



505 Nicollet Mall
P.O. Bo 59038
Minneapolis, MN 55459-0038

July 10, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to inform you that Administrative Law Judge Eric L. Lipman is holding four virtual public hearings on CenterPoint Energy's rate increase proposal. For more on the public hearings, please see the enclosed copy of our Notice of Public Hearings for CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Customers.

Please contact me if you have any questions or would like additional information about the filing. Additional information about our Rate Case is available at our website at CenterPointEnergy.com/RateCase.

Sincerely,

Seth DeMerritt
Manager, Regulatory
612-393-6216

Enc.
Notice of Public Hearings for CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Customers

RATE INCREASE NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR CENTERPOINT ENERGY MINNESOTA CUSTOMERS

CenterPoint Energy has asked the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) for permission to increase its natural gas rates for distribution service. The requested increase is for about 6.8 percent or \$62.0 million per year. The requested increase would add about \$4.79 to a typical residential customer's monthly bill.

The MPUC may either approve or deny the requested changes, in whole or in part, and may approve a lesser or greater increase than was requested for any class or classes of service.

The MPUC will likely make its decision on our rate request in the first quarter of 2021. If final rates are lower than interim (temporary) rates, we will refund customers the difference with interest. If final rates are higher than interim rates, we will not charge customers the difference.

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. To make sure we can send you any refund owed, please provide a forwarding address when you stop service.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Administrative Law Judge Eric L. Lipman is holding public hearings on the company's proposal. Any CenterPoint Energy customer or other person may attend or provide comments at the hearings. You are invited to comment on the adequacy and quality of CenterPoint Energy's service, the level of rates or other related matters. You do not need to be represented by an attorney to provide comments during the public hearings. To maintain appropriate physical distancing and prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus, public hearings will be held remotely (over the telephone for audio and over the internet for video). The hearings will begin at their scheduled time and adjourn after everyone has had an opportunity to share comments.

Bad weather? Find out if a hearing is canceled – call (toll free) 855-731-6208 or 651-201-2213 or visit mn.gov/puc.

You can participate in the hearing over the telephone. Or you can watch the hearing (without sound) over the internet. To see the public hearing panelists, and hear what they are saying, you must join the public hearing using both the telephone connection and the internet link. The video on the internet does not include sound from the public hearing.

To listen to the hearing and to be able to provide your verbal comments, follow the directions below to access the hearing over the telephone.

If you are interested in providing verbal comments on the proposed rate increase during the public hearing, you must join the hearing by telephone.

JOIN BY TELEPHONE

An operator will assist you.

To watch the hearing over the internet on a computer or smartphone, follow the directions below (video only – no audio).

Date	Time	Call Information
July 28, 2020	1 pm	Phone: (866) 609-6127 Conference ID: 9995165
July 28, 2020	6 pm	Phone: (866) 609-6127 Conference ID: 1145418
July 29, 2020	5 pm	Phone: (866) 609-6127 Conference ID: 8248824
July 30, 2020	6 pm	Phone: (866) 609-6127 Conference ID: 6867206

JOIN BY INTERNET

(video only – no audio)

Date	Time	Event Information
July 28, 2020	1 pm	Event Number: 146 794 5570 Event Password, if needed: RPeYSpt428
July 28, 2020	6 pm	Event Number: 146 887 5134 Event Password, if needed: eqHKA33BTN5
July 29, 2020	5 pm	Event Number: 146 550 7231 Event Password, if needed: fhQSC4e3uW6
July 30, 2020	6 pm	Event Number: 146 900 0371 Event Password, if needed: mtGbCcCF425

Navigate on your computer to: <https://minnesota.webex.com>

If you wish to watch the video stream with audio, you will need to join by both phone and internet. Written comments may also be submitted during the comment period after the hearing. Follow the instructions below in this notice.

Please contact Charley Bruce at 651-201-2251 or charley.bruce@state.mn.us if you have questions on how to participate or have trouble accessing the public hearing using telephone or internet.

YOU CAN SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS TO THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Comment Period

Comments accepted through August 21, 2020, at 4:30 p.m.

- Comments must be received by 4:30 p.m. on the close date.
- Comments received after the comment period closes may not be considered.

Online Comments

Visit mn.gov/puc and select the Comments icon on the top menu to go to the Public Comment page, where you will find a list of ways to comment.

U.S. Mail Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place East, Ste. 350, St. Paul, MN 55101

For assistance in submitting comments, or if you have questions, contact the Commission's Consumer Affairs Office at: Phone: 651-296-0406 or 800-657-3782 Email: consumer.puc@state.mn.us

Be sure to reference Docket Number 19-524

Important: Comments can be reviewed by the public on the MPUC's website, except in limited circumstances consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. The MPUC does not edit or delete personally identifying information or any other information from comments received.

The table below shows the effect of both the interim and proposed rate changes on monthly bills for residential, commercial and industrial customers with average natural gas use.

Customer Type (usage in therms)	Avg monthly usage in therms	Avg monthly bill: current rates	Avg monthly bill: interim rates	Avg monthly bill: proposed rates
Residential	75	\$55	\$59	\$60
Commercial/Industrial				
- up to 1,500/year	69	\$57	\$61	\$63
- 1,500 to 5,000/year	249	\$164	\$172	\$174
- 5,000 or more/year	1,519	\$891	\$929	\$919
Small Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service				
- up to 120,000/year	3,896	\$1,709	\$1,783	\$1,752
- 120,000 or more/year	13,901	\$5,861	\$6,092	\$6,092
Large Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service	38,836	\$15,298	\$15,796	\$15,968
Large General Firm Sales Service	53,808	\$24,796	\$25,644	\$25,804
Demand charge (per Peak Day)	3,490			

Note: Figures above are rounded (to the nearest whole number).

EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS

Formal evidentiary hearings on CenterPoint Energy's proposal start on September 9, 2020, and will be held online. The purpose of the evidentiary hearings is to allow CenterPoint Energy, the Minnesota Department of Commerce – Division of Energy Resources, the Minnesota Office of Attorney General – Residential Utilities and Antitrust Division, and parties who have formally joined the contested case to present testimony and to cross-examine each other's witnesses on the proposed rate increase.

If you wish to formally intervene in this case, as a party to the litigation, please contact Administrative Law Judge Eric L. Lipman, P.O. Box 64620, St. Paul, MN 55164-0620.

TO LEARN MORE

CenterPoint Energy's current and proposed rate schedules are available at:

CenterPoint Energy

505 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55402

Phone: 612-372-4727 or 800-245-2377

Web: <http://www.CenterPointEnergy.com/RateCase>

Minnesota Department of Commerce

85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101

Phone: 651-539-1534

Web: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp>

Select (19) in the year field, type (524) in the number field, select Search, and the list of documents will appear on the next page.

Questions about the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's review process?

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55101

Phone: 651-296-0406 or 800-657-3782

Email: consumer.puc@state.mn.us

Anyone with hearing or speech disabilities may call through their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service.

