

The Commission met on **Thursday, June 24, 2021**, with Chair Sieben and Commissioners Means, Schuerger, Sullivan, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

E-111/M-21-314

In the Matter of Dakota Electric Association's Petition to Implement a Limited Arrearage Forgiveness Program.

Chair Sieben moved that the Commission:

1. Approved, with the following modifications, Dakota Electric Association's Program:
 - a. Require Dakota Electric to report the number of program participants, spending levels, and any proposed credit percentage modification, three months after program implementation.
 - b. Authorize the Executive Secretary to review, and if appropriate, approve a program modification limited to increasing the percentage credit match.
 - c. Require Dakota Electric to expand outreach efforts (e.g., follow-up emails, phone calls, member newsletter announcements) if participation in the program is insufficient.
 - d. Require the Company's proposal to strongly encourage participants to apply for LIHEAP.
 - e. Require the Company to extend the program duration until December 1, 2022, contingent upon the availability of Board-approved funds.
2. Require Dakota Electric to make a single compliance filing on June 1, 2022 that includes:
 - a. The number of customers assisted
 - b. The amount of past due bills paid by customers
 - c. The amount of arrearages forgiven
 - d. Number of enrolled program participants
 - e. Program spending to date
 - f. Average past due balance of participants

- g. Average monthly payment requested (current bill + arrearage installment payment)
- h. Average credit amount
- i. Number of participants receiving LIHEAP
- j. Number of customers remaining enrolled at 3 and 6 months
- k. Customers removed for non-payment
- l. Overall retention rate

The motion passed 5–0.

G-008/M-21-96

In the Matter of a Petition by CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas for Approval of a Variance from Minnesota Rule 7820.5300 Determination of Delinquency Related to its Automatic Bank Draft Plan for Customer-Selected Due Dates.

Chair Sieben moved that the Commission:

1. Grant CenterPoint Energy a six-year extension of its current variance to both Minnesota Rules 7820.3500, item G, and 7820.5300, subp. 2, for its AutoPay program.
2. Authorize CenterPoint Energy to discontinue annual compliance reporting for its Autopay program.

The motion passed 5-0.

E-002/AA-19-293

In the Matter of Xcel Energy’s Petition for Approval of its 2020 Annual Fuel Forecast and Monthly Fuel Cost Charges.

Commissioner Schuerger moved that the Commission:

1. Accept and approve Xcel’s 2020 Fuel Clause Adjustment Clause true-up compliance filing.
2. Authorize Xcel to recover the 2020 under-collection amount of \$3.842 million.

3. Authorize Xcel to recover the 2020 true-up amount as a one-time surcharge in September 2021.

The motion passed 5-0.

E-015/AA-19-302

In the Matter of the Petition of Minnesota Power for Approval of its 2020 Annual Forecast and Monthly Fuel Cost Charges.

Commissioner Schuerger moved that the Commission:

1. Accept and approve Minnesota Power's 2020 Annual Fuel Clause and Purchased Energy Charge Rider true-up compliance filing.
2. Authorize Minnesota Power to refund the 2020 over-collection of \$3,661,470.
3. Authorize Minnesota Power to refund the 2020 over-collection over a four-month period starting on September 1, 2021.

The motion passed 5-0.

E-017/AA-19-297

In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's Petition for Approval of the Annual True-Up for its Energy Adjustment Rider, Rate Schedule Section 13.01

Commissioner Sullivan moved that the Commission:

1. Accept and approve Otter Tail's 2020 energy adjustment rider true-up compliance filing.
2. Authorize Otter Tail to refund the 2020 over-collection of \$1,246, 144.
3. Authorize Otter Tail to refund the over-collection over a four-month period starting September 1, 2021.

The motion passed 5-0.

E-015/M-21-28

In the Matter of the Petition by Minnesota Power for Approval of its Industrial Demand Response Product C Contracts.

This item was tabled.

G-008/M-20-565

In the Matter of a Petition by CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. d/b/a/ CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas (“CenterPoint Energy” or the “Company”) for Approval to Change its Level of Demand Units.

Chair Sieben moved that the Commission:

1. Accept CenterPoint’s proposed level of demand entitlement.
2. Accept the design-day level proposed by CenterPoint.
3. Allow the Company to recover the Northern Natural Gas (NNG) Contribution in Aid of Construction (CIAC) through the PGA.
4. Disallow recovery of an amount equal to \$2,273,638 of the NNG CIAC.
5. Require CenterPoint to file requests of this nature so that the Department and other parties have sufficient time to allow for the review of the prudence of the costs prior to implementation of the proposed, new rates.

The motion passed 5–0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: November 3, 2021



Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary