

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

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

Chair Lange was not present for items 1 and 2. Commissioner Tuma sat in as Acting Chair.

IP-6986/TL-17-701

In the Matter of the Application of Blazing Star Wind Farm 2, LLC for a 115 Kv High Voltage Transmission Line in Lincoln County

The matter was heard. No action taken.

E-001, 115, 140, 105, 139, 124, 126, 145, 132, 114, 6521, 142, 135,/PA 14-322

In the Matter of a Request for the Approval of the Asset Purchase and Sale Agreement Between Interstate Power and Light Company and southern Minnesota Energy Cooperative

Commissioner Schuerger moved to take the following actions:

1. Accept SMEC's December 21, 2017 filing and its subsequent amendments as compliant with the Commission's Order;
2. Accept SMEC's Class Cost of Service Studies as compliant with the Commission's Order; and
3. Approve SMEC's proposed rate increases for Years 1 and 2.

The motion passed 3-0.

Chair Lange was present at items 3 and 4.

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 Gas Utility for Authority to Change Its Schedule of Gas Rates for Retail Customers Within the State of Minnesota;

E,G-002/M-17-429

In the Matter of Xcel Energy's Petition for Approval of Its 2016 Incentive Compensation Plan Report

Commissioner Sieben moved to take the following actions:

Determine that the proper comparison for calculating whether a refund is due is to compare the amount approved in base rates to the amount of AIP paid out that was eligible for recovery from ratepayers (i.e., excludes AIP in excess of 15 percent of an individual's base pay); and Require Xcel Electric to refund electric ratepayers the 2016 amount of \$1,278,656.

The motion passed 4–0.

E-015/M-12-233

In the Matter of Minnesota Power's (MP's) Compliance Filing for Its Temporary Rider for Residential Time-of-Day (TOD) Rate for Participants in the Smart Grid Advanced-Metering-Infrastructure Pilot Project

Commissioner Schuerger moved to take the following actions:

1. Accept MP's May 1, 2018 compliance report as complete.
2. Take no action at this time on MP's proposed options for altering the TOD rate pilot.
3. Discontinue formal evaluation of the current TOD Rate and its participants.
4. Beginning one year from the date of the Commission's order, and for a period of two years, require MP to submit annual informational filings providing a summary of the TOD pilot program, including participation rates, an update on MP's meter communications infrastructure, and MP's plans to offer a system-wide rollout of residential TOD rates.
5. Require MP to provide the following information in its February 1, 2019 compliance report:
 - a. system information about its peak demand, its peak demand consistent with MISO, and the hourly cost of meeting its peak demand;
 - b. more information about MP's meter-data-management request for proposals; and
 - c. a discussion of what goals MP believes should be addressed by the TOD rate.
6. Delay the deadline for MP to file its September 1, 2018 compliance report on alternative rate designs until February 1, 2019.

The motion passed 4–0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: October 24, 2018



Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary