

## NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD ON COMPLETENESS AND PROCEDURES

Issued: November 5, 2019

### In the Matter of the Application of Minnesota Power for Authority to Increase Rates for Electric Utility Service in Minnesota

**PUC Docket Number(s):** E-015/GR-19-442

**Comment Period:** Initial comment period closes November 12, 2019<sup>1</sup> at 4:30pm  
Reply comment period closes November 18, 2019 at 4:30pm

*Comments received after the close of the comment period may or may not be considered by the Commission.*

#### Topic(s) Open for Comment:

- Whether Minnesota Power's application complies with the filing requirements of Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, Minn. Rules, parts 7825.3100 to 7825.4400, and relevant Commission Orders, and
- Whether this matter should be sent to the Minnesota Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) for a contested case hearing and if so, what should be the scope of the hearing?

**Background:** On November 1, 2019, Minnesota Power (MP) filed a request to increase rates for electric service in Minnesota with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission). In its filing, MP seeks authority to increase rates, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subd. 1, for a total increase of approximately \$65.9 million, or 10.59 percent, effective January 1, 2020 without suspension. If the Commission suspends the proposed rate increase under Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subd. 2, MP requests, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subd. 3, an interim rate increase of approximately \$47.9 million, or 7.70 percent, effective January 1, 2020. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subd. 3, the Commission sets interim rates on an "ex-parte" basis.

**Filing Requirements:** Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are **required** to file documents using the Commission's electronic filing system (eFiling). All parties, participants and interested persons are encouraged to use eFiling: [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc), select *eFiling*, and follow the prompts.

---

<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to Minn. Rules, part 7829.2400, subpart 4.

**Submit Public Comments:** Visit [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc), select the Comment button on the main menu to connect to the Public Comment page.

**Full Case Record:** See all documents filed in this docket via the Commission's website at [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc), select *Search eDockets*, enter the year (19) and the docket number (442), select *Search*.

**Subscribe** to receive email notification when new documents are filed in this docket at [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc), select *Subscribe*, or click [HERE](#) and follow the prompts.

**Intervention:** Pursuant to Minn. Rules, part 7829.2400, subpart 6, "the Commission shall entertain a petition to intervene until the matter is referred to the Office of Administrative Hearings for a contested case proceeding ..." Interventions in proceedings before the Commission are covered by the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, Minn. Rules, part 7829.0800. Under subpart 5 of this rule, ("if there is no objection to intervention and a petition to intervene is not denied or suspended within 15 days of filing, the petition to intervene must be considered granted, unless the matter is referred to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) for contested case proceedings before the expiration of the 15-day period.") After the case is referred to the OAH, intervention requests are covered by the OAH procedures, pursuant to Minn. Rules, part 1400.6200.

**Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure?** Contact Commission staff, Eric Bartusch, at [eric.bartusch@state.mn.us](mailto:eric.bartusch@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2259.

**Change your mailing preferences:** Email [docketing.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:docketing.puc@state.mn.us) or call Leesa Norton at 651-201-2246.

To request this document in another format such as large print or audio, call 651.296.0406 (voice). Consumers with a hearing or speech impairment may call using their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service or email [consumer.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:consumer.puc@state.mn.us) for assistance.