

**RESOLUTION NO. R-2020-30**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS, ("CITY") RESPONDING TO THE APPLICATION OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., SOUTH TEXAS DIVISION, TO INCREASE RATES UNDER THE GAS RELIABILITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM; SUSPENDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS RATE APPLICATION FOR FORTY-FIVE DAYS; AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN A COALITION OF CITIES KNOWN AS THE "ALLIANCE OF CENTERPOINT MUNICIPALITIES;" DETERMINING THAT THE MEETING AT WHICH THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED COMPLIED WITH THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT; MAKING SUCH OTHER FINDINGS AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE SUBJECT; AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, on or about March 5, 2020 CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., South Texas Division ("CenterPoint") filed for an increase in gas utility rates under the Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program ("GRIP"), which if approved, results in an increase in the monthly customer charges as follows;

<b>Rate Schedule</b>	<b>Current Customer Charge**</b>	<b>Proposed 2020 Interim Rate Adjustment**</b>	<b>Adjusted Charge**</b>	<b>Increase Per Bill**</b>
R-2097-I-GRIP 2020; R-2097-U-GRIP 2020 Residential	\$21.04	\$1.55	\$22.59	\$1.55
GSS-2097-I-GRIP 2020; GSS-2097-U-GRIP 2020 General Service Small	\$29.16	\$3.11	\$32.27	\$3.11
GSLV-628-I-GRIP 2020; GSLV-628- U-GRIP 2020 General Service Large Volume	\$126.70	\$18.74	\$145.44	\$18.74

**\*\*Charges shown are per customer per month**

and

**WHEREAS**, the City has a special responsibility to exercise due diligence with regard to rate increases of monopoly utilities who operate within its boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, the application to increase rates by CenterPoint is complex; and

**WHEREAS**, CenterPoint proposed an effective date of May 4, 2020 for the increase in rates; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to suspend the effective date for the increase in rates for forty-five days, so that the City can assure itself that the data and calculations in CenterPoint's rate application are correctly done and are in conformity with section 104.301 of the Gas Utility Regulatory Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the effective date proposed by CenterPoint is May 4, 2020 but a suspension by the City will mean that the rate increase cannot go into effect prior to June 18, 2020.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS:**

**Section 1:** That the statements and findings set out in the preamble to this resolution are hereby in all things approved and adopted.

**Section 2:** The City suspends the requested effective date by CenterPoint for forty-five days pursuant to the authority granted the City under Section 104.301 of the Texas Utilities Code. The City finds that additional time is needed in order to review the data and calculations that provide the basis for the rate increase application.

**Section 3:** The City shall continue to act jointly with other cities that are part of a coalition of cities known as the Alliance of CenterPoint Municipalities ("ACM").

**Section 4:** The City authorizes the law firm of Herrera Law & Associates, PLLC, to act on its behalf in connection with CenterPoint's application to increase rates.

**Section 5:** To the extent CenterPoint's application to increase rates under section 104.301 of the Gas Utility Regulatory Act (GURA) is considered a ratemaking proceeding, CenterPoint is ordered to reimburse the City's reasonable rate case expenses incurred in response to CenterPoint's rate increase application within 30 days of receipt of invoices for such expenses to the extent allowed by law.


**Section 6:** A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Mr. Keith Wall, Director of Regulatory Affairs, CenterPoint Energy, 1111 Louisiana Street, CNP Tower 19<sup>th</sup> Floor, Houston, Texas 77002; and to Mr. Alfred R. Herrera, Herrera Law & Associates, PLLC, 4400 Medical Pkwy., Austin, Texas 78756.

**Section 7:** The meeting at which this resolution was approved was in all things conducted in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

**Section 8:** This resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage.

DULY RESOLVED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Bastrop this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020.

APPROVED:

  
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Connie B. Schroeder, Mayor

ATTEST:



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Ann Franklin, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



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Alan Bojorquez, City Attorney