



Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

Decisions

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

9:30 AM

Large Hearing Room

INTRODUCTION

Site permit amended; Xcel to pursue public outreach.

DECISION ITEMS

1. * **IP6961/WS-16-686** **Blazing Star Wind Farm, LLC**
In the Matter of the Application of Blazing Star Wind Farm, LLC for a Site Permit for the up to 200 Megawatt Blazing Star Wind Project in Lincoln County, Minnesota.

Should the Commission approve the amendments to the Blazing Star Wind Farm Site Permit as requested by Northern States Power Company? (PUC: **Ek**)

Attachments: [Briefing Papers](#)

Site permit amended; Xcel to pursue public outreach.

2. * **IP6981/CN-17-306;** **Dodge County Wind, LLC**
IP6981/WS-17-307;
IP6981/TL-17-308
In the Matter of the Application of Dodge County Wind, LLC for a Certificate of Need for the 170 MW Dodge County Wind Project and Associated Facilities in Dodge, Steele, and Olmsted Counties, Minnesota;
In the Matter of the Application of Dodge County Wind, LLC for a Site Permit for the 170 MW Dodge County Wind Project and Associated Facilities in Dodge and Steele Counties, Minnesota;
In the Matter of the Application of Dodge County Wind, LLC for a Route Permit for the 345 kV High-Voltage Transmission Line Associated with the Dodge County Wind Project in Dodge and Olmsted Counties, Minnesota.
 1. What action should the Commission take concerning the amendments to the Site Permit and Certificate of Need applications?
 2. What action should the Commission take concerning route alternatives to be evaluated in the environmental impact statement?
 3. Should the Commission issue a draft site permit for the Dodge County Wind Project? (PUC: **Ek**)

Attachments: [Briefing Papers](#)

More routes proposed for EIS review; draft site permit issued.

3. * E999/CI-16-521; All Electric Utilities;
 E111/M-18-711; Dakota Electric Association;
 E017/M-18-712; Otter Tail Power Company;
 E015/M-18-713 Minnesota Power

In the Matter of Utility Compliance to Order Establishing Updated Interconnection Process and Standard Interconnection Agreement in E999/CI-16-521.

Should the Commission approve the updated Minnesota Distributed Energy Resource Interconnection Process and Agreement (MN DIP and MN DIA)?

Should the Commission approve or modify Dakota Electric Association, Otter Tail Power and Minnesota Power's updated tariffs and interconnection standards? (PUC: Rosier)

Attachments: [Briefing Papers](#)

Approved updated MN DIP and MN DIA; approved utility tariffs as modified.

4. * G004/GR-15-879 Great Plains Natural Gas Co.

In the Matter of the Petition by Great Plains Natural Gas Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., for Authority to Increase Natural Gas Rates in Minnesota.

What action should the Commission take regarding the Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources' request for the issuance of a show cause order? (PUC: Bartusch)

Attachments: [Briefing Papers](#)

Refund authorized using decoupling mechanism; procedures to be revised.

5. ** G011/M-18-460 Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation (MERC)

In the Matter of the Petition of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation for Approval for Recovery of Natural Gas Extension Project Costs through a Rider and for Approval of a New Area Surcharge for the Pengilly Project.

Should the Commission approve MERC's proposed Pengilly Project and the proposed cost recovery through MERC's approved New Area Surcharge (NAS) tariff and through a new Natural Gas Extension Project (NGEP) Rider? (PUC: Brill)

Attachments: [Briefing Papers](#)

Approved project; approved cost recovery as modified.

6. ** E017/GR-15-1033 Otter Tail Power Company

In the Matter of the Application of Otter Tail Power Company for Authority to Increase Rates for Electric Service in Minnesota.

1. Does Otter Tail's March 30, 2018 Decoupling Report comply with the Commission's May 1, 2017 Order?
2. Has Otter Tail's Decoupling Report provided enough historical analysis to assess ratepayer impact had decoupling been in place?
3. Should the Commission order implementation of a decoupling pilot for Otter Tail?
4. If the Commission orders implementation, what type of decoupling pilot should be implemented, what customer classes should be included and when should decoupling go into effect?
5. Are there other issues or concerns related to this matter? (PUC: **Hetherington, Alonso**)

Attachments: [Briefing Papers](#)

Approved; additional filings required.

ADJOURNMENT

*** One star indicates agenda item is unusual but is not disputed.**

**** Two stars indicate a disputed item or significant legal or procedural issue to be resolved. (Ex Parte Rules apply)**

Please note: For the complete record, please see eDockets