

March 2, 2023

CenterPoint Energy 1111 Louisiana Street Houston, TX 77002-5231 P.O. Box 2628 Houston, TX 77252-2628

Mayor and City Council City of New Braunfels New Braunfels, Texas

## **Hand-Delivered**

Re: Notice of CenterPoint Energy's 2023 GRIP Filing for the South Texas Division

Dear Madam or Sir:

This correspondence notifies the City of New Braunfels (the "City") that CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Entex and CenterPoint Energy Texas Gas ("CenterPoint" or the "Company"), has filed tariffs and supporting documents with the Railroad Commission of Texas (the "Commission") consistent with Section 7.7101 of the Commission's Gas Services Division Rules and Section 104.301 of the Texas Utilities Code to establish the annual gas reliability infrastructure program ("GRIP") interim rate adjustment (the "IRA") for the customers located in the Company's South Texas Division, which includes the City. Because the City has ceded its original jurisdiction over CenterPoint's gas utility rates to the Commission pursuant to Section 103.003(a) of the Texas Utilities Code, the Commission will establish the applicable IRA and the City does not need to take any action.

CenterPoint consistently supplies its customers in the South Texas Division with safe and dependable natural gas service by prudently investing in additions and upgrades to its delivery system. The Company will continue to prudently invest in its infrastructure in order to improve its natural gas service to its customers and to anticipate and meet their needs under all operating conditions. The GRIP program enables a gas utility such as CenterPoint to begin recovery of its incremental capital investment in the system, subject to a prudence review in its next rate case. This reduces regulatory lag and incentivizes needed investment.

Pursuant to applicable law, the proposed IRA will become effective on May 1, 2023, unless the Commission acts to suspend that date for a period of up to forty-five (45) days. The IRA approved by the Commission will be applied to the current monthly customer charge and will remain in effect until superseded by the earlier of (1) the effective date of the Company's next annual IRA for the South Texas Division; or (2) the issuance of a final order in a formal rate-setting proceeding for the South Texas Division.

As detailed in the attached schedules and supporting material, the Company invested \$68,292,974 in its South Texas Division in calendar year 2022, and the applicable IRA is:

	Current	Proposed 2023 Interim		
Rate	Customer	Rate	Adjusted	Increase Per
Schedule	Charge	Adjustment	Charge	Bill
R-2097-I-GRIP 2023;	\$27.03	\$3.72	\$30.75	\$3.72
R-2097-U-GRIP 2023	per customer	per customer	per customer	per customer
Residential	per month	per month	per month	per month
GSS-2097-I-GRIP 2023; GSS-2097-U-GRIP 2023 General Service Small	\$41.42 per customer per month	\$7.51 per customer per month	\$48.93 per customer per month	\$7.51 per customer per month
GSLV-628-I-GRIP 2023; GSLV-628-U-GRIP 2023 General Service Large Volume	\$210.33 per customer per month	\$59.85 per customer per month	\$270.18 per customer per month	\$59.85 per customer per month

Along with and in support of the IRA, CenterPoint also includes an electronic copy of the GRIP filing made with the Commission which includes the following:

- (a) An earnings monitoring report showing the Company's earnings for the South Texas Division during the 2022 calendar year (under the "Earnings Monitoring Report" section of the enclosed electronic copy of the filing).
- (b) An Interim Rate Adjustment Application containing accounting schedules and project reports for the GRIP Adjustment Period including a description of (i) the projects undertaken during the GRIP Adjustment Period (ii) the investment to provide utility service in the South Texas Division, which were both completed and placed in service during the GRIP Adjustment Period, (iii) the Company's prior utility investments in the South Texas Division that were either retired or abandoned during the GRIP Adjustment Period, and (iv) the cost, need and customers benefited by those investments and retirements located in IRAs 12, 13, 14 and 15 which are voluminous and are being provided in electronic form only.
- (c) The Company's calculations of the GRIP Adjustment amount to go into effect on the later of the Planned Effective Date of the end of any suspension period imposed (under the "Interim Rate Adjustment Application" section of the enclosed electronic copy of the filing).
- (d) Affidavits by Kara Gostenhofer Ryan, Kimberly Middleton and Tal R. Centers, Jr. (under the "Affidavits" section of the enclosed electronic copy of the filing).
  - Ms. Ryan's affidavit verifies (i) that the South Texas Division's books and records are kept in accordance with the rules of the

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Commission and (ii) that the reports enclosed accurately reflect the South Texas Division's books and records related to the information in those reports.

- Ms. Middleton's affidavit verifies the notice of the GRIP filing through customer bill inserts.
- Mr. Centers' affidavit concerns the reimbursement of relocation expenses.

Notice of the Company's GRIP filing will be provided to affected customers in the South Texas Division by bill insert or by separate mailing within 45 days after it is filed with the Commission in accordance with the applicable law.

Instead of a binder with a hard copy of the filing, the Company has provided the equivalent in electronic form in the folder called Electronic Copy of Filing.

Although only the unincorporated tariffs are applicable to cities under the Commission's jurisdiction, the Company has also included in its filing package both incorporated and unincorporated tariffs.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

Keith L. Wall

Director of Regulatory Affairs

Attachments

cc: Mr. Tal Centers

Mr. Mickey Moon

Ms. Gracy Rodriguez

DELIVERED TO:	
NAME	of OFFICE (Mayor, City Secretary, etc.)
the City of New Braunfels on t	his day of March 2023.
SIGNATURE	

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