

NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD ON COMPLETENESS AND PROCEDURES

Issued: October 31, 2019

In the Matter of the Application of CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp dba CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas for Authority to Increase Natural Gas Rates in Minnesota

PUC Docket Number: G-008/GR-19-524

Comment Period: Initial comment period closes November 7, 2019¹ at 4:30pm

Reply comment period closes November 12, 2019 at 4:30pm

Comments received after the close of the comment period may or may not be considered by the Commission.

Topics Open for Comment:

- Whether CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., dba CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas' application complies with the filing requirements of Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, Minn. Rules, parts 7825.3100 to 7825.4400, and relevant Commission Orders, and
- Whether this matter should be sent to the Minnesota Office of Administrative Hearings for a contested case hearing and if so, what should be the scope of the hearing?

Background: On October 28, 2019, CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., dba CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas (CenterPoint), submitted its request, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subd. 1, to increase rates for natural gas service in Minnesota. In its application, CenterPoint seeks authority to increase rates, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subd. 1, for a total increase of approximately \$62.3 million, or 6.8 percent, for the test year ending December 31, 2020. If the Commission suspends the proposed rate increase under Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subd. 2, CenterPoint requests, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subd. 3, an interim rate increase of approximately \$52.7 million, or 5.8 percent, effective for service rendered on and after January 1, 2020. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subd. 3, the Commission sets interim rates on an "ex-parte" basis.

Filing Requirements: Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are **required** to file documents using the Commission's electronic filing system (eFiling). All parties, participants and interested persons are encouraged to use eFiling: mn.gov/puc, select *eFiling*, and follow the prompts.

¹ Pursuant to Minn. Rules, part 7829.2400, subpart 4.

Submit Public Comments: Visit mn.gov/puc, select *Speak Up!* to find this docket, and add your comments to the discussion or email your comments to consumer.puc@state.mn.us.

Full Case Record: See all documents filed in this docket via the Commission's website at mn.gov/puc, select *Search eDockets*, enter the year (19) and the docket number (524), select *Search*.

Subscribe to receive email notification when new documents are filed in this docket at mn.gov/puc, select *Subscribe*, or click [HERE](#) and follow the prompts.

Intervention: Pursuant to Minn. Rules, part 7829.2400, subpart 6, "the Commission shall entertain a petition to intervene until the matter is referred to the Office of Administrative Hearings for a contested case proceeding ..." Interventions in proceedings before the Commission are covered by the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, Minn. Rules, part 7829.0800. Under subpart 5 of this rule, ("if there is no objection to intervention and a petition to intervene is not denied or suspended within 15 days of filing, the petition to intervene must be considered granted, unless the matter is referred to the Minnesota Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) for contested case proceedings before the expiration of the 15-day period.") After the case is referred to the OAH, intervention requests are covered by the OAH procedures, pursuant to Minn. Rules, part 1400.6200.

Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure? Contact Commission staff, Jorge Alonso, at jorge.alonso@state.mn.us or 651-201-2258.

Change your mailing preferences: Email docketing.puc@state.mn.us or call Leesa Norton at 651-201-2246.

To request this document in another format such as large print or audio, call 651.296.0406 (voice). Consumers with a hearing or speech impairment may call using their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service or email consumer.puc@state.mn.us for assistance.