

# Town of Munster

## Munster Town Council

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February 11, 2026

Delivery by USPS 1<sup>st</sup> Class

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission  
PNC Center  
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Commissioners,

We are the Town Council for the Town of Munster, Indiana and we are writing to formally convey deep concern regarding the rising natural gas costs impacting residents in our community and across NIPSCO's service territory, alongside the effects of recent electric rate adjustments. We understand that only Indiana state officials have direct oversight of these matters, but we can offer to you the concerns of our community.

We have received troubling reports of extraordinary natural gas bill increases—often doubling or tripling year-over-year—experienced by Munster constituents and others during the current heating season. These spikes are exacerbating affordability challenges at the worst possible time.

Combined with the phased electric base rate increases, these developments impose a heavy burden on households, fixed-income seniors, and vulnerable populations who depend on affordable heating to maintain safe living conditions. As the body ensuring rates remain just and reasonable in the public interest, we urge the Commission to intensify oversight of NIPSCO's natural gas practices, including:

- Thorough examination of reported billing anomalies and delivery charge structures;
- Continued investigation into meter-related issues and prompt remedies for any discrepancies;
- Strong prioritization of consumer protections, expanded low-income assistance programs, transparent rate explanations, and measures to shield residential customers from disproportionate impacts during rate transitions and seasonal demands.

On behalf of Munster residents, we request that these gas cost concerns be fully considered in any relevant proceedings and that the Commission provide details on avenues for additional public input or intervention.

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**Munster Town Hall**  
1005 Ridge Road  
Munster, IN 46321  
(219) 836-6900

Thank you for your commitment to balancing utility infrastructure needs with consumer welfare. Reliable and affordable natural gas is fundamental to community health and stability, particularly in winter.

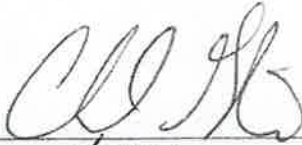
Sincerely,



George Shinkan  
1<sup>st</sup> Ward



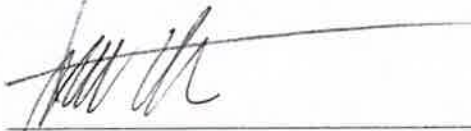
Joseph Hofferth  
2<sup>nd</sup> Ward



Chuck Gardiner  
3<sup>rd</sup> Ward



David Nellans  
4<sup>th</sup> Ward



Jonathan Petersen  
5<sup>th</sup> Ward



Wendy Mis  
Clerk/Treasurer