

Alliant Energy Corporate Services, Inc. Legal Department Telephone – 319-786-4236

Samantha C. Norris Senior Attorney

May 11, 2015

Mr. Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary Minnesota Public Utilities Commission 121 Seventh Place East, Suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

RE: Interstate Power and Light Company Docket No. G001/M-15-309

Reply Comments

Dear Mr. Wolf:

Enclosed for e-filing with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, please find Interstate Power and Light Company's Reply Comments in the above-referenced docket.

Copies of this filing have been served on the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources, the Minnesota Office of Attorney General – Residential and Small Business Utilities Division, and the attached service list.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Samantha C. Norris
Samantha C. Norris
Senior Attorney

SCN/kcb Enclosures

cc: Service List

Interstate Power and Light Company An Alliant Energy Company

Alliant Tower 200 First Street SE P.O. Box 351 Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-0351

Office: 1.800.822.4348 www.alliantenergy.com

#### STATE OF MINNESOTA

#### BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Beverly Jones Heydinger Chair
Nancy Lange Commissioner
Dan Lipschultz Commissioner
John Tuma Commissioner
Betsy Wergin Commissioner

IN THE MATTER OF INTERSTATE POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY'S GAS AFFORDABILITY SERVICE PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT

**DOCKET NO. G001/M-15-309** 

#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

STATE OF IOWA	)
	) ss
COUNTY OF LINN	)

Kathleen C. Balvanz, being first duly sworn on oath, deposes and states:

That on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2015, copies of the foregoing Affidavit of Service, together with Interstate Power and Light Company's Reply Comments, were served upon the parties on the attached service list, by e-filing, overnight delivery, electronic mail, and/or first-class mail, proper postage prepaid from Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

\_\_\_/s/ Kathleen C. Balvanz Kathleen C. Balvanz

Subscribed and Sworn to Before Me this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2015.

/s/ Beverly A. Petska

Beverly A. Petska My commission expires on November 12, 2017 Notary Public

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Bobby	Adam	bobby.adam@conagrafood s.com	ConAgra	Suite 5022 11 ConAgra Drive Omaha, NE 68102	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_15-309_M-15-309
Julia	Anderson	Julia.Anderson@ag.state.m n.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	1800 BRM Tower 445 Minnesota St St. Paul, MN 551012134	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_15-309_M-15-309
Christopher	Anderson	canderson@allete.com	Minnesota Power	30 W Superior St  Duluth, MN 558022191	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_15-309_M-15-309
William A.	Blazar	bblazar@mnchamber.com	Minnesota Chamber Of Commerce	Suite 1500 400 Robert Street Nor St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service th	No	OFF_SL_15-309_M-15-309
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Daniel R	Culhane	DanielCulhane@alliantener gy.com	Alliant Energy Corporate Services, Inc.	4902 North Biltmore Ln  Madison, WI 53718-2148	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_15-309_M-15-309
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Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn .us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 500  Saint Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_15-309_M-15-309
Michael	Greiveldinger	michaelgreiveldinger@allia ntenergy.com	Interstate Power and Light Company	4902 N. Biltmore Lane  Madison, WI 53718	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_15-309_M-15-309

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
David	Grover	dgrover@itctransco.com	ITC Midwest	901 Marquette Avenue Suite 1950 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_15-309_M-15-309
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Kavita	Maini	kmaini@wi.rr.com	KM Energy Consulting LLC	961 N Lost Woods Rd Oconomowoc, WI 53066	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_15-309_M-15-309
Pam	Marshall	pam@energycents.org	Energy CENTS Coalition	823 7th St E St. Paul, MN 55106	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_15-309_M-15-309
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First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Steven	Nyhus	swnyhus@flaherty- hood.com	Flaherty & Hood PA	525 Park St Ste 470 Saint Paul, MN 55103	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_15-309_M-15-309
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Larry L.	Schedin	Larry@LLSResources.com	LLS Resources, LLC	12 S 6th St Ste 1137  Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_15-309_M-15-309
Matthew J.	Schuerger P.E.	mjsreg@earthlink.net	Energy Systems Consulting Services, LLC	PO Box 16129  St. Paul,  MN  55116	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_15-309_M-15-309
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Robyn	Woeste	robynwoeste@alliantenerg y.com	Interstate Power and Light Company	200 First St SE  Cedar Rapids, IA 52401	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_15-309_M-15-309
Daniel P	Wolf	dan.wolf@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th Place East Suite 350 St. Paul, MN 551012147	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_15-309_M-15-309

#### STATE OF MINNESOTA

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Beverly Jones Heydinger Chair
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IN THE MATTER OF INTERSTATE POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY'S GAS AFFORDABILITY SERVICE PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT

**DOCKET NO. G001/M-15-309** 

# INTERSTATE POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY'S REPLY COMMENTS

**COMES NOW**, Interstate Power and Light Company (IPL), and respectfully submits to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its Reply Comments in response to the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources' (Department) Comments filed with the Commission on April 30, 2015, in the above-referenced docket.

### I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On March 31, 2015, IPL filed with the Commission its Gas Affordability Service Program Annual Report.

On April 30, 2015, the Department filed Comments requesting that IPL file information pursuant to the Commission's December 29, 2011, *Order Accepting Gas Affordability Program Reports and Requiring Further Action* (Order), which directs utilities to do the following:

- Implement an application processing goal of processing ninetyfive percent of all complete gas affordability program applications within 30 days of receipt by the utility, beginning in the 2012 gas affordability program year.
- Assess periodically whether their gas affordability programs
  could be more effective and efficient by the use of a third-party
  administrator. Utilities that already use a third-party to
  administer their programs shall assess periodically whether this
  is the most effective and efficient arrangement, including a
  review of alternatives.
- Require its third-party administrator to make GAP applications available electronically on the administrator's websites as a condition of being the third-party administrator for the program.
- Call or mail reminders to its GAP customers after one missed payment to reduce the number of customers removed from the GAP due to missing two consecutive monthly payments.
- Cross-promote its GAP with other bill payment and conservation assistance programs.

IPL's provides the following Reply Comments addressing these Order points below.

#### II. REPLY COMMENTS

## A. <u>Application Processing Goal</u>

In the calendar year 2014, all applications were processed within 30 days of receipt. Applications are dated and numbered, and customers are contacted when an opening becomes available.

## B. <u>Evaluation of Third-Party Administrator</u>

IPL used SEMCAC as its third-party administrator from 2008 until 2012, until SEMCAC indicated it no longer wished to participate due to budget constraints. IPL then brought the GAP administrator duties in-house. In 2014, SEMCAC, however, continued to provide and forward inquiries from interested gas customers to IPL.

## C. <u>Availability of GAP Applications</u>

As stated above, IPL did not use a third-party administrator for GAP in 2014. IPL promoted the GAP program during outbound calls to past due gas customers, when openings were available.

## D. Reminders After One Missed Payment

In 2014 IPL sent a "Removal Warning Letter" as a reminder of the payment requirements for the program. A total of eleven past due GAP customers received "Removal Warning Letters" in 2014. In 2014, six customers were removed from GAP due to failure to make their scheduled payments. Attachment A is an example of the letter.

## E. Cross-Promotion of GAP

In 2014, IPL included information regarding GAP on its website, and offered GAP to customers during outbound collection calls, if openings were available. With the sale of the natural gas retail business to Minnesota Energy Resources (MERC), effective April 30, 2015, GAP information was forwarded to MERC, which included the customer's name, account number, mailing address, telephone number, 12-month usage data and account balance. This information will be used by MERC to process IPL's former GAP customers.

WHEREFORE, IPL requests the Commission accept IPL's Reply Comments in this docket.

DATED this 11th day of May, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

INTERSTATE POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY



Interstate Power and Light, an Alliant Energy Company

Questions? Call

1-800-327-2708

NAME ACCOUNT NUMBER

SERVICE ADDRESS

BILL DATE

#### - REMOVAL WARNING-

YOU ARE CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN THE GAS AFFORDABILTY PROGRAM THROUGH ALLIANT ENERGY-INTERSTATE POWER AND LIGHT. UNFORTUNATELY YOU HAVE NOT SUCCESSFULLY MAINTAINED THE ARRANGEMENTS AGREED UPON WHEN YOU ENTERED THE PROGRAM.

IN ORDER TO REMAIN IN THE PROGRAM YOU WILL NEED TO MAKE A PAYMENT OF \$218.87.

YOUR PAYMENTS WERE BASED ON YOUR ABILITY TO MEET THE ARRANGEMENTS ACCORDING TO YOUR FINANCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES. IF YOU ARE REMOVED FROM THE PROGRAM FOR FAILURE TO MAKE YOUR PAYMENTS, DUE TO LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLILTY, YOU WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO RE-ENTER THE PROGRAM.

WE HOPE THAT BY WORKING TOGETHER WE CAN REDUCE THE AMOUNT OWED AND PROVIDE NECESSARY ASSISTANCE TO ELIMINATE YOUR ENERGY BURDEN. IF YOU DO NOT FOLLOW THE AGREED UPON ARRANGMENTS, YOU WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE PROGRAM AND COULD BE SUBJECT TO DISCONNECTION OF YOUR UTILITES.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL 1-800-255-4268

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AMOUNT NOW DUE

\$218.87

KEEP THIS PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS

PLEASE ALLOW FIVE BUSINESS DAYS FOR MAILING AND PROCESSING



ACCOUNT NUMBER

AMOUNT DUE ON OR BEFORE MAY 23, 2013

\$218.87

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AMOUNT ENCLOSED (IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE)

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ALLIANT ENERGY
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