



MISSISSIPPI
WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT
ORGANIZATION

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June 22, 2020,

Mr. Will Seuffert
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: Petition by CenterPoint Energy to Introduce a Renewable Natural Gas Interconnection Service
Docket No. G-008/M-20-434

Dear Mr. Seuffert,

Staff of the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (“MWMO”) submit this letter in support of CenterPoint’s proposal to introduce a renewable natural gas (“RNG”) interconnection program. MWMO is a joint powers local government unit. Our member communities include Columbia Heights, Fridley, Hilltop, Lauderdale, Minneapolis, the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board, St. Anthony Village, and Saint Paul. We partner with our member communities to invest in green infrastructure that captures, cleans and reuses stormwater runoff and we track water quality in the watershed and conduct education and outreach to promote active environmental stewardship among residents.

Water quality is inextricably tied to waste management, which is why MWMO is currently considering the possibility of an anaerobic digester that would demonstrate the social, environmental, and economic benefits that result from the integrated management of energy, water, and food systems. CenterPoint Energy’s proposal could improve the financial viability of this idea by making it possible to connect the anaerobic digester to the local gas distribution system.

Programs like the one proposed by CenterPoint Energy can help raise awareness about how waste systems, water quality, and energy are all connected, and help advance solutions for waste that protect our waters while providing an environmental benefit. The MWMO encourages the MPU to approve CenterPoint’s proposal.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments,

MWMO, Planning Principal