



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Indiana American Water Rate Agreement Approved**

A settlement agreement among the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC), Indiana American Water Co. (IAWC), and all additional parties in the utility's rate case received the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission's (IURC's) approval this week.

The approved agreement will allow for an overall annual revenue increase of \$17.5 million. IAWC had sought a \$38.8 million increase when filing the rate case in September 2018.

"The Commission's order brings a fair resolution to this case," said Indiana Utility Consumer Counselor Bill Fine. "The increase under the approved agreement is significantly lower than what IAWC had requested. More importantly, the agreement provides an appropriate balance between aging infrastructure improvements and fair rates to cover those costs, to help ensure the reliable delivery of clean water to the utility's customers throughout the state."

Consumer benefits in the approved agreement include a low-income pilot program to be developed in the near future, funded with an even balance of ratepayer and shareholder dollars. The pilot program will focus on customers in Gary, Muncie, and Terre Haute. The agreement also resolves all issues pertaining to the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, and the proper sharing of federal tax relief with customers.

Settling parties in addition to the OUCC and IAWC include the Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana, the Indiana Community Action Association, industrial customers (Arcelor Mittal USA, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, and Praxair, Inc.), municipal governments (Crown Point, Schererville, and Whiteland), and Sullivan-Vigo Water Corporation.

(IURC Cause No. 45142)

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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