



## News Release

April 28, 2009

By Board Order 49/09, the Public Utilities Board (Board) approves revised natural gas rates effective May 1, 2009 for Centra Gas Manitoba Inc. (Centra).

A "typical" residential customer receiving primary gas from Centra may expect an overall annual bill decrease of \$90, or 7.5%. Centra's Primary Gas rates, the largest component of natural gas bills, will decrease by 12.4% to \$0.2451m<sup>3</sup> from to \$0.2799m<sup>3</sup>. Larger volume customers provided primary gas by Centra may expect a decrease in their annual natural gas bills in a range of 8.1% to 11.3%.

The next review will take place as of August 1, 2009, when, based on current market conditions and other factors, a further decrease may occur.

Customers are continued to be encouraged to avail themselves of Manitoba Hydro's energy efficiency programs, which include special programs for low-income customers.

Petroleum prices remain volatile and, despite a decline in the Canadian dollar vis a vis the American dollar, current natural gas prices remain considerably lower than expected. Given current global economic conditions, i.e. recession, and Centra's hedging and storage programs, the Board does not foresee significant price increases in the immediate future.

A copy of the Order, which contains additional information, may be reviewed on the Board's website [www.pub.gov.mb.ca](http://www.pub.gov.mb.ca), or be obtained through the Board's Office.

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