

The Commission met on **Thursday, May 31, 2018** with Chair Lange and Commissioners Lipschultz, Schuerger, Sieben, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

E-002/PA-17-529

In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company for Approval to Sell Land and Tanks to Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend, LLC

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission:

1. Approve Xcel's compliance filing, but substitute staff's gain calculation of \$0.941 million (excluding Xcel's proposed federal and state income tax gross-up) in place of Xcel's gain calculation proposal of \$1.194 million (excluding Xcel's proposed federal and state income tax gross-up), with the \$0.253 million difference added to the customer's gain portion in the Flint Hills Transaction.

The motion passed 4-1, with Commissioner Lipschultz voting against the motion.

P-999/CI-18-223

In the Matter of the Implementation of Processes for the Minnesota Telephone Assistance Plan Consistent with Changes in the Federal Lifeline Plan

Commissioner Lange moved that the Commission:

1. Direct all companies in Minnesota that offer both the Lifeline and Telephone Assistance Programs to enroll voice customers in TAP at the same time the customer is enrolled in Lifeline. Companies do not need to use a separate application process to enroll an applicant in TAP.
2. Delegate authority to the Executive Secretary to determine the appropriate deadline or deadlines by which carriers must comply with the Commission's auto-enrollment requirement.
3. Find that the Lifeline application developed by the Universal Service Administrative Company under the authorization of the Federal Communications Commission shall be used by all companies that offer both Lifeline and TAP in Minnesota.

4. Find that for companies only required to offer TAP in Minnesota, the Commission and Department shall continue to develop an application as required by Minnesota Statutes § 237.70, subd. 7.

The motion passed 5-0.

P-999/PR-18-5

In the Matter of TAM's 2017 Annual Report

P-999/PR-18-194

In the Matter of TAMs FY 2019 Proposed Budget and Surcharge Recommendations

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission:

1. Accept TAM's 2017 Annual Report
2. Ask TED to address in next year's 2018 TAM Report the following information:
 - TED's new outreach metrics, and what is being learned from them;
 - The numbers of each type of equipment item purchased, deployed, returned, and retired during that year, and
 - Lessons learned so far from the client contact surveys and the resulting program changes.
3. Accept TAM's FY2019 proposed budget.
4. Approve the continuation of the surcharge at \$0.05.
5. Direct staff to attend one or more TAM stakeholder meetings to facilitate the flow of communication to the Commission through Commission staff.

The motion passed 5-0.

E-002/M-17-777

In the Matter of Xcel's 2017 Hosting Capacity Study

Commissioner Schuerger moved that the Commission:

1. Accept Xcel Energy's 2017 Hosting Capacity Report as in compliance with the Commission's August 1, 2017 Order and with Minn. Stat. § 216B.2425, subd. 8.
2. The 2018 Hosting Capacity Report must be detailed enough to provide developers with a reliable estimate of the available level of hosting capacity per feeder at the time of

submission of the report to the extent practicable. The information should be sufficient to provide developers with a starting point for interconnection applications.

3. The 2018 Hosting Capacity Report must be detailed enough to inform future distribution system planning efforts and upgrades necessary to facilitate the continued efficient integration of distributed generation.
4. Xcel must file a color-coded, map-based representation of the available Hosting Capacity down to the feeder level. This information should be provided to the extent it is consistent with what Xcel believes are legitimate security concerns. If security concerns arise, Xcel must explain in detail the basis for those concerns.
5. Xcel must provide the Hosting Capacity results in downloadable, MS-Excel or other spreadsheet file formats.
6. Xcel shall provide information on the accuracy of the Hosting Capacity Report information; both estimates on the accuracy of the 2018 report and an analysis of the 2017 results compared to actual hosting capacity determined through any interconnection studies or other reasonable manner.
7. Request that Xcel Energy address stakeholder recommendations made in the Company's 2018 Hosting Capacity Report filing, including:
 - a. the methodological options to both improve and measure accuracy of the hosting capacity analysis, including identification and analysis of industry best practices and an explanation of the Company's methodological choice;
 - b. consider the feasibility and practicality of including the results of both the Small Distributed methodology and the Large Centralized methodology in future hosting capacity analyses;
 - c. conducting a sensitivity analysis;
 - d. explore a range of options for better presenting the public-facing results of the HCA after consideration of, but not limited to, any security and privacy issues may be implicated in providing more detailed information and what information might be useful to developers and stakeholders;
 - e. provide an update in each report on the evolving capability of the EPRI DRIVE tool and whether it is capable of incorporating the technologies included in the broadened definition of DERs;
 - f. more detailed data on load profile assumptions used in the analysis, including peak load (kW) by substation and feeder; and
 - g. supplemental information that would result in a broader understanding of how to guide distribution upgrades for additional hosting capacity.
8. Determine the hosting capacity report identified in Minn. Stat. § 216B.2425, subd. 8, may be filed separately from the Biennial Transmission Projects Report.

9. Xcel must file a Hosting Capacity Report on an annual basis by November 1 each year.

The motion passed 5-0.

E-002/M-17-775

In the Matter of Xcel's Time of Use Rate Design Pilot Program

E-002/M-17-776

In the Matter of Xcel's 2017 Biennial Distribution Grid Modernization Report

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission:

1. Approve Xcel's proposed Residential TOU Rate Pilot along with the applicable proposed tariff and grant Xcel's request to certify the Pilot as a distribution project under Minn. Stat. § 216B.2425. Clarify that this certification does not imply either of the following: (1) any finding of prudence with respect to the recovery of costs in a petition for rider recovery under Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subd. 7b (b); or (2) certification or approval of any investments beyond those specifically associated with the Pilot.
2. Require Xcel to develop a one-page "dashboard" monthly report of statistics such as enrollment percentages and customer bill impacts, energy usage and other data sets.
3. Require Xcel to include as an attachment to its reports all marketing and educational communications that it provided to Participants before and during the pilot program.
4. Direct Xcel to report on the following metrics in mid-point and final reports:
 - a. participation metrics, including the number of customers who have opted out of the TOU rate;
 - b. customer bill impacts;
 - c. customer satisfaction indicators
 - i. quantify the relative impacts of the TOU rate on customers' bills as compared to the current residential rate;
 - ii. identify customer groups that are disproportionately impacted either positively or negatively;
 - d. total peak demand savings achieved by participating customers, and incremental load curve data at an hourly or sub-hourly level.
 - i. assess how various customer groups within the Residential class change their consumption behavior during peak times in response to the proposed rate structure
 - ii. analyze how certain household characteristics impact responsiveness to peak price signals;
 - e. track customers who self-identify as LIHEAP eligible separately from customers who are LIHEAP recipients; preserve data for analysis;

- f. customer satisfaction engagement
 - i. measure and track customers satisfaction, preferences, attitudes, acceptance, and comprehension;
 - ii. better understand drivers for active customer participation.
 - g. Energy usage changes
 - i. measure how various customer groups within the Residential class change their overall consumption patterns in response to the proposed rate structure;
 - ii. determine how consumption changes during off-peak (high renewable hours);
 - h. Post pilot takeaways
 - i. evaluate the new capabilities of advanced meter infrastructure meters;
 - ii. assess impact of the TOU rate on the Company's revenue recovery.
5. Require Xcel to work with interested parties at developing a post-pilot transition plan for TOU Pilot participants.
 6. Require Xcel to work with interested parties to develop a plan to transition the TOU pilot to a full implementation of a TOU rate for all Xcel Residential customers after the completion of the Pilot.
 7. Direct Xcel to modify the Availability provision in its Residential Time of Use Pilot Program Service tariff to reflect the exclusion of medical equipment dependent customers from the pilot.
 8. Where not otherwise specified, require Xcel to file, within 30 days of the date of this order, compliance filings and updated tariff sheets to reflect the Commission's decisions.
 9. Direct Xcel to report on the following metrics in mid-point and final reports:
In the final report, include recommendations for including net metered customers in TOU tariffs, including any necessary changes to the Company's net metering and/or cogeneration tariffs, based on engagement with and feedback from stakeholders.
 10. Require Xcel to file its proposed bill insert for approval by the Executive Secretary.

The motion passed 5–0.

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission:

1. Deny without prejudice Xcel's request to certify FLISR.
2. Authorize Xcel to file a Grid Modernization Report and certification request on November 1, 2018. The filing for any certification request must include:
 - a. details on why the project is necessary for grid modernization;

- b. how it is in the public interest;
 - c. how it is consistent with the Commission's Guiding Principles for Grid Modernization (Docket No. 15-556);
 - d. the intended objectives for the project;
 - e. a description of the available alternatives to meet the intended objectives;
 - f. a cost/benefit analysis of the project;
 - g. potential interrelation with other initiatives, projects, and Xcel' long-term grid modernization plans.
3. If Xcel is required to file an Integrated Distribution Plan (IDP) in Docket No. 18-251) by or on November 1, 2018, the Grid Modernization Report required by Minn. Stat. § 216B.2425 must be included as part of the IDP filing.

The motion passed 4-0 (Commissioner Sieben was unavailable for a vote on the motion).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: November 8, 2018



Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary