

The Commission met on **Thursday, October 9, 2014**, with Chair Heydinger, and Commissioners Boyd, Lange, Lipschultz, and Wergin present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGENDA

P-522,405/C-13-941

In the Matter of the Complaint by Farmers Mutual Telephone Co. Against Frontier Communications Regarding Early Termination Fees

Commissioner Wergin moved to dismiss the Complaint.

The motion passed 5-0.

ENERGY AGENDA

G-011/PA-14-437

In the Matter of the Petition of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation for Approval of Caledonia, Minnesota Property Acquisition

Commissioner Lipschultz moved to approve MERC's petition.

The motion passed 5-0.

G-011/D-14-455

In the Matter of a Request by Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation for its Annual Review of Depreciation Rates for 2014

Commissioner Wergin moved to approve MERC's proposed service lives, salvage rates, and resulting depreciation rates, effective January 1, 2014, including MERC's proposals to:

1. Establish an average service life of fifteen years and a negative one percent net salvage rate for AMR Devices, Account 381.2; and
2. Hold the depreciation rate at 8.36 percent for Transportation Equipment, Account 392.1 for 2014.

The motion passed 5-0.

E-002/M-14-761

In the Matter of Northern States Power Company's Request for an Extension until December 1, 2014 to Submit its Triennial Review of Nuclear plant Decommissioning Accrual Filing

Commissioner Lipschultz moved to approve Xcel's two month extension request.

The motion passed 5-0.

E-999/CI-04-1616

In the Matter of a Commission Investigation into a Multi-State Tracking and Trading System for Renewable Energy Credits

Commissioner Wergin moved to take the following actions:

1. Allow RECs imported from Michigan's renewable energy tracking system to be retired for compliance with the Minnesota RES, as long as:

One REC equals one megawatt hour of renewable energy; and

The renewable energy facility otherwise meets Minnesota eligibility requirements.

2. Direct utilities to disclose in their annual REC retirement reports whether they have retired any RECs imported from the Michigan Renewable Energy Certification System, flagging any biomass or hydroelectric RECs.
3. Allow the use of imported RECs for Minnesota RES compliance without a demonstration of deliverability.

The motion passed 5-0.

E-999/M-14-321

In the Matter of Utilities' Annual Reports on Progress in Achieving the Solar Energy Standard

E-999/CI-13-542

In the Matter of the Implementation of Solar Energy Standards Pursuant to the 2013 Amendments to Minnesota Statutes, Section 216B.1691

Commissioner Lipschultz moved to take the following action:

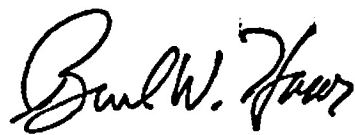
1. Accept the 2013 SES utilities' reports as complete.

2. Direct the utilities subject to the solar energy standard to submit next year's reports by June 1, 2015 and include in the reports:
 - Excluded sales only from customers that have requested and been approved by utilities for exclusion from the Solar Energy Standards requirements.
 - Additional information supporting each utility's assumed capacity factor.
 - More detailed information on each utility's ongoing efforts to obtain solar energy on their systems.
 - Information on the effective load carrying capability and MISO capacity accreditation for existing or planned solar facilities.
 - Additional discussion on any challenges utilities face in registering small solar facilities.
 - A discussion of how utilities weigh the uncertainty of the solar investment tax credit benefit to awaiting the potential for technology improvements which may reduce the costs of adding solar resources.
3. Request utilities or stakeholders to provide input on how to improve future SES annual reports.

The motion passed 5-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: November 5, 2014



Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary