the public convenience and necessity require or will require  
11 the eligible improvements included in the plan under Ind. Code § 8-1-39-10(b)(2).  
12 I also reviewed Petitioner's definitions of key terms from Cause No. 44403, and  
13 recommend continued use of these key terms. Additionally, if the Commission  
14 approves Plan 2, then I recommend approval of Petitioner's proposal for updating  
15 the 2020-2025 Gas Plan in future semi-annual tracker adjustment proceedings.

16 **Q: Are there any further recommendations based upon your analysis?**

17 A: Yes. Again, if the Commission approves Plan 2, then in future updates, Petitioner  
18 should provide work order level detail cost estimates for all projects, including rural  
19 extensions, now lacking site specific engineering based upon site investigations  
20 completed for final design, material/labor procurement and scheduling. At that  
21 time, the update of approved Plan projects should include work order level  
22 estimates for Plan 2 projects originally based upon unit cost, parametrically derived  
23 costs, or preliminary design only projects.

1           The OUCC requests Petitioner continue informal communication and  
2 continue to improve the update process. If Plan 2 is approved, the OUCC requests  
3 Petitioner include “costs tied to reasons” in the update process if best estimates or  
4 actual expenditures exceed a prior best estimate by 20% or \$100,000. “Costs tied  
5 to reasons” means Petitioner will need to explicitly name the portion of work order  
6 detail causing the overage and the associated cost for the unplanned work order  
7 item. The OUCC recommends Petitioner file detailed work order level estimates,  
8 based on completed engineering with site visits, if Petitioner requests a new project  
9 to be added.

## II. OVERVIEW OF TDSIC STATUTE AND NIPSCO'S PLAN

10 **Q: What are the main conditions of Indiana's TDSIC statute, Ind. Code ch. 8-1-**  
11 **39, under which NIPSCO requests approval of Plan 2?**

12 **A:** NIPSCO requests approval of its Plan 2 for a CPCN to implement TDSIC eligible  
13 projects meeting requirements of Ind. Code ch. 8-1-39, and if approved, requests  
14 cost recovery through a semi-annual cost adjustment mechanism (“TDSIC  
15 tracker”). (Petition, paragraph 4, pages 3-5.)

16           Petitioner's proposed TDSIC Plan of 33 projects includes one rural extension  
17 project (“RE1”) with RE1 having multiple main extensions and services projected  
18 on an annual basis to provide service in rural areas (Ind. Code § 8-1-39-11). All  
19 projects within the Plan must meet the requirements of Ind. Code § 8-1-39-2 to be  
20 eligible transmission, distribution, and storage system improvements, and the  
21 Commission must determine if the Plan is reasonable in accordance with Ind. Code  
22 § 8-1-39-10.

1           If the Plan is approved, the Commission shall issue an order as described as in  
2 Ind. Code § 8-1-39-10(b) that includes:

- 3           • A finding of the best estimate of the cost of the eligible improvements;
- 4           • A determination the plan projects meet public convenience and necessity;
- 5           and,
- 6           • A determination the estimated costs of the eligible improvements are
- 7           justified by incremental benefits attributable to the plan.

8 **Q: Please provide an overview of NIPSCO’s 6-Year TDSIC Plan.**

9 A: NIPSCO proposes 33 projects for the Plan period of 2020 to 2025 and characterizes  
10 the 33 projects into three broad categories: Gas System Deliverability, Gas System  
11 Integrity, and Rural Gas Extensions. The total costs for each of these categories is  
12 included in Table 1.

13 **TABLE 1 - Investment by Segment<sup>2</sup>**

Investment Segment	Projected Direct Capital
Gas System Deliverability	\$92,656,660
Gas System Integrity	\$531,495,088
Rural Gas Extensions	\$183,421,531
Plan Total	\$807,573,279

14 Gas System Deliverability is to “...add new gas mains and add or upgrade regulator  
15 stations to improve NIPSCO’s ability to meet customers’ deliverability demands.”  
16 (Bull Direct, page 8, lines 5-6.) The Gas System Integrity investments are to  
17 “...replace certain segments of NIPSCO’s gas transmission, distribution, and  
18 storage facilities to ensure public safety.” (Bull Direct, page 8, lines 9-11.) The  
19 Rural Extensions are “...the costs associated with designing and installing gas main  
20 and service projects to reach rural areas.” (Bull Direct, page 103, lines 16-17.)

<sup>2</sup> Bull Direct, page 8.

1           Petitioner provided confidential best estimates for each of the 33 projects  
2 (Table 2), and also by FERC account in Petitioner's Exhibit No. 2, Confidential  
3 Attachment 2-A. The projects have an annual 3% escalation factor applied to the  
4 years after the cost estimates originated ("base estimate" or "base year"), not  
5 including contingency, through the planned last year of construction. (Bull Direct,  
6 page 32, footnote 13.) The base year estimates range from 2017 to 2020 with  
7 storage and liquefied natural gas representing the majority with a base year of 2017.

8           Petitioner's Exhibit No. 2, Confidential Attachment 2-B presents the annual  
9 capital estimate breakdown per project, 3% escalation on the base estimate, and the  
10 project specific contingency applied to the base estimate. I confirmed the 3%  
11 escalation factor is not applied to the contingency dollar estimates.

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**TABLE 2 - NIPSCO TDSIC PLAN PROJECTS (2020-2025)**

1	TP7	Transmission Pipeline Replacement	Hessen Cassel to Hanna St.
2	TP8	Transmission Pipeline Replacement	Highland Junction to Grant St.
3	TP10	Transmission Pipeline Replacement	Aetna to Tassinong
4	TP11	Transmission Pipeline Replacement	Aetna to 483# Loop
5	TP12	Transmission Pipeline Replacement	Aetna to LaPorte Pressure Reduction
6	TP13	Transmission Pipeline Replacement	Aetna to Tassinong Pressure Reduction
7	TP14	Transmission Pipeline Replacement	Colfax and Cline Station Rebuilds
8	IM24	Inspect & Mitigate - Transmission	Corrosion Rectifiers Install/Replace
9	IM25	Inspect & Mitigate - Transmission	Corrosion Moisture Monitoring
10	IM27	Inspect & Mitigate - Transmission	Engineering and Preconstruction - Inspect and Mitigate Transmission
11	IM33	Inspect & Mitigate - Transmission	Station Equipment Upgrades/Replacements
12	IM35	Inspect & Mitigate - Transmission	Transmission Communications Instrumentation Replacement
13	IM36	Inspect & Mitigate - Transmission	2G/3G Cellular Modem Replacement
14	IM37	Inspect & Mitigate - Transmission	Royal Center to Laketon Corrosion Remediation and Pipe Repair
15	IM38	Inspect & Mitigate - Transmission	Trunkline-Goodland Station Heater & Odorizer Replacement
16	IM39	Inspect & Mitigate - Transmission	Wakarusa Station Replacement
17	IM40	Inspect & Mitigate - Transmission	Michigan City ANR Rebuild
18	SD15	System Deliverability - Transmission	Churubusco HP System Improvement
19	SD16	System Deliverability - Transmission	Shipshewana to Howe
20	DSD10	System Deliverability - Distribution	System Deliverability Projects - Distribution
21	DSD13	System Deliverability - Distribution	Shipshewana Distribution Headers
22	RE1	Rural Extensions - Distribution	Rural Extensions
23	S41	Storage Projects	Engineering and Preconstruction - Storage
24	SLNG1	Storage Projects	LNG - Replace Air Actuated Control Valves
25	SLNG2	Storage Projects	LNG - Install Travel Limit Switches on Purification System Valves
26	SLNG3	Storage Projects	LNG - Replace Unit #2 Tank Foundation Heating System
27	SLNG4	Storage Projects	LNG - Replace Unit #2 Purification Sys. Regen. Gas Heater
28	SLNG5	Storage Projects	LNG - Water Mist Fire Protection System for Purification Building
29	SRC1	Storage Projects	RCUGS - Dehydrator #4 Reboiler
30	SRC2	Storage Projects	RCUGS - Replace Injection Flow Control Valve
31	SRC3	Storage Projects	RCUGS - Isolation Valves
32	SRC4	Storage Projects	RCUGS - Replace Desulf #2 Regeneration System
33	SRC5	Storage Projects	RCUGS - Replace Desulf #2 Absorber Towers



1 **Q: Did NIPSCO previously file a second TDSIC plan in Cause No. 45074?**

2 A: Yes. However, NIPSCO requested Cause No. 45074 be dismissed without  
3 prejudice. The Commission granted NIPSCO's request in an Order dated  
4 September 4, 2018.

5 **Q: Are any of NIPSCO's projects from Cause No. 44403 (Plan 1) or dismissed**  
6 **Cause No. 45074 contained as Plan 2 projects?**<sup>3</sup>

7 A: Yes. However, there is no project cost overlap. There are on-going projects from  
8 Cause No. 44403, which have been moved into Plan 2. Also, NIPSCO has re-  
9 engineered specific projects from Cause No. 45074. Petitioner uses similar or the  
10 same names from Cause No. 44403 or Cause No. 45074 because of pipe  
11 connectivity in the same geographical area, parallel existing pipe, or a prior Plan  
12 project which was cancelled and re-engineered for Plan 2.

13 The OUCC and NIPSCO discussed potential project cost overlap during  
14 informal meetings on February 4 and February 11, 2020. The OUCC specifically  
15 asked NIPSCO about projects that share similar project names, or may be a  
16 continuance of a Plan 1 project. At that time, Petitioner provided a table correlating  
17 Plan 1 projects to Plan 2 projects with similar names.<sup>4</sup> Distinct line segments with  
18 mileage were included for each project, along with the planned work: new or  
19 modified, retired, or reduced pressure. Concerning planning costs, Petitioner's  
20 witness Donald Bull states that Engineering and Preconstruction estimated costs  
21 are included in specific Plan 2 projects whenever possible. (Bull Direct, page 46,

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<sup>3</sup> See attachment BRK-1 containing Petitioner's response to OUCC DR 2-001, and confidential attachment BRK-2, containing Petitioner's confidential responses to Industrial Group DR 1-015 and DR 1-016.

<sup>4</sup> See attachment BRK-3.

1 lines 13-15.)

2 In Petitioner's Cause No. 44403 TDSIC-11 (filed 2/25/2020), I found all  
3 Plan 1 projects for year 2020 with prior cost estimates set to zero dollars.<sup>5</sup> I have  
4 found no duplicative costs or projects between Plan 1 and Plan 2.

5 **Q: What are the specific projects from Plan 1 continued in Plan 2?**

6 A: The OUCC and Petitioner discussed six projects from Cause No. 44403, which are  
7 continued in Plan 2. These Plan 1 project numbers are TP2, TP7, TP8, TP9, IM33-  
8 DIM14, and IM34-DIM40. During these discussions, NIPSCO clarified the  
9 separation of Plan 2 from Plan 1 project scope, and agreed further clarification will  
10 continue as requested. NIPSCO stated it is open to accounting schedule revisions,  
11 and further discussion to ensure accounting information is understood.

12 Plan 1 Project No. TP2, Aetna to LaPorte, is renumbered as Plan 2 TP 12  
13 Aetna to LaPorte. Plan 1 (TP2 - Aetna to LaPorte) had zero dollars estimated in  
14 Plan 1 for years 2019 and 2020, and the corresponding Plan 2 TP 12 is a  
15 continuation of retirements of some 22" pipeline segments, reduced operating  
16 pressure of the remaining 22" pipeline, and some additional regulating stations to  
17 tie in existing distribution. (Bull Direct, page 76, line 9 through page 78, line 10.)  
18 Plan 1 TP2 was completed and placed into rate base as of December 31, 2018.<sup>6</sup> I  
19 did not find duplicate costs between the two Plan projects – Aetna to LaPorte.

20 Plan 1 TP7 Hessen Cassel to Hanna remains as Plan 2 TP7 Hessen Cassel  
21 to Hanna, a City of Fort Wayne project. All costs for Plan 1 Hessen Cassel to Hanna

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<sup>5</sup> Cause No. 44403 TDSIC-11, Audit Package 1-001 (Plan Update-11).

<sup>6</sup> Cause No. 44403 TDSIC-10, Petitioner's Confidential Exhibit No. 3, page 44, lines 3-9.

1 were estimated to occur in year 2020 and removed from Plan 1. Hessen Cassel to  
2 Hanna has a new best estimate approximately doubling the Plan 1 estimate because  
3 TP7 now has the site specific engineering estimate.

4 Similarly, TP8 Highland to Grant is in both Plans, but the Plan 2 best  
5 estimate is about 1/3 of Plan 1's 2020 estimate of <Confidential [REDACTED]  
6 Confidential> as found in Cause No. 44403 TDSIC-10, but removed in Cause No.  
7 44403 TDSIC-11.

8 The Aetna to Tassinong project (Plan 1 TP9 to Plan 2 TP10) is a redesigned  
9 project for Plan 2 replacing 16" main in most sections with 24" main and adding  
10 redundancy. The Plan 1 TP9 total was <Confidential [REDACTED] Confidential>.  
11 Approximately <Confidential [REDACTED] Confidential> was removed from Plan 1  
12 TP9 year 2020. Approximately <Confidential [REDACTED] Confidential> was spent  
13 in Plan 1 on integrating 16" pipe with a regulating station to remain operating at  
14 lower pressure along with land and permit acquisitions.<sup>7</sup> NIPSCO is now planning  
15 on installing 26 miles of 24" pipeline, compared to Aetna to Tassinong as proposed  
16 in Plan 1 TP10. (Bull Direct, page 68, line 6 – page 69, line 5.)

17 The Plan 1 Projects IM33-DIM14 and IM34-DIM40 are now combined into  
18 Plan 2 IM 33, Station Equipment Upgrades/Replacements. Plan 1 IM33-DIM14  
19 had no estimates and no expenditures, while IM34-DIM40 had no estimates in Plan  
20 1 years 2018, 2019, and 2020. Essentially, Plan 2 IM33 includes projects, some  
21 defined in Plan 1, now in Plan 2, and is defined with two subprojects: Odorizers

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<sup>7</sup> Petitioner Confidential Attachment 2-A Confidential Appendix 1, page 11, Table 2 Completed Projects

1 and Pipeline Buildings/Heaters. Project ID IM33 best estimates are based on a per  
2 unit basis and will need additional definition, location, and detailed work order  
3 level estimates provided in the update process.

4 **Q: Are there any 2020-2025 Gas Plan projects in NIPSCO's current base rates or**  
5 **other tracking mechanisms?**

6 A: No. Petitioner states there are no Plan 2 projects in base rates. (Bull Direct, page  
7 111, lines 4-6.) Petitioner has four associated cost recovery petitions: Cause Nos.  
8 44403, TDSIC Plan 1; 44988, base rates; 45007, FMCA Plan 1; and 45330, TDSIC  
9 Plan 2.

10 The OUCC reviewed projects at the time of each filing, and found  
11 separation of projects in each individual petition. The OUCC and Petitioner have  
12 discussed the issue of overlapping or duplicate projects in the various cost recovery  
13 mechanisms. NIPSCO and the OUCC agree, at this point, there are no overlapping  
14 or duplicate projects.

15 **Q: In your opinion, are the proposed projects eligible transmission, distribution**  
16 **and storage improvements as used in Ind. Code § 8-1-39-2?**

17 A: Yes. The projects are undertaken for the purposes of safety, reliability, and system  
18 modernization, including the extension of gas service to rural areas, and were not  
19 included in NIPSCO's most recent rate case. Therefore, the proposed projects are  
20 eligible transmission, distribution and storage improvements as used in Ind. Code  
21 § 8-1-39-2.

22 **Q: In your opinion, are the projects included in Petitioner's Gas Plan 2 required**  
23 **or will be required for public convenience and necessity?**

24 A: Yes. The risk analysis indicates these projects will improve NIPSCO's system for  
25 reliable natural gas delivery during the Plan installation and into the future. On

1 some pipelines, vintage year alone suggests replacement is required. However,  
2 NIPSCO did not provide a dollar quantification or demonstrate that the incremental  
3 benefit for the proposed Plan 2 projects justify the costs. With dollar quantified  
4 benefits, the Commission would have one metric to aid in deciding if NIPSCO is  
5 providing the best use of rate payer dollars and ascertain the worth of selected  
6 projects compared to non-selected competing projects.

**III. ANALYSIS OF NIPSCO'S SUPPORT FOR SAFETY, RELIABILITY, AND  
SYSTEM MODERNIZATION IMPROVEMENTS OF PLAN 2**

7 **Q: Did Petitioner demonstrate that the estimated costs of the eligible**  
8 **improvements included in the plan are justified by incremental benefits**  
9 **attributable to the plan?**

10 A: No. NIPSCO provides conclusory testimony that merely states the estimated costs  
11 are justified by the incremental benefits, and the 2020-2025 Gas Plan provides  
12 incremental benefit by significantly decreasing the potential risk. (Bull Direct, page  
13 112, line 15 – page 113, line 5.) NIPSCO did not provide quantifiable incremental  
14 benefits for the Plan 2 projects' risk reductions. (Bull Direct, page 113, lines 13-  
15 14.) Finally, it is not apparent how selected Plan 2 projects were chosen over  
16 alternative projects. Furthermore, my analysis indicates NIPSCO provided a  
17 general explanation of its review of projects for the 2020-2025 Gas Plan, but does  
18 not provide the exact methodology that shows how a specific project was or was  
19 not included in the plan.

1 **Q: Did Petitioner select Plan 2 projects based upon a benefit-cost analysis**  
2 **ensuring best use of dollars for risk reduction?**

3 A: No. It appears Petitioner selected projects based on the EN Engineering risk  
4 analysis, and chose the highest transmission risk projects. Mr. Bull states, “[a]  
5 broader portfolio of projects was prioritized to develop the specific improvements  
6 included in the Plan.” (Bull Direct, page 11, lines 16-17.) I did not find evidence  
7 Petitioner prioritized projects based upon deploying capital to maximize risk  
8 reduction per dollar invested, or reasons for rejecting the other risk evaluated  
9 projects.

10 Mr. Bull states later in testimony, “...most of the Plan’s investments  
11 positively impact public safety. Safety drivers focus on risk reduction related to gas  
12 system leaks, pipeline ruptures, or incidents of pressure excursion.” (Bull Direct,  
13 page 22, lines 14-16.) For example, Petitioner avoids potential pipeline events by  
14 replacing vintage pipe, but did not contrast risks and costs against repairing pipe in  
15 a “repair vs. replace” study. (Bull Direct, page 113, line 11.)

16 Mr. Bull further states, “NIPSCO also evaluated several alternatives to the  
17 pipe size for the Aetna to Tassinong pipeline to balance the cost of construction  
18 with required capacity.” (Bull Direct, page 63, lines 6-8.) Mr. Bull goes on to state,  
19 “NIPSCO evaluated alternative projects through the process of updating the Aetna  
20 – Tassinong pipeline replacement.” (Bull Direct, page 68, lines 15-17.) However,  
21 Petitioner did not provide this or any other competitive analysis comparison of  
22 possible projects in its case-in-chief that could provide service at a lower cost.

23 Mr. Bull discussed redundant feed and additional interstate pipeline take  
24 points when discussing Projects TP10 and TP11, Aetna to Tassinong and Aetna to

1 483# Loop, respectively. (Bull Direct, page 67, line 9 – page 73, line 18.) However,  
2 Petitioner has not substantiated the necessity or benefits to customers for  
3 redundancy or additional capacity by providing an assessment of operational or  
4 customer benefits with the natural gas loop flow analysis (“hydraulic model”) in its  
5 case-in-chief. (Bull Direct, page 72, line 13.)

6 **Q: Did the OUCC try to determine if Petitioner’s ranking methodology of**  
7 **potential projects included quantification of risks, or if a comparative analysis**  
8 **of included versus excluded projects was performed?**

9 A: Yes. The OUCC’s Data Request No. 2-001 asked Petitioner for a prioritized  
10 portfolio of projects, but quantification and rank ratings were not included. The  
11 OUCC also asked NIPSCO how it determined priorities for potential projects, but  
12 quantification of risks was not included in Petitioner’s response. See Attachment  
13 BRK-1 with Petitioner’s responses.

14 **Q: Did Petitioner quantify the incremental benefits of the Plan 2 projects?**

15 A: No. Mr. Bull discusses the difficulty in quantifying incremental monetary benefits.  
16 (Bull Direct, page 112, line 15 – page 114, line 9.) Mr. Bull explicitly states that  
17 the “benefit to NIPSCO’s customers from these investments cannot be calculated  
18 in an actuarial calculation.” (Bull Direct, p. 113, lines 13-14.)

19 Petitioner suggests it has met its burden of proof relying on the  
20 Commission’s Order in Cause No. 44403, where the Order discusses that Gas Plan  
21 1 provided incremental benefits through risk reduction. In this regard, Mr. Bull  
22 explains that “[t]he same is true for the projects proposed in the 2020-2025 Plan.”  
23 (Bull Direct, p. 114, lines 8-9.) A comparison of cost and risk reduction for Plan  
24 projects versus potential alternatives of competing projects was not provided by

1 Petitioner. A comparison is necessary to ascertain if ratepayer dollars are used  
2 judiciously.

3 **Q: Has the Commission recently recognized the importance of prioritizing**  
4 **projects and monetizing incremental benefits associated with risk reduction?**

5 A: Yes, in the final order in the petition for Indianapolis Power and Light for approval  
6 of its TDSIC plan, Cause No. 45264, issued on March 4, 2020. On page 23,  
7 addressing public convenience and necessity, the Commission stated:

8 IPL has used a risk-informed prioritization process that scored and  
9 ranked projects. The Risk Model estimated the reduction in the  
10 likelihood of failure, as well as the consequences of asset failure and  
11 prioritized projects so as to deploy capital in a way that maximizes risk  
12 reduction benefit per dollar invested.

13 On page 24, addressing incremental benefits attributable to the TDSIC plan, the  
14 Commission stated:

15 IPL's analysis did not attempt to quantify all project benefits, but rather  
16 focused on projects that lend themselves to monetization. This  
17 supplemental monetization analysis showed that the projects analyzed,  
18 when viewed as part of a total portfolio, will provide a net benefit that  
19 exceeds the cost of the eligible improvements whether considered on a  
20 nominal or a present value basis.

21 **Q: Did NIPSCO attempt to focus on any projects that lend themselves to**  
22 **monetization in order to show a net benefit that exceeds the cost of the eligible**  
23 **improvements?**

24 A: No. NIPSCO does not monetize any risks avoided or improved with its proposed  
25 Plan 2 projects. Petitioner has not provided supplemental benefit analysis to  
26 evaluate best use of ratepayer dollars for the projects, and Petitioner has the  
27 capabilities to do such analysis by utilizing existing operation and maintenance  
28 data, commodity cost comparisons, or land/easement procurement costs.



1 **Q: Is it NIPSCO's burden to provide sufficient proof in its case-in-chief to support**  
2 **its request?**

3 A: Yes. In two recent orders, the Commission discussed the necessity of the Petitioner  
4 providing a complete case-in-chief and that this burden is the Petitioner's  
5 responsibility. An excerpt from the final order in *City of Evansville, Indiana*, Cause  
6 No. 45073, Order of the Commission, at p. 8 (December 19, 2018) says, "Evansville  
7 is reminded that it bears the burden of proof in demonstrating it is entitled to its  
8 requested relief. The OUCC should not have to request or otherwise seek basic  
9 supporting documentation that should have been provided with Petitioner's case-in-  
10 chief to support its requested relief. Further, even if the OUCC is able to ascertain  
11 through discovery the information necessary to support Petitioner's requested relief,  
12 the Commission, which is the entity that must ultimately render a decision on the  
13 matter, would still lack the necessary information to make its determination because  
14 it is not privy to the parties' discovery."

15 The second excerpt is from *Application of Indiana Michigan Power*  
16 *Company*, Cause No. 45245, Order of the Commission, at p. 10 (February 19, 2020)  
17 says, "Thus, we also remind I&M of the importance of submitting a complete case-  
18 in-chief to facilitate OUCC and Commission review and to avoid unnecessary  
19 discovery and motion practice."

20 **Q: Please summarize your analysis of project selection and the net benefit to**  
21 **ratepayers.**

22 A: The reasons for project selection were not quantified with dollars. I did not find  
23 risks mapped to dollar savings or a quantification of the benefits other than risk  
24 reduction. I consider the following examples quantifiable: operational dollars saved

1 through better natural gas flow management, reduced gas commodity cost with  
2 multiple take-points, reduced inspection dollars because older pipe is replaced,  
3 reduced reactive manpower for leak identification, or substantiated difficulties with  
4 alternative corridors.

5 Additionally, Mr. Bull characterized two Plan project routes (TP10 and  
6 TP11) as complex, congested, or with multiple railroad or highway crossings. (Bull  
7 Direct, page 69, line 6 – page 70, line 16, and page 73, line 19 – page 75, line 3.)  
8 These projects may warrant special attention on risks avoided, potential risks  
9 increased, and incremental benefits.

10 In summary, Petitioner's Plan 2 projects appear to be chosen based upon a  
11 hierarchy of risk, but without a cost benefit analysis, which demonstrates the  
12 estimated costs of the Plan 2 improvements are justified by the incremental benefits  
13 attributable to Plan 2. It is not apparent any monetization is embedded in any risk  
14 characteristic applied in the EN Engineering risk analysis. I find it presumptive to  
15 infer Petitioner has chosen the best use of ratepayer money because there is no  
16 comparative analysis of risk reduction versus dollars spent for the selected Plan 2  
17 projects. Additionally, I did not find quantifiable risk evaluation for distribution or  
18 storage projects similar to what was performed for NIPSCO transmission assets.

19 My analysis of incremental benefits indicates Petitioner has not met the  
20 requirement of Ind. Code § 8-1-39-10(b)(3) for proving the estimated costs of the  
21 eligible improvements are justified by the incremental benefits. Petitioner has not  
22 provided in its case-in-chief, validation that Plan 2 projects maximize risk  
23 reduction, while maximizing the incremental benefits of the dollars invested.

1 **Q: What information should have been provided to demonstrate that project**  
2 **costs justify the incremental benefits?**

3 A: NIPSCO should have provided project information quantifying the value of  
4 individual avoided risks for all selected projects. Various methods for quantifying  
5 benefits in dollars can be used such as dollars relating to improved customer  
6 experience or dollars per risk characteristic avoided. The additional information  
7 would allow the Commission to demonstrate, as required in Ind. Code § 8-1-39-  
8 10(b)(3), that the estimated costs of the eligible improvements included in the plan  
9 are justified by incremental benefits attributable to the plan. Petitioner's methods  
10 should explicitly quantify attributes with incremental beneficial dollars on a per  
11 project basis to justify the cost of the projects. Additionally, Petitioner should  
12 submit a comprehensive list of included projects, alternative projects it considered,  
13 but excluded, with reasons for exclusion, the alternative projects' potential costs,  
14 and the incremental value of reduced risk of the alternative projects. From this  
15 comprehensive list, a determination could be made whether NIPSCO had chosen  
16 the best of competing projects which provide the lowest cost for the highest risk  
17 reduction.

18 **Q: Did Petitioner's transmission risk analysis of proposed Plan 2 projects indicate**  
19 **Plan 2 transmission projects reduce risk?**

20 A: Yes. The risk analysis performed by EN Engineering demonstrated the  
21 improvements to the baseline transmission risk for year 2013, the reduction in risk  
22 for completed Plan 1 projects, and anticipated Plan 2 projects ending in year 2025.  
23 The Plan 2 transmission projects, which are modeled in the study, include replacing  
24 vintage pipe, adding parallel pipe for improved loop flow, retirement of mains,

1 pressure reductions on existing pipe, and retrofitting existing line segments for in-  
2 line-inspection tools.

3 The EN Engineering risk analysis, page 10, Section 5.0 Effect of Pipeline  
4 Projects, discusses the Plan 2 projects and primary methods for risk reduction. For  
5 Plan 2 projects, page 15, Table 5: Risk Score Trend for Projects Identified indicates  
6 risk reduction for Plan 2 transmission projects compared to an increasing risk from  
7 the original projected 2018 risk. On page 23, this study predicts an overall system  
8 wide relative risk improvement from 2013 to 2025 of <Confidential [REDACTED]  
9 Confidential>.

10 My analysis of the EN Engineering study indicates the proposed Plan 2 risk  
11 reduction methods are similar to the methods in Plan 1: vintage pipeline retirement,  
12 pressure reduction, and pipeline reconfiguration for in-line-inspection.

13 The OUCC and Petitioner discussed projects and risk in a meeting on  
14 February 4, 2020. Additional evidence of risk is contained in Mr. Bull's testimony,  
15 pages 12 through 17. As a result of these discussions, my review of Mr. Bull's  
16 testimony, and the EN Engineering risk analysis, I am satisfied the EN Engineering  
17 report is supported by the evaluation of comprehensive risk magnitudes applied to  
18 those risks evaluated.

#### IV. NIPSCO'S SUPPORT OF PROJECT BEST ESTIMATES

19 **Q: What cost estimate information did NIPSCO provide for its proposed Plan 2**  
20 **projects?**

21 A: NIPSCO describes developing costs with PFES, LLC and internal stakeholder  
22 review. (Bull Direct, page 27, line 18 – page 31, line 14.) Petitioner uses the AACE

1 International cost engineering estimating method for contingency evaluation. (Bull  
2 Direct, page 31, lines 17-19.) Petitioner provided work order level estimates for its  
3 projects in Confidential Attachment 2-A, Confidential Appendix 2, and also  
4 submitted work papers.

5 I reviewed work order estimates and found the estimates to include detail  
6 such as labor hours and hourly rates with detailed material lists. The OUCC and  
7 Petitioner discussed specific questions concerning the embedded formulas. The  
8 OUCC confirmed Petitioner's method developed and presented work order level  
9 estimates. Also, Petitioner addressed specific questions regarding special order  
10 material taxes and above ground regulator painting/coatings.

11 There are some Inspect and Mitigate ("IM") Project estimates that will  
12 require updating. Although some locations were identified, the material and labor  
13 cost estimates are not as detailed as compared to other projects. Petitioner's case-  
14 in-chief project per unit cost basis, and to be determined ("TBD") scheduling will  
15 need further refinement with field inspection. Specifically, I have identified IM24-  
16 Corrosion Rectifiers Install/Replace, IM25-Corrosion Moisture Monitoring, IM33-  
17 Station Equipment Upgrades/Replacements, IM35-Transmission Communications  
18 Instrumentation Replacement, and IM36-2G/3G Cellular Modem Replacement will  
19 need updates.

20 Petitioner recognizes the necessity for meeting with the OUCC during the  
21 update process as Mr. Bull explains. (Bull Direct, page 24, line 16 – page 25, line  
22 2.) I am satisfied Petitioner has provided best estimates in Plan 2 and will solidify  
23 estimates, in the update process, when the later year projects become imminent.

1 **Q: Does NIPSCO have specific economic development projects or rural extension**  
2 **projects in Plan 2?**

3 A: NIPSCO does not have any specific economic development projects. NIPSCO  
4 anticipates rural extension projects. The Petition has estimates of services and costs  
5 on an annual basis in the RE1 summary. (Confidential Attachment 2-A,  
6 Confidential Appendix 2, page 74 of 98.) This table contains no specific rural  
7 extension projects, but rather an annual estimate of the number of main extensions,  
8 service lines, and meters. I consider the testimony and case-in-chief incomplete  
9 because it lacks project specificity.

10 To further understand NIPSCO's rural extensions, NIPSCO provided the  
11 following reviews. On February 11, 2020 Petitioner reviewed its internal process  
12 and provided slides with its rural project development and defined 20-year margin  
13 analysis. On February 27, 2020, the OUCC and NIPSCO discussed the necessity of  
14 providing specific information such as location, number of customers, cost  
15 estimates pertaining to the rural extension location, and expected consumption.

16 Informal agreement was reached where Petitioner would include specific  
17 information, and the 20-year margin test, when these projects are fully developed.  
18 NIPSCO intends to provide the project location, number of customers, project level  
19 costs, and project level 20-year margin test for rural extensions as the detail matures  
20 in the Plan update process.

21 **Q: Does NIPSCO use contingency in project estimating?**

22 A: Yes. Petitioner varies the contingency percentage of each project, and includes a  
23 contingency risk matrix for each project. Confidential Attachment 2-B. I reviewed  
24 the various contingency risk matrices, and NIPSCO was very thorough in

1 considering many project aspects that could affect the project's base cost. Project  
2 contingencies vary from <Confidential [REDACTED] Confidential> per project, and I  
3 calculated the average percent contingency for all projects is <Confidential [REDACTED]  
4 Confidential> using data in Confidential Attachment 2-C.

5 My analysis indicates Petitioner was thorough in recognizing the potential  
6 "what if" problems specific to a project. I recommend Petitioner address major  
7 project contingency outcomes in the update process to better understand its use of  
8 contingency in the estimating process.

9 **Q: Did NIPSCO apply an escalation factor to project contingency?**

10 A: No. Petitioner applied an escalation factor annually to the base year estimate -  
11 before contingency was added to the base estimate. The base year estimates vary  
12 from 2017 to 2020 with an escalation factor of 3% applied. I am satisfied with the  
13 base 2017 year estimates because the vast majority of year 2017 projects are LNG  
14 or Storage projects that mimic specific LNG and Storage projects designed in Plan  
15 1. The Plan 2 LNG and Storage projects are part of NIPSCO's existing LNG or  
16 Storage premise and were estimated with Plan 1 projects and using 2017 costs.  
17 However, the 3% escalation is too high at this time. The U.S. Bureau of Labor  
18 Statistics shows the average annual Consumer Price Index ("CPI") in February  
19 2020 is 2.3%, as shown in Attachment BRK-4. Applying 3% to NIPSCO's  
20 estimates is not in line with the CPI percentage from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.  
21 Therefore, I recommend reducing the inflation factor to 2.0%, which is more  
22 comparable to the February 2020 CPI of 2.3%.

1 **Q: What are the OUCC's expectations of NIPSCO in the update process?**

2 A: If the Commission approves Plan 2, then the OUCC anticipates Petitioner will  
3 provide substantive reasons, and the costs associated with project estimates or  
4 actuals that exceed the approved Plan 2 project costs by 20% or \$100,000. This  
5 requirement is of particular necessity because the Plan 2 estimates have already  
6 built in contingency and escalation factors. Therefore, I recommend the  
7 Commission instruct NIPSCO to work with the OUCC to further develop and  
8 improve NIPSCO's TDSIC update reporting process.

9 **Q: What steps do you recommend if new projects are requested as part of**  
10 **NIPSCO's Plan 2 update?**

11 A: New projects should be specifically identified and include work order level detail  
12 based on bill of materials<sup>8</sup> similar to the detail NIPSCO provided in Plan 2. In  
13 addition, NIPSCO should provide validation on the incremental benefits, and  
14 reasons the project improves safety, reliability, or modernization while meeting all  
15 TDSIC statute requirements.

## V. RECOMMENDATIONS

16 **Q: What is your recommendation regarding NIPSCO's proposed TDSIC Plan 2?**

17 A: I recommend the Commission deny NIPSCO's proposed TDSIC Plan 2 because  
18 NIPSCO has failed to prove the estimated costs of the eligible improvements are  
19 justified by the incremental benefits in accordance with Ind. Code §8-1-39-  
20 10(b)(3).

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<sup>8</sup> "Bill of Materials" as described in Bull Direct, page 28, line 17 through page 29, line 1, and page 29, footnote 11.



1 **Q: Please review your other findings and recommendations regarding the other**  
2 **requirements of Ind. Code § 8-1-39-10(b) of Petitioner's requests as filed in**  
3 **Petitioner's Verified Petition in this Cause.**

4 A: I find Petitioner has provided best estimates for proposed projects and will improve  
5 these estimates as actual construction becomes near term. However, I recommend  
6 reducing the inflation factor to 2.0% to be applied to NIPSCO's estimates, which  
7 is more comparable to the February 2020 CPI of 2.3%. Petitioner has substantiated  
8 project RE1 consists of rural extension projects and has provided the OUCC with  
9 its method for determining adequacy in meeting the 20-year margin test. I reviewed  
10 Petitioner's definitions of key terms from Cause No. 44403 and recommend  
11 continued use of these key terms. Finally, I recommend approval of Petitioner's  
12 proposal for updating the 2020-2025 Gas Plan in future semi-annual tracker  
13 adjustment proceedings.

14 **Q: Do you have any recommendation concerning Petitioner's Update process if**  
15 **the Commission approves the Plan?**

16 A: Yes, the following are my recommendations for the Update process.

- 17 1. Petitioner should provide refined project location and work order level cost  
18 estimates for Plan projects originally submitted on a per unit basis in the  
19 original Plan.
- 20 2. Petitioner should provide 20-year margin tests for defined rural extensions  
21 projects including work order level costs, customers, and estimated  
22 consumption.
- 23 3. Petitioner should continue to work with the OUCC to ensure the accounting  
24 process is well understood so no projects costs are double counted.
- 25 4. Petitioner should inform the OUCC if it anticipates a project will exceed the  
26 approved best estimate by greater than 20% or \$100,000, and supply reasons  
27 with estimated costs for those overages, thus creating a new best estimate  
28 request for approval.
- 29 5. Petitioner should supply reasons substantiated with actual costs incurred if  
30 a project's actual costs exceed an approved best estimate by greater than

1                            20% or \$100,000.

2    **Q:**    **Does this conclude your testimony?**

3    **A:**    Yes.

**APPENDIX BRK-1 TO THE TESTIMONY OF  
OUCC WITNESS BRIEN R. KRIEGER**

1 **Q: Please describe your educational background and experience.**

2 A: I graduated from Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana with a Bachelor of Science  
3 Degree in Mechanical Engineering in May 1986, and a Master of Science Degree in  
4 Mechanical Engineering in August 2001 from Purdue University at the IUPUI campus.

5 From 1986 through mid-1997, I worked for PSI Energy and Cinergy progressing to  
6 a Senior Engineer. After the initial four years as a field engineer and industrial  
7 representative in Terre Haute, Indiana, I accepted a transfer to corporate offices in  
8 Plainfield, Indiana where my focus changed to industrial energy efficiency implementation  
9 and power quality. Early Demand Side Management (“DSM”) projects included ice storage  
10 for Indiana State University, Time of Use rates for industrials, and DSM Verification and  
11 Validation reporting to the IURC. I was an Electric Power Research Institute committee  
12 member on forums concerning electric vehicle batteries/charging, municipal  
13 water/wastewater, and adjustable speed drives. I left Cinergy and worked approximately  
14 two years for the energy consultant, ESG, and then worked for the OUCC from mid-1999  
15 to mid-2001.

16 I completed my Masters in Engineering in 2001, with a focus on power generation,  
17 including aerospace turbines, and left the OUCC to gain experience and practice in  
18 turbines. I was employed by Rolls-Royce (2001-2008) in Indianapolis working in an  
19 engineering capacity for military engines. This work included: fuel-flight regime  
20 performance, component failure mode analysis, and military program control account  
21 management.

1           From 2008 to 2016 my employment included substitute teaching in the Plainfield,  
2 Indiana school district, grades 3 through 12. I passed the math Praxis exam requirement for  
3 teaching secondary school. During this period, I also performed contract engineering work  
4 for Duke Energy and Air Analysis.

5           Over my career I have attended various continuing education workshops at the  
6 University of Wisconsin and written technical papers. While previously employed at the  
7 OUCC, I completed Week 1 of NARUC's Utility Rate School hosted by the Institute of  
8 Public Utilities at Michigan State University. In 2016, I attended two cost of service/rate-  
9 making courses: Ratemaking Workshop (ISBA Utility Law Section) and Financial  
10 Management: Cost of Service Ratemaking (AWWA). In 2017, I attended the AGA Rate  
11 School sponsored by the Center for Business and Regulation in the College of Business &  
12 Management at the University of Illinois Springfield and attended Camp NARUC Week 2,  
13 Intermediate Course held at Michigan State University. I completed the Fundamentals of  
14 Gas Distribution on-line course developed and administered by Gas Technology Institute  
15 in 2018. In October 2019, I attended Camp NARUC Week 3, Advanced Regulatory Studies  
16 Program held at Michigan State University by the Institute of Public Utilities.

17           My current responsibilities include reviewing and analyzing Cost of Service  
18 Studies ("COSS") relating to cases filed with the Commission by natural gas, electric and  
19 water utilities. Additionally, I have taken on engineering responsibilities within the

1 OUCC's Natural Gas Division, including participation in "Call Before You Dig-811"  
2 incident review and natural gas emergency response training.

3 **Q: Have you previously filed testimony with the Commission?**

4 A: Yes. I have provided written testimony concerning COSS in Cause Nos. 44731, 44768,  
5 44880, 44988, 45027, 45072, 45116, 45117, 45214, and 45215. Additionally, I have  
6 provided written testimony for Targeted Economic Development ("TED") projects in  
7 2017/2018 and various Federal Mandate Cost Adjustment ("FMCA") and Transmission,  
8 Distribution, and Storage System Improvement Charges ("TDSIC") petitions. I filed  
9 testimony or provided analysis in the following FMCA or TDSIC 7-Year Plan or Tracker  
10 petitions: Cause Nos. 44429, 44430, 44942, 45131, and 45264.

11 While previously employed by the OUCC, I wrote testimony concerning the  
12 Commission's investigation into merchant power plants, power quality, Midwest  
13 Independent System Operator and other procedures. Additionally, I prepared testimony and  
14 position papers supporting the OUCC's position on various electric and water rate cases  
15 during those same years.

16 **Q: Please describe the general review you conducted to prepare this testimony.**

17 A: I reviewed NIPSCO's ("Petitioner") Petition, Testimony, Attachments, data request  
18 responses, and confidential work papers for this Cause. I also reviewed Petitioner's prior  
19 TDSIC Petitions and Commission Orders. I participated in OUCC case team meetings  
20 concerning Petitioner's case and "tech to tech" meetings with Petitioner.

21 **Q: What evidence did you review that NIPSCO provided in support of its Plan?**

22 A: I specifically reviewed and analyzed the following documents. Witness Bull's testimony  
23 contains Plan 2 project descriptions, estimates, and risk assessments. Confidential

1 Appendix 1 is the project risk analysis support performed by EN Engineering Corp.  
2 Confidential Appendix 2 is the work order level detailed estimates including materials,  
3 hourly labor costs, estimated hours, and equipment. Petitioner's witness Wittorp's  
4 testimony, Petitioner's Exhibit No. 4, focuses on system operations with Plan impacts from  
5 the transmission system and the high pressure distribution system.

6 **Q: What other information did you receive from NIPSCO regarding its Plan projects?**

7 A: In addition to two February meetings previously mentioned in my testimony, an additional  
8 meeting was held on February 27, 2020, at which NIPSCO answered the OUCC's specific  
9 rural extension questions. I've also reviewed NIPSCO's responses to OUCC and Industrial  
10 Group data requests.

**Cause No. 45330**  
**Northern Indiana Public Service Company LLC's**  
**Objections and Responses to**  
**Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor's Set No. 2**

**OUC Request 2-001:**

Referencing Don Bull's direct testimony, page 11, lines 16-17:

- a. Please provide the portfolio of prioritized projects reviewed as potential Plan projects as identified in Mr. Bull's testimony as "[a] broader portfolio of projects was prioritized to develop the specific improvements included in the Plan."
- b. Please explain how NIPSCO determined which projects of the broader portfolio should be included in the Plan, and which projects should not be included in the Plan. Please provide any documentation supporting this determination.
- c. Please explain how NIPSCO determined the priorities of the projects included in the Plan.
- d. Please provide a list of the individuals responsible for determining which projects should be included in the Plan.
- e. Please provide a list of the individuals responsible for determining the priorities of the projects included in the Plan.

**Objections:**

NIPSCO objects to subparts (d) and (e) of this Request to the extent the Request seeks the identification of specific individuals on the grounds that: (a) the requests are overbroad and unreasonably burdensome given the nature and scope of the request and the many and varied people involved in the decision making process; and (b) the requests seek information that is subject to the attorney/client and/or work product privileges.

**Response:**

Subject to and without waiver of the foregoing general and specific objections, NIPSCO is providing the following response:

NIPSCO's gas system is comprised of more than 17,500 miles of distribution line, almost 700 miles of transmission line, over 1500 regulator stations, 38 points of delivery from seven interstate pipeline systems, and two natural gas storage facilities. NIPSCO personnel routinely assess the assets from different perspectives, including reliability and ability to serve its customers, safety, ability to maintain aging equipment, and areas where system growth has occurred or is anticipated.

## Cause No. 45330

## Northern Indiana Public Service Company LLC's

## Objections and Responses to

## Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor's Set No. 2

- a. Please see OUCC Request 2-001 Confidential Attachment A and OUCC Request 2-001 Confidential Attachment B.
- b. NIPSCO considered several information sources as well as subject matter expert input. NIPSCO utilized the EN Transmission Risk Comparison, Confidential Attachment 2-A, Confidential Appendix 1 to Mr. Bull's testimony to prioritize transmission pipeline work. NIPSCO reviewed results from its Distribution Integrity Management Program (DIMP) risk assessment (see Industrial Group Request 2-014 Confidential Attachment A). NIPSCO utilized operational data including deliverability studies and system operations reviews (see NIPSCO response and supplemental response to Industrial Group Request 2-018). NIPSCO coordinated across departments to develop a list of projects that would increase safety, reliability, and system performance.
- c. NIPSCO considered a variety of factors to determine a portfolio of projects that would improve the safety, reliability, or modernize the natural gas system to the benefit of its customers. These factors included prior commitments to its customers; risk reduction on its transmission system; deliverability opportunities across its service territory; and equipment that is either obsolete or past its expected life.
- d. The process to identify and prioritize projects included consultation with different departments within NIPSCO including, but not limited to, Gas System Engineering, Transmission Integrity, Field Operations, Gas Systems Planning, Instrument and Controls, Gas Projects & Construction. NIPSCO evaluates projects on an ongoing basis based on dynamic system conditions and constantly evolving information involving many and varying individuals.
- e. Please see the response to subpart d.



Note: Attachment BRK-2, Page 1 is Confidential.

Note: Attachment BRK-2, Page 2 is Confidential.

Note: Attachment BRK-2, Page 3 is Confidential.

Note: Attachment BRK-2, Page 4 is Confidential.

Note: Attachment BRK-2, Page 5 is Confidential.

Note: Attachment BRK-2, Page 6 is Confidential.

Note: Attachment BRK-2, Page 7 is Confidential.

Note: Attachment BRK-2, Page 8 is Confidential.



Northern Indiana Public Service Company  
Cause No. 45330

Comparison of TDSIC 1 Plan Project ID and TDSIC 2020-2025 Plan Project ID

TDSIC 1 Plan Project ID	2025 Plan Project ID	Projects Completed in Old Plan	Line Segments	New/ILI Modified Miles	Retired/Pressure Reduced Miles
TP1	NA	State Line to Highland Junction	36-100,101	3.5	3.5
ILI3	NA	RC Storage to Laketon 24" ILI	24-100,101,102,103,104,105	35.3	NA
ILI4	NA	N Hayden to Tassinong Line I 30" ILI	30-108,109,110	26.8	NA
ILI4	NA	N Hayden to Tassinong Line II 30" ILI	30-127,128,129	26.8	NA
IM17	NA	Pressure Reduction (State Road 1 Regulator Station Rebuild)	16-163,20-131,132,133,134,135	NA	2.1
<b>Projects to be Completed in New Plan</b>					
TP2	TP12	Aetna to US35 Laporte*	22-100,101,102,103,104,113,114,115,30-105	29.5	~30 reduced
TP7	TP7	Hessen Cassel to Hanna	10-136,12-124	4.7	4.7 retired, 4.7 reduced
NA	TP11	Aetna to 483	14-100,101,102,103,24-109,30-120,121	9.2	7 retired
TP9	TP10, TP13	Aetna to Tassinong	16-100,101,102,103,104,105,152	23	7 retired, 16 reduced
NA	TP14	Colfax and Cline Replacement	36-102,103	5.5	7 miles
TP8	TP8	Highland to Grant Recommission	30-106	5.6	0

\* New pipe installation completed in TDSIC 1 Plan, pressure reduction to complete in TDSIC 2020-2025 Plan

# NEWS RELEASE

## BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

U. S. D E P A R T M E N T O F L A B O R



**Transmission of material in this release is embargoed until  
8:30 a.m. (EDT) March 11, 2020**

USDL-20-0402

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### CONSUMER PRICE INDEX – FEBRUARY 2020

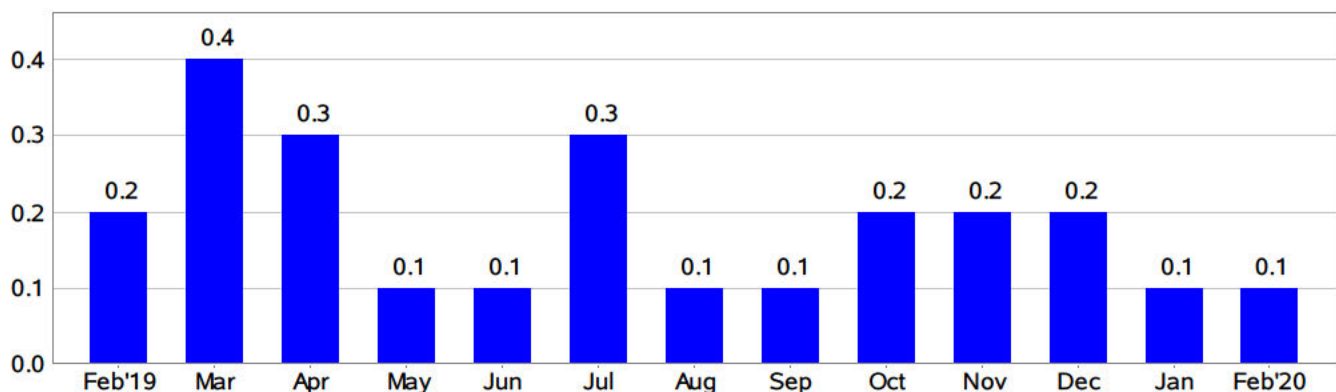
The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.1 percent in February on a seasonally adjusted basis, the same increase as in January, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Over the last 12 months, the all items index increased 2.3 percent before seasonal adjustment.

Increases in the indexes for shelter and for food were the main causes of the increase in the seasonally adjusted all items index, more than offsetting a decline in the energy index. The food index increased 0.4 percent over the month, with the food at home index rising 0.5 percent, its largest monthly increase since May 2014. The index for energy fell 2.0 percent in February, with all of its major component indexes declining.

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.2 percent in February, the same increase as in January. Along with the index for shelter, the indexes for apparel, personal care, used cars and trucks, education, and medical care were among those that increased in February. The indexes for recreation and airline fares declined over the month.

The all items index increased 2.3 percent for the 12 months ending February, a smaller increase than the 2.5-percent figure for the period ending January. The index for all items less food and energy rose 2.4 percent over the last 12 months. The food index rose 1.8 percent over the last 12 months, while the energy index increased 2.8 percent over that period.

**Chart 1. One-month percent change in CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), seasonally adjusted, Feb. 2019 - Feb. 2020**  
Percent change



**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

This is to certify that a copy of the foregoing ***OUCC'S PUBLIC REDACTED TESTIMONY OF BRIEN R. KRIEGER*** has been served upon the following counsel of record in the captioned proceeding by electronic service on April 9, 2020.

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