

Town of Munster

Munster Town Council

February 11, 2026

Delivery by USPS 1st 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.

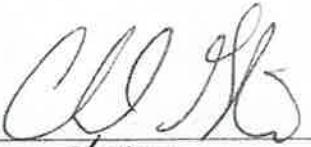
On behalf of Munster residents, we request that these gas cost concerns be fully considered in any relevant proceedings and that the Commission provide details on avenues for additional public input or intervention.

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.

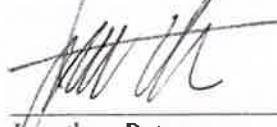
Sincerely,

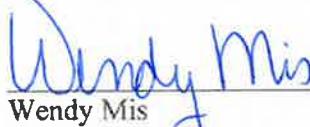

George Shinkan
1st Ward


Joseph Hoffarth
2nd Ward


Chuck Gardiner
3rd Ward


David Nellans
4th Ward


Jonathan Petersen
5th Ward


Wendy Mis
Clerk/Treasurer

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