

TOWN OF HURLEY

RESOLUTION OPPOSING DELIVERY RATE INCREASES BY CENTRAL HUDSON GAS AND ELECTRIC CORPORATION

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Moved By \_\_\_\_\_

Date: April 9, 2024

Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation ("Central Hudson") has applied to the New York State Public Service Commission for increases in its electricity delivery rates and its natural gas delivery rates effective July 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Central Hudson seeks a rate increase for electric delivery charges that would result in an estimated increase of \$30.12 (31.9% increase on the delivery bill, or 16.4% increase on the total bill) for an average residential customer using 660 kWh per month; and

WHEREAS, Central Hudson seeks a rate increase for gas delivery charges that would result in an increase of \$30.13 (29.2% increase on the delivery bill, or 19.0% increase on the total bill) for an average residential customer using 780 Ccf per year; and

WHEREAS, the increases proposed by Central Hudson, if approved, would also lead to similar increases for small businesses; and

WHEREAS, Central Hudson is a regulated transmission and distribution utility serving approximately 309,000 electric customers and 84,000 gas customers in the Mid-Hudson River Valley, including the Village of New Paltz; and

WHEREAS, customers in a typical home or small business will be experiencing increases in their electric and natural gas delivery bills at a time when many are continuing to experience extraordinary financial hardships due to inflation; and

WHEREAS, Central Hudson's area of service includes the Village of New Paltz, and Central Hudson's proposed rate increases will cause unnecessary hardship for residents of the Village of New Paltz, particularly those with fixed or limited incomes, as well as placing an additional financial burden on the Village's taxpayers as the Village's own facilities are served by Central Hudson; and

WHEREAS, the proposed rate increases will place additional economic strains on small businesses and employers in the Village of New Paltz and discourage economic development and recovery; and

WHEREAS, Central Hudson customers have faced additional stress and financial difficulty due to the utility’s billing problems, which are being investigated by the New York Public Service Commission (PSC), under case 22-M-0645, and which have led the PSC to order Central Hudson to “to show cause why the Commission should not commence a proceeding to examine the prudence of the utility’s expenses, and/or a civil penalty action and/or an administrative penalty action, pursuant to Public Service Law §§25 and 25-a, for apparent violations of the Public Service Law, rules and regulations adopted thereto,” and

WHEREAS, New Paltz Village is identified as a New York State disadvantaged community, including many households that are vulnerable and already subject to economic difficulty;

WHEREAS, upon consideration, the New Paltz Village Board finds that such rate increases would place an undue financial burden on residents, businesses and local governments, including the Village of New Paltz, and discourage further commercial and industrial development in our region;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Hurley does hereby oppose the rate increases for delivery of electricity and natural gas for which Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation has applied; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of the Resolution be delivered by the Town Clerk to the Hon. Michelle L. Phillips, Secretary, New York State Public Service Commission; the Hon. Patrick Ryan, Representative for the 19th District; the Hon. Kirsten Gillibrand, U.S. Senator for New York; the Hon. Charles Schumer, U.S. Senator for New York; the Hon. Jen Metzger, Ulster County Executive; and to the chief executives of surrounding municipalities served by Central Hudson; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

	AYE	NAY
Michael Boms, Supervisor	_____	_____
Diana Cline, councilperson	_____	_____
Debbie Dougherty, councilperson	_____	_____
Tim Kelly, councilperson	_____	_____
Gregory Simpson, councilperson	_____	_____