FILED July 19, 2024 INDIANA UTILITY **REGULATORY COMMISSION**

STATE OF INDIANA

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

VERIFIED PETITION OF SOUTHERN INDIANA GAS AND) ELECTRIC COMPANY D/B/A CENTERPOINT ENERGY INDIANA SOUTH ("CEI SOUTH") FOR (1) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY ITS RATES AND CHARGES FOR ELECTRIC UTILITY SERVICE THROUGH A PHASE-IN OF RATES, (2) APPROVAL OF NEW SCHEDULES OF RATES AND CHARGES, AND NEW AND REVISED RIDERS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO A NEW TAX ADJUSTMENT RIDER AND A NEW GREEN POWER RIDER (3) APPROVAL OF A CRITICAL PEAK PRICING ("CPP") PILOT PROGRAM, (4) APPROVAL OF REVISED DEPRECIATION RATES APPLICABLE TO ELECTRIC AND COMMON PLANT IN SERVICE, (5) APPROVAL OF NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE ACCOUNTING RELIEF, INCLUDING AUTHORITY TO CAPITALIZE AS RATE BASE ALL CLOUD COMPUTING COSTS AND DEFER TO A REGULATORY ASSET AMOUNTS NOT ALREADY INCLUDED IN BASE RATES THAT ARE INCURRED FOR THIRD-PARTY CLOUD COMPUTING ARRANGEMENTS, APPROVAL AND (6)OF AN ALTERNATIVE REGULATORY PLAN GRANTING CEI SOUTH A WAIVER FROM 170 IAC 4-1-16(f) TO ALLOW FOR REMOTE DISCONNECTION FOR NON-PAYMENT

OFFICIAL EXHIBITS

CAUSE NO. 45990

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

IURC PUBLIC'S EXHIBIT NO REPORTER

INDIANA OFFICE OF UTILITY CONSUMER COUNSELOR

PUBLIC'S EXHIBIT NO. 14-S

SUPPLEMENTAL CONSUMER COMMENTS

July 19, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

T. Jason Haas Deputy Consumer Counselor Attorney No. 34983-29

From:	noreply@in.accessgov.com
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	Form Submission - OUCC Contact Form: Marsha G Wortz
Date:	Wednesday, May 22, 2024 4:04:51 PM

A form has been submitted for: OUCC Contact Form Please review the attached PDF for the submission information.

Title: Ms. Name: Marsha G Wortz Email: mhansen25@aol.com Phone: (812) 455-2383 Address: 7244 Nottingham Dr Newburgh IN 47630 Utilities: CenterPoint Energy Type of Inquiry: Case Comment Comments: Cause No. 45990

As a customer commenting on my own behalf, I believe the proposed rate hike by Centerpoint, as well as their settlement filing, are predatory to customers. We already have the highest utility rate in the state, and have numerous hikes recently. Centerpoint also has the highest authorized return on equity, higher than all the utility corp. throughout Indiana. Because they are the only provider in the area, the customer suffers. Consumers are already being dealt unfair hikes in the cost of goods and service across the board, due to sheer greed of the provider. Another hike in rates will further hurt consumers , which in turn will hurt the local economy. Less discretionary income, higher need for government assistance to pay bills, and possibly people leaving the area for more affordable living elsewhere.

From:	Clinton Hancock
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	CenterPoint Energy
Date:	Wednesday, April 24, 2024 8:58:46 AM

I write to you today in rebuttal to the filing made by CenterPoint representative Richard Leger. Mr. Leger's comments stating that the scenarios heard at the public meeting regarding CenterPoint's requested rate increase being unaffordable were outliers and "extreme scenarios". We are here to tell you they are not. My family is as typical as one can be. My wife and I both have college degrees, have two boys, (neither of whom are special needs). We are both employed full time with a combined household income of roughly \$140K/year. Our home is modest, around 2100 square feet. It is all brick and has energy efficient windows and doors. We have lived in it for 15 years and have a good interest rate on our mortgage. We lease than typical debt, no student loans left to pay, Modest car payments and little credit card debt. We live a very typical and normal life for those in this area. Our research actually indicates we would be considered higher income for this region.

We cannot afford CenterPoint's proposed rate increase. We simply can't and others like us have stated how they also can't afford it. This will affect how we are able to live our lives. This will effect the businesses we frequent and we will not be able to spend some of the money with them any longer. There are thousands of families just like us. Combine us being forced to cut back with those families who will also do the same and this will cripple the local small business community who will also be forced to deal with these rate increases.

Mr. Leger is wrong. He is poorly researched and transparently self-serving in his statements. Please, I ask you to reject them and do not consider them in your decision. I also ask that you reject this proposed increase not just for my family's sake, the other families you've heard from sakes, but for the community as a whole including the businesses who will be so hurt in both expenses and income from this increase.

Thank you for your time.

Clinton Hancock Indiana resident and CenterPoint utility customer Sent from my iPhone

From:	Patrick Strasik
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	Centerpoint prices
Date:	Thursday, May 23, 2024 7:44:41 AM

Hello,

I wanted to voice my disgust at the proposed rate hikes for Centerpoint energy. Both my wife and I are teachers in Evansville and we have seen the price of energy go from easily affordable when we moved here in 2016, to having to consciously budget for our monthly electric bill in 2024. We are childless adults living in a 1600 square foot home, yet our electric bill is nearly triple the bill of my family in Ohio. We would happily switch companies, but there is no where else to go; to receive yet another hike in price would force us to put our student loans in forbearance as we figure out ways to make ends meet. Something must be done about this company— how is it sustainable for young families?

Sincerely, Patrick Strasik

From:	Chad Hart
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	Case Comments Re: CenterPoint
Date:	Wednesday, May 22, 2024 7:49:00 PM

I am a customer of CenterPoint, formerly Vectren, and I am writing on my own behalf. I am commenting regarding:

Pending Fuel Cost Adjustment (IURC Cause No. 38708 FAC143) Rate Case (IURC Cause No. 45990) Clean Energy Case (IURC Cause No. 46058) Coal Ash Compliance Project (IURC Cause No. 45903) Proposed 5-year infrastructure plan (IURC Cause No. 45894)

It is simply unconscionable that Southwest Indiana/Evansville metro customers have paid the highest rates in Indiana for the last 20 years. It's also unconscionable that CenterPoint is proposing to increase rates and other costs. If CenterPoint cannot sustainably operate without creating undue and out of line costs for its customers, the State of Indiana should do something. How can other utility operators in other regions in Indiana manage to be successful and profitable to such an extent that they have had not just marginally lower rates, but much lower rates consistently for 20 years? What is wrong with Vectren, now CenterPoint's, business model, management, and operations? Is there fraud, mismanagement, malice, greed, impropriety, incompetence?

Chad Hart Evansville, IN 47714 8124703601

From:	noreply@in.accessgov.com
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	Form Submission - OUCC Contact Form: Duffie Ascher
Date:	Wednesday, May 22, 2024 8:16:08 PM

A form has been submitted for: OUCC Contact Form Please review the attached PDF for the submission information.

Title: Mrs. Name: Duffie Ascher Email: duffieascher@gmail.com Phone: (337) 378-2617 Address: 15235 KINGSMONT DR EVANSVILLE IN 47725 Utilities: CenterPoint Energy Price Increases Type of Inquiry: Case Comment

Comments: I am outraged and appalled at the greed of CenterPoint energy and their proposed monthly bill increase for consumers. As a disabled Vet, married to a disabled vet, and a hard-working member of this community, I can hardly stand to think my hard-earned income will go to line the pockets of greedy, wealthy CEOs and investors meanwhile I have to scrimp and scrounge to make each month's bill as the rate increases EVERY month. I have yet to have two bills of the same amount in the nearly 2 years I've lived in this state. I own a three-bedroom, one story home, with energy efficient appliances and keep my AC set to 71, delaying turning on the cool or heat until absolutely necessary. We never leave lights on, we're religious about monitoring the usage, etc. Yet month after month my bill fluctuates drastically from the lowest being \$109 to the highest being \$234. \$234 for running one TV maybe 20 hours a month, approximately 100 hours of energy efficient light bulb use, and a couple loads of laundry a month (we're a family of 3, mind you). It's unconscionable! I actually called CenterPoint and the water company (separate but similar issue!) at one point to see if there was a misreading or a leak anywhere that can account for this insane monthly rate. I can't imagine if we didn't have good paying jobs what the monthly budget would look like just to keep lights on in my house. It's greedy and un-American to continue to gouge consumers for basic necessities, especially when CenterPoint as a monopoly on Evansville so it's not like i can switch to a competitor. Hard working Americans should not have to forgo things in their daily lives to ensure they can afford an outrageous electric bill just so corporate fat cats can buy another luxury vehicle .

From:	noreply@in.accessgov.com
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	Form Submission - OUCC Contact Form: daniel townsend
Date:	Thursday, July 4, 2024 10:18:09 AM

A form has been submitted for: OUCC Contact Form Please review the attached PDF for the submission information.

Title: Mr. Name: daniel townsend Email: dtown1965@outlook.com Phone: (812) 361-3616 Address: 1828 APPLE RIDGE DR EVANSVILLE IN 47720 Utilities: CENTER POINT Type of Inquiry: Case Comment Comments: The people are sick and tired of the state sanctioning any and all rate increases for Center Point!! We already have the highest rates in the state!!!!!!!!!!!

Dear Som a center Paint energy customer. Each mould I pay 252.00 on the budget plan. I con understand the electric charges Ot. But the gas charge's are down sight confusing, Distribution and service charge is always high and mener the same, 7 gos cont charge is lower than the distribuition and service charge, by a long shat, I would like to see on my next bill. The distribuition alonge and the service charge and gas cost charge like it is on the electric bill, myself and many and many other's feel that Center Voinet energy is charging us for gas we are not useng. If that is the care. Its know woneles they kave made millions on customer's in Eugeneille alone. ets time for all thur customer's to have a chose I would really like to see that pappen, and I woold like to pear from you. 214E. Tennesper St uanavelle t

From:	noreply@in.accessgov.com
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	Form Submission - OUCC Contact Form: Jeremy Burk
Date:	Thursday, May 23, 2024 6:20:02 PM

A form has been submitted for: OUCC Contact Form Please review the attached PDF for the submission information.

Title: Name: Jeremy Burk Email: jsburk3@gmail.com Phone: Address: Evansville IN 47725 Utilities: Center Point Type of Inquiry: General Inquiry Comments: I oppose the increase. As

Comments: I oppose the increase. As a family, we have done everything possible to reduce our use only to have our bill increase. I get messages about energy star, LED, and other tips to lower a bill that they have been increasing since the buy out. Residents have seen increases in water, gas, and electricity when it comes to utilities. These are staples to live, especially with our weather getting hotter each year. No to the increase.

From:	noreply@in.accessgov.com
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	Form Submission - OUCC Contact Form: Matthew Westenbarger
Date:	Thursday, May 23, 2024 7:56:07 AM

A form has been submitted for: OUCC Contact Form Please review the attached PDF for the submission information.

Title: Name: Matthew Westenbarger Email: mwestenbarger@msn.com Phone: (812) 461-8641 Address: 3021 Sheridan Rd Evansville IN 47710 Utilities: Centerpoint Type of Inquiry: Case Comment Comments: I am sorry i do not know the

Comments: I am sorry i do not know the case number but you probably have it memorized from the thousands of comments you have received asking you to deny the most recent rate hike.

The proposed settlement by CenterPoint will still cause an unreasonable burden on customers like me. Please listen to the overwhelming response from customers and elected officials pleading to deny this proposal. CenterPoint customers have paid the highest utility rates in indiana for over 20 years, even though we have a much lower median income than many areas. CenterPoint has been allowed to take advantage of its monopoly and over charge its customers for years. Please have compassion for us in Southern Indiana and deny this rate hike.

From:	noreply@in.accessgov.com
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	Form Submission - OUCC Contact Form: michael orourke
Date:	Wednesday, April 24, 2024 8:46:07 AM

A form has been submitted for: OUCC Contact Form Please review the attached PDF for the submission information.

Title: Mr. Name: michael orourke Email: mkrrk56@gmail.com Phone: (812) 483-5268 Address: 6599 blue spruce dr newburgh IN 47630 Utilities: Centerpoint Type of Inquiry: Case Comment Comments: Richard C. Leger, the s

Comments: Richard C. Leger, the senior vice president of CenterPoint's Indiana electric branch, recently gave testimony on their pending rate increase. His testimony illustrated how dishonest and disingenuous CenterPoint has been regarding their rates. To suggest their rates are not unaffordable is completely false. Southwest Indiana customers have endured the highest utility rates in the state for over a decade. His and Centerpoint's insensitivity to a rate increase of \$50 month is mind boggling! This has to stop now!

From:	noreply@in.accessgov.com
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	Form Submission - OUCC Contact Form: Robin C Wright
Date:	Wednesday, July 10, 2024 8:45:05 PM

A form has been submitted for: OUCC Contact Form Please review the attached PDF for the submission information.

Title: Mrs. Name: Robin C Wright Email: robincwright@aol.com Phone: Address: Evansville IN 47714 Utilities: CenterPoint's proposed rate increase. I am a customer. Type of Inquiry: Case Comment Comments: As with The Citizens Action Coalition, I am alarme

Comments: As with The Citizens Action Coalition, I am alarmed that consumers are not represented in the proposed settlement, only a couple of large businesses. I was at the meeting in Evansville and heard excruciating testimony from those worried about how they will afford their bills with the rate increase. I am semi-retired, working a part-time job and my husband is fully retired. The proposed increase, even the most recent proposed settlement, will be a financial drain on us as our incomes will not be increasing at the rate of their proposed increase. I hope this rate increase will not be allowed, but at the very least will be reduced to a more affordable level.

From:	noreply@in.accessgov.com
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	Form Submission - OUCC Contact Form: Samuel C. Rumade
Date:	Thursday, May 23, 2024 12:36:57 PM

A form has been submitted for: OUCC Contact Form Please review the attached PDF for the submission information.

Title: Name: Samuel C. Rumade Email: gasman@gmail.com Phone: Address: 3362 W Michigan St Evansville IN 47712 Utilities: Centerpoint Type of Inquiry: Case Comment Comments: Centerpoint and the supposed regulators are thieves.

From:	noreply@in.accessgov.com
То:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	Form Submission - OUCC Contact Form: Susan hon
Date:	Friday, May 24, 2024 7:43:00 PM

A form has been submitted for: OUCC Contact Form Please review the attached PDF for the submission information.

Title: Ms. Name: Susan hon Email: susan.hon@outlook.com Phone: (812) 760-8122 Address: 1030 MacArthur circle Evansville IN 47714 Utilities: Centerpoint Type of Inquiry: General Inquiry Comments: I am getting disability and a raise the electric \$32 more a month is ridiculous you know I only make so much and this is going to take from my food budget

From:	DONALD SMITH
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	High rates from CenterPoint energy my name is Donald Smith and you are the only one who can keep them from charging such high rates please protect us
Date:	Wednesday, May 22, 2024 3:54:57 PM

.

Sent from my iPhone

From:	dnoneck@aol.com
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	Center Point rate hike
Date:	Wednesday, May 22, 2024 10:46:40 PM

To all Concerned,

On the Centerpoint proposed rate hike.

1. It would be one thing if centerpoint wasn't already making record profits, which they are.

They say they haven't raised rates in 15 years which is a lie because they haven't been here that long.
They cannot include what Vectren did or did not due with the rates.

4. The highest utility bills in the state for almost 20 years now.

Darrin (NONECK) Maxey Rolling Thunder IN. Chapter 6 Treasurer / Grill Team Cell 812-484-6034

"Life should NOT be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways - Cold beer in one hand - hot chick in the other - body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming,"

"WOO HOO!! What a Ride!"

"A free people ought not only to be armed and disciplined, but they should have sufficient arms and ammunition to maintain a status of independence from any who might attempt to abuse them, which would include their own government."

George Washington

From:	Kelly Trinh
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	CenterPoint customers can't afford to subsidize large corporations
Date:	Friday, June 28, 2024 10:57:08 AM

Dear Counselor Fine,

No one should ever have to choose between paying for food, shelter, healthcare, or utilities. With CenterPoint's latest request to raise our bills by over \$47 every month, I'm very concerned that more and more people in my community will be forced to make those extremely difficult - and dangerous - decisions.

I'm especially frustrated that CenterPoint wants to allocate costs in a way that will force residential customers to pick up a higher share of their costs, while letting big industrial customers pay much less than they should. We've paid the highest electric bills in Indiana since 2008 - we definitely can't afford to subsidize big industrial corporations!

It's also concerning that CenterPoint has the highest return on equity out of all the big electric utilities here in Indiana, all while asking for a massive increase in our monthly fixed charge. Folks work hard to save energy to save money, but high fixed charges make it harder for us to have any control over our bills. In addition, these high monthly fees are inequitable because they consume a larger percentage of low-income customers' income. We need to be helping those struggling to get by, not penalizing them.

CenterPoint customers need bills that we can afford without breaking the bank. Please reject CenterPoint's request to raise our rates and our fixed monthly charge in Cause Number 45990.

Thank you, Kelly Trinh 20 Springhaven Dr Evansville, IN 47710

From:	Sara Watson
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	CenterPoint customers can't afford to subsidize large corporations
Date:	Wednesday, June 12, 2024 11:16:19 AM

Dear Counselor Fine,

No one should ever have to choose between paying for food, shelter, healthcare, or utilities. With CenterPoint's latest request to raise our bills by over \$47 every month, I'm very concerned that more and more people in my community will be forced to make those extremely difficult - and dangerous - decisions.

I'm especially frustrated that CenterPoint wants to allocate costs in a way that will force residential customers to pick up a higher share of their costs, while letting big industrial customers pay much less than they should. We've paid the highest electric bills in Indiana since 2008 - we definitely can't afford to subsidize big industrial corporations!

It's also concerning that CenterPoint has the highest return on equity out of all the big electric utilities here in Indiana, all while asking for a massive increase in our monthly fixed charge. Folks work hard to save energy to save money, but high fixed charges make it harder for us to have any control over our bills. In addition, these high monthly fees are inequitable because they consume a larger percentage of low-income customers' income. We need to be helping those struggling to get by, not penalizing them.

CenterPoint customers need bills that we can afford without breaking the bank. Please reject CenterPoint's request to raise our rates and our fixed monthly charge in Cause Number 45990.

Thank you, Sara Watson 7849 Wisteria Ln Evansville, IN 47720

From:	<u>Tao Mou</u>
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	CenterPoint customers can't afford to subsidize large corporations
Date:	Monday, June 10, 2024 8:42:50 AM

Dear Counselor Fine,

No one should ever have to choose between paying for food, shelter, healthcare, or utilities. With CenterPoint's latest request to raise our bills by over \$47 every month, I'm very concerned that more and more people in my community will be forced to make those extremely difficult - and dangerous - decisions.

I'm especially frustrated that CenterPoint wants to allocate costs in a way that will force residential customers to pick up a higher share of their costs, while letting big industrial customers pay much less than they should. We've paid the highest electric bills in Indiana since 2008 - we definitely can't afford to subsidize big industrial corporations!

It's also concerning that CenterPoint has the highest return on equity out of all the big electric utilities here in Indiana, all while asking for a massive increase in our monthly fixed charge. Folks work hard to save energy to save money, but high fixed charges make it harder for us to have any control over our bills. In addition, these high monthly fees are inequitable because they consume a larger percentage of low-income customers' income. We need to be helping those struggling to get by, not penalizing them.

CenterPoint customers need bills that we can afford without breaking the bank. Please reject CenterPoint's request to raise our rates and our fixed monthly charge in Cause Number 45990.

Thank you, Tao Mou 3905 S Woods Edge Bend Bloomington, IN 47401

From:	Randy Like
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	CenterPoint customers can't afford to subsidize large corporations
Date:	Thursday, May 23, 2024 2:04:38 PM

Dear Counselor Fine,

No one should ever have to choose between paying for food, shelter, healthcare, or utilities. With CenterPoint's latest request to raise our bills by over \$47 every month, I'm very concerned that more and more people in my community will be forced to make those extremely difficult - and dangerous - decisions.

I'm especially frustrated that CenterPoint wants to allocate costs in a way that will force residential customers to pick up a higher share of their costs, while letting big industrial customers pay much less than they should. We've paid the highest electric bills in Indiana since 2008 - we definitely can't afford to subsidize big industrial corporations!

It's also concerning that CenterPoint has the highest return on equity out of all the big electric utilities here in Indiana, all while asking for a massive increase in our monthly fixed charge. Folks work hard to save energy to save money, but high fixed charges make it harder for us to have any control over our bills. In addition, these high monthly fees are inequitable because they consume a larger percentage of low-income customers' income. We need to be helping those struggling to get by, not penalizing them.

CenterPoint customers need bills that we can afford without breaking the bank. Please reject CenterPoint's request to raise our rates and our fixed monthly charge in Cause Number 45990.

Thank you, Randy Like 4355 Hawthorne Dr Newburgh, IN 47630

From:	beverly myers
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	CenterPoint customers can't afford to subsidize large corporations
Date:	Tuesday, May 14, 2024 5:55:13 PM

Dear Counselor Fine,

No one should ever have to choose between paying for food, shelter, healthcare, or utilities. With CenterPoint's latest request to raise our bills by over \$47 every month, I'm very concerned that more and more people in my community will be forced to make those extremely difficult - and dangerous - decisions.

I'm especially frustrated that CenterPoint wants to allocate costs in a way that will force residential customers to pick up a higher share of their costs, while letting big industrial customers pay much less than they should. We've paid the highest electric bills in Indiana since 2008 - we definitely can't afford to subsidize big industrial corporations!

It's also concerning that CenterPoint has the highest return on equity out of all the big electric utilities here in Indiana, all while asking for a massive increase in our monthly fixed charge. Folks work hard to save energy to save money, but high fixed charges make it harder for us to have any control over our bills. In addition, these high monthly fees are inequitable because they consume a larger percentage of low-income customers' income. We need to be helping those struggling to get by, not penalizing them.

CenterPoint customers need bills that we can afford without breaking the bank. Please reject CenterPoint's request to raise our rates and our fixed monthly charge in Cause Number 45990.

Thank you, beverly myers 741 Colonial Way Greenwood, IN 46142

From:	Joseph Dwyer
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	CenterPoint customers can't afford to subsidize large corporations
Date:	Friday, May 3, 2024 5:23:56 PM

Dear Counselor Fine,

No one should ever have to choose between paying for food, shelter, healthcare, or utilities. With CenterPoint's latest request to raise our bills by over \$47 every month, I'm very concerned that more and more people in my community will be forced to make those extremely difficult - and dangerous - decisions.

I'm especially frustrated that CenterPoint wants to allocate costs in a way that will force residential customers to pick up a higher share of their costs, while letting big industrial customers pay much less than they should. We've paid the highest electric bills in Indiana since 2008 - we definitely can't afford to subsidize big industrial corporations!

It's also concerning that CenterPoint has the highest return on equity out of all the big electric utilities here in Indiana, all while asking for a massive increase in our monthly fixed charge. Folks work hard to save energy to save money, but high fixed charges make it harder for us to have any control over our bills. In addition, these high monthly fees are inequitable because they consume a larger percentage of low-income customers' income. We need to be helping those struggling to get by, not penalizing them.

CenterPoint customers need bills that we can afford without breaking the bank. Please reject CenterPoint's request to raise our rates and our fixed monthly charge in Cause Number 45990.

We are all electric customers (Rate EH) at the same Indiana address since 1999. There is no justification for CenterPoint/Vectren/Sigeco eliminating our grandfathered electric rate discount. We use more electricity than combined gas/electric households, therefore CenterPoint makes higher revenue off of us. This was the original negotiated compromise, since the late 1970s, for such customers- use more and get a discounted rate. Nothing has changed except Centerpoint's greed. Say no to this proposed change.

In addition, so called 'regulated' Utilities in Indiana should not be allowed to own and control two competing energy products- methane gas and electricity. Either source of energy, and it's distribution, should be controlled by separate entities and stand on its own merits. We have no need for methane at our home and never will. Centerpoint should be offering incentives to use more electricity and at the proper times, like discounted electric vehicle charging at night. There is no market based signal, competition, etc. in the current setup. It is truly dysfunctional.

In addition, ratepayers should have the ability to sell excess solar generation to whoever they like at whatever price the market will take. It is beyond ridiculous that CenterPoint says wholesale electricity is only worth \$0.03/kWh, yet they charge local ratepayers \$0.16-\$0.20/kWh. Anyone looking at competing local & regional electric utilities knows the going retail electric rate is \$0.09- \$0.13/kWh. The market rate of electricity transmission and distribution is only \$0.06- \$0.10/kWh, using CenterPoint's own energy cost! We are truly

getting ripped off by Centerpoint/Vectren/Sigeco with their current and proposed rates.

It would be bettet off for all ratepayers here to resind CenterPoint's license to operate and award it to Henderson Municipal Utilities across the River in Kentucky. They charge retail customers \$0.09- \$0.10/kWh for delivered electricity on the same regional electric grid (MISO).

Joseph Dwyer, Evansville, IN- Cause Number 45990.

Thank you, Joseph Dwyer 7623 Rock Creek Ln Evansville, IN 47711

From:	<u>Mitzi White</u>
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	CenterPoint customers can't afford to subsidize large corporations
Date:	Friday, July 12, 2024 9:02:44 AM

Dear Counselor Fine,

No one should ever have to choose between paying for food, shelter, healthcare, or utilities. With CenterPoint's latest request to raise our bills by over \$47 every month, I'm very concerned that more and more people in my community will be forced to make those extremely difficult - and dangerous - decisions.

I'm especially frustrated that CenterPoint wants to allocate costs in a way that will force residential customers to pick up a higher share of their costs, while letting big industrial customers pay much less than they should. We've paid the highest electric bills in Indiana since 2008 - we definitely can't afford to subsidize big industrial corporations!

It's also concerning that CenterPoint has the highest return on equity out of all the big electric utilities here in Indiana, all while asking for a massive increase in our monthly fixed charge. Folks work hard to save energy to save money, but high fixed charges make it harder for us to have any control over our bills. In addition, these high monthly fees are inequitable because they consume a larger percentage of low-income customers' income. We need to be helping those struggling to get by, not penalizing them.

CenterPoint customers need bills that we can afford without breaking the bank. Please reject CenterPoint's request to raise our rates and our fixed monthly charge in Cause Number 45990.

Thank you, Mitzi White 51 E Pennsylvania St Shelbyville, IN 46176

From:	lan Payne
То:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	CenterPoint's request to hike electric rates by \$47+/month is outrageous
Date:	Wednesday, July 10, 2024 9:46:32 AM

Dear Counselor Fine,

I am shocked by CenterPoint's request to hike our electric bills by almost \$50 every month, and over \$63 a month for folks with electric heating.

We have already been paying the highest electric bills in Indiana for over a decade! How on earth does CenterPoint - a monopoly utility with zero competition - need so much more of our hard earned money each and every month?

CenterPoint is clearly financially healthy, since they were able to buy Vectren for \$6 billion back in 2019, and they made over \$1 billion in profits in 2022. Meanwhile, folks in Southern Indiana are having a harder and harder time paying for the essential utility services we all depend on, especially as we're also facing big increases in the cost of housing, healthcare, and food.

To be frank, I don't think CenterPoint deserves to have the highest return on equity out of all of Indiana's investor-owned electric utilities. They also don't deserve the highest fixed charge out of all the big electric utilities! Having to pay \$23.20 per month before we even turn on the lights is ridiculous.

CenterPoint electric customers desperately need relief. Please stand up for Hoosiers, not monopoly electric companies!

Please REJECT CenterPoint's request to hike our bills and our fixed charge in Cause Number 45990.

Respectfully, Ian Payne 2108 E Riverside Dr Evansville, IN 47714

From:	Ryan Hart
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	CenterPoint's request to hike electric rates by \$47+/month is outrageous
Date:	Thursday, July 11, 2024 8:19:00 AM

Dear Counselor Fine,

I am shocked by CenterPoint's request to hike our electric bills by almost \$50 every month, and over \$63 a month for folks with electric heating.

We have already been paying the highest electric bills in Indiana for over a decade! How on earth does CenterPoint - a monopoly utility with zero competition - need so much more of our hard earned money each and every month?

CenterPoint is clearly financially healthy, since they were able to buy Vectren for \$6 billion back in 2019, and they made over \$1 billion in profits in 2022. Meanwhile, folks in Southern Indiana are having a harder and harder time paying for the essential utility services we all depend on, especially as we're also facing big increases in the cost of housing, healthcare, and food.

To be frank, I don't think CenterPoint deserves to have the highest return on equity out of all of Indiana's investor-owned electric utilities. They also don't deserve the highest fixed charge out of all the big electric utilities! Having to pay \$23.20 per month before we even turn on the lights is ridiculous.

CenterPoint electric customers desperately need relief. Please stand up for Hoosiers, not monopoly electric companies!

Please REJECT CenterPoint's request to hike our bills and our fixed charge in Cause Number 45990.

Respectfully, Ryan Hart 2320 S Red Bank Rd Evansville, IN 47712

From:	Rosemary Jarrett
To: <u>L</u>	JCC Consumer Info
Subject: F	Please fight for Hoosiers, not monopoly electric utilities
Date:	Fuesday, May 28, 2024 8:56:52 AM

Dear Counselor Bill Fine,

I urge you to reject CenterPoint's outrageous electric rate hike request in Cause Number 45990. I've lost track of how many times they've filed to raise my bills over the last few years, and now CenterPoint has the gall to ask for another \$500+ every year? We can't afford any more increases!

We have already been saddled with the highest electric bills in Indiana since 2008. Now CenterPoint wants us to pay off aging coal plants - some of which aren't even generating electricity anymore - while we're also paying for new generation. It's not my fault CenterPoint and their predecessors made poor investment decisions, but that doesn't stop CenterPoint from wanting to force me to pick up the tab (plus a profit!!).

The bottom line is that CenterPoint Energy Inc. is a financially healthy monopoly, while customers like me are dealing with high bills on top of costs going through the roof for other essential needs.

We can't take any more rate increases! Please stand up for residential customers in Cause Number 45990. REJECT CenterPoint's egregious request to hike our bills and our monthly fixed charge.

Regards, Rosemary Jarrett 9 Oak Meadow Rd Evansville, IN 47725

From:	Sharon Kamman
То:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	Please fight for Hoosiers, not monopoly electric utilities
Date:	Tuesday, May 28, 2024 8:55:55 AM

Dear Counselor Bill Fine,

I urge you to reject CenterPoint's outrageous electric rate hike request in Cause Number 45990. I've lost track of how many times they've filed to raise my bills over the last few years, and now CenterPoint has the gall to ask for another \$500+ every year? We can't afford any more increases!

We have already been saddled with the highest electric bills in Indiana since 2008. Now CenterPoint wants us to pay off aging coal plants - some of which aren't even generating electricity anymore - while we're also paying for new generation. It's not my fault CenterPoint and their predecessors made poor investment decisions, but that doesn't stop CenterPoint from wanting to force me to pick up the tab (plus a profit!!).

The bottom line is that CenterPoint Energy Inc. is a financially healthy monopoly, while customers like me are dealing with high bills on top of costs going through the roof for other essential needs.

We can't take any more rate increases! Please stand up for residential customers in Cause Number 45990. REJECT CenterPoint's egregious request to hike our bills and our monthly fixed charge.

Regards, Sharon Kamman 922 Holly Dr Seymour, IN 47274

From:	Mary Harper
То:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	Please fight for Hoosiers, not monopoly electric utilities
Date:	Thursday, May 23, 2024 8:24:52 AM

Dear Counselor Bill Fine,

I urge you to reject CenterPoint's outrageous electric rate hike request in Cause Number 45990. I've lost track of how many times they've filed to raise my bills over the last few years, and now CenterPoint has the gall to ask for another \$500+ every year? We can't afford any more increases!

We have already been saddled with the highest electric bills in Indiana since 2008. Now CenterPoint wants us to pay off aging coal plants - some of which aren't even generating electricity anymore - while we're also paying for new generation. It's not my fault CenterPoint and their predecessors made poor investment decisions, but that doesn't stop CenterPoint from wanting to force me to pick up the tab (plus a profit!!).

The bottom line is that CenterPoint Energy Inc. is a financially healthy monopoly, while customers like me are dealing with high bills on top of costs going through the roof for other essential needs.

We can't take any more rate increases! Please stand up for residential customers in Cause Number 45990. REJECT CenterPoint's egregious request to hike our bills and our monthly fixed charge.

Regards, Mary Harper 101 E Main St Newburgh, IN 47630

From:	Robert Utley
То:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	Please fight for Hoosiers, not monopoly electric utilities
Date:	Thursday, July 11, 2024 8:22:51 AM

Dear Counselor Bill Fine,

I urge you to reject CenterPoint's outrageous electric rate hike request in Cause Number 45990. I've lost track of how many times they've filed to raise my bills over the last few years, and now CenterPoint has the gall to ask for another \$500+ every year? We can't afford any more increases!

We have already been saddled with the highest electric bills in Indiana since 2008. Now CenterPoint wants us to pay off aging coal plants - some of which aren't even generating electricity anymore - while we're also paying for new generation. It's not my fault CenterPoint and their predecessors made poor investment decisions, but that doesn't stop CenterPoint from wanting to force me to pick up the tab (plus a profit!!).

The bottom line is that CenterPoint Energy Inc. is a financially healthy monopoly, while customers like me are dealing with high bills on top of costs going through the roof for other essential needs.

We can't take any more rate increases! Please stand up for residential customers in Cause Number 45990. REJECT CenterPoint's egregious request to hike our bills and our monthly fixed charge.

Regards, Robert Utley 10622 County Rd 509 S Newburgh, IN 47630

From:	freoneryds
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	Rate increase
Date:	Thursday, May 23, 2024 9:46:01 AM

I am centerpoint residentual customer. I am a union contract worker. I know whats involved with power plants operations and whats involved with upgrades. It takes hundreds of workers to maintain a facility. The oldest plant in southern IN is 69 years old. The other five are over fifty years old. I'm sure they have been paid off by now. The owners are quite wealthy i'm sure. When utility companies increase their rates so much that it hurts the customer that provides that wealth it could seem that they are being taken advantage of. Utility companies know they have the upper hand. The power they supply they know the customer needs and cant do without. The rate increase they want should be shown to be necessary a transparent record should be shown to the public.

Customer Tim Herring

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S21 Ultra 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a copy of the foregoing has been served upon the following counsel of

record in the captioned proceeding by electronic service on July 19, 2024.

Heather A. Watts Jeffery A. Earl Alyssa N. Allison Kelly M. Beyrer Matthew A. Rice **SOUTHERN INDIANA GAS AND ELECTRIC CO.** d/b/a **CENTERPOINT ENERGY IN SOUTH** Heather.Watts@centerpointenergy.com Jeffery.Earl@centerpointenergy.com Alyssa.Allison@centerpointenergy.com Kelly.Beyrer@centerpointenergy.com Matt.Rice@centerpointenergy.com

Nicholas K. Kile Hillary J. Close Lauren M. Box Lauren Aguilar BARNES & THORNBURG LLP nicholas.kile@btlaw.com hillary.close@btlaw.com lauren.box@btlaw.com lauren.aguilar@btlaw.com Tabitha Balzer (IG) Todd Richardson (IG) LEWIS & KAPPES, P.C. TBalzer@lewis-kappes.com TRichardson@lewis-kappes.com ATyler@lewis-kappes.com ETennant@lewis-kappes.com

Anne E. Becker (Evansville) Aaron A. Schmoll (Evansville) LEWIS & KAPPES, P.C. <u>ABecker@lewis-kappes.com</u> ASchmoll@lewis-kappes.com

Jennifer Washburn Reagan Kurtz CAC JWashburn@citact.org RKurtz@citact.org

Nikki Gray Shoultz Kristina K. Wheeler Bose MCKINNEY & EVANS NShoultz@boselaw.com KWheeler@boselaw.com

T. Jason Haas Deputy Consumer Counselor

INDIANA OFFICE OF UTILITY CONSUMER COUNSELOR 115 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 South Indianapolis, IN 46204 infomgt@oucc.in.gov thaas@oucc.in.gov 317.232.3315–Haas Direct Line 317.232.2494 – Office Main Line 317.232.5923 – Facsimile