

RESOLUTION NO. ²⁰¹³⁻01 OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF ROCKPORT, INDIANA

WHEREAS, as our City, County and Region engage in continuing efforts to lure new jobs and opportunities for our residents, and

WHEREAS, economic development experts tell us that one of the key business location siting factors is whether an area possesses a cheap, dependable source of electric power, particularly for energy-intensive manufacturing processes, and

WHEREAS, the electric rates of our investor-owned utility Vectren have increased 109% over the past ten years and have made this area non-competitive in siting new manufacturing jobs because electric rates are so high, and

WHEREAS, the stunning and dramatic increase in electric rates has not been accompanied by any measurable improvement in customer service, but rather has been accompanied by a reduction in customer satisfaction rates as measured by nationally recognized firms such as J.D. Power & Associates, and

WHEREAS, an investigation by the *Indianapolis Star* published on November 12, 2012 revealed that part of the reason for Vectren having the highest electricity rates in the state is that the utility purchases coal at high prices from its own subsidiary, Vectren fuels, and

WHEREAS, Vectren has sold coal to other Indiana utilities at lower prices than what they have passed on to their own ratepayers, and

WHEREAS, the chief regulatory body for Indiana utilities, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) has addressed the issue of Vectren's coal purchases in a prior proceeding, but has moved the issue to the first quarterly FAC (Fuel Adjustment Clause) proceeding each year, with the ability to request a subdocket, if needed, and

WHEREAS, we the undersigned believe it imperative that this community have a voice on such confiscatory rates and their impact on residential, commercial and industrial ratepayers in and believe that the issue of Vectren's coal purchases merits further investigation and review in the upcoming quarterly FAC which will be filed in February, 2013,

WHEREAS, our Mayor has consulted with legal counsel who have considerable experience in prior proceedings in front of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission and has recommended the city engage the services of attorneys Shaw Friedman, Robert Wright and Deanna Dean-Webster to file a petition to Intervene on behalf of the City, and

WHEREAS, we encourage other communities in the Vectren service territory to intervene as well in such proceeding,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKPORT, INDIANA THAT

- 1. The City of Rockport, Indiana shall petition to intervene in the upcoming first quarterly FAC proceeding involving Vectren with the specific purpose of examining Vectren's coal purchasing practices and any other issues which could impact the electric rates currently paid by Vectren customers.**

2. The Mayor is hereby encouraged to retain attorneys Shaw Friedman, Robert Wright and Deanna Dean-Webster at a discounted governmental rate to represent the City in such regulatory proceedings.
3. The City shall communicate with other governmental units in the Vectren service territory to encourage other parties to intervene in the proceedings before the IURC.

All of which is considered and adopted this 4th day of February, 2013.

Carol Huff
Conni L. Dye
Bob Mack
Chris Brown

Friedman, Robert Wright
Deanna Dean-Webster

Considered and approved by me as Mayor: Harold Doffner
Attest: City Clerk/Treasurer Jessie Roberts