

The Commission met on **Thursday, October 15, 2015**, with Chair Heydinger and Commissioners Lipschultz, Tuma, and Wergin present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGENDA

P-6370/M-15-761

In the Matter of the Request of Preferred Long Distance Inc. to Add Telplex Communications and Telplex to its Certificate of Authority, as Assumed Names

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission take the following actions:

- 1) Approve the proposal by Preferred Long Distance, Inc. to add Telplex Communications and Telplex as assumed names to its certificate of authority; and
- 2) Take no action regarding the proposal to offer nomadic Voice over Internet Protocol service using the assumed names of Ringplanet Communications and Ringplanet.

The motion passed 4–0.

ENERGY AGENDA

G-011/M-15-776

In the Matter of the Petition of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation for Approval of a Tariff Revision and a New Area Surcharge for the Ely Lake Project Petition to Modify Previously Approved New Area Surcharge

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission:

- 1) Approve MERC's modified petition's Ely Lakes NAS factors and MERC's related tariff language proposal made in this petition;
- 2) Require MERC to disclose to potential customers at least the following information:
 - A. The monthly surcharge rate;
 - B. The fact that the surcharge is in addition to the regular monthly bill for gas service;
 - C. A pro forma gas bill for the month of January, based on average customer use for that month in the Ely Lakes area, showing the surcharge as a separate line item on the pro forma bill;
 - D. The annual cost of the surcharge;
 - E. A statement that the surcharge is expected to continue for 20 years; and
 - F. The total cost of the surcharge for the 20-year period.

- 3) Require MERC to submit a compliance filing within 20 days of the Commission's order that includes the revised NAS tariff and customer communications materials.

The motion passed 4–0.

G-002/M-14-654

In the Matter of a Petition by Northern States Power Company (Xcel) for Approval of Changes in Contract Demand Entitlements for the 2014-2015 Heating Season Supply Plan effective November 1, 2014

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission:

- 1) Approve Xcel's proposed level of demand entitlements as amended by its October 31, 2014 Supplemental filing;
- 2) Allow Xcel to recover associated demand costs through the monthly Purchased Gas Adjustment effective November 1, 2014;
- 3) Require Xcel to explain why daily interruptible data is not available for use in a design day regression analysis model in a compliance filing within 30 days of the Commission's order in this matter; and
- 4) Require Xcel to provide its storage entitlements (reservation and capacity, by contract, in future demand entitlement petitions, beginning with Xcel's 2016-2017 demand entitlement petition to be file on or around August 1, 2016

The motion passed 4–0.

E/G-002/M-15-618

In the Matter of Xcel's Request for an Extension of its Gas Capacity Utilization Accounting Treatment

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission:

- 1) Approve Xcel's Capacity Utilization Plan as a permanent program;
- 2) Accept Xcel's agreement to report the two categories of capacity sharing transactions for the Capacity Utilization Plan – those used to not curtail interruptible customers and other transactions that benefit the whole system;
- 3) Accept Xcel's agreement to continue to report on the transactions related to the Capacity Utilization Plan annually in its annual automatic adjustment (AAA) Report and include both the gas and electric transactions; and

- 4) Direct Xcel to meet with Commission staff and the Department to discuss the arrangements in effect between Xcel's business units for the use of its transportation and storage contracts and how Xcel ensures that the assignment and allocation of costs and credits reflects how each Xcel business unit is actually using the interstate pipeline transportation capacity and storage.

The motion passed 4-0.

At this time, Commissioner Lipschultz recused himself and left the meeting.

E-002/GR-13-868

In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company for Authority to Increase Rates for Electric Service in the State of Minnesota

Commissioner Wergin moved to deny the petition for reconsideration.

The motion passed 3-0.

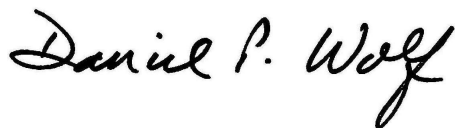
Commissioner Heydinger moved that the Commission:

- 1) Approve Xcel's September 2, 2015 Compliance Filing, excluding the proposed customer notice, with the following additional reporting requirements:
 - a. within 10 days after final rates become effective, Xcel shall resubmit the CIP tracker account (including rates, revenues, expenses, and ending balance) for the entire period that interim rates were in effect; and
 - b. within 10 days of completing the interim rate refund, Xcel shall file a compliance filing report that shows the actual refunds and interest paid by class including the calculations.
- 2) Conditionally approve Xcel's plan for notifying customers about final rates and the interim rate refund, subject to review and final approval by the Executive Secretary.

The motion passed 3-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: November 11, 2015



Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary