



**Minnesota Public Utilities
Commission
Decisions
PUC Agenda Meeting**

121 7th Place East
Suite 350
Saint Paul, MN 55101-2147

Thursday, August 10, 2017

9:30 AM

Small Hearing Room

INTRODUCTION

DECISION ITEMS

1. * **ET6/TL-16-327 Minnkota Power Cooperative**
In the Matter of the Application of Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc. for a Route Permit for the MPL-Laporte 115 kV Transmission Line Project in Clearwater and Hubbard Counties, Minnesota.

Should the Commission reconsider its June 21, 2017 Order Issuing Route Permit? (PUC: **Panait**)

The Commission has the authority to accept or decline a petition for reconsideration **with or without** a hearing or oral argument (Minnesota Rules 7829.3000, Subpart 6). In other words, a decision on a petition for reconsideration can be made without taking oral comments at the Commission meeting.

Denied reconsideration.

2. * **IP6979/WS-17-265 Palmer's Creek Wind Farm, LLC**
In the Matter of the Application of Palmer's Creek Wind Farm, LLC for a Large Wind Energy Conversion System Site Permit for the 44.6 MW Palmer's Creek Wind Project in Chippewa County.

Should the Commission issue a preliminary draft site permit for the Palmer's Creek Wind Project?
Should the Commission approve or otherwise provide a variance to allow for temporary storage of turbines on site, before a final site permit is granted? (PUC: **Panait, Eknes**)

Issued draft site permit; denied petition for temporary storage.

3. ** **IP-6946/WS-17-410 Freeborn Wind Farm, LLC**
In the Matter of the Application of Freeborn Wind Farm, LLC for a Large Wind Energy Conversion System Site Permit for the 84 MW Freeborn Wind Farm in Freeborn County.

Should the Commission accept the site permit application as substantially complete?

What procedural process should the Commission authorize for evaluation of the site permit application?
Should the Commission vary the time limits of its rules that relate to application completeness and draft permit issuance? (PUC: **Kaluzniak**)

Accepted site permit as complete; referred to OAH for contested case and public hearing; designated administrative responsibilities; varied rules on extension of time for completeness and Commission decision on site permit.

The following items will not be heard before 10:15 AM

4. * **G022/M-16-920** **Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc.**
In the Matter of a Petition by Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc. for Approval to Modify Its Tariff for General Service Transportation Service.

Should the Commission approve Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc.'s proposed modification to the terms and conditions of its General Service Transportation Service tariff (PUC: **Brill, Bender Bonnett**)

Approved proposed tariff modification; required additional modifications.
5. * **G022/M-16-522** **Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc.**
In the Matter of a Petition by Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc. for Approval of Changes in Contract Demand Entitlements for the 2016-2017 Heating Season.

Should the Commission approve Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc.'s proposed demand entitlement capacity (levels) and cost changes to meet its Design Day and Reserve Margin requirements for the 2016-2017 Heating Season, effective November 1, 2016? (PUC: **Brill, Bender, Bonnett**)

Approved 2016-2017 demand entitlements.
6. **G002/M-17-258** **Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy**
In the Matter of a Petition Submitted by Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation for Approval of a Proposed 2016 Gas Demand Side Management Financial Incentive, the Conservation Cost Recovery Contained in its Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) Tracker Account for its 2016 Natural Gas CIP, and a Proposed 2017/2018 Gas CIP Adjustment Factor. (PUC: Fournier; DOC: Zajicek)

Approved financial incentive, CIP tracker, bill message, and CIP

adjustment factor.

7. **E002/M-17-259** **Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy**

In the Matter of a Petition Submitted by Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota Corporation, Requesting Approval of a Proposed 2016 Electric Demand Side Management Financial Incentive, the Conservation Cost Recovery Contained in its Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) Tracker Account for its Electric CIP; and a Proposed 2017/2018 Electric CIP Adjustment Factor. (PUC: Fournier; DOC: Zajicek)

Approved CIP tracker, bill message, financial incentive, and CIP adjustment factor.

8. **G004/M-17-338** **Great Plains Natural Gas Company**
In the Matter of Great Plains Natural Gas Company's 2016 Conservation Improvement Program Status Report and CIP Tracker and Demand Side Management Incentive. (PUC: Fournier; DOC: Winner)

Approved CIP tracker, financial incentive, CCRA, and bill message.

9. **G008/M-17-339** **CenterPoint Energy**
In the Matter of CenterPoint Energy's 2016 Conservation Improvement Program Status Report, 2016 Demand Side Management Financial Incentive, Conservation Improvement Program Tracker Report, and 2016 Conservation Cost Recovery Adjustment Aggregated Compliance Filing. (PUC: Fournier; DOC: Davis)

Approved financial incentive, CIP tracker, and CCRA.

10. **G011/M-17-340** **Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation**
In the Matter of the Petition of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation for Approval of 2016 Conservation Improvement Program Tracker Account, Demand-Side Management Financial Incentive, and Conservation Cost Recovery Adjustment Factor. (PUC: Fournier; DOC: Zajicek)

Approved financial incentive, CIP tracker, CCRA, and bill message.

11. * **G022/M-15-434** **Greater Minnesota Gas**
In the Matter of Greater Minnesota Gas' 2014 Annual Service Quality Report.

Should the Commission accept Greater Minnesota Gas' Service Quality Reports for 2014? (PUC: **Fournier**)

Accepted service-quality report.

12. * **E015/M-16-268;** **Minnesota Power**
E015/M-17-252
In the Matter of Minnesota Power's 2015/2016 Annual Safety, Reliability, Service Quality Report, and Proposed Annual Reliability Standards for 2017.
- Should the Commission accept Minnesota Power's safety, reliability, service quality reports for 2015 and 2016?
Should the Commission accept Minnesota Power's proposed annual reliability standards for 2017? (PUC: **Fournier**)
- Maintained 2016 reliability goals; established new information requirements for future service-quality reports.**
13. * **G004/M-16-357;** **Great Plains Natural Gas Company**
G004/M-17-353
In the Matter of Great Plains' 2015/2016 Annual Service Quality Report.
- Should the Commission accept Great Plains' service quality reports for 2015 and 2016? (PUC: **Fournier**)
- Accepted service-quality reports.**
14. ** **E017/M-17-246** **Otter Tail Power Company**
In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's 2016 Conservation Cost Recovery Adjustment and 2016 Electric Demand Side Management Financial Incentive.
1. Should the Commission approve the Demand Side Management (DSM) financial incentive of \$5,031,678?
 2. Should the Commission approve recoveries and expenditures in the Company's CIP tracker account during 2016 resulting in a year-end 2016 balance of \$4,835,852?
 3. Should the Commission approve a 2017/2018 Conservation Cost Recovery Adjustment (CCRA) of \$0.00774/kWh for bills rendered on and after October 1, 2017?
 4. Should the Commission approve the request for a variance to Minnesota Rule 7820.3500 to allow Otter Tail to continue to combine the Fuel Clause Adjustment (FCA) with the Conservation Improvement Adjustment on customer bills? and
 5. Should the Commission require Otter Tail to submit a compliance filing, within 10 days of the issue date of the Order in the present docket, with revised tariff sheets reflecting the Commission's determinations in this matter? (PUC: **Fournier**)
- Approved financial incentive, CIP tracker, and rule variance; approved CCRA of \$0.00536/kWh; required compliance filing.**

15. * **E002/CI-15-662** **Xcel Energy**
In the Matter of an Alternative Rate Design Stakeholder Process for Xcel Energy.
- What procedural action, if any, should the Commission take with respect to Xcel Energy's proposal to file a Residential Time of Use (TOU) rate design pilot by November 2017? (PUC: **Bahn**)
- No action.**
16. * **P6716/SA-17-407;** **Charter Fiberlink CCO, LLC;**
P5615/SA-17-408 **Charter Fiberlink CC VIII, LLC**
In the Matter of the Application of Charter Fiberlink CCO, LLC to Amend its Certificate of Authority to Expand its Service Area;
In the Matter of the Application of Charter Fiberlink CC VIII, LLC to Amend its Certificate of Authority to Expand its Service Area
- Should the Commission amend the Certificates of Authority to extend the Service Areas? (PUC: **O'Grady**)
- Request granted.**
17. **PULLED**
~~** **P405/AM-17-427**~~ **Frontier Communications of Minnesota, Inc.**
In the matter of a Filing to Institute a Charge for Paper Bills for Customers.
- Should the Commission approve the proposal of Frontier Communications of Minnesota to institute a charge for paper bills for customers of Frontier Digital Phone Bronze Service? (PUC: **McCarthy**)
- Pulled.**
18. ** **P5542,405/IC-17-507;** **Tekstar Communications, Inc. (Tekstar);**
P5542,407/IC-17-508 **Frontier Communications of Minnesota, Inc. (Frontier);**
Citizens Telecommunications Company of Minnesota, LLC (Citizens)
In the Matter of Tekstar's Petition to Seek Interconnection with Frontier Pursuant to Section 252(i) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996;
In the Matter of Tekstar's Petition to Seek Interconnection with Citizens Pursuant to Section 252(i) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.
- Should the Commission approve Tekstar's requests for

interconnection? (PUC: O'Grady)

Petitions approved.

ADJOURNMENT

* One star indicates agenda item is unusual but is not disputed.

** Two stars indicate a disputed item or significant legal or procedural issue to be resolved. (Ex Parte Rules apply)

Please note: For the complete record, please see eDockets