

The Commission met on **Thursday, April 19, 2018**, with Chair Lange and Commissioners Lipschultz, Schuerger, Sieben, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

E-229,017/SA-18-166

In the Matter of the Joint Request of Detroit Lakes Public Utilities and Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of a Service Territory Transfer Agreement Between the Two Utilities

Commissioner Tuma moved to approve the requested service territory transfer from Otter Tail Power to Detroit Lakes Public Utilities and to request that MnGeo update the Commission's maps to reflect the service-area designations as shown on the map in the Petition.

The motion passed 5–0.

E-002/M-17-851

In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company (Xcel) for Approval of a Master Utility Agreement with the Metropolitan Council for the Southwest Light Rail Transit Project (the Project)

Commissioner Schuerger moved to take the following actions:

1. Approve the proposed Master Utility Agreement between Xcel and the Metropolitan Council.
2. Order Xcel to submit annual progress reports with the information identified on page five of Commission staff's briefing papers, in this docket and in Docket No. 15-826, Xcel's 2015 multiyear-rate-plan docket, beginning on July 1, 2019, and continuing until completion of the Project.

The motion passed 5–0.

E-017/M-17-257

In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's Petition for Approval of an Energy-Intensive, Trade-Exposed (EITE) Customer Rate

Commissioner Lipschultz moved to take the following actions:

1. Approve Otter Tail's Cost Recovery Petition with the modifications set forth below.

2. Approve Otter Tail's EITE cost recovery tariff language as modified by Commission Staff's briefing papers.
3. Approve the calculated carrying charge as modified by Otter Tail in its Reply Comments.
4. Approve Otter Tail's proposal for the EITE customer baseline for measuring any increased revenues.
5. Deny Otter Tail's proposal to include the \$10,000 affordability-program fee for low-income customer outreach in the EITE cost tracker.
6. Approve Otter Tail's proposal to provide any refund due to increased sales to EITE customers after the full four-year term. Any refund will be with interest equal to the carrying charge.
7. Require Otter Tail to provide annual updates on the electric sales to and revenues from its EITE customers.
8. Delegate to the Executive Secretary the authority to approve customer and other notices, bill inserts, etc., related to this matter for the duration of this proceeding.
9. Require Otter Tail to submit a compliance filing within ten days of the Commission's order containing revised EITE tariff language consistent with the order.
10. Require Otter Tail to submit a filing demonstrating compliance with the requirement to deposit \$10,000 into an account devoted to funding a low-income program approved by the Commission pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.1696, subd. 3, within 15 days of making the deposit or within 10 days of the Commission issuing its order, whichever is later.

The motion passed 5–0.

E-999/CI-07-1199

In the Matter of Establishing an Estimate of the Costs of Future Carbon-Dioxide Regulation of Electricity Generation Under Minn. Stat. § 216H.06

E-999/DI-17-53

In the Matter of Establishing an Updated 2016 Estimate of the Costs of Future Carbon-Dioxide Regulation of Electricity Generation Under Minn. Stat. § 216H.06

Commissioner Schuerger moved to take the following actions:

1. Establish the range of likely costs of carbon dioxide (CO₂) regulation at \$5 to \$25 per short ton.

2. Order utilities to begin applying the above range of CO₂ values in their resource planning and resource acquisition proceedings as of 2025.
3. Order utilities to use these regulatory cost values and effective year for analyses conducted over the two-year period covering 2018 and 2019.
4. Order utilities to conduct resource-plan and resource-acquisition analyses using the high and low ends of the range of CO₂ regulatory costs established under Minn. Stat. § 216H.06 and the high and low ends of the range of CO₂ environmental externality costs established under § 216B.2422.

The motion passed 5–0.

E-111/M-17-821

In the Matter of Dakota Electric Association’s Petition to Implement Tracker Recovery for Advanced Grid Infrastructure Investments

Commissioner Schuerger moved to take the following actions:

1. Approve Dakota Electric’s petition for recovery of AGI investments, modified to recover costs on a per-meter basis.
2. Affirm that Dakota Electric is authorized to use the conservation component of the RTA to recover the load control receiver capital costs, with the conditions that the costs must satisfy the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subd. 6b (c) and (d), and be approved by the Deputy Commissioner of the Department.

The motion passed 5–0.

E-999/CI-15-556

In the Matter of a Commission Investigation on Grid Modernization

E-111/CI-18-255

In the Matter of Distribution System Planning for Dakota Electric Association

E-015/CI-18-254

In the Matter of Distribution System Planning for Minnesota Power

E-002/CI-18-251

In the Matter of Distribution System Planning for Xcel Energy

E-017/CI-18-253

In the Matter of Distribution System Planning for Otter Tail Power Company

Chair Lange moved that the Commission authorize Staff to release the draft Minnesota Integrated Distribution Planning Requirements for comments. Prior to the release, request that

Staff gather input and questions from utilities and stakeholders to enable staff to make refinements and/or clarifications as needed to the draft, so as to achieve a well understood and documented draft to which utilities can respond. Ask Staff to then issue the notice soliciting comments.

The motion passed 5–0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: June 20, 2018

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel P. Wolf". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'D' and 'W'.

Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary