

The Commission met on **Thursday, October 25, 2018** with Chair Lange, and Commissioners Lipschultz, Sieben, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

P-421/CI-17-796

In the Matter of a Commission Inquiry into CenturyLink's Compliance with TAP Statutes and Rules

This item was pulled from the agenda.

ET-2/RP-17-286

In the Matter of Great River Energy's Submittal of its 2018-2032 Integrated Resource Plan

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission:

1. Accept GRE's resource plan;
2. Advise GRE to procure average annual energy savings of 122,228, 338 kWh;
3. Require that for all future resource plans, GRE:
 - Make clear both the transmission impacts and the broader societal impacts of any unit retirement scenarios;
 - Consider a more systematic approach to modeling and include information that makes clear the type of resource added in the scenarios;
 - Limit modeling such that the resulting expansion plans are achievable; and
 - Include some DSM cost sensitivity analysis, which includes the following:
 - Talk with the Department about the use of levelized savings of DSM before filing its next IRP;
 - Do not include electric utility infrastructure costs and impacts in its DSM scenario analysis;
 - Provide narrative summaries and cost and energy savings projections of its EUI projects;

- Include sensitivity cost analysis for each DSM scenario by varying the assumed annual cost increases; and
 - Show more clearly how different data sets relate to each other and consider using the workbook provided by the Department.
4. Evaluate the cost-effective retirement of each of its coal plants, including Coal Creek and Spiritwood using an appropriate capacity expansion model which must include Commission-approved externality costs and carbon dioxide regulatory costs in its analysis;
 5. Provide an analysis that models increased energy efficiency including costs of both supply and demand side resources;
 6. Produce a load forecast that reflects the most current trends influencing electric consumption;
 7. Require GRE to file its next resource plan no later than April 1, 2021, with the expectation that GRE will engage in full collaboration with the parties and the CEO, by more than making presentations, but also by consulting with them on what is to be analyzed and how.

The motion passed 3-1 (with Commissioner Sieben voting no).

E-002/M-18-381

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

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission:

Require Xcel Energy to file, within 10 days, a compliance filing modifying the Company's initial June 8, 2018 tariff revisions to clarify: "The total aggregate nameplate capacity per premise of all solar energy systems eligible for any Solar*Rewards incentive shall be no more than 40 kilowatts DC."

The motion passed 4-0.

E-015/GR-16-664

In the Matter of the Application by Minnesota Power for Authority to Increase Rates for Electric Service in Minnesota

Commissioner Lipschultz moved to take the following actions:

1. Require Minnesota Power to file a revised interim-rate refund plan consistent with the OAG's methodology within five calendar days of the Commission's order in this matter.
2. Direct Minnesota Power to make any necessary changes to its customer notice consistent with these revisions.
3. Accept the Department's calculation of the final Minnesota-jurisdictional revenue deficiency of \$11,977,640 and require Minnesota Power to update its schedules to reflect the use of the actual rate of return in a compliance filing.
4. Allow Minnesota Power to implement its proposed change to reduce the first 10,000 kW of billing demand from Large Power customers by \$30.
5. Take no action on Block Rates.
6. Require Minnesota Power to resubmit the CIP tracker account (including rates, revenues, expenses, and ending balance) for the entire period that interim rates are in effect within ten days after final rates become effective.
7. Determine that the financial impacts of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act current-period income taxes have been properly calculated and implemented into the final rate proposal.
8. Approve Minnesota Power's proposal to zero out the RES Rider base-rate subfactors in conjunction with the implementation of final rates.
9. Approve Minnesota Power's proposal to zero out the BEC4 Rider base-rate subfactors in conjunction with the implementation of final rates.
10. Approve Minnesota Power's proposal to zero out the existing TCR Rider base-rate subfactors and continue the rider rates as the new bill factors in conjunction with the implementation of final rates.
11. Approve Minnesota Power's compliance filing as proposed by the Company with the modifications noted above and additional modifications introduced by the Commission.
12. Delegate to the Executive Secretary the authority to approve Minnesota Power's revised customer notice.

The motion passed 4–0.

E-015/M-18-264

In the Matter of Minnesota Power’s Rider for Boswell Unit 4 Emission Reduction (BEC4 Rider) and 2018 Factor

Commissioner Tuma moved to take the following actions:

1. Approve Minnesota Power’s petition to update its BEC4 Rider Factor with the implementation of final rates in the rate case [Docket No. E-015/GR-16-664]; and
2. Require Minnesota Power to make a compliance filing with its new tariff sheet within ten days of the Commission’s final order.

The motion passed 4–0.

E-015/M-18-375

In the Matter of Minnesota Power’s Renewable Resources Rider and 2018 Renewable Rider Factors

Chair Lange moved to take the following actions:

1. Determine that the impact of ADIT proration is *de minimis* and allow Minnesota Power to implement its 2018 Renewable Resources Rider (RRR) factors concurrent with the anticipated implementation date of final rates in its rate case, Docket No. E-015/GR-16-664.
2. Require Minnesota Power to use the following 2018 RRR revenue-requirement calculations as recommended by the Department and record in the RRR tracker account:
 - a. The rate of return, capital structure, jurisdictional allocators, and class allocators approved in the March 12, 2018 Order in Docket No. E015/GR-16-664.
 - b. The tax rates as updated in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017.
3. Require Minnesota Power to file the updated rate factors in a compliance filing before implementation.
4. Require that, in all future RRR filings, Minnesota Power provide the actual production for the Bison projects over the prior year and explain any underperformance compared to the 1,888,000 MWh assumed in the eligibility filings.

The motion passed 4–0.

G-002/M-18-184

In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company for Approval of a Modification to its Natural Gas State Energy Policy (SEP) Tariff, 2018 SEP Rate Factor, and 2017 SEP Compliance filing.

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission:

1. Accept Xcel's entire petition as a compliance filing only.
2. Deny Xcel's proposed 2018 SEP rate factor, and instead require Xcel to use this docket's lower revenue requirement amount of \$1,530,774 to set a factor of \$0.001576 per therm to be effective as of the first of the month following the issuance of the Commission's order in this docket.
3. Require Xcel to make a compliance filing within 10 days of the order that includes its revised SEP rider tariff language.
4. Require future Xcel SEP rider filings to be based on a historical test period.

The motion passed 4-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: April 3, 2019



Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary