

STATE OF INDIANA

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

**PETITION OF INDIANA UTILITIES)
CORPORATION INC. FOR (1) AUTHORITY TO)
INCREASE ITS RATES AND CHARGES FOR GAS) CAUSE NO. 46086
UTILITY SERVICE, AND (2) APPROVAL OF)
NEW SCHEDULES OF RATES AND CHARGES.)**

PETITION

To the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission:

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

Petitioner’s Corporate Status

1. Petitioner is a corporation duly organized and existing under and through the laws of the State of Indiana. Petitioner’s office is located at 123 W. Chestnut Street, Corydon, Indiana.
2. Petitioner provides pipelines, distribution systems, land, land rights, equipment, materials, supplies, working capital, and other property which is used and useful for the rendering of natural gas service to its customers. Petitioner operates under franchises obtained from various municipalities and necessity certificates obtained from this Commission or its predecessor. Petitioner supplies gas to both rural and municipal areas in Harrison and Floyd Counties, Indiana. As of September 30, 2023 Petitioner served approximately 3,504 customers.

Petitioner’s “Public Utility” Status

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

Petitioner’s Existing Rates

4. Petitioner’s current base rates, charges and tariffs; except as may have been amended from time to time by various GCA proceedings, or amended tariffs including those related to Cause No. 45032, and the Utility Receipts Tax repeal; are those base rates, charges, and tariffs last approved by this Commission in Cause No. 45116 through its Order of February 20, 2019. Such rates and charges are unjust, unreasonable, and confiscatory of Petitioner’s used and useful property. Further, such tariffs, rules, and regulations are insufficient for the appropriate provision of natural gas service.

5. The petition initiating Cause No. 45116 was filed with the Commission on June 26, 2018. Therefore, in accordance with Ind. Code § 8-1-2-42(a), more than fifteen months have passed since the filing of Indiana Utilities’ most recent request for a general increase in its basic rates and charges.

Test Year, Rate Base Cutoff Dates

6. Petitioner requests authority to change its current base rates, charges, tariffs, rules, and regulations as supported by the evidence of record in this cause; based on an accounting test year of September 30, 2024; as adjusted for fixed, known and measurable changes occurring within

12 months following such test year. Petitioner also requests the use of a cutoff date for its utility plant in service for purposes of valuing its rate base in this cause of September 30, 2024.

Petitioner’s Requested Relief

7. As explained in greater detail in Petitioner’s case-in-chief, Petitioner’s current rates are insufficient and confiscatory. Petitioner requests an adjustment to its base rates and charges so as to increase its revenue by approximately \$1,129,288 or 18.41% including gas costs. The total requested margin increase is 41.48%. Indiana Utilities’ proposal is detailed in its case-in-chief filed contemporaneous herewith.

Procedural Schedule

8. Pursuant to 170 IAC 1-1.1-9(8), undersigned counsel contacted the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (“OUCC”) prior to filing about Petitioner’s proposed procedural schedule below. Petitioner and the OUCC are working together to reach an agreed schedule. If an agreed schedule is reached Petitioner will file said schedule. If an agreement cannot be timely reached under 170 IAC 1-1.1-9(8), Petitioner will inform the Commission. Pursuant to 170 IAC 1-1.1-15, Petitioner requests a prehearing conference and preliminary hearing be promptly set by the Commission to be utilized, if needed, to determine the procedural schedule.

Day 0	Thursday, June 13, 2024	Petition & Filing of Case in Chief
Day 98	Thursday, September 19, 2024	OUCC and Intervenors Filing of Case in Chief
Day 126	Thursday, October 17, 2024	Rebuttal/OUCC & Intervenors Cross Answering, if any
Day 133	Thursday, October 24, 2024 and Friday, October 25, 2024	Settlement Agreement
Day 152- 153	Tuesday, November 12, 2024 to Wednesday* November 13, 2024	Evidentiary hearing.
Day 182	Thursday, December 12,	Petitioner proposed order/post

	2024	hearing brief
Day 203	Thursday, January 2, 2025	OUC and Intervenor proposed order/brief
Day 210	Thursday, January 9, 2025	Petitioner Reply

*The parties respectfully request the Commission confer with the parties regarding available hearing dates if either of these dates are unavailable.

Other terms:

Service: The parties will provide same day service of filings via email, hand delivery or large file transfer.

Discovery: Discovery is available to all parties and shall be conducted on an informal basis. Any response or objection to a discovery request shall be made within ten (10) calendar days of the receipt of such request until OUC and Intervenor's case in chief filing. Thereafter, any response or objection to a discovery request shall be made within five (5) business days of the receipt of such request. Discovery requests served after 5:00 p.m. on Monday through Thursday or after noon on Friday or the day preceding a day in which the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission is closed will be deemed served the following business day (all times are Eastern Time). The Parties may conduct discovery through electronic means. Subject to the protection of confidential information, all parties will be served with discovery requests and responses.

Workpapers: When pre-filing technical evidence with the Commission, each party shall file copies of the work papers used to produce that evidence within two (2) business days after the pre-filing of such technical evidence. Copies of the same shall also be served on the other parties to this Cause.

Number of Copies/Corrections: Filings with the Commission shall comply with General Administrative Order 2016-2. Any corrections to prefiled testimony shall be made in writing as soon as possible after discovery of the need to make such corrections.

Objections to Prefiled Testimony and Attachments: Any objections to the admissibility of prefiled testimony or attachments shall be filed with the Commission and served on all parties of record not less than five (5) business days prior to the date scheduled for commencement of the hearing at which the testimony or exhibit will be offered into the record.

Customer Notification

9. In accordance with Ind. Code § 8-1-2-61(a), Petitioner will publish notice of the filing of this Petition in a newspaper of general circulation published in each Indiana county in

which Community renders service. The proofs of publication of notice will be late-filed as an exhibit.

Applicable Statutory Provisions.

10. Petitioner considers that the provisions of Ind. Code §§ 8-1-2-4, -6, -7, -10, -12, -19, -20, -21, -23, -29, -42, -42.7, -61, -68 and -71, among others, are applicable to the subject matter of this Joint Petition.

Attorneys for Petitioner

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

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WHEREFORE, Indiana Utilities Corporation, Inc. respectfully requests this Commission to enter this Petition of record; promptly establish a procedural schedule and associated terms; hold such other public hearings as are necessary; and thereafter make and enter an appropriate order in accordance with the 300-day time frame provided in GAO-2013-5 and Section 42.7 to authorize appropriate changes in Petitioner's rates, charges, tariffs, rules, and regulations; and for all other appropriate relief justice and the evidence in this cause would require.

Respectfully submitted,



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Counsel for Indiana Utilities Corporation

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing has been served upon the following counsel of record by electronic mail this 13th day of June, 2024.

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