CenterPoint Energy Indiana South P.O. Box 209 Evansville, IN 47702-0209



June 1, 2022

Jane Steinhauer Director of Energy Division Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission PNC Center 101 W. Washington Street - Suite 1500 East Indianapolis, IN 46204

In Re: SIGECO Gas Cost Adjustment Cause No. 37366-GCA155

Dear Ms. Steinhauer:

Enclosed is the Petition and attached schedules requesting approval of changes to the gas cost adjustment charges for Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Company d/b/a/ CenterPoint Energy Indiana South ("CEI South"). Included with this filing are the testimony of Katie J. Tieken, Paula J. Grizzle, and Chrissy M. Behme.

Please provide an order approving the attached Gas Cost Adjustments by August 1, 2022.

Sincerely,

Stephanie L. Willis

Stephanie L. Willis Senior Analyst, Regulatory and Rates

Cc: Dezara Atherton Office of Utility Consumer Counselor PNC Center 115 West Washington Street, Ste 1500 S Indianapolis, IN 46204

STATE OF INDIANA

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

VERIFIED PETITION OF SOUTHERN ELECTRIC INDIANA GAS AND COMPANY CENTERPOINT D/B/A ENERGY INDIANA SOUTH ("CEI SOUTH") FOR APPROVAL OF CHANGES GAS COST IN ITS ADJUSTMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH I.C. 8-1-2-42(g) and 8-1-2-42.3.)

CAUSE NO. 37366 GCA 155

VERIFIED PETITION

To The INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION:

Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Company d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Indiana South ("Petitioner", "CEI South", or "the Company") respectfully shows to the Commission the following:

1. Petitioner is an Indiana corporation engaged in business as a gas utility and has its principal office at 211 NW Riverside Drive, Evansville, Indiana 47708. It owns, operates, manages, and controls plant and equipment within the State of Indiana used for the transmission, delivery, and furnishing of gas utility service to the public in Indiana. Petitioner is accordingly subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission in the manner and to the extent provided by the Indiana utility laws.

2. This Petition is filed pursuant to the provisions of I.C. 8-1-2-42(g) and 8-1-2-42.3 to secure approval of a change in Petitioner's rates and charges based upon gas costs.

3. Petitioner's order from the Commission establishing the return authorized to be used for the purpose of this Cause was approved on October 6,

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2021 in Cause No. 45447. Petitioner also has in effect a gas cost adjustment ("GCA") previously approved by the Commission.

4. Petitioner's proposed GCAs for gas service during the three-month period August, September, and October 2022 and the data and calculations supporting the estimated gas costs, are set forth in the Schedules attached hereto. Petitioner's proposed tariff sheet, <u>Appendix A</u>, "Gas Cost Adjustment", will be provided as part of Petitioner's filing of revised schedules.

5. Petitioner has made every reasonable effort to acquire long-term gas supplies so as to provide gas service to its retail customers at the lowest gas cost reasonably possible.

6. Petitioner's Statement of Operating Income for the twelve months ended March 31, 2022, as adjusted, is provided as part of Petitioner's prepared direct testimony and exhibits. In addition, as required by I.C. 8-1-2-42.3, Petitioner's return calculation under that provision is provided as part of Petitioner's prepared direct testimony and exhibits.

7. The estimated average monthly bill impact for a typical residential customer using 55 therms per month is a charge of \$45.81. This represents a decrease of \$14.47 from the factor currently in effect.

8. Petitioner proposes to continue the monthly flex methodology approved in Cause No. 37366 GCA 154 to establish the price to be applicable to market purchases for each GCA month. Petitioner proposes that the Commission approve such a mechanism to timely reflect in monthly GCAs the potentially volatile changes in natural gas purchase prices and thereby minimize resulting gas cost variances and their future reconciliation. The use of this flex mechanism is beneficial to Petitioner's customers since it allows those customers to receive more

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accurate and timely price signals, which in turn allows the retention of customers who might otherwise decline to utilize Petitioner's service.

9. Petitioner's books and records supporting the proposed GCAs are presently available for inspection and review by the Office of the Utility Consumer Counselor ("OUCC") and the Commission, including the Commission Staff.

10. Petitioner considers that I.C. 8-1-2-42(g) and I.C. 8-1-2-42.3 are applicable to the subject matter of this Petition and believes that such statutes provide the Commission authority to approve the requested relief.

11. The names and addresses of Petitioner's duly authorized representatives, to whom all correspondence and communications concerning this Cause should be sent, are as follows:

Heather A. Watts Atty. No 35482-82 SOUTHERN INDIANA GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Indiana South 211 NW Riverside Dr. Evansville, IN 47708 (812) 491-5119 (telephone)

Jeffery A. Earl Atty. No 27821-64 SOUTHERN INDIANA GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Indiana South 101 West Ohio St. Suite 450 Indianapolis, IN 46204 (317) 260-5399 (telephone) Steven W. Krohne Atty. No 20969-49 ICE MILLER LLP One American Square, Suite 2900 Indianapolis, IN 46282-0200 (317) 236-2294 (telephone) (317) 592-4212 (telecopy)

Kelly M. Beyrer Atty. No 36322-49 ICE MILLER LLP One American Square, Suite 2900 Indianapolis, IN 46282-0200 (317) 221-2819 (telephone) (317) 592-4212 (telecopy) 12. Petitioner and the Indiana Office of the Utility Consumer Counselor ("OUCC") have agreed to the following procedural schedule, which is consistent with the established timing for GCA proceedings most recently addressed in the Commission's Order in Cause No. 44374 (approved August 27, 2014). The agreed schedule is as follows:

Date	Event
June 21, 2022	Petitioner's Revised Schedules
July 1, 2022	OUCC/Intervenors File Case-in-Chief
July 7, 2022	Petitioner's Rebuttal, if needed
Approx. July 13, 2022	Hearing
Approx. July 13, 2022	Joint Proposed Order

Responses to discovery requests will be due within ten (10) calendar days of receipt.

13. Petitioner states:

- (a) That the GCAs requested for the next applicable period are materially accurate.
- (b) That the gas cost variances included within the requested GCAs are materially accurate.
- (c) That the gas costs included within the requested GCAs include reasonable estimates of the costs of gas purchased, given actual cost of gas experienced and actual gas costs recovered by previous adjustments.
- (d) That the current level of net income available is not greater than the level permitted to be earned and retained by the Company under applicable law.
- (e) That the Company has properly applied its gas cost adjustment since its last filed GCA.

(f) That the books and records under review are being kept according to the Uniform System of Accounts as prescribed by the Commission.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully prays that the Commission conduct a summary hearing on the matters set forth herein and thereafter make and enter an order:

(a) Approving the Petition, including the GCAs to be proposed herein, and authorizing Petitioner to make such GCAs effective for the months of August, September, and October 2022 until replaced by different gas cost adjustment factors that are approved in a subsequent filing.

(b) Approving the procedural schedule set forth above, to the extent necessary.

(c) Making such further orders and providing such further relief as may be appropriate and proper.

(Signature page follows)

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DATED: this 1st day of June 2022

Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Company d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Indiana South

Katie J. Tieken Director, Regulatory and Rates

Respectfully submitted, Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Company d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Indiana South

Heather Watts, Atty. No. 35482-82 Jeffery A. Earl, Atty. No. 27821-64 Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Co. d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Indiana South 211 NW Riverside Dr. | 101 West Ohio St. Ste. 450 Evansville, IN 47708 | Indianapolis, IN 46204 (812) 491-5119 | (317) 260-5399 Heather.Watts@CenterPointEnergy.com Jeffery.Earl@CenterPointEnergy.com

Steven W. Krohne, Atty. No. 20969-49 Kelly M. Beyrer, Atty. No. 36322-49 ICE MILLER LLP One American Square, Suite 2900 Indianapolis, IN 46282-0200 Krohne Telephone: (317) 236-2294 Beyer Telephone: (317) 221-2819 Steven.Krohne@IceMiller.com Kelly.Beyrer@IceMiller.com

Attorneys for Petitioner Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Company d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Indiana South

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that on this <u>1st</u> day of June 2022 a copy of the foregoing testimony and exhibits of Petitioner, Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Company d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Indiana South ("CEI South") was served by electronic mail transmission upon the following:

> Jeff Reed Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor 115 West Washington St. Suite 1500 Indianapolis, IN 46204 <u>jreed@oucc.IN.gov</u> infomgt@oucc.in.gov

Steven W. Krohne Atty. No. 20969-49

VERIFICATION

The undersigned, Katie J. Tieken affirms, under penalty of perjury, that she is Director, Regulatory and Rates of Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Company d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Indiana South, and that in such capacity she has executed the foregoing Verified Petition and that the representations contained therein are true to the best of her respective knowledge, information and belief.

STATE OF INDIANA)) SS: COUNTY OF VANDERBURGH

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared Katie J. Tieken and verified the execution of the foregoing instrument and her incumbencies this 1st day of June 2022.

WITNESS my hand and Notarial Seal this 1st day of June 2022.

MARY ETTA SMITH Resident of Vanderburgh Co., IN Commission #: 654256 Commission Expires: July 4, 2022

Mary Eta Smith Notary Public Mary Eta Smith Notary Public (Printed)

County of Residence

Commission Expires:

July 4,2022