



# Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

## Decisions

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Thursday, July 30, 2020

9:15 AM

Online via Webex

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### INTRODUCTION

### DECISION ITEMS

1. \* **G004/M-20-422**                      **Great Plains Natural Gas Co. (Great Plains)**  
In the Matter of the Petition by Great Plains Natural Gas Co., a Division of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., for Approval of a Gas Utility Infrastructure Cost Adjustment True-up Report for 2019 and Adjustment Factors.

Should the Commission accept Great Plains Annual Report for the true-up of the 2019 revenue requirement and approve its Petition for approval of recovery of the 2019 Gas Utility Infrastructure Costs (GUIC)? (PUC: **Worlobah, Bender**)

**Attachments:**     [Briefing Papers](#)

**Approved 2019 GUIC true-up, revenue requirement, and rider adjustment rates; required compliance filing.**

2. \* **G002/M-20-282**                      **Northern States Power Company, d/b/a Xcel Energy**  
In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy (Xcel), for Approval of an Extension of a Rule Variance to Use a Monthly Demand Cost True-up Mechanism. (PUC: Ubani; DOC: Beckett)

**Attachments:**     [DOC Comments 4-14-20](#)

**Approved variance extension.**

3. \* **G-002/M-19-498**                      **Northern States Power Company, d/b/a Xcel Energy**  
In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company for Approval of Changes in Contract Demand Entitlements.

Should the Commission accept Xcel Energy's proposed demand entitlement levels and cost changes and approve Xcel request to implement through Purchased Gas Adjustment, changes in its interstate pipeline transportation, storage entitlements and other demand-related contracts for 2019-2020 heating season? (PUC: **Ubani**)

**Attachments:**     [Briefing Papers](#)

**Approved proposed demand entitlements, allowed recovery of**

**associated costs.**

4. \* **E015/AA-20-463; Minnesota Power;**  
**E999/CI-03-802 All Commission-Regulated Electric Utilities**  
In the Matter of Minnesota Power's Petition for Approval of the Annual Forecasted Fuel and Purchased Energy;  
In the Matter of an Investigation into the Appropriateness of Electric Energy Cost Adjustments.
1. Should the Commission approve Minnesota Power's request for an extension of time to file its reply comments in its 2021 FCA forecast petition?
  2. Should the Commission delegate to the Commission's Executive Secretary the ability to vary the timelines set forth in the Commission's June 12, 2019 Order in the FCA reform proceeding? (PUC: **Bonnett, Alonso, Bender**)

**Attachments:** [Briefing Papers](#)

**Approved extension request.**

5. \*\* **E017/D-19-547 Otter Tail Power Company**  
In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's Petition for Approval of its 2019 Annual Review of Depreciation Certification.
1. Should the Commission approve the proposed depreciation parameters and the resulting rates for Otter Tail Power Company's annual depreciation update?
  2. Should the proposed remaining lives of Hoot Lake Production Plant Units 2 & 3 and Hydraulic Production Plant be reduced by one year to better match depreciation accruals to plant retirement? (PUC: **Hetherington**)

**Attachments:** [Briefing Papers](#)

**Required remaining life values to be reduced by one year, allowed unrecovered depreciation to be treated as a regulatory asset for possible recovery in general rate case, required compliance filings.**

6. \*\* **E002/M-19-568 Northern States Power Company, d/b/a Xcel Energy**  
In the Matter of Xcel Energy's Petition for Approval of a Solar Energy Purchase with Elk Creek Solar, LLC for 80 MW of Solar Generation.
1. Should the Commission approve Xcel's Petition for Approval of the Elk Creek Solar PPA?
  2. Should the Commission require Xcel to use a formal, competitive bidding resource acquisition process for Renewable\*Connect resources?
  3. Does the PPA's Fourth Amendment, filed on June 19, 2020, sufficiently address the Commission's, Department's, and labor unions' feedback on the Seller's commitment to use union labor? (PUC: **Stalpes**)

**Attachments:**    [Briefing Papers](#)  
[Amended Decision Option 5](#)

**Approved PPA for Renewable\*Connect. Instructions provided for future resource acquisitions.**

7.    **\*\* E015/RP-15-690;                    Minnesota Power**  
      **E015/M-17-568;**  
      **E015/GR-16-664**

In the Matter of Minnesota Power's 2015 Integrated Resource Plan;  
In the Matter of Minnesota Power's Petition for Approval of the EnergyForward Resource Package;  
Minnesota Power's 2016 Rate Case.

1. Should the Commission approve MP's request for a six month extension for submitting its next Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), Baseload Retirement Study, and Securitization Plan, from October 1, 2020 to April 1, 2021?
2. Should the Commission require MP to address any additional items in the December 1, 2020 interim update or in advance of its next IRP? (PUC: **Stalpes**)

**Attachments:**    [Briefing Papers](#)

**Authorized 4-month IRP extension. Required report.**

#### **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**