

The Commission met on **Thursday, July 22, 2021**, with Chair Sieben and Commissioners Means, Schuerger, Sullivan, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

E-111/M-21-45

In the Matter of the Petition by Dakota Electric Association for Approval of Monthly Fixed Charges per Meter for the Advanced Grid Infrastructure (AGi) Rider.

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission take the following actions:

1. Approve Dakota Electric Association's 2021 AGi Rider Monthly Fixed Charge per Meter amounts for various rate classes.
2. Allow Dakota Electric to defer incorporating the credits required per Docket No. E-111/GR-19-478 until the Cooperative's next AGi Rider filing in 2022 and approve the Cooperative's proposed 2021 AGi Rider charges.

The motion passed 5—0.

P-421/M-21-381

In the Matter of a Petition for a Rulemaking Regarding Minnesota Rules Chapter 7810.

Commissioner Schuerger moved that the Commission deny CenturyLink's petition.

The motion passed 5—0.

IP-6646/WS-09-584

In the Matter of the Site Permit Amendment Application for Proposed Upgrades to Xcel Energy's Nobles Wind Farm in Nobles County, Minnesota.

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission take the following actions:

1. Grant the amendments to the LWECS Site Permit including language proposed by Commission and DOC EERA staff:

- a. Conditional granting of Wind Access Buffer waivers with an update to be filed 14 days before the preconstruction meeting.
 - b. Commission staff's updated Wind Access Buffer waiver language.
 - c. Proposed deletion of the Microwave Beam Interference language.
 - d. Proposed USFWS language regarding Topeka Shiners.
2. Modify permit section 5.6.2, first sentence of the second paragraph, as follows:

The Permittee shall demonstrate that it has obtained all necessary permits, authorizations, and approvals by filing an affidavit stating as such, prior to commencing project construction for that portion of the project.

3. Direct staff, in consultation with DOC EERA, to modify section 7.2 of the permit regarding shadow flicker to require the permittee to develop, in a timely manner, a project-wide Shadow Flicker Management Plan that reduces shadow flicker exposure to less than 30 hours per year in this permit for all occupied residences, but the permittee may, as an alternative to this 30 hour requirement, file in a timely manner proof of specific alternative flicker mitigation agreements or waivers for impacted individual residences.
4. Require a compliance filing at least 14 days before the pre-construction meeting outlining the method for disposal or reuse of the existing turbine blades and other components, providing the estimated cost, options considered, evaluation conducted, option selected or rejected, and the timing for disposal or reuse. Additionally, require an update to the disposal compliance filing after repowering has been completed describing actual costs, timing, and methods for disposal or reuse.
5. Authorize staff to make further administrative permit modifications as necessary to ensure consistency with the record and recently issued permits.

The motion passed 5—0.

IP-6997/CN-18-699; IP-6997/WS-18-700; IP-6997/TL-18-701

In the Matter of the Applications of Plum Creek Wind Farm, LLC for a Certificate of Need, Site Permit, and Route Permit for an up to 414 MW Large Wind Energy Conversion System and 345 kV Transmission Line in Cottonwood, Murray, and Redwood Counties, Minnesota.

This item was tabled.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: October 13, 2021

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Will Seuffert", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary