

FILED

May 18, 2017

INDIANA UTILITY

REGULATORY COMMISSION

STATE OF INDIANA

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

VERIFIED PETITION OF SOUTHERN)
INDIANA GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY)
d/b/a VECTREN ENERGY DELIVERY OF)
INDIANA, INC., FOR APPROVAL OF)
PETITIONER'S 7-YEAR ELECTRIC TDSIC)
PLAN FOR ELIGIBLE TRANSMISSION,)
DISTRIBUTION AND STORAGE SYSTEM)
IMPROVEMENTS, PURSUANT TO IND.)
CODE §8-1-39-10(A), FOR AUTHORITY TO)
DEFER COSTS FOR FUTURE RECOVERY,)
AND APPROVING INCLUSION OF VECTREN)
SOUTH'S TDSIC PLAN PROJECTS IN ITS)
RATE BASE IN ITS NEXT GENERAL RATE)
PROCEEDING PURSUANT TO IND. CODE §)
8-1-2-23)

CAUSE NO: 44910

OUCC'S SUBMISSION

OF

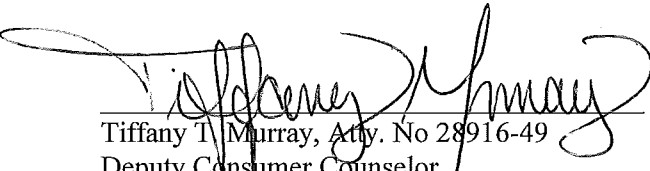
CONSUMER COMMENTS - PUBLIC'S EXHIBIT #2-S

ON BEHALF OF THE

INDIANA OFFICE OF UTILITY CONSUMER COUNSELOR

May 18, 2017

Respectfully submitted,
INDIANA OFFICE OF UTILITY CONSUMER COUNSELOR


Tiffany T. Murray, Atty. No 28916-49
Deputy Consumer Counselor

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a copy of the *OUCC's Submission of Consumer Comments* filed on behalf of the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor has been served upon the following counsel of record in the captioned proceeding by electronic service on May 18, 2017.

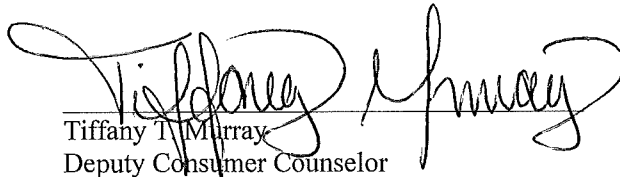
Robert E. Heidorn
P. Jason Stephenson
Mary-James Young
Goldie T. Bockstruck
VECTREN CORPORATION
One Vectren Square
Evansville, IN 47708
E-mail: rheidorn@vectren.com
jstephenson@vectren.com
mjyoung@vectren.com
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Jennifer A. Washburn
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603 East Washington Street, Suite 502
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Email: jwashburn@citact.org

Marco L. DeLucio, Esq.
ZIEMER, STAYMAN, WEITZEL & SHOULDERS, LLP
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P.O. Box 916
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E-mail: mdelucio@zswws.com


Tiffany T. Murray
Deputy Consumer Counselor

INDIANA OFFICE OF UTILITY CONSUMER COUNSELOR
115 West Washington Street
Suite 1500 South
Indianapolis, IN 46204
infomgt@oucc.in.gov
317-232-2494 – Telephone
317-232-5923 – Facsimile

Lane, Lyndsey

From: Robert Alvey (Stens Jasper) <RALvey@ariens.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 9:02 AM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Cause #44910

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

Robert R Alvey
596 W Donder Ln
Santa Claus, IN 47579
robertalvey@yahoo.com
812-639-0529

I am writing in reference to the requested rate increase for Vectren energy. The current company, Vectren, seems to have a monopoly on the energy delivery to the tri-state area in many counties and areas. If the less fortunate and fixed income residents are to get ahead with their finances and to keep rates fair, the increase should not be allowed to happen. It is a major expense on families in the winter and in the summer to pay the utility bills and still maintain a reasonable amount of on hand cash and still pay other bills. It seems to me that Vectren pays its upper management a very good salary and bonuses are given that exceed most of its customers annual salaries. This is a testimony to the fact that Vectren does not care about its customer base and wants to maintain profits by leaning on the poor and middle class.

There are very few incentives given to customers to use Vectren and yet it is the only company that delivers electricity to many of the areas here in southern Indiana. Most customers will not recognize if the infrastructure is upgraded over 7-10 years or 10-20 years, however they will be hurt by an increase in rates!

Robert Alvey, CBA
Credit & AR Manager
Ariens Specialty Brands
812-481-5520



Andrea C. Aubrey
5077 Kenwood Court Unit B
Newburgh, IN 47630

May 3, 2017

Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor
PNC Center
115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South
Indianapolis, IN 46204

RE: Cause No. 44910

To Whom It May Concern:

While, in recent years, Vectren has reigned in their exorbitant “fees”, “deposits”, etc., because of the numerous outcry from people across the Tri-State, they have constantly and consistently continued to increase rates. This helps offset those “fees” and “deposits” they’ve lost, helping their shareholders to maintain suitable returns in their investments. We in the Tri-State area have no say in WHO we go to for Energy. This alone, in every aspect of the word, is illegal. Of course, they’re not “responsible” for this fact, making their being a monopoly acceptable. But they constantly and consistently speak out against solar power, much like SB 309 that they supported wholeheartedly. This tells me they’re still speaking from a money-making standpoint. They aren’t thinking about me, a single mom with no child support from her ex-husband. I’m college educated, gainfully employed, and cannot afford to have a utility bill cost MORE than my car payment, for a place half the size of my parent’s home. Currently, my car payment is \$288 for a nice car. My Vectren bill was \$297. How much more can I reduce my bills?! I’m struggling WHILE doing the right thing, paying bills, and working hard. I don’t get to enjoy any of my hard work because of Vectren.

When Vectren starts working FOR the people and not AGAINST them, I’ll be happy to support a rate increase. As of right now, they are only concerned about their shareholders and not about what’s right for the people they serve. They’ve got the absolute worst customer service, the worst billing services, the worst “payment arrangement” setups, etc. Somehow, Vectren needs to be de-monopolized, and then they’ll have to do things the right way, by EARNING our business.

Sincerely,

Andrea C. Aubrey
Outspoken Person Against Vectren

Lane, Lyndsey

From: John Blair <blairphotoevv@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 09, 2017 11:02 AM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Please have field hearing on Vectren's half billion dollar request

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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I write to request that the OUCC conduct a field hearing on Vectren's \$514 million request currently before the IURC (docket 44910). This is the largest capital expenditure Vectren has ever made and deserves significant public input by the parties that will be paying the bill, especially since Vectren already has the highest electric rates in the midwest and amongst the highest in the nation.

John Blair

BlairPhoto*EVV*.com

Winner: Pulitzer Prize for News Photography

800 Adams Avenue
Evansville, IN 47713
812-464-5663

Lane, Lyndsey

From: noreply@formstack.com
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2017 2:05 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Vectren

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

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Formstack Submission for form OUCC_Contact_2361

Submitted at 05/04/17 2:04 PM

Title:	Mr.
Name:	Larry Blankenship
Email:	wentbyyou@yahoo.com
Address:	7401 Shea Drive Evansville, IN 47725
Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday)::	(812) 568-3859
Type of phone::	Mobile
If you do not have telephone service,:	
If providing comments on a specific case, please indicate the cause number and/or name of utility::	44910/Vectren

Your Comments::	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Every time I spend money on something that will lower my electric usage and decrease my bill, Vectren gets a rate increase so my investment is worthless. I just spent a small fortune on a thermostat and LED lights for my entire house, and now what are they worth? They just pushed a bill through the state legislature that will decrease the rate which they pay to people who have invested in solar energy. Sure, it grandfathers those who are in now or will be by the end of the year, but how does it look that they immediately announce that they are building a solar field on leased city property?• I don't have a problem with Vectren donating money to these fine non-profit
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organizations, however, I don't want them donating my money and that is what happens. If they want to donate some of the returns that are paid out to stockholders and executives (what is the pay for the top 10 executives at Vectren), that is fine. They can use the money that is currently used for this to pay for these improvements.

- I don't have a problem with Vectren buying back old appliances from people when the customer buys an energy saving appliance, again, as long as the money comes from the stockholders returns and executive pay. I don't want my money to go to that, I bought my own appliances and no one gave me anything to help. They can use the money that is currently used for this to pay for these improvements.

- You don't see any old Vectren vehicles or equipment on the street and look at their office buildings, while there are customers under their watch who can't afford to stay cool in the summer and people who have to close off rooms in their house because they can't afford to heat them and live in them.

- I noticed a remark in the newspaper by Chase Kelley, that local nonprofit and economic development agencies were notified that a hearing was taking place in Evansville. Why did he not notify all of the Vectren customers directly? I was not able to make it to this one in Evansville on 5/2/2017 or you would have heard these comments directly.

- Vectren needs to tighten their belt first, before coming to us for more money. Let them reduce their returns and pay to make these improvements. I am tired of Vectren trying to make it look like they are this great community driven organization, when they are just donating money they have taken from us, and then continue to ask for rate increases. This is like taxation without representation. Don't allow this increase.

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Formstack, LLC

8604 Allisonville Rd.

Suite 300

Indianapolis, IN 46250

Lane, Lyndsey

From: noreply@formstack.com
Sent: Friday, May 05, 2017 9:28 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Vectren

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

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Formstack Submission for form OUCC_Contact_2361

Submitted at 05/05/17 9:28 PM

Title:	Ms.
Name:	Donna Dardeen
Email:	dardeendonna@yahoo.com
Address:	7302 Lyons ct Evansville, IN 47725
Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday)::	(812) 589-5321
Type of phone::	Mobile
If you do not have telephone service,:	
If providing comments on a specific case, please indicate the cause number and/or name of utility::	Vectren
Your Comments::	Stop the high rates of Vectren. No reason for them to be high in price. They are the highest in Indiana.

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Formstack, LLC
8604 Allisonville Rd.
Suite 300
Indianapolis, IN 46250

Lane, Lyndsey

From: Janet Dunn <47714dunn@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 11:00 AM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Vectren rate increase

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

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Although I am a Vectren stockholder, I do NOT believe the rate increases Vectren applied for recently should be granted.

When I see the compensation given to board members and employees, I feel there is money available to cover the improvements cited. I also see the wasted time by employees at the job sites.

In comparison to other utility service area rates, we are already very high.

Please consider my views when voting on the application.

Thank you,

Janet Dunn

May 3, 2017

Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor
National City Center
115 W. Washington St
Suite 1500 South
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Attention: Consumer Counselor

Subject: Vectren Proposed Rate Hike Beginning 2018

Dear Consumer Counselor:

I am writing in regard to the May 2nd article in the Courier & Press ("Vectren upgrade, rate hikes to be discussed at hearing"). In that article, the proposed rate hike Vectren is seeking begins 2018. As the article states, "If approved, the plan would bump monthly residential bills by \$1 to \$2 in 2018, reaching \$18 to \$20 more per month by the end of seven years".


The state legislation passed in 2013 allows utilities like Vectren to produce seven-year plans that go to the rate base immediately without much accountability. No wonder those who hold stock in Vectren are likely very happy! We find this all extremely unsettling.

I am sure you are already aware we are paying some of the highest electrical rates in the state of Indiana. We are averaging \$0.137/KWH including the sales tax. We are 100% electric. We find this and the proposed rate increases unacceptable.

I come from a state that has deregulated electricity. Competition has a wonderful way of lowering costs and creating value; something that appears to be lacking within Vectren.

We oppose the proposed rate hike. We do not run a business that way; we expect Vectren to do the same. Your consideration in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

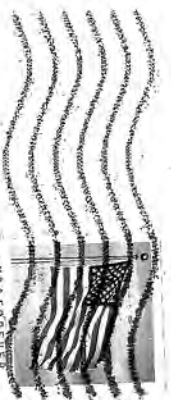
Respectfully,



Gary Eiffler
5611 Ironwood Dr
Newburgh, IN 47630
812.453.0926

Paula & Gary Eiffler
5611 Ironwood Dr.
Newburgh, IN 47630

EVANSVILLE IN 477
03 MAY 2017 PM 3 T



H.O. N. C. C.
National City Center
115 W. Washington St.
Suite 1500 South
Indianapolis, IN 46204
c/o Coburn & Co. (Delivered)

Lane, Lyndsey

From: Dusky R. Farmer, DPM <dfarmer@sigecom.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 12:08 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Vectren Rate Increase/ cause 44910

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

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Hello.

I object to the proposed rate increase by Vectren. For too long they have gouged this area of money. We historically pay more for gas/electricity than the surrounding areas.

If any thing we need relief from this monopolized company that can charge whatever they want!

Dusky R. Farmer, DPM

4501 Upper Mt. Vernon Rd.

Evansville, IN 47712

812-421-8555

May 3, 2017

Dear Committee:

In reference to Vectren's request for a rate increase:

Some of the things they ask for is just normal maintenance. Replacing poles have already been depreciated on taxes, and is just normal cost of doing business. Much other equipment is the same.

Any time a rate increase is given them for a certain project, when that project is paid off, there is no rate reduction. I wonder why not?

About 10 years ago Vectren was given a rate increase in which they agreed to put a free bill paying place in Mt. Vernon and Boonville. In Mt. Vernon the place then had had poor equipment that failed to work. The place later closed and Vectren has failed to have another place to pay bills free. They have a closed office in Mt. Vernon and in the day of computers could be staffed with some one to collect bills as per agreement for getting the rate increase. I think that rate increase should be withdrawn and the money they have collected be refunded to the people that paid for the increase. Try calling their regular line and try to find someone to take to. Good luck.

I am against any rate increases until they honor their past commitments.

Gene Fuelling

2001 Tanglewood Drive

Mt. Vernon, Ind. 47620

Gene Fuelling

2005 Tanglewood Dr.
Mount Vernon, IN 47020

EVANSVILLE IN 477

03 MAY 2017 PM 3 T



Consumer Services Staff
Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor
115 W. Washington St. Suite 1500 South
Indianapolis, Ind. 46204

4620433418



Lane, Lyndsey

From: noreply@formstack.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 8:41 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: OUCC_Contact_2361

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Formstack Submission for form OUCC_Contact_2361

Submitted at 05/03/17 8:40 PM

Title: Ms.

Name: Jennifer Greene

Email: jagreene@usi.edu

Address: 1977 Pueblo Pass
Evansville, IN 47715

Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday):: (812) 449-8998

Type of phone:: Mobile

If you do not have telephone service,:

If providing comments on a specific case, please indicate the cause number and/or name of utility::

Your Comments:: It is wrong that we the customers must continually pay for upgrades and services that are part of doing business. If infrastructure must be upgraded and changed it part of the expense of the your company, which has gained large profits throughout it's tenure. Yes, utility companies carry a heavy burden to keep up with recent developments and emergency service, but many of these changes should have happened long ago. Between the breaks the State gives large companies, profits from exporting energy, and billing rates, it is too much to ask for such increases, just because the last year or so has resulted in weather that reduced energy usages.

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Suite 300
Indianapolis, IN 46250

Lane, Lyndsey

From: Tim Grunow <tg1391@att.net>
Sent: Friday, May 05, 2017 2:02 AM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Vectren Rate Increase

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

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Please deny Vectren's Rate Increase!

Highest rates in the State.

Old meters work fine, Vectren does not need smart meters [smart meters not as dependable] as we can call in outages ourselves and new meters will cost jobs.

No raises so they can give to non-profits, we can chose our own non-profits.

Tim & Barbara Grunow
4435 N Congress
Evansville In
812 479 1888

Lane, Lyndsey

From: Michael Hamilton <MH64@wowway.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2017 7:49 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Vectren - Request for rate increase

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

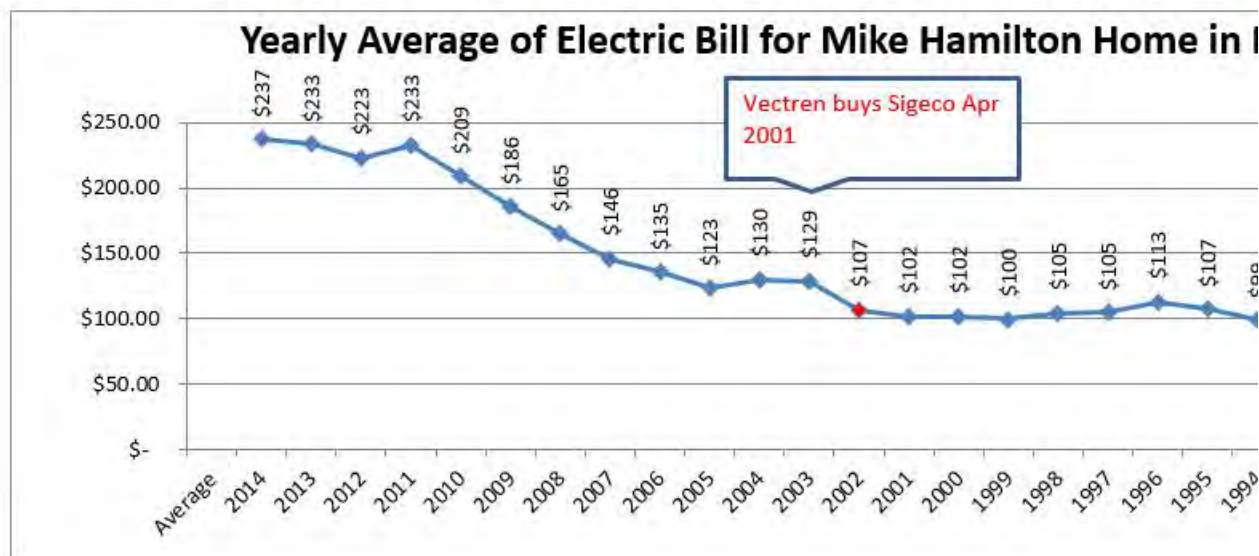
Categories: KMH - to be entered

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Please notice these are my average electric bill since 1991 and notice the increase since Vectren purchased Sigeco in April 2001.

When will we get some relief? They already have the highest rates .

	Average	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
Feb	\$ 227.27	\$ 410.98	\$ 368.65	\$ 326.81	\$ 362.78	\$ 380.14	\$ 311.61	\$ 242.54	\$ 160.30	\$ 186.69	\$ 197.50	\$ 210.89
Mar	\$ 205.84	\$ 393.78	\$ 288.71	\$ 281.41	\$ 302.79	\$ 302.34	\$ 275.80	\$ 211.81	\$ 248.40	\$ 170.71	\$ 150.67	\$ 214.00
Apr	\$ 163.95	\$ 263.69	\$ 280.23	\$ 185.61	\$ 255.14	\$ 209.64	\$ 201.96	\$ 181.30	\$ 153.01	\$ 168.46	\$ 142.15	\$ 165.86
May	\$ 122.67	\$ 182.61	\$ 206.40	\$ 140.39	\$ 179.54	\$ 154.31	\$ 169.15	\$ 148.76	\$ 130.17	\$ 121.97	\$ 97.79	\$ 114.99
Jun	\$ 95.91	\$ 161.57	\$ 174.60	\$ 173.07	\$ 164.30	\$ 129.11	\$ 112.33	\$ 117.10	\$ 91.77	\$ 95.21	\$ 90.93	\$ 88.26
Jul	\$ 119.58	\$ 161.63	\$ 190.38	\$ 207.69	\$ 216.59	\$ 167.14	\$ 144.38	\$ 150.36	\$ 117.79	\$ 107.98	\$ 90.95	\$ 106.01
Aug	\$ 153.49	\$ 214.72	\$ 257.35	\$ 299.86	\$ 242.15	\$ 221.54	\$ 180.63	\$ 156.19	\$ 134.40	\$ 125.34	\$ 130.69	\$ 114.31
Sep	\$ 147.19	\$ 199.31	\$ 199.48	\$ 228.92	\$ 285.35	\$ 225.10	\$ 166.10	\$ 149.11	\$ 152.04	\$ 149.78	\$ 138.15	\$ 101.34
Oct	\$ 130.10	\$ 196.44	\$ 227.06	\$ 206.60	\$ 179.43	\$ 186.99	\$ 149.76	\$ 155.30	\$ 151.72	\$ 103.40	\$ 114.23	\$ 112.66
Nov	\$ 95.74	\$ 162.11	\$ 178.21	\$ 162.69	\$ 150.40	\$ 126.45	\$ 136.34	\$ 138.93	\$ 114.86	\$ 91.63	\$ 82.24	\$ 78.37
Dec	\$ 117.41	\$ 177.33	\$ 206.65	\$ 214.59	\$ 168.73	\$ 155.03	\$ 141.28	\$ 148.82	\$ 143.63	\$ 133.50	\$ 105.15	\$ 92.87
Monthly Avg		\$ 236.91	\$ 233.22	\$ 223.13	\$ 232.79	\$ 209.04	\$ 185.69	\$ 164.82	\$ 145.87	\$ 135.42	\$ 122.99	\$ 129.92
Monthly Increase		\$ 3.70	\$ 10.08	\$ (9.66)	\$ 23.75	\$ 23.35	\$ 20.87	\$ 18.95	\$ 10.45	\$ 12.43	\$ (6.93)	\$ 1.09



A press release dated March 30, 2001, discussing the creation of a common name for Vectren Corporation's (Vectren) regulated distribution businesses in the state of Indiana. Indiana Gas Company, Inc. (Indiana Gas) and Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Company (SIGECO) will begin doing business as Vectren Energy Delivery of Indiana effective April 1, 2001.

Lane, Lyndsey

From: noreply@formstack.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 8:49 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: OUCC_Contact_2361

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Categories: KMH - to be entered

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Formstack Submission for form OUCC_Contact_2361

Submitted at 04/26/17 8:49 PM

Title: Ms.

Name: Jillian Harp

Email: jillianrharp@gmail.com

Address: 837 Ravenswood Dr.
Evansville, IN 47713

Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday):: (317) 431-3845

Type of phone:: Mobile

If you do not have telephone service,:

If providing comments on a specific case, please indicate the cause number and/or name of utility:: IURC Cause No. 44910

Your Comments:: I am a Vectren customer in Evansville. I urge you to deny Vectren's petition to install smart meters and incur fixed charges to our bills to pay for them. Evansville is a blue collar area, and Vectren charges us the highest rates anywhere in the state. We cannot afford more rate hikes!! I am a single mom who makes \$40k/year, which puts me in the middle range of households. It costs me upwards of \$350 to heat my 1200 sq foot home in the winter time. I have no idea how people below the poverty line here even do it! Vectren preys on the citizens of Evansville to line its own pockets and they must be STOPPED! Please help us!

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Suite 300
Indianapolis, IN 46250

Lane, Lyndsey

From: noreply@formstack.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 1:33 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: OUCC_Contact_2361

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

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Formstack Submission for form OUCC_Contact_2361

Submitted at 05/02/17 1:33 PM

Title:	Mrs.
Name:	Linda Hayden
Email:	lghayden@hotmail.com
Address:	11330 Boberg Road Evansville, IN 47712
Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday)::	(812) 499-3172
Type of phone::	Mobile
If you do not have telephone service,:	
If providing comments on a specific case, please indicate the cause number and/or name of utility::	2361/Vectren

Your Comments::	Please take into consideration those of us on limited income. Medicare and Medicare Supplement costs are rising higher than our income. Our prescription costs are rising, if our utility costs rise also some of us will have to choose between prescriptions, food, or electricity.
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8604 Allisonville Rd.

Suite 300
Indianapolis, IN 46250

Lane, Lyndsey

From: Hobgood, Erin <EHobgood@sscinc.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2017 4:52 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Cc: Erin Hobgood
Subject: Vectren Rate Hike

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

OUC,

I am writing to you in regards to Vectren's current request to raise rates. Currently, we pay the state's highest utility rates. However, our Evansville median income of \$40,000 is significantly lower than the state median income of \$51,000. In fact the city of Indianapolis pays \$10.30/kWh while their median income of \$71,000 is significantly higher.

Let me put this in perspective. My average bill is 1200kWh used:

- In Indy a residential customer would pay (1200kWh x \$.103 kWh x 12 months) = \$1,483.20 for the entire year.
- In Evansville a residential customer would pay (1200kWh x \$.143kWh x 12 months) = \$2,059.20

That's a difference of nearly \$600 for the entire year when our residents are making on average \$31,000 less.

Not only that, but as a thrifty accountant fresh out of college, I have car loans, student loans, rent, and I'd like to someday buy a house. I have to have a car to get anywhere. I have to pay my student loans. However, none of this is factored into my AGI and I qualify for no help from anyone. A rate increase from Vectren is only going to make it harder for me to afford food (which I barely have any money left for after paying my rent).

However, that's not all of my argument. After looking at multiple sites online, I found <https://www.electricchoice.com/electricity-prices-by-state/> and was able to see state averages of utility rates.

Out of all 50 states, only 11 states have higher median utility rates than Evansville. Whenever you analyze the rate against the median income, only Hawaii and Maine outrank Evansville. Considering Hawaii's location, this is hardly a cause for surprise and looking at Maine, they barely outrank us. Please see below:

Energy Rates			
State	Rate	Median Income	Ratio
Hawaii	27.32	62,000	0.044%
Maine	16.52	46,000	0.036%
Evansville	14.30	40,000	0.036%
Alaska	20.66	60,000	0.034%
Michigan	15.26	46,000	0.033%
Connecticut	20.25	66,000	0.031%
Massachusetts	19.18	65,000	0.030%
Wisconsin	14.48	50,000	0.029%

New Hampshire	18.36	65,000	0.028%
California	17.08	67,000	0.025%
New Jersey	15.72	70,000	0.022%
Indiana	11.38	51,000	0.022%
Date compiled from Electric Choice and based on averages from March 2016			

Now Vectren wants to raise rates again. To what end? Until we are all completely bankrupt here? They are a monopoly. We have no choice but to get our energy from them. I'd love to install solar panels, however Vectren doesn't want to reimburse us for any excess energy we may collect (which is the very definition of theft) and until I'm making more money and in my own home, I'm unable to do so.

Please do not be fooled by those who praise Vectren. Vectren is not a caring company. If they do care about us, it's so they can continue their monopoly of their customer base and keep collect unnecessarily high rates from us, the stretched-thin customers. In fact, I do not know a person who wouldn't love for Kinergy or Duke to come here so we can have a choice – to choose against Vectren and bloated energy costs.

Please think about all of this before you vote in favor of the rate increase. Why does a region with such a low median income have such a high utility cost (higher than LA, Denver, Chicago, Louisville, Lexington, New Orleans – all of which have a higher median income)?

Regards,

Erin Hobgood

Lane, Lyndsey

From: noreply@formstack.com
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 7:05 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: OUCC_Contact_2361

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

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Formstack Submission for form OUCC_Contact_2361

Submitted at 04/27/17 7:04 PM

Title:	Ms.
Name:	Susan Huck
Email:	schathome@wowway.com
Address:	2705 E Chandler Evansville, IN 47714
Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday)::	(812) 453-9728
Type of phone::	Mobile
If you do not have telephone service,:	
If providing comments on a specific case, please indicate the cause number and/or name of utility::	Case# 44910

Your Comments::	Thursday, April 27, 2017 To: OUCC panel members From: Susan Huck, 2705 E Chandler Ave., Evansville, IN 47714, 812-437-4650 or 812-453-9728 Re: Upgrades and improvements to Vectren's Grid As a customer of Vectren, it is my expectation that when I arrive home, my garage door will open and the electrical switches that I activate will respond with electricity immediately. When this happens, I am a satisfied customer and I am
------------------------	--

grateful to Vectren for transmitting electricity to my home. After reading about the Senate Bill 309 and the electric grid, my eyes were opened to the fact that an electric company not only has to generate electricity, but it must build and maintain an electric grid to transport electricity to its customers.

I am aware that Vectren is ready to make repairs and improvements to its electric grid to meet current and future industry needs as technology continues to move at a rapid pace. Over the years, as a SIGECO and Vectren customer, as well as a stock holder, I have watched Vectren be very pro-active as they prepared for EPA regulations and new technology. I note that Vectren and SIGECO always moved forward to be ready for the future. Therefore, I believe Vectren is a good company that tries to prevent problems.

I hear that the grid update will be considerable cost. I hope that the OUCC will provide a level playing field for customers, stockholders, and the company as costs to upgrade will need to be recouped over time.

I support Vectren's plans to make these upgrades. Our community needs a "healthy" grid that provides the services customers need now and in the future.

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Formstack, LLC

8604 Allisonville Rd.

Suite 300

Indianapolis, IN 46250

Lane, Lyndsey

From: lkiesel@corenursing.com
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2017 7:18 AM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: vectren proposed rate increase

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

Leslie Kiesel
10685 S 310 W
Haubstadt, IN 47639

812-664-8802
lkiesel@sit-co.net

Regarding Vectren's proposed rate increase, I am against it. I don't understand why improvement/maintenance costs have to necessarily be passed on to the consumer. Everytime I see a billboard advertising Vectren, I ask myself why am I paying to advertise to myself when I have no other provider to select from. And as far as the charities talking about how good Vectren is to them, It is the customer who is being charged higher rates so that Vectren can pass it on to the charities. Keep the rates lower and let customers decide who to give their money to. In other words, it doesn't/shouldn't make a difference to the regulatory commission if Vectren gives money to chairities. If anything it should show Vectren has extra money and doesn't need the rate increase.

Sincerely,
Les Kiesel
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Lane, Lyndsey

From: Leslie, Dennis <dl113@evansville.edu>
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 4:19 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Please Hold Public Hearing for Vectren Upgrade

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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To whom it may concern,

The public deserves a field hearing on the Vectren electric infrastructure upgrade. It makes no sense to not have a public hearing on such a massive and expensive undertaking.

Please hold a field hearing for us to get more information and for our voices to be heard.

Sincerely,

Dennis Leslie

Lane, Lyndsey

From: noreply@formstack.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 1:24 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: OUCC_Contact_2361

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

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Formstack Submission for form OUCC_Contact_2361

Submitted at 05/03/17 1:23 PM

Title: Ms.
Name: Bettye Marvel
Email: marvelpoco@gmail.com
Address: 314 Riviera Drive
Mount Vernon, IN 47620

Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday):: (812) 760-2322

Type of phone:: Mobile

If you do not have telephone service,:

If providing comments on a specific case, please indicate the cause number and/or name of utility:: Vectren Energy Delivery--Do not know "cause number"

Your Comments:: Our local NBC TV station in Evansville IN reported today, 5/3/2017' Wednesday, that Vectren is planning a rate increase and expansion in our area. An accounting of the cost of \$514million has been announced will be paid by rate increases to the consumers over a 7 year period. Economically this will put an extreme burden on we, the consumers as we are already financially strapped due to rises in property taxes and insurance, a new gasoline tax, groceries, and other living expenses. Some where, big businesses need to find other ways besides adding fees and rate increases to finance their ventures. Two years in a row there was no Social Security

increases citing "no cost of living increases"; this year, 2017, I received a \$2.00 a month increase! What is wrong with this scenario? Consumers, constituents, tax payers, just can't keep on keeping business and government running. Both need to save and invest money from their profits in order to increase their future expansions and maintenance of them. That is what WE have to do, and the BUCK STOPS HERE! we have no other way. Thank you for showing consideration of the working poor of our State and Nation by curtailing spending of taxpayer/consumer dollars. We need a break!!

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Suite 300

Indianapolis, IN 46250

Lane, Lyndsey

From: noreply@formstack.com
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2017 2:29 AM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: OUCC_Contact_2361

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

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Formstack Submission for form OUCC_Contact_2361

Submitted at 05/04/17 2:28 AM

Title: Ms.

Name: Jessica Massey

Email: dunlunicor@gmail.com

Address: 2501A W ILLINOIS ST
EVANSVILLE, IN 47712

Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday)::

Type of phone:: Home

If you do not have telephone service,: Check here

If providing comments on a specific case, please indicate the cause number and/or name of utility:: Vectren

Your Comments:: It is nonsensical to argue that Vectren should be given more money from the working poor because it funds organizations that help the working poor to afford their astronomically high Vectren bills. Because we have no choice of our utility provider in this region, it is extremely unfair of our city officials to allow this corporation to continue to take advantage of us. The expansion of their system is unnecessary and will only worsen the problem of poverty in this area. Smart meters and other superfluous upgrades may be more efficient, but the cost is not worth the damage it will do to poor families and communities, especially those who are just well-off enough to NOT qualify for any kind of

assistance, but who still struggle to pay their bills each month. The net effect of these rate hikes will be MORE families in need of public assistance, MORE of a burden on middle-class taxpayers, MORE exploitation of the poor, and MORE money in the pocket of an already-bloated corporate monopoly.

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Lane, Lyndsey

From: noreply@formstack.com
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2017 11:04 AM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: OUCC_Contact_2361

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Categories: KMH - to be entered

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Formstack Submission for form OUCC_Contact_2361

Submitted at 05/04/17 11:04 AM

Title: Mr.
Name: David Musgrave
Email: Scuzzy123@ymail.com
Address: 11525 Boberg Road
Evansville, IN 47712
Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday):: (812) 985-9835
Type of phone:: Home

If you do not have telephone service,:

If providing comments on a specific case, please indicate the cause number and/or name of utility:: Vectren Utility raise in Southern Indiana utility rates? Why?

Your Comments:: My name is David Musgrave and I am seeking information on when Vectren Customers get a rate reduction. I will express my concerns about how Vectren and other utilities actions ensure Indiana Customers receive a strong energy grid at the least cost to customers.

Since the early 1970s Sigeco and Vectren have requested rate increase after rate increase with no lower energy costs to the consumers. In the late 1980's there was a push for area power plants be upgraded with clean coal technology.

In Southern Indiana the customers were presented with rate increase after rate increase. Each time Sigeco and Vectren have asked to raise specific amounts to cover the costs, but never a rate reduction once the dollar goal was met and improvements paid for.

I think it would benefit the IURC to know exactly when energy companies reach their goal for each project. At that point each Indiana Utility would rescind 2/3 of that rate increase. The other 1/3 of the rate increase should be set aside in a sinking fund set up to maintain the improvements.

When asked Vectren's request for Coal Pulverizers, Scrubbers, Low Sulphur Coal, and other improvements have been paid for by the rate increases. Vectren and the IURC should then retire the specific rate increases once the utility achieves their target. I know there are continued maintenance costs for such systems. That is why Vectren should keep 1/3 of the rate increases for a maintenance sinking fund.

There should be an audit of all of Sigeco and Vectren rate increases to see that Indiana Customers benefit from lower cost energy. This is exactly why I question the latest 2017 rate increases.

SB 309 robbed Hoosier customers of a huge benefit to alternative energy growth in Indiana. Other states have performed studies that showed states that promoted net metering were just tapping into these evolving technologies.

The goal should be for residential solar arrays, geo-thermal, and wind to be on net metering. Utility companies cannot offer well planned out communities that have apartment, subdivisions, retirement communities, churches, low income housing, and many other site specific alternative energy improvements. This would create jobs at all levels.

These new technologies are just reaching economy of scale. The energy companies have many other opportunities to produce and sell energy. In 2004 we fought very hard to get Net Metering while fighting the energy companies. Even at that it took Vectren two years to approve a \$500 Vectren approved net metering hookup process. Vectren is using private maintained grids to access mostly prime time energy with net metering. No one is getting rich by adding state of the art alternative energy. The idea is to provide all customers this opportunity.

If not these private grids will start using battery banks and ignore the energy companies altogether. The problem with battery storage is the possible environmental issues. Plus the state of Indiana would lose fees and taxes. Also, the lower and middle class would be illuminated from these options.

Over the years the IURC has been involved in corrupt price fixing with energy companies. Former IURC employees quite and took jobs with Indiana Energy Companies after they ruled for the Energy Companies.

In conclusion I want to know how long it will take to recoup the investment by Vectren to be attained?? Then will the rate increase face a sunset? Plus I wish Indiana also returned to the previous Net Metering law. Also, investigate studies that show Net Metering benefits the state economy. It is imperative that Indiana ensure everyone has access to reliable, clean, affordable energy!!!

Thank You,

David Musgrave

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8604 Allisonville Rd.
Suite 300
Indianapolis, IN 46250

Lane, Lyndsey

From: Bill Oglesby <g.oglesby@wowway.com>
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2017 11:17 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Vectren Request for Rate Increases

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

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Once again, I was disgusted to learn about Vectren's request for a rate increase. As a resident and rate payer in Evansville, this is just adding insult to injury. The average price per KWh in Indiana is about 11 cents, while the cost in Evansville with Vectren is about 16 cents. That's almost 50% higher than the rest of the state. Now they want to add an additional flat rate increase on top of that! On top of that, it has been well documented that this is one of the most polluted places in North America—largely because of coal fired power plants that send a large amount of the electricity generated out of the area to people who pay LESS per KWh than we do! So we here in Evansville not only get all of the health problems associated with the coal fired power plants that send much of the power out of area, we also get to pay almost 50% more for electricity. No wonder we are called the "sacrifice zone ." The other egregious part of the request was the part about the flat rate increase. This means that poor couple living in a small house and using little electricity is going to have to pay the same increase as someone in a huge house or business using many, many times as much electricity. This is outrageous! All the while, these executives at the monopoly called Vectren are making huge multi-million dollar salaries and reaping huge fringe benefits on the backs of rate payers who are struggling just to make it. While we are at it, one thing about the hearing that I found both sad and infuriating was the testimony by various charity groups such as Joshua Academy Charter School that lauded Vectren for being a kind and caring company. What absolute hogwash! Vectren is giving support to these groups purely for PR reasons and so they can trot these groups out at hearing such as this to support their requests for yet more rate increases. This is transparent and sickening. One really has to wonder how long the people in this area will continue to put up with continued victimization by a monopoly utility company which is being aided and abetted by the IURC. I think one of the most poignant photos that I've seen in the Evansville Courier and Press was a photo that showed a thin man in a work shirt testifying at the hearing while an overweight Vectren executive in a fancy suit who makes millions of dollars a year looks on frowning. This pretty much says it all.

Lane, Lyndsey

From: noreply@formstack.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 12:37 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Vectren

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Formstack Submission for form OUCC_Contact_2361

Submitted at 05/03/17 12:36 PM

Title: Mr.
Name: Donald Paciorkowski
Email: patchwrk1@aol.com
Address: 1230 Old Plank Rd S
New Harmony, IN 47631

Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday):: (812) 682-5211

Type of phone:: Home

If you do not have telephone service,:

If providing comments on a specific case, please indicate the cause number and/or name of utility:: 44910

Your Comments:: I am against the extent of Vectren's proposed price increases. Vectren already has the highest utility rate in the state and need to focus on their internal procedures and management to improve this rather than blindly pushing additional costs on to the consumer. SABIC's recent cogen facility is just an example what a company has to do to stay competitive in the face of Vectren's poor management. Now with this additional loss of revenue Vectren is trying to recoup losses from the public.

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Suite 300
Indianapolis, IN 46250

Lane, Lyndsey

From: Janice Phelps <mysterylady1932@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2017 2:46 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Vectren rate increases

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

PLEASE vote no for the rate increase. We are on limited income and can't afford it now much less a raise. I am on SS and can't work so I don't have the money others have to pay these bills. Every year they want either a gas increase or an electric increase. We are being dollared to death on utilities and we pay more for or G&E than my family in Indy do !!!!! A town this size should NOT have the highest utilities in the state. !!!!! We are running people away from Evansville with high rates we have. No one can afford to live here or move here.

For ONCE stand up and say NO !!!!!!!

Janice Phelps
Evansville IN
812-476-8791

Lane, Lyndsey

From: Sherry Ridao <sherryridao@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 07, 2017 11:13 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Vectren 's request for rate increase

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Hello,

I live in Petersburg, IN and have Vectren Electricity. We moved into our new home in 2015. Because we had new service in 2015, we are charged 3 times , over what we were charged with DUKE electricity, and 3 times what you all pay in Indianapolis with IPL electricity. I now you probably don't care what we have to pay, but surely you will not let them charge us more.

I understand what we are charged is more because we had a new service in 2015, But, we had an old service at a house that we had to destroy on our property that we could have moved to our new place. But, no one told us about the excess charge they had in store for us. This is a ridicules situation, we should have been told about the charges for new service,, Please do not allow them to charge more now.

Sincerely,
Sherry Ridao

Lane, Lyndsey

From: nathan riley <nathriley77@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2017 10:03 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Vectren

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

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No on the rate hike. Vectren's electric service is already the highest in the state, referenced from the Indiana utility commission website. According to Vectren's President and CEO they had "a very profitable" year in 2016. Vectren's net income was 216 million up several million from 2015. While the infrastructure may need to be improved upon, they should be more than able to absorb the cost.

Sincerely,

Nathan Riley

Lane, Lyndsey

From: R Rogers <poppys56@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2017 2:30 AM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: vectren rate increase

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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I am a retired coal living on a fixed income which hasn't seen an increase in over 5 years. Since VECTREN has the highest electric rates in Indiana they should have enough money to pay for improvements. They give away enough of my money to charities each year to pay for this. I have spent a lot of money to cut my electric use to about 700 kwh every month and my bill just keeps on growing. Do the responsible thing and make Vectren do something to lower rates not raise them.

Richard Rogers
2013 S. Kenmore Dr.
Evansville Indiana 47714

Lane, Lyndsey

From: Judy Slygh <jslygh118@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 8:01 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Vectren Rate Hike

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

Dear Sirs,

Once again Vectren is asking for pay increases, this time to update their Electrical Grid, so they say.

It couldn't possibly have anything to do with Alcoa shutting down their smelting process or couldn't possibly be SABIC's new CoGen plant.

The truth is the customers of Vectren already pay the highest rates in the Midwest for power.

If our power came from Kentucky, our bills would be half. If it came from Duke Power, it would be only 60% of Vectren's rates.

All this power is on the same Grid and if Vectren can't produce power at competitive rates, they don't need to be in business.

In my opinion and a lot of other voters I talk to, they should not only be denied this increase but be put out of business.

But with all the extra money there is a lot left over to pass out to politicians.

We lost the solar credit and the ability to sell excess energy to the utility, now we get the opportunity to pay even more to the most inefficient power company in the U.S.

Sincerely,

Mac Slygh, Citizen, or perhaps Subject

Lane, Lyndsey

From: noreply@formstack.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 2:50 AM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: OUCC_Contact_2361

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Formstack Submission for form OUCC_Contact_2361

Submitted at 05/03/17 2:49 AM

Title:	Mrs.
Name:	Cassandra Smith
Email:	casie88colts@yahoo.com
Address:	641 Reis Ave. Evansville , IN 47711
Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday)::	(812) 457-1050
Type of phone::	Mobile
If you do not have telephone service,:	
If providing comments on a specific case, please indicate the cause number and/or name of utility::	Vectren

Your Comments::	Our rates are already much higher than average. We cannot afford another graduated increase for this project. Vectren is applauded for their 'efforts' that are accomplished off the backs of hard working families that are already struggling financially. We cannot afford another notch on Vectren's belt. Please don't do this to our family.
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Indianapolis, IN 46250

Connie Stambush
605 SE Riverside #C
Evansville, IN 47713

Reference: Cause No. 44910

Dear Mr. Bill Fine and all members of the OUCC:

Please, please, please, do not give into the demands Vectren to raise my utility rates YET again by imposing MORE fixed costs, making it mandatory that smart meters be installed. A cost that will come out of my pocket as a citizen.

The fact that I received a flyer from Vectren telling me I'd soon have the things they had only just asked the OUCC to allow, is PROOF that Vectren intends to make the changes no matter where the money comes from. Let it be out of their own pockets and not those of citizens struggling to live decent lives.

I earn a decent salary and do not live an extravagant lifestyle, but at the end of some months there is nothing left over to pay for necessities, such as a hospital bill from a recent bout with pneumonia.

It's imperative that officials such as yourself put the lives of citizens above the frivolous wants of Vectren — such as an app through which electrical outages can be reported quickly. In the last decade, my electricity has only gone out once, due to a snow storm. An app wasn't needed in that case to report the outage. It was obvious to even Vectren

The fact that I received a flyer from Vectren informing me I'd soon have the things it is asking the OUCC to raise my rates to pay for, is PROOF that Vectren intends to make the changes no matter where the money comes from. Let it be out of their own pockets.

Allowing Vectren to continue its stranglehold on the citizens of Indiana by continuing to up and up citizens' rates would be criminal. We are already facing rate hikes for improvements to the city's ancient sewer system, rising costs of health care, food, gasoline. Soon people will not be able to afford the basics.

Thank you for listening to me.

Sincerely,



Connie Stambush

Say NO to Vectren smart meters and more fixed charges! Contact the OUCC! Vectren wants to raise your rates AGAIN! NIX THE FIX!

Vectren has recently filed a request with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission to **raise your rates \$514 MILLION** to pay for upgrades to their transmission and distribution system. The plan was enabled by a bill (SEA560) that Vectren lobbied Indiana State Legislators to pass in 2013. If approved, Vectren claims that **the plan will increase rates between 0.83% to as high as 1.72% EVERY YEAR from 2018 until 2024.**

- **The average monthly electric bill of Vectren electric customers has already increased by 63% in the last ten years.** That's over 20% higher than the other Indiana investor-owned utilities.
- **Additionally, this requested rate increase does not include the nearly \$100M in costs for environmental compliance projects which Vectren has yet to collect from customers.** Vectren has previously indicated they will seek those costs beginning in 2020.

Ratepayers can't afford any more increases!

Adding insult to injury, Vectren is seeking to recover a portion of these costs in a fixed monthly charge, rather than a charge per kilowatt hour consumed. **Vectren is projecting that the residential fixed charge in 2018 would be \$1.29, rising to \$3.29 in 2019, and ultimately reaching \$13.46 in 2024.**

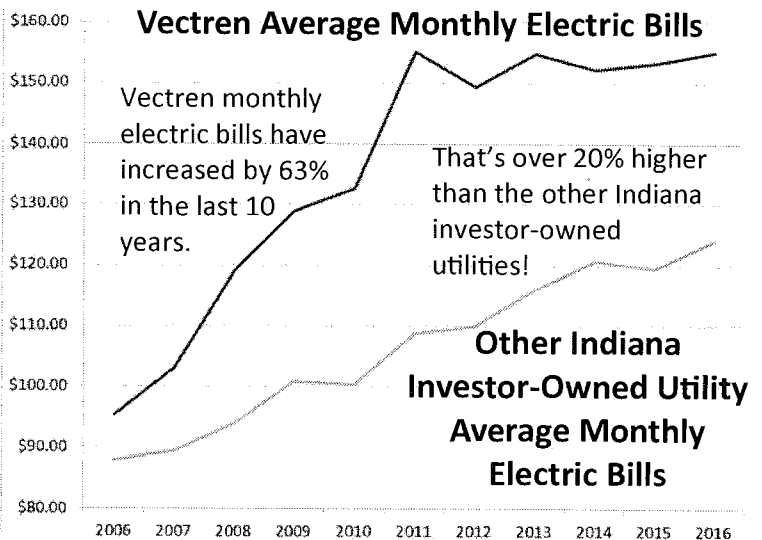
Allowing Vectren to recover these costs in a fixed monthly charge removes any incentive for the company to control their costs. Charging more for using less through higher fixed charges disproportionately hurts households on low or fixed incomes and it diminishes the longstanding principal of encouraging conservation. It also imposes an unfair "tax" on farms, homes, and businesses that choose to make their properties more energy efficient, or install solar panels, wind turbines, or other distributed energy technologies on their property.

Customers should not be penalized for investing their own money to make their properties more efficient or to generate their own energy!

Vectren's petition includes a request for \$39 MILLION to install expensive, invasive, and unnecessary smart meters in all 152,000 home and business in their Indiana service territory. Smart meters should not be mandatory. Vectren should be required to offer the smart meters to customers as a voluntary option. **Ratepayers should not be forced to pay for a smart meter they don't need and they don't want.** The costs of smart meters far outweigh the benefits. Most of the purported benefits of smart meters are benefits for the utility, so they should bear the costs and risks associated with the meters. Many concerns have been expressed about privacy and cyber security related to the installation and use of smart meters. All of these concerns must be addressed prior to any approval for a smart meter rollout.

If approved, this particular tracker would give them excessive profit to do something they are supposed to be doing anyway: provide reliable electric service. With the exception of the smart meters, most of the projects included in the \$514M proposal by Vectren are investments Vectren is required to make to meet their legal obligation of providing reliable electricity to their captive customers: distribution system upgrades and replacements as well as improvements to substations, transformers, circuit breakers, poles, and lines. **This bill tracker would shift the burden of cost and risk of running a monopoly utility company from voluntary investors to captive ratepayers.** As a result, the utilities guaranteed rate of return should be reduced to reflect the reduction in risk.

If ratepayers are going to be forced to assume the risk, then ratepayers should realize some of the reward. Vectren's ROE (profit) should be reduced!



Take action: Stop Vectren from raising your rates AGAIN!

Contact the Office of Utility Consumer Counselor and tell them to:

- Oppose any new FIXED COSTS for Vectren;
- Oppose mandatory installation of smart meters;
- Request that the Commission reduce Vectren's ROE should the Commission approve the plan.

Please reference Cause No. 44910 in your correspondence.

Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor

Attn: Bill Fine
115 W. Washington Street
Suite 1500 South
Indianapolis, IN 46204
uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov
(888) 441-2494 phone
<http://in.gov/oucc/2871.htm>

SPEAK OUT! Attend the IURC Field Hearing Scheduled for May 2nd in Evansville

The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission has scheduled a field hearing for **Tuesday, May 2nd, beginning at 6:00 p.m. local time, in the auditorium at the Academy for Innovative Studies – Diamond Campus (2319 Stringtown Road in Evansville).** Customers of Vectren will be able to speak directly to the Commission. Be advised, any comments made will be under oath and on the record. Customers may also file written comments at the time of the hearing. This is your opportunity to tell the Commission enough is enough! Please attend even if you don't plan to speak. A strong showing from the public is critical to show the Commission and the OUCC that you're paying attention and that you care.

More information on the field hearing can be found on the OUCC website at: <http://www.in.gov/oucc/files/Vectren%20Electric%20TDSIC%20PFH%20NR%204-21-16.pdf>

The Problem with Higher Fixed Charges

There's a disturbing trend developing in Indiana. As a result of slow electric load growth due to many factors, including economic downturns, increased energy efficiency and decreased costs of distributed generation, most notably rooftop solar, Indiana's electric utilities are seeking to increase fixed monthly charges on their customers. Utilities love to collect costs in fixed charges - it reduces their risk and bolsters their revenues and profits.

Other businesses with fixed costs – the oil industry, hotels and grocery stores for example – do not impose mandatory fees to cover their fixed costs. Instead, these costs are reflected in the product price, and consumers can control how much they spend by how much they purchase. The same should be true for electric consumers.

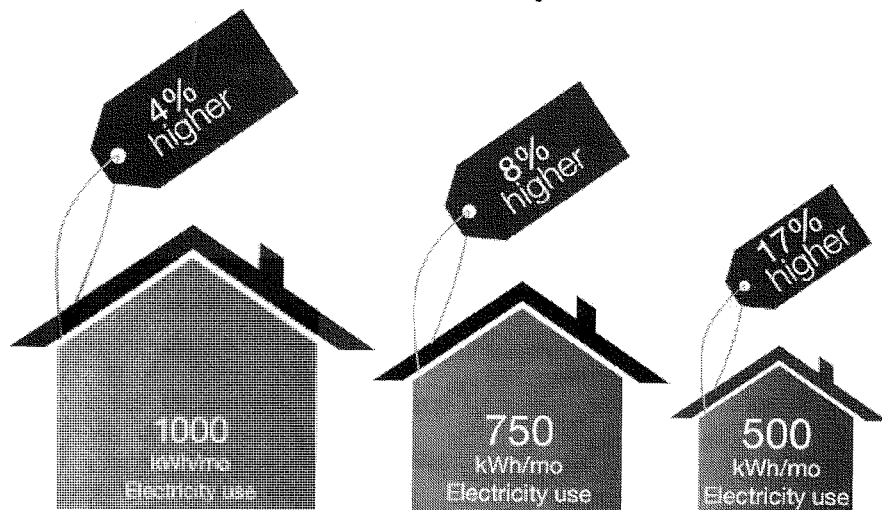
Increasing fixed costs is unfair. They hit low electricity users harder than high electricity users. Bills will go up much higher for customers living in small apartments than for those living in spacious homes.

Increasing fixed costs is inequitable. Low income customers bear a disproportionate burden. Fixed fee increases consume a larger share of the incomes of those who are least able to pay, most notably vulnerable populations on fixed incomes like seniors and people with disabilities.

Increasing fixed costs is anticompetitive. Higher fixed charges reduce the economic return from saving energy and generating your own electricity at home with solar panels or other distributed energy technology. The utility steals a portion of your bill savings into its bottom line.

Higher fixed costs also cause you to lose some of your ability to control your electric bill. When you have to pay more each month regardless of how much electricity you use, you're not as able to control your family's energy costs. The illustrative example below from the excellent "Caught in a Fix" report by Consumers Union and Synapse Energy Economics displays the inequity of higher fixed charges. The full report can be found at <http://consumersunion.org/news/new-report-from-consumers-union-exposes-problems-with-fixed-charges-on-electricity-bills/>

How Mandatory Fixed Fees Hurt Electricity Customers



With fixed fees for electricity, homes using *less* power can be hit with *steeper* bill increases. This example models the impact of increasing fixed fees from \$9 to \$25 per month, with a corresponding decrease in the charge per kilowatt-hour (kWh) used.

Source: "Caught in a Fix" Report prepared for Consumers Union by Synapse

3 easy ways
to report an outage
part of your
smart energy
future.



Text "OUT" to 83212



Report on Vectren.com/Outage



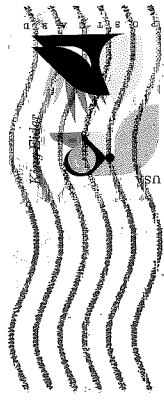
Report on Vectren's mobile app



Stambaugh
605 SE Riverside #2
Evansville, IN 47713

EVANSVILLE IN 4775

12 MAY 2017 PM 1 L



Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor

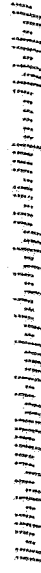
ATTN: Bill Fine

115 W. Washington Street

Suite 1500 South

Indianapolis, IN 46204

46204-341875



Lane, Lyndsey

From: taa01@frontier.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 8:54 AM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Vectren Rate Hikes

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

I have no choice to buy my utilities from anyone except Vectren. Therefore when they raise their rates I have less money to pay for other necessities. You see many of us are on Social Security, which has not had a raise in a few years.

When I want to make improvements I must find a way to do it on the income I have. They should do the same. What do I gain from the extra I would be required to pay for my utilities --- nothing. What does Vectren gain - they are getting improvements to their system.

I think we need another utility provider - give the consumer a choice.

Lane, Lyndsey

From: noreply@formstack.com
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 9:45 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: OUCC_Contact_2361

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

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Formstack Submission for form OUCC_Contact_2361

Submitted at 04/27/17 9:45 PM

Title:	Mrs.
Name:	Medea Tatum
Email:	medea_tatum@yahoo.com
Address:	4211 Meadowbrook Lane Newburgh, IN 47630
Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday)::	(812) 629-2301
Type of phone::	Home
If you do not have telephone service,:	
If providing comments on a specific case, please indicate the cause number and/or name of utility::	44645

Your Comments::	Southwest Indiana customers of Vectren have been paying higher rates than Vectren customers in the northern portion of the state for a very long time. We do not have the privilege of choosing our electric or gas company as their customers in the northern portion. Every time Vectren has asked for a rate increase for southwest Indiana, it has been given to them. We feel that we are paying the difference for the lower rates that the northern portion of the state pay, for Vectren to stay competitive. We, also, pay a delivery fee for gas and electric. I do not see them delivering anything. I suppose this was another tactic to generate money. When I contacted the Indiana Utility Regulatory
------------------------	--

Commission, I was told we pay more because of our aging infrastructure and that our area is less populated. Evansville is the third largest city in Indiana and I thought the higher rates we have been paying for years was supposed to be to improve the infrastructure. Duke energy is just 40 miles from us and they are paying 14.9 cents per kwh and they do not have a delivery charge and I am sure their infrastructure is the same as ours as they are a more rural area. All Vectren customers should be paying the same rates for the same services and if they aren't, isn't that discrimination? It cost the same to produce the power no matter where it is going. I think we should have a choice of who our provider is and if not, this a monopoly.

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This is a customer service email.

Formstack, LLC
8604 Allisonville Rd.
Suite 300
Indianapolis, IN 46250

Lane, Lyndsey

From: Emily Thompson <emilyt2@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2017 12:49 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Vectrens proposed increase

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

Dear Sirs,

I was unable to attend to open meeting this week concerning the proposed increases to our Vectren Electric bill.

I am 80 years old and have used electricity all my life and even worked at SIGECO before Vectren took over and before raising my family of 10 children. My husband (deceased-rest his soul) was an electrician and he kept our house electrically safe while we practiced being frugal with everything.(we were on our own septic system and well water) and very tight budget. When Vectren took over they added a "extra charge" to our monthly bill that was designed to cover ALL EXPANSION AND UP GRADE COST to their system. Now it seems that when we cut back on our usage that added cost goes up !!!

we budgeted carefully and spent many dollars to be Boy/Girl Scout leaders and teach our youth how to do the same. over 100 Scouts showed up at my husbands funeral to thank us for all the years of patiently working with them in their formative years and the impact it had on their lives today. I think it is time you take responsibility to see that we are not taken advantage of by an increase that will go from \$1.00 to \$20.00 per month -yes that is what is proposed. We can see maybe a need for \$1.00 as that will bring in thousands per month and can cover expansions when added up. Any more then that is not sustainable on all of us helping the last generation to raise their families and not able to make ends meet for education and daily cost (I currently have my daughter and 3 teenagers living with me) . Transportation, gas(add 10 cents a gallon) education , insurance and property taxes are getting unbearable.

Please ,PLEASE do not accept such a proposal. We have NO CHOICE to get service elsewhere so are at their mercy. They do not need to support every fundraiser and spend so much on advertising. Maybe the CEOs need to try to live on \$25,000. a year and have to pay their own medical insurance etc . They are out of touch with the common everyday people who volunteer their time and money to make our community and state the best place to raise a family like we did and pay for our kids upbringing with NOT food stamps or government help.

Let me know what you plan to do with this problem.

Sincerely,

EMILY THOMPSON
5700 MORNINGSIDE DRIVE
NEWBURGH IN 47630

emilyt2@gmail.com

Lane, Lyndsey

From: richardtieken@twc.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 11:13 AM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Vectren proposed rate increase

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

Committee Members,

I am all for Vectren doing necessary infrastructure updates that will keep our utilities at a high rate of efficiency. However, their rates are already the highest in Indiana, and with the recent legislation which cuts consumer initiative to look at, and use alternate power sources, does not make sense.

As a consumer with limited retirement income, I feel some of the proposed changes are not necessary at this time. Many other consumers are in worse shape than I am and I know this will impact all of us immensely.

Please consider no rate increase for this upgrade.

Richard Tieken
Evansville Indiana

Lane, Lyndsey

From: Jean Webb <jeanwebb68@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2017 12:40 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Cause 44910
Attachments: IURC Hearing Cause No.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

Att Bill Fine

I testified Monday night in regard to the subject cause. I also turned in my written comments of my verbal testimony with references. However, I listed to a video of my testimony, I realized although my paper said 83, I thought I said 83, but my mouth said 23. The number was in regard to the bill rank of Vectren residential bills based on cost.

So, please note that the number in my testimony was in error, and that the numbers in my written comments were correct. I've attached them for easy reference.

Thank you,

Jean Webb

IURC Hearing Cause No. 44910

Members of the IURC, thank you so much for holding a hearing on this cause.

We, the residents of Evansville, so desperately need you to hear our voice.

Like the frog in the slowing heating water, some of us have been slow to realize we are being cooked. Over the years, the cumulative effect of many legislative actions have been missed, some didn't notice the disastrous effects these actions had on the residential customers, some didn't notice the oppression by Vectren, while Vectren was smiling, shaking hands, and supporting our charities. While Vectren was paying out \$4.2 million to their CEO, and over \$1 million each to their three EVPs in 2016; while Vectren was contributing to the IEP's \$1 million spent this year lobbying our legislators; and while Vectren was donating \$25,000 to Trump's inauguration festivities; the residents were burdened with their costs, some of which we wouldn't be facing if Vectren had made better choices with our money.

Vectren is asking that we provide \$514 million plus a rate of return on that, to fund approximately 800 projects over the next seven years. But here is our history in Evansville and why we can't afford to bear these costs.

- We can't take on new debt, because we still have old debt hanging over us. Vectren spent \$90 million on updating old coal plants, and we are stuck paying that debt – at some unknown time in the future. According to Chase Kelley of Vectren, that amount is still owed, and it is being deferred until 2020, or perhaps later. Are we incurring additional interest or rate of return on equity during this deferment period? Is that debt still growing?

Our history in Evansville is that up until 2014 Vectren owned the coalmines that supplied the plants. Thus, they failed to diversify our power sources adequately. Currently about 97% of electricity generated is from coal plants. Their lack of fiduciary concern for the residents has left us with a legacy that will cripple our area for decades to come.

- We can't take on new debt because coal ash pond update expenses (excluding Warrick 4) were listed in the IRP at \$190 million, or \$230 million if we have to help Alcoa update Warrick 4 coal ash ponds too. These are costs that will automatically end up on our bills because they are costs required to meet regulations.
- We can't take on new debt because once AB Brown plants are closed in 2024, AB Brown Coal Ash Pond Closure and Post-Closure costs will be incurred and automatically applied to our bills. These costs aren't even quantified in the IRP so another unknown, big, looming debt is staring at us.

- We can't take on new debt because we will also be paying on a new massive gas plant proposed to open in 2024. Why should we have a modern grid if Vectren continues to rely primarily on fossil fuel, a 20th century technology at best, far into our future.

Vectren's request to collect costs as fixed fees is another abuse of Evansville residents, obstructing them from achieving a better quality of life.

- In a national ranking of electric bills with rates in effect 1/1/2016, utilities across the US were ranked with 1 being the lowest, and 100, the highest. Evansville residential bills were ranked an 83, and represents 26% of Vectren sales. Evansville Commercial bills were ranked from 60 to 64, representing 24% of Vectren sales. Industrial users ranked from 27-29, representing 50% of Vectren sales. Clearly, the residential customers are getting a poor deal.

Chase Kelley of Vectren stated that the competitive price of electricity for commercial and industrial users is good for bring jobs into Evansville. However, as a long-time resident of Evansville, I'd say that would only be true if the jobs paid more than a minimal living wage, which is not that case for many of those commercial and industrial users.

Although grateful for jobs, I doubt many in Evansville would consider jobs at Berry, Ameriqua, or TJMaxx as well paying. Even the companies that pay well, such as Toyota, Mead Johnson, and AstraZeneca, avoid hiring employees by using a contingent workforce at lower wages and less desirable benefits. And certainly, the majority of our fast food and hotels pay low wages. It is insult to injury to expect that their low wage labor force should bear a larger share of the electric expenses than is shouldered by residential customers living in other parts of the US.

The study found that overall, all rate classes considered, Vectren bills rank about 56 nationally. That means all rates classes should move closer to that rank to resemble the allocations seen nationwide. As such, a typical bill for a 500 kwh customer should be lowered from \$83.40 to \$68.30 (about \$15, or 18% decrease) to give our residents in Evansville a comparable chance at a better quality of life.

This part is not Vectren's fault, but adding to the stresses on the Evansville hourly workers are tax abatements given to commercial and industrial companies that leave the workers with payer higher local taxes. Our residents are also struggling with soaring water and sewage bills. The financial strains are contributing to rising suicide and drug overdose rates in our community. Relief is needed.

Clearly, trying to recover the expenses for Cause No. 44910 with a fixed fee will move the cost burden in the wrong direction. It will harm the lowest users the most.

Smart meters are a gadget that we don't need right now. I'm sure no one will complain that they have to continue to call in power outages.

Being able to look at power usage on an app might be a nice feature for some, so let those few have smart meters on a voluntary basis for an additional charge. Quite frankly, our area needs the jobs meter reading provides, even if Vectren outsources the workforce. Jobs for technicians that turn power on and off, or investigate limbs on power lines are also welcome. We can do without SCADA. We just can't handle any more bill increases.

As for reliability, the largest cause of power outages is still trees on power lines. My power was out last year for around 48 hours after a storm. I lost the contents of my freezer. Knowing the issue was downed lines from tree limbs after a storm, I took a look around at the electric lines in my neighborhood and along Burkhardt east of Target, then Outer Lincoln heading west – the trees had overgrown all the lines. Vectren can increase reliability simply by doing a better job of trimming trees away from the power lines. Until we get through some of these coal legacy expenses, we can't take on anymore.

We are here in this financial mess because of poor power source planning and Vectren needs to take some responsibility for their mistakes. They need to lessen their profits and take some of these hits too. They need to pay for the aging substations, transformers, and distribution poles without an increase on our bills.

One way to help ratepayers out of this dark pit of coal legacy expenses is to secure wind PPA s(Power Purchase Agreements). Wind is currently the most economical power generation, and by using a PPA it would not require large capital outlays by ratepayers.

Vectren modeled wind generation as a new build in their IRP, but they did not model any wind PPAs. We need Vectren to start making better choices on how to spend our money.

For Vectren to claim that they want to “modernize” anything is a farce until they significantly modernize their power sources. Vectren can use the word “modernization” with credibility only after our power generation is at 30% renewables.

Sincerely,

Jean Webb
201 Montclair Ct
Evansville, IN 47715

References

Executive compensation

<http://www1.salary.com/VECTREN-CORP-Executive-Salaries.html>

National Rate Survey

<https://www.les.com/pdf/rates/rate-survey.pdf>

Lane, Lyndsey

From: sherri winstead <kaneitha@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 09, 2017 1:03 AM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Cc: sherri winstead
Subject: VECTREN'S RAISE

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: KMH - to be entered

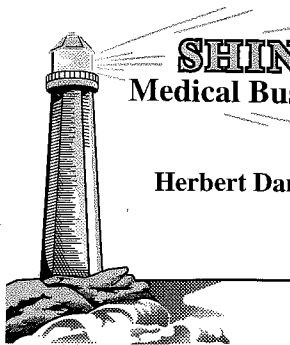
**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

Dear Sir(s), Ma'am(s),

As a consumer in the inner city and on a fixed income, I do not want Vectren to receive another raise. I see that the Community Resources like Vectren. Well, if those on fixed incomes and lower incomes could pay their bills these resources would not be needed. Vectren continues to keep getting raises and we do not get our deposit back because the stipulation is that if we do not get a disconnect withing a year we will receive our deposit back. Well that will never happen as long as there continues to be raises every year or two. I ask that this raise would be DENIED!

Sincerely,

Sherri Winstead



SHINING LIGHT
Medical Business Consultants, LLC

Herbert Dan Adams, MD, FACS, MBA

P.O. Box 4792
Evansville, Indiana 47724
Telephone (812) 425-4220
Fax (812) 425-3980
E-mail: drhda501@aol.com

April 8, 2017

Mr. William Fine, Consumer Counselor
The Indiana Office of the Utility Consumer Counselor
PNC Center
115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Re: IURC Cause #44910, Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Dear Counselor Fine:

On behalf of my constituents, I would like to request your support for at least one public field hearing to be held in Evansville, IN by the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) in Cause No. 44910. Vectren's request to seek approval of a seven-year infrastructure improvement plan totaling proposed \$514 million¹ should have Public review and input.

Because the field hearing is critical to the IURC's process, I request that the Public be provided as much advanced notice as possible as to the time and location of the meeting. Additionally, ample opportunity for a convenient and easily accessible venue(s) should be arranged to express opinions, regarding the updated electric service and this request for a significant amount of ratepayer's money.

If you have any questions for me, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

H. Dan Adams MD MBA,
Evansville City Councilman At-Large

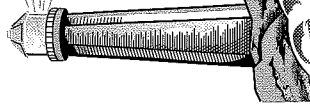
APR 10 PM 2:12

¹ The figure is according to Vectren's petition found here:

https://iurc.portal.in.gov/entity/sharepointdocumentlocation/Off57db2-fff9-e611-8104-1458d04e8ff8/bb9c6bba-fd52-45ad-8e64-a444aef13c39?file=44910_Vectren%20South_No%201_Direct%20Testimony%20and%20Attachments_Luttrell_022317.pdf

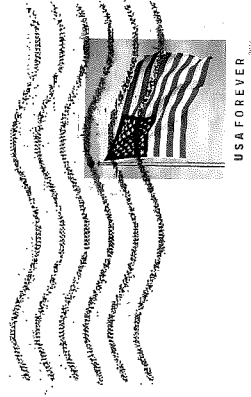
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P.O. Box 4792
Evansville, Indiana 47724



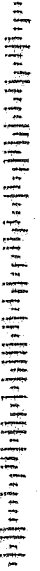
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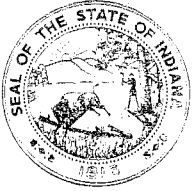
03 APR 2017 PM 2 L



Mr. William Fine, Consumer Counselor
The Indiana Office of the Utility Consumer
Counselor
PNC Center
115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

46204-341575





STATE OF INDIANA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THIRD FLOOR STATE HOUSE
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

Ron Bacon
Indiana State House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
website: www.in.gov/h75
317-232-9833

COMMITTEES:

Public Health, Vice-Chair
Interstate and International Cooperation
Commerce, Small Business, and Economic Development

Counselor Bill Fine
Indiana Office of the Utility Consumer Counselor
115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Counselor Fine:

On behalf of my constituents I would like to request your support of at least one public hearing to be held by the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) in Cause No. 44910, Vectren's request to seek approval of even-year infrastructure improvement plan totaling proposed \$514 million.

Because public input is critical to the IURC's process and because there are more than ten counties within Vectren's electric service territory, I request that the public be provided as much advanced notice as possible and ample opportunity for a convenient and easily accessible venue to express their opinions regarding their electric service and this request for a significant amount of ratepayer's money. From your tenure as State Representative, I am sure we both agree that public participation is vital on any question, but even more so in situations as impactful as this one.

If you are in need of additional assistance regarding potential location or venues for these public hearings please do not hesitate to contact us at any time. If you have any comments or questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me personally at 812-618-5019. I look forward to working with you again on this important topic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ron Bacon".

Ron Bacon
State Representative
District 75

RB: es

APR 12 4 10 PM '05



STATE OF INDIANA

State Representative
Ron Bacon
200 W Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Return Service Requested

INDIANAPOLIS

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10 APR '17

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04/10/2017

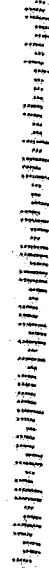
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ZIP 46204
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Counselor Bill Fine
Indiana Office of the Utility Consumer Counselor
115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South
Indianapolis, IN 46204

46204-341875



Dear OUCC,

Several years ago vectren raised our rates by 21-23%. They Said they needed 350 million for infrastructure. In the news about a month ago vectren has said they met that goal. What is to become of the 21-23 % rate that they have been charging us

At the public meeting on May 2, 2017 the only ones that where for the vectren increase where the ones who go grants or donations to their cause

Instead of giving the fixed rate increase, let them continue to use the rate they have in place, if not give back the 21-23 % rate before you give them their fixed rate

These rates that they want is for each meter. I have 4 meters on my property. That will be an increase by 2024 of \$646.00 per year for my 4 meters bringing the delivery charge to \$1166.00 a year plus Tax. That will bring it to over \$1247.00 a year before I use any electric.

Now they say they need more money for infrastructure. What happened to the money they have already collected .

Vectren is a billion dollar company, other companies if they want to grow and modernize go out for loans why can't vectren. It would be different if we could go to another electric company but we can't. Why do the consumer have to pay .

Its up to you to grant or deny vectrens request. If you would check about a 1/3 of the consumers are retired/elderly and only have a fixed income. With taxes, insurance, foods, and prescription's they have very little left if any.

So do the right thing and deny this fixed rate increase.

Thank you,

Russell A. Granderson

Posey County, IN

Lane, Lyndsey

From: Hemminger, William <bh35@evansville.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 12:34 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: Vectren "upgrade"

Categories: KMH - to be entered

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

Consumer Services Staff
Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Members:

I strongly urge you to vote AGAINST Vectren's plan for its electrical grid and for the following reasons:

- 1) Once again, customers will bear the brunt of the cost--while the benefits conduce to Vectren's bottom line. Evansville residents already have the HIGHEST utility rates in the state--a truly questionable trade for the pollution that Vectren's coal-burning power plants have spewed into our air and water.
- 2) The proposed "improvements" will disproportionately affect small home-owners and poor people.
- 3) If Vectren is so concerned about its profitability, it might well consider how much it pays to its large bevy of managers. A casual review of recent data shows that the top five administrators made more than \$22 MILLION last year alone. Trimming these outrageous salaries would go a long way towards boosting the monopoly's "bottom line."

Sincerely,

Dr. William Hemminger
Professor emeritus
U of Evansville

Lane, Lyndsey

From: noreply@formstack.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 10:40 PM
To: UCC Consumer Info
Subject: OUCC_Contact_2361

Categories: KMH - to be entered

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Formstack Submission for form OUCC_Contact_2361

Submitted at 05/02/17 10:40 PM

Title:	Mr.
Name:	John Krampe
Email:	johnkrampe@gmail.com
Address:	13631 Martin road Evansville, IN 47725
Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday)::	(812) 867-6589
Type of phone::	Home

If you do not have telephone service,:

If providing comments on a specific case, please indicate the cause number and/or name of utility:: Vectren proposed rate increase

Your Comments::

When I moved to Evansville some 30+ years ago utility rates were the lowest in the state of Indiana and service was no different than today. Since that time the regulatory commission has continually sided with Vectren and increased our rates to the highest in the state. Local customers feel like there is no regulation of Vectren. We have seen natural gas prices in this country Drop to some of the lowest levels in decades. How can these rates continue to increase when Vectren has profited for this situation for almost 10 years. Are utilities not responsible for future financial planning while charging the highest rates in the state?

Consumers should not be responsible for these practices. Our only voice is the regulatory commission.

Regard JLK

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This is a customer service email.

Formstack, LLC

8604 Allisonville Rd.

Suite 300

Indianapolis, IN 46250

Lane, Lyndsey

From: UCC Consumer Info

Customer Type: Residential
Customer: Marjorie and Janice Phelps
Business Phone:
Home Phone: 812-476-8791
Contact Phone: 812-476-8791
Service Address: 1705 S Taft Ave
City, State, ZIP: Evansville , IN , 47714
Email: mysterylady1932@gmail.com

Case Description: The rate increase is stupid. Why not get some balls and stand up and say NO for a change? You ask for a rate hike EVERY YEAR- either gas or electric. I'm on limited income and can't afford it now. But you don't care cause you have the money for it.

Then you have the nerve to use OUR money for the shindig at the river? Stop wasting our money. Stop making us poor people on limited income pay for your fun time at the river !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

You need some one to compete with that is the problem.

Dear OUCC,

Several years ago vectren raised our rates by 21-23%. They Said they needed 350 million for infrastructure. In the news about a month ago vectren has said they met that goal. What is to become of the 21-23 % rate that they have been charging us

At the public meeting on May 2, 2017 the only ones that where for the vectren increase where the ones who go grants or donations to their cause

Instead of giving the fixed rate increase, let them continue to use the rate they have in place, if not give back the 21-23 % rate before you give them their fixed rate

These rates that they want is for each meter. I have 4 meters on my property. That will be an increase by 2024 of \$646.00 per year for my 4 meters bringing the delivery charge to \$1166.00 a year plus Tax. That will bring it to over \$1247.00 a year before I use any electric.

Now they say they need more money for infrastructure. What happened to the money they have already collected .

Vectren is a billion dollar company, other companies if they want to grow and modernize go out for loans why can't vectren. It would be different if we could go to another electric company but we can't. Why do the consumer have to pay .

Its up to you to grant or deny vectrens request. If you would check about a 1/3 of the consumers are retired/elderly and only have a fixed income. With taxes, insurance, foods, and prescription's they have very little left if any.

So do the right thing and deny this fixed rate increase.

Thank you,

Russell A. Granderson

Posey County, IN

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing

OFFICIAL
EXHIBITS

Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

5.20

#2

If you would like to comment for the record in this case you must complete this form.
Testimony is welcome whether it is oral and/or written. (Both carry equal consideration.)

IURC
PUBLIC'S

(Please print)

NAME

Greg Wathen

EXHIBIT NO.

5-2-17

REPORTER

ADDRESS

318 Main Street, Suite 400, Evansville, IN 47705

Are you a customer of this utility? (circle one) YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? (circle one) SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

Ec. Development Coalition of Southwest Indiana

SIGNATURE:

[Signature]

DATE:

5-2-17

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

You may continue your comments on the back of this sheet or attach them.

You may also send comments to the OUCC at:

Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor
115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South
Indianapolis, IN 46204

web: www.IN.gov/OUCC

email: uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov

fax: (317) 232-5923



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#3

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing

Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

If you would like to comment for the record in this case you must complete this form.
Testimony is welcome whether it is oral and/or written. (Both carry equal consideration.)

(Please print)

NAME RUSSELL GRANDERSON

ADDRESS 3300 ARTESIAN WELL Rd NEW HARMONY IN 47631

Are you a customer of this utility? ***(circle one)*** YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? ***(circle one)*** SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

SIGNATURE: Russell Anderson DATE: 5-2-17

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

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Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing**Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case**

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

#4

If you would like to comment for the record in this case you must complete this form.
Testimony is welcome whether it is oral and/or written. (Both carry equal consideration.)

*(Please print)*NAME Scott Hughes MyerlyADDRESS 3011 Bellemead AveAre you a customer of this utility? (circle one) ☒ YES ☐ NODo you wish to speak or provide written comments? (circle one) ☒ SPEAK ☐ WRITTEN ☐ BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

noSIGNATURE: Scott H. Myerly DATE: 05/02/2017

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

You may continue your comments on the back of this sheet or attach them.

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Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing

Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

#5

If you would like to comment for the record in this case you must complete this form.
Testimony is welcome whether it is oral and/or written. (Both carry equal consideration.)

(Please print)

NAME Sr. Jane Michele McClure

ADDRESS 8001 Larch Lane, Evansville, IN 47710

Are you a customer of this utility? (circle one) YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? (circle one) SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

I work at Habitat for Humanity of Evansville; I would not say I am necessarily "representing" them.

SIGNATURE: Sr. Jane Michele McClure DATE: May 2, 2017

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

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Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing

Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

5:49
#6

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Testimony is welcome whether it is oral and/or written. (Both carry equal consideration.)

(Please print)

NAME EARL SCHROEDER

ADDRESS 5436 SAINT PHILIP RD S

Are you a customer of this utility? *(circle one)* ☒ YES NO *was + BE*
Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? *(circle one)* SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

SIGNATURE: *Earl Schroeder* DATE: May 2, 2017

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

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Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

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Testimony is welcome whether it is oral and/or written. (Both carry equal consideration.)

(Please print)

NAME Marcia Ballard

ADDRESS 5733 Fiesta Dr.

Are you a customer of this utility? (*circle one*) YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? (*circle one*) SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

SIGNATURE: Marcia Ballard DATE: 5-2-17

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

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Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

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Testimony is welcome whether it is oral and/or written. (Both carry equal consideration.)

#8

(Please print)

NAME Amy Cantabour

ADDRESS 805 Lemay Drive, Evansville, IN 47712

Are you a customer of this utility? *(circle one)* YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? *(circle one)* SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

United Way of Southwestern Indiana

SIGNATURE: Amy D. Cantabour DATE: 5/2/17

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

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Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing**Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case**

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

If you would like to comment for the record in this case you must complete this form.
Testimony is welcome whether it is oral and/or written. (Both carry equal consideration.)

H9

*(Please print)*NAME John BlairADDRESS 800 Adams Ave.Are you a customer of this utility? *(circle one)* YES NODo you wish to speak or provide written comments? *(circle one)* SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

~~John Blair~~SIGNATURE:  DATE: _____

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

You may continue your comments on the back of this sheet or attach them.**You may also send comments to the OUCC at:**

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Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

If you would like to comment for the record in this case you must complete this form.
Testimony is welcome whether it is oral and/or written. (Both carry equal consideration.)

(Please print)

NAME Jean Webb

ADDRESS 201 Montclair Ct

Are you a customer of this utility? *(circle one)* YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? *(circle one)* SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

SIGNATURE: Jean Webb DATE: 5-2-17

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

Paper handed to representative

You may continue your comments on the back of this sheet or attach them.

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IURC Hearing Cause No. 44910

Members of the IURC, thank you so much for holding a hearing on this cause.

We, the residents of Evansville, so desperately need you to hear our voice.

Like the frog in the slowly heating water, some of us have been slow to realize we are being cooked. Over the years, the cumulative effect of many legislative actions have been missed, some didn't notice the disastrous effects these actions had on the residential customers, some didn't notice the oppression by Vectren, while Vectren was smiling, shaking hands, and supporting our charities. While Vectren was paying out \$4.2 million to their CEO, and over \$1 million each to their three EVPs in 2016; while Vectren was contributing to the IEP's \$1 million spent this year lobbying our legislators; and while Vectren was donating \$25,000 to Trump's inauguration festivities; the residents were burdened with their costs, some of which we wouldn't be facing if Vectren had made better choices with our money.

Vectren is asking that we provide \$514 million plus a rate of return on that, to fund approximately 800 projects over the next seven years. But here is our history in Evansville and why we can't afford to bear these costs.

- We can't take on new debt, because we still have old debt hanging over us. Vectren spent \$90 million on updating old coal plants, and we are stuck paying that debt - at some unknown time in the future. According to Chase Kelley of Vectren, that amount is still owed, and it is being deferred until 2020, or perhaps later. Are we incurring additional interest or rate of return on equity during this deferment period? Is that debt still growing?

Our history in Evansville is that up until 2014 Vectren owned the coalmines that supplied the plants. Thus, they failed to diversify our power sources adequately. Currently about 97% of electricity generated is from coal plants. Their lack of fiduciary concern for the residents has left us with a legacy that will cripple our area for decades to come.

- We can't take on new debt because coal ash pond update expenses (excluding Warrick 4) were listed in the IRP at \$190 million, or \$230 million if we have to help Alcoa update Warrick 4 coal ash ponds too. These are costs that will automatically end up on our bills because they are costs required to meet regulations.
- We can't take on new debt because once AB Brown plants are closed in 2024, AB Brown Coal Ash Pond Closure and Post-Closure costs will be incurred and automatically applied to our bills. These costs aren't even quantified in the IRP so another unknown, big, looming debt is staring at us.

- We can't take on new debt because we will also be paying on a new massive gas plant proposed to open in 2024. Why should we have a modern grid if Vectren continues to rely primarily on fossil fuel, a 20th century technology at best, far into our future.

Vectren's request to collect costs as fixed fees is another abuse of Evansville residents, obstructing them from achieving a better quality of life.

- In a national ranking of electric bills with rates in effect 1/1/2016, utilities across the US were ranked with 1 being the lowest, and 100, the highest. Evansville residential bills were ranked an 83, and represents 26% of Vectren sales. Evansville Commercial bills were ranked from 60 to 64, representing 24% of Vectren sales. Industrial users ranked from 27-29, representing 50% of Vectren sales. Clearly, the residential customers are getting a poor deal.

Chase Kelley of Vectren stated that the competitive price of electricity for commercial and industrial users is good for bring jobs into Evansville. However, as a long-time resident of Evansville, I'd say that would only be true if the jobs paid more than a minimal living wage, which is not that case for many of those commercial and industrial users.

Although grateful for jobs, I doubt many in Evansville would consider jobs at Berry, Ameriquel, or TJMaxx as well paying. Even the companies that pay well, such as Toyota, Mead Johnson, and AstraZeneca, avoid hiring employees by using a contingent workforce at lower wages and less desirable benefits. And certainly, the majority of our fast food and hotels pay low wages. It is insult to injury to expect that their low wage labor force should bear a larger share of the electric expenses than is shouldered by residential customers living in other parts of the US.

The study found that overall, all rate classes considered, Vectren bills rank about 56 nationally. That means all rates classes should move closer to that rank to resemble the allocations seen nationwide. As such, a typical bill for a 500 kwh customer should be lowered from \$83.40 to \$68.30 (about \$15, or 18% decrease) to give our residents in Evansville a comparable chance at a better quality of life.

This part is not Vectren's fault, but adding to the stresses on the Evansville hourly workers are tax abatements given to commercial and industrial companies that leave the workers with payer higher local taxes. Our residents are also struggling with soaring water and sewage bills. The financial strains are contributing to rising suicide and drug overdose rates in our community. Relief is needed.

Clearly, trying to recover the expenses for Cause No. 44910 with a fixed fee will move the cost burden in the wrong direction. It will harm the lowest users the most.

Smart meters are a gadget that we don't need right now. I'm sure no one will complain that they have to continue to call in power outages.

Being able to look at power usage on an app might be a nice feature for some, so let those few have smart meters on a voluntary basis for an additional charge. Quite frankly, our area needs the jobs meter reading provides, even if Vectren outsources the workforce. Jobs for technicians that turn power on and off, or investigate limbs on power lines are also welcome. We can do without SCADA. We just can't handle any more bill increases.

As for reliability, the largest cause of power outages is still trees on power lines. My power was out last year for around 48 hours after a storm. I lost the contents of my freezer. Knowing the issue was downed lines from tree limbs after a storm, I took a look around at the electric lines in my neighborhood and along Burkhardt east of Target, then Outer Lincoln heading west – the trees had overgrown all the lines. Vectren can increase reliability simply by doing a better job of trimming trees away from the power lines. Until we get through some of these coal legacy expenses, we can't take on anymore.

We are here in this financial mess because of poor power source planning and Vectren needs to take some responsibility for their mistakes. They need to lessen their profits and take some of these hits too. They need to pay for the aging substations, transformers, and distribution poles without an increase on our bills.

One way to help ratepayers out of this dark pit of coal legacy expenses is to secure wind PPA s(Power Purchase Agreements). Wind is currently the most economical power generation, and by using a PPA it would not require large capital outlays by ratepayers.

Vectren modeled wind generation as a new build in their IRP, but they did not model any wind PPAs. We need Vectren to start making better choices on how to spend our money.

For Vectren to claim that they want to "modernize" anything is a farce until they significantly modernize their power sources. Vectren can use the word "modernization" with credibility only after our power generation is at 30% renewables.

Sincerely,

Jean Webb
201 Montclair Ct
Evansville, IN 47715

References

Executive compensation

<http://www1.salary.com/VECTREN-CORP-Executive-Salaries.html>

National Rate Survey

<https://www.les.com/pdf/rates/rate-survey.pdf>

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing

Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

411

If you would like to comment for the record in this case you must complete this form.
Testimony is welcome whether it is oral and/or written. (Both carry equal consideration.)

(Please print)

NAME Medea Tatum

ADDRESS 4211 Meadowbrook Lane

Are you a customer of this utility? (*circle one*) YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? (*circle one*) SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

SIGNATURE: Medea Tatum DATE: 5/2/2017

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

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Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing

Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

#12

If you would like to comment for the record in this case you must complete this form.
Testimony is welcome whether it is oral and/or written. (Both carry equal consideration.)

(Please print)

NAME TRACY GORMAN

ADDRESS 500 E. WALNUT ST. EVANSVILLE, IN 47713

Are you a customer of this utility? *(circle one)* YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? *(circle one)* SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

Evansville Rescue Mission

SIGNATURE: 

DATE: 5/2/17

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

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Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

#13

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

If you would like to comment for the record in this case you must complete this form.
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(Please print)

NAME Wendy Bredhold

ADDRESS 3307 E. Chandler Ave

Are you a customer of this utility? *(circle one)* YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? *(circle one)* SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

SIGNATURE: Wendy Bredhold DATE: 5-2-17

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

You may continue your comments on the back of this sheet or attach them.

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Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing

Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

#14

If you would like to comment for the record in this case you must complete this form.
Testimony is welcome whether it is oral and/or written. (Both carry equal consideration.)

(Please print)

NAME Ryan Zaricki

ADDRESS 1001 Oliver Rd. N., Wadesville, IN 47638

Are you a customer of this utility? *(circle one)* YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? *(circle one)* SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

SIGNATURE: N. Zaricki DATE: 5/2/17

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

You may continue your comments on the back of this sheet or attach them.

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Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing

Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

#18

If you would like to comment for the record in this case you must complete this form.
Testimony is welcome whether it is oral and/or written. (Both carry equal consideration.)

(Please print)

NAME

Erika Taylor

ADDRESS

4000 Candlewood Place, Newburgh IN 47630

Are you a customer of this utility? *(circle one)* YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? *(circle one)* SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

YWCA

SIGNATURE:

Erika Taylor

DATE:

5/3/17

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

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Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

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(Please print)

NAME JOSEPH NICKOLICH

ADDRESS 1000 S. Cullen Ave

Are you a customer of this utility? *(circle one)* YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? *(circle one)* SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

SELF

SIGNATURE: J. Nickolich DATE: 5/2/17

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

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Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

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(Please print)

NAME Courtney Woodruff

ADDRESS 639 Reis Ave.

Are you a customer of this utility? *(circle one)* ☒ YES ☐ NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? *(circle one)* SPEAK WRITTEN ☒ BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

SIGNATURE: Courtney Woodruff DATE: 5-2-17

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

I am a single mother doing it all on my own. Sober Tyres, No child support, no debt, work 45-55hrs a week and I'm barely making it. My Vectren Bill and Grocery's are higher than my mortgage. How can I provide

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You may also send comments to the OUCC at:

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check to Vectren?!



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Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing

6,40

Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

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#18

(Please print)

NAME Larry Rascoe

ADDRESS 5611 Sherwood ct

Are you a customer of this utility? (circle one) YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? (circle one) SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

SIGNATURE: [Signature] DATE: 5-2-17

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

I serve as Pastor to a family who is caring for
an elderly family member who is on oxygen.

In fear of a power outage as they had experienced
in the past they spent over \$3,000 installing a backup
generator that they have never used. Anything that is
proactive towards minimizing down time is important to
families like this.

You may continue your comments on the back of this sheet or attach them.

You may also send comments to the OUCC at:

Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor
115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South
Indianapolis, IN 46204

web: www.IN.gov/OUCC
email: uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov
fax: (317) 232-5923



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① WHA 10:42

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing

Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

#18

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

If you would like to comment for the record in this case you must complete this form.
Testimony is welcome whether it is oral and/or written. (Both carry equal consideration.)

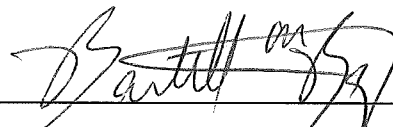
(Please print)

NAME Bartell Berg
ADDRESS 6214 Overpass Rd. Mt. Vernon 47620

Are you a customer of this utility? *(circle one)* YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? *(circle one)* SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

SIGNATURE:  DATE: 5-2-2017

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

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Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing

Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

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(Please print)

NAME MARK BRYANT

ADDRESS 7299 Main ST WAVERIDGE, IN 47638

Are you a customer of this utility? *(circle one)* YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? *(circle one)* SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

Valley Watch

SIGNATURE: Mark Bryant DATE: May 2, 2017

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

You may continue your comments on the back of this sheet or attach them.

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Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
Office of Utility Consumer Counselor
IURC Cause number 44910
Vectren South TDSIC Application Field Hearing
Auditorium of The Academy of Innovative Studies-Diamond Campus
2319 Stringtown Road, Evansville, Indiana
May 2, 2017

RE: Comments on the Vectren South Cause Number 44910 by Mark Bryant, Valley Watch Member and Vectren South Customer

OUC members,

According to Vectren South's recent legal filings with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission there is much work to be done to the Southern Indiana transmission and distribution (T&D) infrastructure. Vectren South has told the IURC and the Office of Utility Consumer Counselor that these infrastructure improvements will enable them to offer better and more reliable service to the area they serve. They also told you that in order to modernize and maintain the reliability of their T&D infrastructure locally they must spend about one-half billion dollars modernizing and upgrading that infrastructure.

First, we must answer the question of just what kind of business Vectren South (Vectren) is? The answer is that Vectren, like many utilities, is a monopoly business that the State of Indiana has licensed to be the one and only utility business that may provide natural gas, electric and power distribution services within its local service area. The monopoly license granted to Vectren does not have many operating constraints within its definition. For the most part, Vectren is left alone by state and federal regulatory agencies to practice its business of energy production and delivery as it sees fit, unless Vectren's operation severely and negatively impacts the local community within its jurisdiction.

For instance, the monopoly granted to Vectren by the State of Indiana does **not** conclude that power must be generated nearly free of toxic byproducts that negatively impact the health of the community. The Vectren monopoly license could contain provisions that establish that the cost of their power products must be affordable to the vast majority of those serviced by the utility. The monopoly license granted to Vectren could also establish a special low utility rate for those whose incomes are economically impaired or have other reasonable operating conditions imposed upon it, but they are not.

Many will testify today on the benefits of the proposed projects and most of those who support these infrastructure projects will have something to gain from the adoption of the TDSIC application as it was initially filed. Proponents may state these projects will allow Vectren to better "compete" in the future and allow Vectren to provide new services to the population it serves. Proponents with this view ignore that Vectren's monopoly business model excludes competition and that the captured ratepayer will be forced to pay whatever charges are deemed appropriate by Vectren if this TDSIC application is approved.

Others will testify that these infrastructure upgrades will benefit the local economy and one can rest assured that Vectren investors, CEOs, managers and utility industry associations are more than happy to see this round of TDSIC projects completed. What proponents of this TDSIC application ignore is the TANSTaaFL (there ain't no such thing as a free lunch) kerfuffle. If the TDSIC proposal is adopted as it is filed, there will be enormous economic lost opportunity costs for the community as a whole because they will be forced pay to the annual \$71 million dollar per year bill for Vectren's TDSIC Grand Design.

The economic health of our community will be at even greater risk if this application is adopted. The local economic health of our economy is truly depressing when one considers this single statistic; over 56% of Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation students are eligible for free or reduced lunches¹. One cannot take \$71 million a year from the incomes of the local community without enabling a great deal of economic hardship.

The case may also be made that Vectren and their industry association representatives are many years away from embracing mechanisms for a fair Distributed Generation reimbursement rate by the DG customer and thus do not require substantial T&D upgrades. Why go to expense to install T&D upgrade technology today when policy promoted and implemented by Vectren and their member industry associations dissuade customers from returning excess power generation back to Vectren's T&D infrastructure?

One may easily appreciate T&D updates that remove PCB laden transformers and increase the reliability of the T&D system. But the policy of erecting barriers to the DG community as a whole negates the need for "modernizing" or upgrading T&D infrastructure. The existing T&D infrastructure is working well in this regard and does not require upgrading.

Due to the extraordinarily fragile state of the local economy and Vectren's ongoing efforts to malign the clean renewable energy DG community, I urge the IURC to disallow this TDSIC application request and have Vectren revise its proposal to include only those projects that are essential and necessary for the safety and reliability of its local T&D infrastructure.

Thank you for your consideration of these remarks.

Mark Bryant



Valley Watch Member and Vectren South Customer

¹ <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/5187-public-school-students-receiving-free-or-reduced-price-lunches#detailed/10/2494/false/871,870,573,869,36/1279,1280,1281/13762,11655>

3

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing

Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

If you would like to comment for the record in this case you must complete this form.
Testimony is welcome whether it is oral and/or written. (Both carry equal consideration.)

(Please print)

NAME Tamara Hunt

ADDRESS 3211 Bellemeade Ave, Evansville, IN 47714

Are you a customer of this utility? (circle one) YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? (circle one) SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

SIGNATURE: Tamara Hunt DATE: 5/2/17

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

Vectren monthly bills have increased more than 60% over the past decade,

which is ^{20%} more than other utilities in the state. Since this is a for-profit monopoly,

Vectren should pay for improvements out of its corporate profits, not push it onto the

backs of ratepayers - especially since the lowest consumers of electricity will pay the biggest increases.

You may continue your comments on the back of this sheet or attach them.

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Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing

Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

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(Please print)

NAME TOM BALLARD

ADDRESS 5733 FIESTA DRIVE, NEWBURGH, IN 47630

Are you a customer of this utility? *(circle one)* YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? *(circle one)* SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

SIGNATURE: Tom Ballard DATE: 5/2/17

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

1/4 of the households in Evansville are ~~not~~ housing
insecure. That means they can barely pay for their
housing now. High utility bills are a big part of that.
Adding \$12 a more a month is a huge burden for them.

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5:50

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing**Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case**

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

If you would like to comment for the record in this case you must complete this form.
 Testimony is welcome whether it is oral and/or written. (Both carry equal consideration.)

*(Please print)*NAME David CokerADDRESS 1601 Western Hills DrAre you a customer of this utility? *(circle one)* YES NODo you wish to speak or provide written comments? *(circle one)* SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

poor peopleSIGNATURE: David Coker DATE: April 2, 2017

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

This state has largely given utilities a
license to steal. I have been interviewing
stupid for IURC commissioner position for two different
administrators. You must have either a personal or institutional

You may continue your comments on the back of this sheet or attach them. (over)**You may also send comments to the OUCC at:**

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conflict of interest to serve on this board.
The public's interest is rarely served by
the organization.

One time I wrote a column about cyber
security as it pertains to our electoral grid. The
agency was only willing to issue a boilerplate
non-committal statement in response to my inquiry.

I came away from that experience feeling as
if we are very vulnerable to cyber attack
and nobody seems to have any real answers.
I don't get it!

I suppose this is needed. They say it is
but Western's shoulders should carry
part of the load, I am sick of hypocrisies and
it has become a way of life in this country.

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing

Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

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Testimony is welcome whether it is oral and/or written. (Both carry equal consideration.)

(Please print)

NAME Mallory Rodenberg

ADDRESS 727 S. Englewood Ave

Are you a customer of this utility? (*circle one*) YES NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? (*circle one*) SPEAK WRITTEN BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

SIGNATURE: M. Rodenberg DATE: 5.2.2017

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

When will it be shareholders turn to
shoulder some of the costs of a monopolized
utility? We already pay the highest rates
in the state with a dated system. →

You may continue your comments on the back of this sheet or attach them.

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With the passing of #SB309 into law, ratepayers in Southern Indiana are the losers. What is the breaking point? When will Indiana look out for Hoosier families instead of constantly doing the bidding of monopolies?

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Public Field Hearing

Vectren Electric Infrastructure Case

Cause Number 44910 — May 2, 2017

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(Please print)

NAME

Niles Rosengquist

ADDRESS

732 S. Willow Rd Evansville 47714

Are you a customer of this utility? *(circle one)* **YES** NO

Do you wish to speak or provide written comments? *(circle one)* SPEAK **WRITTEN** BOTH

If you are representing any firm or organization, please provide the name:

SIGNATURE:

Niles Rosengquist

DATE:

May 2, 2017

I OFFER THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

(You may make both written and oral comments.)

ised ①, flat fee - unfair to low income households, and to those who make effort to conserve energy
② smart meters - primarily a convenience to Vectren, Vectren should pay for them, or should be optional, paid

You may continue your comments on the back of this sheet or attach them. (over)

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for by customers who see value in them.

③ Vectren needs to provide its customers with comprehensive information on all future rate increases - plant investments, environment compliance, others - to put the proposed rate increase in context of all other rate increases.

④ Vectren already has legal responsibility ~~to~~ as a regulated utility to provide reliable electricity to customers - if ~~they~~ Vectren has a problem with meeting this responsibility, Vectren's ^{investors} should pay, not added burden on rate payers.

⑤ Reliability risk for electricity outages is ~~overwhelming~~ overwhelmingly storm damage - this \$514 million cost to rate payers is totally irrelevant to that real risk.

Wendy Bredhold
3307 E. Chandler Ave.
Evansville, IN 47714

IURC Cause No. 44910

I'm an Evansville resident and Vectren customer and I don't oppose needed improvements to our electric grid. I certainly don't oppose Vectren replacing PCB Transformers like the one that leaked a dangerous chemical on at least 6 students at South Terrace Elementary school last year. I would never ask Vectren to forgo needed infrastructure upgrades, especially in a situation that endangers children and the public.

I do oppose the way in which Vectren intends to recoup the \$514 million cost of this plan with a flat, across-the-board fee that is unfair to those who use less energy and those who have worked to reduce their bills - the highest in the state, as we all know - through conservation efforts or solar energy. All of these people would be unfairly punished by a fixed charge. Vectren can make the *necessary* improvements in this plan *when needed* and without asking for a flat fee added to our bills.

The poverty rate in Evansville has grown almost as quickly as our electric bills in the last 10 years, by more than 60%. According to the United Way's ALICE study, 52% of Evansville residents struggle to pay their bills.

17% of households in Vanderburgh County live in poverty. 29% of households in Vanderburgh County with a child under 5 live in poverty. 25% of households in Vanderburgh County with a child under 18 live in poverty. 38% of African American households in Vanderburgh County live in poverty. These are our neighbors paying the highest electric bills in the state who cannot afford to pay more. These are our friends being asked to pay more.

Across the river in Kentucky, Louisville Gas & Electric recently agreed to reduce by half the fixed fee it was proposing because consumer groups, the city of Louisville and the attorney general said it would hammer low-income residents and discourage energy conservation by making it harder for customers to recover the costs of everything from insulation to solar panels.

LG&E also withdrew its plan to install mandatory smart meters, a \$39 million component of Vectren's plan. In addition, LG&E is increasing its commitment to low-income customers through June of 2021, and funding a study on electric bus infrastructure in the Louisville and Lexington areas.

I attended a United Neighborhoods of Evansville meeting last week at which Vectren executives presented this plan. The president of a local neighborhood association asked what Vectren is planning to do for low-income customers to deal with this fixed charge. He didn't get an answer. Vectren can afford to do more for Evansville.