

The Commission met on **Thursday, February 11, 2016**, with Chair Heydinger and Commissioners Lange, Lipschultz, Schuerger, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

ENERGY FACILITIES PLANNING AGENDA

ET-6675/TL-12-1337

In the Matter of the Application of ITC Midwest LLC for a Route Permit for the Minnesota–Iowa 345 kV Transmission Line Project in Jackson, Martin, and Faribault Counties

Commissioner Tuma moved to approve the minor alternation request without conditions.

The motion passed 5–0.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGENDA

P-999/SA-16-24

In the Matter of the Annual Update of Telephone Exchange Boundaries

Commissioner Lipschultz moved to accept the boundary revisions agreed to by the companies as reflected in the Department’s comments and authorize the Department to upload all revised shape files to the FCC boundary data website no later than March 15, 2016.

The motion passed 5–0.

P-999/M-13-138

In the Matter of the Annual Telecommunication Access Minnesota (TAM) Audit

Commissioner Lipschultz moved to take the following actions:

1. Accept the TAM Performance Audit Report.
2. Request the following actions:
 - A. Ask the Department to report to the Commission within 60 days of the Commission’s order the Department’s investigation plan and status of its investigation in Docket No. 15-746;
 - B. Request that the Department proceed as recommended by ER with an interagency agreement with DOR to receive information on wireless receipts and transfers and report on its implementation plan and status within 120 days of the Commission’s order;

- C. Request that the DHS provide copies to both the TAM administrator and the Commission when it has developed the recommended policies and procedures to monitor TED Program customers and manage equipment no longer needed by individual customers; and
- D. “Request that when DJHS fulfills its commitment to proceed with formal goals, plans and data collection for effective TED Program outreach, that it provide copies to both the TAM administrator and the Commission.

The motion passed 5–0.

ENERGY AGENDA

E-002/M-15-1042

In the Matter of Northern States Power Company’s Request for a Variance to the Billing Error Rule

Commissioner Schuerger moved to approve Xcel’s request for a variance to Minn. R.7820.3800 and a one-time modification to its Billing Error Tariff requirement of the purposes of providing the proposed refunds to Customers A and B.

The motion passed 5–0.

PL-6580/M-15-967

In the Matter of a Petition by Greater Minnesota Transmission, LLC for Approval of a Firm Gas Transportation Agreement with Community Co-ops of Lake Park for Red Lake Falls community

PL-6580/M-15-968

In the Matter of a Petition by Greater Minnesota Transmission, LLC for Approval of a Firm Gas Transportation Agreement with Community Co-ops of Lake Park for Beltrami and Fertile communities

Commissioner Lipschultz moved to take the following actions:

1. Approve the GMT/Co-op Agreement with Red Lake Falls.
2. Approve the GMT/Co-op Agreement with Beltrami and Fertile.
3. Require GMT to file an annual load utilization factor letter by February 1, 2017 stating its annual load utilization factors by contract for each of its intrastate pipelines and pipeline segments, including the pipelines (projects) in dockets PL-6580/M-15-967 and PL-6580/M-15-968 as well as the pipelines referenced in the following dockets:

- PL-6580/M-06-1063
- PL-6580/M-13-91
- PL-6580/M-13-94
- PL-6580/M-14-386
- G-022/M-14-342
- PL-6580/M-14-1110506

The motion passed 5–0.

E-015/M-15-984

In the Matter of a Petition by Minnesota Power for a Competitive Rate for Energy-Intensive Trade-Exposed (EITE) Customers and EITE Cost Recovery Rider

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission:

1. Find that Minnesota Power is an investor-owned electric utility that has at least 50,000 retail electric customers, but no more than 200,000 retail electric customers, and may therefore propose EITE rate options under Minn. Stat. § 216B.1696, subd. 2(a).
2. Find that the record does not demonstrate that Minnesota Power’s proposed rate schedule provides a net benefit to the utility or the state. Reject Minnesota Power’s petition without prejudice.

The motion passed 5–0.

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission direct staff to open a separate inquiry docket regarding EITE rate- and rate-recovery-proposals pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.1696.

Commissioner Tuma withdrew his motion.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: April 6, 2016



Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary