

The Commission met on **Thursday, February 18, 2021**, with Chair Sieben and Commissioners Means, Schuerger, Sullivan, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

**IP-7042/PPL-20-872**

**In the Matter of the Application of Petroleum Fuels Company for a Gas Pipeline Routing Permit for the Pine Bend Pipeline Project in Dakota County**

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission do the following:

1. Accept Petroleum Fuels Company's application as complete.
2. Delegate authority to the Executive Secretary for approval of schedules for the review of the application. Direct staff to consult with the applicant and the Minnesota Department of Commerce's Energy Environmental Review and Analysis unit (EERA) to determine the appropriate date and venue for the public meeting.
3. Designate Michael Kaluzniak as the public advisor for the project.
4. Approve the estimated \$30,000 budget proposed by the EERA.

The motion passed 5–0.

**P-405,407,5361/PA-20-504**

**In the Matter of the Joint Application of Frontier Communications Corporation, Frontier Subsidiary Telco, LLC, Citizens Newtel, LLC, Frontier Communications of Minnesota, Inc., Citizens Telecommunications Company of Minnesota, LLC, and Frontier Communications of America, Inc. for Approval of a Transfer of Control due to a Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization of Frontier Communications Corporation and its Subsidiaries**

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission deny reconsideration of its December 7, 2020 order.

The motion passed 5–0.

**E,G-002/S-20-768**

**In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company for Approval of Capital Structure for Issuance of Long-Term and Short-Term Securities for 2021**

Commissioner Means moved that the Commission approve the petition of Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy (Xcel) to be effective until the Commission issues a 2022 capital structure order, including the following elements:

1. A range of equity ratio from 47.16% to 57.64% (i.e., 52.4% +/- 5.24%).
2. A short-term debt limit of 15% of total capitalization.
3. A maximum capitalization for Xcel of \$13.947 billion in 2021, including a base capitalization of \$13.301 plus a contingency of \$646 million, or 4.86%.
4. Continuation of the variance to Minnesota Rule 7825.1000, subpart 6, to allow Xcel to treat borrowing under multi-year credit agreements as short-term debt for approved capital structure purposes.
5. Use of risk management instruments that qualify for hedge accounting treatment.
6. Authorization to issue securities provided that Xcel does not exceed the limits of the approved equity ratio, maximum short-term debt ratio, or maximum capitalization for more than 60 days without Commission authorization.

The motion passed 5–0.

**G-999/CI-18-41**

**In the Matter of a Commission Investigation into Natural Gas Utilities' Practices, Tariffs and Assignment of Cost Responsibility for Installation of Excess Flow Valves and Other Similar Gas Safety Equipment**

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission do the following:

1. Approve the March 30, 2020 compliance report of Xcel.
2. Approve the March 31, 2020 compliance report of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation.
3. Approve the March 31, 2020 compliance report of CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas as completed by its August 3, 2020 reply comments.

4. Approve the March 31, 2020 compliance report of Great Plains Natural Gas as completed by its July 27, 2020 reply comments.
5. Approve the March 31, 2020 compliance report of Greater Minnesota Gas as completed by its July 27, 2020 reply comments.
6. Authorize utilities to submit the remaining reports required by this docket with their annual Gas Service Quality Reports starting this year, rather than by March 31.

The motion passed 5–0.

**E-002/C-20-892**

**In the Matter of a Formal Complaint and Petition for Expedited Relief by Sunrise Energy Ventures LLC Against Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy**

This item was withdrawn from the Commission’s agenda.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: February 2, 2022**



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**Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary**