Joseph Tesar, President, Quantalux LLC

1005 Lincoln Ave Ann Arbor Michigan 48104-3559

16 June 2020 jtesar@quantalux.com

Mr. Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) 121 East Seventh Place, Suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: Letter of Support for Docket No. G-008/M-20-434, CenterPoint Energy's Proposed Renewable Natural Gas Interconnection Service

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

This letter is to encourage the MPUC to support the creation of a Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) interconnection service by CenterPoint Energy.

Many other letters of support will likely point out the benefits of RNG production. Indeed, RNG is an established approach to decreasing methane emissions (especially at dairies), with the additional benefit of substantial income to local producers of RNG. There are many examples of successful RNG projects across the U.S., so I won't belabor that point

As an energy entrepreneur, however, the MPUC should know that RNG can part of a larger strategy to decarbonize our energy supplies. As more renewable fuels are produced, it is essential that a pathway exist to deliver these fuels (aka "green gas") to customers. The existing natural gas pipeline network is now used for hydrocarbon gases, but can also be used to transport RNG, and ultimately hydrogen. RNG is certainly a viable intermediate substitute for natural gas, but hydrogen is ultimately a superior solution for renewable energy storage, and also for higher-density transportation fuels.

Importantly, the transition to a hydrogen economy will not happen immediately, but will gradually build on the existing infrastructure step-by-step. Adding RNG to the existing natural gas pipelines is one of the first steps the industry can take to start accepting

non-hydrocarbon fuels. Over the next decades, "green gas" such as RNG or hydrogen will become ever more common, and it is critical that the utilities, pipeline owners and state regulators learn how to manage (and embrace) non-hydrocarbon gas transport.

My company Quantalux is involved in RNG project development in Michigan, and part of our work is to coordinate with utilities such as CMS Energy and DTE Energy to design RNG injection solutions. In the case of Michigan, we are all working to optimize gas quality requirements to RNG, and how to simplify access the existing natural gas pipeline network for renewable gas producers. Based on our experience, it is clear that existing pipelines can be carriers of "green gas" from producers in the Midwest to customers anywhere in the U.S.

I urge the MPUC to view RNG in the context of a long-term energy strategy. While the CenterPoint Energy case is an immediate consideration, it represents an important early step to achieving a more sustainable energy grid in the future.

Sincerely,

Joseph Tesar, President, Quantalux LLC

Joseph & TESA