

NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD

Issued: December 4, 2018

In the Matter of a Commission Investigation into Parameters for Competition among Natural Gas Utilities Involving Duplication of Facilities and Use of Promotional Incentives and Other Payments

PUC Docket Number(s): **G-999/CI-17-499**

Comment Period: Initial Comment period closes December 31, 2018 at 4:30 pm.

Reply Comment period closes January 15, 2019 at 4:30 pm.

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

Topic(s) Open for Comment:

- Does Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc.'s (GMG) filing constitute a complaint as described in the Commission's September 19, 2018 ORDER ADOPTING STANDARDS GOVERNING COMPETITION AMONG NATURAL GAS UTILITIES (September 19, 2018 Order), in this docket?
- Should the Commission clarify its September 19, 2018 Order as requested by GMG?

Background: On September 19, 2018, the Commission issued its ORDER ADOPTING STANDARDS GOVERNING COMPETITION AMONG NATURAL GAS UTILITIES, in this docket. In that Order, the Commission prohibited Commission-regulated utilities from extending natural gas service to any customer who is already being served by another Commission-regulated utility through its existing facilities unless (1) the utility with the existing infrastructure does not seek to serve the customer, or (2) the utility seeking to extend service can demonstrate that it would not be duplicating the existing facilities of the other utility or that its duplication of the existing facilities is necessary to serve the customer or further the public interest.

On November 28, 2018, Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc. (GMG) submitted a letter stating that CenterPoint Energy intends to construct facilities that parallel existing GMG facilities for one mile in the Eagle Lake, Minnesota area. GMG believes CenterPoint energy intends to serve a new customer that could otherwise be served by GMG's existing facilities. GMG requests clarification of the September 19, 2018 Order and whether parallel natural gas main lines in this instance would constitute unnecessary duplication of facilities.

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.

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 (17) and the docket number (499), 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.

Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure? Contact Commission staff, Kevin O'Grady, at kevin.ogrady@state.mn.us or 651-201-2218 or Bob Brill at bob.brill@state.mn.us or 651-201-2242.

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). Persons with a hearing or speech impairment may call using their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service or email consumer.puc@state.mn.us for assistance.