

The Commission met on **Thursday, September 21, 2017**, with Chair Lange and Commissioners Lipschultz, Schuerger, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGENDA

P-999/PR-17-8

In the Matter of Annual Certifications Related to Eligible Telecommunications Carriers' Use of the Federal Universal Service Support

Commissioner Lipschultz made the following motion:

1. Certify that all of the petitioning ETCs listed in Attachment 1, as well as the Price Cap Companies, have used the Federal High-Cost Service Support received in 2016 and the first half of 2017, and will continue to use Federal High-Cost Universal Service Support received in 2018, only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.
2. Require that any company whose 2018 certification petition contains financial information indicating that corporate expenses are 50 percent or more of operating revenues shall file additional information in sufficient detail to support the amount of corporate expense in that filing.
3. Delegate to the Executive Secretary the authority to amend the annual list of certified ETCs provided to the FCC so as to timely correct for errors and/or omissions which become known after the Commission's annual approval and before that year's federal deadline for certification to the FCC.

The motion passed 4-0.

ENERGY AGENDA

E-002/GR-15-826

In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company for Authority to Increase Rates for Electric Service in Minnesota

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission:

1. Approve Xcel Energy's compliance filing with the conditions and additional reporting requirements recommended by the Department.

- a. the interim rate refund shall be collected as of the March 1, 2017 statutory deadline which would result in a gross refund (including interest, the deferred tax asset refund and the capital projects true-up refund) of approximately \$10,695,295.
 - b. Require Xcel Energy to resubmit, with 10 days after final rates become effective, the calculations and schedules for the CIP tracker account (including rates, revenues, expenses, and ending balance) for the entire period that interim rates were in effect.
 - c. Require Xcel to file, within 10 days of the refund, a compliance filing report that shows the actual refunds and interest paid by class including the calculations.
2. Without prejudice, take no action and do not approve Xcel Energy's plan for notifying customers about final rates and the interim rate refund. Delegate to the Executive Secretary the authority to approve Xcel's customer notice.
 3. Approve Xcel Energy's proposed October 1, 2017 implementation date for the revenue decoupling adjustments and make no finding on Xcel's 2016 Decoupling Report until the report is brought up for Commission review.

The motion passed 4-0.

E-002/M-13-867

In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy for Approval of its Proposed Community Solar Garden Program

Commissioner Schuerger moved that the Commission:

1. Approve the tariff change for Section 9 Tariff, Sheet No. 65, as proposed by Xcel in its May 9, 2017 and supported by the Department, Fresh Energy and Minnesota Solar Connection.
2. Find that the tariff change will be effective within 30 days of the date of this order. The approved language reads:
 - e.The compliance check by the Company with this 120% rule will be performed once at the beginning of a subscription and later only if the subscriber changes his or her subscription size, adds distributed generation to the premise associated with the subscription, or relocates to a new address.

The motion passed 4-0.

E-002/M-13-867

In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy for Approval of its Proposed Community Solar Garden Program

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission:

1. Approve Xcel's proposed revision to the tariffed Subscriber Agency Agreement and Consent Form (SAA), in Section 9 Tariff, Sheet No. 93, filed by Xcel on March 31, 2017, to allow for successors and assigns.
2. Find that the tariff change will be effective within 30 days of the date of this order.

The motion passed 4-0.

E-999/CI-15-755

In the Matter of a Commission Inquiry into Fees Charged to Qualifying Facilities

Commissioner Schuerger made the following motion:

1. Affirm that utilities may charge QFs specific recurring, monthly metering service fees in tariffs under Minn. Stat. § 216B.164.
2. Affirm the fees provisionally approved in dockets E-002/M-16-222 and E-017/M-16-280 as approved fees for Xcel Energy and Otter Tail Power, without specifically approving the methodology for calculating the fees.
3. The Commission will clarify the mechanism and components for recovery of interconnection costs as part of the update of Minnesota's statewide interconnection standards in Docket No. E-999/CI-16-521.
4. Delegate to the Executive Secretary the authority to approve, via notice, the utilities' annual cogeneration and small power production filings under Minn. R. ch. 7835 if no interested parties or Commission staff raise concerns within 60 days of the filing and the following conditions are met:
 - a. The filing must contain Schedules A through H as provided in Minn. R. 7835.0500-.1100.
 - b. Changes to the Average Retail Utility Energy Rate must be calculated as provided in Minn. R. 7835.0100, subp. 2a.
 - c. Changes to the Simultaneous Purchase and Sale Billing Rate must be calculated as provided in Minn. R. 7835.4014. The filing must contain the calculations used to arrive at the rate.

- d. Changes to the Time-of-Day Purchase Rate must be calculated as provided in Minn. R. 7835.4015. The filing must contain the calculations used to arrive at the rate.
 - e. The utility must provide clean and redlined versions of the tariff changes to the Average Retail Utility Energy Rate, the Simultaneous Purchase and Sale Billing Rate, and the Time-of-Day Purchase Rate.
 - f. The filing must only contain tariff changes that have a calculation process clearly defined in statute or in Minn. R. ch. 7835.
 - g. If no changes are to be made to the cogeneration and small power production tariff, the utility may comply under Minn. R. 7835.0400.
5. Require that all changes to a utility's cogeneration and small power production tariff not covered in the annual filing outlined above, including but not limited to new or changed fees, must be filed as a miscellaneous tariff filing under the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, Minn. R. ch. 7829.

The motion passed 4-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: November 15, 2017



Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary