Enough is Enough! I&M Wants You to Pay 22% More on Your Electric Bills (and the rate hikes won’t stop there).

Indiana Michigan Power wants the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) to let them raise your base rates by an unwarranted $147.8 million! TELL THE IURC TO SAY NO!!

I&M’s scheme for this excessive rate increase hurts residential ratepayers by:

- Forcing you to subsidize industrial customers by reallocating transmission, distribution and other capital costs.
- Eliminating the $37.5 million annual credit you’re receiving on your bill right now. You’re receiving that credit because they sell extra electricity for profit on the wholesale market, and that electricity comes from power plants paid for by you as a ratepayer;
- Increasing the monthly service charge on residential customers 14.7%.
- Increasing the energy charge on residential customers 40%, from 6.75¢ per kilowatt hour to 9.45¢ per kilowatt hour.
- Allowing them to disconnect your service with no notice and with no cause other than “their sole discretion.”

Included in the $147.8 million rate hike, I&M wants you to pay for:

- Discounted electric rates for I&M employees, and
- An abandoned carbon capture and sequestration (CCS - shooting carbon dioxide into the ground and hoping that it stays there) project connected to a coal-fired power plant in West Virginia that does not serve Indiana customers and isn’t even owned by I&M (it’s owned by AEP).

In ADDITION to the $147.8 million rate hike, I&M is seeking:

- An additional $1.414 billion for pollution control at the Rockport coal-fired power plant; AND
- An additional $1.4 billion for major work scheduled for the Cook nuclear power plant in Bridgman, Michigan.

In testimony filed with the IURC, I&M calls the electric rates that you’re paying “confiscatory,” implying that you, as a residential ratepayer, are stealing profit from them!
I&M President, Paul Chodak, says in his testimony before the IURC that “I&M rates are not just and reasonable.” Chodak also complains that I&M only made $106.7 million in profit between June, 2010 and May, 2011. I&M wants to increase their profit by making you pay to increase their return on equity from 10.5% to 11.5%.

Apparently, raising YOUR RATES over 22% so that I&M, a state-franchised monopoly, can realize excessive profits will only then make their rates “just”!

**Take Action Now!!!**

**Write a letter or e-mail! Make a call!**

Write or call the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) and let them know that you want the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) to say NO to Indiana Michigan’s greed! Tell them to:

- Say NO to I&M’s 22%+ rate increase;
- Make I&M credit 100% of their off-system sales to ratepayers;
- Deny I&M’s request to allow them to disconnect your service without notice;
- Deny I&M’s request for an increased return on equity of 11.5%;
- Deny I&M’s request to force ratepayer’s to pay for discounted electric rates for I&M employees;
- Deny I&M’s request to force Indiana ratepayers to pay for a carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) on a power plant in West Virginia that does not serve Indiana customers and isn’t even owned by I&M; and
- Consolidate the rate case (Cause No. 44075), the Rockport pollution control case (Cause No. 44033), and the Cook Life Cycle Management Case (Cause No. 44182) into one docket so that we can see the true impact that all of this will have on our bills.

Ask that your letter be included in the testimony for Cause No. 44075, Cause No. 44033, and Cause No. 44182.

A case overview can be found at: http://www.in.gov/oucc/2667.htm