

The Commission met on **Thursday, May 30, 2019**, with Chair Sieben and Commissioners Lipschultz, Means, Schuerger, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

G-002/PA-18-294

In the Matter of Xcel Energy’s Petition for Approval to Sell Two Liquid Propane Fuel Storage Tanks, Associated Equipment, and Real Property to Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission do the following:

1. Grant the request of the Minnesota Department of Commerce (Department) for clarification and correction of the Commission’s Order Grating Variance and Approving Sale with Conditions (March 28, 2019); and
2. Delete Ordering Paragraph 4: “Xcel is authorized to record the Flint Hills sale to FERC [Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s] Account 182.3.”

The motion passed 5–0.

E-002/CI-18-251

In the Matter of Xcel Energy’s 2018 Integrated Distribution Plan

Commissioner Schuerger moved that the Commission take the following actions:

1. Accept the 2018 Integrated Distribution Plan (IDP) of Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy (Xcel).
2. Direct Xcel to file its next IDP by November 1, 2019.
3. Amend IDP Requirement 3,D,2 as follows: For each grid modernization project in its five-year Action Plan, require Xcel to provide a cost-benefit analysis based on the best information it has at the time and include a discussion of non-quantifiable benefits. Require Xcel to provide all information used to support its analysis.
4. Amend IDP requirement 3.D.2 to merge 3.D.1 into 3.D.2 as follows:

Xcel shall provide a five-year Action Plan as part of a ten-year long-term plan for distribution system developments and investments in grid modernization based on internal business plans and considering the insights gained from the DER [distributed energy resource] futures analysis, hosting capacity analysis, and non-wire

alternatives analysis. The five-year Action Plan should include a detailed discussion of the underlying assumptions (including load growth assumptions) and the costs of distribution system investments planned for the next five-years (expanding on topics and categories listed above). Xcel should include specifics of the five-year Action Plan investments. Topic that should be discussed, as appropriate, include at a minimum: [use the original topic list].

5. Require Xcel to discuss in future filings how the IDP meets the Commission's Planning Objectives, including:
 - A. An analysis of how the information presented in the IDP related to each Planning Objective,
 - B. The location in the IDP Report,
 - C. Analysis of efforts taken by the Company to improve upon the fulfillment of the Planning Objectives, and
 - D. Suggestions as to any refinements to the IDP filing requirements that would enhance Xcel's ability to meet the Planning Objectives.
6. Provide additional information on the Incremental Customer Investment Initiative and the System Expansion or Upgrade for Reliability and Power Quality increases beginning in 2021.
7. Require the Company to make the development of enhanced load and DER forecasting capabilities, as well as, tracking and updating of actual feeder daytime minimum loads, a priority in 2019 and include a detailed description of its progress in the Company's next IDP.
8. Provide all information, analysis, and assumptions used to support the cost/benefit ratio for AMI, FAN and FLISR; and IVVO and CVR cost-benefit analysis as part of its 2019 IDP filing or other future filings.
9. Order Xcel to provide t in future IDPs the results of its annual distribution investment risk-ranking and a description of the risk-ranking methodology.
10. Order Xcel to provide information on forecasted net demand, capacity, forecasted percent load, risk score, planned investment spending, and investment summary information for feeders and substation transformers that have a risk score or planned investment budget cycle.

11. Order Xcel to file any long-range distribution studies it had conducted in the past year.

The motion passed 5–0.

E-002/M-18-684

In the Matter of Xcel's 2018 Hosting Capacity Study

Commissioner Lipschultz moved to do the following:

1. Require a complete analysis of the Distributed Resource Integration and Value Estimation (DRIVE) tool developed by the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), including a comparison of other methodologies and interconnection study results on a selection of representative feeders. Require as part of this analysis that Xcel include a discussion of the tools and analyses used by other utilities in other jurisdictions—in particular, Pepco Holdings and other Exelon Corporation utilities.
2. Request Xcel and stakeholders collaborate to consider the costs and benefits associated with a hosting capacity analysis able to achieve the following use cases or objectives: 1) remaining an early indicator of possible locations for interconnection; 2) replacing or augmenting initial review screens and/or supplemental review in the interconnection process; and/or 3) automating interconnection studies.
3. Require Xcel to work with stakeholders to improve the value of Xcel’s hosting capacity analysis, including but not limited to the provision of more detailed substation, feeder, and other equipment data in the hosting capacity map.
4. Require Xcel to complete an individual analysis of Xcel’s 95 feeders that have a hosting capacity of zero and options available to increase the hosting capacity of those feeders.
5. Require feeder-specific mitigation options in addition to providing the following information in future reports:
 - A. The frequency at which the constraints to individual feeders occur throughout the distribution system; and
 - B. Whether there would be a cost-effective impact on the value of distributed energy resources (DERs) if such mitigation options were pursued (that is, do any of the mitigation options impact the value proposition of DERs and if so, what is that impact?).

6. Require Xcel to provide an update on the evolving capabilities of the EPRI DRIVE tool and whether it is capable of incorporating the technologies included in the broadened definition of DERs, including a discussion of how Xcel's hosting capacity analysis can be used to assist state energy policy goals related to beneficial electrification.
7. Require Xcel to provide updates on the appropriateness of the methodological choice of the hosting capacity analysis, a discussion of the ability of Xcel to obtain more detailed secondary voltage equipment data, and the types of DERs being interconnected in future reports.
 - A. Require Xcel to file all costs related to the hosting capacity exercise with the 2019 Report, including the time of Xcel's engineering staff and any efforts Xcel is making to reduce the costs over time.
 - B. Require Xcel to file in the 2019 Report information on the number of pre-application capacity screens conducted in the previous year, the amount collected for each, and the total amount collected to conduct the pre-application screens, in the previous year.
 - C. Require Xcel to continue to consider and address relevant requests from parties, and Commission order points made during the 2016, 2017, and 2018 HCA iteration in future filings.

Commissioner Schuerger proposed to amend the motion to do the following:

8. Accept the report as satisfying the requirements of the Commission's Order Accepting Study and Setting Further Requirements (July 18, 2018) in Docket No. E-002/M-17-777, In the Matter of Xcel's 2017 Hosting Capacity Study, but find that improved and additional information is necessary in future reports to satisfy subdivision 8 of Minnesota Statutes § 216B.2425.

Commissioner Lipschultz accepted the amendment.

Commissioner Schuerger proposed to amend the motion as follows:

9. When available, require Xcel to include peak load data by substation and feeder, including daytime minimum load, installed and queued generation capacity, in a spreadsheet format and in the public-facing hosting capacity map with appropriate disclaimers.
10. Require Xcel to make the tracking and updating of actual feeder daytime minimum load on each feeder a high priority in 2019 and include those values in the 2019 HCA.

Commissioner Lipschultz accepted the proposed amendments.

Commissioner Lipschultz amended the motion to remove Paragraph 5.

Commissioner Lipschultz amended the motion at Paragraph 4 as follows:

4. Require Xcel to complete an individual analysis of Xcel's 95 feeders that have a hosting capacity of zero and options available to increase the hosting capacity of those feeders (Fresh Energy) and provide the following information for each of the 95 feeders:
 - a. The frequency at which the constraints to individual feeders occur throughout the distribution system.
 - b. A range of potential costs for the full range of mitigation options, including DER capabilities, available for an individual feeder and a range of total costs.
 - c. How much additional hosting capacity could be obtained by implementing the identified mitigation options on a technical and economic basis (i.e. the technical potential of the mitigation options and the economic potential of the mitigation options).
 - d. Whether there would be a cost-effective impact on the value of DERs if such mitigation options were pursued (i.e. do any of the mitigation options impact the value proposition of DERs and if so, what is that impact?)

Commissioner Lipschultz amended the motion at Paragraph 9 as follows:

9. When available, require Xcel to include peak load data by substation and feeder, including daytime minimum load, installed and queued generation capacity, in a spreadsheet format, ~~and This information with appropriate disclaimers shall also be provided~~ in the public-facing hosting capacity map except to the extent that providing any such information publicly would violate a specific data privacy requirement or pose a significant security risk to Xcel's system or its customers. In the event that Xcel withholds any such information from its public-facing hosting capacity map on that basis, Xcel shall provide a full description and specific basis for withholding that information and for any Trade Secret claims with respect to the information provided to the Commission. with appropriate disclaimers. (Department with Staff clarification)

Commissioner Lipschultz amended the motion at Paragraph 10 as follows:

10. Require Xcel to make the tracking and updating of actual feeder daytime minimum load on each feeder a ~~high~~ priority in 2019 and include those values in the 2019 Hosting Capacity Analysis.

Commissioner Lipschultz amended the motion to add the following:

11. Require Xcel to provide at least one DRIVE case example, to the extent practicable, of a feeder's hosting capacity with different locations and levels of generation and load.

The amended motion passed 5–0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: September 18, 2019

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel P. Wolf". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary