

The Commission met on **Thursday, August 23, 2018**, with Commissioners Schuerger, Sieben, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

E-002/M-18-381

**In the Matter of Xcel Energy's Solar*Rewards Program and Community Solar Garden Program
Tariff Updates**

Commissioner Sieben moved to take the following actions:

1. Defer a decision on Xcel Energy's proposed additional revisions filed in its August 14, 2018 reply comments.
2. Accept Xcel Energy's Solar*Rewards Customer Contract corrections and production-meter-charge refund plan as listed in the Company's July 19, 2018 response to PUC IRs and August 14, 2018 reply comments in this docket. Direct Xcel to provide a compliance filing in the record in this docket within 30 days of refund completion, which shall contain the following information:
 - a. An accounting of the bill credits, including interest, provided to the customer incorrectly billed for the production meter;
 - b. An explanation of the corrective action taken to ensure that such a mix-up does not happen again, to the extent additional information can be provided beyond Xcel's August 14, 2018 reply comments.
3. Direct Xcel Energy to obtain Commission approval prior to issuance of notification letters to impacted customers of either a production-meter-charge refund or both a production-meter-charge refund and contract correction. Delegate authority to the Executive Secretary to approve the letters to impacted customers.

The motion passed 3–0.

E-002/M-12-1278

**In the Matter of Xcel Energy's Petition for Approval of an Amendment to a Renewable
Development Fund (RDF) Standard Grant Contract and a Petition Regarding a Change in Scope
of a RDF Cycle 4 Grant**

Commissioner Schuerger moved to take the following actions:

1. Approve the modifications to the RDF grant contract that would allow third-party ownership of the solar photovoltaics.

2. Require Xcel to include in its quarterly RDF reports data about cost savings for low-income subscribers, with the understanding that subscribers to the first garden will see savings of 3.5 cents per kilowatt-hour, and subscribers to the second garden will see savings of significance. In addition, Xcel shall make a compliance filing within 60 days with the final budget and cost projections for the first, urban solar garden and shall provide, in Docket No. E-002/M-17-527, a discussion comparing MRES's project to the low-income solar garden planned for Saint Paul's Railroad Island neighborhood and lessons learned from the two different approaches to community solar gardens for low-income individuals.
3. Approve the amendment that would allow Xcel to use the Company's community solar garden (CSG) tariff for the solar arrays rather than a power purchase agreement.
4. Permit a change of scope for RDF Cycle 4, EP4-15 to allow a third CSG with the City of Minneapolis, subject to a compliance filing and Commission approval.

The motion passed 3–0.

E-017/M-18-390

In the Matter of the Petition of Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of the Annual Update to Its Renewable Resource Cost Recovery Rider Rate

Commissioner Tuma moved to approve Otter Tail's petition.

The motion passed 3–0.

G-002/M-18-323

In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company (Xcel Gas) for Approval of a Rule Variance to Include the 2018 State of Kansas Storage Tax in the Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA)

Commissioner Sieben moved to approve a variance to the PGA rules with clarified bounds and with the same conditions established in the 2017 order:

- grant Xcel Gas a variance to Minn. R. 7825.2400, subp. 12, to allow recovery through the PGA of the 2018 Kansas ad valorem taxes related to natural gas storage for retail natural gas operations, which expires upon recovery of the 2018 tax;
- direct Xcel to include the Kansas property tax as a separate line item in its monthly PGA report;

- require Xcel to list the Kansas property tax costs and revenues as separate line items in the annual automatic adjustment (AAA) report and the PGA true-up filings, including the Company's Schedule C and Schedule D;
- require Xcel to submit a report with its Annual Automatic Adjustment and PGA TrueUp report detailing the total amount paid to Kansas and collected from ratepayers during the gas year;
- require Xcel, in its next request for a variance to Minn. R. 7825.2400, subp. 12, to provide a discussion of the storage alternatives examined and its efforts to obtain the most cost-effective storage options; and
- direct the Company to work with the Department to correct the Company's AAA report Attachment G narrative and table, prospectively, and in the pending 2017 AAA docket G-999/AA-17-493.

The motion passed 3–0.

G-002/M-17-894

In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company (Xcel Energy) for Approval of Deferred Accounting for Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Cleanup Costs

Commissioner Tuma moved to deny Xcel Energy's request to allow the Company to use deferred accounting to account for the remediation costs of the MGP sites located in Fargo, ND and St. Cloud, MN.

The motion passed 2–1. Commissioner Sieben voted against the motion.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: October 24, 2018



Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary