

NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD

Issued: April 21, 2017

In the Matter of the Formal Complaint and Petition for Relief by Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation Against Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy for Violations of Minn. Stat. § 216B.01 and Commission Policy

PUC Docket Number: G-011, G-002/C-17-305

Comment Period: The initial comment period closes **May 4, 2017 at 4:30pm**
(The Commission requests that Northern States Power Company respond to Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation's complaint during the initial comment period.)

The reply comment period closes **May 15, 2017 at 4:30pm**
(All interested parties may respond during this period.)

Topic(s) Open for Comment:

- Does the Commission have jurisdiction over the subject matter of this complaint?
- Is it in the public interest for the Commission to investigate these allegations? and
- If the Commission chooses to investigate the complaint, what procedures should be used to do so?
- Any other issues relevant to the questions above.

Docket Background: On April 19, 2017, Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation (MERC) submitted its Formal Complaint and Request for Expedited Action (Complaint) against Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy (Xcel). The Complaint states that Xcel intends to construct facilities to provide natural gas services to the new Minnesota Vikings Headquarters and Practice Facilities located in Eagan, MN. MERC requested the Commission to: 1) hold a hearing as required under Minn. Stat. § 216B.17; 2) issue an order declaring that Xcel is in violation of Minn. Stat. § 216B.01 and Commission policy regarding having more than one natural gas utility serving a given service area; 3) state in its Order that MERC has the exclusive right to provide natural gas service to the new Minnesota Vikings Headquarters and Practice Facilities; and 4) provide any additional relief that the Commission believes to be just and reasonable.

Minn. Stat. § 216B.17, subd. 1, states:

Subdivision 1. Investigation. On its own motion or upon a complaint made against any public utility, by the governing body of any political subdivision, by another public utility, by the department, or by any 50 consumers of the particular utility that any of the rates, tolls, tariffs, charges, or schedules or any joint rate or any regulation, measurement, practice, act, or omission affecting or relating to the production, transmission, delivery, or furnishing of natural gas or electricity or any service in connection therewith is any respect unreasonable, insufficient, or unjustly discriminatory, or that any service is inadequate or cannot be obtained, the commission shall proceed, with notice, to make such investigation as it may deem necessary. The commission may dismiss any complaint without hearing if in its opinion a hearing is not in the public interest.

Filing Requirements: Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are **required** to file documents using the Commission's electronic filing system (eFiling). All parties, participants and interested persons are encouraged to use eFiling: mn.gov/puc, select *eFiling*, and follow the prompts.

Submit Public Comments: Visit mn.gov/puc, select *Speak Up!* find this docket, and add your comments to the discussion.

- *If you wish to include an exhibit, map or other attachment, please send your comments via U.S. Mail.*

Send U.S. Mail to Public Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul MN 55101. Please include the Commission's docket number in all communications.

Full Case Record: See all documents filed in this docket via the Commission's website - mn.gov/puc, select *Search eDockets*, enter the year (17) and the docket number (305), select *Search*.

Subscribe to receive email notification when new documents are filed in this docket at mn.gov/puc, select *Subscribe*, and follow the prompts.

Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure? Contact Commission staff, Bob Brill, at bob.brill@state.mn.us or 651-201-2242; or Jason Bonnett at jason.bonnett@state.mn.us or 651-201-2235.

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