



The Commission met on **Thursday, July 14, 2022**, with Chair Sieben and Commissioners Means, Sullivan, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

G-008/AI-22-28

In the Matter of the Petition of CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas, for Approval of an Affiliated Interest Agreement Between CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas and Energy Transfer LP

Commissioner Sullivan moved that the Commission:

1. Accept that CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas (CenterPoint) complied with the filing requirements under Minn. R. 7825.2200 (B) and Commission Orders in Docket Nos. G-008/AI-96-37 and E, G-999/CI-98-651.
2. Approve the Affiliated Interest Agreement between CenterPoint and Energy Transfer LP.

The motion passed 4–0.

G-002/M-22-152

In the Matter of the Petition by Northern States Power Company for Approval of Its 2021 Gas Affordability Program Annual Report

G-011/M-22-154

In the Matter of the Petition by Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation for Approval of Its 2021 Gas Affordability Program Annual Report and Updated GAP Surcharge

G-004/M-22-155

In the Matter of the Petition by Great Plains Natural Gas Co., a Division of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., for Approval of Its Gas Affordability Program Annual Report

G-022/M-22-156

In the Matter of the Petition by Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc. for Approval of Its 2021 Gas Affordability Program Evaluation Report

G-008/M-22-167

In the Matter of the Petition by CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas, a Division of CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., for Approval of Its 2021 Gas Affordability Service Program Annual Report and updated GAP Surcharge

Commissioner Means moved that the Commission:

1. Accept the 2021 Gas Affordability Program (GAP) annual reports for the following:
 - a. Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy (22-152)
 - b. Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation (MERC) (22-154)
 - c. Great Plains Natural Gas Co. (22-155)
 - d. Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc. (22-156)
 - e. CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas (CenterPoint) (22-167)
2. Accept MERC's proposal to set the surcharge rate to \$0.00/therm effective August 1, 2022.
3. Accept CenterPoint's proposal to set the surcharge rate to \$0.00210/therm. The change shall take place by October 1, 2022.
4. Require MERC to promote GAP to Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) customers, past-due customers, Cold Weather Rule-protected customers, and customers with higher levels of arrearages.
5. Require MERC to provide quarterly reports, modeled on CenterPoint's required quarterly reports, to describe MERC's outreach activities and to demonstrate increased GAP participation.
6. Require MERC to change the GAP tariff to include actual natural gas usage and actual annual household income in the GAP credit calculation.

The Affordability component consists of a bill credit determined as one-twelfth of the difference between ~~MERC's estimate of~~ the Qualified Customer's actual annual gas bills from the prior year and 3% of the Qualified Customer's actual annual household income as provided by the Qualified Customer in their most recent LIHEAP application to MERC.

7. Accept MERC's proposal to submit a compliance filing after the Order is issued in this docket, including the tariff changes and any other changes made by Commission.
8. Accept MERC's proposal to include a description of the recertification process and identification of issues in its 2022 annual report.

9. Require MERC to remove GAP customers only after two consecutive months' missed payments.
10. Require MERC to call GAP customers who miss one monthly payment to remind them they will be removed for missing a second consecutive payment.
11. Accept MERC's proposal that limiting recovery of GAP administrative costs that exceed five percent of program spending be implemented effective with the 2022 program year.
12. Approve the continuation of CenterPoint's GAP affordability and arrearage forgiveness credit levels based on two percent and one percent of household income respectively.
13. Require CenterPoint to track and report customer responses to the various outreach efforts.
14. Require CenterPoint to provide the number of live outreach calls distinct from automated calls.
15. Require CenterPoint to provide, in both quarterly and annual GAP reports, a stand-alone number for each of the following outreach activities: to customers not previously enrolled in LIHEAP, to customers enrolled in LIHEAP but not in GAP, and to customers with past due balances that met certain parameters to inform and encourage enrollment in GAP and, separately, to LIHEAP.
16. Require CenterPoint to focus more efforts on manual calling and mailing LIHEAP applications to customers with past-due balances greater than \$200 or who are past-due 60 days.
17. Require CenterPoint to focus some of the outreach efforts with LIHEAP or GAP promotional messages only.

The motion passed 4–0.

P-558,6995/M-22-221

In the Matter of a Petition to Initiate a Proceeding to Revoke the Expanded Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") Designation of LTD Broadband, LLC ("LTD") and Deny LTD's Funding Certification for 2023

P-6995/M-21-133

In the Matter of the Petition of LTD Broadband LLC to Expand Its Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission:

1. Open a proceeding to determine whether there is cause to revoke the Eligible Telecommunications Carrier designation of LTD Broadband LLC.

2. Refer this matter to the Office of Administrative Hearings with the request that proceedings provide for discovery, the cross-examination of expert witnesses, and be conducted expeditiously.
3. Delegate scheduling of the contested case to the administrative law judge.

The motion passed 4–0.

E-002/C-21-125

In the Matter of the Formal Complaint and Request for Expedited Relief by SunShare, LLC Against Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy regarding OsterSun Project

Chair Sieben moved that the Commission deny the relief requested by SunShare, LLC.

The motion passed 4–0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Will Seuffert", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary