

The Commission met on **Thursday, October 15, 2020** with Chair Sieben and Commissioners Means, Schuerger, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

**E-015/GR-19-442**

**In the Matter of the Application by Minnesota Power for Authority to Increase Rates for Electric Service in Minnesota**

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission grant the Citizen Utility Board's request for intervenor compensation in the amount of \$37,821.

The motion passed 4—0.

**E-015/GR-16-664**

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

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission take the following actions:

1. Accepted Minnesota Power's annual incentive compensation compliance report for the year 2019 as compliant with the Commission's order;
2. Required a refund date of April 1, 2021; and
3. Required that a compliance report on the actual customer refund be filed within 30 days of completing the refund process.

The motion passed 4—0.

**E,G-002/M-20-516**

**In the Matter of Northern States Power Company's Report on the Operation and Performance of Its 2019 Incentive Compensation Plan**

**E-002/GR-92-1185**

**In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company's Gas Utility for Authority to Change Its Schedule of Gas Rates for Retail Customers Within the State of Minnesota**

**G-002/GR-92-1186**

**In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company's Gas Utility for Authority to Change Its Schedule of Gas Rates for Retail Customers Within the State of Minnesota**

Commissioner Schuerger moved that the Commission take the following actions:

1. Accept the Company's 2019 Annual Report on the Operation and Performance of its 2019 Incentive Compensation Plan as being compliant with the Commission's Order.
2. Require the Company to refund to electric ratepayers \$2,166,660, and to natural gas ratepayers \$119,509, as a result of over-recovering the amounts eligible for recovery.
3. Allow the Company to combine these refunds with other refunds, so long as customers are notified about the bases for the refunds, and so long as the refunds are provided as soon as possible.
4. Require the Company to apply interest at the prime rate to the refunds.

The motion passed 4—0.

**E-002/GR-15-826**

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

**E,G-002/M-20-516**

**In the Matter of Northern States Power Company's Report on the Operation and Performance of Its 2019 Incentive Compensation Plan;**

**E-002/GR-92-1185**

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

**G-002/GR-92-1186**

**In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company's Gas Utility for Authority to Change Its Schedule of Gas Rates for Retail Customers Within the State of Minnesota**

Chair Sieben moved that the Commission take the following actions:

1. Approve the Company's 2019 property tax refund;
2. Approve the Company's proposed plan to combine the 2019 property tax and incentive compensation refunds;
3. Require that the Company's finalized refund message included on customer bills alert ratepayers to the reasons for the refund;
4. Require the Company to implement the issuance of its 2019 combined property tax and incentive compensation refunds in the fourth quarter of 2020;
5. Require the Company to file a compliance report summarizing the results of the 2019 combined property tax and incentive compensation refunds within 30 days of completing the refund process; and
6. Require the Company to apply, on a monthly, compounding basis, a 4.31% and 3.25% annual interest rate to its 2019 property tax and incentive compensation refund, respectively, from June 1, 2020, through the month immediately preceding the billing cycle in which the Company actually issues this refund to ratepayers.

The motion passed 4—0.

**PT-6499/WS-05-1707**

**In the Matter of a Site Permit for the 205.5 Megawatt Fenton Power Partners I, LLC, Large Wind Energy Conversion System Site Permit in Murray and Nobles Counties**

Chair Sieben moved that the Commission take the following actions:

1. Grant the site permit amendments as requested by Fenton.
2. Grant the site permit amendments as proposed by EERA, excluding those amendments directly related to project construction activities as summarized in section VI of the staff briefing papers.
3. Authorize Commission staff to make further refinements to the permit conditions as necessary to ensure consistency with the record and the Commission's decision on this matter.
4. Acknowledge that the construction-related compliance filings identified in section IV.A of the amendment request (see also footnote 4 of the staff briefing papers) do not apply to the project because construction related to a retrofit of the facility will not occur.
5. Accept the operations-related compliance filings included as exhibits to Fenton's amendment request with the exception of the ABPP and Decommissioning Plan.
6. Conditionally accept the ABPP and Decommissioning Plan pending receipt of the supplemental information identified by EERA and as summarized in section VI of the staff briefing papers within 30 days of a written order.
7. Require the prompt establishment of financial surety related to facility decommissioning and incrementally step up the surety to full funding by 2027 and provide documentation demonstrating compliance.

The motion passed 4—0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: February 17, 2021**



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**Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary**