STATE OF INDIANA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THIRD FLOOR STATE HOUSE
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

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January 27, 2026

Andy Zay
Chairman
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC)
101 W. Washington Street
Suite 1500
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Chairman Zay,

Our offices have observed a significant rise in the number of emails, phone calls, and letters from our constituents regarding their Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) bills – both for electric and natural gas service. We have been engaged in conversations with our colleagues at the Statehouse and utility stakeholders regarding the large number of serious concerns our constituents are experiencing, and we want to see solutions that will benefit Hoosiers.

The IURC's 2025 Electricity Residential Bill Survey shows that a NIPSCO customer using 1000 kWh in July saw an over 90% increase in their 2025 bill compared to their 2016 bill, almost doubling. The report also shows NIPSCO had the highest residential rates among the electric utilities regulated by the IURC. Furthermore, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, in 2024, NIPSCO had the second highest residential customer rate for all electric utilities reporting data. This represents a rate that is approximately 30% higher than the state's median residential rate. Additionally, NIPSCO's residential natural gas bills for a customer using 150 therms went from $92.22 in 2017 to $162.08 in 2026, an increase of 75%.

These rate statistics are concerning and, as State Representatives, it is our duty to advocate for the interests of our constituents. We therefore turn to the IURC and respectfully ask that the IURC consider initiating an investigation under IC 8-1-2-58 into NIPSCO's rates and if these rates have become unreasonable or unjustly discriminatory.

We ask that the IURC evaluate three specific areas:

1. What investments and operational expenses over the past 10 years have resulted in NIPSCO having the largest rate increase among the IURC-regulated electric utilities.
    a. How do these increases compare to other utilities in the state and utilities in peer states?
2. What improvements can be made to enhance the transparency of NIPSCO's residential electric and natural gas bills so customers can have better clarity on their rates and charges?
3. What steps can be taken in the short term to provide more rate stability and help curb rising retail rates for all customer classes for electric and natural gas service?

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These short-term items, combined with the regulatory changes being proposed in House Bill 1002, can put the state in a better position to address rising utility costs and provide real relief for ratepayers. If there are resources you need to complete this request, please do not hesitate to reach out to us for assistance.

We want to thank all who have reached out to us about the hardships that they have faced due to these high NIPSCO bills, and we will continue to advocate that Indiana's regulatory framework properly balances the Five Pillars of energy policy: affordability, reliability, resiliency, stability, and environmental sustainability. Please continue to reach out to our respective offices regarding NIPSCO's practices.

Sincerely,

Jim Pressel
State Representative
House District 20

Edmond Soliday
State Representative
House District 4

Dale DeVon
State Representative
House District 5

Bob Morris
State Representative
House District 84

Kendell Culp
State Representative
House District 16

Jack Jordan
State Representative
House District 17

Craig Snow
State Representative
House District 22

Julie Olthoff
State Representative
House District 19

Hal Slager
State Representative
House District 15

Doug Miller
State Representative
House District 48

Joanna King
State Representative
House District 49

Jake Teshka
State Representative
House District 7

Ben Smaltz
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House District 52

Christopher Judy
State Representative
House District 83

Martin Carbaugh
State Representative
House District 81

Tony Isa
State Representative
House District 51