



**Minnesota Public Utilities
Commission
Decisions
PUC Agenda Meeting**

121 7th Place East
Suite 350
Saint Paul, MN
55101-2147

Thursday, October 26, 2017

9:30 AM

Large Hearing Room

INTRODUCTION

DECISION ITEMS

1. **** PL9/CN-14-916; Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership
 PL9/PPL-15-137**
 In the Matter of the Application of Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership
 for a Certificate of Need for the Proposed Line 3 Replacement Project
 in Minnesota from the North Dakota Border to the Wisconsin Border;
 In the Matter of the Application of Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership
 for a Route Permit for the Proposed Line 3 Replacement Project in
 Minnesota from the North Dakota Border to the Wisconsin Border.
 - Whether the data identified in the Administrative Law Judge’s
 September 22, 2017 Order Certifying Data Determination and
 Staying Release of Data is public under the Minnesota Government
 Data Practices Act. (PUC: **Ek**)

**Found that data in question is public and required the parties to
refile the applicable report and other redacted documents within 10
days after the Commission issues a notice designating the data as
public.**

2. *** E002/M-13-867; Rate-Regulated Energy Utilities
 E,G999/CI-12-1344**
 In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company, dba
 Xcel Energy, for Approval of its Proposed Community Solar Garden
 Program;
 In the Matter of a Commission Inquiry into the Privacy Policies of
 Rate-Regulated Energy Utilities.
 1. Should the Commission approve Xcel’s proposed modification to
 its Solar*Rewards Community tariff?
 2. Should the Commission allow Xcel to accept the current Subscriber
 Agency Agreement and Consent Form (SAA) for an additional 24
 months? (PUC: **O’Grady**)

Tariff change approved.

3. * **P415/AM-17-65** **Melrose Telephone Company**
In the Matter of a Request to Compel Melrose Telephone Company to Reissue Customer Notice.

Should the Commission require Melrose to reissue a notice of rate increase? (PUC: **O'Grady**)

Took no action and closed the docket.

4. * **E017/M-17-279** **Otter Tail Power Company**
In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's Petition For Approval of Merricourt Wind Project.

1. Should the Commission approve Otter Tail's investment in the Merricourt Project?
2. Should the Commission Determine that the proposed Merricourt Project qualifies as an eligible energy technology that can count towards the Minnesota Renewable Energy Statute (RES) requirements set forth in Minn. Stat. §216B.1691?
3. Should the Commission authorize future cost recovery for the Merricourt Project through Otter Tail's Renewable Rider, subject to Commission review and approval of specific costs to be presented by Otter Tail in a future petition under Minn. Stat. §216B.1645, subd. 2a.?
4. Should the Commission Grant OTP's requested variance to the filing requirements of Minn. Rules 7825.1800(B) and Minn. Rules 7825.1400 items (A)-(J)?
5. Does the proposed Merricourt Project require a certificate of need pursuant to Minn. Stat. §216B.243?
6. Should the Commission Require periodic informational reports on the Merricourt project's Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy minimization and mitigation activity undertaken as outlined by the DOC? (PUC: **Fournier**)

Project approved; rider recovery approved with limitations.

The following item will not be heard before 10:30 AM.

5. ** **G6960/M-16-214** **United Natural Gas, LLC**
In the Matter of a Petition by United Natural Gas LLC (UNG) for approval of its Request for a Small Gas Utility Franchise Exemption.

Does the Lower Sioux's status as a sovereign nation mean that UNG's provision of natural gas service to the Lower Sioux is not subject to Commission jurisdiction and regulation?

Should the Commission approve UNG's request to extend its current

Lafayette/Courtland, MN small gas utility franchise exemption from Commission regulation, to include incidental service along the GMT intrastate pipeline route approved in Docket No. 16-1026? (PUC: **Brill, Bonnett**)

Granted the exemption; found that the Lower Sioux Indian Community may regulate the Company's provision of natural gas service to tribal-owned entities; found that the Company is not prohibited from delivering gas service along the GMT pipeline; approved rate book changes; required further filings.

ADJOURNMENT

*** One star indicates agenda item is unusual but is not disputed.**

**** Two stars indicate a disputed item or significant legal or procedural issue to be resolved. (Ex Parte Rules apply)**

Please note: For the complete record, please see eDockets