

The Commission met on **Thursday, December 19, 2024** with Chair Sieben and Commissioners Ham, Sullivan, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

**E-015/M-20-607**

**In the Matter of Minnesota Power's Ongoing Compliance of its SolarSense Program with Minnesota's Solar Energy Standards**

Commissioner Ham moved that the Commission:

1. Accept the annual report.
2. Approve the extension of the SolarSense and IQ Solar Grant programs for 3 additional years.
3. Approve Minnesota Power's proposal to implement an income cap for residential customers at 150% Area Median Income to be eligible for the SolarSense rebate program.
4. Approve Minnesota Power's proposal to prioritize Disadvantaged Communities and Tribal Lands in the SolarSense program.
5. Approve Minnesota Power's proposal to establish an annual outreach and education budget of \$15,000.00 for SolarSense.

The motion passed 4-0.

**G-022/M-24-236**

**In the Matter of a Miscellaneous Tariff Change – Addition of Rate Class to Establish Renewable Natural Gas Interconnection Service**

Commissioner Ham moved that the Commission:

1. Approve the petition with the modifications identified below.
2. Require the Company to maintain and retain all data related to its "negotiated" RNG tariff and RNG Interconnection Agreement and in particular data for Articles 2.16, 2.16.1, 2.16.2, and 2.16.3 of its RNG interconnection agreement, and data that would be used in

the Class Cost of Service Study; for each customer and interconnection agreement that is signed, AND until such time as the Company's next general rate case filing.

3. Regarding its gas quality standards, require GMG to:
  - a. Ensure that any biogas interconnection or service is consistent with its obligations to provide safe and reliable service.
  - b. Maintain on GMG's website the most up-to-date biogas quality standards and testing requirements for those injecting biogas into the distribution system under GMG's RNG interconnection program.
  - c. Notify the Commission when it changes its service quality standards.
  - d. Engage with stakeholders, the Minnesota Department of Commerce, and the Minnesota Office of Pipeline Safety to listen to and consider adopting any best practices on GMG's gas quality standards for its distribution system and follow any applicable state and federal standards for gas quality on its distribution system.
4. If either the Ventura or Demarc markets do not have a reported available price, the price shall be the one that is reported.
5. Order GMG to make a compliance filing within 30 days with the following items each time it accepts another producer's renewable natural gas into its system:
  - a. The producer's feedstock or feedstocks.
  - b. The total amount of RNG expected to be provided by the producer.
  - c. The mix of end-uses of the digestate.
  - d. If known, the state(s) in which the entity or entities purchasing the RNG from the producer are located and the end-use for which the RNG is being purchased.
6. Order GMG to make an annual compliance filing on February 1 each year, with the following information:
  - a. The total number of interconnected RNG producers supplying RNG to the Company's system in the previous calendar year.
  - b. The amount of RNG volumes taken onto the Company's system each year in total and from each of those producers.

- c. The mix of feedstock used by RNG producers connected to the Company's system and volumes provided to the system broken out by primary feedstock for the previous calendar year.
  - d. The mix of end-uses of the digestate for each producer interconnected to the Company's system.
  - e. Updated information for each interconnected RNG producer using the same data points as included in the per-producer compliance filing described above.
  - f. Provide a discussion of any relevant conversations regarding best practices for renewable gas standards on the Company's system and any changes to gas standards relevant to the Company's system.
7. If any affiliates of GMG become involved in any RNG interconnection project, order the Company to make a filing in this docket that:
- a. Informs the Commission and the Department.
  - b. Explains whether any proposed interconnection project implicates Minn. Stat. § 216B.48 and Minn. R. 7825.1900–7825.2300; the relevance of the affiliated interest laws to all applicable projects; and how any transactions with its affiliates would comply; and
  - c. Requests Commission approval of transactions governed by the affiliated interest laws.
8. Require the Company to:
- a. Separately track all costs using the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) accounts, sub accounts and/or FERC account equivalents, and GMG charted accounts and/or sub-accounts from GMG's internal accounting system associated with an RNG interconnection and
  - b. Track the total RNG received by each RNG supplier.
9. If the decisions in this docket require modification to the updated Tariff, Interconnection Agreement or the Natural Gas Supply Agreement filed in GMG's December 9th letter, require GMG to file both red-lined and clean updated Tariff, Interconnection Agreement, and Natural Gas Supply Agreement within 30 days of the order. Delegate authority to the Executive Secretary to approve the compliance filing if no objections are filed within 20 days of GMG's filing.

The motion passed 4-0.

**G-002/M-24-31**

**In the Matter of Xcel Energy's 2023 Gas Service Quality Report;**

**G-008/M-24-33**

**In the Matter of CenterPoint Energy's 2023 Gas Service Quality Report;**

**G-011/M-24-34**

**In the Matter of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation's 2023 Service Quality Report;**

**G-004/M-24-32**

**In the Matter of Great Plains Natural Gas Company's 2023 Service Quality Report;**

**G-022/M-24-35**

**In the Matter of Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc's 2023 Service Quality Report**

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission:

1. Accept the Gas Utilities' 2023 gas service quality reports.
2. Require all Gas Utilities except Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc. to report the number of customers whose service was interrupted, and the average duration of interruptions, as a part of their Service Interruption reporting requirements.
3. Require CenterPoint to replace its current leak-related integrity management plan reporting requirements, required by the Commission's January 14, 2019, Order in Docket No. G-008/CI-18-517, with the leak-related reporting requirements identified by the Natural Gas Service Quality Working Group in the 22-548 docket. CenterPoint shall continue providing all other currently reported integrity management plan information in future gas service quality reports.
4. Find that Xcel has completed its excess flow valve (EFV) and manual shut-off valve outreach pursuant to the Commission's July 31, 2019, Order in Docket No. G-999/CI-18-41 and approve Xcel's request to cease reporting on EFVs, manual shut-off valves and related outreach.
5. Find that CenterPoint has completed its EFV and manual shut-off valve outreach pursuant to the Commission's July 31, 2019, Order in Docket No. G-999/CI-18-41 and approve CenterPoint's request to cease reporting on EFVs, manual shut-off valves and related outreach.
6. Find that Great Plains has completed its EFV and manual shut-off valve outreach pursuant to the Commission's July 31, 2019, Order in Docket No. G-999/CI-18-41 and approve Great Plains' request to cease reporting on EFVs, manual shut-off valves and related outreach.

7. Approve CenterPoint's request to cease reporting on Steel Service Line and Meters at 630 Cubic Feet Per Hour or Greater.

The motion passed 4-0.

**G-008/M-23-215**

**In the Matter of CenterPoint Energy's Natural Gas Innovation Plan**

Commissioner Sullivan moved that the Commission:

1. For procedural purposes only, the Commission grants reconsideration of its October 9, 2024 order in this docket for the limited purpose of tolling the 60-day time period in Minn. Stat. § 216B.27, subd. 4 to allow time for preparation of the Commission's written order on the merits.
2. Deny the Office of the Attorney General–Residential Utilities Division's petition for reconsideration of the October 9, 2024, Order.

The motion passed 3-1. Commissioner Tuma voted against the motion.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: February 5, 2025**



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**Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary**