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## CenterPoint Energy to replace natural gas lines on Upton Ave. S.

Dear Property Owner,

At CenterPoint Energy, we are committed to providing relevant information to our customers and the general public to minimize inconvenience or disruption due to our construction activities.

### ***What will CenterPoint Energy do?***

From early July to late summer or early fall 2021, CenterPoint Energy's authorized contractors will work in Minneapolis along the following streets: Upton Avenue S. between 50th Street W. and Red Cedar Lane, 52nd Street W. at Upton Avenue S., and Forest Dale east of Upton Avenue S. While Michels Corporation will replace two natural gas mains, connect the natural gas service lines to the first of the new mains, and move any inside residential meters outside, Q3 Contracting will restore the areas affected by Michels Corporation's work.

While the first natural gas main will be small-diameter plastic, typically bored underground, the second main will be large-diameter steel. Since the crews weld the pieces of the pipe together, the steel main replacement requires open excavation and takes longer to install than the small-diameter plastic main. Time spent on each block will vary due to the size of the block, the steel offsets, the restoration preparation, and the weather. Toward the end of the project, the crews will return to some intersections to connect the new main to the existing intersecting mains.

Upton Avenue S. will be closed for a block at a time from 50th to 53rd Streets W. During the closure, it will be open to local traffic only. Detour signs will direct non-local traffic to the next block. One sidewalk will be open at a time. On 50th and 52nd Streets W., there will be a lane shift, along with one sidewalk closed on Upton Avenue S. at the intersection. These closures may reopen after the first main is replaced and before the second main is replaced. Our website will be updated during the project.

### ***What is CenterPoint Energy's COVID-19 protocol?***

The construction crews and personnel will continue to use the Covid-19 Customer Permission Flyer, which requests customer permission prior to entering homes. Personnel, contractors and CenterPoint Energy employees will continue to practice CDC guidelines regarding social distancing, sanitary practices and wearing face masks when entering customer homes.

### ***What if I have an inside gas meter?***

The customer will receive a CenterPoint Energy postcard in the mail typically within one or two weeks prior to the day when the Michels Corporation crews will perform the work. The crews will have CenterPoint Energy-authorized photo IDs stating that they are employees of Michels Corporation.

After the customer receives the postcard, the foreman will arrive at the customer's house to schedule an appointment that typically meets with the customer's schedule. If the customer isn't home when they arrive, they will leave a door tag with their contact information to schedule an appointment.

Customers are advised to set aside a two- to four-hour time frame for the inside-to-outside gas meter move. They are also advised to mark their privately-installed utilities such as dog fences or sprinklers. Marking can be accomplished with tools such as spray paint or utility flags. The foreman will access the natural gas meter inside the house, move the meter outside, and relight the natural gas appliance pilot lights after the new meter has been relocated. Customers with outside meters will be notified prior to the replacement or connection of the service lines to the new mains.

**How can I contact CenterPoint Energy?**

For more information or to sign up for updates, please visit [CenterPointEnergy.com/Construction](http://CenterPointEnergy.com/Construction), click on "Project Sites" and "Minneapolis." Look for future communications via mailings or a door tag left by the CenterPoint Energy inspector. We appreciate your patience as we continue to upgrade our natural gas system, ensuring system reliability for years to come.

