

Narrative for Modification to Existing Conditional Use Permit Application Proposed CenterPoint Energy Bulk Storage Odorant Tank

Project Summary

CenterPoint Energy is proposing to install and operate a 12,000-gallon bulk storage odorant tank at its 13.60-acre property located at 7607 173rd Ave NW, Ramsey MN.

Currently Northern Natural Gas (NNG) operates a Town Border Station within the southern and eastern portion of this property delivering natural gas to CenterPoint Energy and includes fencing surrounding NNG's facilities.

Adjacent and west of this facility are remaining portions tank foundations and building slabs along with CenterPoint Energy fencing that previously limited access to a CenterPoint Energy Peak Shaving Plant. CenterPoint Energy ceased operations of the Peak Shaving Plant in 2003.

CenterPoint Energy intends to remove all existing fencing not associated with the NNG facility and remove any remaining concrete footings, supports or slabs during this project.

Included with the improvements to this site will be new security fencing, a 12,000-gallon odorant tank including supports, concrete dyke and footings, 100 square foot equipment shelter building, flare and one LED security light. This security light will be located at the southeast corner of the new fence and will shine across the property northwesterly toward the wetland complex north of the project site.

Clearing and grubbing within the existing fencing will be required but no tree removal is anticipated outside of the existing fence line. The design fence location was revised to be approximately 5-feet inside the existing fence location to eliminate any large diameter tree removal.

A CenterPoint Energy security sign including contact information will be affixed to the security fencing surrounding this facility and facing the site access.

Site Use

The bulk storage odorant tank will be a storage site for CenterPoint Energy odorant. Odorant is an industry term and is a mixture of t-Butyl Mercaptan (Mercaptan) and Methyl Ethyl Sulfide and is a chemical that for safety purposes is injected into the gas system to give it a recognizable natural gas odor.

CenterPoint Energy's odorant supplier will access the site by tanker truck to fill the storage tank. The frequency of filling the tank fluctuates yearly and is dependent on temperatures. During the colder heating months (November – March) the tank will require replenishment two to three times

while during the warmer season the tank will only need to be replenished one time. A colder than normal heating season typically requires CenterPoint Energy's supplier to access the site three times.

CenterPoint Energy will fill its odorant trucks at this location prior to traveling to odorant injection sites throughout the state. These trucks are 1-ton or 2-ton pickup trucks (Ford F350/F550) that have been modified to carry this material. Similar to the replenishment of the bulk storage tank, the frequency of filling of these trucks will vary from year to year and will be weather dependent. During the colder heating season CenterPoint Energy personnel will need to access this site approximately four times a month while this site should only need to be accessed twice during the remainder of the year.

A natural gas flare will be installed and operated at this site. During filling procedures of both the bulk storage tank and the odorant trucks, pressure within the storage tank will be controlled by flaring. Filling procedures will only take place during normal daytime business hours reducing the visible light from the flare flame to a nearly non-detectable light source. Flaring procedures are anticipated to take approximately 20 minutes during each filling occurrence.