

## Quotes from your constituents about utility transparency and accountability needed in Indiana

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Indiana utility customers deserve transparency and accountability. As bills rise and more Hoosiers struggle to keep up, monopoly utilities continue to profit at their expense.

Efforts to rein in what they can charge customers have been repeatedly undermined, as these companies find ways to skirt the rules and exploit loopholes. It's time for change.

Without concrete transparency and accountability, utilities will continue using customer payments to build influence to keep the rates high while leaving the public in the dark.

Nearly 2,000 Indiana residents and counting have contacted their legislators, calling on policymakers to hold Indiana utilities accountable and prioritize the interests of ratepayers. We've also provided some quotes from your constituents highlighting the impacts utility practices have on their daily lives.

In the next legislative session, we call on you to serve the people of Indiana by requiring transparency and accountability in utility uses of ratepayer dollars.

### Allen County

"They are very greedy!" Kathy P., Auburn

"It's horrible. They're putting extra utility usage on my electric bill. They are pocketing the money. They are robbing us. I use one light in my house for 2 hours, and my bill is \$300." Jennifer R., Fort Wayne

"My electric bill is always over \$600/month. I have a fixed income on top of my rent and other bills. So Indiana, take actions to stop this greed. It's not about the people." Kathleen C., Fort Wayne

"These utility bills are out of control. Double, triple what they used to be." Julie Z., Fort Wayne

"I am \$200 late paying my bill from last month. So when I get my bill, it is \$619.00. I know I didn't use \$419.00 for one month. This is getting ridiculous. I'm on a fixed-income disability, I can't afford this." Debra C., Fort Wayne

"Every year it is getting harder for families and seniors to pay their bills. With everything going up in prices, it is time to STOP corporate greed once and for all!" Lori C., New Haven

## Bartholomew County

"It is a shame and a disgusting misuse of power when the utility companies can gouge my bill to the point of me having to decide if I'm going to eat today or keep my utilities on. " Jacob L., Columbus

"We can't afford to continue to feed greedy shareholders' pockets. There needs to be some reins on how much is too much!" Karen L., Nashville

"A massive increase to appease shareholders is just wrong. I will not politically support anyone that votes for this increase." Jan G., Seymour

"They already have a monopoly! All of them! When we get a raise in SSA they take it!" David L., Seymour

## Benton County

"NIPSCO is now at more than \$.18/kwh. How can anyone keep affording this? 10 miles away from us in Illinois, they pay around \$.05kwh!" Amy C., Ambia

## Blackford County

"I think the greed has gotten ridiculous and should be stopped! The new meters they have put in has made my bill double with less people in the house. We used to have seven people living in our home and our bill was always under \$100 a month. Now there are two of us in the house and our bill has doubled ever since they put the new meter in. I do not understand how this can be. The amount of fees that we are paying is more than the actual usage. Something has to change because Hoosiers are having trouble paying these high electrical bills. The thing that really concerns me is we will actually leave for a month and our bill is still the same. There's something very off there that does not make sense. No matter what, you are paying the bill! I understand things and prices cost more but this is insane to me and they're allowed to do it and get away with it." April D., Eaton

"My husband is on oxygen 24-7. We both use mobility scooters. So they have to be charged. He is on a ventilator at night. We pay a budget of \$409.00 a month. We are seniors so money is limited. It's sad how much they charge. Americans need help." Cathy V., Marion

"Our electric bill tripled this winter. This is not right. We can't pay this without doing without something or dipping into our small savings. We are both retired and living on Social Security. Help reign in these electric companies." Edwina G., Marion

"Please include AEP in this. My electric bill has an additional \$100 a month added for charges that not even the lady I talked to about all this could explain. My budget plan went up another \$23 without any explanation. Greed is what it's all about. Transparency for the consumer is what is needed!" Bonnie S., Marion

"I recently had a situation where I missed a payment and was playing catch up. I finally got caught up this month, but they slapped a \$888.00 deposit on me because I had missed payments. I also have to pay additional fees of \$200.00 most months for things I do not know or understand. Rates keep going up and I am on a fixed income. I have had AEP power for over 40 years and made my payments regularly, but that payment history did not matter. I asked for the deposit to be removed but was denied. They have a monopoly on us here and I do not think this is fair. I feel helpless and need relief." Renda H., Montpelier

### **Boone County**

"It's no use complaining. They don't listen. All they care about is more money. I've just paid \$2,400.00 in the last three months." Edward S., Brownsburg

"I want to pay a fair share, not subsidize the leaders and shareholders!!!" Sharon N., Whitestown

### **Brown County**

"I think it's a shame that utilities have gotten so high! I am a person on disability and only get \$644 for income a month! How am I supposed to live with it like this ? Please help lower costs!" Rebecca H., Freetown

"We are all struggling to make ends meet and prices should not be going up for their profit." Amanda M., Trafalgar

### **Carroll County**

"I'm a lady who is on disability, so I'm on a very low budget. My electric bill went from \$350 + to \$721 + a month. How can I pay my other bills when \$721 is more than half of what I make in a month?" Ruth K., Frankfort

"I've lived all over the United States and NIPSCO is without a doubt by FAR the MOST expensive utility I have ever had the misfortune to have! Furthermore, they have basically ZERO low-income help. When I lived in AZ, my low-income power bill was \$40 or less a month, and here it averages \$150-\$250 a month!" Travis C., Monticello

"I just think prices need to hold during hard times economically. They do always raise. I have run LED lights and still have the same bill regardless. So, there is not much chance to save. I think they just use an average and it's not actually metered. They have equipment upgrades that cost money but at some point, you've got to stop, or nobody will want to stay on the grid, or they will

need assistance from the federal government. The consumer should not pay for upgrades. It should be federal grants like road repairs on some roads." Coffey T., Russiaville

### **Cass County**

"Can't afford the electric bill on SS." Henry F., Peru

### **Clark County**

"Too expensive." Theresa C., Jeffersonville

"The utility companies have become so greedy and put us in such a financial burden that we cannot keep affording it much longer, and they don't care. They need to be stopped. Enough is enough. Our bills need to be lowered. I hope the bill will pass or we won't be able to pay our bills much longer." Karen D., Pekin

### **Clay County**

"I feel they are greedy, self-serving, and disgusting individuals." Jerrie G., Brazil

"Yes, I do think that they are way too high, especially when all you have is Social Security and a low income." Richard O., Brazil

"Utility companies should remember who keeps them in business and make an effort to appreciate their customers rather than line their pockets and price gouge the consumer. Citizens should have the right to choose a company that meets their needs and their budget." Rebekka E., Brazil

"Cayuga Station could stay online for another 50 years for a fraction of the \$3.3B Duke is asking for. The problem for Duke is these dollars aren't all capital and the O&M dollars can't be shoved into the rate base." Terry C., Brazil

"The biggest problem with electric companies is that they have no competition and they can charge whatever they want. I am not sure if that will ever be fixed, so as a consumer we are just screwed." Daniel A., Carbon

### **Daviess County**

"I'm on Social Security Disability and have lived for two years without a furnace. I use small heaters, and it is still cold. It's too expensive to get a new furnace and very expensive using electric heaters." Angela H., Washington

## Dearborn County

"With the cost of electricity going sky high, it's hard to pay bills or get groceries with an economy that's already suffering from inflation. We need transparency on where the money is going and why the cost of electricity is so high. We need help to get the cost down so that people can afford heat in the winter and air conditioning in the hot summer months. We had one month where the heating bill was over \$400.00. This is with the heat turned down during the day."  
Shawn M., Brookville

## Delaware County

"There is only REMC for me to get my electricity from which makes them a monopoly. THIS IS WRONG! My electric bill has doubled in the past 4 years and is ridiculous. I'm wondering since they claim they have only had one price raise in 2022 who I'm now funding." Rhonda M., Middletown

"My utility bill has gone up four times within the year." Diana F., Muncie

"Gas and electricity bills have been so high. For electricity I do try to do my best to remember to turn out the lights and to unplug the small appliances, and still I'll find that the bill I get is a lot higher than it was the last time! And I'm the only one living in my home right now." Kathy B., Muncie

## Dubois County

"We have CenterPoint Energy. Our rates are crazy high. My daughter's bills were \$700, \$950, and now \$800 this month. She has a 2000 sq. ft. home and keeps it cold, around 67 degrees. They have 3 kids and cannot afford this. My son's bill has been running around \$500 in a small home. He is looking to move unfortunately because of CenterPoint, which breaks my heart. We have propane, but on top of our gas heat, it's still \$200 plus with LED lights and TV on only at night. Ridiculous! The company nets millions and the CEOs make millions. This is a corrupt company!" Tracy E., Velpen

## Elkhart County

"Stop [rate hikes] from gaining ground. We pay enough, stop this!!" Geraldine R., Goshen

"Beyond reprehensible!" Tony S., Elkhart

"The utility companies are greedy. They raise all the prices on stuff so people who only have a certain income cannot even afford utilities anymore. They are greedy and they need to stop."  
Tasha M., Syracuse

## Fayette County

"The greed of utility companies in general is repulsive! Getting rich off of the backs of the poor always seems to be the main goal! I have REMC and pay \$700+ in the winter and \$350+ in the summer. I literally have to shut my upstairs off from the rest of my house in the winter, forcing my 3 children to have to sleep downstairs! It's awful and there never seems to be a break in cost no matter how much I try to limit electric use! It often makes me feel hopeless and always taken advantage of!" Charlene M., Brownsville

"We can barely pay our bills. The way it is now, we can barely afford to eat, so why don't you care? Money isn't everything. Don't you feel bad for people who struggle?" Gina H., Connersville

## Floyd County

"HARRISON REMC increased my bill from approximately \$150/month to over \$300/month. My roommate is disabled and I'm only able to work part time. Wages are still down significantly in Indiana yet the cost of utilities and cost of living has greatly increased. Something has to give, somewhere." Toni S., Greenville

## Fountain County

"Tipmont keeps raising their rates year after year, and on Social Security it's hard to pay their hook up fees and rates. They don't even care! Tipmont is hurting us." Glen Michael Y., Covington

## Fulton County

"Customers should not have to pay for lobbyists. I don't want hidden costs in my energy bill." Kit E., Macy

"Over the past 5 years, my utilities have gone up a bunch of times. Even though I opt for the budget option if they offer it. With gas prices and grocery prices being at times also high, it's hard for people to make ends meet. They are wondering what bills to pay or to pay for groceries to feed their families. It's just sad." Beverly H., Rochester

## Gibson County

"It's unbelievable how greed is causing suffering amongst families who can barely make ends meet. This must stop!" Delaine P., Haubstadt

## Grant County

"I have always been upset about how they screw the customer. I worked for American Water for 17 years and know exactly how the utility companies pad the costs to get more rate increases. Never have I seen a business where the consumer is responsible for the capital costs of your business, but has no ownership." Jeremy W., La Fontaine

## Hamilton County

"It's too bad that they can't run their company with a lot less profit at our expense." Jerry C., Cicero

"It's absolutely evil of them. I am struggling to pay my bills. It's so depressing." Linda A., Fishers

## Hancock County

"I have had nothing but problems with Nine Star in Greenfield. They actually disconnected my electricity 4 weeks ago for a bill that I paid on the phone and NOW they're saying that I owe over \$1,500 for prior bills. I have paid all of them on the phone. I'm retired and live on my \$2.200 monthly SS money." Timothy P., Greenfield

"I feel if the shoe was on the other foot it would be different. As well if it was their family/loved ones dealing with this high increase, it would be a totally different story." Marquita J., Indianapolis

"Enough is enough. " Mickael B., New Palestine

"I think it's a crime. I am a senior citizen and I live in this mobile home park, and people are getting their electricity shut off. Duke Energy is charging so much that you can't even afford it anymore. Actually, it's shocking for everybody. I hope more people stand up for this, and we can do something about it." Janice H., Pendleton

"Enough is enough! NO!" Brenda D., Shirley

## Hendricks County

"I am upset that utilities are trying to charge users for construction of new facilities. If it's a cost savings, then their profits should pay for it, not us. If it's not profitable, why make us pay? AES is expensive, IPALCO used to be cheap and more reliable." Jay H., Camby

"It's breaking us. This winter my one utility bill through Brooklyn Utilities was more than my mortgage." Julie G., Mooresville

## Howard County

"Utility rates continue to climb as Hoosier citizens struggle to keep up with inflation and the forthcoming tariffs. Utilities should be limited to a single-digit percentage cap when seeking rate increases, and certainly not during these inflationary times. Consumers should not be responsible for facility startup costs. Period." Pat S., Kokomo

"These bills are too high and unreasonable." Jeffery D., Kokomo

"We need tough regulations against these private corporations. We know they are price gouging us and it needs to stop." Larry K., Kokomo

"The amount of greed is completely awful!" Amber W., Kokomo

## Jackson County

"I am elderly and live by myself. Last April my bill was \$134 a month. I do Budget Billing and received a text telling me my bill is now \$276 a month. It more than doubled, how? I am hardly home. How can my electricity increase that high?" Polly P., Austin

"Shut them down, they don't need more money!" Karen W., Crothersville

## Jasper County

"I could use this money to invest in my own future. They need to be stopped." Jim P., Demotte

"My utility electric only with propane for heating has raised our cost of living by 43% and now they make us rent the tanks to heat! \$551.00 in electric and you want more? The smart meters are smart enough to pillage without oversight. Period." Marla R., Demotte

"I thought Indiana would be better, but they're not. Illinois is terrible and so is Indiana." Jeralyn R., Hebron

"I am experiencing the highest utility bills ever!" Joni T., Hebron

"I'm a senior citizen on Social Security. What do I cut to not pay increases with NIPSCO?" Marla B., Hebron

"Disgusting. One month \$60, the next \$250 plus, and wasn't even living there at the time. And the weather was pretty much the same temperature, with the thermostat set the same." Eric U., San Pierre

### Jefferson County

"Our fixed monthly bill just went up from \$342.18 to \$404. We are on Social Security and do not get raises like that to cover our bills. Something needs to be done with Duke Energy." Bettie L., Deputy

"It's wrong. Please stop it." Jenny M., Vevay

### Johnson County

"American citizens need to save money. Why not utility bills?" Roxanne D., Franklin

"My electric, gas, and water bills, not to mention property taxes, have all increased close to 50%. This is highway robbery. Yes, Indiana residents seriously need help. We need legislation to investigate and stop the overcharging." Judy W., Franklin

"These energy hikes are getting ridiculous! Our electric bill has doubled! We have Duke Energy in Franklin! I am on a fixed income and my husband is set to retire in 4 years! If they don't fix these companies that overcharge people, then most people won't be able to afford the necessities of life! They should only be allowed to raise the prices by the cost of living!" Judy Bennett B., Franklin

"I think the rising cost of utilities is sickening. Yes, I still live at home with my parents who are both retired with a fixed income. They have never asked me for rent or to help pay for utilities. Even if they had, I would have done it without complaint. I have helped them out in other ways. This past year was the first time that they actually asked me to help pay for half of the utilities because of how high the cost was. It was over \$200. We do not have a very big house and it has never been that high before. Other friends of mine who have their own homes complained about the cost along with other inflation that's going on and they try to provide for their families. This is outrageously ridiculous and needs to stop." Mary M., Martinsville

"Make them pay back what they are stealing from us, plus a big fine." I'm F., Martinsville

"Where I live, my electric bill has always been high. They keep telling me they don't know why." Diana M., Martinsville

## Knox County

"Whose job can give enough raises high enough to keep up with our natural gas and electric charges? We are having a very real struggle in Southern Indiana. Help us. We chose "EAT OR HEAT"." Jimmie H., Vincennes

"The utility company gives tons of money to places that don't need it when they could give it back to the customers. They gave thousands of dollars away, probably more than that." Harold P., Vincennes

"These corporations are killing the consumer!" John B., Vincennes

## Kosciusko County

"It's pathetic! My NIPSCO bill has never been over \$180.00 during winter in the 15 years since I've lived here. This year, it rose to \$250.00! In the past 12 months, it has been under \$100.00 once! This year alone it hasn't been under \$200.00 yet. I'm on the low end of Social Security and this is making it hard for me. Indiana has made it difficult for people to afford to live unless they have two jobs or share a home with their parents or another family. I know of several young people who live three-four of them in a house because they cannot afford rent and utilities. Something needs to be done about this!" April S., Warsaw

"It's ridiculous the rate increases they expect people to pay. We already saw our bill go up \$60 each month this winter. We need our lawmakers to reverse this course and stop these utility companies from living off the backs of their customers." Tina B., Warsaw

## LaGrange County

"Tired of getting gouged to make the rich richer." John T., Howe

## Lake County

"One year we had a surge throughout my home. After 3 visits from NIPSCO, they finally determined it WAS their fault, -- a reversed Neutral at the top of the pole. After 2 linemen and 4 hours, it was finally fixed. Items blew up in my home: central A/C, TV, garage door opener, well pump, vacuum, leaf blower, power surge protector, and even many light bulbs. I filed a claim with NIPSCO...DENIED. I contacted IURC...DENIED. You CANNOT SUE NIPSCO, even IF IT IS THEIR FAULT/ERROR. A billion-dollar monopoly is PROTECTED, yet we individuals must have insurance on everything." Linda N., Cedar Lake

"When you are a senior and are on low income, it's hard to pay these high prices. Please help us to be able to afford this economy by lowering prices to survive." Esmeralda F., Crown Point

"Big utilities only care about profits. To blazes with the people. " Lisa S., Crown Point

"All these HIGH COSTS ARE KILLING US. When we become homeless, who is going to help us?" Yvonne B., Gary

"Everybody's taking advantage of the people who don't have enough money to pay for their bills and have no idea how much it's going to go up." Ola M., Gary

"I don't even wanna talk about it. I just don't know how long my 82-year-old mom and I can make it." Lillian C., Griffith

"These utility companies are out of control! Stop the madness. I'm a senior citizen on a fixed income and I have to take out a loan each month to even pay to stay connected each month, which costs me even more money!! Stop the greed!" Lorna P., Hobart

"Nipsco needs competition. How can competition be established in NWI? ALL GREED needs to be investigated!!" Linda C., Hobart

"On a fixed income; can't afford a much higher bill." Theresa C., Lake Station

"It is sad when you only use \$4.89 in gas and your bill is over \$100 because of all the taxes and storage fees passed onto the customer. We are getting ripped off really well and can't do anything about it. It's a shame." Diane N., Lake Station

"It's a monopoly in this area and they're just like the government. They give themselves raises as they see fit and we pay the price." David O., Lake Station

"My electricity and gas have doubled because of NIPSCO's greed. I am disabled and on a fixed income. You need to stop this. Our vote counts." Claudia G., Lake Station

"They are killing us, putting us out of our homes, and taking the food off our kids' plates." Dave W., Merrillville

"I'm personally tired of struggling and stressing from the cost of just trying to live these days. The greed and rapid rate of increases are killing me and many others. The ridiculous greed needs to stop. It's like they've been on this excessive raise kick for the last 5 years. I'm ready to reVolt!" Steve P., Merrillville

"No more price hikes for utilities. They are nothing but greedy. People and seniors can not afford it anymore." Cynthia M., Munster

Have a conscience." Roy A., Whiting

## LaPorte County

"First of all, NIPSCO has stopped trimming trees that grow into lines until it knocks out your electricity. They have taken away the convenience of paying the bill at a local NIPSCO office so it doesn't cost us an extra charge to pay. Even if you pay your bill over the phone, NIPSCO is charging you an extra \$2.50." Marlene Y., Hamlet

"They're all crooks." James B., Knox

"They are exploiting us to the point of stealing. My rates have gone up 30% since last year. I also did energy-saving measures this year, and it's still up 30%. We need regulation or competition in the energy sector. We are being held hostage by a monopoly." Steven B., Knox

"My rates this winter are up 30% with no added appliances and keeping the thermostat 2 degrees lower. Put 3M plastic on all of our windows and bought a magnetic door draft stopper. The room with the thermostat stays warm and our furnace runs less, but my bill is up \$100 per month just so NIPSCO can pay their executives and BOD higher salaries. NIPSCO is taking advantage and making life harder for Indiana residents. Worst of all, we are stuck. It's a monopoly industry, we have no choices and they know that. Electricity should be a basic right in this day and time. Shame on you NIPSCO." Steven B., Knox

"Their greediness is affecting everyday people. You shouldn't have to choose between paying your electric bill and putting food on the table." Joseph J., Michigan City

"I'm tired of being gouged by NIPSCO." Paul R., New Carlisle

## Lawrence County

"Yes, being on a fixed income at my age is rough. After bills, I have just enough money for some food and that's it." Carl R., Bedford

"This is unfair to your people who work hard and many hours overtime to just go pay one bill among the other bills they have to pay. " Diana K., Mitchell

## Madison County

"It should not take \$275.00 a month for a single person to have the basic amount of electricity in my house. I'm not even using a porch light at night or turning a stove on, nor do I even have a washer or dryer. I have eliminated everything I can except one TV, my phone charger and my water heater. What's next, eliminate bathing?" Kristina A., Anderson

"It's sickening how much these companies only care to make profit instead of transparency for all! We must stop these corporations from draining us all completely. Fight back!" Kim B., Anderson

## Marion County

"It is disgraceful! We demand Indiana officials do something to stop this!" Nichelle J., Indianapolis

"I think it is ridiculous. I paid almost \$700 on my light bill last month." Scott R., Indianapolis

"It's hard enough to make things meet without greed and shady practices. We need to stand up for our rights as citizens." Bernice D., Indianapolis

"Extremely unfair for lower income households while they have a choice to pay one of the bills and hold back on another utility bill. Always playing catch up never ahead." Ralph R., Indianapolis

"We all need our accounts credited or sent refunds. This greed is ridiculous because it's their way or no way, especially for people on disability. Shame on Indiana." Natasha B., Indianapolis

## Marshall County

"My utility bill has tripled in the last 7 years. It's not because I have more appliances, it's because the utility company is too damn greedy. People are struggling badly enough that I can't even afford to buy groceries." Raymond B., Plymouth

## Montgomery County

"It's the same with any greedy corporation. Money means power, and power means money." Lois H., Crawfordsville

## Morgan County

"SCIREMC has been robbing their customers for years. Their prices continue to increase and stay increased when we have a power outage. Their rates are unfair and unlivable. Please help us, and stop them!" Holly D., Monrovia

"I'm a disabled single man, and almost 50. I live on a routine because of my fixed income. I have SCI/REMC and receive a text every morning of my power usage. During the fall and spring I don't use heaters or AC, and I heat with a wood stove during the winter. I call and complain and get treated like I'm a dumb child. Something needs to be done about this!" David S., Paragon

## Newton County

"NO MORE RATE HIKES" George C., Kentland

## Porter County

"No more rate hikes!" Connie S., Chesterton

"We, the People of NW Indiana, can not afford NIPSCO Electric raising their rates anymore! With the prices of everything being costly, how are we supposed to make it? Stop this please!" Pat C., Portage

"No company, no industry, and no utility should have the freedom to raise prices on Hoosiers to generate record profits and use that money to pay politicians for favorable legislation and pay massive salaries to executives. It is corruption. Any legislators that wouldn't sign these bills to protect Hoosiers should be removed from office." Andrew W., Portage

"I fully understand that companies must make a profit to stay in business, but we live in challenging times and moderation is needed. When customers cannot pay their bills, everyone suffers; extraneous "costs" should be eliminated; basic equipment maintained and rates kept as low as possible. Line workers may need an increase in wages, but do the top managers need the same percentage increase? NO. Give the top people the same DOLLAR increase that the lineman gets. Percentage increases just keep giving more to those who need it less." Margaret R., Valparaiso

"My Nipsco bill is a prime example of price gouging at its finest. Nobody can afford a \$900 Nipsco bill every month." Sherry M., Valparaiso

"I am saddened and frustrated. I can barely make ends meet. I conserve as much as I can and my bills never seem to get any lower. I can't imagine how long a fixed income can manage." Michele Y., Valparaiso

## Posey County

"Our electricity has doubled for the last 3 months. Being senior citizens on a set income, as many of our neighbors are, it's hard paying the bills as it was. To keep increasing our electricity and gas is causing hardship for everyone. All that is happening is the rich get richer and the poor get poorer, as the saying goes. We are not down and out but we live month to month. SAVING FOR EMERGENCIES HAS GOTTEN HARDER." Rebecca S., Mount Vernon

"I have friends that live in CenterPoint's district, paying \$600 and \$700 electric bills! This is so wrong. They are on SSI. Shameful and total thief of hardworking American and senior citizens." Cathy W., Cynthiana

"I have done everything to save on utilities. During the winter I keep the thermostat on 66. The more I try to save, the more they want to charge higher rates. I have put in windows and doors. I have had them evaluate my house. And all they do is raise rates. We need to have a more reasonable company supplying our natural gas and electricity." Suellen S., Evansville

"I THINK IT'S AWFUL TAKING ADVANTAGE OF US. WE CAN HARDLY AFFORD TO LIVE ANYMORE." Melinda W., Evansville

"Using Centerpoint, bills are outrageous." Chrissy K., Mount Vernon

"Any other business sets aside funds for upgrades and repairs, but every time the electric company or other utilities need repairs and upgrades, it's rate hike time for us. The CEOs get rich off the working peoples' backs. It's time to stop the freaking monopoly while we are at it! We should have choices." Alicia H., Evansville

### **Pulaski County**

"For those of us that are on Social Security, disability, and are single parents are struggling to pay Nipsco and buy food. We keep the thermostat at 68 no matter what. Our bills have been \$400.00 plus monthly for winter times. We've worked all our lives to have to choose to eat today or stay warm. Stop over charging the people. STOP BEING SO GREEDY! HELP THE PEOPLE." Debbie C., North Judson

"My monthly bill has jumped some 30+%." Mark F., Winamac

### **Scott County**

"People like me on Social Security can't afford these high prices of utilities." Jerry D., Scottsburg

"My husband and I sold our 3000 sq. foot home and bought a less than 1500 sq. foot home because we could not afford utilities anymore. In the four years we have lived there our electricity has increased to almost the same as our larger home. We are on a fixed income so how do we live? It's sad to have to choose between electricity or food!" Belinda H., Scottsburg

### **Steuben County**

"Almost every home in Angola, Indiana has jumped about \$100.00. This is REDICULOUS." Gregory B., Angola

"I THINK IT'S SICKENING FOR THEM TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF PEOPLE LIKE THIS WHEN WE CAN BARELY SURVIVE ALREADY." Gregory B., Angola

"My bills go up monthly. This is crazy. It needs to stop or I'll have to leave Indiana." Angela C., Fremont

## St. Joseph County

"Criminals." James H., South Bend

"This needs to stop! Greed will bite you back eventually. Leadership in this category needs to be held accountable and responsible for raking the people over the coals financially. If they do not stop this extortion, then we the people need to co-op and decide how we can invest in different industries to help us and free us from this kind of greediness." Lisa G., South Bend

## Sullivan County

"They should not be allowed to increase prices like this. Their rate increases only hurt the working class. Quit letting them take from people! Give us a choice and quit letting them run a monopoly!" Kylee G., Sullivan

## Tippecanoe County

"Everything is going up in price. I can't even keep up at times! " Mark G., Lafayette

## Vanderburgh County

"Your utility bill shouldn't ever be higher than your house payment! You can't even predict your bill anymore. They keep raising the rates so much! " Dana B., Evansville

"CenterPoint does not care about the customers that are forced to use their service. We have no other choice than CenterPoint in Evansville, IN. It was bad enough when we were working. My husband and I are in our 70s now and are retired. We are living off small retirement amounts monthly, and our fixed Social Security amounts, which are moderate amounts monthly as well. These power companies need government regulation." Martha T., Evansville

"It is literally strangling seniors to death! We cannot take it anymore. CenterPoint reports over \$1 BILLION in profits for 2024! It is obscene the increase in rates they requested and received from IURC! Something is really wrong. And something has got to be done!" Karen P., Evansville

"I used to live in Tennessee. After 35 years of living there, I can tell you assuredly that it costs at least 60% more for the same energy usage here than in Tennessee. The state regulation here is non-existent. This is unacceptable, especially for those of us who are retired and on fixed income!" Arthur H., Evansville

"I believe that utilities should not be allowed to monopolize markets and use our money to then fight off competitors trying to establish in those regions. I'm 100% in for these bills. Thank you." William W., Evansville

"Enough is enough. We elderly people are having trouble putting food on the table. Now you want to take more." Peggy G., Evansville

"I am living in an apartment by myself. I don't have a washer and dryer. I don't use the dishwasher because I don't use that many dishes, and yet I'm being charged over \$300.00 a month for just electricity. I think this is overcharging." Dorse T., Evansville

"We have one of the highest utility rates in the nation. How do you think people on Social Security can make ends meet? How do you think low income families can afford to pay these rates? They can hardly eat. Quit being so greedy and start being reasonable with your rates. You should be ashamed." Sylvia H., Evansville

"I am retired and my utilities are half as much as my house payment. Sometimes I have very little food because of the outrageous bill." Kathy S., Evansville

"We do not deserve this. We are paying off their past discretions. Kick them out of Indiana. I will move to Kentucky if Centerpoint stays in Southern Indiana." Bettye B., Evansville

"Concerned Evansville residents had a meeting with the Indiana Regulatory Commissioners, who listened to all the reasons why they should not give CenterPoint a rate hike from the Mayor, to our congressional representative, and many organizations for the needy, and individual homeowners at the Civic Center. We already were paying the highest rate per kwh in Indiana. Several months later, they approved the rate hike despite our pleading with them to not give into their demands." Carol C., Evansville

### Vermillion County

"My bill already took a \$100 hike over the last year to \$437/mth and that's suppose to be budget billing. I'm over this. " Eric W., Hillsdale

"No matter how much I cut back on how much electricity I'm using, I can never afford how high my electric bill is. If it wasn't for assistance from outside sources, I would have lost my apartment by now. The electricity is way too high!" Lisa D., Clinton

"Duke wants to build a gas plant in Cayuga Indiana. They already have a coal burner there. Where do you think that money will come from, ratepayers!!!" Les J., Clinton

## Vigo County

"It appears this problem is largely due to Indiana's agreement to entertain 'monopolies' by those who furnish these utilities. Whatever happened to 'competition' between those who can deliver these utilities and hold the entity accountable to the people (or their elected representatives)? Any cost, other than directly providing electricity, should be the burden of the utility whether it is infrastructure or managerial structuring within their firm (to include vehicle fleets, planes, etc.)." Larry D., Terre Haute

"We are having a tough time with rising prices everywhere. Please don't raise utilities too." Barb S., Terre Haute

"My home is totally electric. This was my parents' home, and since my dad passed away in 2022, it is now mine. I lived in the home for about a year before my dad passed. My dad's bills were pretty much the same, or close to it, being a little higher in winter. So I moved in and mine were \$87-93, and in the winter \$100-103 every month for 3 years. Then Duke got a rate hike and my bills went from \$93 -\$497 for 3 months. It was around \$500 a month. I, at the time, was barely making that. This is so wrong and needs fixing or people like me are going to end up freezing in our own homes!" Laura G., Terre Haute

"I think it's wrong to take advantage of your customers." Steven B., Terre Haute

"Stop this rate hike. They can save money by laying off administrative positions and cutting the pay of the CEO." Randall F., Terre Haute

"I'm tired of greedy people and companies. I'm on a fixed income and have outrageous costs from my utility bills. After bills are paid I don't have a lot of money left over for groceries. You need to start thinking about those of us that aren't middle class. " Jeanne W., Terre Haute

## Warren County

"They make enough darn money, they don't need more. American people are struggling to survive." Diana B., Williamsport

## Warrick County

"We live on Social Security, so any increase takes away groceries." Diana C., Chandler

"The state has the audacity to make being homeless a crime but does nothing about the IURC or the greedy utility companies whose bills are one of the main reasons why people become homeless! It's disgusting and it needs to change!" Sally S., Chandler

## Washington County

"I feel they should be held accountable! In just a few months Duke has raised my electric bill from \$163.00 a month on budget billing to now a whopping \$243.00 a month. And this is not from my usage! It is ridiculous what they get away with. Someone, please help!" Renee B., Salem

## Wayne County

"It's wrong to take advantage of the citizens so they can get richer. Take care of the citizens first!" Mary M., Richmond

"My wife and I got our house in 2013, and since then, I've received the shady bills in the mail about charges unknown to even the staff when we call to get to the bottom of the matter. But what can I do? I'm just one person. We all need utilities and they know it and take advantage of us by coming up with fraudulent services. I did my part, please do yours." Jim L., Richmond