



505 Nicollet Mall  
PO Box 59038  
Minneapolis, MN 55459-0038

– VIA ELECTRONIC FILING –

March 12, 2021

Mr. Will Seuffert  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
350 Metro Square Building  
121 East Seventh Place, Suite 350  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: **In the Matter of the Application of CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp.,  
d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas, for Authority to Increase Rates  
for Natural Gas Utility Service in Minnesota  
MPUC Docket No. G-008/GR-19-524  
OAH Docket No. 8-2500-36579  
G-008/MR-21-\_\_\_ (Base Cost of Gas)**

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

Pursuant to the March 1, 2021, Order of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”), CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas (“CenterPoint” or “the Company”), hereby submits a compliance filing in the above-captioned docket.

Per Ordering Paragraph #4, within 30 days of the Order, the Company is to file the following:

- a. a revised base cost of gas, supporting schedules, and revised fuel adjustment tariffs to be in effect on the date final rates are implemented;
- b. a summary listing of all other rate riders and charges in effect, and continuing, after the date final rates are implemented;
- c. a computation of the Conservation Cost Recovery Charge (CCRC) based upon the decisions made herein;
- d. a schedule detailing the Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) tracker balance at the beginning of interim rates, the revenues (CCRC and CIP Adjustment Factor) and costs recorded during the period of interim rates, and the CIP tracker balance at the time final rates become effective; and

- e. a proposal, in the event final authorized rates are lower than interim rates, to make refunds of interim rates including interest to affected customers.”

The Company is also including in this filing two other items that have been requested in prior rate cases:

- f. Redline tariff pages
- g. Proposed customer notice

As required in Ordering Paragraph #8, the Company will file in a subsequent, new docket, within 90 days of the Order, a filing with the City of Minneapolis for developing the Tariffed On-Bill Financing program and proposal in greater detail to provide a forum of review by interested parties and stakeholders.

The Company acknowledges that parties have 30 days, i.e., until Monday, April 12, 2021, to comment on this compliance filing.

CenterPoint Energy proposes implementation of new final rates beginning with meters read on and after June 1, 2021. Under Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, the effective date of final rates in a general rate case is the date of the Commission’s final determination, i.e., March 1, 2021, which was the date of the Order Accepting and Adopting Agreement Setting Rates. By implementing final rates in this manner, the earliest usage to which the new rates will be applied will occur in June 2021, which is after the date of the Commission’s final determination. As long as the interim rate is properly calculated, final rates do not apply to any gas usage which occurred prior to the Commission’s final determination, and enough time is allowed for comment and implementation, final rates should be allowed to be implemented on a non-prorated basis or “dropped in,” as was done in the Company’s six most recent rate cases (Dockets No. G-008/GR-17-285, No. G-008/GR-15-424, No. G-008/GR-13-316, No. G-008/GR-08-1075, and No. G-008/GR-04-901) and as is being proposed here.

If there are any questions, please contact me at the email address below or at 612-321-4480.

Sincerely,

/s/

Andrew Sudbury  
Manager, Regulatory Portfolio Management  
andrew.sudbury@centerpointenergy.com

Attachments

**CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas  
Docket No. G-008/GR-19-524  
Compliance Filing – March 12, 2021**

**INDEX**

<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Order Reference</b>
A. Revised Base Cost of Gas.....	Page 14, item 4.a.
B. Rate Riders and Charges in Effect .....	Page 14, item 4.b.
C. CCRC Computation.....	Page 14, item 4.c.
D. CIP Tracker .....	Page 14, item 4.d.
E. Interim Rate Refund Plan .....	Page 14, item 4.e.
F. Revised Tariffs .....	(Not specified in Order)
G. Proposed Customer Notice .....	(Not specified in Order)

**SCHEDULE A**

**REVISED BASE COST OF GAS**

Commission Order, page 14, Ordering Point 4.a.

A revised base cost of gas, supporting schedules, and revised fuel adjustment tariffs to be in effect at the time final rates are implemented.

**Supporting Schedules:**

- A-1..... Base Cost of Gas – Change of COG Components  
*Summarizes changes from current interim base rates*
- A-2..... Calculation of Cost of Gas Cost Recovery Components  
*Commodity (Page 1) – Based on August 12, 2020 compliance filing*  
*Demand (Page 2) – Same as initial filing*
- A-3..... Large General Service (LGS) Demand and Commodity Cost of Gas  
Recovery Rates

Please see Schedule F-1 for revised tariff pages in Section V (Rate Schedules and Applicable Provisions).

**CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas  
Docket No. G-008/GR-19-524  
Compliance Filing - March 12, 2021  
Supporting Schedule A-1**

This document summarizes the Cost-of-Gas values approved in G-008/MR-19-525 (and made effective on January 1, 2020) and details the final settlement values in the present docket.

**EFFECTIVE JUNE**

<b>COST OF GAS RECOVERY RATE-PER THERM</b>						
Line No.	Description (a)	Commodity (b)	Demand (c)	Subtotal (b + c) (d)	GCR Factor (e)	Total Rate (d + e) (f)
1	<b>FIRM:</b>					
2						
3						
4	1/1/2020	<u>Residential</u>				
5		Base Rate	0.30026	0.10133	0.40159	0.00000
6		Adjustment	(0.08731)	0.02421	(0.06310)	0.00000
7	NEW	Base Recovery rate	0.21295	0.12554	0.33849	0.00000
8						
9		<u>Commercial/Industrial A and B</u>				
10		Base Rate	0.30026	0.10133	0.40159	0.00000
11		PGA	(0.08731)	0.02421	(0.06310)	0.00000
12		Test Year Recovery Rate	0.21295	0.12554	0.33849	0.00000
13						
14						
15		<u>Commercial/Industrial C</u>				
16		Base Rate	0.30026	0.10133	0.40159	0.00000
17		PGA	(0.08731)	0.02421	(0.06310)	0.00000
18		Test Year Recovery Rate	0.21295	0.12554	0.33849	0.00000
19						
20						
21		<u>Large General Service</u>				
22		Base Rate	0.30026	1/0.70104	0.30026	0.00000
23		PGA	(0.08731)	0.16746	(0.08731)	0.00000
24		Test Year Recovery Rate	0.21295	0.86850	0.21295	0.00000
25		1/ Demand cost is based on Peak Day. Total Rate reflects only Commodity costs				
26						
27						
28						
29		<u>Large Volume Dual Fuel</u>				
30		Base Rate	0.30026	0.00000	0.30026	0.00000
31		PGA	(0.08731)	0.00000	(0.08731)	0.00000
32		Test Year Recovery Rate	0.21295	0.00000	0.21295	0.00000

NOTE: values shown here are duplicated in a companion filing (Docket G-008/MR-21-\_\_\_) to reset the Base Cost of Gas.



**Demand of Gas Recovery Rate**

This page shows the Demand Cost-of Gas: Total and calculation of per-unit rates. Small Volume based on annual sales, Large volume base on Peak Demand. Final Settlement did not change demand charges from initial filing.

1	Total Company		
2			
3	Small Volume Firm Recovery Rate Calculation		<b>Updated<sup>1</sup></b>
4			
5	Annual Demand Costs		148,842,048
6	Less LGS Assigned Demand Costs		<u>837,197</u>
7	Small Firm Demand Cost		<u><u>148,004,851</u></u>
8			
9		Change from Original	\$28,699,507
10			
11	Total Small Firm Sales Service - Volumes (DTH)		117,894,897
12	Small Volume Recovery Rate (/DT)		<u><u>\$1.2554</u></u>
13			
14			
15	1 - average of Annual filed cost in G-008/GR-19-524 and updated Annual cost in Docket No. G-008/M-20-565		
16	Exhibit__(MAK-WP), Sch. 38	\$120,142,541	Jan - June
17	Exhibit A, Page 1 of 2, G-008/M-20-565 on 8/1/2020 - see Page 3	<u>\$177,541,556</u>	June - Dec
18		<u>148,842,048</u>	average
19			
20	Test Year Demand Costs		
21			
22	Annual Small Volume Firm Sales		117,894,897
23	Small Volume Recovery Rate		\$1.2554
24	Test Year Small Volume Demand Costs	rounded	\$148,005,000
25			
26	Annual Large Firm Demand Cost		
27	Large General Service: Demand 1/		\$837,197
28	Large General Service - Peak Demand		8,033
29	Twelve months		12
30	Large General Service Recovery Rate		<b>\$8.6850</b>
31			

**Firm Large General Service (FGLS) Peak-Demand Cost of Gas**

This document details the methodology for setting the per-unit Large General Service demand-related Cost-of-Gas charges.

**Base Cost of Gas Calculation**

**Demand Cost of Gas Recovery Rate**

1 To assign Demand Costs, CenterPoint Energy first allocated a portion of the total to Large Volume Firm customers based  
2 on their estimated Design Day use.

		Update
3		
4	1/ Total Estimated Demand Expense:	\$148,842,048
5		
6	2/ Allocate expense based on Design Day Estimate	
7	Design Day MDQ (in DTs): 2019-2020	1,399,000
8	Small Volume Firm	1,391,131
9	Large Volume Firm	7,869
10		
11		
12	3/ Large General Firm- Design Day Cost allocation	
13	Total Demand x ( LV Design Day / Total Design Day)	\$837,197
14		
15		
16	3/ Large General Firm- Sales Service (Total x (LV Design Day / Total Design Day)	
17		
18	LV MDQ in DT	8,033
19	Assigned Demand (line 13)	837,197
20	Monthly Per-Unit ((line 19/ line18) / 12 mos)	<b>\$8.6850</b>
21		
22		
23		

24 **Commodity Cost of Gas Recovery Rate:** **\$0.21295** per therm used  
25 CenterPoint Energy used Commodity cost of gas recovery rate set for all classes.

26  
27  
28  
29 Sales only estimate - remove Firm Transport

**SCHEDULE B**

**RATE RIDERS AND CHARGES IN EFFECT**

Commission Order, page 14, Ordering Point 4.b.

A summary listing of all other rate riders and charges in effect, and continuing, after the date final rates are implemented.

Supporting Schedule B-1 lists each Commission-approved rate rider currently in effect along with the rate mechanism for each; an identification of whether it is an optional rate to the customer; and the rate rider factor in effect at the time final rates will be implemented (June 1, 2021).

The schedule *includes* rider mechanisms such as the Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) Rider, Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) Rider, and Revenue Decoupling (RD) Rider, which are designed and implemented to track and recover specific cost components of utility operations.

The schedule *does not include* tariff riders such as the Market Rate Service Rider, the Daily Balancing Service Rider, the Standby Peaking Sales Service Rider, the Process Interruptible Sales Service Rider, the Large Commercial/Industrial Credit Rider, or the Conservation Enabling Rider. It also *does not include* charges for customer-requested work (Tariff Section VI, Page 41) or other specific charges such as reconnection fees or returned check charges.

**CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas**  
**Docket No. G-008/GR-19-524**  
**Compliance Filing – March 12, 2021**  
**SCHEDULE B-1**  
**Page 1 of 1**

<b>Rider Name</b>	<b>Optional Rate to Customer?</b>	<b>Type of Charge</b>	<b>Rates Effective June 1, 2021</b>
New Area Surcharge	No	Community Specific Surcharge	City of Nowthen: Surcharge varies by community - See Tariff page 10.c-1 of Section V
Conservation Cost Recovery Charge (CCRC) & Conservation Improvement Program Adjustment Rider (CCRA)	No, unless granted exemption	Base Rates	Base Charge per Therm (CCRC) \$0.02372 Adjustment Per Therm (CCRA) \$0.00591 (In Docket G-008/M-20-455, effective 10-1-2020)
Purchase Gas Adjustment Rider	No	Base Rates	Updated monthly
Franchise Fee Rider	No	Community Imposed Surcharge	Varies by community - See Tariff pages 24, 24.a and 24.b of Section V
Gas Affordability Service Program	No	Base Rates	Firm Customers; \$0.00236 per therm
Revenue Decoupling Rider	No	Base Rates	Varies by customer class. Decoupling evaluation report filed on September 1, 2020 in Docket No. G-008/GR-20-704
<b>Other Charges</b>	<b>Optional Rate to Customer?</b>	<b>Type of Charge</b>	<b>Rates Effective June 1, 2021</b>
Renewable Natural Gas 1/	Yes	Base Rates	Monthly Basic Charge (RNG) \$7,500.00 Adjustment Per Therm (RNG) \$0.15748 (In Docket G-008/M-20-434, effective 2-25-2021)

1/ Tariff currently pending before the Commission for final approval.

**CCRC COMPUTATION**

Commission Order, page 14, Ordering Point 4.c.

A computation of the Conservation Cost Recovery Charge (CCRC) based upon the decisions made herein.

**Supporting Schedules:**

C-1 ..... New Final CCRC Rate Calculation

C-2 ..... Calculation of Adjustment for New Final CCRC Rate

In general, CenterPoint Energy uses an Interim CCRC to track CIP recoveries while interim rates are in effect. When final rates take effect, the CIP tracker is restated via an accounting entry.

The restatement of the CIP tracker is consistent with past rate cases and the Commission Order Rejecting Accounting Treatment in Compliance Filings in Docket No. G-008/GR-92-400, dated December 29, 1993. This Order states, "At the time of the Commission's final rate case decision, the utility's revenue requirement is determined. This is the level that is applied in the rate case, and the interim rate formula is superseded." The Order further states, "The Minnesota rate case statute thus clearly contemplates a final determination of revenue requirement and rates which is applied retroactively to the point at which rates had first been adjusted on an interim basis."

**CCRC Rate**

This document shows the calculation of the new final CCRC rate, based on test year CIP expense and throughput assumed in the approved settlement.

1	Current Expense	\$35,475,202	[1]
2	Total Throughput (Dth)	190,583,245	[2]
3	Large Energy Facility Throughput Exemptions (Dth)	<u>41,048,125</u>	[3]
4	Test Year Throughput (Dth) (line 2 minus line 3)	149,535,120	[4]
5	Test Year CCRC per Dth (line 1 ÷ line 4)	\$0.2372	

[1] See Docket No. G-008/GR-19-524, Exh. \_\_ (MAK-WP), Schedule 8, Workpaper 8.

[2] Settlement Sch. E-2, page 11, line 12.

[3] Settlement Sch. E-2, page 11, line 3.

[4] Settlement Sch. E-2, page 9, line 13.

March 12, 2021

CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas  
Docket No. G-008/GR-19-524  
Compliance Filing - March 12, 2021  
Supporting Schedule C-2

Restatement of Final Rates

	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)
	Filed Rate [1]	Final Rate [2]	Difference	Dekatherms	Adjustment (C x D)
1 January 2020	\$0.2382	\$0.2372	\$0.0010	24,951,106	\$24,951.11
2 February 2020	\$0.2382	\$0.2372	\$0.0010	23,241,259	23,241.26
3 March 2020	\$0.2382	\$0.2372	\$0.0010	21,191,967	21,191.97
4 April 2020	\$0.2382	\$0.2372	\$0.0010	14,674,339	14,674.34
5 May 2020	\$0.2382	\$0.2372	\$0.0010	9,288,599	9,288.60
6 June 2020	\$0.2382	\$0.2372	\$0.0010	5,517,756	5,517.76
7 July 2020	\$0.2382	\$0.2372	\$0.0010	4,174,954	4,174.95
8 August 2020	\$0.2382	\$0.2372	\$0.0010	4,070,502	4,070.50
9 September 2020	\$0.2382	\$0.2372	\$0.0010	4,423,710	4,423.71
10 October 2020	\$0.2382	\$0.2372	\$0.0010	6,433,309	6,433.31
11 November 2020	\$0.2382	\$0.2372	\$0.0010	12,799,921	12,799.92
12 December 2020	\$0.2382	\$0.2372	\$0.0010	16,830,371	16,830.37
13 January 2021	\$0.2382	\$0.2372	\$0.0010	22,259,234	22,259.23
14 February 2021	\$0.2382	\$0.2372	\$0.0010	24,631,394	24,631.39
15 March 2021 [3]	\$0.2382	\$0.2372	\$0.0010	21,014,618	21,014.62
16 April 2021 [3]	\$0.2382	\$0.2372	\$0.0010	13,823,236	13,823.24
17 May 2021 [3]	\$0.2382	\$0.2372	\$0.0010	9,031,929	9,031.93
19 Total				<u>238,358,203</u>	<u>\$238,358.20</u>

[1] See Docket No. G-008/GR-19-524, Exh. \_\_\_ (MAK-WP), Schedule 8, Workpaper 14.

[2] From Supporting Schedule C-1, line 5.

[3] Projected.

Accounting Entry

20	CIP Tracker (GL 269030)	dr	\$238,358.20
21	CIP Expense (GL 550120-11021964)	cr	\$238,358.20

**SCHEDULE D**

**CIP TRACKER**

Commission Order, page 14, Ordering Point 4.d.

A schedule detailing the Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) tracker balance at the beginning of interim rates, the revenues (CCRC and CIP Adjustment Factor) and costs recorded during the period of interim rates, and the CIP tracker balance at the time final rates became effective.

Supporting Schedule D-1 provides this information.

**CIP Tracker**

This document shows changes in the balance of the Company's CIP tracker. The tracker account is diminished by Conservation Cost Recovery charges (CCRC) and adjustments (CCRA) collected, which are calculated by multiplying throughput in dekatherms by the CCRC or CCRA rate per dekatherm. The account balance is increased by the Company's deferrals of CIP expenses and authorized financial incentives.

Carrying charges are based on the Company's short-term debt rate of 1.84%, approved in Docket No. G-008/GR-17-285. This figure will change to the cost of short-term debt approved in Docket No. G-008/GR-19-524, which is 1.43%, when final rates from the Company's 2019 rate case take effect in June 2021.

0		(A)	(B)	(C)
		Throughput (Net Dth)	Recovery Rate/Dth	Debit (Credit)
1	December 2019 balance			(\$2,715,768) [1]
2				
3	Jan 2020	CCRC Recovery - Rate 1	6,936,041	\$0.2362 [2] (1,638,293)
4		CCRA Recovery - Rate 1	6,936,041	\$0.0576 [3] (399,516)
5		CCRC Recovery - Rate 2	18,015,064	\$0.2382 [4] (4,291,188)
6		CCR Recovery - Rate 2	18,015,064	\$0.0000 [3] 0
7		Deferred CIP Expenses		(873,638)
8		Balance Before Carrying Charges		(9,918,403)
9		Ending ADIT		2,692,793
10		Carrying Charges		(10,987)
11		Balance		(9,929,390)
12				
13	Feb 2020	CCRC Recovery	23,241,259	\$0.2382 (5,536,068)
14		CCRA Recovery	23,241,259	\$0.0000 [3] 0
15		Deferred CIP Expenses		3,045,975
16		Balance Before Carrying Charges		(12,419,483)
17		Ending ADIT		3,408,495
18		Carrying Charges		(13,702)
19		Balance		(12,433,185)
20				
21	Mar 2020	CCRC Recovery - Rate 1	17,016,173	\$0.2382 (4,053,252)
22		CCRA Recovery - Rate 1	17,016,173	\$0.0576 [3] (980,132)
23		CCRC Recovery - Rate 2	4,175,794	\$0.2382 (994,674)
24		CCRA Recovery - Rate 2	4,175,794	\$0.0000 [3] 0
25		Deferred CIP Expenses		3,646,821
26		Balance Before Carrying Charges		(14,814,422)
27		Ending ADIT		4,092,911
28		Carrying Charges		(16,303)
29		Balance		(14,830,725)
30				

**CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas**  
**Docket No. G-008/GR-19-524**  
**Compliance Filing - March 12, 2021**  
**Supporting Schedule D-1, Page 2 of 5**

0		(A)	(B)	(C)	
		<u>Throughput (Net Dth)</u>	<u>Recovery Rate/Dth</u>	<u>Debit (Credit)</u>	
31	Apr 2020	CCRC Recovery	14,674,339	\$0.2382	(3,495,427)
32		CCRA Recovery	14,674,339	\$0.0576	(845,242)
33		Deferred CIP Expenses			2,912,383
34		Balance Before Carrying Charges			(16,259,011)
35		Ending ADIT			4,503,429
36		Carrying Charges			(17,875)
37		Balance			(16,276,886)
38					
39	May 2020	CCRC Recovery	9,288,599	\$0.2382	(2,212,544)
40		CCRA Recovery	9,288,599	\$0.0576	(535,023)
41		Deferred CIP Expenses			2,667,771
42		Balance Before Carrying Charges			(16,356,683)
43		Ending ADIT			4,526,364
44		Carrying Charges			(17,989)
45		Balance			(16,374,672)
46					
47	Jun 2020	CCRC Recovery	5,517,756	\$0.2382	(1,314,329)
48		CCRA Recovery	5,517,756	\$0.0576	(317,823)
49		Deferred CIP Expenses			2,289,070
50		Balance Before Carrying Charges			(15,717,754)
51		Ending ADIT			4,337,553
52		Carrying Charges			(17,304)
53		Balance			(15,735,058)
54					
55	Jul 2020	CCRC Recovery	4,174,954	\$0.2382	(994,474)
56		CCRA Recovery	4,174,954	\$0.0576	(240,477)
57		Deferred CIP Expenses			2,977,804
58		Balance Before Carrying Charges			(13,992,206)
59		Ending ADIT			3,836,622
60		Carrying Charges			(15,442)
61		Balance			(14,007,648)
62					
63	Aug 2020	CCRC Recovery	4,070,502	\$0.2382	(969,594)
64		CCRA Recovery	4,070,502	\$0.0576	(234,461)
65		Deferred CIP Expenses			2,272,873
66		CIP Financial Incentive			8,758,401 [5]
67		Balance Before Carrying Charges			(4,180,428)
68		Ending ADIT			1,012,082
69		Carrying Charges			(4,818)
70		Balance			(4,185,246)

**CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas**  
**Docket No. G-008/GR-19-524**  
**Compliance Filing - March 12, 2021**  
**Supporting Schedule D-1, Page 3 of 5**

0		(A)	(B)	(C)
		Throughput (Net Dth)	Recovery Rate/Dth	Debit (Credit)
71				
72	Sep 2020	4,423,710	\$0.2382	(1,053,728)
73		4,423,710	\$0.0576	(254,806)
74				2,887,377
75				(2,606,403)
76				558,291
77				(3,114)
78				(2,609,517)
79				
80	Oct 2020	2,160,113	\$0.2382	(510,219)
81		2,160,113	\$0.0576	(124,423)
82		4,273,196	\$0.2382	(1,017,875)
83		4,273,196	\$0.0591	(252,546) [6]
84				2,826,590
85				(1,687,989)
86				293,426
87				(2,121)
88				(1,690,110)
89				
90	Nov 2020	12,799,921	\$0.2382	(3,053,261)
91		12,799,921	\$0.0591	(756,475)
92				3,208,603
93				(2,291,244)
94				466,204
95				(2,775)
96				(2,294,019)
97				
98	Dec 2020	16,830,371	\$0.2382	(4,008,994)
99		16,830,371	\$0.0591	(994,675)
100				9,380,397
101				2,082,710
102				(791,756)
103				1,963
104				0
105				2,084,673
106				
107	Jan 2021	22,259,234	\$0.2382	(5,302,150)
108		22,259,234	\$0.0591	(1,315,521)
109				(1,293,855)
110				(5,826,853)
111				1,482,175
112				(6,606)
113				(5,833,459)

**CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas**  
**Docket No. G-008/GR-19-524**  
**Compliance Filing - March 12, 2021**  
**Supporting Schedule D-1, Page 4 of 5**

0		(A)	(B)	(C)
		<u>Throughput (Net Dth)</u>	<u>Recovery Rate/Dth</u>	<u>Debit (Credit)</u>
114				
115	Feb 2021	24,631,394	\$0.2382	(5,867,198)
116		24,631,394	\$0.0591	(1,455,715)
117				<u>2,613,136</u>
118				(10,543,237)
119				2,835,859
120				<u>(11,719)</u>
121				(10,554,956)
122				
123	Mar 2021	21,014,618	\$0.2382	(5,005,682)
124	Projected	21,014,618	\$0.0591	(1,241,964)
125				<u>3,278,156 [7]</u>
126				(13,524,446)
127				3,689,350
128				<u>(14,955)</u>
129				(13,539,401)
130				
131	Apr 2021	13,823,236	\$0.2382	(3,292,695)
132	Projected	13,823,236	\$0.0591	(816,953)
133				<u>3,193,788 [7]</u>
134				(14,455,260)
135				3,952,587
136				<u>(15,970)</u>
137				(14,471,230)
138				
139	May 2021	9,031,929	\$0.2382	(2,151,406)
140	Projected	9,031,929	\$0.0591	(533,787)
141				<u>2,581,784 [7]</u>
142				(14,574,639)
143				3,982,308
144				<u>(16,106)</u>
145				(14,590,745)

- [1] 2019 CIP tracker balance was approved in Docket No. G-008/M-20-455 on August 18, 2020.
- [2] CCRC rate of \$0.02362 per therm was approved in Docket No. G-008/GR-17-285 on October 16, 2018, to take effect October 2, 2015. The implementation of a new CCRC or CCRA results in some usage during the month being billed at the old rate and some at the new rate as a result of telemetered customers usage read the month after.
- [3] CCRA rate of \$0.00576 per therm was approved in Docket No. G-008/GR-19-298 on September 11, 2019, to take effect October 1, 2019. On February 14, 2020, CenterPoint Energy identified an issue with customer billing of the CCRA of \$0.0576 per Dth. When the interim CCRC (\$0.2382 per Dth) was implemented on January 1, 2020 as part of the rate case filed in 2019 the CCRA was mistakenly zeroed out. Please see the CIP Status Report approved in Docket No. G-008/M-20-455 on August 18, 2020 for further details in approved.
- [4] Interim CCRA rate of \$0.02382 per therm was approved in Docket No. G-008/M-19-524 on September 26, 2019, to take effect January 1, 2020. Please see the explanation in note 2 regarding the crossover within a month between old and new rates.
- [5] 2019 financial incentive was approved in Docket No. G-008/M-20-455 on August 18, 2020.
- [6] CCRA rate of \$0.00591 per therm was approved in Docket No. G-008/M-20-455 on August 18, 2020, to take effect October 1, 2020.
- [7] Projections of deferred CIP expenses for March through May were based on 2021 planned CIP expenses of \$36,261,067 approved in Docket No. G-008/CIP-20-478 on November 25, 2020 and historic (2018-2020) monthly spending.

**SCHEDULE E**

**INTERIM RATE REFUND PLAN**

Commission Order, page 14, Ordering Point 4.e.

A proposal to make refunds of interim rates, including interest, to affected customers.

**Supporting Schedules:**

- E-1..... Refund Plan Proposal
- E-2..... Calculation of the Refund Factor for Interim Rates
- E-3..... PRIME Program Costs
- E-4..... ADIT Proration
- E-5..... Short Term Incentive (“STI”) Refund for 2019 Program Year
- E-6..... Interest Calculation

## **REFUND PLAN**

In compliance with the Commission’s Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Order in Docket No. G-008/GR-19-524 (“Final Order”), dated March 1, 2021, CenterPoint Energy submits its Refund Plan for the difference between amounts collected under Interim Rates and the amount authorized in final rates. CenterPoint Energy proposes to refund with interest the difference between the approved interim rate level and the final approved revenue increase.

On December 18, 2019, the Commission issued an Order Setting Interim Rates, authorizing an interim increase of \$52,700,000 on an annual basis for service on and after January 1, 2020. In its Final Order, the Commission authorized an annual revenue increase of \$38,520,000. The difference between the authorized interim revenue of \$52,700,000 and the final rate case approved revenue increase of \$38,520,000, related to base billing rates only, will be used to determine the base percentage amount to be refunded. Interest at the average prime rate will be applied to the base refund amount. The attached schedules summarize and support the level of CenterPoint Energy’s estimated refund liability. Note that the attached schedules will be updated just prior to the refund to reflect actual interim revenues billed in place of the estimated revenues shown.

For every customer assessed an interim rate charge, a refund will be calculated based on each customer’s assessed interim rate charge multiplied by approximately 25% (see Supporting Schedule E-2). Applicable franchise fees and sales taxes will be applied to the refund amount, as appropriate. Existing customers will receive a bill credit. Customers due a refund who are no longer CenterPoint Energy customers will receive a check. CenterPoint Energy will handle the refunds in accordance with the Minnesota Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act, Minn. Stat. §§ 345.31-345.60.

Refunds will be credited to accounts, or checks issued, as close as possible to the time when final rates are implemented for all eligible customers. It is anticipated that interim rate refunds will be applied to accounts starting the first week of June 2021.

On February 1, 2021, in Docket G-008/M-20-838 (Ordering Point #7) “Supplier Refunds”, the Commission “required CenterPoint to submit a compliance filing in this docket, and at the same time in Docket No. G-008/GR-19-524, explaining its policy and practice for refunding customers who have left its system.” A more complete discussion on the Company’s refund guidelines for interim rate or other refunds will be included in the Supplier Refunds docket and also submitted as part of this docket upon completion of the refunds, which is expected sometime in March 2021.

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY  
 REFUND PLAN**

(1)	<u>BASIS OF REFUND OBLIGATION</u>		
(2)			
(3)	Approved level of Interim rate revenue	\$52,700,000	
(4)	Final approved revenue Increase	\$38,520,000	
(5)			
(6)			
(7)	<u>REFUND FACTOR CALCULATION (Prior to Adjustments)</u>		
(8)		\$14,180,000	line 3 less line 4
(9)		0.2691	line 8 ÷ by line 3
(10)			
(11)	<u>CALCULATION OF REFUND OBLIGATION</u>		
(12)			
(13)	Interim Revenues Billed	\$73,576,651	
(14)	Refund factor	26.90702%	Line 9
(15)	Refund amount	\$19,797,285	
(16)			
(17)	Interest to Refund	\$440,015	E-6
(18)	<u>Adjustments:</u>		
(19)	PRIME Program cost for 2020	(\$1,332,700)	E-3
(20)	ADIT Proration	(\$46,000)	E-4
(21)	2019 STI Refund	\$153,057	E-5
(22)	total adjustments	(\$1,225,643)	
(23)			
(24)	<b>Refund Obligation (including Interest)</b>	<b>\$19,011,657</b>	line 15+17+22
(25)	<b>Refund Obligation (without Interest)</b>	<b>\$18,571,642</b>	line 15+22
(26)			
(27)			
(28)	<b>Refund Factor to be applied to customers' interim charges</b>	<b>0.25241</b>	line 25 ÷ by line 13

note: lines 13 and 17 are estimated and will be updated with actuals

Supporting Schedules: (SUBSTITUTE ADJ FOR THIS CASE)

- E-3 line 19 - shows the adjustment necessary to reflect PRIME program - see settlement
- E-4 line 20 - shows the adjustment necessary to reverse ADIT proration originall included interim rates- see initial interim rate filing
- E-5 line 21 - shows the adjustment necessary to refund STI - see 2019 STI Compliance Order in 2017 Rate Case Docket, G-008/GR-17-285

The Commission's March 1 Final Order in Docket No. G-008/GR-19-524 approved the Financial Settlement between Parties. Below is from the approved Settlement, filed on September 17, 2020 in OAH Docket No. 8-2500-36579 and MPUC Docket No. G-008/GR-19-524.

See Section III "Settlement Terms", Part B "Financial Issues", Section 7, "Permanent Records Integrity Management Excellence" (PRIME):

**7. Permanent Records Integrity Management Excellence ("PRIME")**

In Direct Testimony, the Company noted that its PRIME project, begun in 2010, would be ending by year-end 2020, the end of the test year. The Company's Application included \$1,332,700 for this work.

Both the DER and OAG recommended removing the PRIME expenses from the test year, but supported recovery of the test year costs, with DER recommending that it be recovered as an offset against any interim rate refund and OAG recommending it be recovered over two years.

**For purposes of this Settlement, the Settling Parties agree** that PRIME expenses will be removed from the test year, reducing test year operating expenses by \$1,332,700 and that any interim rate refund in this proceeding will be reduced by that amount.

Relevant record evidence:

CPE Ex. 20 at 52-54 (Kuchar Direct)

CPE Ex. 23 at 4-6 (Kuchar Rebuttal)

CPE Ex. 48 at Schedule 2, Workpaper 1 (Kuchar Workpapers)

CPE Ex. 16 at 54 (Kirk Direct)

CPE Ex. 17 at 24 and Schedule 1 (Kirk Rebuttal)

DER Ex. 5 at 8-11 and Schedule GJM-3 at 2 (Miltich Direct)

OAG Ex. 2 at 18-19 (Lee Direct)

The Company's Interim Rate Petition filed on October 28, 2019, reflected implementation of the "Proration Rule" (or "Proration Methodology"), an adjustment for ADIT proration included on Schedule IR-9, Page Nos. 1-2. This adjustment determines the amount of accumulated deferred income taxes ("ADIT") allowable as a reduction to rate base.

Settlement in Docket G-008/GR-17-285, Section 5 "ADIT Proration", acknowledged while the Proration Methodology is appropriate for interim rate setting since the test period for interim rates is a future test period, the interim rate refund is not required to employ the Proration Methodology since the refund process is implemented after the end of the test period. As a result, the proration adjustment included in the Company's interim rate petition is removed.

The adjustment reflecting the removal of the ADIT proration adjustment, as originally filed, has been included in the interim refund calculation appearing on Schedule E-2.

E-4, Page 2: Schedule IR 9, Page 1, in initial rate petition.

E-4, Page 3: Schedule IR 9, Page 2, in initial rate petition.

**Interim Adjustments**

Schedule IR-9  
Information Requirement  
Statement of Policy on  
Interim Rates - April 14, 1982  
Page 1 of 5

**CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas  
Interim Rate Adjustments  
Interim - Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2020**

Line No.	Description (a)	Expense Adjustment (b)	Rate Base Adjustment (d)	Revenue Requirement Adjustment (e)
				/1/
1	Test Year		\$1,306,656,000	\$62,032,000
2	ADIT Pro-Ration Adjustment	/2/	520,000	46,000
3	Corporate Investor Relations	/3/	(121,000)	(121,000)
4	Compensation Related	/4/	(482,000)	(482,000)
5	Lead/Lag Impact of Interim Adjustments	/5/	(122,000)	(11,000)
6	Revised ROR @ 9.21% ROE	/6/		(8,804,000)
7	Total Adjustments		<u>\$ (603,000)</u>	<u>\$ (9,372,000)</u>
8	Total Interim Test Year		<u>\$1,307,054,000</u>	<u>\$52,660,000</u>

/1/ Factor to calculate the revenue requirement impact of a rate base change:  
 $(ROR - (Wtd\ Cost\ of\ Debt * Tax)) / (1 - Tax)$   
 $(6.93\% - (2.20\% * .2874)) / (1 - .2874) = 8.84\%$

/2/ See Exhibit \_\_\_\_\_ IR-9, page 2 of 5.

/3/ See Exhibit \_\_\_\_\_ IR-9, page 3 of 5.

/4/ See Exhibit \_\_\_\_\_ IR-9, page 4 of 5.

/5/ See Exhibit \_\_\_\_\_ IR-9 page 5 of 5.

/6/  $(1,307,054,000 \times (7.41\% - 6.93\%) \times 1.4034)$   
ROE identified by Commission Staff in briefing papers in Docket No. G-008/GR-17-285.

For percentages, see Information Requirement Schedule D-1 and Schedule IR-1.

**CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas  
Interim Rate Adjustments  
ADIT Pro-Ration Adjustment  
Interim - Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2020**

Line No.	Description (a)	Amount (b)	(c)
	<b>ADIT - Accelerated Depreciation</b>		
	Test Year (not-prorated)	/1/ (122,520,231)	
	<u>pro-rated</u>	/2/ <u>(121,999,816)</u>	
	Interim Rate Adjustment	/3/ 520,415	

/1/ See Exhibit\_\_\_(DAP-WP), Sch. 7 WP 2 line 108  
/2/ See Exhibit\_\_\_(DAP-WP), Sch. 7 WP 2 line 109  
/3/ line 2 less line 1

On March 4, 2021, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission unanimously passed the decision options below in the Company's 2019 for Short Term Incentive ("STI") Compliance Filing in Docket G-008/GR-17-285. The adjustment to refund \$147,212 as part of the interim rate refund has been included on Schedule E-2.

- 2. revised by PUC Staff
- 2a revised by Dept
- 2b revised by PUC Staff
- 3 revised by PUC Staff

2. Accept CenterPoint Energy's annual report on its Incentive Compensation Plan for the period January 1, 2019, through December 1, 2019, as compliant with the requirements established in Docket No. G-008/GR-15-424, except as modified below.

~~Determine that the Minnesota Utility Operations STI and the Service Company STI calculation are each independent of the other, and~~

2.a. Require that the qualifying amount of the *short-term incentive compensation paid* that is compared to the base rate recovery amount, be limited to the lower of (1) the 15 percent incentive cap at the 100 percent target achievement, or (2) the amount paid. [Department] [Note: If decision option 2.a. is selected and 2.b. is not, no refund would be required.]

~~2 b. Require CenterPoint to refund to its customers \$52,994, plus interest. [CenterPoint alternative. Staff note—CenterPoint did not mention adding interest.]~~ that the Minnesota Utility Operations STI and the Service Company STI calculation and comparison be each independent of the other. [Department] **[Note: If decision options 2.a. and 2.b. are selected, the refund required would be \$147,212 plus interest as recommended by the Department.** If decision option 2.b. is selected and 2.a. is not, the refund required would be \$52,994 [plus interest] as in CenterPoint's alternative.]

**3. Allow CenterPoint to include the refund plus interest as part of any interim rate refund in the current rate case, Docket No. G-008/GR-19-524. [If alternative 2.a. or 2.b is adopted.] [CenterPoint, although CenterPoint did not mention interest, Department does not object.]**

**Beginning Balance, March 13, 2020: \$147,212.00**

<b>Mar-20</b>	March 13, 2020 - March 15, 2020	Beginning Balance	\$147,212.00
		Interest	\$51.42
		Ending Balance	\$147,263.42
<b>Mar-20</b>	March 16, 2020 - March 31, 2020	Beginning Balance	\$147,263.42
		Interest	\$209.73
		Ending Balance	\$147,473.15
<b>Apr-20</b>		Beginning Balance	\$147,473.15
		Interest	\$393.24
		Ending Balance	\$147,866.39
<b>May-20</b>		Beginning Balance	\$147,866.39
		Interest	\$406.35
		Ending Balance	\$148,272.73
<b>Jun-20</b>		Beginning Balance	\$148,272.73
		Interest	\$393.24
		Ending Balance	\$148,665.97
<b>Jul-20</b>		Beginning Balance	\$148,665.97
		Interest	\$406.35
		Ending Balance	\$149,072.32
<b>Aug-20</b>		Beginning Balance	\$149,072.32
		Interest	\$406.35
		Ending Balance	\$149,478.66
<b>Sep-20</b>		Beginning Balance	\$149,478.66
		Interest	\$393.24
		Ending Balance	\$149,871.90
<b>Oct-20</b>		Beginning Balance	\$149,871.90
		Interest	\$406.35
		Ending Balance	\$150,278.24
<b>Nov-20</b>		Beginning Balance	\$150,278.24
		Interest	\$393.24
		Ending Balance	\$150,671.48
<b>Dec-20</b>		Beginning Balance	\$150,671.48
		Interest	\$406.35
		Ending Balance	\$151,077.83
<b>Jan-21</b>		Beginning Balance	\$151,077.83
		Interest	\$406.35
		Ending Balance	\$151,484.17
<b>Feb-21</b>		Beginning Balance	\$151,484.17
		Interest	\$367.02
		Ending Balance	\$151,851.19
<b>Mar-21</b>		Beginning Balance	\$151,851.19
		Interest	\$406.35
		Ending Balance	\$152,257.54
<b>Apr-21</b>		Beginning Balance	\$152,257.54
		Interest	\$393.24
		Ending Balance	\$152,650.78
<b>May-21</b>		Beginning Balance	\$152,650.78
		Interest	\$406.35
		Ending Balance	\$153,057.12

**ESTIMATED REFUND-Through May 2021 \$153,057.12**

**Interest Calculation for TOTAL**

Month Detail	Beginning Balance	Average Balance	Ending Balance	Prime Interest Rate	Daily Interest	Days	Interest
March 13 - March 15	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	4.25%	0.011644%	3	\$51.42
March 16 - March 31	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	3.25%	0.008904%	16	\$209.73
April 1-30	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	3.25%	0.008904%	30	\$393.24
May 1-31	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	3.25%	0.008904%	31	\$406.35
June 1-30	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	3.25%	0.008904%	30	\$393.24
July 1-31	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	3.25%	0.008904%	31	\$406.35
August 1-31	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	3.25%	0.008904%	31	\$406.35
September 1-30	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	3.25%	0.008904%	30	\$393.24
October 1-31	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	3.25%	0.008904%	31	\$406.35
November 1-30	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	3.25%	0.008904%	30	\$393.24
December 1-31	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	3.25%	0.008904%	31	\$406.35
January 1-31	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	3.25%	0.008904%	31	\$406.35
February 1-28	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	3.25%	0.008904%	28	\$367.02
March 1-31	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	3.25%	0.008904%	31	\$406.35
April 1-30	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	3.25%	0.008904%	30	\$393.24
May 1-31	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	\$147,212.00	3.25%	0.008904%	31	\$406.35

**TOTAL \$5,845.12**

**Prime Interest Rate**

March 4 - March 15 4.25%  
March 16, 2020 - May 1, 31 3.25%

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY MINNESOTA GAS  
 INTEREST CALCULATION**

(1) INTEREST CALCULATION

(2)  
 (3) Beginning/End of Month Average Balance

(6)		Beginning Balance	Ending Balance	Average Balance	Annual Rate	Daily Rate	Days	Interest
(7)	Jan-20	0	\$3,418,804	\$1,709,402	4.75%	0.000130	31	\$6,896
(8)	Feb-20	\$3,418,804	\$10,073,765	\$6,746,284	4.75%	0.000130	29	\$25,460
(9)	Mar-20	\$10,073,765	\$10,686,383	\$10,380,074	4.75%	0.000130	3	\$4,052
(10)	Mar-20	\$10,686,383	\$13,136,854	\$11,911,618	4.25%	0.000116	12	\$16,644
(11)	Mar-20	\$13,136,854	\$16,404,149	\$14,770,501	3.25%	0.000089	16	\$21,043
(12)	Apr-20	\$16,404,149	\$21,089,936	\$18,747,042	3.25%	0.000089	30	\$50,078
(13)	May-20	\$21,089,936	\$24,399,856	\$22,744,896	3.25%	0.000089	31	\$62,782
(14)	Jun-20	\$24,399,856	\$26,780,483	\$25,590,170	3.25%	0.000089	30	\$68,357
(15)	Jul-20	\$26,780,483	\$28,988,913	\$27,884,698	3.25%	0.000089	30	\$74,487
(16)	Aug-20	\$28,988,913	\$31,073,807	\$30,031,360	3.25%	0.000089	31	\$82,895
(17)	Sep-20	\$31,073,807	\$33,252,738	\$32,163,273	3.25%	0.000089	30	\$85,916
(18)	Oct-20	\$33,252,738	\$35,939,120	\$34,595,929	3.25%	0.000089	31	\$95,494
(19)	Nov-20	\$35,939,120	\$40,112,271	\$38,025,696	3.25%	0.000089	30	\$101,575
(20)	Dec-20	\$40,112,271	\$45,445,010	\$42,778,640	3.25%	0.000089	31	\$118,081
(21)	Jan-21	\$45,445,010	\$52,008,225	\$48,726,617	3.25%	0.000089	31	\$134,499
(22)	Feb-21	\$52,008,225	\$59,145,651	\$55,576,938	3.25%	0.000089	28	\$138,562
(23)	Mar-21	\$59,145,651	\$65,548,451	\$62,347,051	3.25%	0.000089	31	\$172,095
(24)	Apr-21	\$65,548,451	\$70,144,551	\$67,846,501	3.25%	0.000089	30	\$181,234
(25)	May-21	\$70,144,551	\$73,576,651	\$71,860,601	3.25%	0.000089	31	\$198,355
(26)	Jun-21	\$73,576,651	\$0	\$36,788,326	3.25%	0.000089	32	\$104,822
(27)	1/	Refunds in June					Total Interest	\$1,743,326
(28)							Refund Factor	<u>0.2524</u>
(29)								
(30)							Refundable Interest	<span style="border: 1px solid black;">\$440,015</span>
(31)							(line 27 x line 28)	

(32) Estimated  
 (33) Interim Rate Revenue

(34)		Billed Interim \$	Accum. Balance	Prime Interest Rate October 30, 2019	4.75%
(37)	Jan-20	\$3,418,804	\$3,418,804	March 4, 2020 (emergency)	4.25%
(38)	Feb-20	\$6,654,961	\$10,073,765	March 15, 2020 (emergency)	3.25%
(39)	Mar-20	\$6,330,383	\$16,404,149		
(40)	Apr-20	\$4,685,787	\$21,089,936		
(41)	May-20	\$3,309,921	\$24,399,856	next FOMC 3-17-2021	
(42)	Jun-20	\$2,459,981	\$26,859,838		
(43)	Jul-20	\$2,129,076	\$28,988,913		
(44)	Aug-20	\$2,084,894	\$31,073,807		
(45)	Sep-20	\$2,178,931	\$33,252,738		
(46)	Oct-20	\$2,686,382	\$35,939,120		
(47)	Nov-20	\$4,173,150	\$40,112,271		
(48)	Dec-20	\$5,332,739	\$45,445,010		
(49)	Jan-21	\$6,563,215	\$52,008,225		
(50)	Feb-21	\$7,137,426	\$59,145,651		
(51)	Mar-21	\$6,402,800	\$65,548,451	EST	
(52)	Apr-21	\$4,596,100	\$70,144,551	EST	
(53)	May-21	\$3,432,100	\$73,576,651	EST	

**SCHEDULE F**

**REVISED TARIFFS**

**Supporting Schedules:**

F-1..... Revised Tariff Sheets Incorporating Authorized Rate Design Decisions

F-2..... Derivation of Maximums and Minimums – Market Rate Tariffs  
*Supports Tariff Section V, Page 11*

Please see Supporting Schedule C-1 for the calculation of the Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) base recovery rate (CCRC).

Since the initial filing of this proceeding, CenterPoint Energy has initiated the following other changes to the tariff pages in Supporting Schedule F-1:

- Section I, Pages 3 and 4 (Table of Contents) were updated effective February 25, 2021, to reflect the Interconnect Tariff compliance per Commission order in Docket No. G-008/M-20-434.
- Section IV, Page 1 (Technical Terms and Abbreviations) was updated effective February 25, 2021, to include Interconnect Tariff compliance per Commission order in Docket No. G-008/M-20-434.
- Section V, Pages ii, 26, 30, and 30.a were updated effective February 25, 2021, per Commission order in Docket No. G-008/M-20-434.
- Section V, Pages 14.b, 15.a, 16.b, 17.b, 18.b, and 19.b (Transportation Service terms) were updated effective July 1, 2020, with new daily balancing rates per Commission order in Docket No. G-008/M-20-382.
- Section V, Page 13 (Conservation Improvement Program Rider) was updated effective October 1, 2020 with a new Conservation Cost Recovery Adjustment (CCRA) factor per Commission order in Docket No. G-008/M-20-455.
- Section V, Page 25.a was updated effective October 1, 2020 with a new Gas Affordability Service Program (GAP) rate per Commission order in Docket No. G-008/M-20-399.
- Section V, Page 10.c-1 was updated effective August 4, 2020 to include a New Area Surcharge for Nowthen per Commission order in Docket No. G-008/M-19-840.
- Section V, Pages 4, 4.a, 5, 5.a, 6, 6.a, 7, 7.a, 14.c, 15.c, 16, 16.c, 17.a, 17.d, 18, 18.d, 19.a, and 19.d were updated effective May 1, 2020, with updated Special Conditions for Interruptible Volumes per Commission order in Docket No. E,G-999/CI-19-160.
- Section V, Pages 24, 24.a, and 24.b were updated to include Franchise Fee changes for Plymouth, Medford, Madelia, Champlin, Zimmerman, Burnsville, St. Louis Park, Ramsey, and Long Lake.
- Section V, Page 19 was updated to correct a typo in the first paragraph under “Availability”. It incorrectly stated “less than 2,000 therms” when it is intended to say “more than 2,000 therms”.
- Section VII, Pages 11, 12, 12.a, 12.b, and 12.c were updated effective February 25, 2021, per Commission order in Docket No. G-008/M-20-434.

# Gas Rate Book

This Gas Rate Book is filed with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission pursuant to the provisions of the Minnesota Public Utilities Act.



SECTION	PAGE
I. TITLE PAGE	
I. TABLE OF CONTENTS	
II. CONTACT LIST	
III. INDEX OF SERVICE AREA	
Communities Served by CenterPoint Energy Service Area	
IV. TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	
V. RATE SCHEDULES AND APPLICABLE PROVISIONS	i
TABLE OF CONTENTS	ii-iii
<b>CENTERPOINT ENERGY</b>	
<b>Gas Sales Service</b>	
Residential Sales Service	1
Small Volume Commercial and Industrial Sales Service	2 – 2.a
Large General Firm Sales Service	3 – 3.a
Small Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service	4 - 4.a
Small Volume Firm/Interruptible Sales Service	5 – 5.a
Large Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service	6 - 6.a
Large Volume Firm/Interruptible Sales Service	7 - 7.a
<b>Developmental Services</b>	
Standby Peaking Sales Service Rider	8
Process Interruptible Sales Service Rider	9
New Area Surcharge Rider	10 - 10.c.1
Market Rate Service Rider	11
Reserved for Future Use	12
Conservation Improvement Program Rider	13

**V. RATE SCHEDULES AND APPLICABLE PROVISIONS**

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY (CONTINUED)**

**Transportation Service**

Small Volume Firm Transportation Service _____	14 - 14.d
Large Volume Firm Transportation Service _____	15 - 15.ed
Small Volume Dual Fuel Transportation Service _____	16 - 16.d
Small Volume Firm/Interruptible Transportation Service _____	17 - 17.d
Large Volume Dual Fuel Transportation Service _____	18 - 18.d
Large Volume Firm/Interruptible Transportation Service _____	19 - 19.d
Reserved for Future Use _____	20
Daily Balancing Service Rider _____	21

**Miscellaneous Riders and Adjustments**

Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider _____	22
Statement of Purchased Gas Adjustment _____	23
Franchise Fee Rider _____	24
Gas Affordability Program _____	25 – 25.b
Large Customer Credit Policy Rider _____	26 – 26.a
Reserved for Future Use _____	27
Revenue Decoupling (RD) Rider _____	28 – 28.a
Supplied Meter Communication Rider _____	29

**RNG Interconnect Service**

RNG Interconnect Service _____	30 – 30.a
--------------------------------	-----------

**VI. RULES AND REGULATION**

1.00	Definitions	1
2.00	General Information	1
3.00	Application for Gas Service	2
4.00	Gas Mains	4
5.00	Gas Service Lines	8
6.00	Gas Meters	14
7.00	Customer Deposits	17
8.00	Access to Customer Premises	18
9.00	Billing	19
10.00	Payment of Bills	23
11.00	Discontinuance or Refusal of Gas Service	26
12.00	Discontinuance or Refusal of Gas Service During Cold Weather	33
13.00	Responsibility of Customer & CenterPoint Energy	39
14.00	Customer Service	40
15.00	Customer Requested Utility Work	41

**VII. STANDARD GAS SERVICE AGREEMENTS**

Dual Fuel Sales Service Contract	1 - 1. <del>bc</del>
Dual Fuel Gas Transportation Service Agreement	2 - <del>2.b</del>
Firm Gas Transportation Service Agreement	3 - <del>3.b</del>
Market Rate Service Agreement	4
Firm/Interruptible Sales Service Agreement	5 – 5. <del>de</del>
Process Interruptible Sales Service Agreement	6
Daily Balancing Service Agreement	7 - 7.a
Minimum Volume Agreement	8 – <del>8.a</del>
New Market Development Agreement	9 - 9.d
Firm/Interruptible Transportation Service Agreement	10-10. <del>ed</del>
Interconnection Feasibility Study Agreement	11
Renewable Natural Gas Interconnection Agreement	12 -12.c

**VIII. STANDARD CUSTOMER BILLING FORM**

Explanation of Billing Form	1
Layout of Bill Form	2-3

## CONTACT LIST

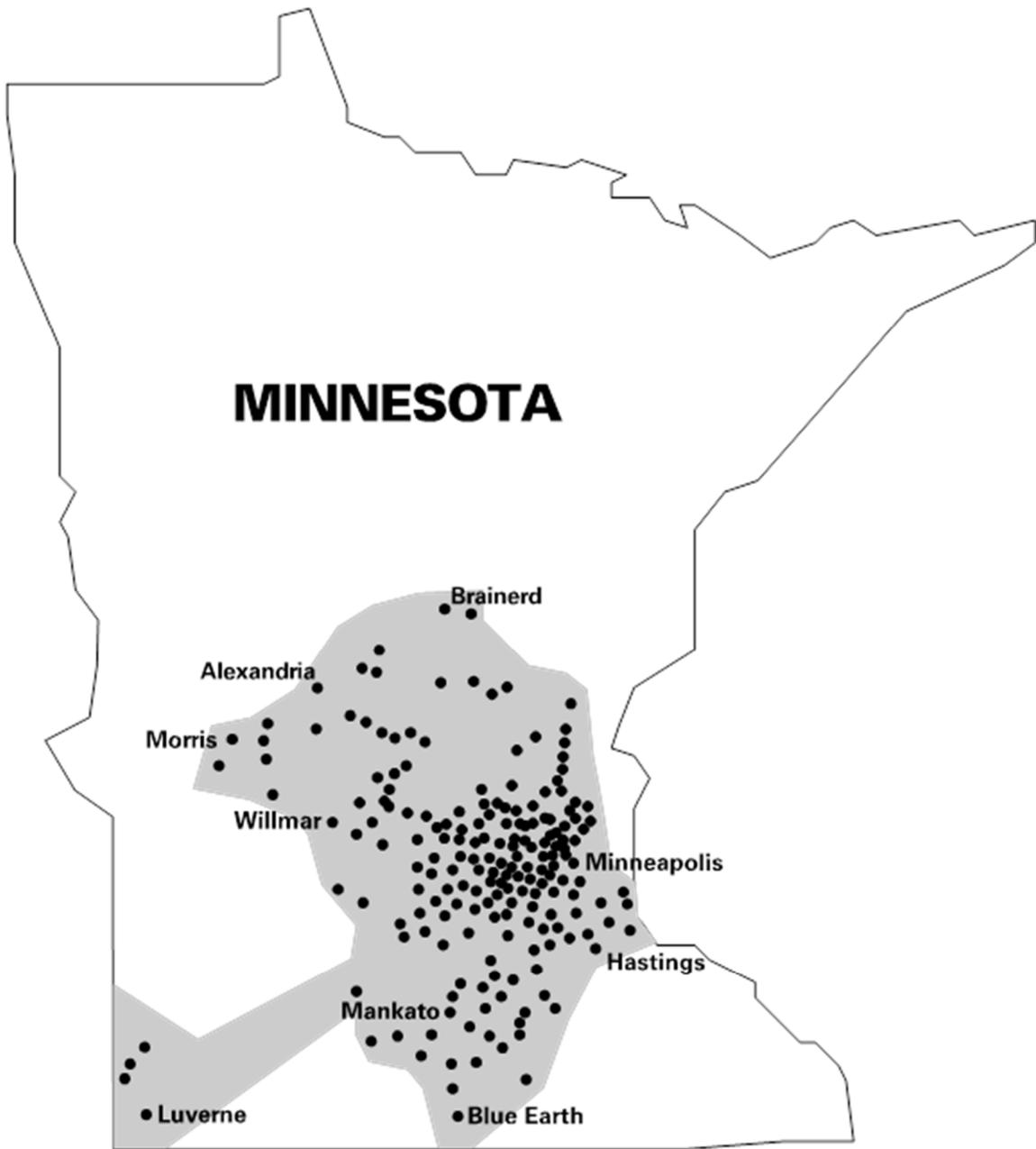
The following person should be contacted in connection with questions pertaining to the contents of this rate book:

~~Mr. Jeff Daugherty~~ [Ms. Amber S. Lee](#)  
Director, Regulatory Affairs  
CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas  
505 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

[Amber.Lee@CenterPointEnergy.com](mailto:Amber.Lee@CenterPointEnergy.com)

**MINNESOTA COMMUNITIES WE SERVE**

Acton Twp	Cologne	Ihlen	Milo Twp	Roscoe
Afton	Columbia Heights	Independence	Minneapolis	Rosemount
Albany	Columbus Twp	Isanti	Mpls/St Paul I'ntl	San Francisco Twp
Albany Twp	Coon Rapids	Isanti Twp	Airport	Sand Creek Twp
Albertville	Corcoran	Isle	Minnetonka	Sauk Centre
Alexandria	Corinna Twp	Janesville	Minnetonka Beach	Savage
Alfsborg Twp	Cottage Grove	Jasper	Minnestrta	Shakopee
Amboy	Crystal	Jordan	Montgomery	Shorewood
Andover	Cyrus	Judson Twp	Montgomery Twp	Silver Lake
Annandale	Dahlgren Twp	Kandiyohi Twp	Monticello	Skyline
Anoka	Dalbo Twp	Kasota	Monticello Twp	Sleepy Eye
Apple Valley	Dassel	Kimball	Morris	South Bend Twp
Arlington	Dayton	Lake Crystal	Morristown	South Haven
Atwater	Deephaven	Lake St. Croix Beach	Mound	Spring Lake Park
Avon	Douglas Twp	Lakeland	Mounds View	Spring Park
Baldwin Twp	Dovre Twp	Lakeland Shores	Nelson	Springfield
Baxter	Eagan	Lakeville	New Germany	Springvale Twp
Belgrade Twp	Eagle Lake	Lanesburgh Twp	New Hope	St Anthony
Belle Plaine	East Bethel	Lastrup	New Prague	St Augusta
Belle Plaine Twp	Eden Prairie	Le Center	New Trier	St Bonifacius
Ben Wade Twp	Eden Valley	Le Sueur	Nicollet	St Francis
Benson	Edina	Lester Prairie	Nicollet Twp	St James
Benson Twp	Elk River	Leven Twp	Nininger Twp	St John Twp
Bergen Twp	Excelsior	Lewisville	North Mankato	St Joseph Twp
Bethel	Fish Lake Twp	Lexington	Norwood Yg America	St Lawrence Twp
Big Lake	Foreston	Lino Lakes	Oak Grove	St Louis Park
Big Lake Twp	Fort Snelling	Litchfield	Oak Lawn Twp	St Mary's Point
Blaine	Freeport	Litchfield Twp	Oak Twp	St Michael
Bloomington	Fridley	Little Falls	Oakdale	St Peter
Blue Earth	Garrison	Livonia Twp	Olivia	St Wendel Twp
Bongards (Benton Twp)	Gaylord	Long Beach	Onamia	Stanchfield Twp
Braham	Genola	Long Lake	Orono	Starbuck
Brainerd	Glencoe	Long Prairie	Osakis	Stockholm Twp
Brooklyn Center	Glenwood	Lonsdale	Osseo	Tonka Bay
Brooklyn Park	Golden Valley	Loretto	Otsego	Torning Twp
Browerville	Grandy	Lowry	Owatonna Twp	Tyrone Twp
Buckman	(CambridgeTwp)	Luverne	Paynesville	Vermillion
Buffalo	Grasston	Madelia	Pease	Veseli (Wheatland Twp)
Burns Twp	Green Lake Twp	Maine Prairie Twp	Pierz	Victoria
Burnsville	Greenfield	Mankato	Pierz Twp	Waconia
Cambridge	Greenwood	Maple Grove	Pipestone	Wahkon
Carlos	Grove City	Maple Lake	Plato	Waseca
Carver	Ham Lake	Maple Plain	Plymouth	Waterville
Cedar Lake Twp	Hampton	Marshan Twp	Princeton	Watkins
Centerville	Hancock	Mayer	Princeton Twp	Wayzata
Champlin	Hanover	Mdewakanton Sioux (Mystic Lake)	Prior Lake	Willmar
Chanhassen	Hartford Twp	Medford	Ramsey	Winnebago
Chaska	Hartland	Medford Twp	Randolph	Winsted
Clearwater Twp	Hassan Twp	Medford Twp	Randolph Twp	Winthrop
Cleveland	Hastings	Medicine Lake	Ravenna Twp	Woodbury
Cleveland Twp	Hector	Medina (Hamel)	Richfield	Woodland
Coates	Helen Twp	Melrose	Richmond	Woodville Twp
Cokato	Helena Twp	Meriden Twp	Robbinsdale	Zimmerman
Cold Spring	Hilltop	Miesville	Rockford	
Collegetville Twp	Hopkins	Milaca	Rockville	
	Howard Lake	Mille Lacs Res	Rogers	



## TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

### **Applicant**

A person, firm, association, partnership, corporation, and any agency or political subdivision of the federal, state, or local government requesting CenterPoint Energy to supply gas or interconnect service. A request for gas or interconnect service is distinguished from an inquiry as to the availability of or charges for such service.

### **Customer**

The person, firm, association, partnership, corporation, or any agency of the federal, state, or local government being supplied with gas or interconnect service by CenterPoint Energy in whose name service is rendered as evidenced by an application, contract, or agreement for service. In the absence of an application, contract, or agreement for service, the customer shall be the person receiving or paying bills issued in his/her or its name, regardless of the identity of the actual user of the service.

### **Excess Flow Valve**

Safety device designed to automatically stop or restrict the flow of gas if an underground pipe is broken or severed.

### **Gas Mains**

Any pipe used or useable for the purpose of delivering and distributing gas to individual gas service lines or other gas mains.

### **Gas Main Extension**

An extension of an existing gas main.

### **Gas Service Line**

All pipe, valves, and fittings from and including the connection at the gas main up to ~~the~~ and including the stopcock on the inlet side of the regulator or gas meter.

### **Gas Meter Set**

All fittings, including regulator, meter and attachment bracket between the stopcock at the end of the gas service line and the connection to the customer's piping at the meter.

### **Normal Gas Meter Location**

On the outside of the building to be served and on the face or within five feet of the corner of the building in closest proximity to the gas main to which the gas service pipe is to be attached.

**Normal Gas Service Line**

A gas service pipe installed in a straight line from the gas main to a normal gas meter location.

**Notices**

Unless otherwise specified, any notice from CenterPoint Energy to a customer, or from a customer to CenterPoint Energy, may be oral or written.

A written notice from CenterPoint Energy may either be delivered or mailed to the customers' last known address. A written notice from the customer may either be delivered or mailed to CenterPoint Energy's main office, 505 Nicollet Mall, P.O. Box 59038, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55459-0038, or to any of its branch, local or regional offices.

**Person**

An individual person, firm, association, partnership, corporation, any agency or political subdivision of the federal, state or local government or any applicant or customer as herein defined.

**Premises**

The structure or structures owned or occupied by a person including the lot or land upon which they are situated and all other land owned or occupied by the persons contiguous thereto.

**Regular Construction Season**

The period beginning April 1 and ending October 31 of each year.

**Commission or PUC**

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

**Date Issued**

The date the rate schedule, contract, agreement, etc. is submitted to the Commission.

**Standby Gas Service**

Service continuously available through a permanent connection to provide gas for customer's use in case of failure of another regularly used source of energy.

**Supplementary Gas Service**

Service continuously available through a permanent connection to supplement or augment directly or indirectly on an intermittent basis another source of energy.

**Emergency Gas Service**

Service supplied through a temporary connection for customer's use when his usual source of energy has failed.

**Residential Customer**

A residential customer uses gas for general household purposes in a space occupied as a living unit, such as a single private residence, single flat or apartment with less than five units, fraternity house, sorority house or rooming house.

**Commercial Customer**

A commercial customer uses gas in the conduct of a business enterprise in space occupied and operated for commerce, such as stores, offices, shops, hotels, apartment hotels, multiple flats or apartments with five or more units, wholesale houses, warehouses, garages, filling stations, greenhouses, nurseries and kennels, schools, churches, hospitals, and other institutions of similar nature.

**Industrial Customer**

An industrial customer uses gas in a space dedicated to the production of articles of commerce through manufacturing, processing, refining, mining, or fabricating.

**Contributions in Aid of Construction**

Moneys deposited with CenterPoint Energy by customers or applicants as non-refundable contributions to aid expansion of the distribution system, when CenterPoint Energy determines that specific extensions of service are in excess of requirements allowed by these Rules and Regulations without a contribution. Included are excess service charges, casing charges, and in some cases, excess main charges.

**Advances for Construction**

Moneys advanced to CenterPoint Energy by customers or applicants as a refundable non-interest bearing advance for extension of the distribution system that are deemed not economically feasible or abnormal as determined by these Rules and Regulations. These advances are refundable in full or part for only a specific period.

## RATE SCHEDULES AND APPLICABLE PROVISIONS

**CenterPoint Energy**  
**RATE SCHEDULES AND APPLICABLE PROVISIONS**  
**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**GAS SALES SERVICE**

Residential Sales Service _____	1
Small Volume Commercial and Industrial Sales Service _____	2 – <del>2.a</del>
Large General Firm Sales Service _____	3 – <del>3.a</del>
Small Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service _____	4 – 4.a
Small Volume Firm / Interruptible Sales Service _____	5 – 5.a
Large Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service _____	6 – 6.a
Large Volume Firm/Interruptible Sales Service _____	7 – 7.a

**DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**

Standby Peaking Sales Service Rider _____	8
Process Interruptible Sales Service Rider _____	9
New Area Surcharge Rider _____	10 – 10.c.1
Market Rate Service Rider _____	11
<i>Reserved for Future Use</i> _____	12
Conservation Improvement Program Rider _____	13

**TRANSPORTATION SERVICE**

Small Volume Firm Transportation Service _____	14 – 14.d
Large Volume Firm Transportation Service _____	15 – 15.ed
Small Volume Dual Fuel Transportation Service _____	16 – 16.d
Small Volume Firm/Interruptible Transportation Service _____	17 – 17.d
Large Volume Dual Fuel Transportation Service _____	18 – 18.d
Large Volume Firm/Interruptible Transportation Service _____	19 – 19.d
<i>Reserved for Future Use</i> _____	20
Daily Balancing Service Rider _____	21

**MISCELLANEOUS RIDERS AND ADJUSTMENTS**

Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider _____	22
Statement of Purchased Gas Adjustment _____	23
Franchise Fee Rider _____	24
Gas Affordability Program _____	25 – 25.b
Large Customer Credit Policy Rider _____	26 – 26.a
<i>Reserved for Future Use</i> _____	27
Revenue Decoupling (RD) Rider _____	28 – 28.a
Supplied Meter Communication Rider _____	29

**RNG INTERCONNECT SERVICE**

RNG Interconnect Service _____	30 – 30.a
--------------------------------	-----------

**RESIDENTIAL SALES SERVICE****Availability:**

Residential Sales Service is available upon request to Residential Firm customers contingent on an adequate gas supply and distribution system capacity.

**Rate:**

<b>Monthly Basic Charge</b>	<b>Delivery Charge Per Therm</b>	<b>Cost of Gas Per Therm</b>
\$9.50	\$0.2103624452	\$0.4015933849

**Interim Surcharge**

~~Effective January 1, 2020, customers' bills will be increased on an interim basis by 13.7% on the monthly basic charge, the GAP charge, and the delivery charge per therm. Any sales tax and franchise fees will be calculated on the increased bill. If the total amount of the rate increase approved at the end of the rate case (Docket G-008/GR-19-524) is lower than the total amount of the interim rates collected, the Company will refund the difference with interest, and if the total amount of the final rates are higher than the total amount of interim rates, the Company will not charge the customer for the difference.~~

**Therm Factor Adjustment:**

Customer metered usage will be adjusted to reflect the following: 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, base pressure of 14.73 PSIA, and a gas temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Minimum Monthly Bill:**

When no consumption occurs during the billing month, the Monthly Basic Charge of \$9.50 will apply.

**Due Date:**

The due date printed on customer bills will not be more than five days before the next scheduled billing date. However, customers who have selected the AutoPay option may select a due date which is greater than five days before the next scheduled billing date.

**Late Payment Charge:**

Delinquent amounts are subject to a late payment charge of 1.5% or \$1.00, whichever is greater. No late payment charge will be applied if the delinquent amount is \$10.00 or less.

'Delinquent amount' is the portion of a customer's account representing charges for gas service past due. For customers on the Average Monthly Billing or a deferred payment schedule, 'delinquent amount' is the lesser of the unpaid account balance or past due scheduled payments.

All payments received will be credited against the oldest outstanding account balance before application of any late payment charge. The late payment charge will be assessed on unpaid amounts at the next scheduled billing date.

**Franchise Fee:**

A franchise fee will be added to the monthly bill computed at this rate schedule for those communities that impose a franchise fee.

**Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider:**

The above rates are subject to the Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider at Section V, Page 22. Bills will be automatically increased or decreased as provided in the rate adjustment clause to reflect changes in the cost of purchased gas and fuel for supplemental gas.

**Gas Affordability Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the adjustment provided for in the Gas Affordability Program Rider, Section V, Pages 25 - 25.b.

**Conservation Improvement Adjustment Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Conservation Improvement Rider, Section V, Page 13.

**Revenue Decoupling Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Revenue Decoupling Rider, Section V, Pages 28 - 28.a.

**SMALL VOLUME COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SALES SERVICE**

**Availability:**

Small Volume Commercial and Industrial Sales Service is available to Commercial and Industrial firm customers whose peak day requirements are less than 2000 therms contingent on an adequate gas supply and distribution system capacity.

Customers whose daily requirements exceed 500 therms and have annual usage greater than or equal to 5000 therms that use, for reasons of price, an alternative energy supply (other than biomass energy) shall be limited to gas service under the Market Rate Service Rider for a period of one (1) year.

**Rate:**

Annual Usage	Monthly Basic Charge	Delivery Charge Per Therm	Cost of Gas Per Therm
Less than 1500 Therms	\$15.00	\$0. <del>21208</del> <u>25820</u>	\$0. <del>4015933849</del>
Equal to or greater than 1500 Therms and less than 5000 Therms	\$21.00	\$0. <del>17088</del> <u>19789</u>	\$0. <del>4015933849</del>
Greater than or equal to 5000 Therms	<del>\$47.50</del> <u>55.00</u>	\$0. <del>15354</del> <u>16769</u>	\$0. <del>4015933849</del>

~~Interim Surcharge~~

~~Effective January 1, 2020, customers' bills will be increased on an interim basis by 13.7% on the monthly basic charge, the GAP charge, and the delivery charge per therm. Any sales tax and franchise fees will be calculated on the increased bill.~~

~~If the total amount of the rate increase approved at the end of the rate case (Docket G-008/GR-19-524) is lower than the total amount of the interim rates collected, the Company will refund the difference with interest, and if the total amount of the final rates are higher than the total amount of interim rates, the Company will not charge the customer for the difference.~~

**Therm Factor Adjustment:**

Customer metered usage will be adjusted to reflect the following: 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, base pressure of 14.73 PSIA, and a gas temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Minimum Monthly Bill:**

When no consumption occurs during the billing month, the Monthly Basic Charge applicable as listed above will apply.

**Due Date:**

The due date printed on customer bills will not be more than five days before the next scheduled billing date. However, customers who have selected the AutoPay option may select a due date which is greater than five days before the next scheduled billing date.

**Late Payment Charge:**

Delinquent amounts are subject to a late payment charge of 1.5% or \$1.00, whichever is greater. No late payment charge will be applied if the delinquent amount is \$10.00 or less.

'Delinquent amount' is the portion of a customer's account representing charges for gas service past due. For customers on the Average Monthly Billing or a deferred payment schedule, 'delinquent amount' is the lesser of the unpaid account balance or past due scheduled payments.

All payments received will be credited against the oldest outstanding account balance before application of any late payment charge. The late payment charge will be assessed on unpaid amounts at the next scheduled billing date.

**Franchise Fee:**

A franchise fee will be added to the monthly bill computed at this rate schedule for those communities that impose a franchise fee.

**Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider:**

The above rates are subject to the Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider at Section V, Page 22. Bills will be automatically increased or decreased as provided in the rate adjustment clause to reflect changes in the cost of purchased gas and fuel for supplemental gas.

**SMALL VOLUME COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SALES SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Gas Affordability Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the adjustment provided for in the Gas Affordability Program Rider, Section V, Pages 25.-25.b.

**Conservation Improvement Adjustment Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Conservation Improvement Rider, Section V, Page 13.

**Revenue Decoupling Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Revenue Decoupling Rider, Section V, Pages 28-28.a.

**LARGE GENERAL FIRM SALES SERVICE**

**Availability:**

Large General Firm Sales Service is available to Commercial and Industrial firm customers whose peak day requirements are greater than or equal to 2000 therms, contingent on an adequate gas supply and distribution system capacity. Customers must provide telemetering or agree to have telemetering installed at the customer's expense.

Customers that use, for reasons of price, an alternative energy supply (other than biomass energy) shall be limited to gas service under the Market Rate Service Rider for a period of one (1) year.

**Rate:**

	<b>Monthly Charge</b>	<b>Basic</b>	<b>Delivery Charge Per Therm</b>	<b>Cost of Gas Per Therm</b>
	<del>\$900.00</del> <b>1,050.00</b>			
Demand charge (of billing demand)			<del>\$0.42990</del> <b>48303</b>	<del>\$0.70104</del> <b>86850</b>
Commodity charge (per therm)			<del>\$0.07048</del> <b>07710</b>	<del>\$0.30026</del> <b>21295</b>

~~Interim Surcharge~~

~~Effective January 1, 2020, customers' bills will be increased on an interim basis by 13.7% on the monthly basic charge, the GAP charge, and the delivery charge per therm. Any sales tax and franchise fees will be calculated on the increased bill. If the total amount of the rate increase approved at the end of the rate case (Docket G-008/GR-19-524) is lower than the total amount of the interim rates collected, the Company will refund the difference with interest, and if the total amount of the final rates are higher than the total amount of interim rates, the Company will not charge the customer for the difference.~~

**Therm Factor Adjustment:**

Customer metered usage will be adjusted to reflect the following: 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, base pressure of 14.73 PSIA, and a gas temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Minimum Monthly Bill:**

When no consumption occurs during the billing month, the Monthly Basic Charge plus the Monthly Demand Charge will apply.

**Billing Demand:**

The demand in therms for billing purposes shall be the customer's highest daily usage during the preceding calendar year.

**Special Conditions:**

Customer must install telemetry equipment. Customer is responsible for reimbursing CenterPoint Energy for all incremental on-site investments, including telemetry equipment required by CenterPoint Energy for providing service to the customer. This investment shall remain the property of CenterPoint Energy.

**Due Date:**

The due date printed on customer bills will not be more than five days before the next scheduled billing date. However, customers who have selected the AutoPay option may select a due date which is greater than five days before the next scheduled billing date.

**Late Payment Charge:**

Delinquent amounts are subject to a late payment charge of 1.5% or \$1.00, whichever is greater. No late payment charge will be applied if the delinquent amount is \$10.00 or less.

'Delinquent amount' is the portion of a customer's account representing charges for gas service past due. For customers on the Average Monthly Billing or a deferred payment schedule, 'delinquent amount' is the lesser of the unpaid account balance or past due scheduled payments.

All payments received will be credited against the oldest outstanding account balance before application of any late payment charge. The late payment charge will be assessed on unpaid amounts at the next scheduled billing date.

**Franchise Fee:**

A franchise fee will be added to the monthly bill computed at this rate schedule for those communities that impose a franchise fee.

**Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider:**

The above rates are subject to the Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider at Section V, Page 22. Bills will be automatically increased or decreased as provided in the rate adjustment clause to reflect changes in the cost of purchased gas and fuel for supplemental gas.

**LARGE GENERAL FIRM SALES SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Gas Affordability Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the adjustment provided for in the Gas Affordability Program Rider, Section V, Pages 25-25.b.

**Conservation Improvement Adjustment Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Conservation Improvement Rider, Section V, Page 13.

**Revenue Decoupling Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate with the exception of customers taking Market Rate Service, (Section V, Page 11) are subject to the Revenue Decoupling Rider, Section V, Pages 28-28.a.

**SMALL VOLUME DUAL FUEL SALES SERVICE**

**Availability:**

Small Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service is available to commercial and industrial customers on an interruptible basis with requirements of 25 Therms an hour or more and peak day requirements are less than 2,000 Therms.

Customers that use, for reasons of price, an alternative energy supply (other than biomass energy) shall be limited to gas service under the Market Rate Service Rider for a period of one (1) year.

**Rate:**

Annual Usage	Monthly Basic Charge	Delivery Charge Per Therm	Cost of Gas Per Therm
Less than 120,000 Therms	<del>\$55.50</del> <u>60.00</u>	<del>\$0.12424</del> <u>13764</u>	<del>\$0.30026</del> <u>21295</u>
Greater than or equal to 120,000 Therms	<del>\$88.50</del> <u>95.00</u>	<del>\$0.11497</del> <u>12708</u>	<del>\$0.30026</del> <u>21295</u>

~~Interim Surcharge~~

~~Effective January 1, 2020, customers' bills will be increased on an interim basis by 13.7% on the monthly basic charge, the GAP charge, and the delivery charge per therm. Any sales tax and franchise fees will be calculated on the increased bill. If the total amount of the rate increase approved at the end of the rate case (Docket G-008/GR-19-524) is lower than the total amount of the interim rates collected, the Company will refund the difference with interest, and if the total amount of the final rates are higher than the total amount of interim rates, the Company will not charge the customer for the difference.~~

**Therm Factor Adjustment:**

Customer metered usage will be adjusted to reflect the following: 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, base pressure of 14.73 PSIA, and a gas temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Special Conditions:**

- 1) Customer must have and maintain adequate standby facilities and have available sufficient fuel supplies to maintain operations during periods of curtailment. Customer further agrees to curtail the use of gas on one (1) hour's notice when requested by CenterPoint Energy. On an annual basis, the customer shall provide an annual attestation to CenterPoint Energy that it has fully functioning back-up equipment and/or the ability to curtail natural gas use when requested. The operation and functionality of the back-up equipment is the sole responsibility of the interruptible customer. Failure to maintain this equipment or failure to curtail represents a breach of the terms of interruptible service and may result in termination of the service contract.
- 2) If a customer fails to discontinue use of gas within one hour of being requested to do so by CenterPoint Energy, the customer will be deemed to have taken Unauthorized Gas. The penalty for unauthorized use of gas will be:
  - a) For the first occurrence of the gas year: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$3.00 per Therm.
  - b) For subsequent occurrences: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$6.00 per Therm.

---

**SMALL VOLUME DUAL FUEL SALES SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Special Conditions (continued):**

For purposes of this provision, the gas year is the twelve month period beginning November 1 each year.

Further, CenterPoint Energy shall have the right to shut off customer's supply of gas in the event of failure to discontinue use after being requested to do so.

- 3) Customers who purchase gas for use in their own compressor facilities for compressed natural gas motor fuel must have a dual fuel burning capability for fleet vehicles using compressed natural gas, and must have the ability to curtail the use of gas for this purpose on one (1) hour's notice when required to do so by CenterPoint Energy.
- 4) Customers must maintain three (3) current contacts to receive notice of curtailment. If the customer does not have three qualified contacts, the customer shall provide an annual attestation to CenterPoint Energy that it is unable to have three qualified contacts and the customer understands they are required to curtail service when requested. The Company will make an annual request that customers confirm that contact information.
- 5) Customer is responsible for reimbursing CenterPoint Energy for all incremental on-site plant investments, including telemetry equipment, required by CenterPoint Energy for providing service to the customer. This investment shall remain the property of CenterPoint Energy.

**Due Date:**

The due date printed on customer bills will not be more than five days before the next scheduled billing date. However, customers who have selected the AutoPay option may select a due date which is greater than five days before the next scheduled billing date.

**Late Payment Charge:**

Delinquent amounts are subject to a late payment charge of 1.5% or \$1.00, whichever is greater. No late payment charge will be applied if the delinquent amount is \$10.00 or less.

All payments received will be credited against the oldest outstanding account balance before application of any late payment charge. The late payment charge will be assessed on unpaid amounts at the next scheduled billing date.

**Franchise Fee:**

A franchise fee will be added to the monthly bill computed at this rate schedule for those communities that impose a franchise fee.

**Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider:**

The above rate is subject to the Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider at Section V, Page 22. Bills will be automatically increased or decreased as provided in the rate adjustment clause to reflect changes in the cost of purchased gas.

**Conservation Improvement Adjustment Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Conservation Improvement Rider, Section V, Page 13.

**Revenue Decoupling (RD) Rider:**

All customers under this rate are subject to the Revenue Decoupling Rider, Section V, Pages 28-28.a.

**Contract:**

Customers must sign a separate contract for Small Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service to each delivery point, with a minimum contract term of one (1) year.

**SMALL VOLUME FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE SALES SERVICE**

**Availability:**

Small Volume Firm / Interruptible Sales Service is available to commercial and industrial customers with requirements of 25 Therms an hour or more and peak day requirements less than 2,000 Therms, contingent on an adequate gas supply and distribution system capacity. This rate schedule shall apply to gas service consisting of a base level of firm gas volumes, supplemented by interruptible volumes.

Customers that use, for reasons of price, an alternative energy supply (other than biomass energy) shall be limited to gas service under the Market Rate Service Rider for a period of one (1) year.

**Rate:**

Annual Usage	Monthly Basic Charge	Delivery Charge Per Therm	Cost of Gas Per Therm
Less than 120,000 Therms	\$ <del>55.50</del> <u>60.00</u>		
Firm Volumes		\$ <del>0.15354</del> <u>16769</u>	\$ <del>0.401593</del> <u>3849</u>
Interruptible Volumes		\$ <del>0.12421</del> <u>13764</u>	\$ <del>0.300262</del> <u>1295</u>
Greater than or Equal to 120,000 Therms	\$ <del>88.50</del> <u>95.00</u>		
Firm Volumes		\$ <del>0.15354</del> <u>16769</u>	\$ <del>0.401593</del> <u>3849</u>
Interruptible Volumes		\$ <del>0.11497</del> <u>12708</u>	\$ <del>0.300262</del> <u>1295</u>

**Interim Surcharge**

Effective January 1, 2020, customers' bills will be increased on an interim basis by 13.7% on the monthly basic charge, the GAP charge, and the delivery charge per therm. Any sales tax and franchise fees will be calculated on the increased bill. If the total amount of the rate increase approved at the end of the rate case (Docket G-008/GR-19-524) is lower than the total amount of the interim rates collected, the Company will refund the difference with interest, and if the total amount of the final rates are higher than the total amount of interim rates, the Company will not charge the customer for the difference.

**Therm Factor Adjustment:**

Customer metered usage will be adjusted to reflect the following: 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, base pressure of 14.73 PSIA, and a gas temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Special Conditions Firm Volumes:**

- Customer will elect a base level of daily firm service on or before September 1 of each year. This base level becomes effective with the subsequent November billing month and remains in effect for one year. The minimum base level of daily firm service will be 25 therms.

The first volumes through the meter, on a daily basis, are firm volumes until the base level of firm is reached. All volumes used after the base level is reached are interruptible volumes.

**Special Conditions Interruptible Volumes:**

- Customer must have and maintain adequate standby facilities and have available sufficient fuel supplies to maintain operations during periods of curtailment. Customer further agrees to curtail the use of gas on one (1) hour's notice when requested by CenterPoint Energy. On an annual basis, the customer shall provide an annual attestation to CenterPoint Energy that it has fully functioning back-up equipment and/or the ability to curtail natural gas use when requested. The operation and functionality of the back-up equipment is the sole responsibility of the interruptible customer. Failure to maintain this equipment or failure to curtail represents a breach of the terms of interruptible service and may result in termination of the service contract.
- For purposes of calculating any curtailment penalty, if a partial day curtailment is called, the customer's daily firm volume allotment will be prorated by, and applied to, the number of hours remaining in the gas day when the curtailment goes into effect. A partial day curtailment means a curtailment that is effective any time after 9:00 AM (Central Time).
- If a customer fails to discontinue use of gas within one hour of being requested to do so by CenterPoint Energy, the customer will be deemed to have taken Unauthorized Gas. The penalty for unauthorized use of gas will be:
  - For the first occurrence of the gas year: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$3.00 per Therm.
  - For subsequent occurrences: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$6.00 per Therm.
    - For purposes of this provision, the gas year is the twelve-month period beginning November 1 each year.
  - Further, CenterPoint Energy shall have the right to shut off customer's supply of gas in the event of failure to discontinue use after being requested to do so.

Date Filed: ~~March 20, 2020~~ March 12, 2021

Effective Date: ~~May 1, 2020~~ June 1, 2021

Docket No: ~~E, G-999/CI-19-160G-008/GR-19-524~~

Issued by: Amber S. Lee, Director, Regulatory Affairs

---

**SMALL VOLUME FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE SALES SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Special Conditions Interruptible Volumes (Continued)**

- 4) Customers must maintain three (3) current contacts to receive notice of curtailment. If the customer does not have three qualified contacts, the customer shall provide an annual attestation to CenterPoint Energy that it is unable to have three qualified contacts and the customer understands they are required to curtail service when requested. The Company will make an annual request that customers confirm that contact information.

**Special Conditions Firm and Interruptible:**

Customer must install telemetry equipment. Customer is responsible for reimbursing CenterPoint Energy for all incremental on-site plant investments, including telemetry equipment, required by CenterPoint Energy for providing service to the customer. This investment shall remain the property of CenterPoint Energy.

**Due Date:**

The due date printed on customer bills will not be more than five days before the next scheduled billing date. However, customers who have selected the AutoPay option may select a due date which is greater than five days before the next scheduled billing date.

**Late Payment Charge:**

Delinquent amounts are subject to a late payment charge of 1.5% or \$1.00, whichever is greater. No late payment charge will be applied if the delinquent amount is \$10.00 or less.

All payments received will be credited against the oldest outstanding account balance before application of any late payment charge. The late payment charge will be assessed on unpaid amounts at the next scheduled billing date.

**Franchise Fee:**

A franchise fee will be added to the monthly bill computed at this rate schedule for those communities that impose a franchise fee.

**Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider:**

The above rate is subject to the Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider at Section V, Page 22. Bills will be automatically increased or decreased as provided in the rate adjustment clause to reflect changes in the cost of purchased gas.

**Gas Affordability Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the adjustment provided for in the Gas Affordability Program Rider, Section V, Pages 25-25.b.

**Conservation Improvement Adjustment Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Conservation Improvement Rider, Section V, Page 13.

**Revenue Decoupling Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Revenue Decoupling Rider, Section V, Page 28.

**Contract:**

Customers must sign a separate contract for Firm/Interruptible Sales Service to each delivery point, with a minimum contract term of one (1) year.

**LARGE VOLUME DUAL FUEL SALES SERVICE****Availability:**

Large Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service is available, on an interruptible basis, to commercial and industrial customers whose peak day requirements exceed 1,999 Therms, contingent on an adequate gas supply and distribution system capacity.

Customers that use, for reasons of price, an alternative energy supply (other than biomass energy) shall be limited to gas service under the Market Rate Service Rider for a period of one (1) year.

**Rate:**

Monthly Basic Charge	Delivery Charge Per Therm	Cost of Gas Per Therm
<del>\$900.00</del> <u>1,050.00</u>	<del>\$0.0771</del> <u>1007048</u>	<del>\$0.300262</del> <u>1295</u>
<del>Interim Surcharge</del>		

~~Effective January 1, 2020, customers' bills will be increased on an interim basis by 13.7% on the monthly basic charge, the GAP charge, and the delivery charge per therm. Any sales tax and franchise fees will be calculated on the increased bill. If the total amount of the rate increase approved at the end of the rate case (Docket G-008/GR-19-524) is lower than the total amount of the interim rates collected, the Company will refund the difference with interest, and if the total amount of the final rates are higher than the total amount of interim rates, the Company will not charge the customer for the difference.~~

**Therm Factor Adjustment:**

Customer metered usage will be adjusted to reflect the following: 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, base pressure of 14.73 PSIA, and a gas temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Special Conditions:**

- 1) Customer must have and maintain adequate standby facilities and have available sufficient fuel supplies to maintain operations during periods of curtailment. Customer further agrees to curtail the use of gas on one (1) hour's notice when requested by CenterPoint Energy. On an annual basis, the customer shall provide an annual attestation to CenterPoint Energy that it has fully functioning back-up equipment and/or the ability to curtail natural gas use when requested. The operation and functionality of the back-up equipment is the sole responsibility of the interruptible customer. Failure to maintain this equipment or failure to curtail represents a breach of the terms of interruptible service and may result in termination of the service contract.
- 2) If a customer fails to discontinue use of gas within one hour of being requested to do so by CenterPoint Energy, the customer will be deemed to have taken Unauthorized Gas. The penalty for unauthorized use of gas will be:
  - a. For the first occurrence of the gas year: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$3.00 per Therm.
  - b. For subsequent occurrences: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$6.00 per Therm.

For purposes of this provision, the gas year is the twelve month period beginning November 1 each year.

Further, CenterPoint Energy shall have the right to shut off customer's supply of gas in the event of failure to discontinue use after being requested to do so.

---

**LARGE VOLUME DUAL FUEL SALES SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Special Conditions (continued):**

- 3) Customers who purchase gas for use in their own compressor facilities for compressed natural gas motor fuel must have a dual fuel burning capability for fleet vehicles using compressed natural gas, and must have the ability to curtail the use of gas for this purpose on one (1) hour's notice when required to do so by CenterPoint Energy.
- 4) Customers must maintain three (3) current contacts to receive notice of curtailment. If the customer does not have three qualified contacts, the customer shall provide an annual attestation to CenterPoint Energy that it is unable to have three qualified contacts and the customer understands they are required to curtail service when requested. The Company will make an annual request that customers confirm that contact information.
- 5) Customer is responsible for reimbursing CenterPoint Energy for all incremental on-site plant investments, including telemetry equipment, required by CenterPoint Energy for providing service to the customer. This investment shall remain the property of CenterPoint Energy.

**Due Date:**

The due date printed on customer bills will not be more than five days before the next scheduled billing date. However, customers who have selected the AutoPay option may select a due date which is greater than five days before the next scheduled billing date.

**Late Payment Charge:**

Delinquent amounts are subject to a late payment charge of 1.5% or \$1.00, whichever is greater. No late payment charge will be applied if the delinquent amount is \$10.00 or less.

All payments received will be credited against the oldest outstanding account balance before application of any late payment charge. The late payment charge will be assessed on unpaid amounts at the next scheduled billing date.

**Franchise Fee:**

A franchise fee will be added to the monthly bill computed at this rate schedule for those communities that impose a franchise fee.

**Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider:**

The above rates are subject to the Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider at Section V, Page 22. Bills will be automatically increased or decreased as provided in the rate adjustment clause to reflect changes in the cost of purchased gas.

**Conservation Improvement Adjustment Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Conservation Improvement Rider, Section V, Page 13.

**Revenue Decoupling Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate with the exception of customers taking Market Rate Service, (Section V, Page 11) are subject to the Revenue Decoupling Rider, Section V, Pages 28-28.a.

**Contract:**

Customers must sign a separate contract for Large Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service to each delivery point, with a minimum contract term of one (1) year.

**LARGE VOLUME FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE SALES SERVICE**

**Availability:**

Large Volume Firm/Interruptible Sales Service is available to commercial and industrial customers with peak day requirements of more than 2,000 therms, contingent on an adequate gas supply and distribution system capacity. This rate schedule shall apply to gas service consisting of a base level of firm gas volumes, supplemented by interruptible volumes.

Customers that use, for reasons of price, an alternative energy supply (other than biomass energy) shall be limited to gas service under the Market Rate Service Rider for a period of one (1) year.

**Rate:**

Annual Usage	Monthly Basic Charge	Delivery Charge Per Therm	Cost of Gas Per Therm
	<del>\$999.00</del> <u>1,050.00</u>		
Firm Volumes			
Demand Charge (of Billing Demand)		<del>\$0.4299048303</del> <u>\$0.4299048303</u>	<del>\$0.7040486850</del> <u>\$0.7040486850</u>
Commodity Charge (per therm)		<del>\$0.0704807710</del> <u>\$0.0704807710</u>	<del>\$0.3002621295</del> <u>\$0.3002621295</u>
Interruptible Volumes		<del>\$0.0704807710</del> <u>\$0.0704807710</u>	<del>\$0.3002621295</del> <u>\$0.3002621295</u>

~~Interim Surcharge~~

~~Effective January 1, 2020, customers' bills will be increased on an interim basis by 13.7% on the monthly basic charge, the GAP charge, and the delivery charge per therm. Any sales tax and franchise fees will be calculated on the increased bill.~~

~~If the total amount of the rate increase approved at the end of the rate case (Docket G-008/GR-19-524) is lower than the total amount of the interim rates collected, the Company will refund the difference with interest, and if the total amount of the final rates are higher than the total amount of interim rates, the Company will not charge the customer for the difference.~~

**Therm Factor Adjustment:**

Customer metered usage will be adjusted to reflect the following: 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, base pressure of 14.73 PSIA, and a gas temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Special Conditions Firm Volumes:**

- 1) Customer will initially elect a base level of daily firm service and may request changes on or before September 1 of each year. This base level becomes effective with the subsequent November billing month and remains in effect for one year. The minimum base level of daily firm service will be 200 therms.

The first volumes through the meter, on a daily basis, are firm volumes until the base level of firm is reached. All volumes used after the base level is reached are interruptible volumes.

**Special Conditions Interruptible Volumes:**

- 1) Customer must have and maintain adequate standby facilities and have available sufficient fuel supplies to maintain operations during periods of curtailment. Customer further agrees to curtail the use of gas on one (1) hour's notice when requested by CenterPoint Energy. On an annual basis, the customer shall provide an annual attestation to CenterPoint Energy that it has fully functioning back-up equipment and/or the ability to curtail natural gas use when requested. The operation and functionality of the back-up equipment is the sole responsibility of the interruptible customer. Failure to maintain this equipment or failure to curtail represents a breach of the terms of interruptible service and may result in termination of the service contract.

- 2) For purposes of calculating any curtailment penalty, if a partial day curtailment is called, the customer's daily firm volume allotment will be prorated by, and applied to, the number of hours remaining in the gas day when the curtailment goes into effect. A partial day curtailment means a curtailment that is effective any time after 9:00 AM (Central Time).

**LARGE VOLUME FIRM / INTERRUPTIBLE SALES SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Special Conditions Interruptible Volumes (Continued):**

- 3) If a customer fails to discontinue use of gas within one hour of being requested to do so by CenterPoint Energy, the customer will be deemed to have taken Unauthorized Gas. The penalty for unauthorized use of gas will be:
- for the first occurrence of the gas year: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$3.00 per therm.
  - for subsequent occurrences: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$6.00 per therm. For purposes of this provision, the gas year is the twelve-month period beginning November 1 each year.
  - further, CenterPoint Energy shall have the right to shut off customer's supply of gas in the event of failure to discontinue use after being requested to do so.
- 4) Customers must maintain three (3) current contacts to receive notice of curtailment. If the customer does not have three qualified contacts, the customer shall provide an annual attestation to CenterPoint Energy that it is unable to have three qualified contacts and the customer understands they are required to curtail service when requested. The Company will make an annual request that customers confirm that contact information.

**Special Conditions Firm and Interruptible:**

Customer must install telemetry equipment. Customer is responsible for reimbursing CenterPoint Energy for all incremental on-site plan investments, including telemetry equipment, required by CenterPoint Energy for providing service to the customer. This investment shall remain the property of CenterPoint Energy. Alternatively, the customer may elect service under the Supplied Meter Communication Rider (Section V, Page 29), which is a wireless cell phone based metering service.

**Due Date:**

The due date printed on customer bills will not be more than five days before the next scheduled billing date. However, customers who have selected the AutoPay option may select a due date which is greater than five days before the next scheduled billing date.

**Late Payment Charge:**

Delinquent amounts are subject to a late payment charge of 1.5% or \$1.00, whichever is greater. No late payment charge will be applied if the delinquent amount is \$10.00 or less.

All payments received will be credited against the oldest outstanding account balance before application of any late payment charge. The late payment charge will be assessed on unpaid amounts at the next scheduled billing date.

**Franchise Fee:**

A franchise fee will be added to the monthly bill computed at this rate schedule for those communities that impose a franchise fee.

**Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider:**

The above rate is subject to the Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider at Section V, Page 22. Bills will be automatically increased or decreased as provided in the rate adjustment clause to reflect changes in the cost of purchased gas.

**Gas Affordability Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the adjustment provided for in the Gas Affordability Program Rider, Section V, Pages 25-25.b.

**Conservation Improvement Adjustment Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Conservation Improvement Rider, Section V, Page 13.

**Revenue Decoupling Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Revenue Decoupling Rider, Section V, Page 28.

**Contract:**

Customer must sign a separate contract for Firm/Interruptible Sales Service to each delivery point, with a minimum contract term of one (1) year.

**STANDBY PEAKING SERVICE RIDER SALES**

**Availability:**

This Rider applies to Residential Sales Service customers and Commercial and Industrial Sales Service customers whose primary space heating energy is not natural gas and who require firm natural gas peaking service as a standby fuel during winter months. Customers receiving service under this Rider are subject to all provisions of the Residential Sales Service or Commercial and Industrial Sales Service Tariffs, as applicable, except as noted.

**Rates:**

Customers will be billed under the appropriate Residential Sales Service or Commercial and Industrial Sales Service rate schedule. In addition, the following will apply:

	<b>Residential Sales Service Per Month</b>	<b>Commercial / Industrial Sales Service Per Month</b>
Fixed Standby Charges	\$4.00	\$8.00

**Terms:**

Customers must enter into this Rider for a minimum period of one (1) year.

**PROCESS INTERRUPTIBLE SALES SERVICE RIDER****Availability:**

This Rider will make Dual Fuel Sales Service available to certain customers who have no alternative fuel facilities. To qualify, customers must have the ability and willingness to discontinue natural gas use promptly upon notification by CenterPoint Energy and meet the other Special Conditions outlined below. Customers receiving service under this Rider are subject to all provisions of the Dual Fuel Sales Service Tariff except as noted.

**Special Conditions:**

- 1) Customers must sign a form acknowledging their ability and willingness to discontinue use of natural gas upon notice by CenterPoint Energy and customers must demonstrate to CenterPoint Energy when requested by the Company that they have the ability to discontinue natural gas use promptly upon notification in conformance with the terms of this Rider.
- 2) Customers must curtail use of natural gas within one (1) hour notice by CenterPoint Energy, and must maintain three (3) current contact people to receive notice of curtailment.
- 3) Telemetering equipment must be installed at the customer's expense.
- 4) Customers must retain service under this Rider for a minimum of one year.

## NEW AREA SURCHARGE RIDER

### Availability:

Service under this rate schedule is available only to geographical areas that have not previously been served by the Company. This rate schedule will enable natural gas service to be extended to areas where the cost would otherwise have been prohibitive under the Company's present rate and service extension policy. Nothing in this rate schedule shall obligate the Company to extend natural gas service to any area.

### Applicability and Character of Service:

All customers on this rate shall receive service according to the terms and conditions of one of the Company's gas tariff services.

### Rate:

As authorized by the MPUC, the total billing rate for any customer class will be the applicable cost of gas, approved rate (monthly basic plus delivery charge) for that customer class plus a fixed monthly new area surcharge. All customers in the same rate class will be billed the same surcharge. The New Area surcharge will be treated as a Contribution-in-Aid-of-Construction for accounting and ratemaking purposes.

### Method:

A standard model will be used that is designated to calculate the total revenue requirement for each year of the average service life of the plant installed. The model will compare the total revenue requirements for each year with the retail revenues generated from customers served (actual and/or expected) by the project to determine if a revenue deficiency or revenue excess exists.

The Net Present Value (NPV) of the yearly revenue deficiencies or excesses will be calculated using a discount rate equal to the overall rate of return authorized in the most recent general rate proceeding. Projected customer CIAC surcharge revenues are then introduced into the model and the resultant NPV calculation is made to decide if the project is self supporting. A total NPV of approximately zero (\$0) will show a project is self supporting.

The model will be run each year after the initial construction phase of a project wherein actual amounts for certain variables will be substituted for projected values to track recovery of expansion costs and the potential to end the customer surcharge before the full term. The variables, which will be updated in the model, each year will be:

- 1) The actual capital costs and projected remaining capital costs for the project.
- 2) Number of customers used to calculate the surcharge revenue and the retail margin revenue.
- 3) The actual surcharge and retail revenue received to date and the projected surcharge and retail revenue for the remaining term of the surcharge.

**NEW AREA SURCHARGE RIDER (CONTINUED)****Term:**

The term of service under this rate schedule shall vary from area to area depending on the service extension project. However, under no circumstances shall the surcharge applicable to any project remain in effect for a term to exceed thirty (30) years. The Company assumes the risk for under recovery of expansion costs, if any, which may remain at the end of the maximum surcharge term.

**Expiration:**

The surcharge for all customers in an area subject to the New Area Service Rider shall end on the date specified for the project tariff, on the date the approved revenue deficiency is retired, or at the end of thirty (30) years, whichever occurs first.

**Revenue Requirements Model****Definitions:**

All terms describe contents and general operation of the Revenue Requirements Model used to determine a New Area Surcharge Rider for a project.

**Column/Description:**

- 1) **Time Period:** Twelve (12) month calendar interval, which is one year of the project life. The year in which the project is constructed is designated as year 0.
- 2) **Year.**
- 3) **Gross Plant Investment:** Cumulative plant in service at the end of the year reduced by the net present value of surcharge revenues in year 0. Plant in service shall be all capitalized costs incurred to provide or capable of providing utility service to the consuming public. Capitalized costs will include items such as pipeline interconnects, pressure regulating facilities, measurement and instrumentation, lateral delivery lines, distribution mains, mapping, customer service lines, meters and regulators.
- 4) **Accumulated Depreciation Reserve:** Book depreciation for the current year plus all previous years.
- 5) **Net Plant In Service:** The difference between Gross Plant Investment (Column 3) and Accumulated Depreciation Reserve (Column 4).
- 6) **Average Net Plant:** Average of Column 5.
- 7) **Average Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes:** The average of the beginning and the end of the year accumulated deferred income tax. Accumulated deferred income tax (ADIT) consists of two components: accumulated deferred income taxes on depreciation and accumulated deferred income taxes on contribution in aid of construction. At the end of the service life of the plant installed the balance of ADIT will be zero.
- 8) **Average Rate Base:** Total of Average Net Plant (Column 6) plus Average Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes (Column 7).

**NEW AREA SURCHARGE RIDER (CONTINUED)**

9) **Allowed Return:** Derived from CenterPoint Energy's most recent general rate proceeding:

Equity Ratio	X	Return on Equity	X	(1+Tax Rate)	=	Weighted Cost
Long Term Debt Ration	X	Debt Cost	X		=	Weighted Cost
Short Term Debt Ratio	X	Debt Cost	X		=	Weighted Cost
Allowed Rate of Return						

The Allowed Rate of Return multiplied by the Average Rate Base (Column 8) equals the Allowed Return.

10) **Book Depreciation:** The straight line cost recovery of the life of the assets for Gross Plant Investment defined in Column (3). The depreciation factor used is based on a weighted average of depreciation rates used in CenterPoint Energy's most recent general rate proceeding.

11) **O & M Expense:** In any year shall be based on average incremental cost per customer. The cost per customer will include provisions for incremental distribution and customer accounting expenses.

The calculation is average customers multiplied by incremental cost per customer.

12) **Property Tax:** In any year shall be a factor of the gross plant investment (after contribution-in-aid-of-construction). The factor is based on historical experiences of actual taxes paid as a percentage of gross plant.

13) **Total Revenue Requirement:** Total of Allowed Return (Column 9), Book Depreciation (Column 10), O & M Expenses (Column 11), and Property Tax (Column 12).

14) **Retail Revenue:** This amount represents the retail revenue generated by multiplying the various retail billing rates (basic charge and delivery charge) approved in the Company's most recent general rate case proceeding by the expected average annual number of customers connected to the project each year.

15) **Revenue Excess or (Deficiency):** Revenue excess or deficiency is the difference between the Total Revenue Requirement (Column 13) and the amount of Retail Revenue (Column 14). Excess occurs when the Total Revenue Requirement in a given year is less than the total Retail Revenue generated. Deficiency occurs when the Total Revenue Requirement in a given year is more than the total Retail Revenue generated.

**NEW AREA SURCHARGE RIDER (CONTINUED)**

- 16) **Present Value of Cash Flows:** The cash flows that produce either revenue excesses or deficiencies (Column 15) are discounted to a present value using a discount rate equal to the overall rate of return established in the most recent general rate proceeding.

If the sum of the present value calculations over the life of the project is zero, or as close to zero as possible, the model demonstrates that the project is "self supporting". That is, the customer CIAC surcharge is the proper amount of customer contributed capital necessary to support the project at the projected (or actual) level of retail revenues.

**SURCHARGE RIDER RATES**

A surcharge as designated will be included in the monthly bills of the following Minnesota geographical areas:

<b>Nowthen Project 15 Year New Area Surcharge Expires 2035</b>	
Residential	\$23.05
Commercial A	\$36.39
Commercial / Industrial B	\$50.95
Commercial / Industrial C	\$115.25
SVI A	\$134.66
SVI B	\$1,026
LVI	\$2,183.68
LVF	\$2,183.68

**MARKET RATE SERVICE RIDER**

**Availability:**

Available to any customer who either receives interruptible service or whose daily requirements exceed 500 Therms and maintains or plans on acquiring the capability to switch to alternate energy supplies or service, except indigenous biomass energy supplies, at comparable prices from a supplier not regulated by the Commission. Such customer is deemed to be subject to "effective competition."

**Rate:**

	Basic Charge	Delivery Charge (Per Therm)	
		Minimum	Maximum
Small Volume C/I Sales Service Annual Usage Greater or Equal to 5,000 Therms	<del>\$47.50</del> <u>55.00</u>	\$0.00500	<del>\$0.30208</del> <u>33038</u>
Small Volume C/I Transportation Serv. Annual Usage Greater or Equal to 5,000 Therms	<del>\$147.50</del> <u>155.00</u>	\$0.00500	<del>\$0.30208</del> <u>33038</u>
Large General Firm Sales Service	<del>\$900.00</del> <u>1,050.00</u>		
	Demand <sup>(1)</sup>	\$0.00000	<del>\$0.85980</del> <u>96606</u>
	Commodity	\$0.00500	<del>\$0.13596</del> <u>14920</u>
Large General Firm Transportation Serv.	<del>\$1,000.00</del> <u>1,150.00</u>		
	Demand <sup>(1)</sup>	\$0.00000	<del>\$0.85980</del> <u>96606</u>
	Commodity	\$0.00500	<del>\$0.13596</del> <u>14920</u>
Small Vol. Dual Fuel Sales Service Annual Usage Less than 120,000 Therms	<del>\$55.50</del> <u>60.00</u>	\$0.00500	<del>\$0.24342</del> <u>27028</u>
Annual Usage Greater than or Equal to 120,000 Therms	<del>\$88.50</del> <u>95.00</u>	\$0.00500	<del>\$0.22494</del> <u>24916</u>
Small Vol. Dual Fuel Transportation Serv. Annual Usage Less than 120,000 Therms	<del>\$155.50</del> <u>160.00</u>	\$0.00500	<del>\$0.24342</del> <u>27028</u>
Annual Usage Greater than or Equal to 120,000 Therms	<del>\$188.50</del> <u>195.00</u>	\$0.00500	<del>\$0.22494</del> <u>24916</u>
Large Vol. Dual Fuel Sales Service	<del>\$900.00</del> <u>1,050.00</u>	\$0.00500	<del>\$0.13596</del> <u>14920</u>
Large Vol. Dual Fuel Transportation Serv.	<del>\$1,000.00</del> <u>1,150.00</u>	\$0.00500	<del>\$0.13596</del> <u>14920</u>

(1) Per therm of Billing Demand

Cost of Gas as listed on the applicable Sales or Transportation Service tariff.

Interim Surcharge

~~Effective January 1, 2020, customers' bills will be increased on an interim basis by 13.7% on the monthly basic charge, the GAP charge, and the delivery charge per therm. Any sales tax and franchise fees will be calculated on the increased bill.~~

~~If the total amount of the rate increase approved at the end of the rate case (Docket No. G-008/GR-19-524) is lower than the total amount of the interim rates collected, the Company will refund the difference with interest, and if the total amount of the final rates are higher than the total amount of interim rates, the Company will not charge the customer for the difference.~~

---

**MARKET RATE SERVICE RIDER (CONTINUED)****Special Conditions:**

- 1) Any customer receiving service under this Rider must accept all gas service according to the terms and conditions contained herein and under the applicable Sales or Transportation Service tariff. This Rider supersedes the tariff only where the two are in conflict; in all other cases, the terms of the tariff shall apply.
- 2) Any customer changing from this Rider to the applicable Sales or Transportation Service tariff must notify CenterPoint Energy in writing (facsimile acceptable) of the proposed change at least thirty (30) days in advance.
- 3) CenterPoint Energy will notify customers a minimum of two (2) days (or less if agreed to by both parties) in advance of implementation of a change in negotiated rates.
- 4) In the event a customer receives service from CenterPoint Energy during a period for which there is no explicit price agreement, for any gas received the customer will pay the maximum delivery charge as described above, plus the applicable basic charge and cost of gas.
- 5) Customers must enter into this service for a minimum of one (1) year.

Minimum and Maximum delivery charge (per Therm) rates do not include applicable Conservation Cost Recovery Charge (CCRC), Conservation Cost Recovery Adjustment (CCRA), or Gas Affordability Program (GAP) charges.

Reserved for Future Use

**CONSERVATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ADJUSTMENT RIDER****Applicability:**

Applicable to bills for gas and/or transportation service provided under the Company's retail rate schedules.

**Exemptions are as follows:**

"Large Energy Facility", as defined in Minn. Stat. 216B.2421 customers shall receive a monthly exemption from conservation improvement program (CIP) charges pursuant to Minn. Stat. 216B.16, subd. 6b Energy Conservation Improvement. Upon exemption from conservation program charges, the "Large Energy Facility" customers can no longer participate in any utility's Energy Conservation Improvement Program.

"Large Customer Facility" customers that have been exempted from the Company's CIP charges pursuant to Minn. Stat. 216B.241, subd. 1a (b) shall receive a monthly exemption from CIP charges pursuant to Minn. Stat. 216B.16, subd. 6b Energy Conservation Improvement. Such monthly exemption will be effective beginning January 1 of the year following the grant of exemption. Upon exemption from the conservation program charges, the "Large Customer Facility" customers can no longer participate in CenterPoint Energy's Energy Conservation Improvement Program.

Minnesota Stat. 216B.241, subd. 1a(c) which allows exemption of certain commercial gas customers does not apply to CenterPoint Energy because the Company's customer count exceeds the 600,000 level set in statute.

**Rate:**

<b>Base Charge Per Therm (CCRC)</b>	<b>Adjustment (CCRA)</b>
\$0.02382	\$0.00591

**Interim Surcharge**

~~Effective January 1, 2020, customers' bills will be increased on an interim basis by 13.7% on the monthly basic charge, the GAP charge, and the delivery charge per therm. Any sales tax and franchise fees will be calculated on the increased bill. If the total amount of the rate increase approved at the end of the rate case (Docket G-008/GR-19-524) is lower than the total amount of the interim rates collected, the Company will refund the difference with interest, and if the total amount of the final rates are higher than the total amount of interim rates, the Company will not charge the customer for the difference.~~

**Rider:**

A Conservation Improvement Program Adjustment which shall be included on each non-exempt customer's monthly bill. The applicable factor shall be multiplied by the customer's monthly billing in Therms for gas service before any adjustments, surcharges or sales tax.

**Determination of Conservation Cost Recovery Charge (CCRC or Base Charge per Therm):**

The CCRC is the amount included in base rates dedicated to the recovery of CIP costs as approved by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in the Company's last general rate case. The CCRC is approved and applied on a per therm basis by dividing test-year CIP expenses by the test-year sales volumes (net of CIP-exempt volumes). All revenue received from the CCRC shall be credited to the CIP tracker account.

**CONSERVATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ADJUSTMENT RIDER (CONTINUED)****Determination of Conservation Improvement Program Adjustment (CCRA):**

The Conservation Improvement Program Adjustment shall be calculated for each customer class by dividing the Recoverable Conservation Improvement Expense by the Projected Sales Volumes for a designated recovery period. The factor may be adjusted annually with the approval of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

Recoverable Conservation Improvement Expense shall be the incremental Conservation Improvement Program expense not recovered through base rates as estimated for a designated period. The Program costs shall be recovered from customer classes using the current sales forecast.

Projected Sales Volumes shall be the total sales volume forecasted to be delivered to that class of customer over a budgeted 12-month period (net of CIP exempt volumes).

For each designated twelve (12) month period, an annual reconciliation will be determined based upon annual conservation costs incurred by CenterPoint Energy compared with annual conservation costs to be recovered from volumes of gas sold. The annual cost recovered is the product of the CIP charge per therm during the twelve (12) month period and the applicable gas sales volumes during the period. The difference between incurred costs and recovered costs will be used in calculating a Conservation Improvement Program Reconciliation (CIPR or CCRA) factor for each rate schedule. The CIPR (or CCRA) factor will be applied to customers' billings for the designated period and will be in effect for a twelve (12) month period, or until the Commission approves a new CCRA. Any under or over-recovery due to the CIPR factor will be included in the calculation of the CIPR factor for the following period in order to collect from or return to customers the under or over-recovered amount.

**SMALL VOLUME FIRM TRANSPORTATION SERVICE**

**Availability:**

Available to any firm customer whose peak day requirements are less than 2000 therms for the delivery of gas owned by the customer from a CenterPoint Energy Town Border Station(s) to a meter location on the customer's premise.

**Rate:**

Annual Usage	Monthly Basic Charge	Delivery Charge Per Therm	Cost of Gas Demand Charge
Less than 1500 Therms	\$115.00	\$0. <del>2420825820</del>	\$0. <del>4043312554</del>
Equal to or Greater than 1500 Therms and Less than 5000 Therms	\$121.00	\$0. <del>4708819789</del>	\$0. <del>4043312554</del>
Greater than or Equal to 5000 Therms	\$ <del>147.50155.00</del>	\$0. <del>4535416769</del>	\$0. <del>4043312554</del>

~~Interim Surcharge~~

~~Effective January 1, 2020, customers' bills will be increased on an interim basis by 13.7% on the monthly basic charge, the GAP charge, and the delivery charge per therm. Any sales tax and franchise fees will be calculated on the increased bill. If the total amount of the rate increase approved at the end of the rate case (Docket G-008/GR-19-524) is lower than the total amount of the interim rates collected, the Company will refund the difference with interest, and if the total amount of the final rates are higher than the total amount of interim rates, the Company will not charge the customer for the difference.~~

**Special Conditions:**

- 1) Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing (or by electronic communication) with a reasonable estimate of total monthly consumption at least five (5) working days prior to the end of the preceding month.
- 2) Customer is responsible for reimbursing CenterPoint Energy for all incremental on-site plant investments, including telemetry equipment, required by CenterPoint Energy for providing transportation services to the customer. This investment shall remain the property of CenterPoint Energy.
- 3) If customer is an existing customer, taking services under the firm sales service tariff, The customer is responsible for stranded Cost of Gas Demand Charge shown above. However, CenterPoint Energy would forego the Cost of Gas Demand Charge as set forth above, provided that CenterPoint Energy can either utilize or reduce its transportation obligations such that there will be no stranded cost for the remaining firm service customers.

**Therm Factor Adjustment:**

Customer metered usage will be adjusted to reflect the following: 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, base pressure of 14.73 PSIA, and a gas temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

**SMALL VOLUME FIRM TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Nomination:**

Customer requesting volumes to flow on the first day of any month must directly advise CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing (by facsimile or email), by 9:00 a.m. Central standard time, five (5) working days prior to the end of the preceding month, of the initial daily volumes to be delivered on its behalf from the Town Border Station to the customer's premise.

Customer requesting changes to scheduled deliveries commencing at 9:00 a.m. central clock time (CCT), must directly advise CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing (by facsimile), by 9:00 a.m. CCT, on the preceding day (24 hours in advance), of the volumes to be delivered on its behalf from the Town Border Station to the customer's premise. CenterPoint Energy will utilize reasonable efforts to accommodate changes requested after the deadline.

Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department with a concurrent copy of all nominations made to the transporting pipeline for deliveries nominated to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station(s).

**Balancing:**

To maintain the operational integrity of CenterPoint Energy's distribution system, the customer is responsible for:

- 1) scheduling deliveries which accurately reflect customer's expected total daily consumption; and
- 2) balancing deliveries to CenterPoint Energy's system with volumes consumed at the delivery point.

***Daily Balancing***

When daily volumes of natural gas delivered on behalf of customer to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border station receipt points or natural gas received at customer's designated delivery point differ, above or below daily scheduled volumes, the customer is out-of-balance. It is the customer's sole responsibility to maintain balance between nominated volumes and actual use, however, CenterPoint Energy reserves the right to adjust or refuse nominations to maintain balance.

Volume differences between daily receipts and deliveries shall be accumulated and recorded in customer's account. CenterPoint Energy shall determine the imbalance quantity for each day on a therm basis. CenterPoint Energy shall then account for the imbalance volumes as follows:

**SMALL VOLUME FIRM TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)**

- 1) Non-SUL/SOL/CRITICAL DAYS – When a customer’s scheduled deliveries to the company differ from daily consumption by more than 5%, the customer will be charged Northern Natural Gas Company’s maximum TI rate per therm for each imbalance therm. The current maximum TI rate is:

November – March	\$0.06570 per therm
April – October	\$0.02567 per therm
- 2) SUL Days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a System Under run Limitation (SUL), the 5% daily imbalance tolerance will be suspended and a daily charge of \$.10 per therm for each therm of consumption less than the confirmed nomination will be charged. If consumption is greater than the confirmed nomination, there is no charge.
- 3) SOL Days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a System Overrun Limitation (SOL), the 5% of daily imbalance tolerance will be suspended and daily charges for each therm of consumption greater than the confirmed nomination will apply as follows:
  - a. For consumption up to 105% of confirmed nomination, \$ .10 per therm
  - b. For consumption greater than 105% of confirmed nomination, \$1.090 per therm. If consumption is less than the confirmed nomination, there is no charge.
- 4) Critical Days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a Critical Day, a charge equal to the daily delivery variance charge (DDVC) of the pipeline will apply to those volumes in excess of the confirmed nomination level. Currently this charge is as much as \$11.30 per therm.

Customers transporting into CenterPoint Energy’s system on pipelines other than Northern Natural Gas will be subject to daily imbalance tolerances and fees as specified in those pipeline’s FERC approved tariffs, in lieu of the tolerances and fees specified above. As Northern revises this rate schedule, the company’s rate will be adjusted accordingly after receiving Commission approval.

***Monthly Balancing:***

Volume differences between monthly receipts and deliveries shall be accumulated and recorded in customer’s account. CenterPoint Energy shall determine the imbalance quantity for each month on a therm basis. CenterPoint Energy shall then account for the imbalance volumes as follows:

- 1) For negative imbalances on Northern Natural Gas Pipeline - when a customer’s monthly consumption exceeds total deliveries to CenterPoint Energy for that customer by more than 2%, the excess usage will be billed to the customer at 120% of the monthly index price plus transportation charges. The monthly index price shall equal the average daily price reported in Platts Gas Daily for deliveries into Northern Natural Gas Pipeline at Ventura. Transportation charges shall equal the commodity transportation charge as published in Northern Natural Gas Pipeline tariffs for interruptible transportation service. For negative imbalances less than or equal to 2%, the excess usage will be billed at 100% of the monthly index price plus transportation charges.

**SMALL VOLUME FIRM TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)**

~~(Monthly Balancing G~~(continued)

- 2) For positive imbalances on Northern Natural Gas Pipeline- when a customer's total monthly deliveries exceed customer's monthly consumption by more than 2%, the dollar value of the excess gas deliveries will be credited to the customer's account at 80% of the monthly Index price plus transportation charges. Transportation charges shall equal the commodity transportation charge as published in Northern Natural Gas Pipeline tariffs for firm transportation service. For positive imbalances less than or equal to 2%, the excess usage will be credited at 100% of the monthly Index price plus transportation charges.
- 3) Customers transporting into CenterPoint Energy's system on Viking Pipeline will be subject to monthly imbalance tolerances and fees as specified in that pipeline's FERC approved tariffs, in lieu of the tolerances and fees specified above. The monthly index price shall equal the average daily price reported for deliveries into Emerson.

**Failure of Transportation Supply:**

If a customer or a customer's supplier notifies CenterPoint Energy that it will be unable to deliver volumes to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station sufficient to meet daily consumption, CenterPoint Energy will use reasonable efforts to make gas available to the customer. Such gas will be charged to the customer at the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus the commodity cost of interruptible transportation plus applicable Daily Balancing Fees. If CenterPoint Energy is unable to obtain a replacement for the customer's transportation supply, the customer will be given the option to discontinue the use of gas or to incur the penalty associated with the unauthorized use of gas.

**Penalty for Unauthorized Gas Use:**

If a customer fails to discontinue use of gas within one hour of being requested to do so by CenterPoint Energy, the customer will be deemed to have taken Unauthorized Gas. The penalty for unauthorized use of gas will be:

- 1) For the first occurrence of the gas year: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$3.00 per Therm.
- 2) For subsequent occurrences: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$6.00 per Therm.

For purposes of this provision, the gas year is the twelve month period beginning November 1 each year.

Further, CenterPoint Energy shall have the right to shut off customer's supply of gas in the event of failure to discontinue use after being requested to do so.

**Due Date:**

The due date printed on customer bills will not be more than five days before the next scheduled billing date. However, customers who have selected the AutoPay option may select a due date which is greater than five days before the next scheduled billing date.

**Late Payment Charge:**

Delinquent amounts are subject to a late payment charge of 1.5% or \$1.00, whichever is greater. No late payment charge will be applied if the delinquent amount is \$10.00 or less.

All payments received will be credited against the oldest outstanding account balance before application of any late payment charge. The late payment charge will be assessed on unpaid amounts at the next scheduled billing date.

**Franchise Fee:**

A franchise fee will be added to the monthly bill computed at this rate schedule for those communities that impose a franchise fee.

**SMALL VOLUME FIRM TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider:**

The above rates are subject to the Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider at Section V, page 22. Bills will be automatically increased or decreased as provided in the rate adjustment clause to reflect changes in the cost of purchased gas and fuel for supplemental gas.

**Gas Affordability Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the adjustment provided for in the Gas Affordability Program Rider, Section V, pages 25-25.b.

**Conservation Improvement Adjustment Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Conservation Improvement Rider, Section V, Page 13.

**Revenue Decoupling Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Revenue Decoupling Rider, Section V, Pages 28-28.a.

**Contract:**

Customer must sign a separate contract for Transportation Service to each delivery point. The minimum contract for Firm Transportation Service is one (1) year.

Customer is obligated to provide a copy of all contracts used to procure and deliver natural gas to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station(s). Such contracts must be with suppliers who can demonstrate actual firm gas supplies under contract. Customer is not required to provide price information.

**LARGE VOLUME FIRM TRANSPORTATION SERVICE****Availability:**

Available to any firm customer whose peak day requirements are greater than or equal to 2000 therms for the delivery of gas owned by the customer from a CenterPoint Energy Town Border Station(s) to a meter location on the customer's premise.

**Rate:**Monthly Basic Charge~~\$1,000.00~~, 150.00

	<b>Delivery Charge</b>	<b>Cost of Gas</b>
Demand Charge (of Billing Demand)	\$0.4299048303	\$0.7040486850
Commodity Charge (per Therm)	\$0.0704807710	

~~Interim Surcharge~~

~~Effective January 1, 2020, customers' bills will be increased on an interim basis by 13.7% on the monthly basic charge, the GAP charge, and the delivery charge per therm. Any sales tax and franchise fees will be calculated on the increased bill. If the total amount of the rate increase approved at the end of the rate case (Docket G-008/GR-19-524) is lower than the total amount of the interim rates collected, the Company will refund the difference with interest, and if the total amount of the final rates are higher than the total amount of interim rates, the Company will not charge the customer for the difference.~~

**Special Conditions:**

- 1) Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing (or by electronic communication) with a reasonable estimate of total monthly consumption at least five (5) working days prior to the end of the preceding month.
- 2) Customer is responsible for reimbursing CenterPoint Energy for all incremental on-site plant investments, including telemetry equipment, required by CenterPoint Energy for providing transportation services to the customer. This investment shall remain the property of CenterPoint Energy.
- 3) If customer is an existing customer taking service under the firm sales service tariff, customer is responsible for the stranded Cost of Gas Demand Charge shown above. However, CenterPoint Energy would forego the gas-related portion of the demand charge per therm as set forth on the tariff, provided that CenterPoint Energy can either utilize or reduce its transportation obligations such that there will be no stranded cost for the remaining firm service customers.

**Therm Factor Adjustment:**

Customer metered usage will be adjusted to reflect the following: 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, base pressure of 14.73 PSIA, and a gas temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Minimum Monthly Bill:**

When no consumption occurs during the billing month, the basic monthly charge applicable as listed above plus the Monthly Demand Charge will apply.

**Billing Demand:**

The demand in therms for billing purposes shall be the customers' highest daily usage during the preceding calendar year.

**Nomination:**

Customer requesting volumes to flow on the first day of any month must directly advise CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing (by facsimile or email), by 9:00 a.m. central standard time, five (5) working days prior to the end of the preceding month, of the initial daily volumes to be delivered on its behalf from the Town Border Station to the customer's premise.

## LARGE VOLUME FIRM TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)

### **Nomination (continued):**

Customer requesting changes to scheduled deliveries commencing at 9:00 a.m. central clock time (CCT), must directly advise CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing ( or electronic communication), by 9:00 a.m. CCT on the preceding day (24 hours in advance), of the volumes to be delivered on its behalf from the Town Border Station to the customer's premise. CenterPoint Energy will utilize reasonable efforts to accommodate changes requested after the deadline.

Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department with a concurrent copy of all nominations made to the transporting pipeline for deliveries nominated to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station(s).

### **Balancing:**

To maintain the operational integrity of CenterPoint Energy's distribution system, the customer is responsible for:

- 1) scheduling deliveries which accurately reflect customer's expected total daily consumption; and
- 2) balancing deliveries to CenterPoint Energy's system with volumes consumed at the delivery point.

#### *Daily Balancing*

When daily volumes of natural gas delivered on behalf of customer to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border station receipt points or natural gas received at customer's designated delivery point differ, above or below daily nominated scheduled volumes, the customer is out-of-balance. It is the customer's sole responsibility to maintain balance between nominated volumes and actual use, however, CenterPoint Energy reserves the right to adjust or refuse nominations to maintain balance.

Volume differences between daily receipts and deliveries shall be accumulated and recorded in customer's account. CenterPoint Energy shall determine the imbalance quantity for each day on a therm basis. CenterPoint Energy shall then account for the imbalance volumes as follows:

- 1) Non-SUL/SOL/CRITICAL DAYS – When a customer's scheduled deliveries to the company differ from daily consumption by more than 5%, the customer will be charged Northern Natural Gas Company's maximum TI rate per therm for each imbalance therm. The current maximum TI rate is:

November – March	\$0.06570 per therm
April – October	\$0.02567 per therm
- 2) SUL Days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a System Under run Limitation (SUL), the 5% daily imbalance tolerance will be suspended and a daily charge of \$.10 per therm for each therm of consumption less than the confirmed nomination will be charged. If consumption is greater than the confirmed nomination, there is no charge.
- 3) SOL Days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a System Overrun Limitation (SOL), the 5% of daily imbalance tolerance will be suspended and daily charges for each therm of consumption greater than the confirmed nomination will apply as follows:
  - a. For consumption up to 105% of confirmed nomination, \$.10 per therm.
  - b. For consumption greater than 105% of confirmed nomination, \$1.090 per therm. If consumption is less than the confirmed nomination, there is no charge.
- 4) Critical Days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a Critical Day, a charge equal to the daily delivery variance charge (DDVC) of the pipeline will apply to those volumes in excess of the confirmed nomination level. Currently this charge is as much as \$11.30 per therm.

**LARGE VOLUME FIRM TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)**

Customers transporting into CenterPoint Energy's system on pipelines other than Northern Natural Gas will be subject to daily imbalance tolerances and fees as specified in those pipeline's FERC approved tariffs, in lieu of the tolerances and fees specified above. As Northern revises this rate schedule, the company's rate will be adjusted accordingly after receiving Commission approval.

*Monthly Balancing:*

Volume differences between monthly receipts and deliveries shall be accumulated and recorded in customer's account. CenterPoint Energy shall determine the imbalance quantity for each month on a term basis. CenterPoint Energy shall then account for the imbalance volumes as follows:

- 1) For negative imbalances on Northern Natural Gas Pipeline - when a customer's monthly consumption exceeds total deliveries to CenterPoint Energy for that customer by more than 2%, the excess usage will be billed to the customer at 120% of the monthly index price plus transportation charges. The monthly index price shall equal the average daily price reported in Platts Gas Daily for deliveries into Northern Natural Gas Pipeline at Ventura. Transportation charges shall equal the commodity transportation charge as published in Northern Natural Gas Pipeline tariffs for interruptible transportation service. For negative imbalances less than or equal to 2%, the excess usage will be billed at 100% of the monthly index price plus transportation charges.
- 2) For positive imbalances on Northern Natural Gas Pipeline - when a customer's total monthly deliveries exceed customer's monthly consumption by more than 2%, the dollar value of the excess gas deliveries will be credited to the customer's account at 80% of the monthly Index price plus transportation charges. Transportation charges shall equal the commodity transportation charge as published in Northern Natural Gas Pipeline tariffs for firm transportation service. For positive imbalances less than or equal to 2%, the excess usage will be credited at 100% of the monthly Index price plus transportation charges.
- 3) Customers transporting into CenterPoint Energy's system on Viking Pipeline will be subject to monthly imbalance tolerances and fees as specified in that pipeline's FERC approved tariffs, in lieu of the tolerances and fees specified above. The monthly index price shall equal the average daily price reported for deliveries into Emerson.

**Failure of Transportation Supply:**

If a customer or a customer's supplier notifies CenterPoint Energy that it will be unable to deliver volumes to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station sufficient to meet daily consumption, CenterPoint Energy will use reasonable efforts to make gas available to the customer.

**LARGE VOLUME FIRM TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Failure of Transportation Supply:**

Such gas will be charged to the customer at the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus the commodity cost of interruptible transportation plus applicable Daily Balancing Fees. If CenterPoint Energy is unable to obtain a replacement for the customer's transportation supply, the customer will be given the option to discontinue the use of gas or to incur the penalty associated with the unauthorized use of gas.

**Penalty for Unauthorized Gas Use:**

If a customer fails to discontinue use of gas within one hour of being requested to do so by CenterPoint Energy, the customer will be deemed to have taken Unauthorized Gas. The penalty for unauthorized use of gas will be:

- 1) For the first occurrence of the gas year: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$3.00 per Therm.
- 2) For subsequent occurrences: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$6.00 per Therm.

For purposes of this provision, the gas year is the twelve month period beginning November 1 each year. Further, CenterPoint Energy shall have the right to shut off customer's supply of gas in the event of failure to discontinue use after being requested to do so.

**Due Date:**

The due date printed on customer bills will not be more than five days before the next scheduled billing date. However, customers who have selected the AutoPay option may select a due date which is greater than five days before the next scheduled billing date.

**Late Payment Charge:**

Delinquent amounts are subject to a late payment charge of 1.5% or \$1.00, whichever is greater. No late payment charge will be applied if the delinquent amount is \$10.00 or less.

All payments received will be credited against the oldest outstanding account balance before application of any late payment charge. The late payment charge will be assessed on unpaid amounts at the next scheduled billing date.

**Franchise Fee:**

A franchise fee will be added to the monthly bill computed at this rate schedule for those communities that impose a franchise fee.

**LARGE VOLUME FIRM TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider:**

The above rates are subject to the Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider at Section V, page 22. Bills will be automatically increased or decreased as provided in the rate adjustment clause to reflect changes in the cost of purchased gas and fuel for supplemental gas.

**Gas Affordability Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the adjustment provided for in the Gas Affordability Program Rider, Section V, pages 25-25.b.

**Conservation Improvement Adjustment Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Conservation Improvement Rider, Section V, Page 13.

**Revenue Decoupling Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate with the exception of customers taking Market Rate Service, (Section V, Page 11) are subject to the Revenue Decoupling Rider, Section V, Pages 28-28.a.

**Contract:**

Customer must sign a separate contract for Transportation Service to each delivery point. The minimum contract for Firm Transportation Service is one (1) year.

Customer is obligated to provide a copy of all contracts used to procure and deliver natural gas to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station(s). Such contracts must be with suppliers who can demonstrate actual firm gas supplies under contract. Customer is not required to provide price information.

**SMALL VOLUME DUAL FUEL TRANSPORTATION SERVICE**

**Availability:**

Available to any customer whose peak day requirements are less than 2,000 Therms on an interruptible basis for the delivery of gas owned by the customer from a CenterPoint Energy Town Border Station(s) to a meter location on the customer's premise. Delivery is contingent on adequate distribution system capacity. Customers that use, for reasons of price, an alternative energy supply (other than biomass energy) may be limited to gas service under the Market Rate Service Rider for a period of one (1) year.

**Rate:**

Annual Usage	Monthly Basic Charge	Delivery Charge Per Therm
Less than 120,000 Therms	\$ <del>155.50</del> <u>160.00</u>	\$0. <del>12424</del> <u>13764</u>
Equal to or Greater than 120,000 Therms	\$ <del>188.50</del> <u>195.00</u>	\$0. <del>11497</del> <u>12708</u>

~~Interim Surcharge~~

~~Effective January 1, 2020, customers' bills will be increased on an interim basis by 13.7% on the monthly basic charge, the GAP charge, and the delivery charge per therm. Any sales tax and franchise fees will be calculated on the increased bill. If the total amount of the rate increase approved at the end of the rate case (Docket G-008/GR-19-524) is lower than the total amount of the interim rates collected, the Company will refund the difference with interest, and if the total amount of the final rates are higher than the total amount of interim rates, the Company will not charge the customer for the difference.~~

**Special Conditions:**

- 1) Customer must have arranged for the purchase of gas other than CenterPoint Energy's pipeline supply for its delivery to a CenterPoint Energy Town Border Station(s).
- 2) Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing (by facsimile) with a reasonable estimate of total monthly consumption at least five (5) working days prior to the end of the preceding month.
- 3) Customer is responsible for reimbursing CenterPoint Energy for all incremental on-site plant investments, including telemetry equipment, required by CenterPoint Energy for providing transportation services to the customer. This investment shall remain the property of CenterPoint Energy.
- 4) Customer must have and maintain adequate standby facilities and have available sufficient fuel supply to maintain operations during periods of curtailment. On an annual basis, the customer shall provide an annual attestation to CenterPoint Energy that it has fully functioning back-up equipment and/or the ability to curtail natural gas use when requested. The operation and functionality of the back-up equipment is the sole responsibility of the interruptible customer. Failure to maintain this equipment or failure to curtail represents a breach of the terms of interruptible service and may result in termination of the service contract.
- 5) Customer agrees to curtail the use of gas transported hereunder, within one (1) hour when requested by CenterPoint Energy.
- 6) Customers must maintain three (3) current contacts to receive notice of curtailment. If the customer does not have three qualified contacts, the customer shall provide an annual attestation to CenterPoint Energy that it is unable to have three qualified contacts and the customer understands they are required to curtail service when requested. The Company will make an annual request that customers confirm that contact information.

**Therm Factor Adjustment:**

Customer metered usage will be adjusted to reflect the following: 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, base pressure of 14.73 PSIA, and a gas temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

**SMALL VOLUME DUAL FUEL TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Nomination:**

Customer requesting volumes to flow on the first day of any month must directly advise CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing (by facsimile or email), by 9:00 a.m. central standard time, five (5) working days prior to the end of the preceding month, of the initial daily volumes to be delivered on its behalf from the Town Border Station to the customer's premise.

Customer requesting nomination changes commencing at 9:00 a.m. central clock time (CCT), must directly advise CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing (by facsimile), by 9:00 a.m. on the preceding day (24 hours in advance), of the volumes to be delivered on its behalf from the Town Border Station to the customer's premise. CenterPoint Energy will utilize reasonable efforts to accommodate changes requested after the deadline.

Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department with a concurrent copy of all nominations made to the transporting pipeline for deliveries nominated to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station(s).

**Balancing:**

To maintain the operational integrity of CenterPoint Energy's distribution system, the customer is responsible for:

- 1) scheduling deliveries which accurately reflect customer's expected total daily consumption; and
- 2) balancing deliveries to CenterPoint Energy's system with volumes consumed at the delivery point.

*Daily Balancing*

When daily volumes of natural gas delivered on behalf of customer to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border station receipt points or natural gas received at customer's designated delivery point differ, above or below daily scheduled volumes, the customer is out-of-balance. It is the customer's sole responsibility to maintain balance between nominated volumes and actual use, however, CenterPoint Energy reserves the right to adjust or refuse nominations to maintain balance.

Volume differences between daily receipts and deliveries shall be accumulated and recorded in customer's account. CenterPoint Energy shall determine the imbalance quantity for each day on a therm basis. CenterPoint Energy shall then account for the imbalance volumes as follows:

**SMALL VOLUME DUAL FUEL TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)**

- 1) Non-SUL/SOL/CRITICAL DAYS – When a customer’s scheduled deliveries to the company differ from daily consumption by more than 5%, the customer will be charged Northern Natural Gas Company’s maximum TI rate per therm for each imbalance therm. The current maximum TI rate is:

November – March	\$0.06570 per therm
April – October	\$0.02567 per therm
- 2) SUL Days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a System Under run Limitation (SUL), the 5% daily imbalance tolerance will be suspended and a daily charge of \$.10 per therm for each therm of consumption less than the confirmed nomination will be charged. If consumption is greater than the confirmed nomination, there is no charge.
- 3) SOL Days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a System Overrun Limitation (SOL), the 5% of daily imbalance tolerance will be suspended and daily charges for each therm of consumption greater than the confirmed nomination will apply as follows:
  - a. For consumption up to 105% of confirmed nomination, \$.10 per therm.
  - b. For consumption greater than 105% of confirmed nomination, \$1.090 per therm. If consumption is less than the confirmed nomination, there is no charge.
- 4) Critical Days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a Critical Day, a charge equal to the daily delivery variance charge (DDVC) of the pipeline will apply to those volumes in excess of the confirmed nomination level. Currently this charge is as much as \$11.30 per therm.

Customers transporting into CenterPoint Energy's system on pipelines other than Northern Natural Gas will be subject to daily imbalance tolerances and fees as specified in those pipeline's FERC approved tariffs, in lieu of the tolerances and fees specified above. As Northern revises this rate schedule, the company's rate will be adjusted accordingly after receiving Commission approval.

*Monthly Balancing:*

Volume differences between monthly receipts and deliveries shall be accumulated and recorded in customer's account. CenterPoint Energy shall determine the imbalance quantity for each month on a therm basis. CenterPoint Energy shall then account for the imbalance volumes as follows:

- 1) For negative imbalances on Northern Natural Gas Pipeline- when a customer's monthly consumption exceeds total deliveries to CenterPoint Energy for that customer by more than 2%, the excess usage will be billed to the customer at 120% of the monthly index price plus transportation charges. The monthly index price shall equal the average daily price reported in Platts Gas Daily for deliveries into Northern Natural Gas Pipeline at Ventura. Transportation charges shall equal the commodity transportation charge as published in Northern Natural Gas Pipeline tariffs for interruptible transportation service. For negative imbalances less than or equal to 2%, the excess usage will be billed at 100% of the monthly index price plus transportation charges.

**SMALL VOLUME DUAL FUEL TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)**

- 2) For positive imbalances on Northern Natural Gas Pipeline - when a customer's total monthly deliveries exceed customer's monthly consumption by more than 2%, the dollar value of the excess gas deliveries will be credited to the customer's account at 80% of the monthly Index price plus transportation charges. Transportation charges shall equal the commodity transportation charge as published in Northern Natural Gas Pipeline tariffs for firm transportation service. For positive imbalances less than or equal to 2%, the excess usage will be credited at 100% of the monthly Index price plus transportation charges.
- 3) Customers transporting into CenterPoint Energy's system on Viking Pipeline will be subject to monthly imbalance tolerances and fees as specified in that pipeline's FERC approved tariffs, in lieu of the tolerances and fees specified above. The monthly index price shall equal the average daily price reported for deliveries into Emerson.

When an imbalance occurs due to curtailment and the customer's gas continues to be delivered by the pipeline, CenterPoint Energy will apply the positive imbalance to the customer's account for re-delivery at a later date. Such volumes will not be subject to Daily Balancing Fees, but will be subject to Monthly Balancing Fees if the imbalance is not eliminated by the end of the month.

**Penalty for Unauthorized Gas Use:**

If a customer fails to discontinue use of gas within one hour of being requested to do so by CenterPoint Energy, the customer will be deemed to have taken Unauthorized Gas. The penalty for unauthorized use of gas will be:

- 1) For the first occurrence of the gas year: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$3.00 per Therm.
- 2) For subsequent occurrences: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$6.00 per Therm.

For purposes of this provision, the gas year is the twelve month period beginning November 1 each year. Further, CenterPoint Energy shall have the right to shut off customer's supply of gas in the event of failure to discontinue use after being requested to do so.

**Due Date:**

The due date printed on customer bills will not be more than five days before the next scheduled billing date. However, customers who have selected the AutoPay option may select a due date which is greater than five days before the next scheduled billing date.

**Late Payment Charge:**

Delinquent amounts are subject to a late payment charge of 1.5% or \$1.00, whichever is greater. No late payment charge will be applied if the delinquent amount is \$10.00 or less.

All payments received will be credited against the oldest outstanding account balance before application of any late payment charge. The late payment charge will be assessed on unpaid amounts at the next scheduled billing date.

**SMALL VOLUME DUAL FUEL TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Franchise Fee:**

A franchise fee will be added to the monthly bill computed at this rate schedule for those communities that impose a franchise fee.

**Conservation Improvement Adjustment Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Conservation Improvement Rider, Section V, Page 13.

**Revenue Decoupling Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Revenue Decoupling (RD) Rider, Section V, Pages 28-28.a.

**Contract:**

Customer must sign a separate contract for transportation service to each delivery point. The minimum contract term for Small Volume Dual Fuel Transportation Service is thirty (30) days.

Customer is obligated to provide a copy of all contracts used to procure and deliver natural gas to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station(s). Customer is not required to provide price information.

**SMALL VOLUME FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICE**

**Availability:**

Available to any firm customer whose peak day requirements are less than 2,000 therms for the delivery of gas owned by the customer from a CenterPoint Energy Town Border Station(s) to a meter location on the customer's premise.

**Rate:**

Annual Usage	Monthly Basic Charge	Delivery Charge Per Therm	Cost of Gas Per Therm
Less than 120,000 Therms	\$ <del>155.50</del> <u>160.00</u>		
Firm Volumes		\$ <del>0.45354</del> <u>16769</u>	\$ <del>0.40133</del> <u>12554</u>
Interruptible Volumes		\$ <del>0.42424</del> <u>13764</u>	\$0.00000
Greater than or equal to 120,000 Therms	\$ <del>188.50</del> <u>195.00</u>		
Firm Volumes		\$ <del>0.45354</del> <u>16769</u>	\$ <del>0.12554</del> <u>40433</u>
Interruptible Volumes		\$ <del>0.41497</del> <u>12708</u>	\$0.00000

~~Interim Surcharge~~

~~Effective January 1, 2020, customers' bills will be increased on an interim basis by 13.7% on the monthly basic charge, the GAP charge, and the delivery charge per therm. Any sales tax and franchise fees will be calculated on the increased bill. If the total amount of the rate increase approved at the end of the rate case (Docket G-008/GR-19-524) is lower than the total amount of the interim rates collected, the Company will refund the difference with interest, and if the total amount of the final rates are higher than the total amount of interim rates, the Company will not charge the customer for the difference.~~

**Special Conditions:**

- 1) Customer must elect this service for a minimum period of one year.
- 2) Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing (or by electronic communication) with a reasonable estimate of total monthly consumption at least five (5) working days prior to the end of the preceding month.
- 3) Customer is responsible for reimbursing CenterPoint Energy for all incremental on-site plant investments, including telemetry equipment, required by CenterPoint Energy for providing transportation services to the customer. This investment shall remain the property of CenterPoint Energy.
- 4) If customer is an existing customer, taking services under the firm sales service tariff, the customer is responsible for stranded Cost of Gas Demand Charge shown above. However, CenterPoint Energy would forego the Cost of Gas Demand Charge as set forth above, provided that CenterPoint Energy can either utilize or reduce its transportation obligations such that there will be no stranded cost for the remaining firm service customers.

**Therm Factor Adjustment:**

Customer metered usage will be adjusted to reflect the following: 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, base pressure of 14.73 PSIA, and a gas temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

---

**SMALL VOLUME FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Special Conditions Firm Volumes:**

- 1) Customer will initially elect a base level of daily firm service and may request changes on or before September 1 of each year. This base level becomes effective with the subsequent November billing month and remains in effect for one year. The minimum base level of daily firm service will be 25 therms.
- 2) The first volume through the meter, on a daily basis, are firm volumes until the base level of firm is reached. All volumes used after the base level is reached are interruptible volumes.

**Special Conditions Interruptible Volumes:**

- 1) Customer must have and maintain adequate standby facilities and have available sufficient fuel supplies to maintain operations during periods of curtailment; or customer further agrees to curtail the use of interruptible gas on one (1) hours' notice when requested by CenterPoint Energy. On an annual basis, the customer shall provide an annual attestation to CenterPoint Energy that it has fully functioning back-up equipment and/or the ability to curtail natural gas use when requested. The operation and functionality of the back-up equipment is the sole responsibility of the interruptible customer. Failure to maintain this equipment or failure to curtail represents a breach of the terms of interruptible service and may result in termination of the service contract.
- 2) If a customer fails to discontinue use of gas within one hour of being requested to do so by CenterPoint Energy, the customer will be deemed to have taken Unauthorized Gas. The penalty for unauthorized use of gas will be:
  - a. For the first occurrence of the gas year: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$3.00 per therm.
  - b. For subsequent occurrences: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$6.00 per therm.
  - c. Further, CenterPoint Energy shall have the right to shut off customer's supply of gas in the event of failure to discontinue use after being requested to do so.
- 3) Customers must maintain three (3) current contacts to receive notice of curtailment. If the customer does not have three qualified contacts, the customer shall provide an annual attestation to CenterPoint Energy that it is unable to have three qualified contacts and the customer understands they are required to curtail service when requested. The Company will make an annual request that customers confirm that contact information.

**Nomination:**

Customer requesting volumes to flow on the first day of any month must directly advise CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing (by facsimile or email), by 9:00 a.m. Central Standard Time, five (5) working days prior to the end of the preceding month, of the initial daily volumes to be delivered on its behalf from the Town Border Station to the customer's premise.

Customer requesting changes to scheduled deliveries commencing at 9:00 a.m. Central Clock Time (CCT), must directly advise CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing (by facsimile), by 9:00 a.m. CCT, on the preceding day (24 hours in advance), of the volumes to be delivered on its behalf from the Town Border Station to the customer's premise. CenterPoint Energy will utilize reasonable efforts to accommodate changes requested after the deadline.

Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department with a concurrent copy of all nominations made to the transporting pipeline for deliveries nominated to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station(s).

**SMALL VOLUME FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Balancing:**

To maintain the operational integrity of CenterPoint Energy's distribution system, the customer is responsible for:

- 1) Scheduling deliveries which accurately reflect customer's expected total daily consumption; and
- 2) Balancing deliveries to CenterPoint Energy's system with volumes consumed at the delivery point.

*Daily Balancing:*

When daily volumes of natural gas delivered on behalf of customer to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station receipt points or natural gas received at customer's designated delivery point differ, above or below daily scheduled volumes, the customer is out-of-balance. It is the customer's sole responsibility to maintain balance between nominated volumes and actual use, however, CenterPoint Energy reserves the right to adjust or refuse nominations to maintain balance.

Volume differences between daily receipts and deliveries shall be accumulated and recorded in customer's account. CenterPoint Energy shall determine the imbalance quantity for each day on a therm basis. CenterPoint Energy shall then account for the imbalance volumes as follows:

- 1) Non-SUL/SOL/CRITICAL DAYS – When a customer's scheduled deliveries to the Company differ from daily consumption by more than 5%, the customer will be charged Northern Natural Gas Company's maximum TI rate per therm for each imbalance therm. The current maximum TI rate is:

November-March	\$0.06570 per therm
April-October	\$0.02567 per therm

- 2) SUL Days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a System Under run Limitation (SUL), the 5% daily imbalance tolerance will be suspended and a daily charge of \$.10 per therm for each therm of consumption less than the confirmed nomination will be charged. If consumption is greater than the confirm nomination, there is no charge.
- 3) SOL days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a System Overrun Limitation (SOL), the 5% of daily imbalance tolerance will be suspended and daily charges for each therm of consumption greater than the confirmed nomination will apply as follows:
  - a. For consumption up to 105% of confirmed nomination, \$.10 per therm.
  - b. For consumption greater than 105% of confirmed nomination, \$1.090 per therm. If consumption is less than the confirmed nomination, there is no charge.
- 4) Critical Days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a Critical Day, a charge equal to the daily delivery variance charge (DDVC) of the pipeline will apply to those volumes in excess of the confirmed nomination level. Currently, this charge is as much as \$11.30 per therm.

Customers transporting into CenterPoint Energy's system on pipelines other than Northern Natural Gas will be subject to daily imbalance tolerances and fees as specified in those pipeline's FERC approved tariffs, in lieu of the tolerances and fees specified above. As Northern revises this rate schedule, the Company's rate will be adjusted accordingly after receiving Commission approval.

**SMALL VOLUME FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)***Monthly Balancing:*

Volume differences between monthly receipts and deliveries shall be accumulated and recorded in customer's account. CenterPoint Energy shall determine the imbalance quantity for each month on a therm basis. CenterPoint Energy shall then account for the imbalance volumes as follows:

- 1) For negative imbalances on Northern Natural Gas Pipeline – when a customer's monthly consumption exceeds total deliveries to CenterPoint Energy for that customer by more than 2%, the excess usage will be billed to the customer at 120% of the monthly index price plus transportation charges. The monthly index price shall equal the average daily price reported in Platts Gas Daily for deliveries into Northern Natural Gas Pipeline at Ventura. Transportation charges shall equal the commodity transportation charge as published in Northern Natural Gas Pipeline tariffs for interruptible transportation service. For negative imbalances less than or equal to 2%, the excess usage will be billed at 100% of the monthly index price plus transportation charges.
- 2) For positive imbalances on Northern Natural Gas Pipeline – when a customer's total monthly deliveries exceed customer's monthly consumption by more than 2%, the dollar value of the excess gas deliveries will be credited to the customer's account at 80% of the monthly index price plus transportation charges. Transportation charges shall equal the commodity transportation charge as published in Northern Natural Gas Pipeline tariffs for firm transportation service. For positive imbalances less than or equal to 2%, the excess usage will be credited at 100% of the monthly index price plus transportation charges.
- 3) Customers transporting into CenterPoint Energy's system on Viking Pipeline will be subject to monthly imbalance tolerances and fees as specified in that pipeline's FERC approved tariffs, in lieu of the tolerances and fees specified above. The monthly index price shall equal the average daily price reported for deliveries into Emerson.

**Failure of Transportation Supply:**

If a customer or a customer's supplier notified CenterPoint Energy that it will be unable to deliver volumes to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station sufficient to meet daily consumption, CenterPoint Energy will use reasonable efforts to make gas available to the customer. Such gas will be charged to the customer at the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus the commodity cost of interruptible transportation plus applicable Daily Balancing Fees. If CenterPoint Energy is unable to obtain a replacement for the customer's transportation supply, the customer will be given the option to discontinue the use of gas or to incur the penalty associated with the unauthorized use of gas.

**SMALL VOLUME FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Penalty for Unauthorized Gas Use:**

For purposes of calculating any curtailment penalty, if a partial day curtailment is called, the customer's daily firm volume allotment will be prorated by, and applied to, the number of hours remaining in the gas day when the curtailment goes into effect. A partial day curtailment means a curtailment that is effective any time after 9:00 AM (Central Time).

If a customer fails to discontinue use of gas within one hour of being requested to do so by CenterPoint Energy, the customer will be deemed to have taken Unauthorized Gas. The penalty for unauthorized use of gas will be:

- 1) For the first occurrence of the gas year: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$3.00 per therm.
- 2) For subsequent occurrences: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$6.00 per therm.

For purposes of this provision, the gas year is the twelve-month period beginning November 1 each year. Further, CenterPoint Energy shall have the right to shut off customer's supply of gas in the event of failure to discontinue use after being requested to do so.

**Due Date:**

The due date printed on customer bills will not be more than five days before the next scheduled billing date. However, customers who have selected the AutoPay option may select a due date which is greater than five days before the next scheduled billing date.

**Late Payment Charge:**

Delinquent amounts are subject to a late payment charge of 1.5% or \$1.00, whichever is greater. No late payment charge will be applied if the delinquent amount is \$10.00 or less. All payments received will be credited against the oldest outstanding account balance before application of any late payment charge. The late payment charge will be assessed on unpaid amounts at the next scheduled billing date.

**Franchise Fee:**

A franchise fee will be added to the monthly bill computed at this rate schedule for those communities that impose a franchise fee.

**Gas Affordability Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the adjustment provided for in the Gas Affordability Program Rider, Section V, pages 25-25.b.

**Conservation Improvement Adjustment Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Conservation Improvement Adjustment Rider, Section V, page 13.

**Revenue Decoupling Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Revenue Decoupling Rider, Section V, pages 28-28.a.

**Contract:**

Customer must sign a separate contract for Transportation Service to each delivery point. The minimum contract for Firm Transportation Service is one (1) year.

Customer is obligated to provide a copy of all contracts used to procure and deliver natural gas to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station(s). Such contracts must be with suppliers who can demonstrate actual firm gas supplies under contract. Customer is not required to provide price information.

## LARGE VOLUME DUAL FUEL TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

### Availability:

Available to any customer whose peak day requirements exceed 1,999 Therms on an interruptible basis for the delivery of gas owned by the customer from a CenterPoint Energy Town Border Station(s) to a meter location on the customer's premise. Delivery is contingent on adequate distribution system capacity.

Customers that use, for reasons of price, an alternative energy supply (other than biomass energy) shall be limited to gas service under the Market Rate Service Rider for a period of one (1) year.

### Rate:

Monthly Basic Charge	Delivery Charge Per Therm
<del>\$1,000.00</del> <u>1,150.00</u>	<del>\$0.07048</del> <u>0.07710</u>

### Interim Surcharge

~~Effective January 1, 2020, customers' bills will be increased on an interim basis by 13.7% on the monthly basic charge, the GAP charge, and the delivery charge per therm. Any sales tax and franchise fees will be calculated on the increased bill. If the total amount of the rate increase approved at the end of the rate case (Docket G-008/GR-19-524) is lower than the total amount of the interim rates collected, the Company will refund the difference with interest, and if the total amount of the final rates are higher than the total amount of interim rates, the Company will not charge the customer for the difference.~~

### Special Conditions:

- 1) Customer must have arranged for the purchase of gas other than CenterPoint Energy's pipeline supply and for its delivery to a CenterPoint Energy Town Border Station(s).
- 2) Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing (by facsimile) with a reasonable estimate of total monthly consumption at least five (5) working days prior to the end of the preceding month.
- 3) Customer is responsible for reimbursing CenterPoint Energy for all incremental on-site plant investments, including telemetry equipment, required by CenterPoint Energy for providing transportation services to the customer. This investment shall remain the property of CenterPoint Energy.
- 4) Customer must have and maintain adequate standby facilities and have available sufficient fuel supply to maintain operations during periods of curtailment. On an annual basis, the customer shall provide an annual attestation to CenterPoint Energy that it has fully functioning back-up equipment and/or the ability to curtail natural gas use when requested. The operation and functionality of the back-up equipment is the sole responsibility of the interruptible customer. Failure to maintain this equipment or failure to curtail represents a breach of the terms of interruptible service and may result in termination of the service contract.
- 5) Customer agrees to curtail the use of gas transported hereunder, within one (1) hour when requested by CenterPoint Energy.
- 6) Customers must maintain three (3) current contacts to receive notice of curtailment. If the customer does not have three qualified contacts, the customer shall provide an annual attestation to CenterPoint Energy that it is unable to have three qualified contacts and the customer understands they are required to curtail service when requested. The Company will make an annual request that customers confirm that contact information.

### Therm Factor Adjustment:

Customer metered usage will be adjusted to reflect the following: 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, base pressure of 14.73 PSIA, and a gas temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

**LARGE VOLUME DUAL FUEL TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Nomination:**

Customer requesting volumes to flow on the first day of any month must directly advise CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing (by facsimile or email), by 9:00 a.m. central standard time, five (5) working days prior to the end of the preceding month, of the initial daily volumes to be delivered on its behalf from the Town Border Station to the customer's premise.

Customer requesting nomination changes commencing at 9:00 a.m. central clock time (CCT), must directly advise CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing (by facsimile), by 9:00 a.m. CCT on the preceding day (24 hours in advance), of the volumes to be delivered on its behalf from the Town Border Station to the customer's premise. CenterPoint Energy will utilize reasonable efforts to accommodate changes requested after the deadline.

Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department with a concurrent copy of all nominations made to the transporting pipeline for deliveries nominated to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station(s).

**Balancing:**

To maintain the operational integrity of CenterPoint Energy's distribution system, the customer is responsible for:

- 1) Scheduling deliveries which accurately reflect customer's expected total daily consumption; and
- 2) Balancing deliveries to CenterPoint Energy's system with volumes consumed at the delivery point.

*Daily Balancing:*

When daily volumes of natural gas delivered on behalf of customer to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border station receipt points or natural gas received at customer's designated delivery point differ, above or below daily scheduled volumes, the customer is out-of-balance. It is the customer's sole responsibility to maintain balance between nominated volumes and actual use, however, CenterPoint Energy reserves the right to adjust or refuse nominations to maintain balance.

Volume differences between daily receipts and deliveries shall be accumulated and recorded in customer's account. CenterPoint Energy shall determine the imbalance quantity for each day on a therm basis. CenterPoint Energy shall then account for the imbalance volumes as follows:

**LARGE VOLUME DUAL FUEL TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)**

- 1) Non-SUL/SOL/CRITICAL DAYS – When a customer's scheduled deliveries to the company differ from daily consumption by more than 5%, the customer will be charged Northern Natural Gas Company's maximum TI rate per therm for each imbalance therm. The current maximum TI rate per therm is:  

November – March	\$0.06570 per therm
April – October	\$0.02567 per therm
- 2) 2) SUL Days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a System Under run Limitation (SUL), the 5% daily imbalance tolerance will be suspended and a daily charge of \$.10 per therm for each therm of consumption less than the confirmed nomination will be charged. If consumption is greater than the confirmed nomination, there is no charge.
- 3) SOL Days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a System Overrun Limitation (SOL), the 5% of daily imbalance tolerance will be suspended and daily charges for each therm of consumption greater than the confirmed nomination will apply as follows:
  - a. For consumption up to 105% of confirmed nomination, \$.10 per therm.
  - b. For consumption greater than 105% of confirmed nomination, \$1.090 per therm. If consumption is less than the confirmed nomination, there is no charge.
- 4) Critical Days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a Critical Day, a charge equal to the daily delivery variance charge (DDVC) of the pipeline will apply to those volumes in excess of the confirmed nomination level. Currently this charge is as much as \$11.30 per therm.

Customers transporting into CenterPoint Energy's system on pipelines other than Northern Natural Gas will be subject to daily imbalance tolerances and fees as specified in those pipeline's FERC approved tariffs, in lieu of the tolerances and fees specified above. As Northern revises this rate schedule, the company's rate will be adjusted accordingly after receiving Commission approval.

**LARGE VOLUME DUAL FUEL TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Monthly Balancing:**

Volume differences between monthly receipts and deliveries shall be accumulated and recorded in customer's account. CenterPoint Energy shall determine the imbalance quantity for each month on a therm basis. CenterPoint Energy shall then account for the imbalance volumes as follows:

- 1) For negative imbalances on Northern Natural Gas Pipeline - when a customer's monthly consumption exceeds total deliveries to CenterPoint Energy for that customer by more than 2%, the excess usage will be billed to the customer at 120% of the monthly index price plus transportation charges. The monthly index price shall equal the average daily price reported in Platts Gas Daily for deliveries into Northern Natural Gas Pipeline at Ventura. Transportation charges shall equal the commodity transportation charge as published in Northern Natural Gas Pipeline tariffs for interruptible transportation service.
- 2) For negative imbalances less than or equal to 2%, the excess usage will be billed at 100% of the monthly index price plus transportation charges.
- 3) For positive imbalances on Northern Natural Gas Pipeline- when a customer's total monthly deliveries exceed customer's monthly consumption by more than 2%, the dollar value of the excess gas deliveries will be credited to the customer's account at 80% of the monthly Index price plus transportation charges. Transportation charges shall equal the commodity transportation charge as published in Northern Natural Gas Pipeline tariffs for firm transportation service. For positive imbalances less than or equal to 2%, the excess usage will be credited at 100% of the monthly Index price plus transportation charges.
- 4) Customers transporting into CenterPoint Energy's system on Viking Pipeline will be subject to monthly imbalance tolerances and fees as specified in that pipeline's FERC approved tariffs, in lieu of the tolerances and fees specified above. The monthly index price shall equal the average daily price reported for deliveries into Emerson.
- 5) When an imbalance occurs due to curtailment and the customer's gas continues to be delivered by the pipeline, CenterPoint Energy will apply the positive imbalance to the customer's account for re-delivery at a later date. Such volumes will not be subject to Daily Balancing Fees, but will be subject to Monthly Balancing Fees if the imbalance is not eliminated by the end of the month.

**LARGE VOLUME DUAL FUEL TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Penalty for Unauthorized Gas Use:**

If a customer fails to discontinue use of gas within one hour of being requested to do so by CenterPoint Energy, the customer will be deemed to have taken Unauthorized Gas. The penalty for unauthorized use of gas will be:

- 1) For the first occurrence of the gas year: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$3.00 per Therm.
- 2) For subsequent occurrences: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$6.00 per Therm.

For purposes of this provision, the gas year is the twelve month period beginning November 1 each year.

Further, CenterPoint Energy shall have the right to shut off customer's supply of gas in the event of failure to discontinue use after being requested to do so.

**Due Date:**

The due date printed on customer bills will not be more than five days before the next scheduled billing date. However, customers who have selected the AutoPay option may select a due date which is greater than five days before the next scheduled billing date.

**Late Payment Charge:**

Delinquent amounts are subject to a late payment charge of 1.5% or \$1.00, whichever is greater. No late payment charge will be applied if the delinquent amount is \$10.00 or less.

All payments received will be credited against the oldest outstanding account balance before application of any late payment charge. The late payment charge will be assessed on unpaid amounts at the next scheduled billing date.

**Franchise Fee:**

A franchise fee will be added to the monthly bill computed at this rate schedule for those communities that impose a franchise fee.

**Conservation Improvement Adjustment Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Conservation Improvement Rider, Section V, Page 13.

**Revenue Decoupling Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate with the exception of customers taking Market Rate Service, (Section V, Page 11) are subject to the Revenue Decoupling Rider, Section V, Pages 28-28.a.

**Contract:**

Customer must sign a separate contract for transportation service to each delivery point. The minimum contract term for Dual Fuel Transportation Service is thirty (30) days.

Customer is obligated to provide a copy of all contracts used to procure and deliver natural gas to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station(s). Customer is not required to provide price information.

**LARGE VOLUME FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICE**

**Availability:**

Available to any firm customer whose peak day requirements are ~~less~~ more than 2,000 therms for the delivery of gas owned by the customer from a CenterPoint Energy Town Border Station(s) to a meter location on the customer's premise.

**Rate:**

Annual Usage	Monthly Basic Charge	Delivery Charge Per Therm	Cost of Gas Per Therm
	<del>\$1,000.00</del> <u>1,150.00</u>		
Firm Volumes			
Demand Charge (of billing demand)		\$0. <del>4299048303</del> <u>4299048303</u>	\$0. <del>7010486850</del> <u>7010486850</u>
Commodity Charge (per Therm)		\$0. <del>0704807710</del> <u>0704807710</u>	\$0.00000
Interruptible Volumes			
		\$0. <del>0704807710</del> <u>0704807710</u>	\$0.00000

**Special Conditions:**

- 1) Customer must elect this service for a minimum period of one year.
- 2) Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing (or by electronic communication) with a reasonable estimate of total monthly consumption at least five (5) working days prior to the end of the preceding month.
- 3) Customer is responsible for reimbursing CenterPoint Energy for all incremental on-site plant investments, including telemetry equipment, required by CenterPoint Energy for providing transportation services to the customer. This investment shall remain the property of CenterPoint Energy.
- 4) If customer is an existing customer, taking services under the firm sales service tariff, the customer is responsible for stranded Cost of Gas Demand Charge shown above. However, CenterPoint Energy would forego the Cost of Gas Demand Charge as set forth above, provided that CenterPoint Energy can either utilize or reduce its transportation obligations such that there will be no stranded cost for the remaining firm service customers.

**Therm Factor Adjustment:**

Customer metered usage will be adjusted to reflect the following: 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, base pressure of 14.73 PSIA, and a gas temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

---

**LARGE VOLUME FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Special Conditions Firm Volumes:**

- 1) Customer will initially elect a base level of daily firm service and may request changes on or before September 1 of each year. This base level becomes effective with the subsequent November billing month and remains in effect for one year. The minimum base level of daily firm service will be 200 therms.
- 2) The first volume through the meter, on a daily basis, are firm volumes until the base level of firm is reached. All volumes used after the base level is reached are interruptible volumes.

**Special Conditions Interruptible Volumes:**

- 1) Customer must have and maintain adequate standby facilities and have available sufficient fuel supplies to maintain operations during periods of curtailment; or customer further agrees to curtail the use of interruptible gas on one (1) hour's notice when requested by CenterPoint Energy. On an annual basis, the customer shall provide an annual attestation to CenterPoint Energy that it has fully functioning back-up equipment and/or the ability to curtail natural gas use when requested. The operation and functionality of the back-up equipment is the sole responsibility of the interruptible customer. Failure to maintain this equipment or failure to curtail represents a breach of the terms of interruptible service and may result in termination of the service contract.
- 2) If a customer fails to discontinue use of gas within one hour of being requested to do so by CenterPoint Energy, the customer will be deemed to have taken Unauthorized Gas. The penalty for unauthorized use of gas will be:
  - a) For the first occurrence of the gas year: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$3.00 per therm.
  - b) For subsequent occurrences: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$6.00 per therm.
  - c) Further, CenterPoint Energy shall have the right to shut off customer's supply of gas in the event of failure to discontinue use after being requested to do so.
- 3) Customers must maintain three (3) current contacts to receive notice of curtailment. If the customer does not have three qualified contacts, the customer shall provide an annual attestation to CenterPoint Energy that it is unable to have three qualified contacts and the customer understands they are required to curtail service when requested. The Company will make an annual request that customers confirm that contact information.

**Nomination:**

Customer requesting volumes to flow on the first day of any month must directly advise CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing (by facsimile or email), by 9:00 a.m. Central Standard Time, five (5) working days prior to the end of the preceding month, of the initial daily volumes to be delivered on its behalf from the Town Border Station to the customer's premise.

Customer requesting changes to scheduled deliveries commencing at 9:00 a.m. Central Clock Time (CCT), must directly advise CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department in writing (by facsimile), by 9:00 a.m. CCT, on the preceding day (24 hours in advance), of the volumes to be delivered on its behalf from the Town Border Station to the customer's premise. CenterPoint Energy will utilize reasonable efforts to accommodate changes requested after the deadline.

Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department with a concurrent copy of all nominations made to the transporting pipeline for deliveries nominated to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station(s).

**LARGE VOLUME FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Balancing:**

To maintain the operational integrity of CenterPoint Energy's distribution system, the customer is responsible for:

- 1) Scheduling deliveries which accurately reflect customer's expected total daily consumption; and
- 2) Balancing deliveries to CenterPoint Energy's system with volumes consumed at the delivery point.

**Daily Balancing:**

When daily volumes of natural gas delivered on behalf of customer to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station receipt points or natural gas received at customer's designated delivery point differ, above or below daily scheduled volumes, the customer is out-of-balance. It is the customer's sole responsibility to maintain balance between nominated volumes and actual use, however, CenterPoint Energy reserves the right to adjust or refuse nominations to maintain balance.

Volume differences between daily receipts and deliveries shall be accumulated and recorded in customer's account. CenterPoint Energy shall determine the imbalance quantity for each day on a therm basis. CenterPoint Energy shall then account for the imbalance volumes as follows:

- 1) Non-SUL/SOL/CRITICAL DAYS – When a customer's scheduled deliveries to the Company differ from daily consumption by more than 5%, the customer will be charged Northern Natural Gas Company's maximum TI rate per therm for each imbalance therm. The current maximum TI rate is:

November-March	\$0.06570 per therm
April-October	\$0.02567 per therm

- 2) SUL Days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a System Under run Limitation (SUL), the 5% daily imbalance tolerance will be suspended and a daily charge of \$.10 per therm for each therm of consumption less than the confirmed nomination will be charged. If consumption is greater than the confirm nomination, there is no charge.
- 3) SOL days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a System Overrun Limitation (SOL), the 5% of daily imbalance tolerance will be suspended and daily charges for each therm of consumption greater than the confirmed nomination will apply as follows:
  - a. For consumption up to 105% of confirmed nomination, \$.10 per therm.
  - b. For consumption greater than 105% of confirmed nomination, \$1.090 per therm. If consumption is less than the confirmed nomination, there is no charge.
- 4) Critical Days – On days in which Northern Natural Gas Company declares a Critical Day, a charge equal to the daily delivery variance charge (DDVC) of the pipeline will apply to those volumes in excess of the confirmed nomination level. Currently, this charge is as much as \$11.30 per therm.

Customers transporting into CenterPoint Energy's system on pipelines other than Northern Natural Gas will be subject to daily imbalance tolerances and fees as specified in those pipeline's FERC approved tariffs, in lieu of the tolerances and fees specified above. As Northern revises this rate schedule, the Company's rate will be adjusted accordingly after receiving Commission approval.

**LARGE VOLUME FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)***Monthly Balancing:*

Volume differences between monthly receipts and deliveries shall be accumulated and recorded in customer's account. CenterPoint Energy shall determine the imbalance quantity for each month on a therm basis. CenterPoint Energy shall then account for the imbalance volumes as follows:

- 1) For negative imbalances on Northern Natural Gas Pipeline – when a customer's monthly consumption exceeds total deliveries to CenterPoint Energy for that customer by more than 2%, the excess usage will be billed to the customer at 120% of the monthly index price plus transportation charges. The monthly index price shall equal the average daily price reported in Platts Gas Daily for deliveries into Northern Natural Gas Pipeline at Ventura. Transportation charges shall equal the commodity transportation charge as published in Northern Natural Gas Pipeline tariffs for interruptible transportation service. For negative imbalances less than or equal to 2%, the excess usage will be billed at 100% of the monthly index price plus transportation charges.
- 2) For positive imbalances on Northern Natural Gas Pipeline – when a customer's total monthly deliveries exceed customer's monthly consumption by more than 2%, the dollar value of the excess gas deliveries will be credited to the customer's account at 80% of the monthly index price plus transportation charges. Transportation charges shall equal the commodity transportation charge as published in Northern Natural Gas Pipeline tariffs for firm transportation service. For positive imbalances less than or equal to 2%, the excess usage will be credited at 100% of the monthly index price plus transportation charges.
- 3) Customers transporting into CenterPoint Energy's system on Viking Pipeline will be subject to monthly imbalance tolerances and fees as specified in that pipeline's FERC approved tariffs, in lieu of the tolerances and fees specified above. The monthly index price shall equal the average daily price reported for deliveries into Emerson.

**Failure of Transportation Supply:**

If a customer or a customer's supplier notified CenterPoint Energy that it will be unable to deliver volumes to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station sufficient to meet daily consumption, CenterPoint Energy will use reasonable efforts to make gas available to the customer. Such gas will be charged to the customer at the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus the commodity cost of interruptible transportation plus applicable Daily Balancing Fees. If CenterPoint Energy is unable to obtain a replacement for the customer's transportation supply, the customer will be given the option to discontinue the use of gas or to incur the penalty associated with the unauthorized use of gas.

---

**LARGE VOLUME FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (CONTINUED)****Penalty for Unauthorized Gas Use:**

For purposes of calculating any curtailment penalty, if a partial day curtailment is called, the customer's daily firm volume allotment will be prorated by, and applied to, the number of hours remaining in the gas day when the curtailment goes into effect. A partial day curtailment means a curtailment that is effective any time after 9:00 AM (Central Time).

If a customer fails to discontinue use of gas within one hour of being requested to do so by CenterPoint Energy, the customer will be deemed to have taken Unauthorized Gas. The penalty for unauthorized use of gas will be:

- 1) For the first occurrence of the gas year: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$3.00 per therm.
- 2) For subsequent occurrences: the prevailing delivery charge plus the highest incremental supply cost for the day plus \$6.00 per therm.

For purposes of this provision, the gas year is the twelve-month period beginning November 1 each year. Further, CenterPoint Energy shall have the right to shut off customer's supply of gas in the event of failure to discontinue use after being requested to do so.

**Due Date:**

The due date printed on customer bills will not be more than five days before the next scheduled billing date. However, customers who have selected the AutoPay option may select a due date which is greater than five days before the next scheduled billing date.

**Late Payment Charge:**

Delinquent amounts are subject to a late payment charge of 1.5% or \$1.00, whichever is greater. No late payment charge will be applied if the delinquent amount is \$10.00 or less. All payments received will be credited against the oldest outstanding account balance before application of any late payment charge. The late payment charge will be assessed on unpaid amounts at the next scheduled billing date.

**Franchise Fee:**

A franchise fee will be added to the monthly bill computed at this rate schedule for those communities that impose a franchise fee.

**Gas Affordability Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the adjustment provided for in the Gas Affordability Program Rider, Section V, pages 25-25.b.

**Conservation Improvement Adjustment Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Conservation Improvement Adjustment Rider, Section V, page 13.

**Revenue Decoupling Rider:**

All customer bills under this rate are subject to the Revenue Decoupling Rider, Section V, pages 28-28.a.

**Contract:**

Customer must sign a separate contract for Transportation Service to each delivery point. The minimum contract for Firm Transportation Service is one (1) year.

Customer is obligated to provide a copy of all contracts used to procure and deliver natural gas to CenterPoint Energy's Town Border Station(s). Such contracts must be with suppliers who can demonstrate actual firm gas supplies under contract. Customer is not required to provide price information.

Reserved for Future Use

Date Filed: [August 12, 2005](#)[March 12, 2021](#)

Effective Date: [August 12, 2005](#)[June 1, 2021](#)

Docket No: G-008/GR-~~04-90~~[19-524](#)

Issued by: ~~Phillip R. Hammond~~ [V.P. Amber S. Lee](#), [Supply Management Director](#), Regulatory  
[Affairs Services and Government Relations](#)

## DAILY BALANCING SERVICE RIDER

### Availability:

Available to any customer, or to any agent representing a customer or a group of customers, taking service under CenterPoint Energy's Firm or Dual Fuel Transportation Service rate schedules. Customers receiving service under this Rider are subject to all provisions of the applicable Transportation Service rate schedule, except as noted. Customers may contract for service under this Rider up to a maximum of 20% of their peak day volume.

### Rate:

	<b>Therm of Daily Balancing Quantity</b>
Monthly Reservation Charge	\$0.22

Daily Balancing Quantity is defined as the amount of volumes by which customer's daily flow of gas through Company's delivery system is entitled to deviate from nominated levels, over and above the tolerance amounts allowed by the transportation tariff, before incurring penalties.

### Special Conditions:

- 1) The term of service is one month commencing on the first gas day of the month and shall remain in effect from month to month thereafter until terminated by either party by thirty days written notice. Changes in the amount of contracted Daily Balancing Quantity must be made at least 5 working days prior to the end of the preceding month.
- 2) On gas days when the Company in its sole discretion determines it is experiencing a system operating limitation, the Company may notify the customer that the Daily Balancing Service is suspended for the gas day in order to preserve system integrity. When Service is suspended, the customer shall be required to be within the nomination tolerances of the applicable transportation rate schedule and will be assessed applicable penalties upon noncompliance with the terms of the transportation rate schedule. CenterPoint Energy will notify customers of the suspension of this service as soon as possible, however, the latest CenterPoint Energy will notify customers of the suspension of this service is by 3:00 p.m. CST of the gas day for which the suspension has been called.
- 3) If the variance between Receipts and Deliveries exceeds the contracted Daily Balancing Quantity, those volumes will be treated as a negative or positive daily imbalance and will be treated according to the terms and conditions contained under the applicable Transportation Service.
- 4) Customer will continue to be responsible for monthly imbalances under the applicable transportation rate schedule.
- 5) Customer must sign a separate agreement for Daily Balancing Service as shown in CenterPoint Energy's Tariff, Section VII, Original page 7 and 7.a.
- 6) Customer may contract for Daily Balancing Service up to a maximum of 20% of their peak day volume.

## PURCHASED GAS ADJUSTMENT RIDER

### Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA):

In the event there is a change in the delivered cost of gas purchased that will result in a billing rate change that exceeds .3 ¢ per Therm, to be sold under CenterPoint Energy's gas service rate schedule(s), there shall be added to or deducted from the monthly bill computed thereunder the product of the monthly consumption and the amount per Therm to the nearest 0.001¢ by which the average annual purchased gas cost per Therm at the new rate is more or less than the "base gas cost" which is the cost of purchased gas established in CenterPoint Energy's latest company rate filing by rate class, expressed as a cost per Therm.

In the event CenterPoint Energy finds it necessary to supplement the supply of natural gas by means of peak shaving, an amount per Therm shall be added to or deducted from the Gas Cost Reconciliation factor applied to firm gas service sales. This peak shaving amount shall be determined by dividing the difference between the peak shaving costs for the current twelve (12) month period ending June 30, and the peak shaving costs for the base period used for establishing the rate schedules to which this rider applies, by the total Therm sales to firm gas service customers for the current twelve (12) month period (adjusted to reflect normal temperature). To the extent peak shaving is used to serve dual fuel customers, an appropriate adjustment will be made.

### Cost of Gas by Component:

- 1) Annual demand unit cost is defined as annual demand costs less Large General Service demand costs divided by annual demand sales volumes net of Large Volume General Service sales. Annual demand sales volume is calculated pursuant to MPUC Rule 7825.2400.
- 2) Large General Service demand unit cost is defined as annual demand costs divided by the firm peak day usage used to calculate the base demand unit cost for the Test Year. This amount is then divided by 12 to arrive at the monthly per unit billing demand rate.
- 3) Commodity Unit Cost is defined as the system commodity related costs forecasted to be incurred during the next month for forecasted sales for the same month.

### Annual Gas Cost Reconciliation:

For each twelve (12) month period ending June 30, an annual cost reconciliation by cost component will be determined based upon actual annual gas costs incurred by CenterPoint Energy compared with annual gas costs recovered from volumes of gas sold. The annual cost recovered by cost component is the product of the total unit rate used in calculating the PGAs during the twelve (12) month period and the applicable gas sales volumes identified as conventional natural gas sales volumes on customer bills during the period when each of the total unit rates were in effect. The difference between actual cost and recovered cost for each component will be used in calculating a Gas Cost Reconciliation (GCR) factor for each rate schedule. The GCR factor will be applied to customers' billings on September 1 and will be in effect for a twelve (12) month period.

### Refund Procedure:

Refunds and interest on the refunds that are received from the suppliers or transporters of purchased gas and attributable to the cost of gas previously sold, will be annually refunded by credits to bills, except that cumulative refund amounts equal to or greater than \$5.00 per customer must be refunded within ninety (90) days from the date the refund is received from a supplier or transporter. Refunds will be allocated to customer classes in proportion to previously charged costs of purchased gas. Within classes, the refund amount per unit will be applied to bills on the basis of individual twelve (12) month usage. CenterPoint Energy will add interest to the un-refunded balance at the prime interest rate.

**STATEMENT OF PURCHASED GAS ADJUSTMENTS**

Effective \_\_\_\_\_, 2\_\_\_\_, the rate schedules listed below will be changed as provided in the Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider, Section V, Page 22.

Rate Schedule	Page (Section V)	\$ Per therm		
		Previous PGA Effective _/_/_	Current Adjustment	PGA Effective _/_/_
Residential Sales Service	1	(._____)	._____	(._____)
Small Volume Commercial A & Commercial - Industrial B Sales Service	2	(._____)	._____	(._____)
Small Volume Commercial – Industrial C	2	(._____)	._____	(._____)
Large General Firm Sales Service	3	(._____)	._____	(._____)
Small Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service	4	(._____)	._____	(._____)
Small Volume Firm/Interruptible Sales Service	5 Firm Interruptible	(._____) (._____)	._____ ._____	(._____) (._____)
Large Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service	6	(._____)	._____	(._____)
Large Volume Firm/Interruptible Sales Service	7 Firm Interruptible	(._____) (._____)	._____ ._____	(._____) (._____)
Small Volume Firm Transportation	14	(._____)	._____	(._____)
Large Volume Firm Transportation	15	(._____)	._____	(._____)
Small Volume Firm/Interruptible Transportation	17 Demand	(._____)	._____	(._____)
Large Volume Firm/Interruptible Transportation	19 Demand	(._____)	._____	(._____)

**FRANCHISE FEE RIDER**

**Billing of Franchise, Gross Earnings, Receipts or Revenue Tax, Excise Tax or Other Charges or Taxes:**

There shall be added to the customer's bill, an amount equal to any franchise gross earnings, excise or other charges or taxes now or hereafter imposed upon CenterPoint Energy, whether imposed by ordinance, franchise or otherwise applicable to gas service supplied by CenterPoint Energy to customer.

The Company remits 100% of these fees collected from ratepayers to the local governmental unit. The Company will notify the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission of any new, renewed, expired, or changed franchise fee, authorized by Minn. Stat. § 216B.36 to raise revenue, at least 60 days prior to its implementation. If the Company receives less than 60 days' notice of a repealed or reduced fee from a city, the Company will notify the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission within 10 business days of receiving notice. Notification to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission will include a copy of the relevant franchise ordinance, or other operative document authorizing imposition, or change in the fee.

The Company will include the following language on the first bill of a customer on which a new or modified fee is listed:

The MUNICIPALITY granted CenterPoint Energy a franchise to operate within the city Limits. A Gas franchise fee of x.x% of Gross Revenues/\$x.xx per Meter/\$x.xx per Therm will be collected from customers effective MM/DD/YYYY. The line item appears on your bill as "City Franchise Fee." CenterPoint Energy remits 100% of this fee to the MUNICIPALITY.

City	Residential	Com-A Less than 1,500 therms /yr	Com/Ind B 1,500 > or < 5,000 therms/yr	Com/Ind C > 5,000 therms/yr	Small Volume Dual Fuel A < 120,000 therms/yr	SVDF B > 120,000 therms/yr	Large Volume Firm & Dual Fuel >1,999 therms Peak Day	Effective Date
Afton	\$2.00	\$4.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	01/01/2005
Alexandria	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	05/10/2014
Anoka	\$3.48	\$3.48	\$9.89	\$42.02	\$87.53	\$340.34	\$991.62	01/01/2020
Baxter	\$2.00	\$7.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$65.00	\$65.00	\$65.00	09/01/2016
Benson	\$3.00	\$4.00	\$5.00	\$12.00	\$14.00	\$24.00	\$55.00	03/01/2015
Big Lake	4.00	4.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	10/01/2014
Bloomington	\$3.75	\$7.50	\$7.50	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$115.00	03/01/2016
Blue Earth	\$2.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	12/01/2003
Brooklyn Center	\$1.66	\$1.74	\$5.63	\$22.50	\$56.23	\$107.96	\$107.96	01/01/2020
Brooklyn Park	\$7.00	\$6.50	\$20.00	\$70.00	\$160.00	\$160.00	\$160.00	03/01/2016
Burnsville	\$4.00	\$12.00	\$40.00	\$180.00	\$180.00	\$180.00	\$180.00	09/01/2020
Centerville	\$4.00	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00	05/01/2016
Champlin	\$3.98	\$3.98	\$10.78	\$45.33	\$90.67	\$158.66	\$158.66	04/01/2021
Chanhassen	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$9.00	\$20.00	\$90.00	\$90.00	\$90.00	02/01/2020
Chaska	\$2.70	\$2.85	\$8.60	\$39.50	\$140.00	\$315.00	\$715.00	08/01/2014
Coon Rapids	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	01/01/1992
Cottage Grove	\$1.65	\$4.95	\$8.25	\$8.25	\$16.50	\$16.50	\$24.75	01/01/2010
Dayton	\$4.00	\$7.00	\$20.00	\$65.00	\$152.00	\$155.00	\$200.00	01/01/2020
Deephaven	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	10/01/2019
Eagle Lake	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50	10/01/2012
Eden Prairie	\$4.00	\$5.00	\$12.50	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$55.00	04/01/2018
Edina	\$2.90	\$4.90	\$13.68	\$58.32	\$58.32	\$58.32	\$58.32	05/01/2019
Elk River	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$16.00	\$50.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	07/01/2013
Excelsior	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	07/13/2013
Golden Valley	\$6.00	\$7.50	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$258.00	\$258.00	\$258.00	04/01/2018

Note: Percents are calculated on percent of revenue

**FRANCHISE FEE RIDER (CONTINUED)**

City	Residential	Com-A Less than 1,500 therms/yr	Com/Ind B 1,500 > or < 5,000 therms/yr	Com/Ind C > 5,000 therms/yr	Small Volume Dual Fuel A < 120,000 therms/yr	SVDF B > 120,000 therms/yr	Large Volume Firm & Dual Fuel >1,999 therms Peak Day	Effective Date
Granite Falls	5%/\$1,500 maximum	5%/\$1,500 maximum	5%/\$1,500 maximum	5%/\$1,500 maximum	5%/\$1,500 maximum	5%/\$1,500 maximum	5%/\$1,500 maximum	03/31/2005
Hopkins	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$8.75	\$24.70	\$48.55	\$170.50	\$170.50	01/01/2019
Isanti	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	01/01/2016
Janesville	\$2.70	\$2.70	\$6.75	\$17.50	\$77.00	\$77.00	\$77.00	08/01/2015
Lake Crystal	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	08/01/2003
Lexington	\$4.00	\$6.50	\$40.00	\$170.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	03/01/2017
Little Falls	\$1.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	01/01/2004
Long Lake	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$25.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	01/01/2021
Long Prairie	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	01/01/2007
Luverne	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$16.00	\$35.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	01/01/2019
Madelia	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	04/01/2021
Mankato	\$1.00	\$2.75	\$6.50	\$15.00	\$20.00	\$25.00	\$30.00	02/01/2015
Medford	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	05/01/2020
Melrose	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	01/01/2015
Minneapolis	5.0%	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%	3.5%	03/01/2018
Minnetonka	\$4.50	\$4.50	\$13.50	\$45.00	\$45.00	\$45.00	\$45.00	01/01/2019
Morris	\$2.00	\$5.00	\$9.00	\$27.00	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$750.00	07/01/2004
Mound	\$2.75	\$2.75	\$2.75	\$2.75	\$2.75	\$2.75	\$2.75	01/01/2014
Mounds View	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	01/01/2019
New Hope	\$3.00	\$4.00	\$11.00	\$38.00	\$74.00	\$83.00	\$164.00	01/01/2017
North Mankato	\$1.00	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$15.00	\$20.00	\$30.00	\$75.00	06/01/2008
Oakdale	\$1.50	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$8.00	\$17.00	\$17.00	\$17.00	01/01/2011
Osseo	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	03/01/2012
Owatonna	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	01/01/2003
Plymouth	\$2.29	\$3.44	\$11.48	\$45.90	\$45.90	\$45.90	\$45.90	04/01/2020
Princeton	\$1.50	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$55.00	02/15/2019
Prior Lake	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$50.00	07/01/2006
Ramsey	\$7.00	\$10.00	\$20.00	\$70.00	\$148.00	\$148.00	\$800.00	11/01/2020
Richfield	\$4.10	\$4.10	\$12.50	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$185.00	04/01/2014
Richmond	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	05/01/2013
Robbinsdale	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	06/01/2019
Rogers	\$4.00	\$7.00	\$20.00	\$70.00	\$148.00	\$148.00	\$800.00	01/01/2016

Note: Percents are calculated on percent of revenue

**FRANCHISE FEE RIDER (CONTINUED)**

City	Residential	Com-A Less than 1,500 therms/yr	Com/Ind B 1,500 > or < 5,000 therms/yr	Com/Ind C > 5,000 therms/yr	Small Volume Dual Fuel A < 120,000 therms/yr	SVDF B > 120,000 therms/yr	Large Volume Firm & Dual Fuel >1,999 therms Peak Day	Effective Date
Sauk Centre	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	07/01/2012
Shakopee	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	01/01/2017
Shorewood	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$10.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	03/01/2018
Sleepy Eye	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	01/01/1998
Spring Lake Park	\$0.58	\$0.61	\$1.66	\$8.05	\$37.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	04/01/2015
St. Augusta	\$3.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$5.00	01/03/2010
St. Louis Park	\$6.75	\$6.75	\$12.00	\$48.50	\$48.50	\$48.50	\$148.50	06/01/2021
Victoria	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	02/01/2017
Waseca	\$1.40	\$1.80	\$5.00	\$16.00	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$300.00	09/01/2010
Winnebago	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$4.25	\$10.50	\$11.00	\$50.00	\$75.00	12/01/2011
Winsted	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	04/01/2012
Zimmerman	\$3.00	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	09/01/2020

Note: Percents are calculated on percent of revenue

**GAS AFFORDABILITY SERVICE PROGRAM (“PROGRAM”)****1) Availability:**

Available to residential customers who have been qualified and receive assistance from the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (“LIHEAP”) during the federal fiscal year (“Program Year”). Further, such customers must agree to be placed on a levelized payment plan and must also agree to a payment schedule as described below to be considered a “Qualified Customer”. Only customers receiving a financial benefit under paragraph 2.1 and/or 2.2 shall be considered a “Qualified Customer.”

**2) Program Description and Rate Impact for Qualifying Customers:**

This Program shall meet the conditions of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 216B.16, Subd. 15 on low income programs. The Program has two components: 1) Affordability, and 2) Arrearage Forgiveness. CenterPoint Energy, or an agent of CenterPoint Energy, will review current billing and consumption information, approved LIHEAP benefits and household income information as submitted to CenterPoint Energy to determine a Qualified Customer’s payment schedule amount. A Qualified Customer’s payment schedule shall include both payment of the customer’s current month’s bill (which reflects one-twelfth the levelized payment plan), after inclusion of the affordability bill credit, and payment of a portion of the Qualified Customer’s pre-program arrears.

**a. Affordability Component:**

The Affordability component consists of a bill credit determined as one-twelfth of the difference between CenterPoint Energy’s estimate of the Qualified Customer’s annual gas bill and 4% of the Qualified Customer’s household income as provided by the Qualified Customer to CenterPoint Energy. This bill credit is a Program cost that will be included in the Tracker. Any energy assistance sums not applied to arrears will be applied to a Qualified Customer’s current bill. Energy Assistance is not considered in the calculation of the affordability credit.

**b. Arrearage Forgiveness Component:**

The Arrearage Forgiveness component consists of a monthly credit that will be applied each month before receipt of the Qualified Customer’s payment. The credit will be designed to retire pre-program arrears over a period of 12 months and calculated so that the amount the Qualified Customer contributes to retire pre-program arrears is 2% or less of the Qualified Customer’s household income as provided by the Qualified Customer to CenterPoint Energy. This arrearage forgiveness credit is a Program cost that will be included in the Tracker.

**3) Conditions of Service:**

- a. Enrollment participation is limited to a first come first served basis until the estimated Program dollar cap is reached.
- b. Before the start of an enrollment period, CenterPoint Energy will mail information on the Program and an application to participate in the Program to targeted current LIHEAP customers in arrears. The application for participation must be completed in full and returned to CenterPoint Energy before the close of the enrollment period.
- c. Regardless of arrears balances, CenterPoint Energy agrees to maintain service and suspend collection activities to Qualified Customers if they maintain their payment schedule.
- d. Qualified Customers must maintain an active CenterPoint Energy account in said customer’s name at their permanent primary residence only to be eligible for this Program.
- e. Qualified Customers agree to notify CenterPoint Energy of any changes in address, income level, or household size. Such changes may result in removal from the Program. Additionally, Qualified Customers who do not continue to qualify under the provisions of Section 1 above can be removed from the Program.

**GAS AFFORDABILITY SERVICE PROGRAM (“PROGRAM”) (CONTINUED)***(Conditions of Service Continued)*

- f. If a Qualified Customer fails to pay two consecutive monthly payments in full under the Program, they will be terminated from the Program and will be subject to CenterPoint Energy’s regular collection practices including the possibility of disconnection.

**4) Funding:**

- a. Total Program costs, which include start-up costs, Affordability component, Arrearage Forgiveness component and incremental administration costs incurred by CenterPoint Energy shall not exceed \$5 million per year. However, if there is an over-recovered balance in the Tracker at the end of a year, the over-recovered balance may be rolled over to the subsequent year and can be used to supplement benefits in the subsequent year unless the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission orders otherwise. CenterPoint Energy shall limit administrative costs included in the tracker (except start-up related costs) to 5% of total Program costs. Administrative costs will include, but are not limited to, the costs to inform customers of the Program and costs to process and implement enrollments.
- b. CenterPoint Energy shall recover Program costs in the Delivery Charge applicable to all customers receiving firm service under the following tariffs: Residential Sales Service, Small Volume Commercial & Industrial Sales Service, Small Volume Firm Transportation Service, Large General Firm Sales and Large Volume Firm Transportation, except customers taking service under the Market Rate Service Rider.
- c. A tracking mechanism (“Tracker”) will be established to provide for recovery of actual Program costs as compared to the recovery of Program costs through rates. CenterPoint Energy will track and defer Program costs with regulatory approval. The prudence of the Program costs are subject to regulatory review. The GAP recovery rate is \$0.00236 per therm. CenterPoint Energy may petition the Commission to adjust this rate in order to true up the Program balance in the Tracker.

**5) Evaluation:**

- a. The Program shall be evaluated on or before May 31, 2022. The program may be modified based on annual reports and on a financial evaluation.
- b. The annual reports will include the effect of the Program on customer payment frequency, payment amount, arrearage level and number of customers in arrears, service disconnections, retention rates, customer complaints and utility customer collection activity. The annual reports may also include information about customer satisfaction with the Program.
- c. The financial evaluation will include a discounted cash flow of the Program’s cost-effectiveness analysis from a ratepayer perspective comparing the 1) total Program costs, which includes the Affordability component, Arrearage Forgiveness component and total company incurred administration costs, to 2) the total net savings including cost reductions on utility functions such as the impact of the Program on write-offs, service disconnections and reconnections and collections activities. The discounted cash flow difference between total Program costs and total net savings will result in either a net benefit or a net cost to ratepayers for the Program.

**6) Program Revocation:**

The Program, upon approval by the Commission, is effective unless the Commission, after notice and hearing, rescinds or amends its order approving the Program.

**GAS AFFORDABILITY SERVICE PROGRAM (“PROGRAM”) (CONTINUED)****7) Term:**

The Program begins in January of each year. Annual Reports will be filed on March 31 each year.

**8) Applicability:**

Unless otherwise specified in this tariff, Qualified Customers in the Program shall receive service in accordance with all terms and conditions of the standard gas service tariffs applicable to residential customers.

## LARGE CUSTOMER CREDIT POLICY RIDER

### Applicability:

Applicable to any Commercial or Industrial, or RNG Interconnect customer who is reasonably expected to use or produce more than 1,200,000 Therms of natural gas in a twelve month period. The reasonable expectation of usage or production shall be calculated based on historical consumption or production on the property, any increased or decreased heating and/or processing load and the customer's declared usage needs or production quantities. Special conditions are listed below.

### Method:

- 1) Prior to providing gas service or RNG Interconnect service to new customers to whom the rider is applicable, or prior to continuing to provide gas service to existing customers to whom the rider is applicable, CenterPoint Energy may request a credit report from an independent credit bureau. If an independent credit bureau report is not available, or if such report does not provide sufficient financial information, CenterPoint Energy may ask the customer to provide their most recent financial information (e.g., income statement, balance sheet and cash flow statements).
- 2) In the case of existing customers, financial information may be requested on an annual basis for any customer expected to use or produce more than 1,200,000 therms per year, or whenever:
  - a. the customer is planning a plant/facility expansion resulting in increased gas use or production of more than 500,000 therms per year;
  - b. there is a merger or acquisition with another party;
  - c. the customer is delinquent in paying their gas bill;
  - d. CenterPoint Energy must upgrade its facilities to provide the customer with gas or receive gas; or
  - e. there is evidence of other tangible economic or operational issues that may impact the customer's financial stability.
- 3) If CenterPoint Energy determines that the customer's most recent financial information indicates objective reasons for concern that the customer may not be able to pay its bills, CenterPoint Energy may require the customer to provide a "credit enhancement."
  - a. The following are indications that a customer may not be able to pay its bills:
    - i. The customer has an unsatisfactory credit rating;
    - ii. The customer has an insufficient prior credit history upon which a credit rating may be based;
    - iii. The customer's audited financial reports indicate net losses from operations;
    - iv. The customer's audited financial reports indicate negative cash flow from operations;
    - v. The customer's audited financial reports indicate current liabilities that exceed their current assets;
    - vi. The customer's audited financial reports indicate deficit retained earnings;
    - vii. The customer has substantial unresolved claims against the company (i.e., lawsuits, guarantees of another's indebtedness, environmental issues);
    - viii. The customer's auditors' opinion discloses that there is doubt about the company's ability to continue as a going concern;
    - ix. The ~~customer's~~ customers have bond ratings below "investment grade;" or
    - x. The customer is uninsurable or under-insurable.

**LARGE COMMERCIAL / INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMER CREDIT POLICY RIDER (CONTINUED)**

- 4) Acceptable “credit enhancements” that CenterPoint Energy may require to assure payment of bills include:
  - a. A guarantee of payment by a third party with a financial condition acceptable to CenterPoint Energy;
  - b. A deposit equal to 2 months’ gas usage and, if the customer is a new customer or CenterPoint Energy is incurring costs to upgrade its system to serve an existing customer, the amount of any capital incurred to serve the customer. For new customers or customers that are expected to increase their usage, the deposit calculation will be based on reasonably estimated usage/consumption which will include but not be limited to historical consumption on the property, any increased or decreased heating and processing load and the customer’s intended usage.
  - c. A surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit equal to 2 months’ gas usage and, if the customer is a new customer or CenterPoint Energy is incurring costs to upgrade its system to serve an existing customer, the amount of any capital incurred to serve the customer.
  - d. An agreement that the customer will be billed and will remit payment on a weekly basis; or
  - e. An agreement, if applicable, that the customer will procure gas supplies from a third party and utilize CenterPoint Energy only as a transport service to deliver the gas to its facility.
  
- 5) If CenterPoint Energy does require a “credit enhancement,” it may request financial information (either an independent credit report or financial information from the customer) on a monthly or quarterly basis to assess any changes in the customer’s financial condition. In any case, CenterPoint Energy will review the customer’s financial condition at least annually.
  - a. If the financial condition has improved, CenterPoint Energy will refund any or all of the deposit required or reduce the amount of any bond or irrevocable letter of credit or otherwise reduce or remove the credit enhancement requirement.
  - b. If the customer does not agree to the required credit enhancement or becomes more than 30 days delinquent, CenterPoint Energy may refuse to serve the customer (if a new customer) or initiate the disconnection of gas service process immediately (if an existing customer) unless the customer makes credit arrangements or provides other credit enhancements acceptable to CenterPoint Energy. Prior to initiating the disconnection of gas service, CenterPoint Energy will notify the customer of the disconnection action by phone and either e-mail or fax.

**Special Conditions:**

- 1) All provisions of the rate schedule under which a customer currently takes service apply unless otherwise changed by this Rider.
- 2) Any deposit is not automatically used to cover an overdue bill and will not prevent disconnection.



**REVENUE DECOUPLING RIDER (RD RIDER)****1) Purpose:**

The purpose of this Revenue Decoupling Rider is to reduce CenterPoint Energy's financial disincentive to the promotion of energy efficiency and conservation by severing the link between the recovery of CenterPoint Energy's non-gas distribution costs and the volume of gas sold or transported. This will be accomplished by comparing the level of non-gas revenues authorized in the last general rate case adjusted for increases in customer counts to the level of non-gas revenues collected by rate class to calculate either a class revenue shortfall or revenue surplus. If either a revenue shortfall or a revenue surplus exists in an applicable rate class, then the delivery charge per therm for that rate class will be increased or decreased to collect from or return to the applicable rate class the calculated revenue shortfall or revenue surplus. This rider complies with the legislative intent and the language of Minnesota Statutes, Section 216B.2412 Decoupling of Energy Sales from Revenues.

**2) Applicability:**

This rider shall apply to all CenterPoint Energy's customers except those taking service under the Company's Large Volume Market Rate Service Rider receiving gas service throughout CenterPoint Energy's service territory including Residential Sales Service, Small Volume Commercial and Industrial Sales Service, Large General Firm Sales Service, Small Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service, Small Volume Firm/Interruptible Sales Service, Large Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service, Small Volume Firm Transportation Service, Large Volume Firm Transportation Service, Small Volume Dual Fuel Transportation Service and Large Volume Dual Fuel Transportation Service rate schedules.

**3) Evaluation Report Filing and Review:**

No later than September 1 of each year CenterPoint Energy shall file annually with the Minnesota Public Utility Commission an Evaluation Report calculating the RD Rider adjustments, if any, in accordance with the provisions of Section 4 Calculation of RD Rider Adjustment. CenterPoint Energy shall provide workpapers and data supporting the calculations reflected in the Evaluation Report. The Evaluation Report shall reflect the annual Evaluation Period, which shall be the twelve-month period ended June 30 of the year immediately preceding the filing of the associated Evaluation Report.

The applicable rate adjustment under the RD Rider shall be effective with bills rendered on or after September 1 of the year in which the Evaluation Report is filed and will continue for twelve months. At the end of the twelve month collection period, any remaining amounts to be collected from or refunded to customers will be added to or subtracted from the Annual RD Rider Adjustment for the next RD Rider filing. If the RD Rider is terminated, then the current RD Rider rate adjustment will continue in effect until the full amounts are either collected from or refunded to customers.

In the event any portions of the proposed rate adjustments are modified by the Minnesota Public Utility Commission, the proposed rate adjustments shall be adjusted in accordance with the Commission's order.

CenterPoint Energy shall record its best estimate of the amounts to be recognized under the RD Rider so as to reflect in its books and records a fair representation of the impact of this rider in actual earnings. Such estimate shall be adjusted, if necessary, upon filing the RD Rider calculations with the Commission, and again upon final Commission approval.

**REVENUE DECOUPLING RIDER (RD RIDER) (CONTINUED)****4) Calculation of RD Rider Adjustment:**

The RD Rider Adjustment will be calculated annually and on a class-by-class basis for each class of customers to which the RD Rider applies and will be applied on a per therm basis. For purposes of calculating the RD Rider Adjustment, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

Authorized Revenue Per Customer - the rate schedule non-gas revenue requirements divided by the number of customers used to determine the final rates for the applicable rate class resulting from CenterPoint Energy's last general rate case.

Allowed Revenues – Authorized Revenue Per Customer multiplied by the actual Evaluation Period number of customers, calculated each month of the twelve month Evaluation Period, and summed. The RD Rider Adjustment shall equal the Allowed Revenues less the Evaluation Period actual Non-Gas Revenues, divided by the class forecast volumes used to determine final rates from the last general rate case.

The RD Rider Adjustment for the applicable rate classes to collect an under-recovery amount of non-gas revenues will be capped at +10% of non-gas margins, including basic charge revenue, after removing the CCRC (recovery of bas energy conservation costs) for each of the rate classes, while the RD Rider adjustment for the applicable rate classes to return an over-recovered amount of non-gas revenues shall not be capped.

---

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY SUPPLIED METER COMMUNICATION RIDER**

**Availability:**

Available to any customer receiving service under a tariff that requires automatic meter reading/telemetry equipment at the customer's meter and who wants CenterPoint Energy to be responsible for communication service to their meter in lieu of the customer providing an analog telephone line to the meter.

**Rate:**

---

<b>Monthly Charge</b>	<b>\$17.00</b>
-----------------------	----------------

---

**Special Conditions:**

- 1) CenterPoint Energy shall have access to the customer's meter and a location to install an antenna if necessary.
- 2) If the customer's meter is inside a building, the customer will provide an outside location for an antenna if needed.
- 3) In certain geographical areas of limited or no communication channels the Rider is not available until adequate communication service can be provided.
- 4) Customer must choose this rider for a minimum of one year.
- 5) Customers receiving service under a tariff that requires telemetry equipment and who fail to provide analog telephone service to the gas meter will automatically be placed on this Rider.

**RENEWABLE NATURAL GAS INTERCONNECT SERVICE****Availability:**

Available to any customer who has signed and executed an Interconnection Agreement for the delivery of renewable natural gas (“RNG”) at a metered location on the customer’s premises. For purposes of this tariff and the Interconnection Agreement, RNG means biogenic renewable natural gas, defined as pipeline-compatible gaseous fuel that has been derived from the anaerobic biological decomposition of organic materials and has a lower lifecycle carbon dioxide equivalent emissions than geological natural gas. CenterPoint Energy’s acceptance of the RNG is contingent on the RNG meeting the testing and quality requirements as set forth in the Company’s Gas Quality Standards.

Customers that deliver natural gas into CenterPoint’s system must do so for a minimum of one (1) year, and termination of the agreement is subject to the terms of the Interconnection Agreement.

<b>Monthly Basic Charge</b>	<b>Charge Per Therm</b>
\$7,500.00	\$0.15748

**Special Conditions:**

Subject to conditions included in the Interconnection Agreement and Gas Quality Standards.

**Nomination and Gas Delivery Specifications:**

Customers must supply the volumes designated in the Interconnection Agreement, at the rate and pressure specified in the Interconnection Agreement, and per the quality requirements set forth in the Gas Quality Standards.

**Due Date:**

The due date printed on customer bills will not be more than five days before the next scheduled billing date. However, customers who have selected the AutoPay option may select a due date which is greater than five days before the next scheduled billing date.

**Late Payment Charge:**

Delinquent amounts are subject to a late payment charge of 1.5% or \$1.00, whichever is greater. No late payment charge will be applied if the delinquent amount is \$10.00 or less.

All payments received will be credited against the oldest outstanding account balance before application of any late payment charge. The late payment charge will be assessed on unpaid amounts at the next scheduled billing date.

**Feasibility:**

Consistent with the terms set forth in the Interconnect Agreement, the rendering of service to the Customer shall be economically feasible so that the cost of extending such service will not have an undue burden on other customers. All RNG Interconnection projects will be justified using the following formula:

$$\text{Allowable Investment} = \text{Est. Annual Gas Margin} \text{ Divided by } \text{Cost of Service Factor}$$

Estimated annual gas margin is the annualized per therm receipt charge for the RNG the Customer delivers into the Company’s system and \$12,000 of the annualized basic charge, plus the estimated annualized per therm delivery charge for natural gas delivered to the Customer for use in producing RNG and the annualized basic charge for the delivered natural gas. The Cost of Service Factor is the currently effective Cost of Service Factor for Dual Fuel service as defined in Section VI, Page 5.

---

**RENEWABLE NATURAL GAS INTERCONNECT SERVICE (Continued)****Feasibility (Continued):**

If in the opinion of CenterPoint Energy, RNG Interconnect Service is not economically feasible, CenterPoint Energy will make an estimate of the cost of the project and move forward with the RNG Interconnect only if the applicant pays a non-refundable contribution-in-aid-of-construction to CenterPoint Energy for the portion of the capital expenditure and annual operating costs not justified by the annual revenue

**Exit Fee:**

If Customer suspends RNG production, Customer will pay an exit fee equal to the total cost of installing the RNG facilities, including main to connect to CenterPoint Energy's distribution system, and any costs for removal of facilities, less the initially paid contribution-in-aid-of-construction; any depreciation of facilities that has occurred between time of project inception and suspension of RNG production; and any cost for infrastructure that is utilized by other customers.

**Contract:**

Customer must sign a separate Interconnection Agreement for each delivery point.

**Applicable Riders:**

RNG Interconnection Service is subject to the Large Commercial / Industrial Credit Policy Rider and Franchise Fee Rider. The Franchise Fee applicable to Large Volume Dual Fuel customers shall be applicable to customers taking service under this tariff.

RNG Interconnection Service is not subject to the Gas Affordability Program, Decoupling, or Conservation Improvement Program Riders.

## 1.00 DEFINITIONS

See Section IV.

## 2.00 GENERAL INFORMATION

These Rules and Regulations filed as part of the CenterPoint Energy Rate Book are intended to promote safe and adequate service to the public, to provide standards for uniform and reasonable practices by CenterPoint Energy, to set forth the terms and conditions under which gas service will be supplied and to govern all classes of service to the extent applicable, and are made a part of all agreements for the supply of gas service unless specifically modified in a particular rate schedule.

CenterPoint Energy shall furnish service under these Rules and Regulations and its rate schedules. Copies of this Rate Book are available for inspection at the CenterPoint Energy offices.

No representative of CenterPoint Energy has authority to modify any provision contained in this Rate Book or to bind CenterPoint Energy by any contrary promise or representation.

### 3.00 APPLICATION FOR GAS SERVICE

#### 3.01 Application

Application for new gas service or turn on of existing gas service may be made by the owner, occupant, or agent in control of the property, in person at CenterPoint Energy's business offices, by telephone, by fax, or by mail. Application for service must be made and accepted by CenterPoint Energy prior to the commencement of CenterPoint Energy's service.

#### 3.02 Rejection of Application

CenterPoint Energy may refuse applications for new gas service or turn on of existing gas service upon reasonable grounds. The following situations would qualify as reasonable grounds:

- 1) Service is not economically feasible;
- 2) Service to a new applicant might affect the supply of gas to other customers;
- 3) Failure of customer to agree to comply with Rules and Regulations;
- 4) Improper use of gas service or equipment;
- 5) CenterPoint Energy and/or its pipeline supplier are unable to provide the necessary gas supply.

#### 3.03 Duration

CenterPoint Energy will supply gas service to a customer until notified by the customer to discontinue service. The customer will be responsible for payment of all service provided to the date of the discontinuance. All service is subject to the rates, rules and regulations stated in CenterPoint Energy's Rate Book.

### 3.04 Authorized Connection of Qualifying Customer

New or existing customers that want to install gas equipment shall obtain such permits as may be required by appropriate municipality to install that piece of equipment. CenterPoint Energy shall obtain permits necessary for all existing or prospective customers seeking an increased or new supply of natural gas from the appropriate authorities, including but not limited to the municipality, county, state, Department of Natural Resources or the Highway Department. When gas supplies are adequate and where the gas distribution system has sufficient capacity to provide the gas service requested without jeopardizing gas supply to the area being served by the existing gas distribution system, CenterPoint Energy will authorize connection of customers who qualify under these Rules and Regulations in the order that their applications are received. If an application for gas service is denied by CenterPoint Energy, it will be held for subsequent approval if gas supply conditions warrant, in the order in which it was received.

### 3.05 Standby, Supplementary and Emergency Gas Service

Standby, supplementary and emergency gas service is available only by special arrangement and under specific individualized contracts.

## 4.00 GAS MAINS

CenterPoint Energy will install mains under the following guidelines and conditions:

### 4.01 Gas Main Design and Ownership

CenterPoint Energy will determine the location, size, kind and type of all gas mains, and the method and manner of installation.

All gas mains are the property of CenterPoint Energy. No building, structure or slab shall be constructed over a gas main without CenterPoint Energy's prior written consent.

### 4.02 Location of Gas Mains

Gas mains will normally be installed in streets or alleys which have been dedicated as a public way, or in dedicated utility easements, all of which will be graded to within six (6) inches, if required, of a permanent established elevation.

Gas mains will not be installed on private property unless CenterPoint Energy deems it necessary and desirable to do so and all necessary easements are obtained.

### 4.03 Permits

All permits, or blanket approvals, as may be required, must be issued to CenterPoint Energy prior to installation of gas mains.

### 4.04 Economic Feasibility

CenterPoint Energy will apply the general principle that the rendering of gas service to the applicant shall be economically feasible so that the cost of extending such service will not have an undue burden on other customers. In determining whether the expenditure for gas service is economically feasible, CenterPoint Energy shall take into consideration the total cost of serving the applicant and the expected revenue from the applicant.

Once CenterPoint Energy waives any additional customer charges for main and service extensions, CenterPoint Energy cannot at any point recover those charges from ratepayers.

**4.04 Economic Feasibility (continued)**

Cost Justification Formula

All Commercial/Industrial main line extension projects and service line extension projects will be justified using the following formula:

<b>Allowable Investment</b>	=	<b>Est. Annual Gas Margin</b>	Divided by	<b>Cost of Service Factor</b>
<b>Cost of Service Factor</b>		<b>I/C Firm</b>		<b>Dual Fuel</b>
		13.31%		16.59%

Estimated annual gas margin is the annual basic charge plus the delivery charge per therm less the conservation cost recovery charge (CCRC) per therm multiplied by estimated annual sales.

$$\begin{array}{lcl} \text{Cost of Service} & & \text{Annual costs incurred as a} \\ \text{Factor} & = & \text{percentage of the original} \\ & & \text{investment} \end{array} \quad \times \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Net investment balance as a} \\ \text{percentage of the original} \\ \text{investment} \end{array}$$

The following Cost of Service Factors will be updated annually using the calculation above:

- Commercial/Industrial New Installation
- Dual Fuel New Installation

Original investment is the cost incurred to add a new firm or interruptible commercial/industrial customer.

The costs incurred include depreciation, property taxes and pre-tax rate of return. Depreciation is based on the rates from the most recent filed depreciation study. Property taxes are based on the actual rate for the previous year. The pre-tax rate of return is based on the capital structure approved in the most recent rate case.

The net investment balance is the balance of the original investment less accumulated depreciation and accumulated deferred income taxes. Tax depreciation rates used to calculate accumulated deferred income taxes are from the most recent applicable depreciation tables issued by the Internal Revenue Service. This factor is calculated at the 5th year for firm customers and the 1st year for interruptible customers.

Federal and state tax rates used in the calculation are the current statutory rates for Minnesota utilities.

**4.05 Expense of Installation - Gas Mains**

If in the opinion of CenterPoint Energy, gas service is not now, nor ever will be, economically feasible, CenterPoint Energy will make an estimate of the cost of the project and the extension will nevertheless be made only if the applicant pays a non-refundable contribution-in-aid-of-construction to CenterPoint Energy for the portion of the capital expenditure and annual operating costs not justified by the annual revenue.

The applicant may pay the contribution in equal monthly installments over a period not to exceed ninety (90) days interest free.

**4.05 Expense of Installation - Gas Mains (continued)**

CenterPoint Energy may install gas mains without charge to service residential, commercial or industrial users where it deems the anticipated revenue is sufficient to warrant such installation or in other cases where CenterPoint Energy determines the conditions justify such installation.

CenterPoint Energy may in its discretion install gas mains without charge to areas where water and sanitary sewer mains are in place.

When the gas main line is installed between November 1 and April 1, inclusive, because the requirements set forth by CenterPoint Energy to complete installation during normal construction were not met or because the customer's property, or the streets leading thereto, are not ready to receive the pipe, such work may be subject to a fixed winter construction charge. (See Section VI, Part 15.01 on page 41.) Winter construction will not be undertaken by CenterPoint Energy where prohibited by law or where it is not practical or prudent to install gas service pipe during the winter season.

**4.06 Advance for Construction Requirements**

If the installation of a gas main is expected to be supported by future annual revenues, CenterPoint Energy shall require the applicant to make a refundable cash advance or provide a Letter of Credit for construction of main extension from the gas main in excess of 150 ft. of gas main allowance per residential structure using gas for primary space heating, calculated at \$3.00 per foot for each foot of gas main in excess of the allowance. The advance must be received before construction begins.

**4.06 Advance for Construction Requirements (continued)**

Advances for residential gas main extensions are refundable without interest for a period of up to five (5) years from the date of completion of the main extension as additional customers are connected to the particular main extension for which the advance was made. For each such additional customer connected to the main extension within the five year period, CenterPoint Energy will refund semi-annually based upon the customer footage allowance and the cost per foot of main effective the year the main extension was installed. Each additional customer within the five year period will pay an advance if necessary to CenterPoint Energy as determined by CenterPoint Energy's customer extension model.

The total amount refunded shall not exceed the amount of the original advance and any remaining balance at the end of five (5) years becomes a non refundable contribution in aid of construction.

## 5.00 GAS SERVICE LINES

### 5.01 Gas Service Line Design

CenterPoint Energy will determine the location, size, kind, and type of all gas service lines, the method and manner of installation, and their connection with the gas main and the customer's gas piping.

### 5.02 Ownership

All gas service lines are the property of CenterPoint Energy.

### 5.03 Regular Use of Gas

The building to which the gas service pipe is installed must be permanent in nature and not a temporary or portable building. CenterPoint Energy holds the sole right to determine whether a facility meets the stated qualifications before providing gas service. In making this determination, CenterPoint Energy may consider the use for which the building is intended, the type of construction, the location of the building, the size of the building, the absence or presence of other utility services to the building, including water and sanitary sewer service and any other criteria it deems relevant.

### 5.04 Gas Service Line Installations

Gas service lines shall be constructed or installed only by CenterPoint Energy or its authorized agents. No building, structure or slab shall be constructed over a gas service line without CenterPoint Energy's prior written consent. CenterPoint Energy has the right to recover the costs of relocating services if the customer has impaired CenterPoint Energy's access to the service line.

**5.04 Gas Service Line Installations (continued)**

A gas service line will not be installed through one person's private property in order to serve a premise located beyond unless CenterPoint Energy deems it necessary and desirable to do so and all necessary easements are obtained without cost to CenterPoint Energy. Gas service lines will not be extended beyond the outlet side of the gas meter.

CenterPoint Energy will not install more than one gas service line to the same premise unless CenterPoint Energy finds that an additional gas service line is the most practical way to serve the applicant for gas service or an applicant requests an additional gas service line, and in the opinion of CenterPoint Energy, an unreasonable burden would be placed on the applicant if an additional gas service line were denied. When an additional gas service line is installed at the applicant's request, the applicant may be required to pay the cost incurred by CenterPoint Energy in making the installation. (See Section VI, Part 15.00 for charge details.) Gas provided by each gas service line shall be billed as a separate account.

When the gas service line is installed between November 1 and April 1, inclusive, because the requirements set forth by CenterPoint Energy to complete installation during normal construction were not met or because the customer's property, or the streets leading thereto, are not ready to receive the service pipe, such work may be subject to a fixed winter construction charge established annually. Winter construction will not be undertaken by CenterPoint Energy where prohibited by law or where it is not practical or prudent to install gas service pipe during the winter season. (See Section VI, Part 15.01 for Winter Construction details.)

**5.05 Gas Service Line to Curb**

CenterPoint Energy may install gas service connections to the curb under the following conditions:

- 1) The street is at final width and grade.
- 2) Sanitary sewer, water mains, and service connections to the abutting property are installed in the street.
- 3) CenterPoint Energy's gas main is located in the street.
- 4) The street is scheduled for permanent paving or resurfacing.
- 5) CenterPoint Energy determines that gas service to abutting property owners will be requested within five (5) years from the permanent paving or resurfacing.

**5.06 Maintenance and Responsibility**

CenterPoint Energy will maintain all gas service lines to provide an adequate and continuous supply of gas to the customer, but it will not be liable for a failure to deliver gas, wholly or in part, by any cause not reasonably within its control including but not limited to the following: fire, explosion, flood, strike, unavoidable accident, rupture of pipe from ground disturbances, federal, state, or municipal interference, failure to receive an adequate supply of gas at suitable pressure from its supplier, or acts of God. CenterPoint Energy will not be liable for any loss of profits or other consequential damages resulting from the use of service or any interruption or disturbance of service.

**5.07 Alterations Requested by Customer or Contractor**

All renewals, changes, alterations, disconnections or relocations of gas service line for the convenience of the customer or at the request of a contractor will be made by CenterPoint Energy at the customer's or contractor's expense. (See Section VI, Part 15.00 for charge details.)

If the service line alteration will result in additional sales, CenterPoint Energy will calculate the alteration charge with consideration of the estimated incremental revenues resulting from the change.

**5.08 Notice to CenterPoint Energy Before Alterations**

When it becomes necessary to alter, change, renew, disconnect or relocate a gas service line because of changes in remodeling or removing a building, installation of other utilities, for the convenience of a customer, or at the request of a contractor, CenterPoint Energy shall be notified in ample time so that it may properly protect and care for its facilities.

**5.09 Economic Feasibility**

CenterPoint Energy may install gas service lines without charge to service applicants where the anticipated revenues are sufficient to warrant such installation or in other cases where CenterPoint Energy determines the conditions justify such installation.

### 5.10 Expense of Installation

Subject to reasonable construction schedules, availability of materials, reasonable notice by the applicant, and upon application, CenterPoint Energy will furnish and install a gas service line of suitable capacity from its gas main to a normal meter location, satisfactory to CenterPoint Energy, subject to the following qualifications:

- 1) CenterPoint Energy will install a gas service line to serve a residential customer in a permanent structure using gas for primary space heating without charge to the extent of 75 feet measured from the property line or 105 feet from the center of the publicly dedicated street, alley, or public or private utility easement, whichever is greater.

If additional gas service line is required, CenterPoint Energy may require the applicant to make a non refundable contribution in aid of construction calculated at \$4.00 per foot of gas service line in excess of the allowance provided for above. The customer may pay the contribution in equal monthly installments over a period not to exceed ninety (90) days interest free.

- 2) If it is not practicable to locate the gas meter in the normal meter location and it is necessary to locate the gas meter at an alternate meter location, the customer will pay for the added gas service pipe beyond the service line allowance provided above.

**5.10 Expense of Installation (continued)**

- 3) If the design of a building, its arrangement, or location on the lot, its interior occupancy, or the existence of obstructions between the building and the gas main makes it impractical in CenterPoint Energy's opinion to install a gas service line and at the same time satisfy all safety requirements, CenterPoint Energy may refuse to install a gas service line to the premises. Where such a situation exists and it is possible to install a gas service line by special design or extra construction and such gas service line can be installed safely, CenterPoint Energy will design and install the gas service line to suit the particular circumstances, providing the following conditions are met:
  - a. The design, arrangement, and location of the gas service line is accepted and approved by the applicant.
  - b. The applicant agrees to pay CenterPoint Energy for all extraordinary or abnormal construction costs including the cost of casing, if required.

## 6.00 GAS METERS

### 6.01 Ownership, Care, and Control

All gas meters, regulators, gas service lines, and all other apparatus installed by CenterPoint Energy upon the customer's premises for the purpose of delivering gas to the customer are the property of CenterPoint Energy and may only be detached, removed, repaired, or replaced by CenterPoint Energy or its authorized agent.

The customer shall exercise reasonable care to prevent the gas meters, regulators, gas service lines and other apparatus of CenterPoint Energy upon the premises from being damaged or destroyed and shall not interfere or tamper with the facilities. If any defect in this equipment is discovered, the customer shall notify CenterPoint Energy immediately. CenterPoint Energy has the right to remove any and all of its facilities installed on the customer's premises at the termination of service.

### 6.02 Selection of Gas Meter

CenterPoint Energy has the right to specify the type, kind, and size of the gas meter to be installed.

### 6.03 Location of Gas Meter

CenterPoint Energy shall approve the location of all gas meters prior to their installation. The customer shall provide a safe and accessible place for installation of the gas meter in accordance with all applicable codes. If the customer selects a meter location(s) or alters their property in such a manner that exposes CenterPoint Energy's metering equipment to vehicular traffic, the customer will be charged for required guard post meter protection. (See Section VI, Part 15.00 for charge details.)

**6.03 Location of Gas Meter (continued)**

CenterPoint Energy may refuse to install a gas meter, including but not limited to the following reasons:

- 1) In a hazardous or unprotected location;
- 2) In any location where surrounding conditions or elements may expose the gas meter to damage;
- 3) At any location where the gas meter is inaccessible for inspection, reading, testing, maintenance, or removal.

Gas meters will normally be installed on the outside of the building to be served on the face or at the corner of the building in closest proximity to the gas main to which the gas service line is to be attached.

In certain cases, CenterPoint Energy may, at its discretion, install a gas meter at other locations. In such cases, the gas meter will be installed at the point nearest where the gas service line enters the building, when practical.

**6.04 Cost of Meter Installation and Relocation**

Initial installation of the gas meter will be made at CenterPoint Energy's expense. Relocation of the gas meter may be made by CenterPoint Energy at the customer's request and expense. (See Section VI, Part 15.00 for charge details.) If the meter change is made in conjunction with a service line alteration which will result in additional sales (see Section 5.07), CenterPoint Energy will calculate the meter relocation charge with consideration of the estimated incremental revenues resulting from the change.

**6.05 CenterPoint Energy's Right to Remove a Gas Meter**

CenterPoint Energy reserves the right to remove a gas meter, and any and all of its other facilities installed on the customer's premises at any time when deemed necessary by CenterPoint Energy to protect such property from fraud, theft, damage, destruction, or in the event that the customer connects to another natural gas supplier, or in the event no gas usage has occurred at a non-locked meter for at least twelve (12) months.

Written notice of property removal shall be given to a bypass or non-use customer by registered mail at least 20 days prior to removal of property by CenterPoint Energy. Failure by the customer to respond to the notice shall be deemed as consent to the removal.

**6.06 CenterPoint Energy's Right to Test a Gas Meter**

CenterPoint Energy policies and procedures are consistent with Minnesota Rules 7820.3900, Adjustment of Gas Bills.

CenterPoint Energy reserves the right to remove and test all gas meters.

A customer may request a test of the gas meter for accuracy. CenterPoint Energy shall attach a tag to the meter being removed for the test that shows the date the meter was removed, the customer's name and the address from which the meter was removed. If the meter is inaccurate the customer's billing will be adjusted, or a refund issued in accordance with Section VI, subsections 9.03, 9.04, or 9.05.

## 7.00 CUSTOMER DEPOSITS

CenterPoint Energy policies and procedures are consistent with Minnesota Rules 7820.4100 7820.4700, Deposit and Guarantee Requirements.

### 7.01 Amount of Deposit

CenterPoint Energy may require a new or an existing customer to make a cash deposit to CenterPoint Energy as security for the payment for gas service. The cash deposit shall not exceed an amount equal to the applicant's estimated two (2) month's bill or customer's highest bill for two (2) months. CenterPoint Energy does not require a deposit or guarantee of any customer or applicant who has established good credit with CenterPoint Energy.

CenterPoint Energy will issue a non-negotiable receipt for each cash deposit received.

### 7.02 Interest on Deposit

Interest shall be paid on deposits in excess of \$20. The rate of interest must be set annually and be equal to the weekly average yield of one-year United States Treasury securities adjusted for constant maturity for the last full week in November. The Interest rate must be rounded to the nearest tenth of one percent. By December 15 of each year, the Commissioner of Commerce shall announce the rate of interest that must be on all deposits held during all or part of the subsequent year. Interest will be credited to the customer's account, credited to the unpaid final bill, or refunded to the customer. CenterPoint Energy will calculate interest from the date the deposit is received to the date the deposit is applied to the customer's account or refunded to the customer.

CenterPoint Energy will calculate interest as of December 31st of each year for each deposit and will credit the depositor's account for this amount.

CenterPoint Energy will review the necessity for each deposit at least annually and will refund deposits with accrued but uncredited interest, where the deposit is deemed unnecessary.

## 8.00 ACCESS TO CUSTOMER PREMISES

CenterPoint Energy's policy is consistent with Minnesota Rule 7820.3100, Uniform Access to Customer's Premises.

### 8.01 Uniform Access

All properly authorized agents of CenterPoint Energy shall have the right of access to the premises and property of the customer if an emergency situation involving imminent danger to life or property appears to exist.

### 8.02 Identification

Each employee of CenterPoint Energy authorized to enter, or go upon the customer's premises or property is provided with an identification card by CenterPoint Energy. Customers are urged to ask for the employee's identification whenever there is doubt as to the card holder's identity.

## 9.00 BILLING

### 9.01 Amount of Gas Used

Readings of all meters used for determining charges to customers shall be made each month unless otherwise authorized by the Commission. The term "month" for meter reading and billing purposes is the period between successive meter reading dates which shall be as nearly as practicable to thirty (30) day intervals. When CenterPoint Energy is unable to gain access to a meter, it shall leave a meter reading form for the customer.

CenterPoint Energy may permit the customer to supply meter readings, providing a CenterPoint Energy representative reads the meter at least once every twelve (12) months, when there is a change in customers or when requested by the customer.

If the billing period is longer or shorter than the normal billing period by more than five (5) days, the monthly customer charge on the bill shall be prorated on a daily basis.

### 9.02 Estimated Meter Readings

When access to a meter cannot be gained and the customer does not supply a meter reading in time for the billing operation, an estimated bill will be rendered. Estimated bills are based on the customer's normal consumption for a corresponding period.

CenterPoint Energy will regularly schedule estimated monthly meter readings throughout the year, but not over four (4) times in any twelve (12) month period. Only in unusual cases will more than two (2) consecutive estimated bills be rendered, unless the customer fails to provide meter readings for an inaccessible meter.

**9.03 Non-Registering Meter**

When a meter fails to register the quantity of gas consumed, CenterPoint Energy will change the meter and render a bill for the period of non-registration based on either of the following methods:

- 1) Estimation of the gas consumed on the basis of past usage during a similar period and under similar conditions; or
- 2) Estimation of the gas consumed on the basis of usage registered by the new meter during a subsequent period.

**9.04 Slow Meter**

Whenever a meter is found to have an average error of more than two percent (2%) slow, CenterPoint Energy may bill the customer for the amount the test indicates the customer has been undercharged for the period of inaccuracy. The period shall not exceed the last six (6) months the meter was in service, unless the date can be established with reasonable certainty in which case the undercharge shall be computed from that date. No undercharge shall be computed for a period to exceed one (1) year unless extenuating circumstances dictate. The average error for a meter shall be one half the algebraic sum of the error at full rated flow plus the error at check flow.

### 9.05 Fast Meter

Whenever a meter is found to have an average error of more than two (2%) percent fast, the customer will receive a credit to the account or a refund for the period of inaccuracy. The period shall not exceed the last six (6) months the meter was in service, unless the date can be established with reasonable certainty in which case the refund shall be computed from that date. No credit or refund shall be computed for a period to exceed one (1) year unless extenuating circumstances dictate. The average error for a meter shall be one half the algebraic sum of the error at full rated flow plus the error at check flow.

### 9.06 Other Billing Corrections

When a customer has been overcharged/undercharged as a result of an incorrect reading of the meter, incorrect application of the rate schedule, incorrect connection of the meter, or other similar reasons, the amount of the overcharge/undercharge shall be adjusted, refunded, or credited to the customer.

- 1) Remedy for Overcharge: CenterPoint Energy shall calculate the difference between the amount collected for service and the amount the Company should have collected for service, plus interest, for the period beginning three years before the date of discovery. Interest will be calculated as prescribed by Minnesota Statutes §325E.02(b). If the recalculated bills indicate that more than \$1 is due an existing customer, or \$2 is due a person no longer a customer of the utility, the full amount of the calculated difference between the amount paid and the recalculated amount shall be refunded to the customer. Refunds to an existing customer may be in cash or credit on a bill. Credits shall be shown separately and identified. If a refund is due a person no longer at customer of the utility, the utility shall mail to the customer's last known address either the refund or a notice that the customer has three months in which to request a refund from the utility.
- 2) Remedy for Undercharge: CenterPoint Energy shall calculate the difference between the amount collected for service and the amount the Company should have collected for service for the period beginning one year before the date of discovery. If the recalculated bills indicate that the amount due the utility exceeds \$10, the utility may bill the customer for the amount due. CenterPoint Energy must not bill for any undercharge incurred after the date of a customer inquiry or complaint if the utility failed to begin investigating the matter within a reasonable time and the inquiry or complaint ultimately resulted in the discovery of the undercharge. The billing for undercharges shall be separated from the regular bill and the charges explained in detail.

CenterPoint Energy shall offer a payment agreement to customers who have been undercharged if no culpable conduct by the customer or resident of the customer's household caused the undercharge. The agreement must cover a period equal to the time over which the undercharge occurred or a different time period that is mutually agreeable to the customer and the utility, except that the duration of a payment agreement offered by the Company to a customer whose household income is at or below 50 percent of state median household income must consider the financial circumstances of the customer's household. No interest or delinquency fee may be charged as part of an undercharge agreement under this paragraph.

- 3) Exception if error date is known: If the date the error occurred can be fixed with reasonable certainty, the remedy shall be calculated on the basis of payments for service after that date, but in no event for a period beginning more than three years before the discovery of an overcharge or one year before the discovery of an undercharge.

**9.07 Adjustments of Estimates**

An estimated bill, followed by a subsequent meter reading, may be adjusted by:

- 1) Adjusting the bill following the estimate. Where a customer credit results, the account will show a credit unless the customer requests a refund, or
- 2) Issuing a corrected bill.

## 10.00 PAYMENT OF BILLS

### 10.01 Due Date

The due date printed on customer bills will not be more than five days before the next scheduled billing date. However, customers who have selected the Automatic Bank Draft option may select a due date which is greater than five days before the next scheduled billing date.

Scheduled billing dates will not be less than twenty-five (25) days apart.

### 10.02 Late Payment Charge

Delinquent amounts are subject to a late payment charge of 1.5% (18% annually) or \$1.00, whichever is greater. No late payment charge will be applied if the delinquent amount is \$10.00 or less.

"Delinquent amount" is the portion of a customer's account representing charges for gas service past due. For customers on the Average Monthly Billing or a deferred payment schedule, "delinquent amount" is the lesser of the unpaid account balance or past due scheduled payments.

All payments received will be credited against the oldest outstanding account balance before application of any late payment charge. The late payment charge will be assessed on unpaid amounts at the next scheduled billing date.

**10.03 Budget Plan**

Average Monthly Billing is a twelve (12) month payment plan which allows eligible customers to pay for natural gas service in approximately equal monthly payments. Every six months the monthly payment will be reviewed and adjusted, if necessary, to reflect variances in actual versus estimated usage, and differences in actual versus forecasted billing rates. If an adjustment is necessary, the customer has the option to pay the new monthly amount or drop from the plan.

An outstanding balance will not make a customer ineligible for Average Monthly Billing. In calculating the Average Monthly Billing amount, any outstanding balances will be spread equally and added to the monthly payment amount.

An eligible customer can enroll any time during the year.

**10.04 End of Season Adjustments to Average Monthly Billing**

At the start of the next Average Monthly Billing year, interest is credited to the customer's account for any net overpayment. If at the start of the next Average Monthly Billing year, the cumulative Average Monthly Billing payments are different than the cumulative charges, then CenterPoint Energy will add the balance to the total estimated charges for the next Average Monthly Billing year and spread the balance over the next twelve (12) months.

**10.05 Cancellation of Average Monthly Billing for Non-Payment**

An Average Monthly Billing customer with a past due balance including two (2) or more Average Monthly Billing payments is in default on the Average Monthly Billing agreement and may be removed from Average Monthly Billing. The balances previously deferred under Average Monthly Billing will become immediately due and payable. However, a customer removed from Average Monthly Billing because of a default can be reinstated by paying the unpaid Average Monthly Billing payments or the actual amount due in full.

**10.06 Status of Budget Plan Customers**

CenterPoint Energy will continue the customer on the Budget Plan until:

- 1) default for nonpayment;
- 2) the customer requests removal.

**10.07 Returned Check Charge**

A \$10.00 charge will be assessed whenever CenterPoint Energy is notified by a financial institution that a check, draft, or negotiable instrument drawn by the customer has been dishonored.

**10.08 Payment Agreements**

CenterPoint Energy shall offer payment agreements to residential customers for the payment of arrears. Payment agreements shall consider the customer's financial circumstances and any extenuating circumstances of the household. No additional service deposit may be charged to continue service if the customer has entered and is reasonably on time under an accepted payment agreement.

## 11.00 DISCONTINUANCE OR REFUSAL OF GAS SERVICE

CenterPoint Energy policies and procedures are consistent with Minnesota Rules 7820.1000 - 7820.3000 on Disconnection of Service.

### 11.01 Refusal or Discontinuance of Gas Service for Non-Payment

- 1) CenterPoint Energy, with notice, may refuse gas service under the following conditions:
  - a. To a customer who owes a past due and unpaid balance for utility service at a former address.
  - b. To an applicant requesting service to be implemented at an address where the current resident, who has accumulated a past due and unpaid balance, continues to reside.
  - c. To a customer who fails to meet the utility's deposit and credit requirements.
  - d. To a customer who fails to make proper application for service.
  - e. To a customer who fails to furnish such service, equipment, and/or rights of way necessary to serve the customer as shall have been specified by the utility as a condition of obtaining service.

**11.01 Refusal or Discontinuance of Gas Service for Non-Payment (continued)**

- 2) CenterPoint Energy, with notice, may discontinue gas service under the following conditions:
  - a. To a customer who owes a past due and unpaid balance exceeding the deposit, if one was made, for gas supplied at the same address.
  - b. To a customer who owes a past due and unpaid balance for utility service at a former address.
  - c. To premises which are occupied by a person owing a past due and unpaid balance for gas supplied to the same premises.
  - d. To a customer who fails to provide CenterPoint Energy reasonable access to its equipment and property.
  - e. To a customer who violates any of CenterPoint Energy's rules on file with the Public Utilities Commission.
  - f. For a breach of the contract for service between CenterPoint Energy and the customer.
  - g. When necessary for CenterPoint Energy to comply with any order or request of any governmental authority having jurisdiction.

**11.01 Refusal or Discontinuance of Gas Service for Non-Payment (continued)**

## 3) Notice of Discontinuance

Notice of discontinuance shall be sent to the address where service is rendered and to the address where the bill is sent, if different from the service address, by first class mail.

All final notices of discontinuance will precede the action to be taken by at least five (5) days excluding Sundays and legal holidays. The notice will contain the date on or after discontinuance will occur, the reason for discontinuance and the method of avoiding the shut off.

## 4) Gas Service Subsequent to Final Notice of Discontinuance

Continued gas service by CenterPoint Energy, after the date of discontinuance specified in the notice to the customer, shall not prevent or stop CenterPoint Energy from discontinuing gas service at a subsequent date.

## 5) Customer Liability for Gas Service

The customer shall be liable for payment to CenterPoint Energy for all gas supplied to the time of discontinuance of gas service.

## 6) Method of Discontinuing Gas Service

In discontinuing gas service for non-payment, CenterPoint Energy may lock or remove the gas meter, plug the gas service line, sever or disconnect the gas service outside the premises, or use any other method to discontinue gas service to the customer.

**11.01 Refusal or Discontinuance of Gas Service for Non-Payment (continued)**

## 7) Reconnection Charge

A charge of \$28.00 will be made by CenterPoint Energy to reinstate gas service when the gas meter has been locked for non-payment.

Where any other method of discontinuing gas service for non-payment has been used by CenterPoint Energy, the customer shall pay all costs of disconnection and reconnection incurred by CenterPoint Energy before gas service is resumed to that customer.

A charge of \$100, plus the cost of disconnection and reconnection incurred by CenterPoint Energy to reinstate gas service when the gas meter has been locked or removed for meter tampering.

The Reconnection Charge may be waived for a customer who enters into a payment arrangement under Minn. Stat. 325E.028, Utility Payment Arrangements for Military Service Personnel.

## 8) Payment of Unpaid and Past Due Balance

Gas service refused to any applicant, or discontinued to any customer, under this rule will not be provided or restored until the past due and unpaid balance and reconnection charge has been paid in full or satisfactory credit arrangements for the payment of this amount are agreed upon.

~~9) Medically ~~n~~Necessary ~~e~~Equipment—~~

The Company shall reconnect or continue service to a residential customer's residence where a medical emergency exists. The Utility must receive from a medical doctor written certification, or initial certification by telephone and written certification within 5 business days, that failure to reconnect or continue service will impair or threaten the health or safety of a resident of the customer's household. The customer must enter into a payment agreement.

**11.02 Discontinuance or Refusal of Gas Service Without Notice**

CenterPoint Energy may refuse or discontinue gas service, without notice, to any applicant or customer who:

- 1) Attempts to defraud CenterPoint Energy;
- 2) In the event of an unauthorized use of or tampering with CenterPoint Energy's equipment;
- 3) If a situation is determined to be hazardous to the customer, to other customers of CenterPoint Energy, to CenterPoint Energy's equipment, or to the public.

**11.03 Refusal to Supply on Reasonable Grounds Other Than Non-Payment**

CenterPoint Energy may refuse or discontinue gas service to any applicant or customer upon reasonable grounds, including but not limited to the following reasons:

- 1) For the purpose of making permanent or temporary repairs, changes, or improvements in any part of CenterPoint Energy's system;
- 2) If CenterPoint Energy is notified by a public authority having appropriate jurisdiction that continued gas service to a customer is in violation of applicable laws, ordinances, rules or regulations of public authorities;
- 3) For the following acts or omissions on the part of the customer:
  - a. Tampering with any facility of CenterPoint Energy
  - b. Providing service to others without CenterPoint Energy approval
  - c. Breach of the contract for service where such contract is required between CenterPoint Energy and the customer
  - d. Failure to comply with these Rules and Regulations
  - e. Refusal of reasonable access to customer's premises for any necessary purpose
  - f. If the customer connects to another natural gas supplier

**11.03 Refusal to Supply on Reasonable Grounds Other Than Non-Payment (continued)**

- 4) If any part of the customer's facilities, appliances, or other equipment for the utilization of gas service, or the use thereof, is determined by CenterPoint Energy to be unsafe.
- 5) If any condition existing upon the customer's premises is determined by CenterPoint Energy to endanger the facilities of CenterPoint Energy or its personnel.

**11.04 Termination of Gas Service by Customer**

CenterPoint Energy requires forty-eight (48) ~~hours~~-hours' notice if the customer intends to discontinue gas service. Failure to give this notice shall make the customer liable for payment for all gas supplied to the premises until gas service has been discontinued by CenterPoint Energy.

When gas service has been ordered off and is ordered turned back on by the same party, at the same address, a reconnection charge, based upon the estimated current time and material costs to be incurred, will be made by CenterPoint Energy at the time the gas service is resumed.

**11.05 Removal of Gas Meter**

CenterPoint Energy reserves the right to remove any gas meter upon which no gas consumption has been registered for twelve (12) consecutive months.

## 12.00 DISCONTINUANCE OR REFUSAL OF GAS SERVICE DURING COLD WEATHER

### 12.01 Scope

This Section applies only to Residential Customers of CenterPoint Energy

### 12.02 Definitions – the following definitions apply in this section:

- 1) **Cold Weather Period** – means the period from October 15 thru April 15 of the following year
- 2) **Customer** – means a residential customer of the utility
- 3) **Disconnection** – means the involuntary loss of utility heating service as a result of a physical act by a utility to discontinue service. Disconnection includes installation of a service or load limiter or any device that limits or interrupts utility service in any way.
- 4) **Household Income** – means the combined income, as defined in Minn. Stat. 290A.03, subd. 3, of all residents of the customer's household, computed on an annual basis. Household income does not include any amount received for energy assistance.
- 5) **Reasonably timely payment** – means payment posted within five working days of agreed-upon due dates
- 6) **Reconnection** – means the restoration of utility heating service after it has been disconnected.

**12.02 Definitions (continued)**

- 7) **Summary of Rights and Responsibilities** – means a notice approved by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission that contains, at a minimum, the following:
- a. An explanation of the provisions of Section 12.05 and Minn. Stat. 216B.096, subd. 5;
  - b. An explanation of no-cost and low-cost methods to reduce the consumption of energy
  - c. A third-party notice
  - d. Ways to avoid disconnection
  - e. Information regarding payment agreements
  - f. An explanation of the customer's right to appeal a determination of income by the Company and the right to appeal if the Company and the customer cannot arrive at a mutually acceptable payment agreement; and
  - g. A list of names and telephone numbers for county and local energy assistance and weatherization providers in each county served by the Company
- 8) **Third Party notice** – means a Minnesota Public Utilities Commission-approved notice containing, at a minimum, the following information:
- a. A statement that the Company will send a copy of any future notice of proposed disconnection of Company service to a third party designated by the residential customer
  - b. Instruction on how to request this service, and
  - c. A statement that the residential customer should contact the person the customer intends to designate as the third party contact before providing the Company with the party's name.

**12.02 Definitions (continued)**

- 9) **Company** – means the Minnesota Operations of CenterPoint Energy.
- 10) **Utility Heating Service** – means natural gas used as a primary heating source for the customer's primary residence.
- 11) **Working Days** – means Mondays through Fridays excluding legal holidays. The day of receipt of a personally served notice and the day of mailing of a notice shall not be counted in calculating working days.

**12.03 Company Obligations Before Cold Weather Period**

Each year, between September 1 and October 15, the Company must provide all customers, personally or by first class mail or electronically for those requesting electronic billing, a summary of rights and responsibilities. The summary must also be provided to all new residential customers when service is initiated.

**12.04 Notice Before Disconnection During Cold Weather Period**

Before disconnecting utility heating service during the cold weather period, the Company must provide, personally or by first class mail, a Minnesota Public Utilities Commission-approved notice to a customer, in easy to understand language, that contains, at minimum, the date of the scheduled disconnection, the amount due, and a summary of rights and responsibilities.

**12.05 Cold Weather Rule**

During the cold weather period, the Company may not disconnect and must reconnect utility heating service of a customer whose household income is at or below 50 percent of the state median income if the customer enters into and makes reasonably timely payments under a mutually acceptable payment agreement with the Company that is based on the financial resources and circumstances of the household; provided that, the Company may not require a customer to pay more than ten percent of the household income toward current and past utility bills for utility heating service.

The Company may accept more than ten percent of the household income as the payment arrangement amount if agreed to by the customer.

The customer or a designated third party may request a modification of the terms of a payment agreement previously entered into if the customer's financial circumstances have changed or the customer is unable to make reasonably timely payments.

The payment agreement terminates at the expiration of the cold weather period unless a longer period is mutually agreed to by the customer and the Company.

The Company shall use reasonable efforts to restore service within 24 hours of an accepted payment agreement, taking into consideration customer availability, employee availability, and construction-related activity.

**12.06- Verification of Income**

In verifying a customer's household income, the Company may:

- 1) Accept the signed statement of a customer that the customer is income eligible
- 2) Obtain income verification from a local energy assistance provider or a government agency
- 3) Consider one or more of the following:
  - a. The most recent income tax return filed by members of the customer's household;
  - b. For each employed member of the customer's household, paycheck stubs for the last two months or a written statement from the employer reporting wages earned during the preceding two months;
  - c. Documentation that the customer receives a pension for the Department of Human Services, the Social Security Administration, the Veteran's Administration, or other pension provider;
  - d. A letter showing the customer's dismissal from a job or other documentation of unemployment; or
  - e. Other documentation that supports the customer's declaration of income eligibility.

A customer who receives energy assistance benefits under any federal, state, or county government programs in which eligibility is defined as household income at or below 50 percent of state median income is deemed to be automatically eligible for protection under this section and no other verification of income may be required.

**12.07- PROHIBITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS Prohibitions and Requirements**

This Section applies during the Cold Weather Period.

The Company may not charge a deposit or delinquency charge to a customer who has entered into a payment agreement or a customer who has appealed to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission under Section 12.08 and Minn. Stat. 216B.096, subd. 8.

The Company may not disconnect service during the following periods:

- 1) During the pendency of any appeal under Section 12.08 and Minn. Stat. 216B.096, subd. 8;
- 2) Earlier than ten working days after the Company has deposited in first class mail, or seven working days after the Company has personally served, the notice required under Section 12.04 and Minn. Stat. 216B.096, subd. 4. to a customer in an occupied dwelling;
- 3) Earlier than ten working days after the Company has deposited in first class mail the notice required under Section 12.04 and Minn. Stat. 216B.096, subd. 4. to the recorded billing address of the customer, if the Company has reasonably determined from an on-site inspection that the dwelling is unoccupied;
- 4) On a Friday, unless the Company makes personal contact with, and offers a payment agreement consistent with this section to the customer;

**12.07- PROHIBITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS (CONTINUED) Prohibitions and Requirements (continued)**

- 5) On a Saturday, Sunday, holiday, or the day before a holiday;
- 6) When the Company offices are closed;
- 7) When no Company personnel are available to resolve disputes, enter into payment agreements, accept payments, and reconnect service; or
- 8) When the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission offices are closed.

The Company may not discontinue service until it investigates whether the dwelling is actually occupied. At a minimum, the investigation must include one visit by the Company to the dwelling during normal working hours. If no contact is made and there is reason to believe that the dwelling is occupied, the Company must attempt a second contact during non-business hours. If personal contact is made, the Company representative must provide notice required under Section 12.04 and Minn. Stat. 216B.096, subd. 4 and, if the Company representative is not authorized to enter into a payment agreement, the telephone number the customer can call to establish a payment agreement.

The Company must reconnect utility service if, following disconnection, the dwelling is found to be occupied and the customer agrees to enter into a payment agreement or appeals to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission because the customer and the Company are unable to agree on a payment agreement.

**12.08- DISPUTE; CUSTOMER APPEAL Dispute; Customer Appeal**

The Company must provide the customer and any designated third party with a Minnesota Public Utilities Commission-approved written notice of the right to appeal:

- 1) A Company determination that the customer's household income is more than 50 percent of the state median household income; or
- 2) When the Company and the customer are unable to agree on the establishment or modification of a payment agreement.

A customer's appeal must be filed with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission no later than seven working days after the customer's receipt of a personally served appeal notice or within ten working days after the Company has deposited a first class mail appeal notice.

Notwithstanding any other law, following an appeals decision adverse to the customer, the Company may not disconnect utility heating service for seven working days after the Company has personally served a disconnection notice, or for ten working days after the Company has deposited a first class mail notice. The notice must contain, in easy to understand language, the date on or after which disconnection will occur, the reason for disconnection, and ways to avoid disconnection.

**12.09\_ ~~CUSTOMERS ABOVE 50 PERCENT OF STATE MEDIAN INCOME~~ Customers Above 50 Percent of State Median Income**

During the cold weather period, a customer whose household income is above 50 percent of state median income:

- 1) Has the right to a payment agreement that takes into consideration the customer's financial circumstances and any other extenuating circumstances of the household; and
- 2) May not be disconnected and must be reconnected if the customer makes timely payments under a payment agreement accepted by the Company.

The second sentence in Section 12.07 does not apply to customers whose household income is above 50 percent of state median income.

**12.10 ~~REPORTING~~ Reporting**

Annually on November 1, the Company must electronically file with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission a report, in a format specified by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, specifying the number of the Company's heating service customers whose service is disconnected or remains disconnected for nonpayment as of October 1 and October 15. If customers remain disconnected on October 15, the Company must file a report each week between November 1 and the end of the cold weather period specifying:

- 1) The number of the Company's heating service customers that are or remain disconnected from service for nonpayment; and
- 2) The number of the Company's heating service customers that are reconnected to service each week. The Company may discontinue weekly reporting if the number of the Company's heating service customers that are or remain disconnected reaches zero before the end of the cold weather period.

The data reported under this Section and Minn. Stat.216B.096 are presumed to be accurate upon submission and must be made available through the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's electronic filing system.

**12.11 ~~NOTICE TO CITIES OF UTILITY DISCONNECTION~~ Notice to Cities of Utility Disconnection**

Notwithstanding Minn. Stat. §13.685 or any other law or administrative rule to the contrary, upon written request from a city, on October 15 and November 1 of each year, or the next business day if that date falls on a Saturday or Sunday, a report must be made available to the city of the address of properties currently disconnected and the date of the disconnection. Upon written request from a city, between October 15 and April 15, daily reports must be made available of the address and date of any newly disconnected properties.

For the purpose of this section, "disconnection" means a cessation of services initiated by the Company that affects the primary heat source of a residence and service is not reconnected within 24 hours.

## 13.00 RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CUSTOMER AND CENTERPOINT ENERGY

### 13.01- Customer Responsibility

It shall be the customer's financial responsibility to furnish, install, operate, and keep in a safe condition all gas piping and gas burning equipment located or installed beyond the gas meter.

A customer shall immediately notify CenterPoint Energy of any suspected gas leaks or a faulty gas supply.

The customer shall reimburse CenterPoint Energy for any loss of or damage to CenterPoint Energy's property located on the premises when such loss or damage is not caused by any act or omission on the part of CenterPoint Energy

### 13.02- Termination of CenterPoint Energy's Responsibility

CenterPoint Energy's responsibility for installation and maintenance of all gas piping and equipment shall terminate at the gas meter. CenterPoint Energy shall not be liable for any loss, injury, or damage occasioned or caused by the negligence or wrongful act of the customer or any of his agents, employees, or licensees in installing, maintaining, using, operating, or interfering with any gas piping or gas burning equipment.

Any inspection of the customer's piping or equipment by CenterPoint Energy shall not be construed to impose any liability upon CenterPoint Energy to the customer, or to any other person by reason thereof, and CenterPoint Energy shall not be liable or responsible for any loss, injury, or damage which may result from the use of, or defects in, the customer's gas piping or gas burning equipment.

## 14.00 CUSTOMER SERVICE

### 14.01- General

The goal of CenterPoint Energy's customer service is to provide service necessary for the safety and welfare of our customers as it relates to the use of gas and gas appliances.

### 14.02- "No Surcharge" Service

CenterPoint Energy will provide "no Surcharge" service for all customers as follows:

- 1) Emergency service for the investigation of suspected leaks or other unsafe conditions in customers' or CenterPoint Energy's property.
- 2) Maintenance of CenterPoint Energy owned equipment of customers' premises including meters, regulators, or service lines.
- 3) Turn on of gas meters for new customers.

### 14.03- "Charge" Service

CenterPoint Energy provides service for adjustment, repair, installation, or maintenance of appliances on a direct customer charge basis where the installation and equipment is approved by applicable codes and regulations, and where the equipment is reasonably accessible to service personnel and provisions have been made so that the health and safety of the serviceperson will not be in jeopardy.

## 15.00 CUSTOMER REQUESTED UTILITY WORK

This section details the costs for utility work requested by customers to be performed by CenterPoint Energy at a charge to the customer.

- Customer Requested work requires a signed application form and payment prior to commencement of work.
- If the alteration will result in additional sales, CenterPoint Energy will calculate the alteration charge with consideration of the estimated incremental revenues resulting from the change.
- Any other customer or contractor requested utility work that is not listed in parts 15.01, 15.02, or 15.03 will be completed at the customer's or contractor's expense. The charge will be determined individually by CenterPoint Energy based upon the estimated cost of time and material to be incurred, with a minimum charge of \$75.00.

### 15.01- Winter Construction

Between November 1 and April 1, inclusive, because of failure of customer to meet all requirements of the Company to complete installation during normal construction were not met or because the customer's property, or the streets leading thereto, are not ready to receive the service pipe or gas main by such date, such work may be subject to a winter construction charge when winter conditions exist.

Winter conditions include six or more inches of frost, snow removal or plowing is required to install service, or burner(s) must be set at the main or underground facilities in order to install for the entire length of service or gas main installed.

Winter construction will not be undertaken by CenterPoint Energy where prohibited by law or where it is not practical or prudent to install gas service pipe during the winter season, including but not limited to roadway crossings prohibited by local permitting authorities or construction equipment limitations due to winter conditions.

Frost Burner (each unit per day)	\$240.00
----------------------------------	----------

Additional Charges for New Construction under winter conditions:

Gas Main	\$2.00 per foot
Residential Service Line	\$4.00 per foot
Commercial Service Line	\$8.00 per foot

**15.00- CUSTOMER REQUESTED UTILITY WORK (CONTINUED)**

**15.02- Residential Service Alterations Requested by Customer or Contractor:**

1) Remove or Rehang Meter \$75.00

2) Relocate Meter: In to Out

All labor and material to relocate a meter fit from the inside to the outside of a premise within 3 feet of its original location. The customer is responsible for house piping reconnect.

- Construction Season \$575.00
- Winter Construction \$650.00 plus frost burner if needed
- Additional piping for offset if more than 3 feet
  - Construction Season \$16.00 per foot
  - Winter Construction \$18.00 per foot

3) Relocate Outside Meter and/or Service Line:

All labor and material to relocate an existing outside meter fit and/or service line. The customer is responsible for house piping reconnect.

- Minimum Charge \$325.00
- Frost Burner, if needed \$240.00 each unit per day
- Additional piping for offset if more than 3 feet
  - Construction Season \$16.00 per foot
  - Winter Construction \$18.00 per foot

4) Temporary Service Line Cut-off and Reconnect

All labor and material to temporarily disconnect a service line and remove the metering equipment for the customer's convenience and reconnecting gas service for the same owner at a later date . Charges are assessed when reconnect is requested.

- Construction Season \$800.00
- Winter Constructions \$1,050.00 plus frost burner if needed

5) Increase Meter Size:

- Outside \$150.00
- Inside \$175.00

6) Install Guard Posts:

- One \$394.00
- Two \$767.00
- Three \$1,121.00
- Four \$1,454.00
- Five \$1,768.00
- Six \$2,061.00
- Each Additional \$334.00
- Frost burner, if needed \$240.00 each unit per day

**15.00- CUSTOMER REQUESTED UTILITY WORK (CONTINUED)**

**15.03- Commercial Service Alterations Requested by Customer or Contractor**

1) Remove or Rehang Meter

- Meter < 630 cubic feet per hour (cfh) \$75.00
- Meters 800cfh – 7M \$125.00
- Meters 7M or greater \$175.00

2) Relocate Outside Meter and/or Service Line:

All labor and material to relocate an existing outside meter fit and/or service line. The customer is responsible for customer-side piping reconnect.

- Meters < 630 cfh \$400.00 + \$200 each Add'l
- Meters 800cfh – 3M \$475.00 + \$275 each Add'l
- Meters 3M or greater \$875.00 + \$350 each Add'l
- Frost Burner, if needed \$240.00 each unit per day
- Additional piping for offset if more than 3 feet – Construction Season
  - 5/8 inch PE \$16.00 per foot
  - 1.25 to 6 inch Pipe \$20.00 per foot
  - Steel – Any size Determined individually (T&M)
- Additional piping for offset if more than 3 feet – Winter Construction
  - 5/8 inch PE \$18.00 per foot
  - 1.25 to 6 inch Pipe \$23.00 per foot
  - Steel – Any size Determined individually (T&M)

3) Temporary Service Line Cut-off and Reconnect:

All labor and material to temporarily disconnect a service line and remove the metering equipment for the customer's convenience and reconnecting gas service for the same owner at a later date. Charges are assessed when reconnect is requested.

- Meter up to 630cfh – Construction Season \$800.00
- Meter up to 630cfh – Winter Construction \$1,050.00 plus frost burner if needed
- All other sizes Determined individually (T&M)

4) Install Guard Posts:

- One \$394.00
- Two \$767.00
- Three \$1,121.00
- Four \$1,454.00
- Five \$1,768.00
- Six \$2,061.00
- Each Additional \$334.00
- Frost burner, if needed \$240.00 each unit per day

**16.00 EXCESS FLOW VALVE**

In accordance with Federal Pipeline Safety Regulations 49 CFR 192.383, the Company will install an excess flow valve on an existing service line at the customer's request at a mutually agreeable date. At the time of the customer's request CenterPoint Energy will provide the customer with a detailed explanation of the estimated installation costs identifying specific line items and the per hour rates that the customer would be charged. The actual cost of the installation excluding the cost of the excess flow valve and any other physical property necessary to install the excess flow valve will be assessed to the customer.

## DUAL FUEL GAS SALES SERVICE AGREEMENT

This Dual Fuel Sales Service Agreement ("**Agreement**") is between CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas ("**CenterPoint Energy**"), 505 Nicollet Mall, P.O. Box 59038, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55459-0038 and \_\_\_\_\_ ("**Customer**"), \_\_\_\_\_, Customer is a user of natural gas who meets the requirements for dual fuel sales service as outlined in the applicable dual fuel sales service tariff on file with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, as it may be changed from time to time ("**Tariff**"). CenterPoint Energy and Customer agree as follows:

### Section 1. REQUIREMENTS AND DELIVERIES.

1.1. **Delivery of Gas.** CenterPoint Energy will sell and deliver pipeline quality gas at \_\_\_\_\_ (Acct# \_\_\_\_\_) on an interruptible basis. The metered volume will be adjusted to account for variations in pressure and temperature and billed accordingly. ~~Gas using equipment is listed in Appendix A.~~ Upon request by CenterPoint Energy, Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy with a list of natural gas equipment within fifteen (15) days of such request. Customer will notify CenterPoint Energy of any changes in its use of natural gas.

1.2. **Refusal or Disconnection of Service.** CenterPoint Energy will not initiate gas service until all equipment necessary for gas and alternative fuel operation is installed and performs in compliance with applicable laws, ordinances and codes and Customer meets CenterPoint Energy's credit requirements.

CenterPoint Energy may refuse service or disconnect service without notice for the following reasons:

- Tampering with CenterPoint Energy's equipment;
- The existence of a condition hazardous to Customer; CenterPoint Energy's other customers, employees or equipment; or the public;
- Customer's use of equipment which adversely affects CenterPoint Energy's equipment or service to others.

CenterPoint Energy may refuse or disconnect service upon five days written notice for any of the following reasons:

- Customer's failure to pay a bill when due;
- Customer's violation of CenterPoint Energy's Rules and Regulations on file with the Public Utilities Commission or city having jurisdiction;
- Customer's breach of this Agreement;
- Customer's failure to provide CenterPoint Energy reasonable access to CenterPoint Energy's equipment;
- Customer's failure to furnish necessary service, equipment or rights-of-way which CenterPoint Energy has specified as a condition for obtaining service.

Disconnection does not relieve Customer of the responsibility to pay CenterPoint Energy for service previously rendered.

### Section 2. PRICE, BILLING AND PAYMENT PROCEDURES.

2.1. **Rate for Gas.** Customer will pay the gas rate in the applicable ~~Dual Fuel Sales Service~~ Tariff approved by the applicable authority. CenterPoint Energy may increase or decrease the rate for changes in the cost of gas pursuant to its Purchased Gas Adjustment Rider Clause ("PGA Rider").

2.2. **Taxes and Fees.** Customer will pay any tax or fee imposed on all or part of any sale of gas or the gross revenues derived from the sale of gas.

2.3. **Gas Used After Notice of Curtailment.** For all unauthorized gas used after notice of curtailment, Customer will pay the charge for Unauthorized Gas as specified in the Tariff.

2.4. **Billing and Payment.** CenterPoint Energy will bill Customer monthly. Payment is due by the due date noted on the bill.

2.5. **Late Payment Charge.** Late payment will be charged as specified in the Tariff.

## DUAL FUEL GAS SALES SERVICE AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)

### Section 3. CURTAILMENT.

3.1. **Curtailment.** Customer will provide to CenterPoint Energy (and update as necessary) the names and telephone numbers of persons CenterPoint Energy should notify to curtail in Appendix A. CenterPoint Energy can interrupt Customer if capacity constraints require, or for other appropriate reasons Customer will curtail gas usage upon one hour's notice.

### Section 4. CUSTOMER CONNECTED LOAD.

Connected load is \_\_\_\_\_ MMBTU/input. Alternative Fuel type is \_\_\_\_\_. Alternative fuel capacity storage is \_\_\_\_\_. Customer agrees to notify CenterPoint Energy of any changes in natural gas load connected to the meter(s). Customer agrees to provide CenterPoint Energy with a revised connected load list within thirty (30) days of CenterPoint Energy's written request.

### Section 4.5. SERVICE LINES AND METERING EQUIPMENT.

- 45.1. **Equipment Furnished by CenterPoint Energy.** CenterPoint Energy will install and maintain necessary gas mains and services, meter, remote reading equipment, and regulator equipment to supply natural gas to the CenterPoint Energy meter on Customer's premises. CenterPoint Energy may charge Customer for costs of installation consistent with CenterPoint Energy's Tariff. All equipment furnished by CenterPoint Energy will remain its property and CenterPoint Energy may remove its equipment upon termination of service to Customer.
- 45.2. **Customer's Equipment.** All piping and equipment downstream of the meter, including telephone lines and any necessary electrical power for remote meter reading equipment, will be installed and maintained by Customer and remain Customer's responsibility. Any inspection by CenterPoint Energy of Customer's piping and equipment will not impose any obligation or liability on CenterPoint Energy.
- 45.3. **Location on Customer's Premises.** Customer will, without expense to CenterPoint Energy, provide and maintain on the premises, at a location satisfactory to CenterPoint Energy, proper space for CenterPoint Energy's piping, meters, regulators and other equipment.
- 45.4. **Access to Equipment.** CenterPoint Energy representatives have the right at all reasonable times to have access to its equipment for any reason related to this Agreement, including the right to read meters, make inspections or repairs or remove CenterPoint Energy's equipment. Customer will obtain consent from its lessor, if any, for CenterPoint Energy to enter the premises for these purposes. Access will be granted, at all times, for emergency purposes.
- 45.5. **Safekeeping of CenterPoint Energy's Equipment.** Customer will provide for the safekeeping of CenterPoint Energy's meters and other equipment. Customer will reimburse CenterPoint Energy for the cost of any alterations to its property necessitated by Customer, and for any loss or damage to CenterPoint Energy's property due to negligence of Customer, its agents or employees. CenterPoint Energy may suspend or discontinue gas service until any such damage or loss is settled to its satisfaction.

### Section 56. ALTERNATIVE OR DUAL FUEL EQUIPMENT.

- 56.1. **Alternative or Dual Fuel Capability.** Customer must have an operational alternate or dual fuel system installed. The installation and maintenance of the alternate or dual fuel system must comply with applicable codes, ordinances and laws.
- 56.2. **Alternate Fuel Supply.** Customer will have access to sufficient alternate fuel supplies for all periods of curtailment.

### Section 67. TERM.

This Agreement is effective when signed by both parties and remains in effect until terminated by CenterPoint Energy pursuant to Section 1 or until terminated by either party upon providing thirty (30) days written notice. This Agreement supersedes all prior written or oral agreements.



**DUAL FUEL GAS SALES SERVICE AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**Section 78. NOTICES.**

Notices, except as otherwise specified, will be sent to:

CenterPoint Energy - MN Gas, Energy Sales Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Manager \_\_\_\_\_  
505 Nicollet Mall, P.O. Box 59038, \_\_\_\_\_  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55459-0038. \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone 612.321.4330 \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE NOTIFY CENTERPOINT OF ANY CHANGES IN CONTACTS)

**Section 89. ASSIGNMENT.**

This Agreement cannot be assigned without CenterPoint Energy's prior written approval. If Customer does not obtain approval, Customer will remain liable for payment of gas service.

**Section 910. WAIVER OF LIABILITY.**

CenterPoint Energy will not be liable for any loss, injury, or damages, including any special, incidental, or consequential damages; resulting from CenterPoint Energy's disconnection or refusal of service, or any interruption or curtailment of gas service.

**Section 4011. APPLICABLE LAW AND REGULATION.**

This Agreement will be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota. However, notwithstanding any of the terms or conditions of the Agreement, the Tariff shall govern. If a change in the Tariff creates a conflict with any section of this Agreement, either party may cancel this Agreement immediately upon delivery of written notice of such cancellation to the other party. Further, the operation and effectiveness of this Agreement shall not continue if such continuance would violate any applicable statute, regulation or other jurisdictional authority.

**Section 4412. COMPLETE AGREEMENT.**

This Agreement and the Tariff constitute the parties' complete agreement. Except for changes to the Tariff, this Agreement cannot be changed except in a writing signed by both parties.

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., d/b/a**

**CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**CUSTOMER(S)**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**AGREEMENT APPENDIX A**

**CURTAILMENT NOTICES**

1) \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME TITLE  
OFFICE PHONE HOME PHONE CELL PHONE

2) \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME TITLE  
OFFICE PHONE HOME PHONE CELL PHONE

3) \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME TITLE  
OFFICE PHONE HOME PHONE CELL PHONE

***(Please notify CenterPoint Energy of any change in Curtailment Contracts.)***

## DUAL FUEL GAS TRANSPORTATION SERVICE AGREEMENT

~~This Dual Fuel Gas Transportation Service Agreement~~~~THIS AGREEMENT~~ ("Agreement") is between CenterPoint Energy, Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas ("CenterPoint Energy"), 505 Nicollet Mall, P.O. Box 59038, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55459-0038, and \_\_\_\_\_ ("~~End User~~Customer"), \_\_\_\_\_ and is effective 9:00 a.m. CCT on the 1st day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_. ~~End User~~Customer is a natural gas user who ~~will~~has purchases natural gas from a supplier other than CenterPoint Energy's sales service, and who desires to transport that natural gas through CenterPoint Energy's distribution system. CenterPoint Energy- is willing and able to transport ~~End User~~Customer's natural gas on an interruptible basis, subject to (1) all provisions of this Agreement, and (2) CenterPoint Energy's currently effective and applicable ~~d~~Dual ~~f~~Fuel ~~t~~Transportation ~~s~~Service ~~t~~Tariff on file with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, as it may be changed from time to time ("Tariff"). Therefore, the parties, desiring to be legally bound, for themselves, their successors and assigns, agree as follows:

### Section 1. QUANTITY.

CenterPoint Energy- agrees to accept, and to transport on an interruptible basis, daily volumes of gas nominated by ~~End User~~Customer in accordance with Section 2 of this Agreement in volumes up to \_\_\_\_\_ Therms per day. ~~End User~~Customer's gas will be accepted at the inlet of CenterPoint Energy's \_\_\_\_\_ town border station ("TBS") and will be transported on an interruptible basis to ~~End User~~Customer's meter at \_\_\_\_\_, Minnesota, account # \_\_\_\_\_. The volumes metered by CenterPoint Energy will be considered the volumes delivered to CenterPoint Energy.

~~End User~~Customer's gas shall be delivered by CenterPoint Energy- at a rate of flow not exceeding \_\_\_\_ cubic feet per hour at the outlet of ~~End User~~Customer's meter. The gas shall be delivered at normal operating pressures and temperatures on CenterPoint Energy's distribution system and all volumes delivered will be adjusted for Btu content. The gas transported under this Agreement shall be the first gas registered through ~~End User~~Customer's meter. Upon request by CenterPoint Energy Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy with a list of natural gas equipment within fifteen (15) days of such request. Customer also will notify CenterPoint Energy of any changes in its use of natural gas.

### Section 2. NOMINATING PROCEDURE.

Each day by 9:00 a.m. CCT, ~~End User~~Customer will nominate the volume of gas it wants to take for the 24-hour period beginning at 9:00 a.m. CCT the following day. Nominations shall be made directly to CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department and shall include volumes to account for fuel use and unaccounted for volumes on the transporting interstate or intrastate pipeline system. When ~~End User~~Customer is out-of-balance on CenterPoint Energy's system as defined in the Tariff, ~~End User~~Customer will pay the charges outlined in the Tariff. ~~End User~~Customer is responsible for all transportation and transportation requirements of the ~~interstate~~ transporting pipeline.

### Section 3. METER READING AND TELEMETERING.

Telemetry is required. ~~End User~~Customer will be billed monthly for the cost of the telephone circuit. This charge is in addition to all charges outlined in the Tariff.

### Section 4. TERM.

This Agreement will continue in effect for 1 year from its effective date. Upon expiration of the initial term, this Agreement shall continue for successive thirty (30) day periods until terminated in accordance with Section 7 of this Agreement.

### Section 5. PRICE.

The rate charged ~~End User~~Customer for transported gas will be governed by the applicable Tariff, ~~a copy of which is attached to this Agreement.~~

**DUAL FUEL GAS TRANSPORTATION SERVICE AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**Section 6. PAYMENT.**

Payment is due five (5) days prior to the next scheduled billing date. A late charge, as outlined in the Tariff, ~~will~~may be applied to bills not paid by the end of the due date.

**Section 7. TERMINATION AND ASSIGNMENT.**

7.1. ~~End User~~Customer or CenterPoint Energy may terminate this Agreement by giving written notice to the other thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of the current term.

7.2. This Agreement shall immediately terminate on any date on which any applicable statute, regulation or other jurisdictional authority renders it illegal, null or void.

7.3. Additionally, this Agreement will be subject to termination immediately upon notice to ~~End User~~Customer of its failure to meet its responsibilities under this Agreement.

7.4. This Agreement may not be assigned without the written consent of the other party.

**Section 8. NOTICES.**

CenterPoint Energy-~~MN Gas, Energy Commercial~~ End UserCustomer: \_\_\_\_\_  
~~& Industrial-Sales Manager,~~  
505 Nicollet Mall, \_\_\_\_\_  
P.O. Box 59038, \_\_\_\_\_  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55459-0038,  
Phone: 612.321.4330

**Section 9. ALTERNATIVE FUEL CAPABILITY AND INTERRUPTION.**

Customer must have on-site alternate fuel capability and sufficient fuel to burn for periods of interruption.

~~End User~~9.1. Alternative or Dual Fuel Capability. Customer must have an operational, on-site alternate or dual fuel system installed. The installation and maintenance of the alternate or dual fuel system must comply with applicable codes, ordinances and laws.

~~9.2. Alternative fuel supply.~~ Customer will have access to capability and sufficient alternative fuel supplies to burn for all periods of interruption, or

~~9.3. be receiving service under the Process Interruptible Service Rider.~~ Alternate fuel burning equipment is listed in Appendix A.

**Section 10. CURTAILMENT.**

CenterPoint Energy can interrupt ~~Customer~~End User if capacity constraints require or for other appropriate reasons. Customer will provide to CenterPoint Energy (and update as necessary) the names and telephone numbers of persons CenterPoint Energy should notify to curtail in Appendix AB. ~~End User~~Customer will cease using gas on one hour's notice when CenterPoint Energy- requests or pay the penalty for Unauthorized Use of Gas contained in the Tariff.

**Section 11. CUSTOMER CONNECTED LOAD.**

Connected load is \_\_\_\_\_ MMBTU/input. Alternative Fuel type is \_\_\_\_\_. Alternative Fuel Capacity Storage is \_\_\_\_\_. Customer agrees to notify CenterPoint Energy of any changes in natural gas load connected to the meter(s). Customer agrees to provide CenterPoint Energy with a revised connected load list within thirty (30) days of CenterPoint Energy's written request.

**Section 12. WAIVER OF LIABILITY.**

~~End User~~Customer will hold CenterPoint Energy harmless from all claims for damages, including special, incidental, or consequential damages, resulting from any termination of gas service caused by ~~End User~~Customer's failure to deliver gas to CenterPoint Energy's TBS or for CenterPoint Energy's interruption or curtailment of gas service.

**DUAL FUEL GAS TRANSPORTATION SERVICE AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**Section 4113. SUPPLYING COPIES OF CONTRACTS.**

Prior to any transportation by CenterPoint Energy under this Agreement, End User-Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy with copies of all contracts used to procure and deliver natural gas to CenterPoint Energy's TBS. However, End User-Customer need not provide price information contained in such contracts.

**Section 142. APPLICABLE LAW AND REGULATION.**

This Agreement will be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota. However, notwithstanding any of the terms or conditions of the Agreement, the Tariff shall govern. If a change in the Tariff creates a conflict with any section of this Agreement, either party may cancel this Agreement immediately upon delivery of written notice of such cancellation to the other party. Further, the operation and effectiveness of this Agreement shall not continue if such continuance would violate any applicable statute, regulation or other jurisdictional authority.

**Section 153. COMPLETE AGREEMENT.**

This Agreement and the Tariff constitute the parties' complete agreement. ~~Except for~~ ~~With the exception of~~ changes to the Tariff, this Agreement cannot be changed except in a writing and signed by both parties.

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., d/b/a  
CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**END-USERCUSTOMER(S)**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

## FIRM GAS TRANSPORTATION SERVICE AGREEMENT

~~THIS AGREEMENT~~ This Firm Gas Transportation Service Agreement ("Agreement") is between CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas ("CenterPoint Energy"), 505 Nicollet Mall, P.O. Box 59038, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55459-0038 and \_\_\_\_\_ ("~~End User~~Customer"), and is effective 9:00 a.m. CCT on the 1st day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_. ~~End User~~Customer is a natural gas user who has purchased natural gas from a supplier other than CenterPoint Energy's natural gas sales service, and who desires to transport that natural gas through CenterPoint Energy's distribution system. CenterPoint Energy is willing and able to transport Customer's natural gas on a firm basis, subject to (1) all provisions of this Agreement, and (2) CenterPoint Energy's currently effective and applicable ~~Firm~~firm Transportation transportation Service ~~service~~ Tariff ~~tariff~~ on file with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, as it may be changed from time to time ("Tariff"). Therefore, the parties, desiring to be legally bound, for themselves, their successors and assigns, agree as follows:

### Section 1. QUANTITY.

CenterPoint Energy agrees to accept and to transport on a firm basis, daily volumes of gas nominated by End User Customer in accordance with Section 2 of this Agreement in volumes up to \_\_\_\_\_ Therms per day. ~~End User's~~Customer's gas will be accepted at the inlet of CenterPoint Energy's \_\_\_\_\_ town border station ("TBS") and will be transported on a firm basis to ~~End User's~~Customer's meter at \_\_\_\_\_, Minnesota, account #\_\_\_\_\_. The volumes metered by CenterPoint Energy will be considered the volumes delivered to CenterPoint Energy.

~~End User's~~Customer's gas shall be delivered by CenterPoint Energy at a rate of flow not exceeding \_\_\_\_\_ cubic feet per hour at the outlet of ~~End User~~Customer's meter. The gas shall be delivered at normal operating pressures and temperatures on CenterPoint Energy's distribution system and all volumes delivered will be adjusted for Btu content. Gas transported under this Agreement shall be the first gas registered through ~~End User's~~Customer's meter. ~~Upon request by CenterPoint Energy, End User will provide CenterPoint Energy with a list of natural gas equipment within fifteen (15) days of such request.~~ Upon request by CenterPoint Energy, Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy with a list of natural gas equipment within fifteen (15) days of such request.

### Section 2. NOMINATING PROCEDURE.~~Nominating Procedure.~~

Each day by 9:00 a.m. CCT, ~~End User~~Customer will nominate the volume of gas it wants to take for the 24-hour period beginning at 9:00 a.m. CCT the following day. Nominations shall be made directly to CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department and shall ~~include~~ include volumes to account for fuel use and unaccounted for volumes on the transporting interstate and intrastate pipeline system. When ~~End User~~Customer is out-of-balance on CenterPoint Energy's system, as defined in the Tariff, ~~End User~~Customer will pay the charges outlined in the Tariff.

~~End User~~Customer is responsible for all transportation and transportation requirements of the ~~interstate~~ transporting pipeline.

### Section 3. ~~Meter Reading and Telemetering~~ METER READING AND TELEMETERING.

Telemetry is required. ~~End User~~Customer may be billed monthly for the cost of the telephone circuit. This charge is in addition to all charges outlined in the applicable Tariff.

### Section 4. ~~Term~~ TERM.

This Agreement will continue in effect for one (1) year from its effective date. Upon expiration of the initial term, this Agreement shall continue for successive thirty (30) day periods until terminated in accordance with Section 7 of this Agreement.

**FIRM GAS TRANSPORTATION SERVICE AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**Section 5. ~~Price~~PRICE.**

The rate charged ~~End User~~Customer for transportation services will be governed by the Tariff. ~~a copy of the current Tariff is attached to this Agreement.~~

**Section 6. ~~Payment~~PAYMENT.**

Payment is due five (5) days prior to the next scheduled billing date. A late charge, as outlined in the Tariff, will be applied to bills not paid by the end of the due date.

**Section 7. ~~Termination and Assignment~~TERMINATION AND ASSIGNMENT.**

7.1. ~~End User~~Customer or CenterPoint Energy may terminate this Agreement by giving written notice to the other thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of the current term.

7.2. This Agreement shall immediately terminate on any date on which any applicable statute, regulation or other jurisdictional authority renders it illegal, null or void.

7.3. Additionally, this Agreement will be subject to termination immediately upon notice to ~~End User~~Customer of its failure to meet its responsibilities under this Agreement.

7.4. This Agreement may not be assigned without the written consent of the other party.

**Section ~~89~~. ~~Failure of Gas Supply~~FAILURE OF GAS SUPPLY.**

If the ~~End User~~Customer fails to supply gas to CenterPoint Energy's TBS, ~~End User~~Customer will bound by the provisions detailed in the Tariff.

**Section ~~89~~. ~~NOTICES~~Notices.**

CenterPoint Energy-MN Gas, ~~Energy Commercial~~ ~~End User~~ Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
& ~~Industrial Sales~~ ~~Manager~~, \_\_\_\_\_  
505 Nicollet Mall, \_\_\_\_\_  
P.O. Box 59038, \_\_\_\_\_  
Minneapolis, Minnesota -55459-0038,  
Phone: 612.321.4330

**Section ~~110~~. ~~Supplying Copies of Contracts~~SUPPLYING COPIES OF CONTRACTS.**

Prior to any transportation by CenterPoint Energy under this Agreement, ~~End User~~Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy with copies of all contracts used to procure and deliver natural gas to CenterPoint Energy 's TBS. However, ~~End User~~Customer need not provide price information contained in such contracts.

**Section 11. CURTAILMENT.**

~~CenterPoint Energy can interrupt Customer if capacity constraints require or for other appropriate reasons. Customer will provide to CenterPoint Energy (and update as necessary) the names and telephone numbers of persons CenterPoint Energy should notify to curtail in Appendix A. Customer will cease using gas on one hour's notice when CenterPoint Energy requests or pay the penalty for Unauthorized Use of Gas contained in the Tariff.~~

**Section 12. CUSTOMER CONNECTED LOAD.**

Connected load is \_\_\_\_\_ MMBTU/input. Alternative Fuel type is \_\_\_\_\_. Alternative fuel capacity storage is \_\_\_\_\_. Upon request by CenterPoint Energy, End User will provide CenterPoint Energy with a list of natural gas equipment within fifteen (15) days of such request. ~~Customer~~ agrees to notify CenterPoint Energy of any changes in natural gas load connected to the meter(s). ~~Customer~~ agrees to provide CenterPoint Energy with a revised connected load list within thirty (30) days of CenterPoint Energy's written request.

**FIRM GAS TRANSPORTATION SERVICE AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**~~Section 1013. Waiver of Liability~~ WAIVER OF LIABILITY.**

~~End User~~ Customer will hold CenterPoint Energy harmless from all claims for damages resulting from any termination of gas service caused by ~~End User~~ Customer's failure to deliver gas to CenterPoint Energy 's TBS.

**~~Section 11. Supplying Copies of Contracts.~~**

~~Prior to any transportation by CenterPoint Energy under this Agreement, End User will provide CenterPoint Energy with copies of all contracts used to procure and deliver natural gas to CenterPoint Energy's TBS. However, End User need not provide price information contained in such contracts.~~

**~~Section 1214. Applicable Law and Regulation~~ APPLICABLE LAW AND REGULATION.**

This Agreement will be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota. However, notwithstanding any of the terms or conditions of the Agreement, the Tariff shall govern. If a change in the Tariff creates a conflict with any section of this Agreement, either party may cancel this Agreement immediately upon delivery of written notice of such cancellation to the other party. Further, the operation and effectiveness of this Agreement shall not continue if such continuance would violate any applicable statute, regulation or other jurisdictional authority.

**~~Section 1315. Complete Agreement~~ COMPLETE AGREEMENT.**

This Agreement and the Tariff constitute the parties' complete agreement. With the exception changes to the Tariff, this Agreement cannot be changed except in a writing signed by both parties.

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., d/b/a  
CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**~~END USER~~ CUSTOMER(S)**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**MARKET RATE SERVICE AGREEMENT**

This Market Rate Service Agreement ("Agreement") is effective as of the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, between CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas ("CenterPoint Energy"), 505 Nicollet Mall, P.O. Box 59038, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55459-0038, and \_\_\_\_\_ ("End User"), for service at \_\_\_\_\_, account # \_\_\_\_\_.

This Agreement is subject to CenterPoint Energy's currently effective and applicable Market Rate Service Tariff or Rider on file with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, as it may be changed from time to time ("Tariff").

End User is a consumer of natural gas, with the capability of obtaining energy supplies from other suppliers not regulated by the Minnesota Public Utilities commission and is subjecting CenterPoint Energy to effective competition as defined in Minnesota Stat. § 216B.163. Accordingly, CenterPoint Energy agrees to provide service on a market rate basis.

CenterPoint Energy and End User agree as follows:

- 1) The minimum term of the Agreement is one year from the effective date of Agreement. Upon expiration of the initial term, this Agreement shall continue in effect for subsequent thirty (30) day periods until terminated by either party providing thirty (30) days written notice to the other party.
- 2) During the term of the Agreement, End User shall only receive service from CenterPoint Energy under the applicable Market Rate Tariff for natural gas sales or transportation service.
- 3) Natural gas sales or natural gas transportation shall be priced during the term of this Agreement in accordance with the terms of the applicable Market Rate Tariff. Pricing during the initial term of the Agreement shall be as follows: \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota. Further, the operation and effectiveness of this Agreement shall not continue if such continuance would violate any applicable statute, regulation or other jurisdictional authority.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Agreement was signed by duly authorized representatives of CenterPoint Energy and End User.

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., d/b/a  
CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas**

**END USER(S)**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

## FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE GAS SALES SERVICE AGREEMENT

This Firm/Interruptible Gas Sales Service Agreement ("Agreement") is between CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas ("CenterPoint Energy"), 505 Nicollet Mall, P.O. Box 59038, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55459-0038 and \_\_\_\_\_, (~~Proprietorship, Partnership or Corporation~~), ("Customer"). Customer is a natural gas user of natural gas who will purchase natural gas from CenterPoint Energy. CenterPoint Energy is willing and able to deliver natural gas on a firm/interruptible basis ~~meets the requirements for firm/interruptible service subject to (1) all provisions of this Agreement, and (2) CenterPoint Energy's currently effective and applicable tariff as outlined in the applicable tariff~~ (as defined below) on file with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, as it may be changed from time to time. ~~Therefore, the parties, desiring to be legally bound, for themselves, their successors and assigns, CenterPoint Energy and Customer agree as follows:~~

### Section 1. REQUIREMENTS AND DELIVERIES.

- 1.1. **Delivery of Gas.** CenterPoint Energy will deliver pipeline quality gas at \_\_\_\_\_ (Acct# \_\_\_\_\_) on a firm/interruptible basis. Gas using equipment is listed in Appendix A. Upon request by CenterPoint Energy, Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy with a list of natural gas equipment within fifteen (15) days of such request. Customer will notify CenterPoint Energy of any changes in its use of natural gas.
- 1.2. The initial ~~tariff~~ Tariff election is (Small/Large) Firm/Interruptible Gas Sales Service tariff (the "~~Applicable applicable Tariff~~tariff"). Customer may elect a new tariff by notifying CenterPoint Energy in writing prior to any September 1, which election becomes effective the following November 1.
- 1.3. Customer must elect a base level of daily firm service volume per the Applicable Tariff, on or before September 1 of each year. Such base level of daily firm service will be effective the following November 1 and will remain in effect for one (1) year. Prior to September 1 of subsequent years, Customer may elect a different base level of daily firm service to be effective the following November 1. CenterPoint Energy is under no obligation to accept greater levels of base daily firm service volumes and will notify Customer if any newly elected base volume is unacceptable. If Customer does not elect to modify its then-current base level of daily firm service prior to September 1 of subsequent years, the current level shall continue for another one (1) year period. Customer must provide such election pursuant to the Notice-notice requirement in Section 7 herein and must include at a minimum: Customer name, account number and the base level of daily firm service volume in therms.
- 1.4. The initial base level of daily firm service volume is \_\_\_\_\_ therms.
- 1.5. The first volumes through the meter, on a daily basis, are billed as firm volumes until the base level of daily firm service volume is reached. All volumes used after the base level is reached are billed as interruptible volumes. Daily volumes shall be prorated during curtailments of less than one day.
- 1.6. **Refusal or Disconnection of Service.** CenterPoint Energy will not initiate gas service until all equipment necessary for gas and alternative fuel operation for the interruptible service is installed and performs in compliance with applicable laws, ordinances and codes and End User meets CenterPoint Energy's credit requirements.
- CenterPoint Energy may refuse service or disconnect service without notice for the following reasons:
- Tampering with CenterPoint Energy's equipment;
  - The existence of a condition hazardous to End User; CenterPoint Energy's other End Users, employees or equipment; or the public;
  - End User's use of equipment which adversely affects CenterPoint Energy's equipment or service to others.

## FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE GAS SALES SERVICE AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)

CenterPoint Energy may refuse or disconnect service upon five days written notice for any of the following reasons:

- End User's failure to pay a bill when due;
- End User's violation of CenterPoint Energy 's Rules and Regulations on file with the Public Utilities Commission or city having jurisdiction;
- End User's breach of this Agreement;
- End User's failure to provide CenterPoint Energy reasonable access to CenterPoint Energy's equipment;
- End User's failure to furnish necessary service, equipment or rights-of-way which CenterPoint Energy has specified as a condition for obtaining service.

Disconnection does not relieve End User of the responsibility to pay CenterPoint Energy for service previously rendered.

### Section 2. PRICE, BILLING AND PAYMENT PROCEDURES.

**2.1. Rate for Gas.** End User will pay the gas rate in the Applicable Tariff

**2.2. Taxes and Fees.** End User will pay any tax or fee imposed on all or part of any sale of gas or the gross revenues derived from the sale of gas.

**2.3. Gas Used After Notice of Curtailment.** For all unauthorized gas in excess of the base level used after notice of curtailment, Customer will pay the charge for Unauthorized Gas as specified in the Applicable Tariff. Hourly consumption in excess of 1/16<sup>th</sup> of the base level used after notice of curtailment is unauthorized. CenterPoint Energy will provide a thirty (30) day notice of any increase in the charge for Unauthorized Use of gas.

**2.4. Billing and Payment.** CenterPoint Energy will bill End User monthly. Payment is due by the due date noted on the bill.

**2.5. Late Payment Charge.** Late payment will be charged as specified in the Applicable Tariff.

### Section 3. CURTAILMENT.

**Curtailment.** Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy (and update as necessary) the names and telephone numbers of persons CenterPoint Energy should notify to curtail in Appendix B-A. Customer will curtail gas usage in excess of Customer's base level of daily firm service upon one hour's notice.

### Section 4. CUSTOMER CONNECTED LOAD.

Connected load is \_\_\_\_\_ MMBTU/input. Alternative Fuel type is \_\_\_\_\_. Alternative fuel capacity storage is \_\_\_\_\_. Customer agrees to notify CenterPoint Energy of any changes in natural gas load connected to the meter(s). Customer agrees to provide CenterPoint Energy with a revised connected load list within thirty (30) days of CenterPoint Energy's written request.

### Section 45. SERVICE LINES AND METERING EQUIPMENT.

**45.1. Equipment Furnished by CenterPoint Energy.** CenterPoint Energy will install and maintain necessary gas mains and services, meter, remote meter reading equipment, and regulator equipment to supply natural gas to the CenterPoint Energy meter on Customer's premises. CenterPoint Energy may charge Customer for costs of installation consistent with CenterPoint Energy's Applicable Tariff. All equipment furnished by CenterPoint Energy will remain its property and CenterPoint Energy may remove its equipment upon termination of service to Customer.

**45.2. Customer's Equipment.** All piping and equipment downstream of the meter, including telephone lines and any necessary electrical power for remote meter reading equipment, will be installed and maintained by Customer and remain Customer's responsibility. Any inspection by CenterPoint Energy of Customer's piping and equipment will not impose any obligation or liability on CenterPoint Energy.

**45.3. Location on Customer's Premises.** Customer will, without expense to CenterPoint Energy, provide and maintain on the premises, at a location satisfactory to CenterPoint Energy, proper space for CenterPoint Energy's piping, meters, regulators and other equipment.

**FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE GAS SALES SERVICE AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**45.4. Access to Equipment.** CenterPoint Energy representatives have the right at all reasonable times to have access to its equipment for any reason related to this Agreement, including the right to read meters, make inspections or repairs or remove CenterPoint Energy's equipment. ~~End User~~ Customer will obtain consent from its lessor, if any, for CenterPoint Energy to enter the premises for these purposes. Access will be granted, at all times, for emergency purposes.

**45.5. Safekeeping of CenterPoint Energy's Equipment.** Customer will provide for the safekeeping of CenterPoint Energy's meters and other equipment. Customer will reimburse CenterPoint Energy for the cost of any alterations to its property necessitated by Customer, and for any loss or damage to CenterPoint Energy's property due to negligence of Customer, its agents or employees. CenterPoint Energy may suspend or discontinue gas service until any such damage or loss is settled to its satisfaction.

**Section 56. ALTERNATIVE OR DUAL FUEL EQUIPMENT OR PROCESS INTERRUPTIBILITY.**

**56.1. Dual Fuel Capability or Process Interruptibility.** Customer must be capable of reducing natural gas consumption to the base level during all curtailment periods by operating an alternate or dual fuel system sufficient to serve Customer's requirements in excess of its base level of daily firm service or by curtailing process loads. The installation and maintenance of the alternate or dual fuel system must comply with applicable codes, ordinances and laws. Customer hereby acknowledges that there is no limit to the number of days that CenterPoint Energy may curtail, and hereby elects:

- Customer agrees to own and operate an alternative or dual fuel system fueled by and with a storage capacity of \_\_\_ gallons during curtailments. Customer will have access to sufficient alternative fuel supplies for all periods of curtailment, OR:
- Customer agrees to cease operating its process that requires use of natural gas during curtailments. Customer will be capable of ceasing gas consumption during all periods of curtailment.

**Section 67. CURTAILMENT CONTACTS.**

Customer has attached a complete list of curtailment contacts. Customer agrees to update curtailment contacts immediately upon any changes and update/confirm within fifteen (15) days of CenterPoint Energy's written request.

**Section 78. CUSTOMER CONNECTED LOAD.**

Customer has attached a complete list of natural gas load(s) connected to the meter(s). Customer agrees to notify CenterPoint Energy of any changes in natural gas load connected to the meter(s). Customer agrees to provide CenterPoint Energy with a revised connected load list within thirty (30) days of CenterPoint Energy's written request.

**Section 89. TERM.**

This Agreement is effective on \_\_\_\_\_ and is effective for a minimum term of one (1) year. This Agreement shall remain in effect until terminated by CenterPoint Energy pursuant to Section 1 or until terminated by ~~upon~~ either party upon providing thirty (30) days written notice. If this Agreement is not terminated as set forth herein, the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall automatically renew and continue in force for consecutive terms of one (1) month each, until terminated by either party upon not less than thirty (30) days prior written notice to the other party. This Agreement supersedes all prior written or oral agreements.

**FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE GAS SALES SERVICE AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**Section 10. NOTICES.**

Notices, except as otherwise specified, will be sent to:

CenterPoint Energy ~~MN Gas~~ Energy, Energy Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
~~Commercial & Industrial Sales Manager,~~ \_\_\_\_\_  
505 Nicollet Mall, \_\_\_\_\_  
P.O. Box 59038, \_\_\_\_\_  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55459-0038, \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: 612.321.4330

(PLEASE NOTIFY CENTERPOINT ENERGY OF ANY CHANGES IN CONTACTS.)

**~~Section 1011. TERMINATION AND ASSIGNMENT.~~**

~~This Agreement cannot be assigned without CenterPoint Energy's prior written approval. If Customer does not obtain approval, Customer will remain liable for payment of gas service. This Agreement is effective \_\_\_\_\_ and is effective for a minimum term of one (1) year. This Agreement shall remain in effect until terminated as set forth herein; the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall automatically renew and continue in force for consecutive terms of one (1) month each, until terminated by either party upon non less than sixty (60) days prior written notice to the other party. This Agreement supercedes all prior written or oral agreements.~~

**Section 112. WAIVER OF LIABILITY.**

CenterPoint Energy will not be liable for any loss, injury or damages; including any special, incidental or consequential damages; resulting from CenterPoint Energy's disconnection or refusal of service, or any interruption or curtailment of gas service.

**Section 1213. APPLICABLE LAW AND REGULATION.**

This Agreement will be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota. However, notwithstanding any of the terms or conditions of the Agreement, the Applicable Tariff shall govern. If a change in the Applicable Tariff creates a conflict with any section of this Agreement, either party may cancel this Agreement immediately upon delivery of written notice of such cancellation to the other party. Further, the operation and effectiveness of this Agreement shall not continue if such continuance would violate any applicable statute, regulation or other jurisdictional authority.

**Section 1314. COMPLETE AGREEMENT.**

This Agreement and the Applicable Tariff constitute the parties' complete agreement pertaining to this subject matter. Except for changes to the Applicable Tariff, this Agreement cannot be changed except in a writing signed by both parties.

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., d/b/a  
CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**CUSTOMER(S)**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**AGREEMENT APPENDIX A**

**CURTAILMENT NOTICES**

1) \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME TITLE  
OFFICE PHONE HOME PHONE CELL PHONE

2) \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME TITLE  
OFFICE PHONE HOME PHONE CELL PHONE

3) \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME TITLE  
OFFICE PHONE HOME PHONE CELL PHONE

***(Please notify CenterPoint Energy of any change in Curtailment Contracts.)***

**PROCESS INTERRUPTIBLE GAS SALES SERVICE AGREEMENT**

This Process Interruptible Gas Sales Service Agreement ("Agreement") is between CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas ("CenterPoint Energy"), 505 Nicollet Mall, P.O. Box 59038, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55459-0038 and \_\_\_\_\_ ("End User") for natural gas service to End User's facility located at \_\_\_\_\_.

Acct # \_\_\_\_\_.

**Section 1. PROCESS INTERRUPTABILITY.**

**1.1.** Customer has the ability to and agrees to discontinue the use of natural gas when requested by CenterPoint Energy- and qualifies for service under CenterPoint Energy-'s Dual Fuel Sales Service tariff (hereinafter "Tariff") with the exception that Customer does not maintain an alternate fuel capability. This Agreement allows Customer to receive the ~~dDual fFuel sSales sService~~ rate for natural gas usage at the above facility subject to the following conditions:

- a) Customer agrees to discontinue the use of natural gas within one (1) hour notice by CenterPoint Energy's Gas Control Department.
- b) Customer agrees to supply CenterPoint Energy with the names and phone numbers of three (3) current contact people authorized to receive notice of curtailment, such that at least one of the contacts must always be within reach of CenterPoint Energy's Gas Control Department at all times.
- c) Customer agrees to pay for telemetry equipment to be installed by CenterPoint Energy on the gas metering equipment serving the Customer's facility.
- d) Customer agrees to hold CenterPoint Energy harmless from all claims or damages resulting from the loss of natural gas service resulting from curtailment or CenterPoint Energy's inability to deliver natural gas to Customer's facility.
- e) Customer must retain service under the Process Interruptible Sales Service Rider ("Rider") for a minimum of one (1) year.

**1.2.** Customer is subject to all provisions of the ~~Dual Fuel Sales Service~~-Tariff except as otherwise noted herein.

**Section 2. TERM.**

This Agreement will be effective on take-effect on \_\_\_\_\_ and will continue in effect for one (1) year; thereafter, it will continue for successive thirty (30) day periods until terminated by thirty (30) days written notice by either party. This Agreement will immediately terminate on any date on which any applicable statute, regulation or other jurisdictional authority renders it illegal, null or void. Additionally, this Agreement will be subject to termination immediately upon notice to Customer of its failure to meet its responsibilities as defined above or in the ~~Dual Fuel Sales Service~~-Tariff.

**Section 3. COMPLETE AGREEMENT.**

This Agreement and the ~~Process Interruptible Sales Service~~-Rider constitute the parties' complete agreement. Except for ~~With the exception of~~ changes to the Tariff, this Agreement cannot be changed except in a writing signed by both parties.

**Section 4. ASSIGNMENT.**

\_\_\_\_\_ This Agreement may not be assigned without the written consent of the other party.

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., d/b/a**

**CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**CUSTOMER**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

## DAILY BALANCING SERVICE AGREEMENT

This Daily Balancing Service Agreement ("Agreement") is between CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas ("CenterPoint Energy"), 505 Nicollet Mall, P.O. Box 59038, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55459-0038 and \_\_\_\_\_ ("Customer").

### Section 1. ~~Availability~~AVAILABILITY.

Service under this Agreement is available to any Customer, or to any agent representing a Customer or a group of Customers, taking service under CenterPoint Energy's Firm, ~~or Dual Fuel or Firm/Interruptible Gas~~ Transportation tariffs ("applicable Transportation Tariff(s)"). ~~A copy of CenterPoint Energy's current applicable Transportation Tariff and Daily Balancing Service Rider is attached.~~

### Section 2. ~~General Terms and Conditions~~ GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

The obligations of CenterPoint Energy and the Customer under this Agreement are subject to all general terms and conditions of service of CenterPoint Energy's Rate Book. Except as specifically provided herein, all terms and conditions of the applicable Transportation Tariff and related agreements remain in effect. The terms and conditions of the Daily Balancing Service Rider are incorporated by reference into this Agreement.

### Section 3. ~~Term~~TERM.

This Agreement shall be in effect for an initial term of one (1) month commencing on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, and shall remain in effect from month to month thereafter until terminated by either party with thirty (30) days written notice. Changes in the amount of contracted Daily Balancing Quantity (defined below) must be made at least five (5) working days prior to the end of the preceding month.

### Section 4. ~~Daily Balancing Quantity~~ DAILY BALANCING QUANTITY.

Customer elects the following amount of Daily Balancing Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ Therms.

### Section 5. ~~Multiple Accounts~~ MULTIPLE ACCOUNTS.

If a Customer or an agent has multiple accounts, they will provide CenterPoint Energy with the names, CenterPoint Energy accounts numbers and the assignment of the portion of the Daily Balancing Quantity elected in Section 4 for each account. Under no circumstances will the total of individual accounts exceed the total quantity elected in Section 4; nor shall such amount assigned to an individual account exceed 20% of the customer's account peak day volume.

### Section 6. ~~Charges~~CHARGES.

The rate for the Daily Balancing Service will be governed by the applicable Rider.

### Section 7. ~~Suspension of Services~~ SUSPENSION OF SERVICE.

On gas days when the Company in its sole discretion determines it is experiencing a System Overrun Limitation (SOL), the Company may notify the Customer that the Daily Balancing Service is suspended. When service is suspended, the Customer shall be required to operate within the nomination tolerances of the applicable transportation rate schedule and will be assessed applicable penalties upon noncompliance with the terms of the transportation rate schedule. CenterPoint Energy will notify Customers of the suspension of this service as soon as possible, however, the latest CenterPoint Energy will notify Customers of the suspension of this service is by 3:00 p.m. CST of the gas day for which the suspension has been called.

**DAILY BALANCING SERVICE AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**Section 8. APPLICABLE LAW AND REGULATION ~~Law and Regulation.~~**

This Agreement will be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota. However, notwithstanding any of the terms and conditions of the Agreement, the applicable Transportation Tariff and Rider shall govern. If a change in the applicable Transportation Tariff or Rider creates a conflict with any section of this Agreement, either party may cancel this Agreement immediately upon delivery of written notice of such cancellation to the other party. Further, the operation and effectiveness of this Agreement shall not continue if such continuance would violate any applicable statute, regulation or other jurisdictional authority.

**Section 9. COMPLETE AGREEMENT ~~Complete Agreement.~~**

This Agreement, the applicable Transportation Tariff and the Rider constitute the parties' complete agreement. ~~Except for~~ ~~With the exception of~~ changes to the Transportation Tariff or Rider, this Agreement cannot be changed except in a writing signed by both parties.

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., d/b/a  
CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**CUSTOMER**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

## MINIMUM VOLUME AGREEMENT

This Minimum Volume Agreement (“Agreement”) is made this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, between CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d.b.a. CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas, a Delaware corporation (“CenterPoint Energy”), 505 Nicollet Mall, P.O. Box 59038 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55459-0038, and \_\_\_\_\_, (the “Customer”) (collectively, the “Parties”).- The Customer ~~is a natural gas user at its facility~~owns the property located at \_\_\_\_\_, Acct.# \_\_\_\_\_ (the “Property”) and desires to have natural gas service installed. CenterPoint Energy is a natural gas public utility and is willing to sell and/or transport natural gas on its distribution system to the Property subject to CenterPoint Energy’s currently effective and applicable tariff(s) on file with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, as it/they may be changed from time to time (“Tariff” or “Tariffs”). ~~and desires to serve the Property through Tariff Service Agreement(s) signed by the Customer, if applicable, as defined in CenterPoint Energy’s then current Tariff on file with the Public Utility Commission of Minnesota.~~ Therefore, the Parties agree as follows:

### Section 1. SERVICE.

CenterPoint Energy agrees to serve natural gas to the Property at a flow rate of \_\_\_\_\_ thousand cubic feet per hour and a delivery pressure of \_\_\_\_\_ pounds per square inch gauge.~~The Customer represents and warrants to CenterPoint Energy that it is the owner or lessee of the Property.~~

### Section 2. OWNERSHIP ~~AND EASEMENTS.~~

All natural gas mains and/or services installed by CenterPoint Energy shall be and remain the property of CenterPoint Energy, and neither Customer nor its contractors shall acquire any right, title or interest in any gas main and/or services installed under this Agreement.~~If the Customer is the owner of the Property, the Customer hereby grants to CenterPoint Energy all easements necessary or desirable on Customer’s Property for the installation and operation of all natural gas mains and other facilities as needed by CenterPoint Energy. If the Customer is the lessee of the Property, the Customer shall work with CenterPoint Energy to secure an easement from the owner of the Property.~~

### Section ~~3~~5. MINIMUM VOLUME COMMITMENT.

CenterPoint Energy agrees to serve the Property, based upon the anticipated revenue from serving the Property. To justify service to the Property, the Customer agrees to purchase service for the delivery of an Annual Minimum Volumes (“AMV”) of \_\_\_\_\_ tTherms, beginning on the nearest billing cycle to \_\_\_\_\_, for per an initial twelve (12) month period and for each subsequent twelve (12) month period (“AMV Year”)year for the term of this Agreement. Beginning on the nearest billing cycle to \_\_\_\_\_ and for each subsequent 12-month period (“AMV Year”). ~~In the event Customer consumestakes less than the above referenced AMV for any AMV Year, the Customer shall paybe billed CenterPoint Energy the difference between the AMV and the actual consumeddelivered volume at a rate consistent with the then current applicable delivery rateprior the \_\_\_\_\_ rate class, rate code \_\_\_\_\_, stated on the bill issued for the last month of the applicable AMV Year. Rate information is available in the Rate Schedules of CenterPoint Energy Energy’s Gas Rate Book, which can be accessed on CenterPoint Energy Energy’s website, www.CenterPoint Energyenergy.com, and are on file with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commissionstate regulatory commission.~~

### Section 4. CONSERVATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

Notwithstanding Section 3 above, the Customer, at its sole discretion, may implement energy efficient measures that may result in natural gas savings. If such measures occur at the Property, CenterPoint Energy agrees tThe AMV shall be reduced by the quantity of tTherms approved and implemented through CenterPoint Energy’s associated with all of Customer’s qualifying Conservation Improvement Program (“CIP”)projects, except measuresprojects undertaken before \_\_\_\_\_. The AMV reduction shall occur on a pro-rata basis for the first AMV Year in which the project was installed, and in for the full amount of natural gas saved by the measures for all subsequent AMV Years.

**MINIMUM VOLUME AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**Section 5—6. ADDITIONAL TERMS.**

Additional terms, if any, are included in Attachment AB, which is incorporated herein by reference.

**Section 63. AUTHORITY AND CONFIDENTIALITY.**

Customer and CenterPoint Energy ~~eEach Party~~ warrants ~~that~~ it has full right, power and authority, and has received all required approvals, to enter into this Agreement and to perform fully its obligation hereunder. The Parties ~~eEach Party~~ ~~agrees that~~ the terms of this Agreement are confidential and may not be disclosed without the other ~~pParty's~~ prior written consent. Notwithstanding the foregoing, CenterPoint Energy ~~Energy~~ may disclose confidential information if required to do so by a government regulatory agency.

**Section 78. TERM.**

This Agreement is effective when signed by both Parties and remains in effect for five (5) years until \_\_\_\_\_ or until terminated by CenterPoint Energy ~~Energy~~ upon thirty (30) day's written notice. This Agreement supersedes all prior written or oral agreements pertaining to this subject matter.

**Section 87. NOTICES.**

Notices, except as otherwise specified, will be sent to:

CenterPoint Energy ~~-MN Gas, Energy Commercial~~ Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
& ~~Industrial~~ Sales Manager \_\_\_\_\_  
505 Nicollet Mall, P.O. Box 59038 \_\_\_\_\_  
Minneapolis, Minnesota -55459-0038 \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: 612.321.4330 \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 94. ASSIGNMENT OF AGREEMENT.**

The Customer may not assign this Agreement without CenterPoint Energy's prior written consent. If Customer does not obtain approval, Customer will remain liable for payment of gas service. This Agreement and any applicable Tariff(s), any applicable Tariff Service Agreement(s) and the Tariff constitute the Parties' complete agreement. Except for ~~With the exception of~~ changes to the Tariff(s), this Agreement cannot be changed except in a writing signed by both Parties.

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., d/b/a  
CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**END USER(S)**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW MARKET DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT**

This New Market Development Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered into between \_\_\_\_\_, a \_\_\_\_\_ (Proprietorship, Partnership or Corporation) hereinafter called “Developer”, and CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas, 505 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis MN 55402, hereinafter called “Company”. Based on mutual consideration, which is hereby acknowledged, the Developer and the Company agree as follows:

**Section 1. OBLIGATIONS**

- 1.1. Company is a natural gas distribution utility that will serve the hereinafter described Project.
- 1.2. Developer is developing said Project and agrees that Company has the exclusive right to be the sole natural gas provider and install natural gas mains and service lines to all residential single family unit(s) (condo, apartment, townhome or home), and commercial and industrial structures of any kind in said Project hereinafter called “End User”; and Developer will contractually require all builders within the Project to adhere to the terms set forth herein; and, if Developer sells any or all of the land within the Project, it agrees to include the terms of this Agreement in the purchase contract(s) to ensure the new owner(s) abide by these terms.
- 1.3 Developer recognizes that the requested gas mains and service lines will necessitate a capital investment on the part of the Developer by way of contribution in aid of construction or on the part of the Company or both.
- 1.4 If another entity transports natural gas to any residential single family unit, commercial or industrial structure of any kind within the Project, then the Developer will reimburse CenterPoint Energy for its costs in the design and installation of its natural gas main and services.
- 1.5 Company and Developer agree to the terms of this agreement, as specified in Exhibit A for the requested natural gas main and service line extension(s) and; Developer understands that the terms of Exhibit A are contingent upon the number and type of natural gas End User(s) and respective natural gas equipment/load requirements the Developer has represented to Company will exist in the Project as described in Exhibit A and Exhibit B. Any change in the number of End User(s) or type of End User may constitute a revised Exhibit A of this Agreement between the Company and the Developer.
- 1.6 Company reserves the right to verify that Developer has complied with all the requirements of this Agreement. Such verification will include, but is not limited to, Developer or builder provided documentation or site check by Company to confirm installation of primary natural gas space heating system for each End User in the Project. The Developer acknowledges that any type of heat pump is not considered to be a “primary natural gas heating system” and therefore is not allowed.
- 1.7 If either party breaches this Agreement and the breach is not cured within thirty (30) days after receiving written notice from the other party within such longer period as is reasonably necessary to cure the breach, in no event to exceed an additional ninety (90) days, then breaching party will be liable for the other party’s reasonable attorneys’ fees and for damages directly caused by such breach.

**NEW MARKET DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)****Section 2. APPLICABLE LAW AND REGULATION**

- 1.3. The obligations of Company and Developer under this Agreement are subject to laws of the State of Minnesota, and;
- 1.4. The Company's currently effective and applicable Tariffs and Riders on file with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission ("Tariff") except as specifically provided herein.

**Section 3. AUTHORITY**

The persons signing this Agreement have the real and apparent authority to bind the respective parties. Developer represents and warrants that it has sole authority for selecting the natural gas supplier for the Project(s).

**Section 4. TERM**

This Agreement is effective when signed by both parties and remains in effect for \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) years or until the construction of all End User structures in this project are complete.

**Section 5. COMPLETE AGREEMENT**

This Agreement and the Exhibits, attached and made a part of this Agreement, constitute the parties' complete agreement. With the exception of changes to the Company's Tariffs, this Agreement cannot be changed except in a writing signed by both parties.

**NEW MARKET DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP.,  
d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas**

**DEVELOPER**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(NAME)  
  
505 Nicollet Mall  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(ADDRESS)  
  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE)  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(SIGNATURE)  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(TITLE)  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(COMPANY)  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(NAME)  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(ADDRESS)  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE)  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(SIGNATURE)  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(TITLE)  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE)

**NEW MARKET DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**Exhibit A**

Agreement Specifications;

Both parties agree that the terms of this Exhibit are confidential and may not be disclosed without the other Party's prior written consent.

Developer warrants the following End User types, numbers, and primary natural gas space heating equipment/load specifications for this project.

End User Type	End User Count	Equipment/Load Requirements

CenterPoint Energy, in consideration of being granted exclusive rights to deliver natural gas to each End User described above will design and install natural gas main and/or services, and;

Will (insert any additional conditions here),  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**NEW MARKET DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)****Exhibit B**

Plat Map identifying Project scope and End User type

**FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE GAS TRANSPORTATION SERVICE AGREEMENT**

~~THIS AGREEMENT~~ This Firm/Interruptible Gas Transportation Service Agreement ("Agreement") is between CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas ("CenterPoint Energy"), 505 Nicollet Mall, P.O. Box 59038, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55459-0038 and \_\_\_\_\_ ("~~Customer~~ End User"), and is effective 9:00 a.m. CCT on the 1st day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_. ~~Customer~~ End User is a natural gas user who will purchase natural gas from a supplier other than CenterPoint Energy's sales natural gas service, and who desires to transport that natural gas through CenterPoint Energy's distribution system. CenterPoint Energy is willing and able to transport ~~End User~~ Customer's natural gas on a firm/interruptible basis, subject to (1) all provisions of this Agreement, and (2) CenterPoint Energy's currently effective and Applicable Tariff (as defined below) on file with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, as it may be changed from time to time. Therefore, the parties, desiring to be legally bound, for themselves, their successors and assigns, agree as follows:

**Section 1. QUANTITY-Quantity.**

- 1.1. CenterPoint Energy agrees to accept and to transport daily volumes of gas nominated by ~~End User~~ Customer in accordance with Section 2 of this Agreement in volumes up to \_\_\_\_\_ Therms per day of which \_\_\_\_\_ Therms per day shall be transported on a firm basis. ~~End User~~ Customer's gas will be accepted at the inlet of CenterPoint Energy's \_\_\_\_\_ town border station ("TBS") and will be transported to ~~End User~~ Customer's meter at \_\_\_\_\_, Minnesota account # \_\_\_\_\_. The volumes metered by CenterPoint Energy will be considered the volumes delivered to CenterPoint Energy.
- 1.2. The initial tariff election is (Small/Large) Firm/Interruptible Gas Transportation tariff (the "Applicable Tariff"). ~~End User~~ Customer may elect a new tariff by notifying CenterPoint Energy in writing prior to any September 1, which election becomes effective the following November 1.
- 1.3. ~~End User~~ Customer's gas shall be delivered by CenterPoint Energy at a rate of flow not exceeding \_\_\_\_\_ cubic feet per hour at the outlet of ~~End User~~ Customer's meter. The gas shall be delivered at normal operating pressures and temperatures on CenterPoint Energy's distribution system and all volumes delivered will be adjusted for Btu content. Gas transported under this Agreement shall be the first gas registered through ~~End User~~ Customer's meter.
- 1.3 ~~The initial Tariff election is \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Applicable Tariff"). Customer may elect a new Tariff by notifying CenterPoint Energy in writing prior to any September 1, which election becomes effective the following November 1.~~
- 1.4. ~~End User~~ Customer must elect a base level of daily firm service volume per the Applicable Tariff, on or before September 1 of each the initial year. Such base level of daily firm service will be effective the following November 1 and will remain in effect for one (1) year. Prior to September 1 of subsequent years, ~~End User~~ Customer may elect a different base level of daily firm service volume to be effective the following November 1. CenterPoint Energy is under no obligation to accept greater levels of base daily firm service volumes and will notify ~~End User~~ Customer if any newly elected base volume is unacceptable. If ~~End User~~ Customer does not elect to modify its then-current base level of daily service firm service volumes prior to September 1 of subsequent years, the current level shall continue for another one (1) year period. ~~End User~~ Customer must provide such election pursuant to the Notice-notice requirement in Section 7 herein and must include at a minimum: ~~End User~~ Customer name, account number and the base level of daily firm service volume in therms.
- 1.5. The initial base level of daily firm service volume is \_\_\_\_\_ therms.
- 1.6. The first volumes through the meter, on a daily basis, are billed as firm volumes until the base level of daily firm service volume is reached. All volumes used after the base level is reached are billed as interruptible volumes. Daily volumes shall be pro-rated during curtailments of less than one day.

**FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE GAS TRANSPORTATION SERVICE AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)****Section 2. ~~Nominating Procedure~~ NOMINATING PROCEDURE.**

- 2.1. Each day by 9:00 a.m. CCT, ~~End User~~ Customer will nominate the volume of gas it wants to take for the 24-hour period beginning at 9:00 a.m. CCT the following day. Nominations shall be made directly to CenterPoint Energy's Transportation Services Department and shall include volumes to account for fuel use and unaccounted for volumes on the transporting interstate pipeline system. When ~~End User~~ Customer is out-of-balance on CenterPoint Energy's system, as defined in the Applicable Tariff, ~~End User~~ Customer will pay the charges outlined in the Applicable Tariff.
- 2.2. ~~End User~~ Customer is responsible for all transportation and transportation requirements of the transporting pipeline.

**Section 3. FAILURE OF GAS SUPPLY.**

If the End User fails to supply gas to CenterPoint Energy's TBS, End User will bound by the provisions detailed in the Applicable Tariff.

**Section 4. PRICE, BILLING AND PAYMENT PROCEDURES.**

- 4.1. Rate: End User will pay the rate in the Applicable Tariff.
- 4.2. Taxes and Fees: End User will pay any tax or fee imposed on all or part of any sale or the gross revenues derived from the sale.
- 4.3. Gas Used After Notice of Curtailment: For all unauthorized gas used after notice of curtailment ("Unauthorized Gas"), End User will pay the charge for Unauthorized Gas as specified in the Applicable Tariff.
- 4.4. Billing and Payment: CenterPoint Energy will bill End User monthly. Payment is due by the due date noted on the bill.
- 4.5. Late Payment Charge: Late payment will be charged as specified in the Applicable Tariff.

**Section 5. METER READING AND TELEMETERING ~~Meter Reading and Telemetering.~~**

Telemetry is required. ~~End User~~ Customer may be billed monthly for the cost of the telephone circuit. This charge is in addition to all charges outlined in the ~~applicable~~ Applicable Tariff.

**Section 46. ALTERNATIVE OR DUAL FUEL EQUIPMENT OR PROCESS INTERRUPTIBILITY ~~Dual Fuel Capability or Process Interruptibility.~~**

- 6.1. Dual Fuel Capacity or Process Interruptibility. Customer must be capable of reducing natural gas consumption to the base level during all curtailment periods by operating an alternate or dual fuel system installed sufficient to serve Customer's requirements in excess of its base level of daily firm service, or by curtailing process loads. The installation and maintenance of the alternate or dual fuel system must comply with applicable codes, ordinances and laws. Customer hereby acknowledges that there is no limit to the number of days that CenterPoint Energy may curtail, and hereby elects:
- Customer agrees to own and operate an alternate or dual fuel system fueled by and with a storage capacity of \_\_\_\_\_ gallons during curtailments. Customer will have access to sufficient alternate fuel supplies for all periods of curtailment, OR:
  - Customer agrees to cease operating its process during curtailments. Customer will be capable of ceasing process gas consumption during all periods of curtailment, reducing use to elected firm level.
- 6.2. Gas Used After Notice of Curtailment. For all unauthorized gas in excess of the base level used after notice of curtailment, End User will pay the charge for Unauthorized Gas as specified in the Tariff. Hourly consumption in excess of 1/16th the base level used after notice of curtailment is unauthorized.

**FIRM/INTERRUPTIBLE GAS TRANSPORTATION SERVICE AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**Section 7. CURTAILMENT CONTACTS**

CenterPoint Energy can interrupt End User if capacity constraints require or for other appropriate reasons. End User will provide to CenterPoint Energy (and update as necessary) the names and telephone numbers of persons CenterPoint Energy should notify to curtail in Appendix A. End User will cease using gas on one hour's notice when CenterPoint Energy requests or pay the penalty for Unauthorized Use of Gas contained in the Tariff.

Customer has attached a complete list of curtailment contacts. Customer agrees to update curtailment contacts immediately upon any changes, and update/confirm within 15 days of CenterPoint Energy's written notice.

**Section 8. CUSTOMER CONNECTED LOAD.**

Customer has attached a complete list of natural gas loads connected to the meter(s). Customer agrees to notify CenterPoint Energy of any changes in natural gas load connected to the meter(s). Customer agrees to provide CenterPoint Energy with a revised connected load list within thirty (30) days of CenterPoint Energy's written request.

**Section 59. Term TERM.**

This Agreement will continue in effect for **one (1) year** from its effective date. Upon expiration of the initial term, this Agreement shall continue for successive thirty (30) day periods until terminated in accordance with Section 4 of this Agreement.

**Section 6. Price, Billing and Payment Procedures.**

**Rate:** Customer will pay the rate in the Applicable Tariff.

**Taxes and Fees:** Customer will pay any tax or fee imposed on all or part of any sale or the gross revenues derived from the sale.

**Gas Used After Notice of Curtailment:** For all unauthorized gas used after notice of curtailment, Customer will pay the charge for Unauthorized Gas as specified in the Tariff.

**Billing and Payment:** CenterPoint Energy will bill Customer monthly. Payment is due by the due date noted on the bill.

**Late Payment Charge:** Late payment will be charged as specified in the Tariff.

**Section 7. Termination and Assignment.**

This Agreement is effective \_\_\_\_\_ and is effective for a minimum term of one (1) year. This Agreement shall remain in effect until terminated by CenterPoint Energy pursuant to Section 4 or upon either party providing 30 days written notice. If this Agreement is not terminated as set forth herein, the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall automatically renew and continue in force for consecutive terms of one (1) month each, until terminated by either party upon not less than thirty (30) days prior written notice to the other party. This Agreement supersedes all prior written or oral agreements.

**Section 810. Notices NOTICES.**

Notices, except as otherwise specified, will be sent to:

CenterPoint Energy-MN Gas Energy, **Energy** Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Commercial & Industrial Sales Manager** \_\_\_\_\_  
505 Nicollet Mall \_\_\_\_\_  
P.O. Box 59038 \_\_\_\_\_  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55459-0038 \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: 612.321.4330  
Contract\_Management@CenterPointEnergy.com

(PLEASE NOTIFY CENTERPOINT ENERGY OF ANY CHANGES IN CONTACTS.)

**Section 9. Failure of Gas Supply.**

If the End User fails to supply gas to CenterPoint Energy's TBS, End User will bound by the provisions detailed in the Tariff.

**Section 10. Waiver of Liability.**

End User will hold CenterPoint Energy harmless from all claims for damages resulting from any termination of gas service caused by End User's failure to deliver gas to CenterPoint Energy's TBS.

**Section 11. SUPPLYING COPIES OF CONTRACTS.**

Prior to any transportation by CenterPoint Energy under this Agreement, ~~End User~~Customer will provide CenterPoint Energy with copies of all contracts used to procure and deliver natural gas to CenterPoint Energy's TBS. However, ~~End User~~Customer need not provide price information contained in such contracts.

**Section 12. ASSIGNMENT.**

This Agreement is effective on \_\_\_\_\_ and is effective for a minimum term of one (1) year. This Agreement shall remain in effect until terminated by CenterPoint Energy pursuant to Section 1 or until terminated by either party upon providing 30 days written notice. If this Agreement is not terminated as set forth herein, the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall automatically renew and continue in force for consecutive terms of one (1) month each, until terminated by either party upon not less than thirty (30) days prior written notice to the other party. This Agreement supersedes all prior written or oral agreements.

**Section 13. WAIVER OF LIABILITY-Waiver of Liability.**

Customer will hold CenterPoint Energy harmless from all claims for damages resulting from any termination of gas service caused by Customer's failure to deliver gas to CenterPoint Energy's TBS.

**Section 4214. APPLICABLE LAW AND REGULATION-Applicable Law and Regulation.**

This Agreement will be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota. However, notwithstanding any of the terms or conditions of the Agreement, the Applicable Tariff shall govern. If a change in the Applicable Tariff creates a conflict with any section of this Agreement, either party may cancel this Agreement immediately upon delivery of written notice of such cancellation to the other party. Further, the operation and effectiveness of this Agreement shall not continue if such continuance would violate any applicable statute, regulation or other jurisdictional authority.

**Section 4315. COMPLETE AGREEMENT.**

This Agreement and the Applicable Tariff constitute the parties' complete agreement. ~~With the exception of~~ Except for changes to the Applicable Tariff, this Agreement cannot be changed except in a writing signed by both parties.

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., d/b/a  
CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**CUSTOMER**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**AGREEMENT APPENDIX A**  
**CURTAILMENT NOTICES**

1) \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME TITLE  
OFFICE PHONE HOME PHONE CELL PHONE

2) \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME TITLE  
OFFICE PHONE HOME PHONE CELL PHONE

3) \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME TITLE  
OFFICE PHONE HOME PHONE CELL PHONE

***(Please notify CenterPoint Energy of any change in Curtailment Contacts.)***

**INTERCONNECTION FEASABILITY STUDY AGREEMENT**

This Interconnection Feasibility Study Agreement (“Agreement”) is effective as of the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, between CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas (“CenterPoint Energy”), 505 Nicollet Mall, P.O. Box 59038, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55459-0038 and \_\_\_\_\_ (“Potential Interconnection Applicant”).

Whereas Potential Interconnection Applicant is or has plans to become a producer of renewable natural gas (“RNG”) and is planning a potential RNG project or project expansion in or near CenterPoint Energy’s Minnesota Service territory;

Whereas CenterPoint Energy has previously completed an initial engineering review of the proposed project or expansion and determined preliminarily that interconnection may be feasible; and

Whereas Potential Interconnection Applicant desires CenterPoint Energy to confirm interconnection feasibility and provide Potential Interconnection Applicant with an estimate for contribution-in-aid-of-construction (“CIAC”) that would be required to proceed with interconnection.

Therefore, CenterPoint Energy and Potential Interconnection Applicant are entering into this Agreement.

CenterPoint Energy agrees to complete a full engineering review of the project to confirm interconnect feasibility.

Potential Interconnection Applicant agrees to provide technical information about its proposed RNG production facilities, and their designed capabilities, as needed by CenterPoint Energy to perform the Interconnection Feasibility study.

If CenterPoint Energy confirms project feasibility, CenterPoint Energy agrees to determine the location, kind and type of equipment, and method and manner of installation of the potential interconnect and provide an estimate for any contribution-in-aid-of-construction that would be required.

Potential Interconnection Applicant agrees to remit payment with this signed Agreement to CenterPoint Energy for the amount of \$7,500.00. Payment is non-refundable, even in the event that interconnection is determined not feasible by CenterPoint Energy.

If an engineering review results in a conclusion that interconnection is feasible, this in no way constitutes a promise or guarantee by CenterPoint Energy to interconnection the potential RNG project or expansion.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Agreement was signed by duly authorized representatives of CenterPoint Energy and Potential Interconnection Applicant.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES  
CORP., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota  
Gas

POTENTIAL INTERCONNECTION  
APPLICANT

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**RENEWABLE NATURAL GAS INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT**

THIS RENEWABLE NATURAL GAS INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is between CenterPoint Energy, Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas ("CenterPoint Energy"), 505 Nicollet Mall, P.O. Box 59038, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55459-0038 and \_\_\_\_\_ ("Customer"), and is effective as of the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_. The Customer has constructed or intends to construct and will operate its pipeline facilities connecting its renewable natural gas ("RNG") producing facilities to the Interconnection Point specified in Exhibits A and B as attached. CenterPoint Energy has constructed or intends to construct facilities at the Interconnection Point for the receipt of RNG as set forth in this Agreement. The Customer and CenterPoint Energy shall also be hereinafter referred to individually as "Party" and jointly as the "Parties". Therefore, the Parties, desiring to be legally bound, for themselves, their successors and assigns, agree as follows:

**Section 1. Scope of Agreement.**

This Agreement sets forth the terms and conditions under which CenterPoint Energy agrees to provide facilities for Interconnect Service from the Customer's pipeline facilities near \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, Minnesota to CenterPoint Energy's existing utility system. Such facilities, which include all facilities and equipment necessary for receipt of Customer's RNG, shall permit RNG to be delivered by Customer to CenterPoint Energy and for transport on CenterPoint Energy's pipeline system in Minnesota. This Agreement does not provide for or address in any way any right of the Customer to receive firm access rights on CenterPoint Energy's system at the Interconnection Point. Customer's facilities and the Interconnection Point are further described in Exhibit A. The Interconnection Point will be completed by \_\_\_\_\_ or as soon thereafter as is practicable. The Interconnection Point shall have the capability to receive up to \_\_\_\_\_ MMBTU/hour if delivered by Customer at \_\_\_\_\_ PSIG.

Additional terms are specified in Exhibit B.

This Agreement is effective upon signing and shall remain in effect for a primary term of \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_) years.

**Section 2. Delivery Obligations and RNG Receipts.**

Beginning \_\_\_\_\_ through \_\_\_\_\_ and for each consecutive 12-month period thereafter (each a "Contract Year"), Customer agrees to purchase RNG Interconnect Service of the equivalent annual minimum volumes ("Minimum Volume Requirement") of \_\_\_\_\_ therms per Contract Year from CenterPoint Energy. If the Minimum Volume Requirement applicable to any Contract Year is not met for any reason, CenterPoint Energy may immediately invoice Customer for an amount equal to the difference between the Minimum Volume Requirement and the volume of natural gas actually received from the Customer facility during said Contract Year multiplied by the applicable tariffed rate. Such payment shall not be used as a credit for RNG received in subsequent years.

CenterPoint Energy agrees to accept, on an interruptible basis, daily volumes of the Customer's RNG meeting the Company's Gas Quality requirements and deliver those volumes from the Interconnection Point to another location on CenterPoint Energy's distribution system, as nominated by the Customer. CenterPoint Energy shall have the continuing right at any time in its sole discretion to refuse to accept delivery of any RNG that does not meet CenterPoint Energy's gas quality specifications. CenterPoint Energy shall provide notice to the Customer as soon as commercially practicable after any decision is made not to accept deliveries.

CenterPoint Energy shall have the continuing right at any time to interrupt or curtail RNG deliveries at the Interconnection Point to manage the operation of its gas distribution system. CenterPoint Energy shall interrupt or curtail on a non-discriminatory basis.

**RENEWABLE NATURAL GAS INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)****Section 2. Delivery Obligations and RNG Receipts. (Continued)**

CenterPoint Energy may allow deviations from its RNG Quality Standards if, in the judgment of CenterPoint Energy, deviation will not risk harm to CenterPoint Energy facilities, the facilities of any CenterPoint Energy customer, human health, or the environment.

The Parties intend that the quantity of RNG actually delivered each day at each Interconnection Point will be delivered on a reasonably uniform hourly basis and equal the nominated volumes for that Interconnection Point or at a rate as mutually agreed by the Parties. If the Customer is not abiding by this provision, then CenterPoint Energy reserves the right to suspend service until such time appropriate actions have been taken to ensure compliance with this provision.

The Customer shall deliver RNG to CenterPoint Energy at the Interconnection Point at a delivery pressure as agreed to by the Parties.

CenterPoint Energy shall install equipment necessary to measure deliveries from the Customer and infuse odorant at the Interconnect Point. Measurement of RNG for all purposes of and at all times under this Agreement shall be by CenterPoint Energy instruments and meters.

Customer will, without expense to CenterPoint Energy, provide, and maintain on the premises, at a location satisfactory to CenterPoint Energy, proper space for CenterPoint Energy's piping, meters, regulators and other equipment. CenterPoint Energy representatives have the right at all reasonable times to have access to its equipment for any reason related to this Agreement, including the right to read meters, make inspections or repairs or remove CenterPoint Energy's equipment. Customer will obtain consent from its lessor, if any, for CenterPoint Energy to enter the premises for these purposes. Access will be granted at all times for emergency purposes. Customer will provide for the safekeeping of CenterPoint Energy's meters and other equipment. Customer will reimburse CenterPoint Energy for the cost of any alterations to its property necessitated by Customer, and for any loss or damage to CenterPoint Energy's property due to negligence of Customer, its agents or employees. CenterPoint Energy may suspend or discontinue service until any such damage or loss is settled to its satisfaction.

All RNG production, refining, piping and equipment upstream of the Interconnection Point, including telephone lines and any necessary electrical power for remote meter reading equipment, will be installed, owned and maintained by Customer and remain Customer's responsibility. Any inspection by CenterPoint Energy of Customer's piping and equipment will not impose any obligation or liability on CenterPoint Energy.

CenterPoint Energy will not initiate RNG Interconnection Service until all Customer equipment necessary for RNG production is installed and performs in compliance with applicable laws, ordinances and codes and Customer meets CenterPoint Energy's credit requirements as described in CenterPoint Energy's Tariff, Section V, Pages 26-26.a.

Either Party may suspend deliveries or receipts immediately, and at any time, in the event that there is any system or pipeline operations or other action or inaction, that could impair the safety or reliability of either Party's facilities or systems, could impair the deliverability of the gas to be delivered through the Interconnection Point, or would constitute a material default of this Agreement. The Party suspending deliveries or receipts will provide notice to the other Party of such suspension and the cause, to the extent identifiable, as soon as commercially reasonable. In the event such suspension continues for a period of six (6) months without either resolution of the underlying situation, or a mutually agreed upon written plan of resolution, either Party may terminate this Agreement at any time thereafter upon providing an additional thirty (30) days written notice.

---

**RENEWABLE NATURAL GAS INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)****Section 3. Price.**

The rate charged Customer for transported RNG will be governed by the applicable RNG Interconnect Service Tariff.

**Section 4. Payment.**

The payment due date and late charge are outlined in the applicable RNG Interconnect Service Tariff.

**Section 5. Termination and Assignment.**

5.1. This Agreement shall renew year to year unless terminated by either party with a minimum of twelve (12) months written notice to the other party prior to the end of the Initial Term or any succeeding term.

5.2. This Agreement shall immediately terminate on any date on which any applicable statute, regulation or other jurisdictional authority renders it illegal, null or void.

5.3. This Agreement may not be assigned without the written consent of the other Party, which shall not be unreasonably withheld. Notwithstanding the foregoing, CenterPoint Energy may, without Customer's consent assign its rights and obligations under this Agreement to any corporation or other person or business entity to which CenterPoint Energy may sell or transfer all or substantially all of its assets.

5.4. If either Party believes the other to be in material breach of this Agreement, the former Party shall provide the other with written notice specifying in reasonable detail the nature of the breach. If the breach has not been cured within six (6) months of this initial notice, the Party not in breach may terminate this Agreement by providing five (5) days written notice.

**Section 6. Notices.**

CenterPoint Energy, Commercial & Industrial Sales, 505 Nicollet Mall, P.O. Box 59038, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55459-0038, 612-321-4330

End User: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Section 7. Indemnification.**

**Customer agrees to assume entire responsibility and liability, to the fullest extent permitted by law, for all damages or injury to all persons, whether employees or otherwise, and to all property, arising out of it, resulting from or in any manner connected with, the delivery of RNG as provided for in this Agreement or occurring or resulting from the use by Customer, its agents or employees, of materials, equipment, instrumentalities or other property, whether the same be owned by CenterPoint Energy, Customer or third parties, or any interruption, curtailment, or termination of interconnection or gas transportation services, and Customer, to the fullest extent permitted by law, agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless CenterPoint Energy, its agents and employees from all such claims including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, claims for which CenterPoint Energy may be, or may be claimed to be, liable and legal fees and disbursements paid or incurred to enforce the provisions of this Section and the Customer further agrees to obtain, maintain and pay for such general liability insurance coverage and endorsements as will insure the provisions of this Section.**

---

**RENEWABLE NATURAL GAS INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**Section 8. Applicable Law and Regulation.**

This Agreement will be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota. However, in the event of a conflict between this Agreement and the Tariff, the Tariff shall govern. Further, the operation and effectiveness of this Agreement shall not continue if such continuance would violate any applicable statute, regulation or other jurisdictional authority.

Customer agrees to provide to the Company any information the Company is required to collect by law or regulation regarding the Customer's RNG facility. The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission requires the Company to collect the following information for each interconnected RNG facility: (1) the feedstock of the RNG facility, (2) the total amount of RNG expected to be provided, (3) the mix of end-uses of the digestate, (4) if known, the state(s) in which the entity or entities purchasing the RNG from the producer are located and the end-use for which the RNG is being purchased, (5) methane leakage control and mitigation measures employed by the producer at the production and upgrade facility, (6) estimated amount of methane leakage for the producer and a description of the methodology used to develop that estimate, and (7) an analysis of the lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions, including emissions associated with the upgrade facility, of RNG volumes provided by the producer – and a description of the methodology used to develop the lifecycle analysis.

**Section 9. Title**

At no time under this Agreement shall CenterPoint Energy take or hold title to the RNG delivered at the Interconnect Point by the Customer. This Agreement does not prohibit CenterPoint Energy and Customer from entering into a separate agreement for the purchase of Customer's RNG.

**Section 10. Complete Agreement.**

This Agreement and the Tariff constitute the parties' complete agreement. With the exception of changes to the Tariff, this Agreement cannot be changed except in a writing signed by both parties.

**CUSTOMER**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPLANATION OF BILLING FORM**

- 1) Customer Name
- 2) Service Address
- 3) Account Number
- 4) Billing Date
- 5) Date Due\*
- 6) Amount Due\*
- 7) Average Daily Gas Use (Therms)
- 8) Average Daily Temperatures
- 9) Total Amount Due\*
- 10) Customer Name and Billing Address
- 11) CenterPoint Energy's Payment Address
- 12) Current Gas Charges (Period's Bill Calculation)\*
- 13) Rate\*
- 14) Meter Number
- 15) Current Read Date\*
- 16) Next Scheduled Read Date
- 17) Billing Period (Actual or estimated meter readings and reading dates at the beginning and end of billing period)\*
- ~~17) Next Billing Date~~
- ~~18) Billing Period (Actual or estimated motor readings and reading dates at the beginning and end of billing period)\*~~
- 18) Therm Factor (Adjust for Heat Content, Pressure, and Temperature)
- 19) Gas Used in Therms\*
- 20) State and Local Taxes Separately Itemized\*
- 21) Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA)\*
- 22) Other Charges\*
- 23) Contact Information to Register and Inquiry or Complaint to CenterPoint Energy

\*Billing content information provided pursuant to Minnesota Rule 7820.3500





**CUSTOMER**  
JOHN Q CUSTOMER

**ACCOUNT NUMBER**  
0000000-0  
**BILLING DATE**  
Mon DD, YYYY

<b>DATE DUE</b>	<b>Mon dd, yyyy</b>
<b>AMOUNT DUE</b>	<b>\$ 00.00</b>

CenterPointEnergy.com

**SERVICE ADDRESS**  
1234 Anywhere St, Brooklyn Park, MN 55429-5493

**DEFINITIONS**

**Basic Charge** is a flat amount each month, regardless of the amount gas used, to cover a portion of costs incurred even if the customer does not use gas during the billing period.

**Cost of Gas** is the cost CenterPoint Energy pays for the gas it delivers to its customers.

**Delivery Charge** is based on the amount of gas delivered, to cover the costs of delivering gas not covered by the Basic Charge.

**City Franchise Fee** is a fee charged by a city to utility companies that provide natural gas, electricity or cable service. Utilities will collect the fee from individual customers and pay it to the city. Utilities receive no revenue from this fee.

**Gas Affordability Program (GAP)** covers costs to offer a low-income customer co-pay program to reduce natural gas service disconnections. This charge is billed to all non-interruptible customers.

**Purchased Gas Adjustment** reflects the difference between the base cost of gas established at the time of our most recent rate case and the price paid to purchase and transport the gas you used during this billing period.

**Therm** is the heating value of gas. Your meter measures CCF (hundreds of cubic feet) which we multiply by the therm factor to determine the heating capacity of the gas you used.

*For a more detailed description of each of the terms used on your bill, please visit [CenterPointEnergy.com/definitions](http://CenterPointEnergy.com/definitions) or call Customer Support at 800-245-2377.*

<b>12 Current gas charges</b>				<b>13 Rate Residential Rate</b>	
<b>14 Meter number</b>	<b>Days in billing period</b>	<b>Current read date</b>	<b>Next scheduled read date</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Next billing date</b>
00000000000	00	Mon dd, yyy	Mon dd, yyyy	<b>16</b>	Mon dd, yyyy
<b>17 Billing period</b>	<b>Current reading - Previous reading = Total</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>18 Therm Factor</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Usage</b>
mm/dd/yy - mm/dd/yy 0000	0000	00 CCF	0.000000		00 Therms
Basic charge					\$ 00.00
Delivery charge		00 Therms x	\$ 0.00000		00.00
Gas Affordability Program		00 Therms x	\$ 0.00000		00.00
Cost of gas*		00 Therms x	\$ 0.00000		00.00
City franchise fee					00.00
Special tax					00.00
County sales tax					00.00
State sales tax					00.00
<b>Total current gas charges</b>					<b>\$ 00.00</b>

**21** \* Includes Purchased Gas Adjustment amount of - \$ 0.00000.

**22**

**Your account, managed your way.**  
Sign up at [CenterPointEnergy.com/myaccount](http://CenterPointEnergy.com/myaccount)

- **24/7 online account access.** View and/or pay your bill, view usage history, sign up for account services and much more.
- **Go paperless.** Receive an email when your bill is ready to view and pay. Get convenience, get rid of clutter.

- **Pay automatically.** Set up AutoPay by signing and returning the form below with your check payment. It's that easy!
- **Even out the highs and lows of your monthly bills.** Enroll in Average Monthly Billing and spread your natural gas costs throughout the year.
- **Get bill reminders.** Choose text or email, up to five days before your bill is due.

- **Other services.** Report a payment made at a payment location, set up a payment extension and much more. View options from your online account or visit [CenterPointEnergy.com/selfservice](http://CenterPointEnergy.com/selfservice) if you'd prefer not to register.
- **Moving?** Please call us at 800-245-2377 at least two weeks before you move, or complete the forms at [CenterPointEnergy.com/selfservice](http://CenterPointEnergy.com/selfservice)

**23** Register any inquiry or complaint at CenterPoint Energy, 505 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN, 55402

Mail payments to CenterPoint Energy, PO Box 4671, Houston, TX 77210-4671

**Late payment details/due date.** Please pay your bill on time to reach our office by the due date shown at the top of your bill. Unpaid gas amounts over \$10 are charged a late payment fee of 0.00% (0.00% annual percentage rate) or \$1 minimum on the next billing date shown on your bill.

**Returned check charge.** There will be a \$10 charge for any check or AutoPay payment your bank returns to us.

**Notice of customer information availability.** Customer information is available upon request. Call 800-245-2377

**Personal checks sent for payment may be processed electronically.** This means your check will not be returned by your financial institution. Any funds may be debited from your account as soon as the same day payment is received if you have questions concerning this process, please contact customer service at 800-245-2377. For further information, visit <http://federalreserve.gov/pubs/checkconv/>

**Enroll in AutoPay, and your monthly natural gas payment will be automatically deducted from your bank account.**

To enroll, sign and date this form and return with your check payment. Money orders do not qualify for enrollment. Your next bill will be automatically deducted from the account listed on your check. For more information and to enroll electronically, go to [CenterpointEnergy.com/autopay](http://CenterpointEnergy.com/autopay)

I authorize CenterPoint Energy to automatically deduct from the checking account shown on my enclosed check all future payments for my CenterPoint Energy bills. I will notify CenterPoint Energy if I decide to cancel my use of AutoPay. CenterPoint Energy also has the right to discontinue my AutoPay enrollment. Once I enroll, I understand that any past due balances will be drafted from my account three days after my application is processed.

Account holder's signature

Date



CenterPointEnergy.com

Month, yyyy

**Customer Messaging**

**Customer Messaging**



MN Residential w/ Zero Values 8/14/14

Date Filed: ~~June 15, 2015~~ March 12, 2021

Effective Date: ~~July 6, 2015~~ June 1, 2021

Docket No: G-008/~~M-14-753-GR-19-524~~

Issued by: ~~Jeffrey A. Daugherty~~ Amber S. Lee, Director, Regulatory ~~Affairs & Legislative Affairs~~



CenterPointEnergy.com

Month, yyyy



**Customer Messaging**



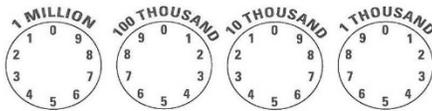
**Customer Messaging**

### A safety message from CenterPoint Energy

If you smell natural gas, leave immediately. Call our Gas Leak Hotline at 800-296-9815. Do not use or store flammable products such as gasoline in the same room or area near the water heater or any other gas appliance.

Si percibes un olor a gas natural, sal inmediatamente. Llama a nuestra línea telefónica para fugas de gas a uno de los números de teléfono que aparecen arriba. No use ni almacene productos inflamables tales como gasolina en la misma habitación o en áreas cercanas a un calentador de agua u otro tipo de aparato a gas.

#### How to read your meter



1. Draw on the dials above the exact position of the hands as they appear on your gas meter.
2. At least three days before the next Billing date shown in the Current gas charges section of your bill, call CenterPoint Energy, 612-372-4727 (800-245-2377). Tell us your name, account number and the date you read the meter.
3. Give the exact position of the hands on the dials above, reading from left to right. Tell us the number the hand points to. If it is between two numbers, tell us the two numbers it is between.

#### Estimated bills

We try to read your meter regularly. Sometimes your meter is not read, and we estimate your bill. The estimate is based on past usage and weather for the current billing period. To help avoid estimates, you can read your own meter, as shown here.

MN Residential w/ Zero Values 8/14/14

<b>COMPUTATION OF MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM MARKET RATE</b>					
<b>for Negotiated Market Rate Minimum and Maximum Charge (Tariff Section V, Page 11)</b>					
Line No.	Description (a)	Full Tariff Rate (\$/Therm) (b)	Minimum Rate (c)	Flexed Amount (d=b-c)	Maximum Rate (e=b+d)
1	<b>Sales Service and Transportation Services</b>				
2	<u>Commercial/Industrial</u>				
3	Annual usage greater than 5000 Therms				
4		0.16769	0.00500	0.16269	0.33038
5					
6	<u>Large General Service</u>				
7	Demand (Peak Day)	0.48303	0.00000	0.48303	0.96606
8	Commodity	0.07710	0.00500	0.07210	0.14920
9					
10	<u>Small Volume Dual Fuel</u>				
11	Annual usage less than 120,000 therms				
12	A	0.13764	0.00500	0.13264	0.27028
13	Annual usage greater than 120,000 Therms				
14	B	0.12708	0.00500	0.12208	0.24916
15					
16	<u>Large Dual Fuel</u>	0.07710	0.00500	0.07210	0.14920
17					
18	<b>FIRM / INTERRUPTIBLE:</b>				
19	<u>Small Volume Firm/Dual Fuel-A</u>				
20	FIRM-C Delivery Charge	0.16769	0.00500	0.16269	0.33038
21	SVDF_A Delivery Charge	0.13764	0.00500	0.13264	0.27028
22					
23	<u>Small Volume Firm/Dual Fuel-B</u>				
24	FIRM-C Delivery Charge	0.16769	0.00500	0.16269	0.33038
25	SVDF_B Delivery Charge	0.12708	0.00500	0.12208	0.24916
26					
27	<u>Large Volume General Service Firm/Large Volume Dual Fuel</u>				
28	Large FIRM Delivery Charge - Commodity	0.07710	0.00500	0.07210	0.14920
29	Large Dual Fuel Delivery Charge	0.07710	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000

**PROPOSED CUSTOMER NOTICE**

**Supporting Schedules:**

- G-1 ..... Proposed Customer Notice  
*Explaining the final rates and the monthly customer charge. This notice has been reviewed by the Public Utilities Commission's Consumer Affairs Office.*
  
- G-2 ..... Calculation of Estimated Average Residential Interim Rate Refund  
*Supports the value in the bill insert.*

## Title: New natural gas rates approved in 2021

### Changes begin with the enclosed bill

In October 2019, CenterPoint Energy (the Company) asked the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) to change its rates for utility distribution service. The Company requested to increase rates by about 6.8 percent and annual revenues by about \$62.0 million.

### MPUC has approved new rates

A settlement agreement between a majority of the parties was filed with the MPUC by the company in September 2020. The MPUC approved the settlement, resulting in an annual revenue increase of 4.7 percent or approximately \$38.5 million. Under the final order, the monthly Basic Charge for residential customers will remain at \$9.50 and the per therm Delivery Charge will increase from \$0.21036 to \$0.24452. The new rates are not related to the impact of the February 2021 cold weather and the associated increase in natural gas prices.

### Rates vary by customer

Rate changes will affect individual monthly bills differently depending on natural gas use and customer class. The effect on an average residential customer's bill (use of approximately 949 therms per year) will increase about \$2.70 per month, or \$32.43 per year. Bills will vary because the wholesale cost of natural gas changes each month.

Customer bills contain three parts: Basic Charge, Delivery Charge and Cost of Gas. The Basic Charge and Delivery Charge recovers the cost of providing utility distribution service to our customers. This is 40 to 50 percent of the bill. The bill does not include wholesale natural gas costs, which make up about 50 to 60 percent of the bill. The Cost of Gas is passed through directly to customers without mark-up.

Customer Class		Monthly Basic Charges	
(usage in therms)	Current	New	
<b>Residential</b>	\$9.50	\$9.50	
<b>Commercial/Industrial</b>			
Up to 1,500/year	\$15.00	\$15.00	
1,500 to 5,000/year	\$21.00	\$21.00	
5,000 or more/year	\$47.50	\$55.00	
<b>Small Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service</b>			
Up to 120,000/year	\$55.50	\$60.00	
120,000 or more/year	\$88.50	\$95.00	
<b>Large Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service</b>	\$900.00	\$1,050.00	
<b>Large General Firm Sales Service</b>	\$900.00	\$1,050.00	
Customer Class		Delivery Charges (therms)	
(usage in therms)	Current	New	
<b>Residential</b>	\$0.21036	\$0.24452	
<b>Commercial/Industrial</b>			
Up to 1,500/year	\$0.21208	\$0.25820	
1,500 to 5,000/year	\$0.17088	\$0.19789	
5,000 or more/year	\$0.15354	\$0.16769	
<b>Small Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service</b>			
Up to 120,000/year	\$0.12421	\$0.13764	
120,000 or more/year	\$0.11497	\$0.12708	
<b>Large Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service</b>	\$0.07048	\$0.07710	
<b>Large General Firm Sales Service</b>	\$0.07048	\$0.07710	
<b>Demand Charge (per Peak Day)</b>	\$0.42990	\$0.48303	

Note: The current and new per therm delivery charges do not include the per therm charge for the Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) Adjustment Rider (\$0.00591 per therm) that recovers conservation costs not included in base rates.

Customer Class (usage in therms)	Average Monthly (usage in therms)	Average Monthly Bill:	
		Current	New
<b>Residential</b>	79	\$53	\$56
<b>Commercial/Industrial</b>			
Up to 1,500/year	64	\$50	\$54
1,500 to 5,000/year	232	\$139	\$147
5,000 or more/year	1,388	\$730	\$766
<b>Small Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service</b>			
Up to 120,000/year	3,746	\$1,319	\$1,390
120,000 or more/year	15,007	\$5,010	\$5,198
<b>Large Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service</b>	36,755	\$11,317	\$11,959
<b>Large General Firm Sales Service</b>	53,808	\$21,815	\$22,099
Demand Charge (per Peak Day)	4,191		

• Figures are rounded to the nearest whole number.

### Refunds on interim rates

State law allowed the Company to collect interim (temporary) rates while the MPUC considered its rate case. The Company began collecting annual interim rates of \$52.7 million on January 1, 2020. Because the final rate increase is less than the interim rate increase, the Company will refund the difference with interest. A typical residential customer's refund will be about \$16. Bills will be adjusted beginning in June 2021.

### How to learn more

#### Website

[CenterPointEnergy.com/Rate Case.](http://CenterPointEnergy.com/RateCase)

To learn how you can save energy and money, visit

[CenterPointEnergy.com/SaveEnergy.](http://CenterPointEnergy.com/SaveEnergy)

#### Residential customers

612-372-4727 • 800-245-2377

#### Business customers

Call your account manager or the Business Customer Hotline

612-321-4939 • 877-809-3803

### Notice to customers

To make sure we can send you any refund owed, please provide a forwarding address if you stop service. If you move before a refund is issued and we cannot find you, your refund may be treated as abandoned property and sent to the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Unclaimed Property Unit. You can check for unclaimed property at [www.missingmoney.com](http://www.missingmoney.com).



**CENTERPOINT ENERGY**  
**Estimated Average Residential Interim Rate Refund**

**Estimated Residential Rate Refund**

**Method One**

<u>Line No.</u>	Average Residential <u>Usage - Therms</u>		
	(a)	(b)	
1	Jan-20	80	Prorated
2	Feb-20	136	Actual
3	Mar-20	98	Actual
4	Apr-20	66	Actual
5	May-20	26	Actual
6	Jun-20	18	Actual
7	Jul-20	16	Actual
8	Aug-20	17	Actual
9	Sep-20	26	Actual
10	Oct-20	74	Actual
11	Nov-20	88	Actual
12	Dec-20	142	Actual
13	Jan-21	145	Actual
14	Feb-21	163	Actual
15	Mar-21	139	Estimated
16	Apr-21	86	Estimated
17	May-21	60	Estimated
18			
19			
20	total	1,380	
21			
22	Interim \$ billed Calculation		
23	<u>Months</u>		
24	17	\$9.50	\$161.50
25	<u>Therms</u>		
26	1,380	\$0.21036	<u>\$290.30</u>
27			\$451.80
28	<u>Interim %</u>	13.70%	
29			\$61.90 Estimated Interim Charges
30			<u>0.25241</u> Estimated Refund Factor
31			<b>\$15.62</b> Estimated Residential Refund
32			\$ 0.37 Interest
33			\$ <b>15.99</b>

**Method Two**

34			
35		\$49,734,153	Estimated Residential Interim Charges
36		<u>0.25241</u>	Estimated Refund Factor
37		\$12,553,505	Estimated Residential Refunds
38		816,642	Estimated Residential Customers
39			
40		\$15.37	Estimated Residential Refund
41			
42	Note:	Used two different methods to check reasonableness	
43		of estimated residential refund.	



First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Tamie A.	Aberle	tamie.aberle@mdu.com	Great Plains Natural Gas Co.	400 North Fourth Street Bismarck, ND 585014092	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Jorge	Alonso	jorge.alonso@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th Place East Suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Kristine	Anderson	kanderson@greatermngas.com	Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc. & Greater MN Transmission, LLC	1900 Cardinal Lane PO Box 798 Faribault, MN 55021	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Andrew	Bahn	Andrew.Bahn@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th Place E., Suite 350  St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Carolyn	Berninger	cberninger@mmcenter.org	Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy	26 E Exchange St Ste 206 Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
James J.	Bertrand	james.bertrand@stinson.com	STINSON LLP	50 S 6th St Ste 2600 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Brenda A.	Bjorklund	brenda.bjorklund@centerpointenergy.com	CenterPoint Energy	505 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Jason	Bonnett	jason.bonnett@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 East 7th Place suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Jocelyn	Bremer	jocelyn.bremer@minneapolis.mn.gov	City of Minneapolis	350 S Fifth St Ste 210 Minneapolis, MN 55415	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
C. Ian	Brown	office@gasworkerslocal340.com	United Association	Gas Workers Local 340 312 Central Ave SW Minneapolis, MN 55414	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
James	Canaday	james.canaday@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	Suite 1400 445 Minnesota St St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Melodee	Carlson Chang	melodee.carlsonchang@centerpointenergy.com	CenterPoint Energy	505 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Steve W.	Chriss	Stephen.chriss@walmart.com	Wal-Mart	2001 SE 10th St. Bentonville, AR 72716-5530	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Generic Notice	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Dean	Dalzell	ddalzell@caphennepin.org	Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County	8800 Highway 7 Ste 401 St. Louis Park, MN 55426	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Richard	Dornfeld	Richard.Dornfeld@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	Minnesota Attorney General's Office 445 Minnesota Street, Suite 1800 Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Marie	Doyle	marie.doyle@centerpointenergy.com	CenterPoint Energy	505 Nicollet Mall P O Box 59038 Minneapolis, MN 554590038	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 280 Saint Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Edward	Garvey	garveyed@aol.com	Residence	32 Lawton St Saint Paul, MN 55102	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Robert	Harding	robert.harding@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	Suite 350 121 7th Place East St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Annete	Henkel	mui@mnuutilityinvestors.org	Minnesota Utility Investors	413 Wacouta Street #230 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Raymond	Hetherington	raymond.hetherington@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 East 7th Place St. Paul, Minnesota 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Katherine	Hinderlie	katherine.hinderlie@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	445 Minnesota St Suite 1400 St. Paul, MN 55101-2134	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Bruce L.	Hoffarber	bhoffarber@kinectenergy.com	Kinect Energy Group	605 North Highway 169 Ste 1200 Plymouth, MN 55441	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Mary	Holly	mholly@winthrop.com	Winthrop & Weinstine, P.A.	225 S Sixth St Ste 3500 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Max	Kieley	max.kieley@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	1400 Town Square Tower 445 Minnesota Street St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Nicolle	Kupser	nkupser@greatermngas.com	Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc. & Greater MN Transmission, LLC	1900 Cardinal Ln PO Box 798 Faribault, MN 55021	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Daniel	LeFevers	dlefevers@gti.energy	GTI	1700 S Mount Prospect Rd Des Plaines, IL 60018	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Amber	Lee	Amber.Lee@centerpointenergy.com	CenterPoint Energy	505 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Roger	Leider	roger@mnpropane.org	Minnesota Propane Association	PO Box 220 209 N Run River Dr Princeton, MN 55371	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Eric	Lindberg	elindberg@mncenter.org	Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy	1919 University Avenue West Suite 515 Saint Paul, MN 55104-3435	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Eric	Lipman	eric.lipman@state.mn.us	Office of Administrative Hearings	PO Box 64620 St. Paul, MN 551640620	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Michael	Loeffler	mike.loeffler@nngco.com	Northern Natural Gas Co.	CORP HQ, 714 1111 So. 103rd Street Omaha, NE 68124-1000	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Pam	Marshall	pam@energycents.org	Energy CENTS Coalition	823 7th St E St. Paul, MN 55106	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Joseph	Meyer	joseph.meyer@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	Bremer Tower, Suite 1400 445 Minnesota Street St Paul, MN 55101-2131	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
David	Moeller	dmoeller@allete.com	Minnesota Power	30 W Superior St Duluth, MN 558022093	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Andrew	Moratzka	andrew.moratzka@stoel.com	Stoel Rives LLP	33 South Sixth St Ste 4200 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Samantha	Norris	samanthanorris@ailliantenergy.com	Interstate Power and Light Company	200 1st Street SE PO Box 351 Cedar Rapids, IA 524060351	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Mike	OConnor	mocconnor@ibewlocal949.org	Local 949 IBEW	12908 Nicollet Ave S Burnsville, MN 55337	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Greg	Palmer	gpalmer@greatermngas.com	Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc. & Greater MN Transmission, LLC	1900 Cardinal Ln PO Box 798 Fairbault, MN 55021	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Generic Notice	Residential Utilities Division	residential_utilities@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	1400 BRM Tower 445 Minnesota St St. Paul, MN 551012131	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Kevin	Reuther	kreuther@mncenter.org	MN Center for Environmental Advocacy	26 E Exchange St, Ste 206 St. Paul, MN 551011667	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Joseph L	Sathe	jsathe@kennedy-graven.com	Kennedy & Graven, Chartered	150 S 5th St Ste 700 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Elizabeth	Schmiesing	eschmiesing@winthrop.com	Winthrop & Weinstine, P.A.	225 South Sixth Street Suite 3500 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Peter	Scholtz	peter.scholtz@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	Suite 1400 445 Minnesota Street St. Paul, MN 55101-2131	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Will	Seuffert	Will.Seuffert@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th PLE Ste 350 Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Janet	Shaddix Eiling	jshaddix@janetshaddix.com	Shaddix And Associates	7400 Lyndale Ave S Ste 190 Richfield, MN 55423	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Peggy	Sorum	peggy.sorum@centerpointenergy.com	CenterPoint Energy	505 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
James M	Strommen	jstrommen@kennedy-graven.com	Kennedy & Graven, Chartered	150 S 5th St Ste 700 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Andrew	Sudbury	Andrew.Sudbury@CenterPointEnergy.com	CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas	505 Nicollet Mall PO Box 59038 Minneapolis, MN 55459-0038	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Eric	Swanson	eswanson@winthrop.com	Winthrop & Weinstine	225 S 6th St Ste 3500 Capella Tower Minneapolis, MN 554024629	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Amelia	Vohts	avohs@mncenter.org	Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy	1919 University Avenue West Suite 515 St. Paul, Minnesota 55104	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Samantha	Williams	swilliams@nrdc.org	Natural Resources Defense Council	20 N. Wacker Drive Ste 1600 Chicago, IL 60606	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Joseph	Windler	jwindler@winthrop.com	Winthrop & Weinstine	225 South Sixth Street, Suite 3500 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List
Jonathan	Wolfgram	Jonathan.Wolfgram@state.mn.us	Office of Pipeline Safety	Minnesota Department of Public Safety 445 Minnesota Street Suite 147 St. Paul, MN 55101-1547	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19-524 Official CC Service List

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Cha	Xiong	cha.xiong@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	445 Minnesota St. Suite 1400 St. Paul, Minnesota 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_19-524_GR-19- 524 Official CC Service List