

RATE INCREASE NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR CENTERPOINT ENERGY MINNESOTA CUSTOMERS

CenterPoint Energy has asked the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) for approval to increase rates for natural gas distribution service. The requested increase is about 6.4 percent or \$56.5 million per year. The requested increase would add about \$4.45 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 requested for any class or classes of service.

The MPUC will likely make its decision on our rate request in the summer of 2018. If final rates are lower than interim rates, we will refund customers the difference with interest. If final rates are higher than interim rates, we will not charge customers the difference.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Administrative Law Judge Jeffery Oxley is holding four public hearings on the company's proposal. CenterPoint Energy customers or other individuals may attend the hearings and provide comment. 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.

Date	Time	Location
Tuesday Jan. 16	4:30 p.m.	Blue Earth Library, Conference Room 100 E. Main St., Mankato, MN 56001
Wednesday Jan. 17	5:00 p.m.	Sabathani Community Center, Conference Room D 310 E. 38th St., Minneapolis, MN 55409
Thursday Jan. 18	6:00 p.m.	Central Lakes Community College, Room E208 501 W. College Dr., Brainerd, MN 56401
Wednesday Jan. 24	5:00 p.m.	Golden Valley Library, Golden Valley Room 830 Winnetka Ave., Golden Valley, MN 55427

In case of bad weather, find out if a meeting is canceled by calling (toll free) 855-731-6208 or 651-201-2213 or visit mn.gov/puc.

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SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS

Comment period – Comments are accepted through Mar. 16, 2018 at 4:30 p.m.

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

Online comments

- Visit mn.gov/puc, select *Speak Up!*, find this Docket (17-285), and add your comments to the discussion.
- If you wish to include an exhibit or other attachment, please send your comments via U.S. Mail or by email.

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

Email consumer.puc@state.mn.us

Please include the Docket Number(s) in the subject line or heading:

- MPUC Docket Number G-008/GR-17-285
- OAH Docket Number 19-2500-34684

1. Your name;
2. The specific issues that concern you; and
3. Anything you would like to say regarding the Docket.

Important: Comments are available to 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 from submissions.

The chart 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	72	\$56	\$60	\$61
Commercial/Industrial				
- up to 1,500/year	65	\$57	\$61	\$62
- 1,500 to 5,000/year	234	\$164	\$172	\$173
- 5,000 or more/year	1,402	\$881	\$916	\$910
Small Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service				
- up to 120,000/year	3,539	\$1,761	\$1,826	\$1,816
- 120,000 or more/year	14,322	\$6,861	\$7,088	\$7,049
Large Volume Dual Fuel Sales Service	59,449	\$26,452	\$27,127	\$27,154
Large General Firm Service	38,061	\$17,399	\$18,060	\$18,195

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

EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS

Formal evidentiary hearings on CenterPoint Energy's proposal start on Mar. 6, 2018, at the MPUC's offices at 121 7th Place East, St. Paul. 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 others, to present testimony and to cross-examine each other's witnesses on the proposed rate increase.

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 *17* in the year field, type *285* 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

Citizens with hearing or speech impairment may call through their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service.

