

The Commission met on **Thursday, October 7, 2021**, with Chair Sieben and Commissioners Means, Schuerger, Sullivan, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

E-017/M-21-193

In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's Petition for Approval of a Variance to the Customer Service Rules Governing Billing Errors

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission grant the request of Otter Tail Power Company for a one-time variance to the three-year limit on customer refunds provided for in Minnesota Rules part 7820.3800 and the company's corresponding Billing Adjustments rate schedule, Section 4.09, with the following conditions:

1. The company shall make a full refund of all overcharges between October 25, 2011, and May 27, 2020.
2. The company shall pay compound interest through the date of the payment as follows:
 - A. At the rate indicated in Minnesota Rules, part 7820.3800, subp. 2, for overpayments made after March 2018; and
 - B. At the company's requested long-term interest rate determined in their most recent rate case for all over payments prior to March 2018.
3. In the letter making payment to the customer the company shall carbon copy the Minnesota Department of Commerce, the Commission's Consumer Affairs Office (CAO), and the Commission's staff. In the letter, the company shall notify customers that if they are not satisfied they may contact CAO. When filing a letter the company shall make a compliance filing detailing the calculations of the payment amount.

The motion passed 5-0.

E-999/PR-21-12

In the Matter of Commission Consideration and Determination of Compliance with Renewable Energy Standards for Year 2020

E-999/PR-02-1240

In the Matter of the Green Pricing Verification Filing Process

Commissioner Sullivan moved that the Commission do the following:

1. Find that the utilities subject to Minnesota Statute § 216B.1691 have complied with the 2020 renewable energy standard of 20 percent of annual retail sales (30 percent for Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy).
2. Find that the utilities subject to Minnesota Statute § 216B.1691, subd. 2f—Minnesota Power, Otter Tail Power Company, and Xcel Energy—have complied with the Solar Energy Standard portion of the Renewable Energy Standard for 2020.

The motion passed 5–0.

E-002/C-21-160

In the Matter of a Formal Complaint and Petition for Expedited Relief by Sunrise Energy Ventures LLC Against Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy

Commissioner Means moved that the Commission deny Sunrise Energy Venture LLC’s Petition for Reconsideration.

The motion passed 5–0.

G-008/M-20-565

In the Matter of a Petition by CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas for Approval to Change its Level of Demand Units

Chair Sieben moved that the Commission do the following:

1. Grant CenterPoint Energy’s petition for reconsideration and approve CenterPoint Energy’s alternative proposal to refund the contribution in aid of construction already collected from ratepayers and allow recovery of Northern Natural Gas Company’s costs over a 14-year period.
2. Direct CenterPoint Energy to make a compliance filing within 10 days of the order after reconsideration, demonstrating that it has properly applied the refund and properly implemented recovery of the new payment structure.

3. Direct CenterPoint Energy to file an amended purchased gas adjustment (PGA) in Docket No. G-999/AA-21-114, In the Matter of 2021 Gas Annual Automatic Adjustment Report, to provide an updated number of what will flow through the PGA during the recovery period.

The motion passed 5–0.

E-999/CI-19-704

In the Matter of an Investigation into Self-Commitment and Self-Scheduling of Large Baseload Generation Facilities

This item was removed from the Commission’s agenda.

E-002/RP-19-368

In the Matter of Xcel Energy’s 2020-2034 Integrated Resource Plan

Commissioner Schuerger moved that the Commission do the following:

1. Grant Xcel Energy’s Motion to Strike the June 25, 2021 Reply Comments filed by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) in this docket.
2. Require the OAG to refile its Reply Comments without any reference to information pertaining to direct inclusion of information that Otter Tail Power Company that has been designated as Trade Secret.

The motion passed 5–0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: February 2, 2022



Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary