



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,

The Agricultural Utilization Research Institute (“AURI”) submits this letter in support of CenterPoint Energy’s proposed renewable natural gas (“RNG”) interconnection service. AURI is a nonprofit public corporation established by legislative action. Our mission is to foster long-term economic benefit for Minnesota through value-added agricultural products. We help develop new uses for agricultural products through science and technology and partner with businesses and entrepreneurs to bring ideas to reality.

AURI has experience working with farmers to help them generate renewable energy from biogas and AURI sees great potential for RNG in Minnesota. AURI is aware of several renewable electricity biogas projects that would like to expand – accept additional organic waste and create more energy – but that are connected with electrical utilities that are unable or unwilling to accept additional biogas power. Upgrading biogas to RNG and connecting to a gas utility, such as CenterPoint Energy, is one way for these projects to grow and create additional economic and environmental benefits.

Farmers that create RNG reap economic benefits while simultaneously reducing carbon emissions and impact on local water quality. AURI supports CenterPoint Energy’s proposal because it will open a new way for farmers to turn a waste problem into a renewable energy solution, and we are available to answer any Commissioner questions about the potential benefits of RNG for Minnesota’s agriculture industry.

Director of Planning and Government Relations / AURI

Senior Director of Science & Technology