



April 7, 2025

Minnesota State Senate
Committee on Energy, Utilities, Environment, and Climate
Room 1150
Saint Paul, MN 55103

RE: Senate File 2393 - Energy Omnibus

Dear Chair Frentz and Committee Members,

CenterPoint Energy is Minnesota's largest natural gas utility. We proudly serve 920,000 residential and business customers with safe, reliable, and affordable energy solutions.

CenterPoint Energy extends our deepest thanks to energy committee members and staff for their dedicated work. We appreciate these efforts and would like to highlight provisions in SF 2393 that we are grateful to have included and support:

Securitization – SF 999 (Xiong, Gruenhagen). Article 4. 26.1 – 43.22. Securitization is an affordability tool used in over 30 states in case of an unforeseen event, such as a natural disaster or devastating storm that result in extraordinary and unavoidable costs. Prime-rate bonds through securitization provide lower interest rates, that savings is passed onto customers. This legislation could help customers save costs and allow natural gas utilities to recover prudent costs. Ideally, securitization is a tool that would never be used but have available if an emergency arises. Regulatory oversight through the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) ensures transparency and that securitization is only allowed when it benefits customers. We thank the bill authors and the chair for including this provision.

Storage Modification - SF 1455 (Hoffman, Rarick). Sec. 10. 16.10 – 16.29. Storage is used by utilities to manage supply risk during the coldest days and can be used to provide customer benefits including increased resiliency, lower system costs, and more opportunities to leverage made-in-Minnesota renewable natural gas (RNG). Increasing the liquefied natural gas (LNG) storage certificate of need (CON) threshold maintains all local, state, and federal permits while reducing cost and timeline for implementation. This modification is supported by trades unions. Affected agencies have been consulted and do not have concerns. We thank the bill authors and the chair for including this provision.

We would also like to note our previous letter of support for SF 1037 - RNG Production from Anaerobic Digester (5.17 - 5.28) appropriation for RDA funding.

Sincerely,

Jamie Fitzke
CenterPoint Energy
Director of Government Affairs