

The Commission met on **Thursday, January 11, 2018** with Chair Lange and Commissioners Lipschultz, Schuerger, Sieben, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

E-017/M-17-257

In the Matter of the Petition by Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of an Energy-Intensive, Trade-Exposed Customer Rate

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission approve the November 27, 2017 compliance filing of Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail) on the condition that Otter Tail re-files its compliance filing after removing all language from the filing and proposed tariff indicating how the surcharge will be calculated.

The motion passed 5-0.

E-015/GR-16-664

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

The Commission heard oral argument on the above agenda item.

IP-6985/WS-17-700

In the Matter of the Application of Blazing Star Wind Farm 2, LLC for a Site Permit for the up to 200 MW Blazing Star 2 Wind Project in Lincoln County, Minnesota

Commissioner Schuerger moved that the Commission:

1. Accept the Application as substantially complete.
2. Delegate administrative authority in this proceeding, including timing issues, to the Executive Secretary.
3. Designate Charley Bruce as the Public Advisor to facilitate citizen participation in the review process. His phone number is 651.201.2251 and his email is publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us.
4. Request that EERA continue to study the issues and indicate during the hearing process, through testimony or comments, its position on the reasonableness of granting a site permit.

5. Direct the Applicant to comply with all requirements set forth below:
 - a. The Applicant shall facilitate in every reasonable way the continued examination of the issues requested by EERA and Commission staff.
 - b. The Applicant shall place a print or electric copy of the Application in the government center or public library located closest to the Project site.
 - c. The Applicant shall work with Commission staff to arrange for publication of the notice of hearing in newspapers of general circulation at least ten days prior to the hearing, that such notice be in the form of visible display ads, and that proof of publication be obtained from the newspapers selected.
 - d. All noticing requirements in these matters provided for under Minn. Stat. Ch. 216F and Minn. R. Ch. 7854 shall include delivery to all affected landowners. An affected landowner is any landowner or designee that is within or adjacent to the Project boundary.
6. Vary Minn. R. 7854.0600, subp. 1, and Minn. R. 7854.0800, subp. 1, to extend the timelines contained in those rules.

The motion passed 5-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: February 7, 2018



Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary