

**BEFORE THE  
ARKANSAS PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**IN THE MATTER OF ALL REQUIRED GAS )  
SUPPLY RATE FILINGS BY CENTERPOINT )  
ENERGY ARKANSAS GAS COMPANY )**

**DOCKET NO. 07-044-U**

**MOTION FOR AUTHORITY TO INCLUDE APPROPRIATE CARRYING CHARGES  
IN CONJUNCTION WITH EXTENDED AMORTIZATION OF EXTRAORDINARY  
COST OF GAS**

COMES NOW CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Arkansas Gas (“CenterPoint Arkansas” or the “Company”) and for its Motion for Authority to Include Appropriate Carrying Charges in Conjunction with Extended Amortization of Extraordinary Cost of Gas, states as follows:

1. On February 12, 2021, arctic cold temperatures across much of the country (the “Winter Storm”) led to significant disruptions in natural gas supply along with a sharp rise in natural gas demand. Significant increases in natural gas spot market prices caused CenterPoint Arkansas to incur extraordinary incremental gas costs, as discussed further in the Supporting Testimony of Amy L. Morris.
2. Typically, the Company’s cost of gas is recovered via the Gas Supply Rate (“GSR”) Rider. Without further action, these extraordinary costs would be recovered via the Company’s Gas Supply Rider (“GSR Rider”) over only one year.
3. Recognizing the burden that recovery over such a short-time period would place on utilities’ customers, the Commission issued Order No. 1 in Docket No. 21-036-U, requesting that “[a]ny utility which has experienced a significant impact from these increased costs is urged to propose procedures for cost recovery which avoid rate shock to

its customers as the utilities file for rider adjustments.”<sup>1</sup> The Commission also stated that “procedures should protect the right of the utility for an opportunity to recover costs while balancing the impact on the utility’s customer.”

4. Pursuant to Section 1.3.2. of the GSR Rider, the Company is permitted to make an Unscheduled GSR Filing if a projected under- or over-recovery balance arises that exceeds ten percent of the projected gas costs. Under the terms of the tariff, such filings are effective beginning the month following the filing.
5. Accordingly, the Company filed concurrently with this Motion an Unscheduled GSR Filing requesting recovery of the extraordinary Winter Storm cost of gas along with a carrying charge equal to the Company’s pre-tax rate of return approved in the Company’s 2020 Formula Rate Plan (“FRP”) filing, which is 5.73%, for bills rendered on or after the first day of May 2021. For the limited purposes of the recovery of the extraordinary Winter Storm costs, the Company requests any deviations from its GSR Rider as necessary to achieve the cost recovery described herein.
6. As discussed further in the Supporting Testimony of Ms. Morris, the Company’s proposal balances the impact to customers with the Company’s need to begin recovering the significant incremental cost of gas associated with the Winter Storm.

WHEREFORE, CenterPoint Arkansas respectfully requests approval of carrying charges consistent with foregoing the one-year period of recovery in its GSR Rider in favor of five years as described herein, beginning with the first billing cycle of May 2021, authorization to deviate from any provisions of its GSR Rider provision that may be inconsistent with this request, and for all other proper relief.

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<sup>1</sup> Docket No. 21-036-U, Order No. 1 at 2 (March 4, 2021).

Respectfully submitted,

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP.  
D/B/A CENTERPOINT ENERGY ARKANSAS GAS

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that a copy of the foregoing has been delivered to all Parties of Record by electronic mail via the Electronic Filing System, this 16th day of April 2021.

/s/ Stephanie Hammons  
Stephanie Hammons