

## A G E N D A



## Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council

Item ID

57313

Agenda Number

34.

Meeting Date:

5/19/2016

Department:

Telecommunications and Reg  
Affairs

## Subject

Approve an ordinance suspending a Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program interim customer surcharge proposed by CenterPoint Energy Resources and requesting reimbursement for expenses to review the rate adjustment.

## Amount and Source of Funding

## Fiscal Note

Purchasing Language:

Prior Council Action:

For More Information:

Rondella M. Hawkins, TARA Officer, 512-974-2422

Council Committee,  
Boards and  
Commission Action:

MBE / WBE:

Related Items:

## Additional Backup Information

Pursuant to the Gas Utilities Regulatory Act, the City has original jurisdiction over privately owned gas utility rates set for customers within its city limits.

On March 31, 2016, CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., South Texas Division ("CenterPoint") filed its Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program (GRIP) filing in Austin and in the other cities that it serves in the South Texas Division. This filing was made in compliance with the Texas Utilities Code, Section 104.301 which allows a gas utility to make interim rate adjustments in order to recover capital investments in gas pipeline infrastructure made during the interim period between rate cases. CenterPoint proposed an effective date of May 30, 2016 for the interim rate adjustment. The collective increase is \$19,894,741 to the monthly customer charges in the CenterPoint South Texas Division.

Below is the proposed rate adjustments to the monthly customer charge per customer class:

Rate Schedules	Current Customer Charge	2016 GRIP Adjustment	Adjusted Charge
Residential	\$20.07 per customer per month	\$1.14 per customer per month (5.68%)	\$21.21 per customer per month
General Service Small	\$32.44 per customer per month	\$2.31 per customer per month (7.12%)	\$34.75 per customer per month
General Service Large Volume	\$174.75 per customer per month	\$13.50 per customer per month (7.73%)	\$188.25 per customer per month

CenterPoint has approximately 700 customers in the Austin area. State law authorizes the City to suspend the implementation date of the interim charge by 45 days. Staff recommends a 45-day suspension until July 14, 2016, to allow additional time to review the filing to ensure it complies with statute. Staff will provide a recommendation to the City Council on June 16, 2016 following a public hearing which is required by the City Charter.