



For Immediate Release

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Eastern Bartholomew Water Corp. rate case: Consumer comments invited

If you would like to comment on Eastern Bartholomew Water Corporation's requested rate increase, here's your chance.

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) is inviting written consumer comments on the utility's request through May 9, 2017. The OUCC, the state agency representing consumer interests in cases before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC), is scheduled to complete its review of the utility's request and file testimony on May 16, 2017.

Eastern Bartholomew Water Corp. is a not-for-profit utility with more than 5,100 customers in Bartholomew, Decatur, and Jennings Counties. Its most recent base rate case concluded in 2008.

Under the utility's request, the monthly water rate for a residential customer using 5,000 gallons would rise from \$22.83 to \$33.77. Eastern Bartholomew Water Corp. is also seeking IURC approval to issue up to nearly \$7.7 million in long-term debt. According to its testimony, the utility is seeking the changes due to higher operating and maintenance costs along with the need for capital improvements. Proposed improvements include a new water treatment plant, a new storage tank, and new office and maintenance buildings, along with new hydrants, meter replacements, main extensions, and GIS system mapping of the utility's distribution system.

Consumers who wish to submit written comments for the case record may do so via the OUCC's Website at www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm, or by mail, email or fax:

- Mail: Consumer Services Staff
Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor
115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South
Indianapolis, IN 46204
- email: uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov
- Fax: (317) 232-5923

The OUCC needs to receive all written consumer comments no later than May 9, 2017 so that it can: 1) Consider them in preparing its testimony and 2) File them with the Commission to be included in the case's formal evidentiary record.

Comments should include the consumer's **name, mailing address**, and a reference to "**IURC Cause No. 44903.**" Consumers with questions about submitting written comments can contact the OUCC's consumer services staff toll-free at 1-888-441-2494.

An IURC evidentiary hearing is scheduled to start on June 28, 2017 at the PNC Center (101 W. Washington St.) in Indianapolis. While evidentiary hearings are open to the public, participation is typically limited to attorney and Commission questioning of witnesses who have filed technical testimony on behalf of the case's formal parties.

Updates on this case are being posted on the OUCC's website at www.in.gov/oucc/2507.htm.

(IURC Cause No. 44903)

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) represents Indiana consumer interests before state and federal bodies that regulate utilities. As a state agency, the OUCC's mission is to represent all Indiana consumers to ensure quality, reliable utility services at the most reasonable prices possible through dedicated advocacy, consumer education, and creative problem solving.

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