

STATE OF INDIANA

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

APPLICATION OF INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER )  
COMPANY, AN INDIANA CORPORATION, FOR )  
APPROVAL OF 20 MWAC CLEAN ENERGY )  
SOLAR PROJECT; FOR APPROVAL OF RELATED )  
ACCOUNTING AND RATEMAKING INCLUDING: )  
TIMELY RECOVERY OF COSTS INCURRED )  
DURING CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF )  
THE PROJECT THROUGH I&M'S BASIC RATES )  
OR A SOLAR POWER RIDER, APPROVAL OF )  
DEPRECIATION PROPOSAL, AND AUTHORITY )  
TO DEFER COSTS UNTIL SUCH COSTS ARE )  
REFLECTED IN RATES; AND FOR APPROVAL OF )  
SALE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDITS )

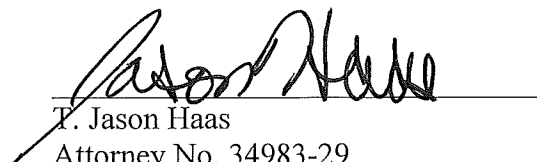
CAUSE NO. 45245

INDIANA OFFICE OF UTILITY CONSUMER COUNSELOR

CONSUMER COMMENTS – PUBLIC'S EXHIBIT NO. 4

AUGUST 12, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

  
T. Jason Haas  
Attorney No. 34983-29  
Deputy Consumer Counselor

**Rivera, Olivia**

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**From:** Ken Yoder <mloyu@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 18, 2019 9:25 AM  
**To:** UCC Consumer Info  
**Subject:** I&M Power rate increase

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Indiana Utility Commission

Regarding I&M Power rate increase of June 2019. On the surface this seems to be totally irresponsible on their part. They need to cut costs, they need to find better ways to finance construction costs instead of coming back to the consumer every time. Our billing already covers numerous riders and add-ons. When I look at the current billing it is one charge, but the total charge is 50% more. Now they want to add another solar add-on that will increase riders to above 50%.

I live in Florida 6 months of the year and FPL advocates how they save us utility rates by having solar power. They have built out massive fields of solar array panels without adding a rider to our bill to cover the cost of construction. There may be hidden charges that I don't see, but I am not a consumer advocate spending all my time researching utility charges. That is why Indiana has a utility commission to research these factors and be the consumer advocate. I&M is a part of the larger American Electric Power network and they should be able to finance construction as other non-utility companies go to the bond market etc.

In comparing electric costs between Indiana and Florida, my charges in Indiana for a comparable amount of 500 kW per month is 11.44 cents/kW in Florida and 15.4 cents/kW in Indiana. It is time for Indiana to take some Florida sand and find out why our heads in Indiana are covered in sand.

Kenyon Yoder

2025 Woodland Estates Dr. Elkhart, IN 46514

and

16257 Durham Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33908

## Rivera, Olivia

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**From:** Robert Martin <rgmartin48@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 18, 2019 7:16 AM  
**To:** UCC Consumer Info  
**Subject:** My two Cents

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Why would you build a solar power field in Northern Indiana where there is sunshine on average of 47% of the year? 172 days out of 365.

One of the reason's they built the Kingsbury Ordinance Plant in LaPorte County was because of the % of cloud cover in that area among other factors.

Years ago we had a minister move to South Bend from Kentucky and he was always amazed at how little the sun shined here. He's since moved to Tennessee.

I live just north of the proposed site. Scratching my head on this one. \$\$\$

Bob Martin  
Granger, IN

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**Rivera, Olivia**

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**From:** Casey Day <kaiserday@att.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 29, 2019 5:32 PM  
**To:** UCC Consumer Info  
**Subject:** Solar Panels

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To whom it may concern,

After reading a recent article about how the company of I&M is planning to build a solar farm I thought that was a great idea given the fact that this company is a primary user of coal and oil power. However the information about how the company will now raise its rates which in turn will charge the consumer even more money to cover this is a slap in the face to all of us that have to pay for their service all the while this company has just recently raised its rates on the areas citizens and businesses. They should by now have plenty of money to cover the costs of this new solar farm after they announced what a great yearly return they had. Maybe the execs can take a pay cut or even not take a bonus to cover the costs of this. The University of Notre Dame is purchasing 40% of the power generated by this farm so how is it that the company that has all this money and returns on their investments and also the commitment of a massive University near the site can not find the money to pay for the site without gouging its customers again just after a recent hike in the rates? Its just ridiculous that this company with its revenue is crying about how they need to raise rates to pay for this which means that families and businesses around the area get to struggle more to pay the bills which in many cases every dime counts to them. This company just wants to have it all with no risk and no real investment so they can back out if things dont work out without losing much of anything. I dont support this plan and this needs to be reworked to have I&M footing the bill for this with NO RATE HIKES to the consumer. They had their recent rate hike and again it hit the consumer harder than it hit the company. Its time they use their massive assets without charging all of us for this. My guess is once they cant get the rate hikes they want they will bail out of the plan being as greedy as usual.

Make the right decision for the people of this area and say NO to their rate hikes to pay for this.

Casey Day

**Rivera, Olivia**

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**From:** jeff boyd <jlbbrick@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 29, 2019 5:02 PM  
**To:** UCC Consumer Info  
**Subject:** Solar Farm in Granger, IN

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Hello,

I am for renewable energy everywhere and anywhere. It is about time there is more in this area. I am not for I&M raising our rates again! They just raised them last year.

I&M wants us to pay for the solar panels so they can turn around and sell that "free" energy back to us!!! They win on both sides. That makes no sense and is not fair at all. If I&M makes us, the consumer, pay for this project then we are the owners of the solar panels and should get residual checks from the profits they produce. If they charge me more on my bill for building the solar farm, then I expect to see a discount from the energy it provides.

I think I&M could afford this project on their own. If not, why doesn't the state or federal government help fund it??

Thanks for considering our "Two Cents"  
Jeff and Diane Boyd  
20088 Brick Rd  
South Bend, IN 46637

Rivera, Olivia

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**From:** Kimberly Boyd <kboyd21@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 29, 2019 4:55 PM  
**To:** UCC Consumer Info  
**Subject:** Solar Farm near toll road in St. Joseph County IN

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To Whom It May Concern:

SOLAR ENERGY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

That is wonderful that utility companies are finally getting energy from renewable sources. It should have been done years ago and maybe our climate wouldn't be in the terrible state it is today.

My only problem is they want the consumer to pay for the building of this solar farm. WHY? We have already paid a recent price hike last year. Every time they want to improve something, the consumer has to pay?? **Why not take some of their massive profits and reinvest in their business.** If I&M wants new coffee makers in their break room and need new computers, are they going to make the consumer pay for them. Why doesn't I&M have solar panels on all of their offices and in their parking lots as car covers? They should have solar panels in every possible spot on their many properties. I&M still gets too much energy from coal. This needs to change.

Also, I read that Notre Dame college is going to use 40% of the energy. Im sure Notre Dame has quite a large bank account. Why doesn't Notre Dame pay for the project. Since they have pledged to cut carbon emissions. They could afford to invest this in the community.

Please take my thoughts into consideration when deciding if I&M can rob the average working person for even more.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Kimberly Boyd

**Rivera, Olivia**

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**From:** noreply@formstack.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 30, 2019 2:49 PM  
**To:** UCC Consumer Info  
**Subject:** OUCC\_Contact\_2361

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## Formstack Submission For: [OUCC\\_Contact\\_2361](#)

Submitted at 06/30/19 2:49 PM

<b>Title:</b>	Ms.
<b>Name:</b>	Nova Guffey
<b>Email:</b>	itsmenova@yahoo.com
<b>Address:</b>	609 s. 28th street elwood, IN 46036
<b>Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday)::</b>	(765) 606-3519
<b>Type of phone::</b>	Home
<b>If you do not have telephone service,:</b>	
<b>If providing comments on a specific case, please indicate the cause number and/or name of utility::</b>	pending solar panel and electrical rate increase cases

## What's Your Life and Sanity Worth,

Last year several counties allowed wind generating systems under the ruse of clean energy and cost savings for all the people. However, our bills went up 7% for infrastructure repairs most of which have been hidden as a rider on your bill.

Now we have massive amounts of acreage being used for solar panels installation and once again with the saying your bills will go down and you will be providing clean energy and help the environment. As of August, our electric bill will be increasing 14.9%. The notification was listed on your April/May billing. So, forgive me but I'm finding it hard to see all the savings we have been promised from all this new technology. Especially since it like most things goes to the highest bidder and doesn't stay in Indiana.

But, what I am seeing once again, is an increase in our bills. There will be more people being forced to food pantries, because of the loss of farm acreage that will increase the food shortage and cause food prices to sky rocket. There will also be a loss of hunting ground. Our wild life habitat will be decreased and we will lose a great deal of our scenery. 1180 acres at present in Madison county alone. You may even find problems developing with your water table do to the drilling and excavating, pending on your bed rock as well as chemical weed control treatment seeping into your drinking water.

Mental and physical health issues may rise do to the large amount of Electrical Magnetic Force being created in one central area. Because when the human body is exposed to a strong Electromagnetic Field (EMF) it can cause reactions to our bodies. Such as increased migraines. Mental illness issues and interference with such things as defibrillators and increased heart rate. Under most circumstances, placing a couple of panels on your house gives you little to worry about but this is far greater than a couple of panels on a house. This is acres upon acres of panels being placed by homes, children, and livestock.

This may seem minor to most of you, because you have never had to go to the food pantry, or you've never had to live on a fixed budget. Perhaps you've never had a health issue or enjoyed a trip to the woods. Maybe you don't live near a field and feel it's ok, because you never have to see them and yet we place them by our schools full well knowing there is very limited regulations on such devices. I wonder could this be causing harm to our children. I sincerely hope there was a great deal of research done prior to their installation. I'm curious how much money was actually being saved from them as well, because 80% of our property tax is supposed to be going to schools. Mine went up 1% last year and 4.5% this year sight unseen. How about yours?

Now I'm all for protecting the environment and saving money because let's face it we only have one earth. But, I do not approve of giving up our land and our money to provide energy and savings for

### Your Comments::



other states. Because none of this alleged savings goes to Indiana with tax revenues being disbursed at the counties' discretion.

There will be a meeting on our 14.9% rate increase on Aug 13th at Ball State (Cardinal Hall) and you may contact the Indiana Regulatory Commission at 1-888-441-2494, or online at [uccinfo@oucc.in.gov](mailto:uccinfo@oucc.in.gov) as well as other information concerning the solar panel installation as well as file your opinions for or against these issues.

I think it's time for the people to start speaking up, asking questions and let themselves be heard. Our lives, our environment and our futures are at risk. We have to do it now or face the reality of no longer having the right to be heard.

Nova Guffey Elwood, Indiana

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Formstack, 11671 Lantern Road, Suite 300, Fishers, IN 46038

**Rivera, Olivia**

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**From:** Philip Sakimoto <psakimoto@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 18, 2019 7:40 AM  
**To:** UCC Consumer Info  
**Subject:** IMP solar initiative

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Dear UCC,

I highly approve of IMP's plan to build more solar capacity. It's the right thing to do. It would be even better if they could do it without a rate increase (since such an increase might well cause many consumers to oppose the solar plan), but it most certainly go forward.

Philip J. Sakimoto  
52665 Santa Monica Drive, Granger, IN 46530

**Rivera, Olivia**

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**From:** Tama <tamacrisovan@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 18, 2019 9:01 AM  
**To:** UCC Consumer Info  
**Cc:** vop@sbtinfo.com  
**Subject:** I and M solar-farm in Granger

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I am NOT for a solar farm that will raise rates to subsidize Notre Dame going green!  
If ND needs to lower its carbon footprint (which is good) they should pay for it!  
Bring back net metering and support solar for everyone which will lower our dependence on Coal. This is just a PR campaign for ND and I&M and it will be at the expense of poor people.

Tama Crisovan  
South Bend IN

Living well and beautifully and justly are all one thing. -Socrates

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

This is to certify that a copy of the *Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor's Consumer Consultants* has been served upon the following parties of record in the captioned proceeding by electronic service on August 12, 2019.

**Indiana Michigan**

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