

The Commission met on **Thursday, October 5, 2017**, with Chair Lange, and Commissioners Lipschultz, Schuerger, Sieben, and Tuma present.

The following matter came before the Commission:

**PL-9/CN-14-916**

**In the Matter of the Application of Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership for a Certificate of Need for the Proposed Line 3 Replacement Project in Minnesota from the North Dakota Border to the Wisconsin Border**

**PL-9/PPL-15-137**

**In the Matter of the Application of Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership for a Route Permit for the Proposed Line 3 Replacement Project in Minnesota from the North Dakota Border to the Wisconsin Border**

Commissioner Lipschultz moved to deny the petitions for reconsideration.

The motion passed 5–0.

**G-007,011/GR-10-977**

**In the Matter of the Application by Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation for Authority to Increase Rates for Natural Gas Service in Minnesota**

**G-011/GR-15-736**

**In the Matter of the Application of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation for Authority to Increase Rates for Natural Gas Service in Minnesota**

Commissioner Tuma moved to do the following:

1. Accept the 2016 revenue decoupling evaluation report from Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation (MERC).
2. Accept MERC's revenue decoupling adjustment calculations and approve their implementation effective March 1, 2017.
3. Order MERC to include in its 2017 Revenue Decoupling Mechanism (RDM) Report an analysis of how extending the RDM to other customer classes would have impacted overall rates for the period 2013-2017.

The motion passed 5–0.

**G-008/M-17-245**

**In the Matter of the Application of CenterPoint Energy, 2016 Annual Gas Affordability Program Report**

**G002/M-17-253**

**In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company, 2016 Annual Gas Affordability Program Report**

**G-011/M-17-247**

**In the Matter of the Application of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation, 2016 Annual Gas Affordability Program Report**

**G-04/M-17-254**

**In the Matter of the Application of Great Plains Natural Gas Company, 2016 Annual Gas Affordability Program Report**

**G-022/M-17-234**

**In the Matter of the Application of Greater Minnesota Gas Incorporated, 2016 Annual Gas Affordability Program Report**

Chair Lange moved to accept the 2016 Gas Affordability Program Reports.

The motion passed 5–0.

**E-141,274/SA-17-620**

**In the Matter of the Joint Request of Melrose Public Utilities and Stearns Cooperative Electric Association, Collectively the Parties, to Modify Electric Service Territory Boundaries**

Commissioner Tuma moved to do the following:

1. Approve the requested service area boundary transfer from Stearns Cooperative Electric Association to Melrose Public Utilities.
2. Direct the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office to update Commission maps to reflect the service area designations as shown on the maps in the agreement

The motion passed 5–0.

**E-002/M-17-561**

**In the Matter of Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy's Petition for Approval of a Power Purchase Agreement with Dragonfly Solar, LLC**

Commissioner Lipschultz moved to do the following:

1. Approve the purchased power agreement (PPA) as modified by Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy (Xcel) in its September 8, 2017 reply comments.
2. Find that the PPA is a resource that can be used by Xcel to satisfy the Solar Energy Standard.
3. Authorize recovery through Xcel's fuel clause adjustment of the Minnesota jurisdictional costs of the PPA, net of any off-system revenues Xcel receives due to the PPA.

The motion passed 5–0.

**E-002/M-15-111**

**In the Matter of Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy's Petition for Approval of a Residential Electric Vehicle Charging Tariff**

**E-017/M-15-112**

**In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's Request for Approval of its Off-Peak Electric Vehicle Rider**

**E-015/M-15-120**

**In the Matter of Minnesota Power's Petition for Approval of a Residential Off-Peak Electric Vehicle Service Tariff**

Commissioner Schuerger moved to do the following:

1. Accept the utilities' 2017 Electric Vehicle (EV) Reports.
2. Require that Minnesota Power include in its next annual report an evaluation of options to reduce the upfront cost burden for customers looking to opt into the EV tariff and Include but not limit a discussion of sub-metering technologies available and a timeline for filing a pilot program or implementation of any other feasible option.
3. Require Otter Tail Power to file additional information set forth below in next year's annual report:
  - a. Submit monthly usage data;
  - b. Discuss the feasibility of a sub-metering pilot proposal and options and feasibility of implementing a sub-metering pilot program proposal; and
  - c. Analyze whether to continue recovering promotional costs from only EV customers or whether those costs could be recovered through some other mechanism.
4. Require Xcel to file the following information in next year's annual report:
  - a. A compliance report with correction of data anomalies within 30 days; and

- b. An assessment of current and forecasted EV penetration in Xcel’s service territory, including an analysis of current and forecasted tariffs in use and charging practices.

The motion passed 5–0.

Commissioner Lipschultz moved to require Otter Tail Power to remove the 1.33 ¢/kWh rate adder for promotional activities from the electric vehicle tariff effective as of the date of the Commission order.

The motion passed 5–0.

**E-999/M-17-283**

**In the Matter of Utilities’ Annual Reports on Progress in Achieving the Solar Energy Standard**

**E-999/CI-13-542**

**In the Matter of Implementation of Solar Energy Standards Pursuant to 2013 Amendments to Minnesota Statutes, Section 216B.1691**

Commissioner Schuerger moved that the Commission do the following:

1. Accept the utilities’ 2016 Solar Energy Standards (SES) reports as complete.
2. Require Otter Tail Power Company to file, in its next report, a specific plan for compliance with the Solar Energy Standard small-scale obligation, including any one or more of the following: anticipated yearly capacity installations for small-scale solar facilities, a plan for a Community Solar Garden, or specific facilities for small solar renewable energy credit (SREC) purchases.
3. Deny Xcel’s request to count community solar garden subscriptions less than 20 kilowatts towards its small-scale solar obligation.

The motion passed 5–0.

Commissioner Schuerger moved that the Commission delegate to the Executive Secretary the authority to modify the SES reporting form used by utilities to eliminate outdated questions and update information as needed.

Commissioner Tuma proposed amending the motion to add that “this may include discussion of modification of prior orders on SRECs utilization in the small-scale solar carve-out.”

Commissioner Lipschultz proposed amending Tuma's amendment to state that "this may include discussion of limiting the scope of SRECs that can be used to comply with the small-scale solar carve-out."

Commissioner Schuerger accepted the amendments.

The amended motion passed 5-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: February 28, 2018**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel P. Wolf". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

---

**Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary**