

The Commission met on **Thursday, August 18, 2016**, with Vice Chair Lange, and Commissioners Lipschultz, Schuerger, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

### **ENERGY AGENDA**

#### **E-119,143/SA-16-354**

**In the Matter of the Joint Request of Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative and Lake Region Electric Cooperative for Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Service Territory**

PULLED.

#### **E-002,111/SA-16-546**

**In the Matter of the Joint Request of Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy and Dakota Electric Association for Approval of a Compensation and Orderly Transfer Agreement**

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission approve the sale of the equipment from its Coon Rapids Peaking Plant and require CenterPoint Energy to file its accounting entries for the equipment, including the entries relating to deferred income tax on the Equipment, within 60 days of the close of the transaction.

The motion passed, 4-0.

#### **IP-6914/WS-13-843**

**In the Matter of the Application of Odell Wind Farm, LLC for a Large Wind Energy Conversion Site Permit for the up to 200 MW Odell Wind Farm in Cottonwood, Jackson, Martin, and Watonwan Counties**

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission approve the proposed Post-Construction Noise Measurement Study Protocol pursuant to section 6.6 of the site permit.

The motion passed, 4-0.

**E-015/D-15-711**

**In the Matter of Minnesota Power's 2015 Remaining Life Depreciation Petition**

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission approve the following actions:

1. Approve Minnesota Power's proposed remaining lives, except for the lives proposed for Taconite Harbor Energy Center and Sappi/Cloquet Generator No. 5;
2. Allow Minnesota Power to depreciate the Laskin Energy Center through the end of 2030, a life extension of six years;
3. Allow Minnesota Power to continue to depreciate the Taconite Harbor Energy Center through the end of its current remaining life of 2026, or 12 years;
4. Shorten the period over which Minnesota Power is allowed to depreciate Sappi /Cloquet Generator No. 5 to two years;
5. Approve Minnesota Power's proposed salvage rates, except for the salvage rates proposed for Taconite Harbor Energy Center and Laskin Energy Center;
6. Approve Minnesota Power's salvage rate of negative 5.23 percent for the Taconite Harbor Energy Center, based on the 2015 Decommissioning Study;
7. Deny Minnesota Power's request to have its depreciation filing be due on the same date as its integrated resource plan in years the Company files an integrated resource plan;
8. Require Minnesota Power to include in future depreciation filings a comparison of the remaining lives used in its depreciation filing to the Company's most recent integrated resource plan and explain any differences;
9. Require Minnesota Power to include in the next depreciation filing an analysis comparing its depreciation expense using its current decommissioning probabilities to its depreciation expense using 100 percent decommissioning probabilities;
10. Require Minnesota Power to include in its next depreciation filing a schedule of its supplemental depreciation expenses recorded in the prior year as well as the supplemental depreciation expense to be recorded in the future; and
11. Require Minnesota Power to make its next depreciation filing on or before September 30, 2016 to establish depreciation parameters and rates to be effective January 1, 2016.

The motion passed, 4-0.

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission approve a salvage rate of negative 26.02 percent for Laskin Energy Center based on the estimate from the Laskin Supplemental Study.

The motion passed, 4-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: August 31, 2016**

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

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**Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary**