



Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation

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February 28, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

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

**Re: In the Matter of the Petition of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation For Extension of Rule Variances to Recover the Costs of Financial Instruments Through the Purchased Gas Adjustment
Docket No. G011/M-17-85**

Reply to Department of Commerce Comments

Dear Mr. Wolf:

On February 23, 2017, the Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources ("Department") submitted comments in the above-referenced docket recommending that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission approve Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation's ("MERC's") Petition.

MERC thanks the Department for its thorough analysis and review. Based on the Comments submitted by the Department, MERC and the Department are in agreement and no open issues remain. MERC respectfully requests that the Commission grant extensions to PGA Rule variances subject to the reporting requirements and limitations as set forth in the Department's Comments.

Please contact me at (651) 322-8965 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Amber S. Lee

Amber S. Lee
Regulatory and Legislative Affairs Manager
Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation

Enclosure
cc: Service List