



**Department
of Public Service**

Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223-1350
www.dps.ny.gov

Public Service Commission
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Commissioners

August 23, 2023

Dear Community Leader/Elected Official:

On July 31, 2023, Central Hudson Gas and Electric Corporation (Central Hudson) filed amendments to its electric and natural gas tariff schedules seeking approval from the New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) to increase its annual electric and natural gas delivery revenue to be effective July 1, 2024. Central Hudson serves the territories of Albany, Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Putnam, Sullivan, and Ulster counties.

Central Hudson is proposing to increase its electric delivery revenue by approximately \$139.5 million (a 31.9 percent increase in base delivery revenues), and its natural gas delivery revenue by approximately \$41.5 million (a 29.2 percent increase in base delivery revenues). Central Hudson's filing proposes to provide energy efficiency incentives and services, invest in infrastructure modernization, and maintain energy affordability while ensuring the continuation of safe, reliable, and resilient electric and gas systems.

On September 12, and 20, 2023 the Commission will hold a series of virtual public statement hearings to seek input and comments from your community regarding the filed amendments. The enclosed announcement provides detailed information on how to participate in the public statement hearing along with how to submit comments regarding the amendments.

Information regarding the case, can be found at www.dps.ny.gov. From the homepage, click on "File Search" (located under the "Commission Files") heading and enter the associated case numbers (23-E-0418) and (23-G-0419) in the "Search by Case Number" field.

I would appreciate your assistance with informing your constituents about these public statement hearings and encouraging them to provide comments. It is the Commission's intent to facilitate and encourage active and meaningful participation throughout all its proceedings. We hope you will consider joining us.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard Berkley".

Richard Berkley
Consumer Advocate and Director
Office of Consumer Services

STATE OF NEW YORK
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CASE 23-E-0418 - Proceeding on Motion of the Commission as to the Rates, Charges, Rules and Regulations of Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation for Electric Service.

CASE 23-G-0419 - Proceeding on Motion of the Commission as to the Rates, Charges, Rules and Regulations of Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation for Gas Service.

NOTICE INVITING COMMENT AND
ANNOUNCING VIRTUAL PUBLIC STATEMENT HEARINGS

(Issued August 18, 2023).

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that public comment is invited concerning proposed changes in the electric and gas delivery rates and practices of Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation (Central Hudson).

Central Hudson filed amendments to its electric and gas tariff schedules on July 31, 2023, proposing to increase its annual electric and gas delivery revenues effective July 1, 2024. Central Hudson proposes to increase its electric delivery revenues by approximately \$139.5 million (a 31.9 percent increase in base delivery revenues or a 16.4 percent increase in total revenues), and its natural gas delivery revenues by approximately \$41.5 million (a 29.2 percent increase in base delivery revenues or a 19 percent increase in total revenues). The actual bill impacts of these proposed changes on any particular customer class will vary based upon revenue allocation and rate design.

Central Hudson states that its rate filings include proposals to: ensure safe, reliable, and resilient electric and gas systems; provide energy efficiency incentives and services

in support of New York's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act goals and targets; effectively respond to major storms and extreme weather events, invest in grid modernization to restore power more quickly, and timely recover storm costs; maintain affordability, mitigate customer bill impacts, and upgrade technologies to improve the customer experience; and support workforce growth.

For its electric business, Central Hudson states that major drivers of the rate increase are related to capital investments associated with replacing aging infrastructure; increased labor expenses; continued and enhanced low income, energy efficiency, and heat pump programs; increased capitalization and financing costs; and recovery of costs associated with major storms and extreme weather. For its gas business, Central Hudson states that rate increase are attributable to continued and enhanced low income and energy efficiency programs; increased capital investment to eliminate leak prone pipe; labor expense; and capitalization and financing costs.

Central Hudson's pre-filed testimony and exhibits in these proceedings may be reviewed online at the Department of Public Service website, www.dps.ny.gov, by clicking on "File Search" (located under the heading "Commission Files") and entering the case number (23-E-0418 or 23-G-0419) in the box labelled "Search by Case Number."

Under New York State law, the Public Service Commission (Commission) must consider a utility's rate proposal and may adopt or reject it, in whole or in part, or modify it. In doing so, the Commission will consider changes proposed by the participating parties and general public. Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) are presiding over the gathering of public comments and all evidence relating to the proposal. As

indicated in this Notice, public statement hearings will be held over two days to obtain comments from the public concerning Central Hudson's proposals.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that virtual public statement hearings will be held before ALJs James A. Costello and Ashley Moreno, as follows:

DATE: Tuesday, September 12, 2023

TIME: 1:00 p.m.

Event Number: 2345 253 2876

Password: Sept12-1pm

Phone Access: 518-549-0500

Access Code: 2345 253 2876

Phone-in password: 73781201

TIME: 5:00 p.m.

Event Number: 2336 265 2934

Password: Sept12-5pm

Phone Access: 518-549-0500

Access Code: 2336 265 2934

Phone-in password: 73781205

DATE: Wednesday, September 20, 2023

TIME: 1:00 p.m.

Event Number: 2338 342 7497

Password: Sept20-1pm

Phone Access: 518-549-0500

Access Code: 2338 342 7497

Phone-in password: 73782001

TIME: 5:00 p.m.

Event Number: 2334 829 1678

Password: Sept20-5pm

Phone Access: 518-549-0500

Access Code: 2334 829 1678

Phone-in password: 73782005

Those wishing to comment on any aspect of these proceedings will have the opportunity to make a statement on the record at the virtual public statement hearings. **Any person wishing to provide a public statement must register in advance of the hearing.**

To register electronically: Participants who would like to provide a statement and will log in to a hearing electronically, must register to do so by clicking on <https://signin.webex.com/join> by **4:30 p.m. on the day before the hearing.** Registrants should enter the appropriate meeting number for the hearing, click "Register" underneath the enter the webinar password box, click "Register" in the box to the right, and provide all requested information.

When logging in to a hearing on the appropriate date and time of the hearing, participants should click on <https://signin.webex.com/join>, enter the appropriate meeting number for the hearing, and input the appropriate webinar password listed above. Participants will be asked to "select audio system." It is recommended that participants opt to have the system "call me" or "call using computer." The "call me" option will require participants to enter their phone numbers.

To register by phone: Any participant who is not able to log in to a hearing electronically may participate by phone. Call-in participants wishing to make a statement at a hearing must register to do so by **4:30 p.m. on the day before the hearing** by calling **1-800-342-3330**, where they should follow prompts to the appropriate hearing and provide the following information: first name and last name, address, and phone number.

On the appropriate day and time of the hearing, all call-in users should dial **1-518-549-0500** and enter the relevant

access code and phone-in password listed above to join the hearing.

All participants will be muted upon entry into the hearing. The ALJs will call on each person who has registered to speak. The ALJs will continue the hearing until everyone wishing to speak has been heard or other reasonable arrangements have been made to include their comments in the record. Time limits may be set for each speaker as necessary to afford all attendees an opportunity to be heard. It is recommended that lengthy comments be submitted in writing and summarized for oral presentation. A verbatim transcript of the hearings will be made for inclusion in the record of these cases.

To listen to the hearings: Any person who would like to listen to the hearings but would not like to make a statement may access the hearings without registering. The hearings will be livestreamed on the internet and available for viewing on the Department of Public Service's YouTube channel on the dates and times listed above. To access the YouTube channel, visit the Department's website, www.dps.ny.gov, and click on the YouTube icon at the bottom of the homepage. In addition, any person without internet access may listen to the hearings by phone by calling **1-518-549-0500** and entering the applicable access code and phone-in password.

Persons with disabilities requiring special accommodations should call the Department of Public Service's Human Resources Management Office at 1-518-474-2520 as soon as possible. TDD users may request a sign language interpreter by placing a call through the New York Relay Service at 711. Individuals with difficulty understanding or reading English are encouraged to call the Department at 1-800-342-3377 for free language assistance services regarding this Notice.

Other Ways to Comment

For those who cannot attend or prefer not to speak at a public statement hearing, there are several other ways to provide your comments to the Commission. Comments should refer to "Case 23-E-0418 and Case 23-G-0419 - Central Hudson."

Although comments will be accepted throughout the pendency of these proceedings, they are requested by September 29, 2023.

Internet or Mail: Go to www.dps.ny.gov, click on "File Search" (located under the heading "Commission Files"), enter the case number (23-E-0418 or 23-G-0419) in the box labelled "Search by Case Number," and then click on "Post Comments" located at the top right of the page.

Alternatively, comments may be mailed to the Hon. Michelle L. Phillips, Secretary, Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12223-1350. All written comments will become part of the record considered by the Commission and may be accessed on the Department of Public Service website by searching the case numbers, as described above, and clicking on the "Public Comments" tab.

Toll-Free Opinion Line: Individuals may choose to submit comments by calling the Commission's Opinion Line at 1-800-335-2120. This number is set up to receive in-state calls 24-hours a day. These calls are not transcribed verbatim, but a summary is provided to the Commission.

(SIGNED)

MICHELLE L. PHILLIPS
Secretary