

The Commission met on **Thursday, March 29, 2018**, with Chair Lange and Commissioners Lipschultz and Sieben present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

E-111/M-18-44

In the Matter of Dakota Electric Association's 2018 Annual Resource and Tax Adjustment (RTA)

Commissioner Sieben moved to approve the proposed 2018 Resource and Tax Adjustment of Dakota Electric Association.

The motion passed 3–0.

E-017/AI-17-682

In the Matter of the Petition of Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of Continuing Business with Nalco Water, an Affiliated Interest of Otter Tail Power Company

Commissioner Lipschultz moved to do the following:

1. Approve the general and continuing affiliated interest agreement between Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail) and Nalco Water as reasonable and consistent with the public interest based on the information provided through the January 18, 2018 filing of Otter Tail.
2. Direct Otter Tail, for each year that this affiliated interest arrangement continues, to make a filing by February 1 of the following year containing the following information:
 - A. A description of any changes in the affiliated interest relationship with Nalco Water;
 - B. A spreadsheet of ongoing individual component products and services purchased from Nalco Water in the prior calendar year;
 - C. A complete explanation of any increase in the overall payment amounts from the prior calendar year of more than three percent; and
 - D. Copies and summaries of all proposals to provide water treatment or other services when Nalco Water is a bidder.

The motion passed 3–0.

E-017/M-16-373

In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's Petition for Approval of the Annual Rate Update to its Environmental Upgrades Cost Recovery Rider Rate, Rate Schedule 13.08

Chair Lange moved to close the docket.

The motion passed 3–0.

E-002/M-18-27

In the Matter of Northern States Power Company, d/b/a Xcel Energy (Xcel or the Company) Request for a Variance to the Billing Error Rules

Commissioner Sieben moved to do the following:

1. Approve Xcel's request for a variance to Minnesota Rules, part 7820.3800; and
2. Approve a one-time modification to its Billing Error Tariff requirements for the purposes of providing the proposed refund to the customer.

The motion passed 3–0.

P-407, 405/CI-18-122

In the Matter of a Commission Inquiry into the Service Quality, Customer Service, and Billing Practices of Frontier Communications

Commissioner Lipschultz moved to do the following:

1. Open an investigation into the telephone service of Frontier Telecommunication (Frontier) to determine whether, and if so, to what extent, Frontier is or has been in violation of any applicable service quality or customer service requirements or standards, including but not limited to standards in statute, rules, and Frontier's Alternative Form of Regulation (AFOR) Plans.
2. Refer this case to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) to convene three to six public hearings in Frontier's service area in at least three part of the state.
3. Order Frontier to promptly mail a copy of this order to all municipalities, counties, and local governing authorities within its Minnesota service area.
4. Order Frontier to give the following notices of the public hearings:

- A. Individual written notice to each customer, which may be in the form of a bill insert, and shall be served at least ten days before the first public hearing.
 - B. Written notice to the governing bodies of all municipalities, counties, and local governing bodies in its Minnesota service area. These notices shall be mailed at least ten days before the first public hearing.
 - C. Display advertisements in legal newspapers of affected counties and other newspapers of general circulation within the Company's Minnesota service area. These advertisements shall appear at least ten days before the first day of hearings.
5. Order Frontier to submit all proposed notices required above for Commission approval prior to publication or service.
 6. Delegate to the Executive Secretary the authority to approve customer notices, bill inserts, bill format, and any other communications for the duration of this proceeding.

Chair Lange proposed to amend the motion to say "company service territory" in lieu of "areas affected."

Commissioner Lipschultz accepted the amendment.

Commissioner Lipshultz also amended the motion to do the following:

7. Grant parties 30 days to file written comments on the Department's report.
8. Ask the administrative law judge assigned by OAH to provide summary of the proceedings.

Commissioner Sieben proposed to amend the motion as follows:

2. Order Frontier to promptly mail or e-mail a copy of this order to all municipalities, counties, and local governing authorities within its Minnesota service area.
3. Order Frontier to give the following notices of the public hearings:
 - B. Written notice to the governing bodies of all municipalities, counties, and local governing bodies in its Minnesota service area. These notices shall be mailed or e-mailed at least ten days before the first public hearing.

Commissioner Lipschultz accepted the amendment.

The motion passed 3–0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: December 19, 2018

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel P. Wolf". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'D' and 'W'.

Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary