



For Immediate Release

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Ohio Valley Gas Rate Case: Consumer Comments Invited

If you are an Ohio Valley Gas (OVG) customer, you are invited to comment on the utility's proposed rate increase.

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC), the state agency representing consumer interests in cases before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC), is reviewing the utility's request and is scheduled to file testimony on May 15, 2024.

While using its legal and technical resources to analyze the request, including examining the utility's books and operations, the OUCC is inviting written comments from customers through May 8, 2024.

OVG is seeking a two-step \$12 million (35%) increase in its annual operating revenues. According to its filing, the utility is seeking the increase due to infrastructure improvements and higher operating and maintenance costs.

The utility's testimony and exhibits show that its request, when fully implemented in September 2025, would raise total residential natural gas charges as follows:

ANR Service Area Dubois, Jay, Spencer, and Wayne Counties		
Monthly Usage	Current Bill	Proposed Bill
20 therms	\$31.74	\$45.16
50 therms	\$57.54	\$79.24
100 therms	\$100.54	\$136.05

Texas Gas Service Area Dearborn, Fayette, Franklin, Perry, Ripley, Spencer, and Union Counties		
Monthly Usage	Current Bill	Proposed Bill
20 therms	\$32.74	\$45.12
50 therms	\$60.05	\$79.15
100 therms	\$105.55	\$135.85

Ohio Valley Gas Inc. (OVGI) Service Area Greene, Knox, Pike, Sullivan, and Vigo Counties		
Monthly Usage	Current Bill	Proposed Bill
20 therms	\$32.28	\$45.12
50 therms	\$58.89	\$79.15
100 therms	\$103.22	\$135.85

Grandview Service Area Spencer County		
Monthly Usage	Current Bill	Proposed Bill
20 therms	\$23.49	\$35.72
50 therms	\$51.82	\$76.18
100 therms	\$96.37	\$143.61

OVG's residential gas bills for the ANR, OVGI, and Texas Gas service areas include a monthly \$14.54 customer service charge which does not vary based on usage. It would rise to \$22.43 under the utility's request. The remainder of the bill varies by customer usage. OVG's residential gas bill for the Grandview service area includes a monthly \$9.38 customer service charge which would increase to \$14.47 under the utility's request.

OVG's current base rates received IURC approval in October 2017. Total billing amounts have varied since then due to changes in wholesale commodity costs along with incremental increases to pay for specific infrastructure and federally mandated costs as allowed by Indiana law.

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Base distribution rates comprise 50% of a typical customer's residential natural gas bill. They cover "non-gas" costs such as operating and maintenance expenses and capital infrastructure improvements. The remainder of a typical monthly bill pays for the natural gas itself, which the utility recovers on a dollar-for-dollar basis subject to OUCC review and IURC approval every three months.

OVG provides natural gas service to approximately 28,500 customers across 16 southern and east-central Indiana counties.

A settlement agreement is possible in any legal proceeding. If an agreement is reached, the settling parties are required to present evidence showing it to be in the public interest. The IURC may approve, deny, or modify any settlement it considers.

A final Commission order is expected this fall.

Public Comment Opportunities

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, by email at uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov, or by mail at:

Public Comments
Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC)
115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 SOUTH
Indianapolis, IN 46204

The OUCC needs to receive all written consumer comments **no later than May 8, 2024**, 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, city, & zip code**, and a reference to either "**IURC Cause No. 46011**" or **Ohio Valley Gas Rates**. Consumers with questions about submitting written comments can contact the OUCC's consumer services staff toll-free at 1-888-441-2494.

In addition, the IURC has scheduled a public field hearing in this case for Thursday, Apr. 18, 2024, in Connersville at Roberts Park – James Roberts Memorial Building (9 Park Road, Connersville).

The hearing will begin at **6:00 p.m. local time**. Consumers are encouraged to arrive by 5:45 p.m. for an overview of field hearing procedures and the rate case process. Attendees are required to comply with all local health and safety regulations. No final decisions about the case will be made at the hearing, which is required by state law.

The OUCC is posting case updates online at www.in.gov/oucc/natural-gas/key-cases-by-utility/ohio-valley-gas-rates/. Case updates are also available through the agency's monthly electronic newsletter. Consumers can subscribe at www.in.gov/oucc/news.

(IURC Cause No. 46011)

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.