

The Commission met on **Thursday, May 21, 2015**, with Acting Chair Wergin, and Commissioners Lange, Lipschultz and Tuma.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

ENERGY FACILITIES AGENDA

ET2,E015/CN-14-787

ET2,E015/TL-14-797

In the Matter of the Applications of Great River Energy and Minnesota Power for a Certificate of Need and a Route Permit for the Menahga Area 115 kV Transmission Line Project in Hubbard, Wadena and Becker Counties

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission:

1. Take no action regarding route alternatives to be evaluated in the environmental impact statement.
2. Accept the issuance of the generic route permit template.
3. Direct use of the summary report process to develop the record for the route permit.
4. Request that the Administrative Law Judge file a summary report of the comments received regarding the route permit application.
5. Vary Minn. Rules 7850.3700, Subp. 3, to extend the 10-day deadline for the Department to issue its scoping decision.

The motion passed 4 –0.

ENERGY AGENDA

E112,E015/SA-15-311

The Joint Request for Approval of a Service Territory Agreement between East Central Energy and Minnesota Power

Commissioner Lange moved that the Commission adopt the Department recommendation to approve the requested service territory boundary changes with the understanding that the Agreement is intended to result in permanent service area rights.

The motion passed 4 –0.

ET6, ET-6132/RP-14-526

In the Matter of Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc.'s 2014 Resource Plan

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission:

1. Accept the Utilities' 2014 – 2028 resource plan.
2. Vary the Commission's rules and authorize Minnkota and Northern Municipal Power Agency to file their next resource plan no later than July 1, 2019, provided that the following requirements are met:
 - a. Minnkota shall file a status update on its demand side management efforts by July 1, 2017;
 - b. Minnkota shall file a status update on its distributed generation efforts by July 1, 2017; and
 - c. Minnkota shall file a status update on the effect of federal environmental regulations by July 1, 2017.

The motion passed 4 –0.

G011/M-15-231

In the Matter of a Petition of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation (MERC) for Extension of Rule Variances to Recover the Costs of Financial Instruments Through the Purchased Gas Adjustment

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission adopt the Department recommendation to approve the request to extend the variance subject to the conditions detailed in the Department comments.

The motion passed 4 –0.

G002/M-14-540

In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company for Modifications to the Interruptible Service Tariffs

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission approve the Department's March 24, 2015 recommendations accepting Xcel's tariff modifications, with the minor modification of adding "e.g.," to the beginning of the parenthetical list of notification devices in Xcel's proposed tariff language, with the understanding that further modification may be required through the review of the 2014 AAA Reports, in Docket No. 14-580, or in a separate docket that Xcel may initiate later this year.

The motion passed 4 –0.

E,G002/M-14-958

In the Matter of a Petition by Northern States Power Company (Xcel) for Approval of Property Transfer from Electric to Gas Operations

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission approve the requested accounting transfer from Xcel – Electric to Xcel – Gas, but determine that 8% of the original cost should have been assigned to the building, and therefore reduce the value of the land transfer accordingly.

The motion passed 4 –0.

E002/M-14-852

In the Matter of Xcel Energy’s 2015 Transmission Cost Recovery Rider Petition

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission:

1. Approve the 2015 proposed revenue requirement of \$63,822,259 for recovery through the TCR rider, subject to necessary adjustment when the Company updates its forecasted numbers with actual numbers. Require that Xcel bring any large change in the revenue requirement to the Commission’s attention.
2. Approve the 2014 TCR True-up and Tracker balance report and carryforward of the 2014 tracker balance, subject to necessary adjustment when the Company updates its forecasted numbers with actual numbers. Require that Xcel bring any large change in the revenue requirement to the Commission’s attention.
3. Approve the resulting TCR Adjustment Factors by class to be included in the Resource Adjustment on bills for Minnesota electric customers beginning July 2015. Allow Xcel to recalculate the TCR adjustment factors to recover (using an averaged TCR rate) the 2015 and forecasted 2016 revenue requirement by the end of 2016.
4. Approve the Company’s proposed revised tariff sheet and proposed customer notice, allowing for necessary adjustment of the TCR adjustment factors in the tariff and proposed customer notice consistent with the Commission’s decisions.
5. Require Xcel, within 10 days of the date of the order, to submit a compliance filing reflecting the Commission’s decisions and updating the forecasted numbers with actual numbers.

The motion passed 4 –0.

**E002/M-15-111; E017/M-15-112; E015/M-15-120; E001/M-15-200
In the Matter of Electric Vehicle Charging Tariffs**

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission

1. Close Docket No. E-001/M-15-200, In the Matter of Interstate Power & Light Company's Petition for Approval of an Electric Vehicle Recharging Tariff.
2. Approve Xcel Energy's Residential Electric Vehicle Charging Tariff as proposed in the company's January 30, 2015 filing.
3. Approve Minnesota Power's Residential Off-Peak Electric Vehicle Service Tariff as proposed in the company's February 2, 2015 filing.
4. Approve Otter Tail Power's Off-Peak Electric Vehicle Rider as proposed in the company's January 30, 2015 filing.
5. Require that within 60 days of the order, each utility must file a compliance filing describing its promotional plans, including:
 - a. an estimate of promotional spending and its impact on the electric vehicle charging rates;
 - b. an explanation of the assumptions underlying these estimates; and
 - c. a discussion of why the promotional spending is "reasonably necessary" to comply with Minn. Stat. § 216B.1614.
6. Require that annually, by June 1st, each utility must file an Electric Vehicle Tariff Report in its electric vehicle tariff docket.

The motion passed 4–0.

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission require that within six months of the date of the order, each utility must file (in its respective electric vehicle tariff docket) a framework describing how it would develop a pricing program "entirely from renewable energy sources" in conjunction with its electric vehicle tariff under Minn. Stat. § 216B.1614.

The motion passed 4–0.

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission approve the use of each utility's existing green pricing tariff rate for the renewable-energy-source option, and direct each utility to mention the renewable-energy-source pricing option in its promotional materials.

The motion passed 4 –0.

Commissioner Lange moved that the Commission require, in addition to the information required by Minn. Stat. § 216B.1614, subd. 3(1) and (2), the following information on a per-quarter basis in utilities' annual Electric Vehicle Tariff Reports:

- a. The amount of energy sold in on- and off-peak periods, if applicable;
- b. A brief description of all development and promotional activities and their costs;
- c. The number of customers choosing the renewable-source option;
- d. The status of the communications costs tracker account, if applicable; and
- e. Copies of any EV promotional materials distributed to customers.

The motion passed 4 –0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: September 9, 2015



Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary