



Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

Decisions

Thursday, May 6, 2021

9:15 AM

Online via Webex

INTRODUCTION

DECISION ITEMS

1. * P999/CI-21-86;
P6888/M-21-52; Arrowhead Electric Coop;
P423/AM-21-56; Paul Bunyan Rural Tel Coop;
P432/M-21-57; Wikstrom Telephone Company;
P406/AM-21-62; Consolidated Telephone Company;
P6996/M-21-67; Roseau Electric Cooperative;
P527/M-21-73; Gardonville Coop Tel Assn;
P522/AM-21-77; Farmers Mutual Tel Co;
P523/AM-21-81; Federated Telephone;
P530/M-21-83; Halstad Telephone Co;
P409/AM-21-84; Garden Valley Tel Co;
P571/AM-21-92; Winnebago Cooperative;
P6186/SA-21-124; Midcontinent Communications;
P558/M-21-132; Red River Telephone Association;
P5096/M-21-158; CenturyLink Communications;
P515/AM-21-180; Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.;
P6158/M-21-248 Windstream Communications, LLC
- In the Matter of a Notice to Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) Grant Winners and Petitions for Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) Designation in Minnesota.

Should the Commission approve each carrier's Request for ETC status for high cost support in the Census Blocks listed in each specific docket? (PUC: **Fournier**)

Attachments: [Briefing Papers](#)
[Attachment - Applicant Responses](#)

Approved ETC petitions; staff to issue notice for comment on ETC oversight.

2. * E002/M-20-842 Northern States Power Company, d/b/a Xcel Energy
In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company for Approval of Customer Identity and Access Management Platform Terms and Conditions and Amendments to Electric and Natural Gas Utility Rate Books. (PUC: Martone; DOC: Davis)

Attachments: [DOC Comments 2-2-21](#)

Approved terms of use and future modification procedure.

**3. ** E015/M-20-828; Minnesota Power
E,G999/CI-20-492**

In the Matter of Minnesota Power's Petition for the Approval of the Acquisition of Solar Power to Support Economic Relief and Recovery;
In the Matter of An Inquiry into Utility Investments that May Assist in Minnesota's Economic Recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic.

1. Should the Commission approve Minnesota Power's request to execute three affiliated interest agreements between the Company and ALLETE Enterprises, Inc. related to the Laskin, Sylvan, and Duluth Solar? Should the Commission approve the land leases of Minnesota Power property near the Sylvan hydroelectric station and at Laskin Energy Center?
2. Should the Commission find that the solar projects are in the public interest and approve the projects as a reasonable and prudent way for the Company to continue to work towards meeting its obligations under Minn. Stat. § 216B.1691?
3. Should the Commission waive Minnesota Power's requirement to use competitive bidding for solar acquisition? If not, should the Commission require Minnesota Power to issue a new solar RFP?
4. Should the Commission authorize Minnesota Power to recover the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) and land lease costs through Commission-approved methods for solar resources? (PUC: **Stalpes**)

Attachments: [Briefing Papers](#)
 [Additional Decision Options](#)

Approved petition and set additional requirements.

4. ** G6278,6279,6280/ Gorham's Inc.;
CI-18-770 Northwest Natural Gas, LLC;
Northwest Natural Gas of Murray County, Inc.;
Northwest Natural Gas of Cass County (Northwest)

In the Matter of an Inquiry into Exemptions for Small Gas Utility Franchises Under Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, Subd. 12, for Gorham's Inc., Northwest Natural Gas, LLC, Northwest Natural Gas of Murray County, Inc., and Northwest Natural Gas of Cass County LLC.

1. Should the Commission accept Northwest's filing as in compliance with the November 20, 2019 Order?
2. Should the Commission determine that one or more of Northwest's entities are eligible for small gas utility exemptions per Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, Subd. 12? (PUC: **McShane, Bonnett**)

Attachments: [Briefing Papers](#)
[Alternative Decision Options-Commissioner Tuma](#)

Accepted filing; found entities are a single utility but below customer threshold; set additional requirements.

5. PULLED

**** G008/M-20-565 ~~CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. d/b/a~~
~~CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas~~**

In the Matter of a Petition by CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. d/b/a/ CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas (“CenterPoint Energy” or the “Company”) for Approval to Change its Level of Demand Units..

Should the Commission approve CenterPoint Energy’s request to change its level of demand units, increase its per-unit demand costs as of July 1, 2020, and recover its Northern Natural Gas (“Northern” or “NNG”) Contribution-in-Aid-of-Construction (“CIAC”) for additional capacity to be built for a November 2021 in-service date? (PUC: **Worlobah, Bender**)

6. PULLED

**** E999/M-17-123 ~~All Electric~~**

In the Matter of the Department of Commerce Workgroup on Wind and Solar Facilities.

How should the Commission proceed in the matter of decommissioning plans? (PUC: **Bruce**)

ADJOURNMENT

*** One star indicates agenda item is unusual but is not disputed.**
**** Two stars indicate a disputed item or significant legal or procedural issue to be resolved. (Ex Parte Rules apply)**
Please note: For the complete record, please see eDockets