

The Commission met on **Thursday, March 28, 2019**, with Commissioners Lipschultz, Schuerger, Sieben, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

PL-9/PPL-18-752

In the Matter of the Application of Enbridge Energy for a Route Permit and Partial Exemption for the Fond du Lac Line 4 Project in Saint Louis and Carlton Counties

Commissioner Tuma moved to take the following actions:

1. Accept Enbridge's revised application as complete.
2. Request the Office of Administrative Hearings to appoint an ALJ to facilitate public meetings on the Project and provide a summary of the comments received during the public comment period. Direct Commission staff to work with the Administrative Law Judge, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, and the staff of the Department of Commerce's Energy Environmental Review and Analysis unit (EERA) in selecting suitable locations for the public meetings. The meetings may be in only Carlton County to solicit comments on whether or not to grant the partial exemption request. There must be two (2) meetings at differing times that would encourage broader participation. The meetings may be at the same location.
3. Delegate authority to the Executive Secretary for approval of schedules for the review of the application. Direct staff to consult with the Administrative Law Judge, applicant, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, and EERA to determine the appropriate date(s) and venue(s) for the public meetings.
4. Designate Mr. Charley Bruce as the public advisor for the project.
5. Approve the estimated \$150,000 budget proposed by the EERA.
6. Pursuant to part 7829.3200 of the Minnesota Rules, the Commission grants a variance from the requirement of parts 7852.0600, subpart 4, and 7852.1300, subpart 1(B), that public meetings must be held in each of the counties of the proposed pipeline under the conditions:
 - a. The meetings may be in only Carlton County;
 - b. There must be two (2) meetings for both the 7852.0600 and 7852.1300 requirements at differing times for the purpose of encouraging broader participation yet meetings may be at the same location; and

- c. The Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa must be consulted in selecting suitable times and locations for the public meetings.

Further, the Commission grants a variance to the deadlines pursuant to Minn. R. 7852.0600, upon consent of the applicant, to extend the timeline for determination of the partial exemption request.

The motion passed 4–0.

E-015/AI-17-568

In the Matter of Minnesota Power’s Petition for Approval of the EnergyForward Resource Package

This matter came before the Commission on the Clean Energy Organizations’ and Honor the Earth’s petitions for reconsideration. The Commission took no action, allowing the petitions to be denied by operation of law.

E-002/M-18-714

In the Matter of Xcel Energy’s Tariff Revisions Updating Interconnection Standards for Distributed Generation Facilities Established Under Minn. Stat. § 216B.1611

E-002/M-13-1015

In the Matter of Xcel Energy’s Application for Approval of Solar*Rewards Tariffs

E-002/M-16-222

In the Matter of Xcel Energy’s Petition for Tariff Modifications Implementing Rules on Cogeneration and Small Power Production

E-002/M-13-867

In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company, d/b/a Xcel Energy, for Approval of Its Proposed Community Solar Garden (CSG) Program

Commissioner Schuerger moved that the Commission in Docket No. E-002/M-13-867:

1. Approve Xcel’s proposed tariff revisions filed December 14, 2018, and the following two revisions to the proposed tariffs filed by the Company on February 22, 2019, in reply comments: (1) a correction to Tariff Sheet No. 65 to account for the oversight noted by the Department, and (2) the revision to the Company’s initially proposed language on deposits in Section 9, CSG Tariff Sheet No. 66.1.
2. Take no further action concerning tariff issues raised in Docket No. E-002/M-13-867 and thereby

- a. adopt Xcel's proposal to eliminate the Independent Engineer resolution process for the CSG Program and to replace it with the Minnesota Distributed Energy Resources Interconnection Process (MN DIP) dispute-resolution process for all Xcel's interconnection applicants;
 - b. adopt Xcel's proposal to increase the current CSG Program Participation Fee from \$300 to \$500 per year;
 - c. adopt Tariff Sheet No. 77, Section 6(F), as proposed by Xcel, including the language requiring a Parent Guarantee; and
 - d. adopt the proposal by CSG Developer Group to require specific deliverable timelines that apply to the Company and adopt Section 9 CSG Tariff Sheet No. 67.3 as proposed by Xcel.
3. Require Xcel Energy to submit a compliance filing consistent with the Commission's decisions in this matter no later than ten days from the issuance of the order.

The motion passed 4–0.

Commissioner Schuerger moved that the Commission in Docket No. E-002/M-18-714:

1. Approve Xcel Energy's tariff revisions as proposed in the December 14, 2018 Initial Petition with the modifications proposed by the Company's Response to MN PUC Information Requests #1–7 and Reply Comments and subject to the following additional modifications.
2. Approve Xcel Energy's proposed addition under "Application of the MN DIP" at Section No. 9; Sheet No. 5, as modified:

APPLICATION OF THE MN DIP

- a. To the extent that an application or interconnection is subject to the MN DIP, and there is any inconsistency between the provisions interconnection requirements of this Section 9 related to Cogeneration and Small Power Production and the MN DIP as set forth in the Section 10 tariff or the MN Technical Requirements, the provisions interconnection requirements of the MN DIP and MN Technical Requirements shall control over the provisions interconnection requirements of this Section 9 tariff related to Cogeneration and Small Power Production. Notwithstanding this, for purposes of interpreting this Section 9 tariff related to Cogeneration and Small Power Production the MN DIP or MN Technical Requirements will not control over the provisions interconnection requirements of this Section 9 tariff related to

Cogeneration and Small Power Production that define the terms
“Qualifying Facility” and “Generation System”.

3. Require Xcel Energy to file a compliance filing consistent with the Commission’s decisions in this matter no later than 10 days from the issuance of the order.
4. Order Xcel to amend Section No. 9; Sheet No. 67.2 last paragraph to replace “the application being Deemed Complete” with “the date the MN DIA has been signed by both parties.”

The motion passed 4–0.

Commissioner Schuerger moved that the Commission in Docket Nos. E-002/M-13-1015 and E-002/M-16-222:

1. Approve the proposed tariff revisions shown in red-lined edits in Xcel Energy’s December 18, 2018 filing.
2. Direct that Xcel Energy may proceed with amended Solar*Rewards and Solar*Rewards Community Contracts for Those Receiving Solar*Rewards customer contracts 32 days after they are filed with the Commission if all three of the following conditions are met:
 - a. The filing amends a third generation Solar*Rewards contract or the Solar*Rewards Community Contract for Those Receiving Solar*Rewards Incentive;
 - b. The filing includes a red-lined version showing the changes to the standard contract; and
 - c. No objection or intent to object is filed within 30 days of the filing.

The motion passed 4–0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: May 29, 2019



Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary