

**From:** [Wufoo](#)  
**To:** [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Submitted Public Comment Form  
**Date:** Friday, March 4, 2022 11:56:16 AM

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Name \* Eamonn Fetherston

Email [eamonn.fetherston@gmail.com](mailto:eamonn.fetherston@gmail.com)

Provide the docket's number. #21-377

Leave a comment on the docket. \*

To the Public Utilities Commission and staff,

I live in Minneapolis, I am a renter, and a customer of Centerpoint Energy. My comments are for docket #21-377.

For the following reasons I ask that the commission approve the proposal to create a pilot Inclusive Financing Program through Centerpoint Energy's billing system with several fundamental changes to the initial proposal made by Centerpoint.

As a renter, I face significant obstacles to implementing energy efficiency improvements to my apartment. I am not in a position to make any such upgrades by myself, as I do not own the property. My landlord is incentivized only to meet the minimum requirements for heating, with no added incentive to increase the building's energy efficiency since the utility bills are paid by myself and the other tenants. Under this model, my energy bills will remain high, and I will have to continue using an excessive amount of energy just to keep my apartment at a comfortable temperature. Not only is this a waste of money, the excess energy required for heating results in higher greenhouse gas emissions. I know that buildings account for a very large portion of ghg emissions in Minnesota, so it is essential that the commission take urgent action to increase building energy efficiency.

An inclusive financing program would allow myself and many other Minnesotans to access options for increasing the energy efficiency of our homes. The current status quo, in which wealthy homeowners who can afford it or low income households who qualify for assistance programs are the bulk of homes benefiting from upgrades, simply excludes too many of us in the middle. Inclusive financing provides access for renters as well as those homeowners who do not fit the established model I have described here.

However, there are several key changes that must be made to Centerpoint's proposed program before the pilot can be launched:

1. Ensure that Centerpoint uses a Pay-As-You-Save model of inclusive financing and the consumer protections included therein
2. Remove the \$100 up front copay, which is not included in any of the Inclusive Financing programs that have been successful in other states
3. Pursue a low-cost capital source other than Centerpoint's 8% proposal, which inflates program

costs unnecessarily .

Thank you for your consideration, and I strongly urge you to approve the Inclusive Financing pilot through Centerpoint with the changes outlined above.

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**From:** [Eduardo Cardenas](#)  
**To:** [MN\\_PUC\\_EService Admin](#); [DeBleeckere, Tricia \(PUC\)](#); [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Lee, Amber S](#); [Kim Havey \(Kim.Havey@minneapolismn.gov\)](#); [Miller, Stacy A](#); [DeMerritt, Seth S](#); [Alice Madden](#); [cc: Phits Nantharath](#); [Becky Timm](#); [Carolyn Brown](#); [Daisy Hernandez](#); [Jose Alvillar](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Official Document Service G008/M-21-377 CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas Compliance Filing  
**Date:** Thursday, March 3, 2022 1:48:25 PM

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The Energy Cohort, a group of more than a dozen community-based organizations and individuals across the Twin Cities metro, is in favor of and would like to officially submit our support for the request by Centerpoint Energy and the City of Minneapolis for a six week extension to to the review process for the Petition to Introduce a Tariffed On-Bill Pilot Program in Docket No. G008/M-21-377.

We are a group of diverse community outreach organizations whose participants have gone to great lengths to learn about, on top of our other work and expertise in our communities, energy systems and relevant processes and this specific proposal so that we can inform and request feedback from the very community members who will be the most affected by this project. An extension will allow us to 1) review, better understand and respond to the comments submitted by other interested parties and 2) work with more community members to submit their responses to the petition, something that in the best of times is a laborious process and in these times of such turmoil and stress, requires much more time and effort.

Please feel free to contact me directly if there are any questions regarding our work that you may feel is relevant to this decision and the ongoing process.

Best,  
Eduardo Cardenas  
612 747-9727  
on behalf of the Energy Cohort

On Thu, Mar 3, 2022 at 11:56 AM <[eService.admin@state.mn.us](mailto:eService.admin@state.mn.us)> wrote:

You have elected to receive electronic service in the following matter. This notification represents official service of document(s) below.

**Docket Number:** G008/M-21-377

**Docket Description:** Tariffed On-Bill Pilot Program.

**Document Type:** Compliance Filing

**Received Date:** 03/03/2022

**On behalf of:** CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas

[Click here to view the document](#)

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For questions contact [eService.admin@state.mn.us](mailto:eService.admin@state.mn.us)

**From:** [Sam Benson](#)  
**To:** [DeBleeckere, Tricia \(PUC\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Support for extension for Tariffed on Bill Financing  
**Date:** Thursday, March 3, 2022 2:52:05 PM

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On behalf of the Energy Access Partners Coalition, I am writing to voice our support for an extension of Docket 21-377 that Center Point Energy has requested.

**From:** [Mike Harrington](#)  
**To:** [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Docket #21-377 Inclusive Financing Pilot Program-Aye!  
**Date:** Friday, March 4, 2022 11:56:37 AM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am living on Social Security Disability and house-sharing with a retired federal employee. The house that my housemate (almost) owns was made in 1983. The furnace in it is original. My housemate spent all of her house repair budget on a water heater that just failed, and there are still leaky door seals, windows, and whatnot that we have had a hard time getting to because of our disabilities.

This program promises to help out people like us greatly. We're both veterans of military service and active civic members. but also financially and physically restricted from effecting the repairs that are needed around this home.

My old shipmate and I \*need\* something like this pilot program to get this old house up to speed in energy efficiency, and make it kinder to our Mother Earth. I think also that many, many people might need this kind of program after the hardships of COVID, inflation, and the difficulties everyone has been having with switching to electric vehicles and/or paying for the once-again exorbitant costs for gasoline and diesel.

Please vote aye on providing an inclusive financing program.

Thank you,

Mike Harrington  
690 125th Lane NE  
Blaine, MN 55434  
612-454-0073

**From:** [Wufoo](#)  
**To:** [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Submitted Public Comment Form  
**Date:** Friday, March 4, 2022 10:40:01 AM

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|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Name *                       | Jane McBride  |
| Address                      | <input type="checkbox"/> 4400 Sheridan Avenue N<br>Minneapolis, MN 55412<br>United States |
| Phone Number                 | (612) 598-2432  |
| Email                        | <a href="mailto:janeemcbride@gmail.com">janeemcbride@gmail.com</a>                        |
| Provide the docket's number. | 21-377  |

Leave a comment on the docket. \*

I am a Minneapolis homeowner and a Centerpoint customer. While my family has the resources to pursue energy efficiency upgrades, I am concerned about many in our community who do not. We can only care for our climate and our children's future if we work together and if we make the solutions accessible to everyone. I ask the Commission to approve the pilot of Inclusive Financing for residents with Centerpoint for gas as a new tool to allow people currently left out access to cost-saving energy efficiency upgrades with the following changes: 1. Ensure that Centerpoint uses the Pay-As-You-Save model of inclusive financing because of the consumer protections that are built-in remain intact 2. Remove the \$100 upfront copay, which isn't part of any other inclusive financing program 3. Pursue a low-cost capital source other than Centerpoint's 8% proposal, which inflates the program costs unnecessarily. Thank ou.

**From:** [Mike Bull](#)  
**To:** [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)  
**Subject:** Tariffed On-Bill Pilot Program, G008/M-21-377  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 2, 2022 3:51:44 PM

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I've noticed some information in the record in this docket (M-21-377) about electric cooperatives in other states operating TOBF programs for their member-consumers. While I obviously support those electric coops working to help their members reduce their energy costs and energy bills, the situation in Minnesota is much different, and therefore the application of TOBF here would be much different. Our building stock is different from those other states, our climate is different, our statutory framework for energy efficiency is different, and utilities in Minnesota have been implementing utility Conservation Improvement Plan (CIP) programs for going on 30 years. Here in Minnesota, we have developed a time-tested cost-effectiveness, program approval and vendor training infrastructure for CIP that utilities and their customers can rely on. Therefore, I would urge the MN PUC to discount much of what they have heard about the TOBF experience of electric cooperatives in other states – it's not really applicable here in Minnesota. Thank you.

Mike Bull  
Director, Policy and Regulatory Affairs



**Minnesota Rural Electric Association**

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