

RESOLUTION NO. R-2021-33

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS, ("CITY") REGARDING 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 4, 2021 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:

Rate Schedules	Current Customer Charge	Proposed 2021 "GRIP" Adjustment	Adjusted Charge	Increase Per Bill
R-2097-I-GRIP 2021; R-2097-U-GRIP 2021 - Residential	\$22.59 per customer per month	\$2.33 per customer per month	\$24.92 per customer per month	\$2.33 per customer per month
GSS-2097-I-GRIP 2021; GSS-2097-U-GRIP 2021 General Service Small	\$32.27 per customer per month	\$4.78 per customer per month	\$37.05 per customer per month	\$4.78 per customer per month
GSLV-628-I-GRIP 2021; GSLV-628-U-GRIP 2021 General Service Large Volume	\$145.43 per customer per month	\$28.61 per customer per month	\$174.04 per customer per month	\$28.61 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 3, 2021 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 3, 2021, but a suspension by the City will mean that the rate increase cannot go into effect prior to June 17, 2021.

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

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 Gas Utility Regulatory Act to allow the City's review of the data and calculations that provide the basis for CenterPoint's proposed increase in rates.

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 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 L. Wall, Director of Regulatory Affairs, CenterPoint Energy, 1111 Louisiana Street, CNP Tower 19th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002; and to Mr. Alfred R. Herrera, Herrera Law & Associates, PLLC, 4524 Burnet Road, 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.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 23rd day of March 2021.



Connie B. Schroeder, Mayor

ATTEST:



Ann Franklin, City Secretary