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## HOUSE BILL No. 1002

Proposed Changes to January 28, 2026 printing by AM100229

### DIGEST OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Levelized billing plans. Excludes municipally owned utilities from the bill's requirements concerning levelized billing plans. Specifies that the bill's provisions concerning levelized billing plans do not apply to residential customers who have agreed to pay for utility service under an alternative billing tariff approved by the IURC. Amends the language requiring an electricity supplier to apply a levelized billing plan to all active customer accounts for utility service provided under the electricity supplier's standard residential tariff, so that the requirement applies to only those active accounts for service provided to a customer who is part of a household that is eligible for and has applied for assistance from the state's home energy assistance program.

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning utilities.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 8-1-2-4.7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
2 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 UPON PASSAGE]: **Sec. 4.7. (a) As used in this section, "levelized**  
4 **billing plan" means a levelized payment plan, however**  
5 **denominated, that:**  
6 (1) **applies to a customer's account with an electricity**  
7 **supplier;**  
8 (2) **provides for the payment of a customer's bill in equal**  
9 **monthly installments; and**  
10 (3) **involves a reconciliation mechanism in which:**  
11 (A) **the amount of utility service actually used by the**  
12 **customer during a specified period is compared with the**  
13 **amount of utility service for which the customer was**  
14 **billed under the plan during the specified period; and**

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(B) the customer's account is either billed or credited, as appropriate, for any difference identified under clause (A).

(b) As used in this section, "customer" refers to a residential customer who has agreed to pay for utility service from an electricity supplier under the electricity supplier's standard residential tariff. [The term does not include a residential customer who has agreed to pay for utility service from an electricity supplier under an alternative billing tariff approved by the commission.]

(c) As used in this section, "electricity supplier" means a person, ~~however organized~~ [other than a municipally owned utility (as defined in IC 8-1-2-1(h))], that:

(1) provides utility service to customers; and

(2) is under the jurisdiction of the commission for the approval of rates and charges.

(d) As used in this section, "utility service" means electric service that is provided at retail to customers.

(e) An electricity supplier shall do the following:

(1) Beginning with the first monthly billing cycle that begins after June 30, 2026, apply a levelized billing plan to all active customer accounts:

(A) for utility service provided under the electricity supplier's standard residential tariff [to a customer who is part of a household that is eligible for and has applied for assistance from a home energy assistance program administered under IC 4-4-33]; and

(B) to which a levelized billing plan does not already apply.

(2) Not later than April 1, 2026, offer each customer [of the electricity supplier] a mechanism, through one (1) or more methods described in subsection (f)(4), by which the customer may opt out of ~~the~~ [a] levelized billing plan at any time, without penalty, before or after the levelized billing plan is applied to the customer's account, subject to the reconciliation mechanism described in subsection (a)(3).

(3) Not later than July 1, 2026, for any levelized billing plan offered by the electricity supplier and applied to an active customer account, regardless of the date the levelized billing plan was first offered or applied, amend or design the levelized billing plan, as applicable, so that the reconciliation mechanism described in subsection (a)(3) is applied at such

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times during a calendar year to reflect, to the extent possible, typical seasonal patterns of electricity usage by residential customers, but not more than two (2) times during a calendar year.

(f) Not later than April 1, 2026, an electricity supplier shall provide to each customer ~~having an active account for utility service provided under the electricity supplier's standard residential tariff~~ [described in subsection (e)(1)] a written notice that:

(1) informs the customer that a levelized billing plan will be applied to the customer's account beginning with the first monthly billing cycle that begins after June 30, 2026, if a levelized billing plan does not already apply to the customer's account;

(2) describes, in clear language that is easily understandable to a lay person, the reconciliation mechanism described in subsection (a)(3), including an explanation of:

(A) the number of times during a calendar year that the reconciliation mechanism will be applied to the customer's account, subject to subsection (e)(3);

(B) for each time during a calendar year that the reconciliation mechanism will be applied, the monthly billing cycle after which the reconciliation mechanism will be applied; and

(C) the method by which the electricity supplier will:

(i) compare the amount of utility service actually used by the customer with the amount of utility service for which the customer was billed under the plan during the billing cycles that are being reconciled; and

(ii) either bill or credit the customer's account, as appropriate, for any difference identified under item (i);

(3) offers the customer a mechanism, through one (1) or more methods described in subdivision (4), by which the customer may opt out of a levelized billing plan at any time, without penalty, before or after the levelized billing plan is applied to the customer's account, subject to the reconciliation mechanism described in subsection (a)(3); and  
(4) is delivered to the customer by one (1) or more of the following methods:

(A) United States mail.

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1 (B) Electronic mail.

2 (C) A mobile application or another Internet based  
3 method.

4 (g) Not later than April 1, 2026, an electricity supplier shall  
5 post on its website the information set forth in subsection (f)(2) and  
6 (f)(3) for each levelized billing plan offered by the electricity  
7 supplier, regardless of the date the levelized billing plan was first  
8 offered.

9 (h) Except as provided in subsection (i), an electricity supplier  
10 may not refer to or promote a levelized billing plan required under  
11 this section as a "budget billing plan" in:

12 (1) the information required to be posted on the electricity  
13 supplier's website under subsection (g);

14 (2) any customer bill that is issued after June 30, 2026; or

15 (3) any customer or external communications made after  
16 June 30, 2026.

17 (i) The prohibition set forth in subsection (h) does not apply  
18 with respect to a billing plan that provides for levelized payments  
19 if the plan also allows a customer to:

20 (1) pay current or past due amounts for utility service in  
21 lower amounts, over an extended period of time, or  
22 according to another schedule agreed upon by the electricity  
23 supplier and the customer;

24 (2) defer the payment of current or past due amounts for  
25 utility service to some future date; or

26 (3) receive a forbearance with respect to the payment of  
27 certain amounts owed.

28 (j) The commission may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to  
29 implement this section.

30 SECTION 2. IC 8-1-2-42.7, AS ADDED BY P.L.133-2013,  
31 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
32 UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 42.7. (a) Subsections (g) and (j) do not  
33 apply to an electricity supplier (as defined in IC 8-1-46-6) that has  
34 filed a petition with the commission to change the electricity  
35 supplier's basic rates and charges through the submission of a  
36 multi-year rate plan under IC 8-1-46.

37 ~~(a)~~ (b) For purposes of this section, "average prime rate" means the  
38 arithmetic mean, to the nearest one-hundredth of one percent (0.01%),  
39 of the prime rate values published in the Federal Reserve Bulletin for  
40 the three (3) months preceding the first month of a calendar quarter.

41 ~~(b)~~ (c) For purposes of this section, "case in chief" includes the  
42 following:

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- 1 (1) Testimony, exhibits, and supporting work papers.
- 2 (2) Proposed test year and rate base cutoff dates.
- 3 (3) Proposed revenue requirements.
- 4 (4) Jurisdictional operating revenues and expenses, including
- 5 taxes and depreciation.
- 6 (5) Balance sheet and income statements.
- 7 (6) Jurisdictional rate base.
- 8 (7) Proposed cost of capital and capital structure.
- 9 (8) Jurisdictional class cost of service study.
- 10 (9) Proposed rate design and pro forma tariff sheets.
- 11 ~~(c)~~ (d) For purposes of this section, "utility" refers to the
- 12 following:
- 13 (1) A public utility.
- 14 (2) A municipally owned utility.
- 15 (3) A cooperative owned utility.
- 16 ~~(d)~~ (e) In a petition filed with the commission to change basic rates
- 17 and charges, a utility may designate a test period for the commission to
- 18 use. The utility must include with its petition the utility's complete case
- 19 in chief. The commission shall approve a test period that is one (1) of
- 20 the following:
- 21 (1) A forward looking test period determined on the basis of
- 22 projected data for the twelve (12) month period beginning not
- 23 later than twenty-four (24) months after the date on which the
- 24 utility petitions the commission for a change in its basic rates
- 25 and charges.
- 26 (2) A historic test period based on a twelve (12) month period
- 27 that ends not more than two hundred seventy (270) days before
- 28 the date on which the utility petitions the commission for a
- 29 change in its basic rates and charges. The commission may
- 30 adjust a historic test period for fixed, known, and measurable
- 31 changes and appropriate normalizations and annualizations.
- 32 (3) A hybrid test period based on at least twelve (12) consecutive
- 33 months of combined historic data and projected data. The
- 34 commission may adjust the historic data as set forth in
- 35 subdivision (2).
- 36 ~~(e)~~ (f) This subsection does not apply to a proceeding in which a
- 37 utility is seeking an increase in basic rates and charges and requesting
- 38 initial relief under IC 8-1-2.5-5 or IC 8-1-2.5-6. If the commission does
- 39 not issue an order on a petition filed by a utility under subsection ~~(d)~~
- 40 (e) within three hundred (300) days after the utility files its case in
- 41 chief in support of the proposed increase, the utility may temporarily
- 42 implement fifty percent (50%) of the utility's proposed permanent

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increase in basic rates and charges, subject to the commission's review and determination under subsection ~~(f)~~ **(g)**. The utility shall submit the proposed temporary rates and charges to the commission at least thirty (30) days before the date on which the utility seeks to implement the temporary rates and charges. The temporary rates and charges may reflect proposed or existing approved customer class allocations and rate designs. However, if the utility uses a forward looking test period described in subsection ~~(d)(1)~~ **(e)(1)** or a hybrid test period described in subsection ~~(d)(3)~~ **(e)(3)**, the utility may not:

(1) implement the temporary increase before the date on which the projected data period begins; or

(2) object during a proceeding before the commission to a discovery request for historic data as described in subsection ~~(d)(2)~~ **(e)(2)** solely on the basis that the utility has designated a forward looking or hybrid test period.

~~(f)~~ **(g)** The commission shall review the temporary rates and charges to determine compliance with this section. The temporary rates and charges take effect on the latest of the following dates unless the commission determines that the temporary rates and charges are not properly designed in compliance with this section:

(1) The date proposed by the utility.

(2) Three hundred (300) days after the date on which the utility files its case in chief.

(3) The termination of any extension of the three hundred (300) day deadline authorized under subsection ~~(g)~~ **(h)** or ~~(h)~~ **(i)**.

If the commission determines that the temporary rates and charges are not properly designed in compliance with this section, the utility may cure the defect and file the corrected temporary rates and charges with the commission within a reasonable period determined by the commission.

~~(g)~~ **(h)** If the commission grants a utility an extension of the procedural schedule, the commission may extend the three hundred (300) day deadline set forth in subsection ~~(e)~~ **(f)** by the length of the extension.

~~(h)~~ **(i)** The commission may suspend the three hundred (300) day deadline set forth in subsection ~~(e)~~ **(f)** one (1) time for good cause. The suspension may not exceed sixty (60) days.

~~(i)~~ **(j)** If a utility implements temporary rates and charges that differ from the permanent rates and charges approved by the commission in a final order on the petition filed under subsection ~~(d)~~ **(e)**, the utility shall perform a reconciliation and implement a refund, in the form of a credit rider, or a surcharge, as applicable, on customer

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bills rendered on or after the date the commission approves the credit or surcharge. The refund or surcharge shall be credited or added in equal amounts each month for six (6) months. The amount of the total refund or surcharge equals the amount by which the temporary rates and charges differ from the permanent rates and charges, plus, for a refund only, interest at the applicable average prime rate for each calendar quarter during which the temporary rates and charges were in effect.

SECTION 3. IC 8-1-2-113, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024, SECTION 65, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 113. (a) **Subject to subsections (b) and (c)**, the commission may, when it considers it necessary to prevent injury to the business or interests of the people of, or any public utility of this state operating in, Indiana in case the event of any emergency to be judged by the commission; that results from:

- (1) a national economic depression;
- (2) an act of war; or
- (3) a disaster of unprecedented size and destructiveness resulting from manmade or natural causes;

recommend that the governor declare a disaster emergency under IC 10-14-3-12 or proclaim a state of energy emergency under IC 10-14-3-13, as applicable, during which the commission may temporarily alter, amend, or with the consent of the public utility concerned, suspend any existing rates, service, practices, schedules, and order or orders relating to or affecting any public utility or part of any public utility operating in this state- Indiana. The alterations, amendments, or suspensions of the rates, service, schedules, or practices made by the commission shall may apply to one (1) or more of the public utilities operating in this state or to any portion thereof; Indiana, as directed by the commission, and shall take effect at the time and remain in force only for the length of time prescribed by the commission: duration of the disaster emergency or the energy emergency, as applicable.

(b) The commission may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to carry out this section:

(b) The declaration of a disaster emergency by the governor upon the recommendation of the commission under subsection (a) is subject to:

- (1) the time limitations set forth in IC 10-14-3-12(b); and
- (2) termination by the general assembly under IC 10-14-3-12(c).

(c) The proclamation of a state of energy emergency by the

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governor upon the recommendation of the commission under subsection (a) is subject to:

- (1) the time limitation set forth in IC 10-14-3-13(c); and
- (2) approval by the general assembly under IC 10-14-3-13(d) with respect to a second or subsequent renewal of the proclamation.

SECTION 4. IC 8-1-2-121, AS AMENDED BY P.L.181-2006, SECTION 48, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 121. (a) As used in this section, "electric or gas utility" includes a municipally owned, privately owned, or cooperatively owned utility.

(b) As used in this section, "electric utility" includes a municipally owned, privately owned, or cooperatively owned utility.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, but subject to subsection (i), the following apply with respect to the termination of residential electric or gas service:

(1) An electric or gas utility may not terminate residential electric or gas service from December 1 through March 15 of any year no electric or gas utility, including a municipally owned, privately owned, or cooperatively owned utility, shall terminate residential electric or gas service for persons customers who are eligible for and have applied for assistance from a heating assistance program administered under IC 4-4-33.

(2) Subject to subsection (d), on any day for which a local weather forecast office of the National Weather Service has forecast, not earlier than forty-eight (48) hours in advance, a heat index of at least ninety-five (95) degrees Fahrenheit for a county or region within an electric utility's assigned service area under IC 8-1-2.3, the electric utility may not terminate residential electric service for customers who:

(A) receive residential electric service from the electric utility at a location to which the forecasted heat index applies; and

(B) are eligible for and have applied for assistance under a heating assistance program administered under IC 4-4-33 during the calendar year in which the forecast is made.

For purposes of subdivision (1), the commission shall implement procedures to ensure that electric or gas utility service is continued while eligibility for such persons customers is being determined.

(d) If:

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(1) an electric utility has provided a notice of disconnection to a customer described in subsection (c)(2) before the local weather forecast office of the National Weather Service forecasts a heat index described in subsection (c)(2) for the customer's service location; and

(2) the fourteen (14) day period following the issuance of the disconnection notice during which the electric utility is prohibited from terminating the customer's electric service under 170 IAC 4-1-16 has not elapsed on the date the forecast is made;

the fourteen (14) day period described in subdivision (2) is tolled for a period beginning on the date on which the forecasted heat index described in subsection (c)(2) is made by the local weather forecast office of the National Weather service and ending at 11:59 p.m. on the first day that follows the day with respect to which the forecast was made and during which the forecasted heat index is not reached.

(e) Not later than June 1, 2026, an electric or gas utility shall post on the electric or gas utility's website a notice that:

(1) informs customers of the relief available to eligible customers under subsection (c); and

(2) includes:

(A) a toll free telephone number; or

(B) a link to a web page;

that a customer may call or access for information on how to apply for assistance from a heating assistance program administered under IC 4-4-33.

~~(b)~~ (f) Any An electric or gas utility including a municipally owned, privately owned, or cooperatively owned utility, shall provide any residential customer whose account is delinquent an opportunity to enter into a reasonable amortization agreement with such company to pay the delinquent account. Such an amortization agreement must provide the customer with adequate opportunity to apply for and receive the benefits of any available public assistance program. An amortization agreement is subject to amendment on the customer's request if there is a change in the customer's financial circumstances.

~~(e)~~ (g) The commission may establish a reasonable rate of interest which a utility may charge on the unpaid balance of a customer's delinquent bill that may not exceed the rate established by the commission under section 34.5 of this chapter.

~~(d)~~ (h) The commission shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to carry out the provisions of this section.

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(e) (i) This section does not prohibit an electric or gas utility from terminating residential utility service upon a request of a customer or under the following circumstances:

(1) If a condition dangerous or hazardous to life, physical safety, or property exists.

(2) Upon order by any court, the commission, or other duly authorized public authority.

(3) If fraudulent or unauthorized use of electricity or gas is detected and the utility has reasonable grounds to believe the affected customer is responsible for such use.

(4) If the utility's regulating or measuring equipment has been tampered with and the utility has reasonable grounds to believe that the affected customer is responsible for such tampering.

SECTION 5. IC 8-1-6.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]:

**Chapter 6.1. Quarterly Residential Customer Reports by Electricity Suppliers**

**Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "levelized billing plan" has the meaning set forth in IC 8-1-2-4.7.**

**Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "customer" refers to a residential customer who has agreed to pay for utility service from an electricity supplier.**

**Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "electricity supplier" means a person, however organized, that:**

**(1) provides utility service to customers in Indiana; and**

**(2) is under the jurisdiction of the commission for the approval of rates and charges.**

**Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "office" refers to the office of utility consumer counselor created by IC 8-1-1.1-2.**

**Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "payment plan" means a payment arrangement that:**

**(1) is entered into by an electricity supplier and a customer of the electricity supplier; and**

**(2) allows the customer to:**

**(A) pay current or past due amounts for utility service in lower amounts or over an extended period of time, or according to another agreed upon schedule;**

**(B) defer the payment of current or past due amounts for utility service to some future date; or**

**(C) receive a forbearance with respect to the payment of certain amounts owed.**

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1           **Sec. 6. As used in this chapter, "protected account" means an**  
 2 **account that:**

3           **(1) is for utility service that:**

4                   **(A) is provided to a customer who is vulnerable because**  
 5                   **of advanced age, serious illness, or disability; and**

6                   **(B) is not subject to termination or disconnection for**  
 7                   **nonpayment or for which termination or disconnection**  
 8                   **for nonpayment is restricted during specified periods; or**

9           **(2) otherwise qualifies as a protected account under**  
 10 **guidelines adopted by the office under section 9 of this**  
 11 **chapter.**

12           **Sec. 7. As used in this chapter, "utility service" means**  
 13 **residential electric service that is provided at retail.**

14           **Sec. 8. (a) An electricity supplier shall submit to the office**  
 15 **quarterly reports containing the information set forth in this**  
 16 **subsection with respect to the calendar quarter covered by the**  
 17 **report. A report under this subsection shall be submitted to the**  
 18 **office in the manner and form prescribed by the office and not**  
 19 **later than thirty (30) days after the last day of the calendar quarter**  
 20 **covered by the report. The first report submitted to the office**  
 21 **under this subsection must cover the third calendar quarter of**  
 22 **2026. A report under this subsection must include the following**  
 23 **information for each month in the calendar quarter covered by the**  
 24 **report, including, to the extent available, a comparison of the same**  
 25 **information for the same month of the immediately preceding**  
 26 **calendar year:**

27                   **(1) The total number of open customer accounts.**

28                   **(2) The total amount billed by the electricity supplier for all**  
 29 **open customer accounts.**

30                   **(3) The total gross receipts received by the electricity**  
 31 **supplier for all open customer accounts.**

32                   **(4) Of the total amount of gross receipts reported under**  
 33 **subdivision (3), the total amount that was paid through a**  
 34 **home energy assistance program administered under**  
 35 **IC 4-4-33.**

36                   **(5) The total number of customers who received assistance**  
 37 **from a home energy assistance program administered under**  
 38 **IC 4-4-33.**

39                   **(6) The total number of open protected accounts for**  
 40 **customers.**

41                   **(7) The total number of open customer accounts that were**  
 42 **delinquent for at least sixty (60) days and not more than**

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ninety (90) days.

(8) The total dollar amount owed with respect to the accounts identified under subdivision (7).

(9) The total number of open customer accounts that were delinquent for more than ninety (90) days.

(10) The total dollar amount owed with respect to the accounts identified under subdivision (9).

(11) The total number of customer accounts referred for collection to an attorney or a collection agency.

(12) The total number of new payment plans entered into between the electricity supplier and customers of the electricity supplier.

(13) The total number of new levelized billing plans applied to customer accounts.

(14) The total number of customer accounts sent a notice of disconnection for nonpayment.

(15) The total number of utility service disconnections performed for nonpayment.

(16) The total number of utility service restorations after disconnection for nonpayment.

(17) The average duration of utility service disconnection for customer accounts identified under subdivision (16).

(18) The total number of customer accounts written off as uncollectible.

(19) The total dollar value of customer accounts identified under subdivision (18).

(20) The total dollar value of recovered bad debt with respect to customer accounts.

(21) Any other relevant information concerning customer accounts that the office:

(A) considers appropriate in evaluating:

(i) the payment history of customers; and

(ii) the billing and related practices of electricity suppliers with respect to customers; and

(B) requires under guidelines adopted under section 9 of this chapter.

(b) An electricity supplier shall report all information and data required under subsection (a) in the aggregate and in a manner that does not identify individual customers of the electricity supplier.

(c) This section does not empower the office to require electricity suppliers to disclose confidential and proprietary

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business information without adequate protection of the information. The office shall exercise all necessary caution to avoid disclosure of any confidential information reported by electricity suppliers under this section.

Sec. 9. The office shall adopt guidelines to implement this chapter.

Sec. 10. Beginning in 2027, the office shall annually compile and summarize the information received from electricity suppliers under section 8 of this chapter for the previous calendar year and include the office's summary of the information in the office's annual report to the interim study committee on energy, utilities, and telecommunications.

SECTION 6. IC 8-1-39-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.89-2019, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 9. (a) Subject to subsection (d), a public utility that provides electric or gas utility service may file with the commission rate schedules establishing a TDSIC that will allow the periodic automatic adjustment of the public utility's basic rates and charges to provide for timely recovery of eighty percent (80%) of approved capital expenditures and TDSIC costs. The petition must:

- (1) use the customer class revenue allocation factor based on firm load approved in the public utility's most recent retail base rate case order;
- (2) include the public utility's TDSIC plan for eligible transmission, distribution, and storage system improvements; and
- (3) identify projected effects of the plan described in subdivision (2) on retail rates and charges.

The public utility shall provide a copy of the petition to the office of the utility consumer counselor when the petition is filed with the commission.

(b) The public utility shall update the public utility's TDSIC plan under subsection (a)(2) at least annually. An update may include a petition for approval of:

- (1) a targeted economic development project under section 11 of this chapter; or
- (2) transmission, distribution, and storage system improvements not described in the public utility's TDSIC plan most recently approved by the commission under section 10 of this chapter.

(c) A public utility that recovers capital expenditures and TDSIC costs under subsection (a) shall defer the remaining twenty percent (20%) of approved capital expenditures and TDSIC costs, including

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depreciation, allowance for funds used during construction, and post in service carrying costs, and shall recover those capital expenditures and TDSIC costs as part of the next general rate case that the public utility files with the commission.

(d) Except as provided in section 15 of this chapter, a public utility may not file a petition under subsection (a) within nine (9) months after the date on which the commission issues an order changing the public utility's basic rates and charges with respect to the same type of utility service.

(e) **This subsection does not apply to an electricity supplier (as defined in IC 8-1-46-6) that:**

- (1) is subject to a multi-year rate plan under IC 8-1-46; or**
- (2) petitions the commission for approval of a multi-year rate plan under IC 8-1-46;**

**during the term of the electricity supplier's approved TDSIC plan.**

[A public utility that implements a TDSIC under this chapter shall, before the expiration of the public utility's approved TDSIC plan, petition the commission for review and approval of the public utility's basic rates and charges with respect to the same type of utility service.

(f) A public utility may file a petition under this section not more than one (1) time every six (6) months.

(g) Actual capital expenditures and TDSIC costs that exceed the approved capital expenditures and TDSIC costs require specific justification by the public utility and specific approval by the commission before being authorized for recovery in customer rates.

SECTION 7. IC 8-1-46 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]:

**Chapter 46. Performance Based Ratemaking for Electricity Suppliers**

**Sec. 1. (a) As used in this chapter, "average monthly residential bill", with respect to an electricity supplier, means the average total monthly charges billed, over the course of a calendar year, to all customers receiving retail electric service under the electricity supplier's standard residential tariff.**

**(b) The term includes the following charges:**

- (1) Fixed service charges.**
- (2) Energy charges based on the amount of electricity provided to or consumed by the customer during the billing cycle.**
- (3) Additional charges or credits, including any applicable rate adjustment mechanisms approved by the commission.**

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1 (4) Taxes.

2 Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the  
3 Indiana utility regulatory commission created by IC 8-1-1-2.

4 Sec. 3. (a) As used this chapter, "customer", with respect to an  
5 electricity supplier, means a metered electrical service point:

6 (1) that is located at a specific location in Indiana; and

7 (2) for which an active billing account is established by the  
8 electricity supplier.

9 (b) As the context requires, the term includes the person of  
10 record who has agreed to pay for the retail electric service  
11 provided by the electricity supplier at the location described in  
12 subsection (a).

13 Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "customer affordability  
14 performance metric", with respect to an electricity supplier, means  
15 a metric that:

16 (1) is determined by the commission under section 23 of this  
17 chapter for a particular rate year included in that electricity  
18 supplier's multi-year rate plan;

19 (2) is based on the most recent customer affordability  
20 performance report submitted to the commission by the  
21 electricity supplier under section 18 of this chapter; and

22 (3) is used by the commission to establish a customer  
23 affordability PIM that applies to that rate year and provides  
24 financial rewards or penalties to the electricity supplier  
25 based on the electricity supplier's measured customer  
26 affordability performance.

27 Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "customer average interruption  
28 duration index", or "CAIDI", means an index that:

29 (1) indicates the average time required to restore electric  
30 service to an electricity supplier's customers affected by  
31 sustained service interruptions; and

32 (2) is calculated by determining the quotient of:

33 (A) the sum of sustained service interruption durations  
34 in minutes for a specified period; divided by

35 (B) the total number of customers affected by the  
36 sustained service interruptions;

37 in accordance with IEEE 1336.

38 Sec. 6. (a) As used in this chapter, "electricity supplier" means  
39 a public utility (as defined in IC 8-1-2-1(a)) that:

40 (1) furnishes retail electric service to customers in Indiana;  
41 and

42 (2) is under the jurisdiction of the commission for the



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1 approval of rates and charges.

2 (b) The term does not include:

- 3 (1) a municipally owned utility (as defined in IC 8-1-2-1(h));
- 4 (2) a corporation organized under IC 8-1-13; or
- 5 (3) a corporation organized under IC 23-17 that is an electric
- 6 cooperative and that has at least one (1) member that is a
- 7 corporation organized under IC 8-1-13.

8 Sec. 7. As used in this chapter, "IEEE 1336" refers to:

- 9 (1) the 2022 edition of IEEE 1336, IEEE Guide for Electric
- 10 Power Distribution Reliability Indices, as adopted by the
- 11 Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers; or
- 12 (2) if the commission adopts a rule under IC 4-22-2 to
- 13 amend:

14 (A) the 2022 edition; or

15 (B) any subsequent edition;

16 of IEEE 1336, the version of IEEE 1336 as amended by the

17 commission.

18 Sec. 8. As used in this chapter, "major event day", or "MED",

19 means a day with respect to which an electricity supplier's daily

20 system SAIDI exceeds a statistical threshold value that is:

- 21 (1) calculated using the 2.5 Beta methodology developed by
- 22 the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers; and
- 23 (2) based on the most recent five (5) years of relevant data
- 24 for the electricity supplier;

25 as defined in IEEE 1336.

26 Sec. 9. As used in this chapter, "multi-year rate plan" means

27 a ratemaking mechanism under which the commission sets an

28 electricity supplier's base rates for a three (3) year period that

29 includes:

- 30 (1) authorized periodic changes in the electricity supplier's
- 31 base rates; and
- 32 (2) adjustments to the electricity supplier's base rates based
- 33 on the electricity supplier's performance with respect to each
- 34 performance incentive mechanism applicable to the
- 35 electricity supplier;

36 during the three (3) year period, without requiring the electricity

37 supplier to file a new base rate case with respect to the changes and

38 adjustments.

39 Sec. 10. As used in this chapter, "performance based

40 ratemaking" means an alternative ratemaking approach for

41 electricity suppliers that includes one (1) or more performance

42 incentive mechanisms in the context of a multi-year rate plan.

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1       Sec. 11. As used in this chapter, "performance incentive  
2 mechanism", or "PIM", means a ratemaking mechanism that is  
3 approved by the commission and that:

4       (1) links an electricity supplier's earnings to the electricity  
5 supplier's performance in targeted areas that are consistent  
6 with the provision of electric utility service with the  
7 attributes set forth in IC 8-1-2-0.6, including:

8       (A) reliability;

9       (B) affordability;

10       (C) resiliency;

11       (D) stability; and

12       (E) environmental sustainability;

13       as described in IC 8-1-2-0.6; and

14       (2) is based on specific performance metrics against which  
15 the electricity supplier's performance is measured.

16       Sec. 12. As used in this chapter, "rate year" refers to a  
17 particular year in a multi-year rate plan with respect to which:

18       (1) authorized base rates; and

19       (2) adjustments to base rates, including adjustments based  
20 on an electricity supplier's performance in meeting  
21 performance metrics serving as the basis of all applicable  
22 PIMs;

23       are in effect.

24       Sec. 13. As used in this chapter, "service interruption" means  
25 the loss of electric service to one (1) or more customers connected  
26 to the distribution portion of an electricity supplier's system.

27       Sec. 14. As used in this chapter, "service restoration  
28 performance metric", with respect to an electricity supplier, means  
29 a metric that:

30       (1) is determined by the commission under section 24 of this  
31 chapter for a particular rate year included in that electricity  
32 supplier's multi-year rate plan;

33       (2) is based on the most recent service restoration  
34 performance report submitted to the commission by the  
35 electricity supplier under section 19 of this chapter; and

36       (3) is used by the commission to establish a service  
37 restoration PIM that applies to that rate year and provides  
38 financial rewards or penalties to the electricity supplier  
39 based on the electricity supplier's measured service  
40 restoration performance.

41       Sec. 15. (a) As used in this chapter, "sustained service  
42 interruption" means a service interruption that is at least five (5)

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minutes in duration.

(b) The term does not include the following, regardless of duration:

(1) A planned service interruption that is:

(A) initiated by an electricity supplier to perform scheduled activities, such as work related to:

(i) system or facilities maintenance or upgrades;

(ii) infrastructure improvements; or

(iii) new construction; and

(B) communicated to customers in advance.

(2) A curtailment or interruption of service to a customer receiving service under an interruptible service tariff to the extent that the curtailment or interruption of service occurs in accordance with the customer's service agreement.

Sec. 16. As used in this chapter, "system average interruption duration index", or "SAIDI", means an index that:

(1) indicates the total duration of sustained service interruptions for an electricity supplier's average customer during a specified period; and

(2) is calculated by determining the quotient of:

(A) the sum of sustained service interruption durations in minutes for the specified period; divided by

(B) the total number of customers;

in accordance with IEEE 1336.

Sec. 17. As used in this chapter, "system average interruption frequency index", or "SAIFI", means an index that:

(1) indicates the number of sustained service interruptions an electricity supplier's average customer experiences over a specified period; and

(2) is calculated by determining the quotient of:

(A) the total number of customers that experienced sustained service interruptions over the specified period; divided by

(B) the total number of customers;

in accordance with IEEE 1336.

Sec. 18. Beginning in 2027, before March 1 of each year, an electricity supplier shall file with the commission, on a form prescribed by the commission, a customer affordability performance report that includes the following information:

(1) The electricity supplier's average monthly residential bill for each of the most recently concluded five (5) calendar years, normalized for weather if not otherwise normalized

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for weather through a rate adjustment mechanism described in section 1(b)(3) of this chapter.

(2) The average annual percentage change (rounded to the nearest one-tenth percent (0.1%)) in the electricity supplier's average monthly residential bill over the course of the most recently concluded five (5) calendar years, normalized for weather if not otherwise normalized for weather through a rate adjustment mechanism described in section 1(b)(3) of this chapter.

(3) For each of the most recently concluded five (5) calendar years, the annual percentage change in seasonally adjusted electricity prices for the United States as measured by the Consumer Price Index, as published by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(4) The average annual percentage change (rounded to the nearest one-tenth percent (0.1%)) in seasonally adjusted electricity prices for the United States as measured by the Consumer Price Index, as published by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, over the course of the most recently concluded five (5) calendar years.

Sec. 19. Beginning in 2027, before March 1 of each year, an electricity supplier shall file with the commission, on a form prescribed by the commission, a service restoration performance report that includes the following information for each of the most recently concluded six (6) calendar years:

(1) Each of the following indices, reported to exclude major event days, for the electricity supplier's system in Indiana as a whole:

(A) SAIDI.

(B) SAIFI.

(C) CAIDI.

(2) Each of the following indices, reported to include major event days, for the electricity supplier's system in Indiana as a whole:

(A) SAIDI.

(B) SAIFI.

(C) CAIDI.

(3) The number of customers used by the utility in calculating each index required under subdivisions (1) and (2).

Sec. 20. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), and subject to the schedule set forth in this section, an electricity

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supplier must petition the commission for approval of any change in its basic rates and charges through the submission of a multi-year rate plan in accordance with this chapter. An electricity supplier shall file its first petition with the commission for approval of a multi-year rate plan under this chapter according to the following schedule:

(1) After November 15, 2026, and before December 15, 2026, for the electricity supplier with the greatest number of Indiana customers.

(2) After June 30, 2027, and before August 1, 2027, for an electricity supplier with respect to which the commission has issued an order that:

(A) establishes basic rates and charges for the electricity supplier as part of a base rate case; and

(B) is issued after April 30, 2024, and before February 1, 2025.

(3) After December 31, 2027, and before February 1, 2028, for an electricity supplier with respect to which the commission has issued an order that:

(A) establishes basic rates and charges for the electricity supplier as part of a base rate case; and

(B) is issued after February 1, 2025, and before April 1, 2025.

(4) After June 30, 2028, and before August 1, 2028, for an electricity supplier with respect to which the commission has issued an order that:

(A) establishes basic rates and charges for the electricity supplier as part of a base rate case; and

(B) is issued after June 1, 2025, and before July 1, 2025.

(5) After December 31, 2028, and before February 1, 2029, for an electricity supplier with respect to which the commission has issued an order that:

(A) establishes basic rates and charges for the electricity supplier as part of a base rate case that is not part of a multi-year rate plan under this chapter; and

(B) is issued after January 1, 2026.

(b) An electricity supplier may petition the commission for relief under IC 8-1-2-113 for changes to the electricity supplier's basic rates and charges:

(1) after March 14, 2026; and

(2) before the beginning of the electricity supplier's applicable time frame for filing the electricity supplier's first

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1 petition for approval of multi-year rate plan under  
2 subsection (a).

3 However, the filing of a petition for relief under this subsection  
4 does not exempt an electricity supplier from filing its first petition  
5 for a multi-year rate plan under this chapter in accordance with  
6 the schedule set forth in subsection (a).

7 (c) An electricity supplier shall file its second petition and all  
8 subsequent petitions with the commission for approval of a  
9 multi-year rate plan under this chapter:

10 (1) not earlier than sixty (60) days before; and

11 (2) not later than thirty (30) days before;

12 the expiration of its then current multi-year rate plan.

13 Sec. 21. (a) The following apply to a multi-year rate plan under  
14 this chapter:

15 (1) An electricity supplier's petition for approval of a  
16 multi-year rate plan under this chapter must include the  
17 electricity supplier's:

18 (A) case in chief (as defined in IC 8-1-2-42.7(c),  
19 including the electricity supplier's proposed:

20 (i) revenue requirement; and

21 (ii) base rates for each customer class; and

22 (B) proposed test period using forward looking periods  
23 the close of which correspond with the end of the second  
24 and third rate years in the electricity supplier's  
25 multi-year rate plan;

26 for each of the rate years in the multi-year rate plan.

27 (2) The base rates for the first rate year of an electricity  
28 supplier's multi-year rate plan shall be established by the  
29 commission in the same manner that base rates would be  
30 established in a proceeding for a change in the electricity  
31 supplier's basic rates and charges that occurs outside of a  
32 multi-year rate plan, based on an appropriate test year  
33 under IC 8-1-2-42.7(e) used to determine the electricity  
34 supplier's actual and pro forma operating revenues,  
35 expenses, and operating income under current and proposed  
36 rates, adjusted for changes that are fixed, known, and  
37 measurable for ratemaking purposes and that occur within  
38 a reasonable time after the end of the test year.

39 (3) The base rates for the second and third rate years of an  
40 electricity supplier's multi-year rate plan shall be established  
41 using:

42 (A) changes in the electricity supplier's net plant in

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service from the end of the immediately preceding rate year, including any difference between:

(i) actual net plant in service at the end of the rate year; and

(ii) the projected net plant in service used in the electricity supplier's test period for that rate year; and

(B) changes in the net balance of any regulatory asset or liability from the end of the immediately preceding rate year.

(4) In establishing an electricity supplier's authorized return for the electricity supplier's multi-year rate plan, the commission shall consider any increased or decreased risk to:

(A) the electricity supplier; and

(B) the electricity supplier's ratepayers;

that may result from the implementation of the multi-year rate plan.

(5) For each rate year in an electricity supplier's multi-year rate plan, the following apply:

(A) A customer affordability performance metric that:

(i) is determined by the commission under section 23 of this chapter for that rate year;

(ii) is based on the most recent customer affordability performance report submitted to the commission by the electricity supplier under section 18 of this chapter; and

(iii) is used by the commission to establish a customer affordability PIM that applies to that rate year.

(B) A customer affordability PIM that:

(i) is based on the electricity supplier's performance in meeting the customer affordability performance metric described in clause (A); and

(ii) provides financial rewards or penalties to the electricity supplier based on that performance in accordance with section 23 of this chapter.

(C) A service performance restoration metric that:

(i) is determined by the commission under section 24 of this chapter for that rate year;

(ii) is based on the most recent service restoration performance report submitted to the commission by



the electricity supplier under section 19 of this chapter; and  
 (iii) is used by the commission to establish a service restoration PIM that applies to that rate year.

**(D) A service restoration PIM that:**

(i) is based on the electricity supplier's performance in meeting the service restoration performance metric described in clause (C); and  
 (ii) provides financial rewards or penalties to the electricity supplier based on that performance in accordance with section 24 of this chapter.

**(b) A multi-year rate plan under this chapter shall be considered separately by the commission from all:**

- (1) rate adjustment mechanisms, including the fuel adjustment charge under IC 8-1-2-42; and**
- (2) other cost recovery mechanisms;**

otherwise allowed by law, unless otherwise incorporated into the multi-year rate plan. In an electricity supplier's first petition for a multi-year rate plan under this chapter, the electricity supplier shall include a plan to incorporate planned capital expenditures, subject to preapproval by the commission, into the electricity supplier's subsequent multi-year rate plans under this chapter.

**(c) An electricity supplier may elect to:**

- (1) exclude from its proposed multi-year rate plan; and**
- (2) defer for consideration by the commission and for future recovery;**

costs incurred or to be incurred in a regulatory asset, to the extent those specific costs are incremental and are not otherwise already included for recovery in the electricity supplier's rates, as authorized by IC 8-1-2-10.

**Sec. 22. (a) The commission shall approve a multi-year rate plan for an electricity supplier under this chapter if, after notice and hearing, the commission finds the following:**

- (1) That the electricity supplier's rates under the multi-year rate plan are just and reasonable.**
- (2) That the multi-year rate plan reasonably assures the continuation of safe and reliable electric service for the electricity supplier's customers.**
- (3) That the multi-year rate plan will not unreasonably prejudice any class of the electricity supplier's customers and will not result in sudden substantial rate increases to the electricity supplier's customers or any class of customers.**

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1 (4) That the multi-year rate plan:

2 (A) will result in just and reasonable rates;

3 (B) is in the public interest; and

4 (C) is consistent with the requirements set forth in this  
5 chapter and in the rules adopted by the commission  
6 under section 27 of this chapter.

7 (5) That the multi-year rate plan meets any other legal  
8 requirement.

9 (b) At any time before the expiration of an electricity  
10 supplier's approved multi-year rate plan under this chapter, the  
11 commission may, with good cause and upon its own motion, or at  
12 the request of the office of utility consumer counselor or the  
13 electricity supplier do any of the following:

14 (1) Examine the reasonableness of the electricity supplier's  
15 rates under the multi-year rate plan.

16 (2) Conduct periodic reviews with opportunities for public  
17 hearings and comments from interested parties.

18 (3) Initiate a proceeding to adjust the base rates or PIMs  
19 under the multi-year rate plan as necessary to ensure that  
20 the multi-year rate plan continues to satisfy the criteria set  
21 forth in subsection (a).

22 Sec. 23. (a) For each rate year in an electricity supplier's  
23 multi-year rate plan, the commission shall determine a customer  
24 affordability performance metric for that electricity supplier by  
25 calculating the difference between:

26 (1) the average annual percentage change (rounded to  
27 nearest one-tenth percent (0.1%)) in the electricity supplier's  
28 average monthly residential bill over the course of the most  
29 recently concluded five (5) calendar years (normalized for  
30 weather if not otherwise normalized for weather through a  
31 rate adjustment mechanism described in section 1(b)(3) of  
32 this chapter); minus

33 (2) the average annual percentage change (rounded to  
34 nearest one-tenth percent (0.1%)) in seasonally adjusted  
35 electricity prices for the United States as measured by the  
36 Consumer Price Index, as published by the United States  
37 Bureau of Labor Statistics, over the course of the most  
38 recently concluded five (5) calendar years;

39 as reported in the most recent customer affordability performance  
40 report submitted to the commission by the electricity supplier  
41 under section 18 of this chapter. The difference calculated under  
42 this subsection is the electricity supplier's customer affordability

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performance metric for the rate year.

(b) If the electricity supplier's customer affordability performance metric under subsection (a) is a positive number that exceeds two (2) percentage points, the commission shall adjust the electricity supplier's authorized return for the rate year downward by not more than one (1) basis point.

(c) If the electricity supplier's customer affordability performance metric under subsection (a) is a negative number that when multiplied by negative one (-1) exceeds two (2) percentage points, the commission shall adjust the electricity supplier's authorized return for the rate year upward by not more than one (1) basis point.

**Sec. 24. (a)** For each rate year included in an electricity supplier's multi-year rate plan, the commission shall determine, using the most recent service restoration performance report submitted to the commission by the electricity supplier under section 19 of this chapter, a service restoration performance metric for that electricity supplier in the following manner:

**STEP ONE:** Determine the electricity supplier's average SAIDI over the course of the five (5) calendar years immediately preceding the most recently concluded calendar year, including major event days, for the electricity supplier's system in Indiana as a whole.

**STEP TWO:** Determine the electricity supplier's SAIDI for the most recently concluded calendar year, including major event days, for the electricity supplier's system in Indiana as a whole.

**STEP THREE:** Calculate the difference between the STEP ONE result minus the STEP TWO result.

**STEP FOUR:** Calculate the quotient of the STEP THREE result divided by the STEP ONE result, rounded to the nearest one-hundredth (0.01).

**STEP FIVE:** Calculate the product of one hundred (100) multiplied by the STEP FOUR result. This product is the electricity supplier's service restoration performance metric for the rate year.

(b) If the electricity supplier's service restoration performance metric under subsection (a) is a positive number that exceeds five (5), the commission shall adjust the electricity supplier's authorized return for the rate year upward by not more than one-half (0.50) basis point.

(c) If the electricity supplier's service restoration performance

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metric under subsection (a) is a negative number that when multiplied by negative one (-1) exceeds five (5), the commission shall adjust the electricity supplier's authorized return for the rate year downward by not more than one-half (0.50) basis point.

Sec. 25. (a) Beginning in 2029, the commission shall include in the annual report that the commission is required to submit under IC 8-1-1-14 before October 1 of each year the following information as of the last day of the most recently concluded state fiscal year:

(1) For each electricity supplier that is subject to this chapter, the date of the electricity supplier's most recently filed petition for approval of a multi-year rate plan under this chapter.

(2) For each petition listed under subdivision (1):

(A) the date of the commission's final order approving the multi-year rate plan; or

(B) if the petition is pending before the commission, the procedural status of the petition.

(3) For each electricity supplier that is subject to this chapter, the beginning and end dates of the electricity supplier's current multi-year rate plan under this chapter, to the extent applicable in a report submitted under this section before 2030.

(4) For each electricity supplier that is subject to this chapter, the electricity supplier's calculated:

(A) customer affordability performance metric; and

(B) service restoration performance metric;

for the current rate year in the electricity supplier's multi-year rate plan under this chapter, to the extent applicable in a report submitted under this section before 2030.

(5) For each electricity supplier that is subject to this chapter, any available data as to the impact on customer rates of the electricity supplier's applicable:

(A) customer affordability performance metric; and

(B) service restoration performance metric;

during the most recently concluded rate year under a multi-year rate plan of the electricity supplier under this chapter.

(6) Any other quantitative or qualitative information that the commission considers relevant for members of:

(A) the interim study committee on energy, utilities, and

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1 telecommunications established by IC 2-5-1.3-4(8); and  
 2 (B) the general assembly;  
 3 to consider in evaluating multi-year rate plans under this  
 4 chapter.

5 (b) Subject to subsection (c), an electricity supplier shall  
 6 provide the commission, at the time and in the manner prescribed  
 7 by the commission, any information or related materials required  
 8 by the commission to fulfill the commission's reporting obligations  
 9 under subsection (a).

10 (c) Upon request by an electricity supplier, the commission  
 11 shall determine whether any information or related materials  
 12 required by the commission under subsection (b):

- 13 (1) are confidential under IC 5-14-3-4;
- 14 (2) are exempt from public access and disclosure by Indiana  
 15 law; and
- 16 (3) must be treated as confidential and protected from public  
 17 access and disclosure by the commission.

18 Sec. 26. After March 14, 2026, any reference in IC 8-1, or in  
 19 rules adopted by the commission, to:

- 20 (1) a "base rate case";
- 21 (2) a "general rate case";
- 22 (3) a proceeding for a change or increase in "basic rates and  
 23 charges"; or
- 24 (4) words of similar import;

25 with respect to an electricity supplier subject to this chapter is  
 26 considered a reference to the establishment of the electricity  
 27 supplier's basic rates and charges for the first year of the  
 28 electricity supplier's multi-year rate plan under this chapter.

29 Sec. 27. The commission shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to  
 30 implement this chapter.

31 SECTION 8. IC 8-1-47 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS  
 32 A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON  
 33 PASSAGE]:

34 **Chapter 47. Low Income Customer Assistance Programs for**  
 35 **Electric Utility Service**

36 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "electricity supplier" means a**  
 37 **person, however organized, that:**

- 38 (1) provides utility service to customers; and
- 39 (2) is under the jurisdiction of the commission for the  
 40 approval of rates and charges.

41 **Sec. 2. (a) As used in this chapter, "eligible program costs"**  
 42 **means costs that are associated with an electricity supplier's low**



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income customer assistance program and that:

(1) have been incurred, or are reasonably estimated to be incurred, by the electricity supplier in administering the low income customer assistance program, including administrative activities involving:

- (A) customer eligibility verification;
- (B) billing services; and
- (C) contribution management; and

(2) have not been and will not be recovered by the electricity supplier through contributions of any money, services, or property that have been or will be provided at no cost to the electricity supplier by or through any:

- (A) governmental agency or program; or
- (B) other third party, including voluntary charitable contributions from nonprofit organizations or from employees, customers, or shareholders of the electricity supplier;

in support of the program.

(b) The term does not include lost revenues associated with an electricity supplier's low income customer assistance program.

Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "low income customer" refers to a residential customer who is part of a household that:

- (1) has agreed to pay for utility service from an electricity supplier; and
- (2) is eligible for and has applied for assistance from a home energy assistance program administered under IC 4-4-33.

Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "utility service" means electric service that is provided at retail to customers.

Sec. 5. (a) Not later than July 1, 2026, an electricity supplier shall offer a low income customer assistance program that provides financial assistance to low income customers for the payment of monthly bills for utility service provided by the electricity supplier.

A program that:

- (1) is offered by the electricity supplier before July 1, 2026;
- (2) provides financial assistance to low income customers for the payment of monthly bills for utility service provided by the electricity supplier;
- (3) remains in effect on July 1, 2026; and
- (4) includes eligibility criteria consistent with section 3(2) of this chapter;

qualifies as a low income customer assistance program for purposes of this section.

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(b) Subject to subsection (c), an electricity supplier may establish:

- (1) per customer funding limits;
- (2) enrollment limits; or
- (3) other limits, caps, or restrictions;

applicable to the low income customer assistance program based on funds available for the program from governmental agencies or programs or from other third parties, including voluntary charitable contributions from nonprofit organizations or from employees, customers, or shareholders of the electricity supplier.

(c) If at any time during a calendar year:

(1) an electricity supplier is no longer able to offer assistance to additional eligible customers under the electricity supplier's low income customer assistance program as a result of any limit, cap, or restriction established under subsection (b); and

(2) the full amount allocated or to be allocated to the program under section (6)(1) of this chapter has not been allocated to low income customers enrolled in the program at the time the limit, cap, or restriction is reached;

the portion of the amount allocated or to be allocated to the program under section (6)(1) of this chapter that has not been allocated to low income customers enrolled in the program at time the limit, cap, or restriction is reached shall be segregated from all other funds of the electricity supplier and held in trust for allocation to low income customers enrolled in the electricity supplier's low income customer assistance program in the following calendar year.

Sec. 6. Beginning in 2027, not later than March 1 of each year, an electricity supplier shall fund the electricity supplier's low income customer assistance program in an amount equal to:

(1) at least two-tenths percent (0.2%) of the electricity supplier's jurisdictional revenues for residential customers; plus

(2) any contributions from:

(A) governmental agencies or programs; or

(B) other third parties, including voluntary charitable contributions from nonprofit organizations or from employees, customers, or shareholders of the electricity supplier.

Sec. 7. (a) In each residential customer bill issued by an electricity supplier after June 30, 2026, the electricity supplier

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1 must include a notice that:

2 (1) informs customers that the electricity supplier offers a  
3 low income customer assistance program for eligible  
4 customers; and

5 (2) includes:

6 (A) a toll free telephone number; or

7 (B) a link to a web page;

8 that a customer may call or access for information on how to  
9 apply for assistance under the program.

10 (b) Not later than July 1, 2026, the electricity supplier shall  
11 post the information described in subsection (a)(1) and (a)(2) on  
12 the electricity supplier's website. If at any time during a calendar  
13 year, the electricity supplier is no longer able to offer assistance to  
14 additional eligible customers under the electricity supplier's low  
15 income customer assistance program as a result of any:

16 (1) per customer funding limits;

17 (2) enrollment limits; or

18 (3) other limits, caps, or restrictions;

19 established by the electricity supplier under section 5(b) of this  
20 chapter, the electricity supplier shall include on its website a  
21 statement notifying customers of that fact. If the electricity  
22 supplier is subsequently able to enroll new eligible customers in the  
23 program during that calendar year, the electricity supplier shall  
24 remove the previously posted statement from its website and post  
25 a new statement indicating that the program is again accepting  
26 new applications for assistance.

27 Sec. 8. If a customer:

28 (1) applies for assistance under an electricity supplier's low  
29 income customer assistance program; and

30 (2) qualifies as a low income customer under section 3(2) of  
31 this chapter;

32 the electricity supplier shall enroll the customer in the program, to  
33 the extent the electricity supplier is able to do so under any per  
34 customer funding limits, enrollment limits, or other limits, caps, or  
35 restrictions established by the electricity supplier under section  
36 5(b) of this chapter and applicable at the time of the customer's  
37 application.

38 Sec. 9. (a) An electricity supplier may, but is not required to,  
39 petition the commission for approval to recover eligible program  
40 costs. An electricity supplier may file a petition the commission  
41 under this section:

42 (1) as part of a base rate case; or

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(2) at any time as part of an independent proceeding in which the electricity supplier petitions the commission to recover eligible program costs on a timely basis through a periodic rate adjustment mechanism.

(b) A petition under subsection (a)(2) for approval of a rate schedule that periodically adjusts the electricity supplier's rates and charges to provide for the timely recovery of eligible program costs must include the following for a twelve (12) month period set forth in the electricity supplier's petition:

(1) A description of any money, services, or property that has been or will be provided at no cost to the electricity supplier by or through any:

(A) governmental agency or program; or

(B) other third party, including voluntary charitable contributions from nonprofit organizations or from employees, customers, or shareholders of the electricity supplier;

in support of the low income customer assistance program, including the actual or estimated amount or value of the money, services, or property described.

(2) A statement of any amounts that have been or will be allocated or contributed to the electricity supplier's low income customer assistance program under section 6 of this chapter.

(3) A breakdown of eligible program costs that have been or will be incurred by the electricity supplier, including the:

(A) amounts; and

(B) purposes;

for which they have been or will be incurred.

A rate schedule proposed by an electricity supplier under this subsection may be based in whole or in part on reasonable cost forecasts over all or any part of the twelve (12) month period on which the electricity supplier's petition is based, subject to the commission's consideration of the electricity supplier's historical forecasting accuracy. If forecasted data is used, the proposed rate schedule must provide for a reconciliation mechanism to correct for any variance between the forecasted eligible program costs and the actual eligible program costs incurred.

(c) Subject to subsection (d), after reviewing an electricity supplier's petition under subsection (a)(2), the commission determines that:

(1) the electricity supplier has incurred or will incur eligible

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1 program costs that are reasonable in amount;

2 (2) notwithstanding section 10 of this chapter, the effect or  
3 the potential effect, in both the long and short term, of the  
4 proposed rate schedule on the electric rates of  
5 nonparticipating customers or other customer classes of the  
6 electricity supplier will be minimal; and

7 (3) approval of the proposed rate schedule is in the public  
8 interest;

9 the commission shall approve the electricity supplier's proposed  
10 rate schedule under subsection (b).

11 (d) The commission may not approve a rate schedule under  
12 subsection (b) that would result in an average aggregate increase  
13 in an electricity supplier's total retail revenues of more than two  
14 percent (2%) with respect to the twelve (12) month period on  
15 which the electricity supplier's proposed rate schedule is based. If  
16 an electricity supplier incurs eligible program costs in connection  
17 with the electricity supplier's low income customer assistance  
18 program that exceed the limit set forth in this subsection, the  
19 electricity supplier may seek to recover those eligible program  
20 costs for recovery in the electricity supplier's next base rate case.

21 Sec. 10. A low income customer assistance program offered  
22 under this chapter that affects rates and charges for service is not  
23 discriminatory for purposes of this chapter or any other law  
24 regulating rates and charges for service.

25 Sec. 11. (a) Beginning in 2027, the commission shall include in  
26 the annual report that the commission is required to submit under  
27 IC 8-1-1-14 before October 1 of each year the following  
28 information for each electricity supplier with respect to the most  
29 recently concluded state fiscal year:

30 (1) The number of low income customers enrolled in the  
31 electricity supplier's low income customer assistance  
32 program at the beginning and end of the state fiscal year.

33 (2) The total amount of assistance provided to low income  
34 customers under the electricity supplier's program.

35 (3) The median amount of assistance provided to each  
36 customer under the electricity supplier's program.

37 (4) Subject to subsection (c), an identification of the sources  
38 and amounts of any money, services, or property contributed  
39 to the electricity supplier's program by or through:

40 (A) governmental agencies or programs; or

41 (B) other third parties, including voluntary charitable  
42 contributions from nonprofit organizations or from

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employees, customers, or shareholders of the electricity supplier.

(5) An identification of the amounts of any:

(A) per customer funding limits;

(B) enrollment limits; or

(C) other limits, caps, or restrictions;

established by the electricity supplier under section 5(b) of this chapter, along with information as to whether and when any such limits, caps, or restrictions were reached or applied during the state fiscal year.

(b) Subject to subsection (c), an electricity supplier shall provide the commission, at the time and in the manner prescribed by the commission, any information required under subsection (a) to be included in the commission's annual report.

(c) Upon request by an electricity supplier, the commission shall determine whether any information and related materials described in subsection (a):

(1) are confidential under IC 5-14-3-4;

(2) are exempt from public access and disclosure by Indiana law; and

(3) must be treated as confidential and protected from public access and disclosure by the commission.

In addition, an electricity supplier is not required to name individual third party donors under subsection (a)(4) and may instead report the types of third party organizations and individuals that contributed to the electricity supplier's program and the amounts contributed by each type.

Sec. 12. The commission shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this chapter.

SECTION 9. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) As used in this SECTION, "commission" refers to the Indiana utility regulatory commission created by IC 8-1-1-2.

(b) Not later than May 1, 2026, the commission shall amend the following rules of the commission as necessary to conform the rules with IC 8-1-2-121, as amended by this act:

(1) 170 IAC 4.

(2) Any other rule that:

(A) has been adopted by the commission; and

(B) is inconsistent with IC 8-1-2-121, as amended by this act.

(c) This SECTION expires January 1, 2027.

SECTION 10. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) Before

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- 1     **January 1, 2027, the commission shall amend 170 IAC 4-1-23 as**  
2     **necessary to conform 170 IAC 4-1-23 to the requirements of**  
3     **IC 8-1-46, as added by this act.**  
4         **(b) This SECTION expires January 2, 2027.**  
5         **SECTION 11. An emergency is declared for this act.**

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