



# Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

## Decisions

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Thursday, November 29, 2018

9:30 AM

Large Hearing Room

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### INTRODUCTION

### DECISION ITEMS

1. \* **IP6961/WS-16-686**                      **Blazing Star Wind Farm, LLC**  
In the Matter of the Application of Blazing Star Wind Farm, LLC for a Site Permit for the up to 200 Megawatt Blazing Star Wind Project in Lincoln County, Minnesota.

Should the Commission grant the request to transfer the site permit for the Blazing Star Wind Farm from Blazing Star Wind Farm, LLC to Northern States Power? (PUC: **Ek**)

**Granted request to transfer site permit.**

2. \* **E015/M-18-600**                      **Minnesota Power**  
In the Matter of Minnesota Power's Petition for Approval of Amendments to FPL Energy Oliver Wind I, LLC and FPL Energy Oliver Wind II, LLC Power Purchase Agreements.  
(PUC: Stalpes; DOC: Rakow)

**Approved Oliver PPA Amendments.**

3. \* **E017/RP-16-386**                      **Otter Tail Power Company**  
In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's 2017-2031 Integrated Resource Plan.

Should the Commission approve OTP's request to delay filing its next resource plan from June 3, 2019 to June 1, 2020? (PUC: **Stalpes**)

**Approved request to delay IRP filing until 5, 1, 2018.**

4. \* **E002/GR-15-826**                      **Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy**  
In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company for Authority to Increase Rates for Electric Service in the State of Minnesota.

Should the Commission approve Xcel's 2019 Final Rates Compliance Filing? (PUC: Alonso; DOC: Lusti)

**Approved.**

**5. \*\* E017/M-18-464 Otter Tail Power Company**

In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's Petition for Approval of the Annual Rate Update to its Environmental Upgrades Cost Recovery Rider Rate and Rate Schedule 13.08.

1. Should the Commission approve Otter Tail Power's annual update of its Environmental Upgrades Cost Recovery Rider rate under its Rate Schedule 13.08, changing the rate from -0.935 percent of a customer's bill to zero percent effective December 1, 2018?
2. Should the Commission allow Otter Tail Power to refund (or recover) any over (or under) collected balance in the ECRR tracker account at that time and, if so, by what means? (PUC: **Hetherington, Schwieger, Bender**)

**Allowed reset of ECRR rate; accepted proposed Tariff sheet revision; authorized collection of any ending balance in ECRR tracker as a one-time charge to customer bills; and required compliance filing.**

**6. \*\* E015/M-11-409 Minnesota Power**

In the Matter of Minnesota Power's Petition for Approval of a Pilot Rider for Customer Affordability of Residential Electricity.

- A. Should the Commission require Minnesota Power (MP) to redesign its Customer Affordability of Residential Electricity (CARE) Program and model it on Xcel Energy's PowerON Program?
- B. Should the Commission authorize MP to make one or more of the following changes to the design of the existing CARE Program?
- C. Should the Commission accept Minnesota Power's Sixth Annual Report on its Pilot Rider for Customer Affordability of Residential Electricity program?
- D. Should the Commission authorize or require MP to change or modify the way information is provided in future annual reports?
- E. Should the Commission accept MP's CARE Program customer outreach effort described in its Sixth Annual Report to have adequately addressed the Commission's concerns on customer outreach as directed in the Commission's January 5, 2018 Order accepting fifth annual report?
- F. Should the Commission remove the CARE Program's pilot status and reclassify it permanently as a standard rider program?
- G. Should the Commission approve MP's request to continue to be the sole administrator of the CARE program?
- H. Should the Commission require a specific date for submission of future CARE Program annual reports? (PUC: **Ubani**)

**Accepted 6th customer affordability annual report on Pilot Rider; reclassified program as permanent without redesign of CARE program model; set March 1 of future years as date for annual submission.**

- 7.     \*\* E002/M-17-828                   Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy**  
In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company for Approval of the 2019-2021 Triennial Nuclear Decommissioning Study and Assumptions.
1.   Should the Commission approve Xcel Energy's Petition?
  2.   What should the annual accruals for decommissioning and the end of life nuclear fuel be?
  3.   How should future settlement payments from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) be handled? (PUC: **Alonso, Bartusch**)

**Approved decommissioning study; set future requirements; set date for submission of next Triennial plan of 12/1/2020.**

**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**