

The Commission met on **Friday, February 19, 2016**, with Chair Heydinger and Commissioners Lange, Lipschultz, Schuerger, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

## **ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGENDA**

### **U-999/R-13-24**

#### **In the Matter of Possible Amendments to Rules Governing Utility Proceeding, Practice, and Procedure, Minnesota Rules Chapter 7829, Excluding Part 7829.2550, Which is Subject to a Separate Pending Rulemaking**

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission:

1. Decline to adopt the ALJ's recommendation to clarify further the definition of miscellaneous filing.
2. Adopt the ALJ's recommendation to establish a 14-day response deadline in part 7829.0430.
3. Direct staff to publish the adopted rule in the State Register with changes.

The motion passed 5–0.

## **ENERGY AGENDA**

### **E, G002/CI-02-2034**

### **E,G002/M-12-383**

#### **In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company for Approval of Amendments to its Natural Gas and Electric Service Quality Tariffs, and an Investigation and Audit of the Company's Service Quality Reporting**

Commissioner Lipschultz moved to take the following actions:

1. Approve the Settlement Agreement as filed;
2. Direct Xcel Energy to apply credits for past outages to all non-Suburban Rate Authority municipalities consistently with Settlement Agreement, after providing a Commission-approved notice to affected customers;
3. Delegate authority to the Executive Secretary to approve the notice to affected customers referenced in item 2 above;
4. Direct Xcel to file a report in this docket within 6 months after customer notice issued. The report shall include:

- A) The number of outage credits issued to non-Suburban Rate Authority municipalities for outages between January 1, 2014 and the date of approval of the settlement agreement and tariff; and
  - B) The total dollar amount of the credits.
- 5. Approve the amendments to the Company's Quality of Service Plan tariff filed on November 18, 2015;
  - 6. Require Xcel to make a compliance filing within 10 days of the issuance of the order in this matter listing the effective date of the tariff and any other necessary administrative updates.

The motion passed 5-0.

**ET-2,E-015/CN-14-853**

**In the Matter of the Joint Application of Great River Energy and Minnesota Power for a Certificate of Need for the Motley Area 115 kV Transmission Line Project in Morrison, Cass, and Todd Counties**

Commissioner Tuma moved to take the following actions:

- 1. Find, for purposes of the certificate of need, that the environmental assessment and record on this project is complete and addresses the scoping decision.
- 2. Grant the Applicants a Certificate of Need for the Motley Area 115 kV Transmission Line Project.

The motion passed 5-0.

**ET-2,E-015/TL-15-204**

**In the Matter of the Joint Application of Great River Energy and Minnesota Power for a Route Permit for the Motley Area 115 kV Transmission Line Project in Morrison, Cass and Todd Counties**

Commissioner Tuma moved to take the following actions:

- 1. Approve and adopt the Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law for the Great River Energy and Minnesota Power Motley Area 115 kV Transmission Line Project.
- 2. Find that the environmental assessment and the record address the issues identified in the environmental assessment scoping decision.

3. Issue the proposed high-voltage transmission line route permit with appropriate conditions to Great River Energy and Minnesota Power, with the amendments agreed upon by the utilities and the Department and summarized by Commission staff.

The motion passed 5-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: March 23, 2016**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel P. Wolf". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'D' and 'W'.

---

**Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary**