### **PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

## COMMERCE DEPARTMENT

June 30, 2022

Will Seuffert Executive Secretary Minnesota Public Utilities Commission 121 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 350 St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2147

RE: **PUBLIC Comments of the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources** Docket No. E015/AA-22-216

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

Attached are the **PUBLIC** comments of the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources (Department) in the following matter:

Minnesota Power's Petition for Approval of the Annual Forecasted Fuel and Purchased Energy Rates for the Calendar Year 2023.

Hillary A. Creurer, Regulatory Compliance Administrator for Minnesota Power, filed the Petition on May 2, 2022.

The Department recommends the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) **approve Minnesota Power's 2023 Fuel Forecast, subject to a subsequent true-up, pending additional information provided by Minnesota Power in Reply Comments**. The Department requests Minnesota Power provide the following in its Reply Comments:

- 1. Address the differences between forecasted and actual Planned Outage incremental costs; and
- 2. Provide an estimate of the planning resource auction revenues it expects to receive during its 2023 FCA forecast period which covers January 2023 through December 2023.

The Department is available to answer any questions the Commission may have.

Sincerely,

/s/ HOLLY SODERBECK Financial Analyst /s/ NANCY CAMPBELL Financial Analyst Coordinator

HS/NC/ja Attachment

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## **Before the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission**

## PUBLIC Comments of the Minnesota Department of Commerce Division of Energy Resources

Docket No. E015/AA-22-216

## I SUMMARY

On May 2, 2022, Minnesota Power (the Company) filed its *Annual Forecasted Fuel and Purchased Energy Rates* (Fuel Report) for the calendar year 2023. Minnesota Power made its Fuel Report to comply with the decisions the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) rendered in its June 12, 2019 *Order* in Docket No. E999/CI-03-802 and in compliance with <u>Minnesota Rules</u> 7825.2800 to 7825.2840 governing Automatic Adjustment of Charges.

## II. BACKGROUND

<u>Minnesota Statutes § 216B.16</u>, subd. 7, authorizes the Commission to allow a public utility to automatically adjust charges for the cost of fuel.

On May 3, 2021, Minnesota Power filed its <u>2022 Forecasted Fuel and Purchased Energy Report</u> for approval of 2022 fuel rates in Docket No. E015/AA-21-312. On December 2, 2021, the Commission issued its <u>Order</u> approving the following:

- 1. Authorized Minnesota Power to implement its 2022 Fuel Clause Adjustment (FCA) forecast, based on forecasted sales of 8,763,862 megawatt-hours (MWh) and forecasted fuel costs of \$229,065,935.
- Required Minnesota Power to submit a compliance filing with revised tariff sheets and supporting calculations within 10 days of the Commission's Order in Docket No. E015/AA-21-312 for implementation effective January 1, 2022.
- 3. Required Minnesota Power to file a request to modify the approved fuel rate as soon as practicable, if during 2022 Minnesota Power experiences an impact on all FCA costs and revenues of plus or minus 5% or larger. Minnesota Power will then be required to implement the revised rates, subject to a full refund, following a 30-day notice period, if no party objects to the revised rate.

In its June 30, 2020 <u>Order</u>, the Commission approved Minnesota Power's April 23, 2020 <u>Petition</u> and proposal in Docket No. E015/M-20-429. The Commission's June 30, 2020 *Order* resolved Minnesota Power's 2019 Rate Case by recalculating base rates based on costs established in the 2016 rate case, except for asset-based margins that were moved to the FCA.

For additional background on Minnesota Power's Annual Forecasted Fuel and Purchased Energy Rates filings, see Department Attachment 1.

## III. ANNUAL COMPLIANCE/REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The Department identified the following five compliance filings (parts A to E below) and four Minnesota Rule Requirements (part F below) applicable to Minnesota Power. As noted above, three of the compliance filings were addressed in Minnesota Power's Forecast Report (with some additional information to be provided in Minnesota Power's True-Up Report) and the other two compliance filings will be addressed in Minnesota Power's True-Up Report. The Department notes the Commission's June 12, 2019 <u>Order</u> in Docket No. E999/CI-03-802, ordering point 7, approved reporting requirements for Minnesota Power of the Forecast and True-Up Reports as provided in Attachment 1 of the Department's March 1, 2019 <u>Joint Comments</u>. Minnesota Power provided the applicable Attachment 1 reporting requirements information in its Forecasting Report.

## A. Plant Outages Contingency Plans: In the Matter of the Review of the 2008 Annual Automatic Adjustment Reports for All Electric Utilities, Docket No. E999/AA-08-995

Minnesota Power provided its Outage Methodology and Forecasted Planned and Forced Outage Costs (Attachment No. 5 of the Company's 2023 Fuel Forecast Report) but will supply its Contingency Plans discussion with the True-Up Filing as it relates to outage delays, reasons for the delays, and lessons learned which are all based on actual outages.

B. Sharing Lessons Learned Regarding Forced Outages: In the Matter of the Review of the 2009-2010 Annual Automatic Adjustment Reports for All Electric Utilities, Docket No. E999/AA-10-884

Minnesota Power provided Outage Methodology and Forecasted Planned and Forced Outage Costs (Attachment No. 5 of the Company's 2023 Fuel Forecast Report) but will supply actual forced outage costs, descriptions of outages, and lessons learned with its True-Up Filing, which will be based on actuals.

C. In the Matter of a Petition by Minnesota Power for Approval of a Power Purchase Agreement with Manitoba Hydro, Report on Purchased Power Agreement (PPA) with Manitoba Hydro, Docket No. E015/M-10-961

Minnesota Power will provide a "Report Addressing the Purchase Power Agreement with Manitoba Hydro" in the True-Up Filing as it relates to Manitoba Hydro short-term products and when those products are offered to Minnesota Power.

D. Self-Scheduling Reporting for Xcel, Minnesota Power, and Otter Tail Power as required by the Commission's February 7, 2019 *Order* in Docket No. E999/AA-17-492

Minnesota Power will provide a "Self-Scheduling Reporting" in the True-Up filing as it relates to the offering of units and actuals.

# E. MISO Day 2 Charges and Allocations & Auction Revenue Rights (AAR) Process and Forecasted Information

Minnesota Power provided the MISO [Midcontinent Independent System Operator] Day 2 and ARR Information as required by Docket No. E999/AA-07-1130 and Docket No. E015/M-05-277, respectfully, in Attachment Nos. 3 and 4 of Minnesota Power's 2023 Fuel Forecast Report.

## F. Minnesota Rule Requirements:

## 1. Fuel and Energy Source Procurement and Energy Dispatching Policies (<u>Minnesota</u> <u>Rules 7825.2800</u>):

Attachment No. 2 of Minnesota Power's 2023 Fuel Forecast Report.

## 2. Forecast of Annual Automatic Adjustment Charges (Minnesota Rules 7825.2810):

Minnesota Power provided the forecasted annual automatic adjustment charges for the period January to December 2023. Included is a breakdown by energy type as required in Docket No. E,G999/AA-04-1279, Commission <u>Order</u> Dated December 7, 2005. See Attachment No. 1 of Minnesota Power's Fuel Forecast Report.

## 3. Annual Five-Year Projection of Fuel Costs (<u>Minnesota Rules 7825.2830</u>):

Attachment No. 6 of Minnesota Power's 2023 Fuel Forecast Report.

## 4. Annual Notice of Reports Availability (<u>Minnesota Rules 7825.2840</u>):

Attachment No. 7 of Minnesota Power's 2023 Fuel Forecast Report.

The Department recommends the Commission accept Minnesota Power's compliance filings and reporting requirements.

## IV. SALES FORECAST FOR 2023

The following table compares Minnesota Power's 2022 Forecasted Sales (MWh)<sup>1</sup> and 2023 Forecasted Sales (MWh)<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Minnesota Power's <u>Petition</u>, p. 5 in Docket No. E015/AA-21-312.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Petition, pp. 7-8.

Table 1: 2022 and 2023 Forecasted Sales (WWN)					
	2023 Forecast	2022 Forecast	Change in MWh	Percent Change	
Total Sales of Electricity	13,594,358	11,917,313	1,677,045	14.07%	
Residential	1,036,816	1,033,882	2,934	0.28%	
Commercial	1,195,779	1,188,275	7,504	0.63%	
LP Taconite	4,231,901	3,925,163	306,738	7.81%	
LP Paper and Pulp	600,104	485,003	115,101	23.73%	
LP Pipeline	309,481	316,335	(6,854)	-2.17%	
Other Misc.	334,745	332,806	1,939	0.58%	
Municipals	1,326,588	1,498,638	(172,050)	-11.48%	
Inter System Sales	4,558,944	3,137,211	1,421,733	45.32%	
Less: Inter System Sales	4,558,944	3,137,211	1,421,733	45.32%	
Customer Inter System Sales	844,414	872,711	(28,297)	-3.24%	
Market Sales	3,712,057	2,260,131	1,451,926	64.24%	
Station Generation Service	2,473	4,369	(1,896)	-43.40%	
Sales due to Retail Loss of Load	-	-	-	-	
Less: Solar Generation & Purchases	57,323	16,240	41,083	252.97%	
Total Fuel Clause Sales	8,978,091	8,763,862	214,229	2.44%	

Table 1: 2022 and 2023 Forecasted Sales	(MWh)	
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Minnesota Power's total sales forecasts for 2023 compared to 2022 show higher total sales forecasted for 2023, which is largely the result of higher Large Power Taconite sales, higher Large Power Paper and Pulp sales, and higher intersystem sales forecasted in 2023. As a result of higher Large Power Taconite and Large Power Paper and Pulp sales, Minnesota Power also forecasts higher Total Fuel Clause Sales in 2023 compared to 2022.

Minnesota Power reported it uses the RTSim production cost model for budgeting and planning purposes and, in this proceeding, to estimate the monthly fuel costs. According to Minnesota Power, the RTSim model:

... is a detailed hourly simulation that dispatches generation to meet customer load requirements, while simultaneously factoring in bilateral contracts and the energy market, and assigns the appropriate energy costs to customers. The inputs that drive the model include customer loads, forecasted forward energy prices, contract energy purchases and sales, and generation parameters (i.e. fuel costs, maintenance schedules, etc.) The model's output includes energy and costs for thermal generation, hydro generation, wind generation, bilateral contracts, and MISO market purchases and sales.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Petition, Attachment No. 1, p. 2.

For forward energy prices, Minnesota Power uses the forward market energy price outlook. The 2023 energy price outlook is based on a 10-business day average of forward market energy price at close from January 24, 2022 through February 2, 2022. For 2023, the on-peak average was **[TRADE SECRET DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED]** while the off-peak average was **[TRADE SECRET DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED]**.<sup>4</sup> According to Minnesota Power, the model uses market prices to estimate generation dispatch and MISO market purchase costs or MISO market sales revenues. Minnesota Power stated it has experienced more volatile energy prices as the economy recovered from the economic impacts caused by COVID related shutdowns. Minnesota Power also stated the assumptions represent a snapshot in time and will likely change, potentially significantly, between when the forecast was created and when the FCA forecast period starts 11 months later.<sup>5</sup>

In Information Request No. 6, the Department asked Minnesota Power to provide all inputs and outputs for the RTSim Production Costs Model used for Minnesota Power's 2023 Fuel Forecast.<sup>6</sup> Based on a review of Minnesota Power's response, the Department did not identify any issues of concern.

As part of its review, the Department compared Minnesota Power's 2023 sales forecast to 2019 to 2021 actual sales (three most recent years of actuals) and three-year average for 2019 to 2021 as provided in Minnesota Power's response to Information Request No. 1 in Department Attachment 3 and included in Table 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Petition, Attachment No 1. p. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Petition, Attachment No 1, p. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Department Attachment 2. Note: Attachments to Information Request No. 6 were not included due to their size but are available upon request.

(MWh)	2019	2020	2021	2019-2021	2023
(1010011)	Actuals	Actuals	Actuals	Average	Forecast
<b>Total Sales of Electricity</b>	13,667,492	12,868,727	14,566,917	13,701,046	13,594,358
Residential	1,042,353	1,046,011	1,043,665	1,044,010	1,036,816
Commercial	1,201,898	1,134,254	1,174,413	1,170,188	1,195,779
LP Taconite	4,468,614	4,295,593	4,428,819	4,397,675	4,231,901
LP Paper and Pulp	900,207	752,072	489,259	713,846	600,104
LP Pipeline	359,548	348,130	341,031	349,570	309,481
Other Misc.	355,789	316,907	341,353	338,017	334,745
Municipals	1,466,430	1,340,290	1,393,315	1,400,011	1,326,588
Inter System Sales	3,872,653	3,635,470	5,355,063	4,287,728	4,558,944
Less: Inter System Sales	3,872,653	4,415,869	5,355,063	4,547,862	4,558,944
Customer Inter System Sales	687,809	780,399	1,067,722	845,310	844,414
Market Sales	2,947,679	3,112,893	3,412,055	3,157,542	3,712,057
Station Generation Service	6,403	4,521	6,126	5,683	2,473
Sales due to Retail Loss of Load	230,762	518,056	869,160	539,326	-
Less: Solar Generation & Purchases	14,028	16,165	17,215	15,803	57,323
Total Fuel Clause Sales	9,780,811	8,436,693	9,194,640	9,137,381	8,978,091

### Table 2: Minnesota Power's 2019 to 2021 Actual Sales Compared to 2023 Sales Forecast per MWh<sup>7</sup>

Minnesota Power provided its customer sales assumptions in Petition, Attachment No. 1, pp. 4 – 5 of 18. Based on the Department's review of Minnesota Power's actual sales for 2019 to 2021 and threeyear average for 2019 to 2021 and 2023 sales assumptions, the Department notes Minnesota Power's 2023 sales forecast for retail sales and wholesale intersystem sales are close to the most recent 2021 actuals and three-year average for 2019 to 2021. Minnesota Power does not expect Retail Loss of Load in 2023 as customers are expected to be near full load.

Overall, the Department recommends the Commission accept Minnesota Power's 2023 sales forecast to set FCA rates for 2023 as they are close to 2021 actuals and three-year average of 2019 to 2021 with an expected increase in market price for 2023. The Department notes Minnesota Power's FCA revenues and costs are subject to true-up in the 2023 True-up Report. The Department also notes our recommendation in this docket should not be used in Minnesota Power's rate cases<sup>8</sup> or other rate proceedings, where a more thorough review of Minnesota Power's sales forecast will occur.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Department Attachment 3, p. 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Minnesota Power currently has an open rate case, Docket No. E015/GR-21-335.

## V. FORECASTED AUTOMATIC ADJUSTMENT CHARGES SUMMARY FOR 2023

Minnesota Power provided its Forecasted Fuel Cost Summary on p. 7 of its Petition and more detailed information in Petition, Attachment No. 1, p. 10. Table 3 provides Minnesota Power's 2023 Forecasted Fuel Cost Summary,<sup>9</sup> which includes wholesale asset-based margins, and excludes fuel costs for inter system sales.

	2023			
	Forecast			
Company's Generating Stations	148,359,504			
Plus: Purchased Energy	224,480,219			
Plus: MISO Charges	48,576,079			
Less: MISO Sch 16, 17, and 24	(289,240)			
Less: Cost Recovered through Inter System Sales	154,774,719			
Less: Costs Related to Solar	2,522,315			
Plus: Time of Generation and Solar Energy Adjustment	1,344,170			
Total Cost of Fuel	265,752,178			
Total Fuel Clause Sales (MWh)	8,978.1			
Average Cost of Fuel (¢/kWh)	2.9600			

Table 3: 2023 Forecast Fuel Cost Summary	\$/MWh
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In Information Request No. 1, the Department asked Minnesota Power to provide 2019 to 2021 actuals, by year, a three-year average of 2019 to 2021 actuals, and 2023 forecast for Minnesota Power's Fuel Forecast Summary information.<sup>10</sup> Table 4 provides this information. The Department also asked Minnesota Power to compare the three-year average for 2019 to 2021 to the 2023 forecast and explain any fluctuations of 5% or more.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Petition, p. 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Department Attachment 3, p. 4.

	2019 Actuals	2020 Actuals	2021 Actuals	2019-2021 Average	2023 Forecast
Generating Stations	88,109,180	76,291,181	111,316,951	91,905,771	148,359,504
Plus: Purchased Energy	215,257,410	193,346,296	302,780,486	237,128,064	224,480,219
Plus: MISO Charges (energy not included)	13,164,287	16,466,491	64,223,807	31,284,862	48,576,079
Plus: MISO Sch. 16, 17, & 24	(346,563)	(164,843)	(79,627)	(197,011)	(289,240)
Less: Fuel Costs for Intersystem Sales	90,393,877	97,823,379	160,780,204	116,332,487	154,774,719
Less: Costs Related to Solar	1,654	70	1,366	1,030	2,522,315
Plus: Time of Generation & Solar Energy	412,926	432,548	386,358	410,611	1,344,170
Total Cost of Fuel	226,894,835	188,877,910	318,005,659	244,592,801	265,752,178
Total Fuel Clause Sales	9,780,811	8,436,693	9,194,640	9,137,381	8,978,091
Average Cost of Fuel	23.20	22.39	34.59	26.77	29.60

Table 4: 2019 to 2021 Actuals and 2019-2021 Three-Year Average
Compared to 2023 Forecasted Fuel Cost Summary per \$/MWh

In Response to Department Information Request No. 1, and as shown in Table 4, Minnesota Power explained for the Company's Generation Stations costs the three-year average is higher than the 2023 forecast largely due to **[TRADE SECRET DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED]**. Minnesota Power explained, **[TRADE SECRET DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED]**.<sup>11</sup>

In Information Request No. 12, the Department asked Minnesota Power if it included any wind curtailment costs in its 2023 Fuel Forecast and to provide supporting information for the wind curtailment costs. Minnesota Power explained it has never included wind curtailment costs as part of the forecast or budget process. Curtailments are hard to forecast and are only included when actual curtailments happen.<sup>12</sup> The Department notes past year's wind curtailment costs were very small and only in the thousands of dollars.

Table 4 shows the average cost of fuel for the 2023 forecast is higher than the three-year average for 2019 to 2021 actuals, and lower than the 2021 actuals. Overall, based on the additional information Minnesota Power provided, the Department considers Minnesota Power's 2023 fuel forecast reasonable.

The Department recommends the Commission approve Minnesota Power's 2023 Fuel and Purchased Energy Forecast for setting initial FCA rates in this proceeding, subject to a true-up.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Department Attachment 3, p. 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Department Attachment 4, p. 1.

## VI. FORECASTED COMPANY OWNED GENERATION BY FUEL TYPE AND LOCATION

The Department asked Minnesota Power to provide company-owned generation costs, by facility, for 2019 – 2021, a three-year average of 2019-2021, and the 2023 forecast. The Department compiled this information in Table 5.

Company Owned Generation	2019 Actuals	2020 Actuals	2021 Actuals	2019-2021 Three-Year Average	2023 Forecast
Coal					
Boswell 3	\$32,447,426	\$31,525,708	\$46,778,306	\$36,917,147	\$62,104,926
Boswell 4	\$53,693,916	\$43,172,017	\$53,449,013	\$50,104,982	\$80,020,521
Gas					
Laskin 1	\$597 <i>,</i> 966	\$295,310	\$3,542,131	\$1,478,469	\$314,420
Laskin 2	\$350,696	\$289,307	\$3,287,399	\$1,309,134	\$314,420
Biofuel					
Hibbard	\$1,019,178	\$1,008,837	\$4,260,102	\$2,096,039	\$5,605,217
Wind					
Bison	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Tac Ridge	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Hydro					
Hydro	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Company					
Generation	\$88,109,182	\$76,291,179	\$111,316,951	\$91,905,771	\$148,359,504
MWh					
Total Company	[TRADE SECRET DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED]				
<b>Owned Generation</b>					
per MWh					

# Table 5: Company Owned Generation – 2019 to 2021 Actuals,2019 to 2021 Three-Year Average, and 2023 Forecast<sup>13</sup>

Minnesota Power's assumptions for its Company owned generation are on Attachment 1, pp. 5 - 6. Based on the Department's review of Minnesota Power's owned generation assumptions, we consider the company's assumptions to be reasonable. The Department notes the Company's 2023 forecast is fairly consistent with the Company's 2021 actuals, except for higher coal costs as discussed above. The

<sup>13</sup> Department Attachment 5, p. 2.

Department considers Minnesota Power's 2023 owned generation forecast reasonable for the purposes of setting initial FCA rates in this proceeding, subject to the subsequent true-up.

## VII. PURCHASED ENERGY – LONG TERM PPAS

Minnesota Power forecasted purchased energy of \$224,480,219 for 2023.<sup>14</sup> The Company provided details of purchase costs in Petition, Attachment No. 1, pp. 6 – 7. The following table provides purchased energy for 2019 – 2021, the 2019-2021 three-year average, and the 2023 forecast.

Purchased Energy	2019 Actuals	2020 Actuals	2021 Actuals	2019-2021 Average	2023 Forecast
Coal - Square Butte	31,164,341	30,559,753	33,604,104	31,776,066	36,856,900
Hydro – MHEB	15,917,909	81,808,261	102,549,433	66,758,534	102,592,828
Gas – GREM	528,087	12,458	-	180,182	-
Wind	10,540,053	15,267,492	27,678,338	17,828,628	30,428,960
Solar	1,654	70	1,367	1,030	2,711,324
Market	157,105,367	65,698,262	138,947,245	120,583,624	51,890,208
Total	215,257,410	193,346,296	302,780,486	237,128,064	224,480,219

# Table 6: Purchased Energy – Long-Term PPAs for 2019 to 2021 Actuals,2019 to 2021 Three-Year Average, and 2023 Forecast<sup>15</sup>

Minnesota Power's assumptions and contract information for purchased energy costs are on Attachment 1 pp. 6 - 7. Based on the Department's review of Minnesota Power's assumptions and contract information for purchased energy, we consider this information to be reasonable. The Department notes the Company's 2023 forecast has lower market purchases and appears reasonable, when compared to 2019 – 2021 actuals, and the 2019-2021 three-year average.

The Department recommends the Commission accept Minnesota Power's purchased energy forecast for setting initial FCA rates in this proceeding, subject to the subsequent true-up.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Petition, Attachment 1, p. 15 of 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Department Attachment 6, pp. 2 – 5.

### VIII. MISO ENERGY MARKET (MISO DAY 2) AND ANCILLARY SERVICES MARKET (ASM)

Minnesota Power forecasts MISO Market Charges of \$48,576,079 for 2023.<sup>16</sup> Minnesota Power provides MISO Day 2 Charges and Allocations in Petition, Attachment No. 3. The following table summarizes the Total Net MISO Charges (MISO Day 2 and ASM) included in Minnesota Power's 2023 Fuel and Purchased Energy Forecast. The table also provides the allocation of MISO charges between retail and municipal sales on a per-MWh basis.

Total Net MISO Charges					
MISO Market Purchases <sup>17</sup>		\$30,027,034			
MISO Cost - other than energy <sup>18</sup>		\$48,576,079			
MISO Costs recovered through Inter-					
System Sales (Market Sales) <sup>19</sup>		\$(11,039,265)			
MISO Costs recovered through Inter-					
System Sales (Customer Sales) <sup>20</sup>		\$(29,920,442)			
MISO Market Sales <sup>21</sup>		\$(56,706,435)			
Net Total MISO Charges		\$(19,063,029)			
Allocation of Net MISC	O Charges				
Retail Sales (in MWh) <sup>22</sup>	7,651,503	\$(16,246,307)			
Municipal Sales (in MWh) <sup>23</sup>	1,326,588	\$(2,816,722)			
Total FCA Sales	8,978,091	\$(19,063,029			

Table 7: 2023	Forecasted Net	MISO Charges
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Minnesota Power forecasted Net MISO Charges of \$15.6 million for 2022.<sup>24</sup> The Company's Net MISO Charges for the 2023 forecast is a \$19.1 million revenue credit (due to higher expected intersystem sales and higher expected MISO market sales) and is much lower than the 2022 forecast.

The Department concludes the Company's MISO Day 2 and ASM costs and revenues included in the 2023 forecast appear reasonable. The Department recommends the Commission accept Minnesota Power's MISO Day 2 and ASM costs and revenues included in the 2023 forecast for the purpose of setting initial FCA rates in this proceeding, subject to a subsequent true-up.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Petition, Attachment No. 1, p. 10 of 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Petition, Attachment No. 1, p. 12 of 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Petition, Attachment No. 1, p. 10 of 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Petition, Attachment No. 1, p. 17 of 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Petition, Attachment No. 1, p. 10 of 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Petition, Attachment No. 1, p. 16 of 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Petition, Attachment No. 3, p. 28 of 29.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Petition, Attachment No. 3, p. 28 of 29.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Docket No. E015/AA-21-312, <u>Department Reply Comments</u> dated August 30, 2021, p. 6.

### IX. ASSET-BASED MARGINS

The Commission approved Minnesota Power's petition to move asset-based margins from base rates in the rate case to the fuel clause adjustment in Docket Nos. E015/GR-19-442 and E015/M-20-429 in its <u>Order</u> dated June 12, 2020. As provided by Minnesota Power:

Minnesota Power uses the RTSim production cost model to determine when a sale is an asset-based sale. The margins from these sales are included in the FAC Calculation (Attachment 1) per the Rate Case Resolution Docket Nos. E015/GR-19-442 and E015/M-20-429. The margin from the Municipal Incremental Sales is also included in the Asset Based Sales Margin.<sup>25</sup>

For 2023, Minnesota Power forecasted \$0 in non-MISO asset-based costs.<sup>26</sup> As provided in Minnesota Power's Petition Attachment No. 1, p. 8 of 18 in Minnesota Power's assumptions, "for 2023, no asset based bilateral sales to a counterparty have been forecasted."

For 2023, Minnesota Power forecasted \$56,706,435 in MISO Market Sales, which assumes **[TRADE SECRET DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED]**.<sup>27</sup> Minnesota Power uses the RTSim production cost model to determine the volume and cost for MISO market sales. Minnesota Power states, "when excess energy is available and its economical, the model will sell the excess energy into the MISO market."<sup>28</sup> The Department reviewed Minnesota Power's inputs and outputs for the RTSim and found the assumptions to be reasonable.

The Company's asset-based sales margins are refunded to customers in the 2023 forecast because the margins increase fuel costs recovered through intersystem sales and in return, reduce fuel costs remaining in the forecast.<sup>29</sup>

The Department concludes the Company's asset-based margins in the 2023 forecast appear reasonable. The Department recommends the Commission accept Minnesota Power's asset-based margins in the 2023 forecast for the purpose of setting initial FCA rates in this proceeding, subject to a subsequent true-up.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Petition, Attachment No. 1, p. 9 of 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Petition, Attachment No. 1, p. 16 of 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Petition, Attachment No. 1, p. 16 of 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Petition, Attachment No. 1, p. 8 of 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Department Attachment Nos. 7 and 8.

## X. OUTAGE COSTS – FORCED AND PLANNED

Minnesota Power's Attachment No. 5, explains the Company's planned and unplanned outage methodology. For Boswell Units 3 and 4, planned outages are based on Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) guidelines. For unplanned outages:

Minnesota Power utilizes the average of the previous ten years of the NERC [North American Electric Reliability Corporation] Generating Availability Data System ("GADS") Equivalent Unplanned Outage Factor ("EUOF") to calculate [sic] unplanned outages. The EUOF is the percent of hours during the year (given period) the unit was in an unplanned outage. The ten-year average ensures one good or bad year does not over- or under-state forecasted unit performance.

Minnesota Power provided a forecast and actual outage costs, shown in the following table.

Forecasted			2020-		
Incremental Costs	2020	2021	2021 Avg.	2023	
Planned Outage	\$3,441,487	\$(2,869,832)	\$285,827	[TRADE SECRET DATA HAS	
				BEEN EXCISED]	
Forced Outage	\$1,021,843	\$(633 <i>,</i> 962)	\$193,941		
Total	\$4,463,331	\$(3,503,794)	\$479 <i>,</i> 768		

## Table 8: Comparison of Forced and Planned OutageCosts for 2021 to 2023 Fuel Forecasts<sup>30</sup>

The following table compares the Company's forecast to actual incremental costs for planned outages in 2020 and 2021.

Planned Outage Incremental Costs <sup>31</sup>						
Incremental Costs	2020	2021				
Forecasted	\$3,441,487	(\$2,869,832)				
Actual	(\$293,246)	\$6,415,192				
Difference	\$3,734,733	(\$9,285,025)				

## Table 9: Comparison of Forecast and Actual Planned Outage Incremental Costs<sup>31</sup>

The Department believes the main reason for differences between forecasted and actual Planned Outage incremental costs is the change in forecasted location marginal price (LMP) when comparing forecasted to actual incremental costs. The Department requests Minnesota Power address the differences between forecasted and actual Planned Outage incremental costs further in their reply comments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Department Attachment No. 9, p. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Department Attachment No. 9, p. 2.

Minnesota Power included planned outages, based on its long-term planned outage schedule, shown in the following table.

Table 10: Planned Outages 2023 <sup>32</sup>										
Unit	Start Time	End Time	Duration (Days)	Miso #	Reason					
Boswell 3										
Boswell 4										
Boswell 3		[TRADE SECRET DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED]								
Boswell 4										

The following table shows the unplanned outage information Minnesota Power provided.

Generation Specifications							
	Econ Min	Econ Max	EUOF <sup>33</sup>				
Boswell Unit 3	75 MW	350 MW	7.2%				
Boswell Unit 4	185 MW	580 MW	6.8%				

### **Table 11: Unplanned Outages**

Minnesota Power's 2023 forecast is **[TRADE SECRET DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED]** greater than 2021 actual unplanned outage (MWhs). The Company's 2023 forecast of unplanned outages (MWhs) is **[TRADE SECRET DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED]** less than the 2019 – 2021 average of actual unplanned outages (MWhs).<sup>34</sup>

Generally, the Department considers the information supportive to Minnesota Power's 2023 forecast for planned and forced outage costs. The Department recommends the Commission accept the Company's 2023 forecast for planned and forced outage costs, subject to a subsequent true-up, pending additional information provided by Minnesota Power in Reply Comments.

### XI. MISO PLANNING RESOURCE AUCTION REVENUES

Each Spring, MISO operates an annual planning resource auction (PRA)<sup>35</sup> which covers the period from June through May of the following year. The annual PRA allows utilities to purchase needed capacity

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Petition, Attachment No. 5, p. 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> The Equivalent Unplanned Outage Factor (EUOF) is based on a 10-year average.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Department Attachment No. 10, pp. 1-2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> One of MISO's key functions is to facilitate the availability of adequate resources to reliably meet the peak demand in the MISO region. MISO's Resource Adequacy construct complements the jurisdiction that regulatory authorities have in determining the necessary level of adequacy and works in concert with Load Serving Entities ("LSEs") that provide demand forecasts that help drive the development of local and regional requirements. The planning resources auction (PRA) is a

or sell excess capacity for the upcoming planning year. Historically, the prices paid or received under the annual PRA have been minimal. For example, in MISO's 2020-2021 PRA, the capacity auction clearing prices totaled approximately \$5 per megawatt-day.<sup>36</sup>

On April 14, 2022, MISO issued the results of its 2022-2023 Planning Resource Auction which covers the period from June 2022 through May 2023. As shown in the April 14, 2022 MISO Resource Adequacy presentation, the capacity auction clearing prices totaled approximately \$237 per megawatt-day.<sup>37</sup> As a result, the Department asked Minnesota Power, Otter Tail Power, and Xcel Energy several questions regarding their 2022-2023 PRA results. According to Minnesota Power, it **[TRADE SECRET DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED]** for June 2022 through December 2022<sup>38</sup> and it **[TRADE SECRET DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED]** for January 2023 through May 2023 in the 2022-2023 PRA.<sup>39</sup>

The Department also asked Minnesota Power how and where it planned to return these PRA revenues to ratepayers. Minnesota Power replied:<sup>40</sup>

Now that asset-based margins and capacity revenues are allowed to be included in the FAC, anticipated revenues are included in the FAC forecast, and trued up to actuals when the annual FAC true up filing is completed. Capacity expenses are forecast during a rate case and included in base rates.

The Department notes the importance of returning these PRA revenues to ratepayers who pay for capacity cost (utilities plant costs and purchased capacity) through base rates and in FCA's when capacity costs cannot be identified in purchase power agreements that combine energy and capacity. The Department notes Minnesota Power provides both capacity and energy revenues back to ratepayers via the FCA consistent with their rate case settlement that was approved in the Commission's June 30, 2020 <u>Order</u> in Docket Nos. E015/GR-19-442 and E015/M-20-429. Given the significant increase in recent fuel clause adjustment (FCA) costs due to congestion and curtailment issues which utilities are requesting recover of from ratepayers, the Department recommends that utilities refund these PRA revenues to ratepayers in their FCA's to provide immediate relief.

voluntary annual capacity auction provides a way for Market Participants to meet resource adequacy requirements. The location-specific approach of the PRA encourages resources to be available when needed in the right locations in an economic and efficient manner. <u>https://www.misoenergy.org/planning/resource-adequacy/#t=10&p=0&s=FileName&sd=desc</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Per MISO's 2020-2021 PRA results: <u>https://cdn.misoenergy.org/2020-2021%20PRA%20Results442333.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Per MISO's 2022-2023 PRA results: <u>https://cdn.misoenergy.org/2022%20PRA%20Results624053.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup>Per Minnesota Power's Response to Department Information Request No. 24 in Docket No. E002/AA-20-463 (Department Attachment No. 11). The Department expects Minnesota Power to include the June 2022 through December 2022 MISO PRA revenues in its 2022 FCA True-up filing, filed on March 1, 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Per Minnesota Power's Response to Department Information Request No. 24 in Docket No. E002/AA-20-463. A complete copy of Minnesota Power's response is provided in Department Attachment No. 11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Department Attachment No. 11, p. 3 of 4.

PUBLIC DOCUMENT

The Department understands that capacity prices in PRA's are likely to remain elevated for the foreseeable future. As a result, the Department recommends that Minnesota Power provide in reply comments an estimate of PRA revenues, and recalculated FCA/EAR rates, it expects to receive during its 2023 FCA forecast period which covers January 2023 through December of 2023.

## XII. RECOMMENDATIONS

For most of Minnesota Power's Annual Forecast of Automatic Adjustment Charges for the period of January 2023 through December 2023, the Department recommends the Commission accept Minnesota Power's filing, subject to a subsequent true-up, with one exception. The Department requests Minnesota Power provide additional information in Reply Comments regarding:

- 1. The 2023 forecast for planned and forced outage costs; and
- 2. An estimate of the planning resource auction revenues, and recalculated FCA/EAR rates, it expects to receive during its 2023 FCA forecast period which covers January 2023 through December 2023.

## Planning Resource Auction (PRA) Revenues:

Given the significant increase in recent fuel clause adjustment (FCA) costs due to congestion and curtailment issues which utilities are requesting recover of from ratepayers, the Department recommends the Commission require Minnesota Power to refund these PRA revenues to ratepayers in its FCA to provide immediate relief. The Department recommends Minnesota Power provide in reply comments an estimate of PRA revenues, and recalculated FCA/EAR rates, it expects to receive during its 2023 FCA forecast period which covers January 2023 through December of 2023.

## **Outages Costs – Forced and Planned:**

Generally, the Department considers the information supportive to Minnesota Power's 2023 forecast for planned and forced outage costs. The Department recommends the Commission accept the Company's 2023 forecast for planned and forced outage costs, subject to a subsequent true-up, pending additional information provided by Minnesota Power in Reply Comments.

### Annual Compliance/Reporting Requirements:

The Department recommends the Commission accept Minnesota Power's compliance filings and reporting requirements.

### 2023 Sales Forecast:

The Department recommends the Commission accept Minnesota Power's 2023 sales forecast to set FCA rates for 2023 as they are close to 2021 actuals and three-year average of 2019 to 2021 with an expected increase in market price for 2023. The Department notes Minnesota Power's FCA revenues and costs are subject to true-up in the 2023 True-up Report. The Department also notes our

recommendation in this docket should not be used in Minnesota Power's rate cases<sup>41</sup> or other rate proceedings, where a more thorough review of Minnesota Power's sales forecast will occur.

### 2023 Forecasted Automatic Adjustment Charges Summary:

The Department recommends the Commission approve Minnesota Power's 2023 Fuel and Purchased Energy Forecast for setting initial FCA rates in this proceeding, subject to a true-up.

## Forecasted Company Owned Generation by Fuel Type and Location:

The Department considers Minnesota Power's 2023 forecasted generation reasonable. The Department recommends the Commission accept Minnesota Power's Forecasted Company Owned Generation by Fuel Type and Location.

## Purchased Energy – Long-term PPAs:

The Department considers Minnesota Power's purchased energy 2023 forecast reasonable. The Department recommends the Commission accept Minnesota Power's Purchased Energy 2023 forecast.

## MISO Energy Market (MISO Day 2) and Ancillary Services Market (ASM):

The Department concludes the Company's MISO Day 2 and ASM costs and revenues included in the 2023 forecast appear reasonable. The Department recommends the Commission accept Minnesota Power's MISO Day 2 and ASM costs and revenues included in the 2023 forecast for the purpose of setting initial FCA rates in this proceeding, subject to a subsequent true-up.

## **Asset-Based Margins:**

The Department considers Minnesota Power's forecast for asset-based margins reasonable. The Department recommends the Commission accept the Minnesota Power's asset-based margins in the 2023 forecast for the purpose of setting initial FCA rates in this proceeding, subject to a subsequent true-up.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Minnesota Power currently has an open rate case, Docket No. E015/GR-21-335.

## COMMERCE DEPARTMENT

Minnesota Statutes § 216B.16, subd. 7, authorizes the Commission to allow a public utility to automatically adjust charges for the cost of fuel. Prior to 2020, utilities would (1) adjust their FCA rates monthly to reflect, on a per kWh basis, deviations from the base cost of energy established in the utility's most recent general rate case and (2) file monthly and annual reports to be reviewed for accuracy and prudence.

In 2003, the Commission initiated an investigation (Docket No. E999/CI-03-802) to explore possible changes to the FCA and invited stakeholders to comment on the purpose, structure, rationale, and relevance of the FCA. The Commission's December 19, 2017 <u>Order</u> in Docket No. E999/CI-03-802 approved certain reforms to the FCA mechanism. Specifically, Point 1 of the *Order* approved the Department's FCA reform proposals as follows:

- a. The Commission will set recovery of the Utility's fuel, power purchase agreements, and other related cost (fuel rates) in a rate case or an annual fuel clause adjustment filing unless a utility can show a significant unforeseen impact.
- b. Each electric utility will publish the monthly fuel rates in advance of each year to give customers notice of the next year's monthly electric fuel rates.
- c. The monthly fuel clause adjustment will not operate each electric utility will charge an approved monthly rate.
- d. Utilities will be allowed to track any changes in \$/MWh fuel costs that occur over the year and there will be no carrying charge on the tracker.
- e. Annually, each electric utility will report actual \$/MWH fuel costs in each month by fuel type (including identification of costs from specific power purchase agreements) and compare the annual revenue based on the fuel rates set by the Commission with annual revenues based on actual costs for the year.
- f. Each electric utility will refund any over-collections and show prudence of costs before allowing recovery of under-collections. If annual revenues collected (\$/MWh) are higher than total actual costs, the utility must refund the over-collection through a true-up

## COMMERCE DEPARTMENT

mechanism. If annual revenues collected are lower than total actual costs), the utility must show why it is reasonable to charge the higher costs (under-collections) to ratepayers through a trueup mechanism.

The Commission's December 12, 2018 <u>Order</u> in Docket No. E999/CI-03-802 modified certain aspects of and added to the FCA reform previously approved in the Commission's December 19, 2017 Order in the same docket. In particular, the December 12, 2018 Order:

- Established a January 1, 2020 implementation date for the FCA reform.
- Required utilities, following the implementation of the FCA reform, to file an annual true-up by March 1 of each year following the relevant calendar year.
- Discontinued the requirement for utilities to submit monthly automatic adjustment filings.
- Granted the relevant utilities a variance to Minnesota Rules 7825.2600, subp. 3, which
  requires the FCA to be applied to base recovery of fuel costs on a monthly basis. Under
  the new FCA process, the monthly FCA would be irrelevant, because, instead, the
  Commission would use an annual forecast of fuel costs to adjust base fuel rates
  annually.

The Commission's June 12, 2019 <u>Order</u> in Docket No. E999/CI-03-802 provided additional details to finalize the FCA reform. Specifically, the *Order* approved, among other things:

- Variances to Minnesota Rules 7825.2800 through 7825.2840 to accommodate the new FCA process by modifying the filing deadlines contained in these rules.
- A procedural schedule, shown in Appendix A of the Order.
- A threshold of plus or minus five percent of all FCA costs and revenues to determine whether an even qualifies as significant, unforeseen impact that may justify an adjustment to the approved fuel rates. Utilities are permitted to implement revised rates following a 30-day notice period, subject to a full refund, if no party objects to the revised rates.
- Tracking under or over-recovered FCA costs as regulatory assets or liabilities, respectively, using FERC Account 182.3.
- Information requirements for the annual forecast and true-up filings for all electric utilities, including the reporting requirement changes outlined in Attachments 1, 2, and

## COMMERCE DEPARTMENT

3 of the March 1, 2019 joint comments<sup>1</sup> in Docket No. E999/CI-03-802 and the requirement that the annual true-up filings include a complete analysis and discussion of the consequences of self-commitment and self-scheduling of their generators, including the annual difference between production costs and corresponding prevailing market prices.

- Tariff changes reflected in Attachments 4, 5, and 6 of the March 1, 2019 joint comments in Docket No. E999/CI-03-802.
- Discontinuation of Xcel's reporting of Part H, Section 4 narrative and Schedule 1 (transformers); Part I (MISO Day 1); Part J, Section 5, Schedules 1, 3-6 (MISO Day 2); Part K, Section 5, Schedule 3 (transformer maintenance); Part K, Section 4, Schedule 3 (designated resource planning for MISO).

On May 3, 2021, Minnesota Power filed its <u>2022 Forecasted Fuel and Purchased Energy Report</u> for approval of fuel rates for 2022 in Docket No. E015/AA-21-312. On December 2, 2021, the Commission issued its <u>Order</u> approving the following for Minnesota Power:

- 1. Authorized Minnesota Power to implement its 2022 Fuel Clause Adjustment (FCA) forecast, based on forecasted sales of 8,763,862 megawatt-hours (MWh) and forecasted fuel costs of \$229,065,935.
- Required Minnesota Power to submit a compliance filing with revised tariff sheets and supporting calculations within 10 days of the Commission's Order in Docket No. E015/AA-21-312 for implementation effective January 1, 2022.
- 3. Required Minnesota Power to file a request to modify the approved fuel rate as soon as practicable, if during 2022 Minnesota Power experiences an impact on all FCA costs and revenues of plus or minus 5% or larger. Minnesota Power will then be required to implement the revised rates, subject to a full refund, following a 30-day notice period, if no party objects to the revised rate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In the March 1, 2019 joint comments, Attachment 1 corresponds to Minnesota Power.



Public Docket No. E015/AA-22-216 Department Attachment No. 2 Page 1 of 3

### Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 Information Request

Docket Number: E015/AA-22-216 Requested From: Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial ⊠Nonpublic □Public Date of Request: 5/17/22 Response Due: 5/27/22

**SEND RESPONSE VIA <u>EMAIL</u> TO: <u>Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us</u> as well as the assigned analyst(s).** 

Assigned Analyst(s): Holly Soderbeck Email Address(es): <u>holly.soderbeck@state.mn.us</u> Phone Number(s): 651-539-1849

### **ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

Each response must be submitted as a text searchable PDF, unless otherwise directed. Please include the docket number, request number, and respondent name and title on the answers. If your response contains Trade Secret data, please include a public copy.

Request Number:	6
Торіс:	RTSim Production Cost Model for Market Purchases and Asset Based Margins
Reference(s):	No Specific Reference

### **Request:**

- A. Please provide all inputs, outputs, assumptions and information included in the RTSim production cost model for market purchases and asset-based wholesale sales. Please provide any supporting data and documents that support the informant included in Minnesota Power's RTSim production cost model for market purchases and asset-based wholesale sales.
- B. Please describe the RTSim production cost model.
- C. Please explain how Minnesota Power's system interacts with the MISO prices in the RTSim model.
- D. Please provide sensitivities used in the RTSim production cost model.
- E. Please provide a copy of the third-party study that determined the monthly MISO market sales price for the 2023 Fuel Forecast.

### **RESPONSE:**

 Accompanying this response are two output files from the RTSim production cost model used in the 2023 FAC Forecast. DOC IR 06.01 Attach PUB is a production cost monthly summary. DOC IR 06.02 Attach PUB is the detailed hourly output. The hourly or monthly model output includes the assumptions Minnesota Power was able to export from the RTSim production cost model.

To be completed by responder



Public Docket No. E015/AA-22-216 Department Attachment No. 2 Page 2 of 3

### Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 Information Request

Docket Number: E015/AA-22-216 Requested From: Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial ⊠Nonpublic □Public Date of Request: 5/17/22 Response Due: 5/27/22

SEND RESPONSE VIA EMAIL TO: Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us as well as the assigned analyst(s).

There are limits on what assumptions can be exported from the model. Please let Minnesota Power know if there are additional assumptions that were not included in the outputs that the Department would like included and Minnesota Power will do our best to try to provide the additional assumptions.

Note that included in **DOC IR 06.01 Attach TS** is a table cross referencing the power purchase agreements names used in the RTSim production cost model with Minnesota Power's other DOC IR responses.

b. Minnesota Power uses the RTSim production cost model for the budgeting of fuel, purchased power costs, energy sale revenues, and estimating the energy cost to serve customers. The key inputs that inform the model are customer loads, power purchase agreements, forecasted MISO energy prices, contract energy sales, fuel costs, and renewable energy hourly profiles. An overview of the key inputs is provided below. The outputs from the model runs are used to forecast the energy costs to serve customers and the potential wholesale sale margins. Minnesota Power also uses RTSim to prepare information for other regulatory filings, such as the Company's recently filed Fuel Clause Forecast, Cogeneration and Small Power Production Tariff, and the CIP Triennial.

### Key Input Overview:

**Customer Load** – The forecasted customer demand is from the annual 2023 FAC Forecast, which is compiled by Minnesota Power load forecasters. RTSim will simulate the allocation of available energy to load for each hour in a year and then estimate the cost of that energy. Available energy includes renewables, thermal generation, power purchase agreements, and MISO market energy purchases.

**Energy Purchases** – This includes all power purchase agreements and energy purchased by Minnesota Power from the MISO market. We only include power purchases agreements that have signed bilateral contracts. The model will simulate MISO market energy purchases during periods Minnesota Power is short energy (e.g., due to low renewable production) or it is economical to purchase energy from the market instead of dispatching Minnesota Power's generation fleet. The MISO energy prices are used to determine the cost of energy purchased.

**Energy Sales** – All bilateral energy sales are included in the model. The model will simulate MISO market energy sales during periods Minnesota Power is long on energy (i.e. due to high renewable

To be completed by responder

Response Date:	June 3, 2022
Response by:	Logan Foerst
Email Address:	lfoerst@mnpower.com
Phone Number:	218-355-3089



Public Docket No. E015/AA-22-216 Department Attachment No. 2 Page 3 of 3

### Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 Information Request

Docket Number: E015/AA-22-216 Requested From: Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial ⊠Nonpublic □Public Date of Request: 5/17/22 Response Due: 5/27/22

SEND RESPONSE VIA EMAIL TO: Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us as well as the assigned analyst(s).

production) or it is economical to dispatch Minnesota Power's generation fleet to create an energy sale. The energy sale created from dispatching Minnesota Power's generation fleet only occurs if the additional energy is not needed to serve customers.

**Generation Profiles** – In the RTSim model the following generation characteristics are input: maximum generation, minimum generation, ramp rates, fuel cost, planned outages, derates, and forced outage rate. RTSim will simulate how the units are running depending on customer demand and market prices for each hour. For example, during hours of lower market prices, uneconomical generation units will reduce energy production. To offset the lower generation production, RTSim will then simulate economical energy purchases from the market, in order to satisfy load requirements.

**Renewable Energy Hourly Profile** – In the RTSim model a representative weather profile is used to model energy available from intermittent renewable energy resources (i.e. wind, solar and hydro). For example, representative hourly wind speeds are used to calculate the available wind energy for the Bison wind farms.

- c. The monthly MISO energy prices are inputted into the model as an hourly price profile. The MISO energy price profile is set-up to replicate the energy prices Minnesota Power could see during on-peak and off-peak periods, seasonally, and during period of high and low renewable production. As discussed in Minnesota Power's response to part b above, the hourly MISO energy prices are used to dispatch Minnesota Power's thermal generation and to determine the energy price for MISO market purchases and sales.
- d. For the 2023 FAC forecast, Minnesota Power did not perform any sensitivity analysis in the RTSim production cost model.
- e. For the 2023 FAC forecast, Minnesota Power did not utilize a third-party study to determine monthly MISO market sale prices. The 2023 energy price outlook is based on a 10-business day average of forward market energy prices which is referenced in **DOC IR 05**.

To be completed by responder

Response Date:June 3, 2022Response by:Logan FoerstEmail Address:Ifoerst@mnpower.comPhone Number:218-355-3089



### Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 Information Request

Docket Number: E015/AA-22-216 Requested From: Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial □Nonpublic ⊠Public Date of Request: 5/17/22 Response Due: 5/27/22

**SEND RESPONSE VIA <b>EMAIL TO**: <u>Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us</u> as well as the assigned analyst(s).

Assigned Analyst(s): Holly Soderbeck Email Address(es): <u>holly.soderbeck@state.mn.us</u> Phone Number(s): 651-539-1849

### **ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

Each response must be submitted as a text searchable PDF, unless otherwise directed. Please include the docket number, request number, and respondent name and title on the answers. If your response contains Trade Secret data, please include a public copy.

Request Number:	1
Topic:	Actuals for 2019 to 2021
Reference(s):	Attachment 1, "FAC Calculation"

### **Request:**

- A. In the same format as Attachment 1 p. 10 of 18, titled "FAC Calculation", under the "Total" 2023 column, please provide 2023 forecast, 2019 actuals, 2020 actuals, 2021 actuals, and three-year average for 2019 to 2021, yearly information on a live spreadsheet with all links and formulas included. In addition, please add additional rows necessary to show the annual MWh's associated with each cost type and the resulting \$/MWh.
- B. For any difference of 5 percent or more when comparing 2023 forecast \$/MWh's to 2021 actuals
   \$/MWh's, please explain reasons for the deviation.
- C. For any difference of 5 percent or more when comparing 2023 forecast \$/MWh's to the three-year average of 2019 to 2021, please explain reasons for deviation.

### Responses:

- A. **DOC IR 01.01 Attach PUB** contains the "FAC Calculation" for the 2023 forecast, 2019 actuals, 2020 actuals, 2021 actuals, and the 3-year average for 2019 to 2021. Rows were also added to show the annual MWh's and \$/MWh associated with each cost type.
- B. **DOC IR 01.01 Attach PUB** shows the comparison of the 2023 Forecast \$/MWh's to the 2021 actuals \$/MWh's . Explanations are provided in the attachment explaining differences of 5 percent or more.

To be completed by responder



### Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 Information Request

Docket Number: E015/AA-22-216 Requested From: Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial □Nonpublic ⊠Public Date of Request: 5/17/22 Response Due: 5/27/22

SEND RESPONSE VIA EMAIL TO: Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us as well as the assigned analyst(s).

C. **DOC IR 01.01 Attach PUB** shows the comparison of the 2023 Forecast \$/MWh's to the 3year average \$/MWh's for 2019-2021 actuals. The reasons for deviations of 5% or greater are explained in the attachment.

To be completed by responder

Response Date:6/3/2022Response by:Taylor MurphyEmail Address:tmurphy@allete.comPhone Number:651-380-6492

#### PUBLIC DOCUMENT TRADE SECRET DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

3 Year

DOC IR 01.01 ATTACH Annual Summary (A)

		Total	2023	Total	\$/MWh	Total	\$/MWh	Total	\$/MWh	3 Year Average	Average
.ine	Year	2023 Forecast	Forecast	2019 Actuals	2019 Actuals	2020 Actuals	2020 Actuals	2021 Actuals	2021 Actuals	2019 - 2021	\$/MWh
No.	Cost of Fuel										
1	Company's Generating Stations	\$148,359,504		\$88,109,180		\$76,291,181		\$111,316,951		\$91,905,771	
	Thermal										
	Thermal MWh										
	Wind										
	Wind MWh										
	Hydro										
	Hydro MWh										
										TRADE SECRET	DATA ENDS]
2	Plus: Purchased Energy	\$224,480,219		\$215,257,410		\$193,346,296		\$302,780,486		\$237,128,064	
		[TRADE SECRET D	ATA BEGINS		_		_				
	Market										
	Market MWh	_									
	Wind Wind MWh										
	Solar										
	Solar MWh										
	Square Butte										
	Square Butte MWh										
										TRADE SECRET	DATA ENDS
3	Plus: MISO Charges	\$48,576,079		\$13,164,287		\$16,466,491		\$64,223,807		\$31,284,862	
	Less: MISO Schedules 16 &17 & 24	(\$289,240)		(\$346,563		(\$164,843		(\$79,627		(\$197,011)	
	Schedule 16	\$1,211,981		\$1,194,697		\$1,449,109		\$1,449,028		\$1,364,278	
	Schedule 17 Schedule 24	\$202,780 (\$1,704,000)		\$209,364 (\$1,750,624		\$31,342 (\$1.645,294		\$29,463 (\$1,558,118		\$90,056 (\$1,651,345)	
5	Less: Fuel Cost Recovered Through Inter-System Sales	\$154,774,719		\$90,393,877		\$97,823,379	/	\$160,780,204	,	\$116,332,487	
)	Less: Fuel Cost Recovered Through Inter-System Sales	TRADE SECRET D	ATA BEGINS	\$90,393,677		\$97,623,375		\$160,780,204		\$116,332,467	
	Customer Inter-System Sales				_		_		-		
	Customer Inter-System Sales MWh										
	Market Sales										
	Market Sales MWh										
	Station Service										
	Station Service MWh		_		_		_				
										TRADE SECRET	DATA ENDS
	MISO Costs 1/	\$11,039,265 [TRADE SECRET D		\$2,607,528		\$1,780,984		\$8,513,787		\$4,300,766	
	Sales due to Retail Loss of Load	[TRADE SECRET L	ATA BEGINS								
	Sales due to Retail Loss of Load MWh										
										TRADE SECRET	DATA ENDS
	Asset Based Sale Margins	\$25,680,523		\$0		\$3,671,735		\$5,260,590		\$2,977,442	
				•				\$4,485,903			
	Less: Costs Related to Solar	\$2,522,315		\$1,654		\$70		\$1,366		\$1,030	
	Plus: Time of Generation and Solar Energy Adjustment	\$1,344,170		\$412,926		\$432,548		\$386,358		\$410,611	
	Total Monthly Cost of Fuel	\$265,752,178		\$226,894,835		\$188,877,910		\$318,005,659		\$244,592,801	
		2023 Forecast		2019 Actuals		2020 Actuals		2021 Actuals		3 Year Average	
	MWh Sales										
	Total Sales of Electricity	13,594,358		13,667,492		12,868,727		14,566,917		13,701,046	
	Residential	1,036,816		1,042,353		1,046,011		1,043,665		1,044,010	
	Commercial LP Taconite	1,195,779		1,201,898		1,134,254		1,174,413		1,170,188	
	LP Taconite	4,231,901 600,104		4,468,614 900,207		4,295,593 752,072		4,428,819 489,259		4,397,675 713,846	
	LP Paper and Puip LP Pipeline	309,481		359,548		348,130		469,259 341,031		349,570	
	Other Misc.	334,745		355,789		316,907		341,353		338,017	
	Municipals	1,326,588		1,466,430		1,340,290		1,393,315		1,400,011	
	Inter System Sales	4,558,944		3,872,653		3,635,470		5,355,063		4,287,728	
	Less: Inter-System Sales	4,558,944		3,872,653		4,415,869		5,355,063		4,547,862	
	Customer Inter-System Sales	844,414		687,809		780,399		1,067,722		845,310	
	Market Sales	3,712,057		2,947,679		3,112,893		3,412,055		3,157,542	
	Station Service	2,473		6,403		4,521		6,126		5,683	
4	Sales due to Retail and Resale Loss of Load Less: Solar Generation and Purchased kWh	0 57,323		230,762 14,028		518,056 16,165		869,160 17,215		539,326 15,803	
11	Less, Solar Generation and Purchased KWn	57,323		14,028		16,165		17,215		15,803	

9,780,811

8,436,693

9,194,640

9,137,381

8,978,091

\$/MWh

12 Total Monthly kWh Sales

1/ No MWhs associated with MISO Costs

#### PUBLIC DOCUMENT TRADE SECRET DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

#### Public Docket No. E015/AA-22-216 Department Attachment No. 3 Page 4 of 5

		Total	\$/MWh	Total	\$/MWh 2021	\$/MWH	
Line	Year	2023 Forecast	2023 Forecast	2021 Actuals	Actuals	Variance	Explanation
<u>No.</u>	Cost of Fuel						
1	Company's Generating Stations	\$148,359,504 [TRADE SECRET	DATA BEGINS	\$111,316,951			
	Thermal					3.73%	
	Thermal MWh					5.75%	
	Wind					0.00%	
	Wind MWh					0.00%	
	Hydro					0.00%	
	Hydro MWh					0.0070	
				TRADE SECRET D	ATA ENDS]		
2	Plus: Purchased Energy	\$224,480,219		\$302,780,486			
		[TRADE SECRET	DATA BEGINS				
	Market					16.22%	MP does not have any long term purchases forecasted in 2023 except for MHEB which increases the \$/MWh.
	Market MWh						2021 included lower priced long term purchases and also lower market prices.
	Wind					3.76%	
	Wind MWh						
	Solar					-34.66%	The only solar present in 2021 were solar subscription cancellations. In the 2023 forecast there is a new 20MW
	Solar MWh						solar purchase which lowers the \$/MWh
	Square Butte					14.05%	
	Square Butte MWh				_		Budget received from MPC forecated Square Butte fuel to be slightly higher in 2023 compared to 2021 actuals.
				TRADE SECRET D	ATA ENDS]		
3	Plus: MISO Charges	\$48,576,079		\$64,223,807			
4	Less: MISO Schedules 16 &17 & 24	(\$289,240)		(\$79,627)			
	Schedule 16	\$1,211,981		\$1,449,028			
	Schedule 17	\$202,780		\$29,463			
-	Schedule 24	(\$1,704,000)		(\$1,558,118)			
5	Less: Fuel Cost Recovered Through Inter-System Sales	\$154,774,719 [TRADE SECRET		\$160,780,204			
			DATA BEGINS				7
	Customer Inter-System Sales					-0.98%	
	Customer Inter-System Sales MWh	_					4
	Market Sales Market Sales MWh					0.52%	
							4
	Station Service Station Service MWh					-1.24%	
				TRADE SECRET D	ATA ENDSI		J
	MISO Costs 1/	\$11,039,265		\$8,513,787	ATALINDOJ		
	MISO Costs I/	TRADE SECRET	DATA REGINS	\$0,515,767	ļ		
	Sales due to Retail Loss of Load	[TRADE SECRET	DATA BEGINS				
	Sales due to Retail Loss of Load MWh					-100.00%	No Sale due to Retail Loss of Load forecated for 2023. Customers expected to be at full load.
				TRADE SECRET D	ATA ENDSI		No Sale due to Netali 2035 of 20ad forecated for 2025. Castolifers expected to be at full load.
	Asset Based Sale Margins	\$25,680,523		\$5,260,590	,		
	, look babba balba margina	φ20,000,020		ψ0,200,000			
6	Less: Costs Related to Solar	\$2,522,315		\$1,366			
7	Plus: Time of Generation and Solar Energy Adjustment	\$1,344,170		\$386,358			
8	Total Monthly Cost of Fuel	\$265,752,178		\$318,005,659			
-		,,		,,			

#### PUBLIC DOCUMENT TRADE SECRET DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

#### Public Docket No. E015/AA-22-216 Department Attachment No. 3 Page 5 of 5

1 C	company's Generating Stations	\$148,359,504	Actuals \$91,905,771	\$/MWh	\$/MWH Variance	Explanation
Γ		[TRADE SECRET DATA BEGINS	<b>v</b> 1,000,111			TRADE SECRET DATA BEGINS
	Thermal Thermal MWh				13.18%	
	Wind Wind MWh				0.00%	TRADE SECRET DATA ENDS]
	Hydro Hydro MWh				0.00%	
_			RADE SECRET DA	TA ENDS]		
2 P	lus: Purchased Energy	\$224,480,219 [TRADE SECRET DATA BEGINS	\$237,128,064			
	Market Market MWh				48.27%	MP does not have any long term purchases forecasted in 2023 except for MHEB which increases the \$/MWh. 2019-2021 actuals included lower priced long term purchases and also lower market prices.
	Wind Wind MWh				-8.89%	Oliver 1 and 2 repowered in 2020 which lowered the contract price going forward. Also, Nobles 2 commisoned in 2020 which lowers the \$/MWh.
-	Solar Solar MWh				-36.17%	The only solar present in 2019-2021 were solar subscription cancellations. In 2023 there is a new 20MW solar purchase which lowers the \$/MWh
	Square Butte Square Butte MWh				18.57%	Budget received from MPC forecated Square Butte fuel to be slightly higher in 2023 compared to 2019 - 2021 actuals.
			RADE SECRET DA	TA ENDS		
3 P	lus: MISO Charges	\$48,576,079	\$31,284,862			
4 P	lus: MISO Schedules 16 &17 & 24	(\$289,240)	(\$197,011)			
Г	Schedule 16	\$1,211,981	\$1,364,278			
	Schedule 17	\$202,780	\$90,056			
L	Schedule 24	(\$1,704,000)	(\$1,651,345)			
5 L	ess: Fuel Cost Recovered Through Inter-System Sales	\$154,774,719 [TRADE SECRET DATA BEGINS	\$116,332,487			
Г	Customer Inter Sustem Selec	TRADE SECRET DATA BEGINS				Mart Customer land Custom Cales are accord from the market which is an article to be bicker in 2002
	Customer Inter-System Sales Customer Inter-System Sales MWh				18.88%	Most Customer Iner-System Sales are sourced from the market which is expected to be higher in 2023 compared to 2019-2021 actuals
F	Market Sales					
	Market Sales MWh				9.74%	Market sales sourced from company generation which increased in 2023 (See above- Thermal Generation).
F	Station Service					indirect successourced nom company generation which increased in 2020 (see above "memor deneration).
	Station Service MWh				23.34%	2023 Forecast uses previous years actual \$/MWh rate (2021) which was higher then 2019 and 2020.
F			RADE SECRET DA	TA ENDSI		······································
	MISO Costs 1/	\$11,039,265	\$4,300,766	1		
	Sales due to Retail Loss of Load					
	Sales due to Retail Loss of Load MWh				-100.00%	No Sale due to Retail Loss of Load forecated for 2023. Customers expected to be at full load.
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	RADE SECRET DA	TA ENDS]		
E	Asset Based Sale Margins	\$25,680,523	\$2,977,442			
6	Less: Costs Related to Solar	\$2,522,315	\$1,030			
7	Plus: Time of Generation and Solar Energy Adjustment	\$1,344,170	\$410,611			
8 <b>T</b>	otal Monthly Cost of Fuel	\$265,752,178	\$244,592,801			

10



### Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 Information Request

Docket Number: E015/AA-22-216 Requested From: Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial □Nonpublic ⊠Public Date of Request: 5/17/22 Response Due: 5/27/22

**SEND RESPONSE VIA <u>EMAIL</u> TO**: <u>Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us</u> as well as the assigned analyst(s).

Assigned Analyst(s): Holly Soderbeck Email Address(es): <u>holly.soderbeck@state.mn.us</u> Phone Number(s): 651-539-1849

### ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Each response must be submitted as a text searchable PDF, unless otherwise directed. Please include the docket number, request number, and respondent name and title on the answers. If your response contains Trade Secret data, please include a public copy.

Request Number:	12
Topic:	Wind Curtailment Costs
<u>Reference(s):</u>	Petition, Table 1

### **Request:**

A. Did Minnesota Power include any wind curtailment costs in its 2023 Fuel Forecast? If yes, please provide supporting information and calculations for wind curtailment costs.

### **Response:**

A. No, Minnesota Power has never included any wind curtailment costs as part of the forecast or budget process. It was determined that curtailments are hard to forecast so they are left out and are only included in actuals when curtailments happen.

To be completed by responder



### Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 Information Request

Docket Number: E015/AA-22-216 Requested From: Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial □Nonpublic ⊠Public Date of Request: 5/17/22 Response Due: 5/27/22

**SEND RESPONSE VIA <u>EMAIL</u> TO**: <u>Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us</u> as well as the assigned analyst(s).

Assigned Analyst(s): Holly Soderbeck Email Address(es): <u>holly.soderbeck@state.mn.us</u> Phone Number(s): 651-539-1849

### ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Each response must be submitted as a text searchable PDF, unless otherwise directed. Please include the docket number, request number, and respondent name and title on the answers. If your response contains Trade Secret data, please include a public copy.

Request Number:	15
Topic:	Company-owned generation
Reference(s):	N/A

### Request:

A. Please provide the amount of company-owned generation, by facility (separated by total costs by fuel type and location), for 2019-2021 actuals, 2019-2021 three-year average, and 2023 forecast in a table.

### Response:

A. A table for company-owned generation by facility and fuel type for 2019-2021 actuals, 2019-2021 3-year average, and the 2023 forecast is outlined in **DOC IR 15.01 Attach PUB**.

To be completed by responder

Response Date:	6/3/2022
Response by:	Taylor Murphy
Email Address:	tmurphy@mnpower.com
Phone Number:	218-355-3591

Thermal Generation												
		20	23 Forecast		20	19 Actuals	20	020 Actuals	2	021 Actuals	3 Y	ear Average
<u>Generation - Coa</u>	<u>I</u>		ADE SECRET	 ПАТ		INS						
Boswell 3	MWh	<u>.                                    </u>		ľ								
Avera	ige Cost								_			
										-		DATA ENDS]
To	tal Cost		62,104,926	I	\$	32,447,426	\$	31,525,708	\$	46,778,306	\$	36,917,147
			ADE SECRET	DAT	A BEG	SINS						
Boswell 4 Avera	MWh Ige Cost											
,	.go 0001									TRADE SEC	RET	DATA ENDS]
To	tal Cost	\$	80,020,521		\$	53,693,916	\$	43,172,017	\$	53,449,013	_	50,104,982
Total Generation Coal \$		\$	142,125,447	1	\$	86,141,342	\$	74,697,725	\$	100,227,319	\$	87,022,129
Generation - Gas	;	ITR.	ADE SECRET	DAT.	A BEC	SINS						
Laskin 1	MWh	È										
Avera	ige Cost											
										TRADE SEC	RET	DATA ENDS]
To	tal Cost		314,420		\$	597,966	\$	295,310	\$	3,542,131	\$	1,478,469
		<u>.</u>	ADE SECRET	DAT	A BEC	SINS						
Laskin 2	MWh Ige Cost											
Avera	ige oost									TRADE SEC	RET	DATA ENDSI
To	tal Cost	\$	314,420		\$	350,696	\$	289.307	\$	3,287,399		1,309,134
Total Generation Gas \$		\$	628,840		\$	948,662	\$	584,617	\$	6,829,530	\$	2,787,603
Generation - Biofu	el	ITR	ADE SECRET						_			
Hibbard	MWh	<u> </u>		l								
	ige Cost											
										TRADE SEC		DATA ENDS]
	tal Cost		5,605,217		\$	1,019,178	\$	1,008,837	\$	4,260,102		2,096,039
Total Generation Biofue	1\$	\$	5,605,217		\$	1,019,178	\$	1,008,837	\$	4,260,102	\$	2,096,039
Total Thermal Generation	on \$	\$	148,359,504	1	\$	88,109,182	\$	76,291,179	\$	111,316,951	\$	91,905,771

Wind Gener	ation										
		2023 Fore	cast		2019 Ac	tuals	2020 Actuals	12	021 Actuals	3 Year	Average
		[TRADE SE	CRET	DAT	ABEGINS						
Bison	MWh										
	Average Cost										
									TRADE SEC	RET DA	TA ENDS
	Total Cost	\$	-		\$	-	\$-	\$	-	\$	-
		[TRADE SE	CRET	DAT	A BEGINS						
Tac Ridge	MWh										
	Average Cost										
									TRADE SEC	RET DA	TA ENDS]
	Total Cost	\$	-		\$	-	\$-	\$	-	\$	-
Total Wind Ge	neration \$	\$	-		\$	-	\$-	\$	-	\$	-

Hydro Gene	eration									
		2023 Fo	orecast	2019 Actuals	202	0 Actuals	202 <sup>-</sup>	1 Actuals	3 Year	Average
		[TRADE	SECRET [	BEGINS						
Hydro	MWH									
	Average Cost									
							Т	RADE SEC	RET DA	TA ENDS]
	Total Cost	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Total Hydro G	eneration \$	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
					_		-		_	
			precast	2019 Actuals		0 Actuals		1 Actuals		Average
Total Compan	y Generation	\$ 148,	359,504	\$ 88,109,182	2 \$ 3	76,291,179	\$ 1 <sup>,</sup>	11,316,951	\$ 9	1,905,771



Public Docket No. E015/AA-22-216 Department Attachment No. 6 Page 1 of 5

### Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 Information Request

Docket Number: E015/AA-22-216 Requested From: Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial □Nonpublic ⊠Public Date of Request: 5/17/22 Response Due: 5/27/22

**SEND RESPONSE VIA <u>EMAIL</u> TO**: <u>Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us</u> as well as the assigned analyst(s).

Assigned Analyst(s): Holly Soderbeck Email Address(es): <u>holly.soderbeck@state.mn.us</u> Phone Number(s): 651-539-1849

### ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Each response must be submitted as a text searchable PDF, unless otherwise directed. Please include the docket number, request number, and respondent name and title on the answers. If your response contains Trade Secret data, please include a public copy.

Request Number:	16
Topic:	Purchased Energy – Long-term PPAs
Reference(s):	N/A

### **Request:**

A. Please provide purchased energy costs, by type, for 2019, 2020, and 2021 actuals. Also include a column for 2019 – 2021 three-year average and a column for 2023 forecasted.

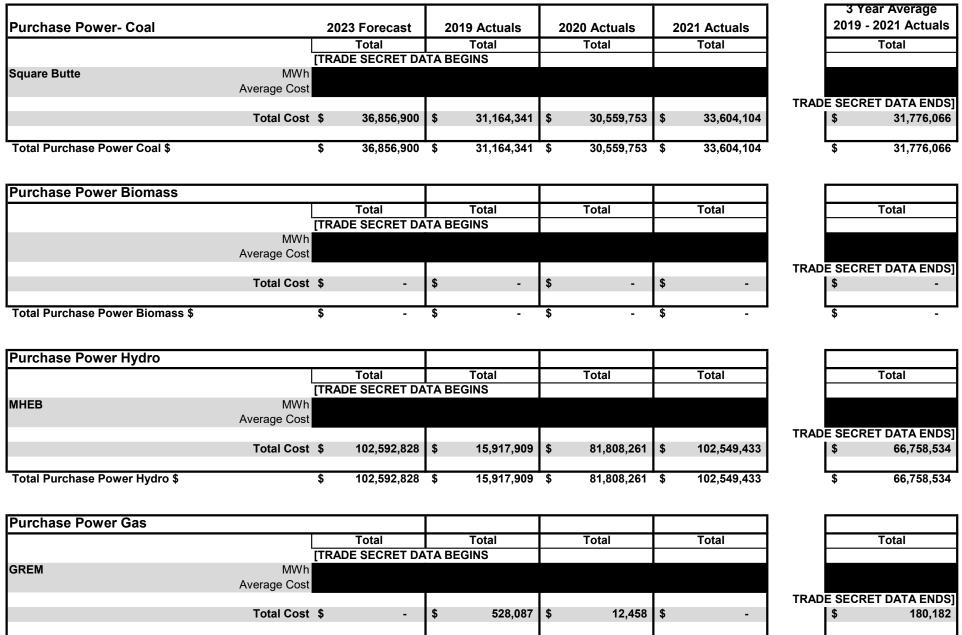
### Response:

A. Purchased energy costs, by type, are provided in **DOC IR 16.01 Attach PUB** for 2019-2021 actuals, the 2023 forecast, and the 2019-2021 3 year average.

To be completed by responder

Response Date:	6/3/2022
Response by:	Taylor Murphy
Email Address:	tmurphy@mnpower.com
Phone Number:	218-355-3591

PublicAttachment No. 1.2Docket No. E015/AA-22-216Page 2 of 4Department Attachment No. 6NON-PUBLIC DOCUMENTPage 2 of 5CONTAINS TRADE SECRET DATA



\$

528,087 \$

12,458 \$

\$

Total Purchase Power Gas \$

180,182

\$

DOC IR 16.01 ATTACH

## PUBLIC DOCUMENT TRADE SECRET DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

Minnesota Power E015/AA-22-216

Public Docket No. E015/AA-22-216 Department Attachment No. 6 Page 3 of 5

l						Page 3 of 5			
Purchase Power Wind							Г		
		Total		Total	Total	Total		-	Total
	]	TRADE SECRET DA	TA BE	GINS					
Oliver 1	MWh Average Cost								
							TRADE	SECRET	DATA ENDS]
	Total Cost	\$ 3,860,961	\$	4,358,909	\$ 3,305,579	\$ 2,919,748	\$		3,528,079
	]	TRADE SECRET DA	<b>TA BE</b>	GINS					
Oliver 2	MWh Average Cost								
	<u> </u>						TRADE	SECRET	DATA ENDS]
	Total Cost	\$ 6,529,057	\$	6,048,928	\$ 6,267,453	\$ 5,681,911	\$		5,999,431
	]	TRADE SECRET DA		GINS					
Wing River	MWh Average Cost								
							TRADE	SECRET	DATA ENDS]
	Total Cost	\$ 250,729	\$	132,215	\$ 142,654	\$ 72,459	\$		115,776
	]	TRADE SECRET DA	TA BE	GINS					
Nobles	MWh Average Cost		-						
							TRADE	SECRET	DATA ENDS]
	Total Cost	\$ 19,788,212	\$	-	\$ 5,551,805	\$ 19,004,220	\$		8,185,341
Total Purchase Power Wind \$		\$ 30,428,960	\$	10,540,053	\$ 15,267,492	\$ 27,678,338	L\$		17,828,628

Purchase Power Diesel										
		Total		Total	Total	Т	otal		То	otal
	[Т	RADE SECRET D	ATA BE	GINS						
	MWh									
	Average Cost									
								TRAD	E SECRET D	ATA ENDS
	Total Cost \$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-		\$	-
Total Purchase Power Diesel \$	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-	I	\$	-

Purchase Power Solar									
		Total	Total		Total	Total		1	Total
	Ī	TRADE SECRET DA	TA BEGINS						
SES 20MW Solar	MWh								
	Average Cost								
							TRAD	E SECRET	DATA ENDS]
	Total Cost	\$ 2,522,315	\$	- \$	-	\$-		\$	-
	[	TRADE SECRET DA	TA BEGINS						

Minnesota Power			PUBL	IC DOCUMENT			Public	D	DC IR 16.01	ATTACH
E015/AA-22-216		TRADE SEC	CRET	DATA HAS BEE	N EXCISEI		E015/AA-22-216 ttachment No. 6 Page 4 of 5-			
Purchase to Serve Municipal	MWh						-			
Solar Energy	Average Cost									
								TRADE S	ECRET DAT	
	Total Cost \$	189,009	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$		-
	[TR	RADE SECRET DA	TA B	EGINS						
Solar Subscription Cancellations	MWh Average Cost									
								TRADE S	ECRET DAT	A ENDS
	Total Cost \$	-	\$	1,654	\$	70	\$ 1,367	\$		1,030
Total Purchase Power Solar \$	\$	2,711,324	\$	1,654	\$	70	\$ 1,367	\$		1,030
Purchase Power Unknown								Г		

Purchase Power Unknown		/	<u> </u>	/					, L		
		Total		otal		Total		Total	, L		Total
_		TRADE SECRET DA		<u> 15 </u>		/			, L		'
Market Purchase	MWh								, <b>T</b>		
	Average Cost								· <b>/</b>		
			L	/	L		L				T DATA ENDS]
	Total Cost \$			90,234,916	\$	48,717,311	\$	94,942,309	, F	\$	77,964,845
		TRADE SECRET DA		<u>./S</u>	L				, L		!
MPC- Station Service	MWh								, <b>T</b>		
	Average Cost								· <b>/</b>		
			L	/	L		L				T DATA ENDS]
	Total Cost \$			366,992	\$	257,212	\$	507,516	, F	\$	377,240
		TRADE SECRET DA		<u>.s</u>					, L		
Purchase to Serve Non-Firm	MWh								, <b>T</b>		
Retail Customer	Average Cost								, 📕		
			1.	/	L		L				T DATA ENDS]
	Total Cost \$				\$	-	\$	-	, F	\$	-
		TRADE SECRET DA	TA BEGIN	<u> /S</u>					, L		
Minnkota Power	MWh								, <b>T</b>		
	Average Cost								, <b>/</b>		
		/	L	/	L		L				T DATA ENDS]
	Total Cost \$			19,537,800	\$	7,752,000	\$	544,800	, F	\$	9,278,200
		TRADE SECRET DA		<u> 1S</u>		/			, L		
IMO (Ontario Market Operator)	MWh								, <b>T</b>		
	Average Cost								, 📕		
		/	1	/	L				TRADE	SECRE	T DATA ENDS]
	Total Cost \$		\$	51,553	\$	8,209	\$	36,407	, F	\$	32,057
		TRADE SECRET DA	TA BEGIN	<u> 1S</u> ]	L				, L		
AEP Energy Partners	MWh								, <b>T</b>		
	Average Cost								, <b>T</b>		
				/					TRADE	SECRE	ET DATA ENDS]
	Total Cost \$			3,748,360	\$	3,627,000	\$	5,579,300	. I	\$	4,318,220
1	דן	TRADE SECRET DA	<b>TA BEGIN</b>	4S /	1	, i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	1				

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E015/AA-22-216		TRADE SEC	CRET	DATA HAS BEE	N EX		 o. E015/AA-22-216 t Attachment No. 6		
Shell Energy North America	MWh Average Cost		-				Page 5 of 5		
	Average Cost							TRADE SEC	RET DATA ENDS
	Total Cost \$	-	\$	13,783,040	\$	460,350	\$ 7,632,060	\$	7,291,817
		ADE SECRET DA	TA BE	GINS					
NextEra Energy	MWh Average Cost								
								TRADE SEC	RET DATA ENDS
	Total Cost \$	-	\$	2,405,083	\$	3,082,620	\$ 23,297,399	\$	9,595,034
	-	ADE SECRET DA	TA BE	GINS					
Other Purchases	MWh Average Cost								
								TRADE SEC	RET DATA ENDS
	Total Cost \$	-	\$	2,212,963	\$	1,793,559	\$ 1,359,714	\$	1,788,745
	-	ADE SECRET DA	TA BE	GINS					
MacQuarie Energy	MWh Average Cost								
									RET DATA ENDS
	Total Cost \$			-	\$	-	\$ 4,994,940	\$	1,664,980
The Energy Authority	MWh	ADE SECRET DA		GINS					
The Energy Authonity	Average Cost								
	, a chage cool							TRADE SEC	RET DATA ENDS
	Total Cost \$	-	\$	1,700,840	\$	-	\$ 52,800	\$	584,547
	[TR	ADE SECRET DA	TA BE	GINS					
Transalta Energy Marketing	MWh Average Cost								
								TRADE SEC	RET DATA ENDS
	Total Cost \$	-	\$	23,063,820	\$	-	\$ -	\$	7,687,940
Total Purchase Power Unknown \$	\$	51,890,208	\$	157,105,367	\$	65,698,262	\$ 138,947,245	\$	120,583,624
		Total		Total		Total	Total		Total
Total Company Purchase Power	\$	224,480,219	\$	215,257,410	\$	193,346,296	\$ 302,780,486	\$	237,128,064



Public Docket No. E015/AA-22-216 Department Attachment No. 7 Page 1 of 2

## **Minnesota Department of Commerce** 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 **Information Request**

Docket Number: E015/AA-19-302 **Requested From:** Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial

 $\Box$ Nonpublic  $\boxtimes$ Public Date of Request: 3/11/21 Response Due: 3/22/21

SEND RESPONSE VIA EMAIL TO: Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us as well as the assigned analyst(s). Assigned Analyst(s): Nancy Campbell Email Address(es): nancy.campbell@state.mn.us Phone Number(s): 651-539-1821

## **ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

Each response must be submitted as a text searchable PDF, unless otherwise directed. Please include the docket number, request number, and respondent name and title on the answers. If your response contains Trade Secret data, please include a public copy.

<b>Request Number:</b>	11
Topic:	Asset Based Margins
Reference(s):	MP's March 1, 2021 Filing

## **Request:**

- A. Please provide MP's total asset based sales and margins for 2020.
- B. Please provide the wholesale sales and margins related to the "Sales due to Retail and Resale Loss of Load" - 518,000 MWhs shown on Table 3. Please explain if these margins are being kept by the Company and support for why this is reasonable.
- C. Please provide the asset based sales and margins refunded to customers. Please explain if asset based margins refunded to customers are part (A) less part (B).
- D. Please show how the asset based sales and margins were refunded to customers. Please explain your response.

## **Response:**

A. The actual 2020 year to date "Asset Based Sales" were 1,187,385 MWhs and the margin was This includes a sale to [TRADE SECRET DATA BEGINS \$23,085,356 after MISO costs. TRADE SECRET DATA ENDS Customer's

received the margin credit from this sale in their base rates.

B. The actual 2020 year to date "Sales due to Retail and Resale Loss of Load" were 518,056 MWhs and the margin was \$515,793 after MISO costs. The margins are retained by the Company which is in accordance with the results of Minnesota Power's Rate Case Resolution Docket Nos. E015/GR-19-442

To be completed by responder

Response Date: March 22, 2011 Response by: **Ryan LaCoursiere** Email Address: rlacoursiere@mnpower.com Phone Number: (218) 355-3678



Public Docket No. E015/AA-22-216 Department Attachment No. 7 Page 2 of 2

## Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 Information Request

Docket Number: E015/AA-19-302 Requested From: Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial □Nonpublic ⊠Public Date of Request: 3/11/21 Response Due: 3/22/21

 SEND RESPONSE VIA <u>EMAIL</u>TO: <u>Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us</u> as well as the assigned analyst(s).
 Assigned Analyst(s): Nancy Campbell
 Email Address(es): nancy.campbell@state.mn.us and E015/M-20-429.

- C. The Asset Based Sales refunded to the customers through the FAC forecast were 613,364 MWhs and the margin was \$5,631,302 after MISO costs from July 2020 December 2020. The Asset Based Sales margins were included in the 2020 FAC Forecast updated July 1, 2020 as a result of Minnesota Power's Rate Case Resolution Docket Nos. E015/GR-19-442 and E015/M-20-429 and reduced overall costs in the forecasted FAC rate. Asset Based Sales margins for May and June 2020 were refunded to the customer through the interim rate refund in accordance with the result of Minnesota Power's Rate Case Resolution Docket Nos. E015/GR-19-442 and E015/M-20-429. The Asset Based Sales margins refunded to the customers are not part (A) less part (B). The Asset Based Sales and margins presented in (A) do not include any sales and margins associated with Retail and Resale Loss of Load as they are tracked separately.
- D. The Asset Based Sales MWhs have always been considered an Intersystem Sale which reduce the MWh Sales in the Retail FAC Calculation. They are Non FAC Sales and are removed as shown on Attachment 2, Line 11 "Less: Inter-System Sales" and are included with other sales in the "Market Sales" bucket. The Asset Based Sales Margins refunded to customers were included in the 2020 FAC Forecast updated July 1, 2020 as a result of Minnesota Power's Rate Case Resolution Docket Nos. E015/GR-19-442 and E015/M-20-429 and reduced overall costs in the 2020 forecasted FAC calculation. The Asset Based Sales Margins are included on Attachment 2, Line 5 "Less: Fuel Cost Recovered through Inter-System Sales" and the "Asset Based Margins" bucket.

To be completed by responder

Response Date:March 22, 2011Response by:Ryan LaCoursiereEmail Address:rlacoursiere@mnpower.comPhone Number:(218) 355-3678



## Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 Information Request

Docket Number: E015/AA-22-216 Requested From: Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial □Nonpublic ⊠Public Date of Request: 5/17/22 Response Due: 5/27/22

SEND RESPONSE VIA EMAIL TO: Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us as well as the assigned analyst(s).

Assigned Analyst(s): Holly Soderbeck Email Address(es): <u>holly.soderbeck@state.mn.us</u> Phone Number(s): 651-539-1849

## ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Each response must be submitted as a text searchable PDF, unless otherwise directed. Please include the docket number, request number, and respondent name and title on the answers. If your response contains Trade Secret data, please include a public copy.

Request Number:	18
Topic:	Asset-based sales
<u>Reference(s):</u>	Petition, Attachment No. 1

## **Request:**

A. The Department notes asset-based margins are included as part of Minnesota Power's Intersystem Sales, yet Intersystem Sales are excluded from Minnesota Power's forecasted fuel costs for 2023. Please explain how the asset-based margins are given back to ratepayers.

## **Request:**

A. The FAC Calculation in its simplest form is generation and purchase costs less fuel costs allocated to intersystem sales. Intersystem sales MWhs and costs are considered non FAC and that is why they are removed (or in other words, reduce fuel and purchased power remaining in the FAC) from the Minnesota Power's FAC Forecast calculation for 2023.

Asset Based Sales have always been considered an Intersystem sale which reduces the sales and costs in the Retail FAC Calculation. The Asset Based Sales margins refunded to customers are included in the 2023 FAC Forecast, Docket No. AA-22-216, Attachment No. 1, Page 10 of 18 under the detail of line 5 "Less: Cost Recovered through Inter-System Sales" which increases fuel costs recovered through Intersystem sales and in return reduces fuel costs remaining in the FAC.

Also, please refer to Docket No. AA-19-302, IR 11, response C and D for discussion on Asset Based Margins.



## Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 Information Request

Docket Number: E015/AA-22-216 Requested From: Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial □Nonpublic □Public Date of Request: 5/17/22 Response Due: 5/27/22

SEND RESPONSE VIA EMAIL TO: Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us as well as the assigned analyst(s).

Assigned Analyst(s): Holly Soderbeck Email Address(es): <u>holly.soderbeck@state.mn.us</u> Phone Number(s): 651-539-1849

## **ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

Each response must be submitted as a text searchable PDF, unless otherwise directed. Please include the docket number, request number, and respondent name and title on the answers. If your response contains Trade Secret data, please include a public copy.

Request Number:	19
Topic:	Planned outages
Reference(s):	P 66-72 of 105 – Forecasted Planned and Forced Outages

## **Request:**

A. Please provide forecasted planned and forced outage costs for 2019, 2020, and 2021; the three-year average of 2019 – 2021, and the actual planned outage costs for the same time periods. Please explain any material *differences compared* to the 2023 forecast planned outage costs.

## **Response:**

A. The FAC Reform process started in 2020 and was the first year a forecast was filed. Minnesota Power's FAC reporting process before FAC Reform did not include the forecasting of planned and forced outage costs so no forecasted planned and forced outages were filed with the department.

**DOC IR 19.01 Attach PUB** contains the forecasted planned and forced incremental outage costs for 2020 and 2021; the two-year average of 2020 – 2021, and the actual planned incremental outage costs for the same time periods.

The 2023 forecasted planned outage incremental costs are not materially different from the two year average when compared to total FAC costs. The slight increase in planned incremental outage costs over the two year average forecasted incremental costs can be attributed to the higher market prices/LMPs forecasted for 2023 which would increase the cost of replacement energy.

To be completed by responder

# PUBLIC DOCUMENT

Public Docket No. E015/AA-22-216 Department Attachment No. 9 Page 2 of 2

TRADE SECRET DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED DOC IR 19.01 ATTACH

Planned Outage Incremental Costs					
	Forecasted Incremental	Actual Incremental			
Year	Costs	Costs			
2020	\$3,441,487.35	(\$293,246.05)			
2021	(\$2,869,832.41)	\$6,415,192.24			
Total	\$571,654.94	\$6,121,946.19			
2 Year Average	\$285,827.47				
	[TRADE SECRET DATA BEGINS				
2023					

TRADE SECRET DATA ENDS]

Forced Outage Incremental Costs				
	Forecasted Incremental			
Year	Costs			
2020	\$1,021,843.22			
2021	(\$633,961.53)			
Total	\$387,881.69			
2 Year Average	\$193,940.84			



Public Docket No. E015/AA-22-216 Department Attachment No. 10 Page 1 of 3

## Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 Information Request

Docket Number: E015/AA-22-216 Requested From: Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial □Nonpublic ⊠Public Date of Request: 5/17/22 Response Due: 5/27/22

**SEND RESPONSE VIA <u>EMAIL</u>TO:** <u>Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us</u> as well as the assigned analyst(s).

Assigned Analyst(s): Holly Soderbeck Email Address(es): <u>holly.soderbeck@state.mn.us</u> Phone Number(s): 651-539-1849

## **ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

Each response must be submitted as a text searchable PDF, unless otherwise directed. Please include the docket number, request number, and respondent name and title on the answers. If your response contains Trade Secret data, please include a public copy.

Request Number:	2
Topic:	Minnesota Power's Actual 2019 -2021 and Forecasted 2023 Unplanned Outages (MWh)
Reference(s):	No Specific Reference

## **Request:**

- A. Please provide on a live spreadsheet with all links and formulas included, Minnesota Power's MWhs of unplanned outages (forced outages of less than 24 hours, forced outages of more than 24 hours and derates), including its corresponding breakdown by plant expected to be in service in 2023 for 2023 forecast, 2019 to 2021 actuals by year, and three-year average of 2019 to 2021.
- B. For any differences of 5 percent or more when comparing 2023 forecast to 2021 actuals, please explain reasons for deviation.
- C. For any differences of 5 percent or more when comparing 2023 forecast to three-year average of 2019 to 2021, please explain reasons for deviation.

## **Responses:**

- A. **DOC IR 02.01 Attach PUB** contains the unplanned outage MWhs (forced outages of less than 24 hours and forced outages of more than 24 hours) for the 2023 forecast, 2019-2021 actuals, and the three year average for 2019-2021. Minnesota Power has not tracked and reported on derates since November 2013 as they are not considered outages.
- B. The difference between the 2023 forecast to 2021 actuals is **[TRADE SECRET DATA BEGINS TRADE SECRET DATA ENDS]**.
- C. The 2023 forecast unplanned outage MWhs is about [TRADE SECRET DATA BEGINS

To be completed by responder

Response Date:6/3/2022Response by:Ryan LaCoursiereEmail Address:rlacoursiere@mnpower.comPhone Number:218-355-3678



Public Docket No. E015/AA-22-216 Department Attachment No. 10 Page 2 of 3

## Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 Information Request

Docket Number: E015/AA-22-216 Requested From: Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial □Nonpublic ⊠Public Date of Request: 5/17/22 Response Due: 5/27/22

SEND RESPONSE VIA EMAIL TO: Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us as well as the assigned analyst(s).

**TRADE SECRET DATA ENDS]** than the 3 year average of 2019-2021 actuals. The driver of the difference would be that Boswell 3 and 4 had major unplanned outages in 2019 which raises the 3 year average (2019-2021). The 2019 forced outage rate was excluded from our 5 year average that was used to develop the 2023 FAC Forecast. In 2019, Boswell 4 had a major unplanned outage that spanned 49 days or 546,000 MWhs (Feb 2019 – Mar 2019) due to a hot reheat line steam leak. Boswell 3 also had a major unplanned outage that spanned 21 days or 169,000 MWhs (Jul 2019) due to a boiler circulation pump replacement and generator bushing failure.

To be completed by responder

Response Date:6/3/2022Response by:Ryan LaCoursiereEmail Address:rlacoursiere@mnpower.comPhone Number:218-355-3678

Docket No. E015/AA-22-216 Department Attachment No. 10 Page 3 of 3

		Unplanned Outa	ge MWhs			
				1	1	
Unit	2023 Forecast Total	2021 Actuals Total	2020 Actuals Total	2019 Actuals Total	3 Year Actuals Average	
	TRADE SECRET					
	DATA BEGINS					
Boswell 3		96,552	86,029	312,248	164,943	
Boswell 4		214,650	405,924	576,089	398,888	
Total		311,202	491,953	888,337	563,831	
Boswell 3 less than 24 hours		0	0	0	0	
Boswell 3 more than 24 hours		96,552	86,029	312,248	164,943	
Total	-	96,552	86,029	312,248	164,943	
Boswell 4 less than 24 hours		16,797	0	0	5,599	
Boswell 4 more than 24 hours		197.853	405,924	576,089	393,289	
Total	-	214,650	405,924	576,089	398,888	
Grand Total	TRADE SECRET DATA ENDS	311,202	491,953	888,337	563,831	
	,			2023 Forcast vs.	2023 Forecast vs.	
				2021 Actuals [TRADE SECRET DAT.	2019-2021 Actuals	
				TRAD	E SECRET DATA ENDS	
				Percent Change [TRADE SECRET DATA BEGINS		



Public Docket No. E015/AA-22-216 Department Attachment No. 11 Page 1 of 4

## Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 Information Request

Docket Number: E015/AA-20-463 Requested From: Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial □Nonpublic ⊠Public Date of Request: 4/22/22 Response Due: 5/2/22

SEND RESPONSE VIA <u>EMAIL</u>TO: <u>Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us</u> as well as the assigned analyst(s). Assigned Analyst(s): Nancy Campbell & Mark Johnson Email Address(es): <u>nancy.campbell@state.mn.us</u> & <u>mark.a.johnson@state.mn.us</u>

Phone Number(s): 651-539-1821 & 651-539-1824

## ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Each response must be submitted as a text searchable PDF, unless otherwise directed. Please include the docket number, request number, and respondent name and title on the answers. If your response contains Trade Secret data, please include a public copy.

Request Number:	24
Topic:	MISO Capacity Market Auction
Reference(s):	No specific reference

## **Request:**

- a) Please provide the megawatts, dollars per megawatt, and total revenue that MP received or will receive from MISO's recent capacity auction. Please provide any supporting calculations and documentation.
- b) Please provide the megawatts, dollars per megawatt, and total expenses attributed to MP or will be attributed to MP via MISO's recent capacity auction. Please provide any supporting calculations and documentation.
- c) Please explain what MISO charge types these capacity auctions revenues and expenses are recorded to. Also, when will MP receive the capacity auction revenues and expenses? Please include applicable MISO invoices.
- d) Will MP flow through to customers these capacity auction revenues and expenses though the Fuel Clause Adjustment (FCA), also called the Fuel and Purchased Energy (FPE) Charge? If yes, please explain how and when these revenues and expenses will be refunded to customers, for example does MP plan to include these revenues and expenses in its 2021 FAC true-up? Please be specific and explain how refunding will occur.

(Continued on next page)



Public Docket No. E015/AA-22-216 Department Attachment No. 11 Page 2 of 4

## Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 Information Request

Docket Number: E015/AA-20-463 Requested From: Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial □ Nonpublic ⊠ Public Date of Request: 4/22/22 Response Due: 5/2/22

SEND RESPONSE VIA <u>EMAIL</u>TO: <u>Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us</u> as well as the assigned analyst(s). Assigned Analyst(s): Nancy Campbell & Mark Johnson Email Address(es): <u>nancy.campbell@state.mn.us</u> & <u>mark.a.johnson@state.mn.us</u>

Phone Number(s): 651-539-1821 & 651-539-1824

#### ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Each response must be submitted as a text searchable PDF, unless otherwise directed. Please include the docket number, request number, and respondent name and title on the answers. If your response contains Trade Secret data, please include a public copy.

- Please explain how past MISO capacity market auction revenues or expenses were refunded or charged to ratepayers.
- f) If the capacity auction revenues and expenses are not proposed to flow through the FCA, please explain why not. Also, explain through what mechanism, how specifically and when and where, the MISO capacity auction revenues and expenses will be flowed through to ratepayers.
- g) Please explain if the capacity market revenues and/or costs exceed the Commission's June 12, 2019 Order in Docket No. E999/CI-03-802 that established a plus or minus 5 percent of all FCA costs and revenues to determine if an event qualifies as a significant unforeseen impact that justifies an adjustment to the approved fuel rates. Please show all supporting calculations.

#### RESPONSE

a) Below is the excess capacity sold into the MISO Planning Resource Auction for Planning Year 2022-2023, including the \$/MW- Day clearing price and total revenue

	Excess Capacity Sold (ZRC)	Auction Clearing Price (\$/MW-Day)	Total Revenue MP Received from MISO
	[TRADE SECRET DATA BEGINS		[TRADE SECRET DATA BEGINS
June 2022 thru December 2022		\$236.66	
January 2023 thru May 2023		\$236.66	
	TRADE SECRET DATA ENDS]		TRADE SECRET DATA ENDS]



Public Docket No. E015/AA-22-216 Department Attachment No. 11 Page 3 of 4

## Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 Information Request

Docket Number: E015/AA-20-463 Requested From: Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial □Nonpublic □Public Date of Request: 4/22/22 Response Due: 5/2/22

**SEND RESPONSE VIA <u>EMAIL</u> TO: <u>Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us</u> as well as the assigned analyst(s). <b>Assigned Analyst(s):** Nancy Campbell & Mark Johnson **Email Address(es):** <u>nancy.campbell@state.mn.us</u> & <u>mark.a.johnson@state.mn.us</u>

- b) Minnesota Power did not incur any expenses in the Planning Year 2022-2023 Planning Resource Auction.
- c) MISO Capacity revenues and expenses are recorded in the MISO charge type "Resource Adequacy Auction Amount". The recent capacity auction was for planning year 2022-2023, therefore the first revenues should be seen on Minnesota Power's S7 MISO settlement statement for Operating Day June 1, 2022. Invoices for future operating days have not yet been received, therefore invoices cannot be provided at this time.
- d) Minnesota Power is evaluating the holistic impact to the company and customers of the planning resource auction results. Per the 2019 rate case settlement, asset-based wholesale margin credit is defined as such, "Asset-based wholesale margin credits are the net revenue that results from a utility selling excess energy and capacity that is not needed to serve the utility's retail customers in the wholesale MISO market. The difference between the revenues and costs from these sales results in asset-based wholesale margin credits ("margin credits")."

There is a wide range of impacts to customers and the Company due to the recent MISO capacity auction. Minnesota Power is evaluating how the revenue can best be utilized for all customers since existing agreements, Electric Service Agreements and tariffs have terms referencing the planning resource auction results which could have financial impacts on the Company. Under the current approved process, Minnesota Power would include any capacity auction revenues received in the calculation of actual fuel costs in the Fuel Clause Adjustment calculations. Capacity revenues would be included when the FAC Forecast True Up filing is completed in February 2023 and would either increase the amount to be refunded to customers or decrease the amount to be collected from customers through the FAC true up rates.

- e) Now that asset-based wholesales margins and capacity revenues are allowed to be included in the FAC, anticipated revenues are included in the FAC forecast, and trued up to actuals when the annual FAC True up filing is completed. Capacity expenses are forecast during a rate case and included in base rates.
- f) See e) above.

To be completed by responder



Public Docket No. E015/AA-22-216 Department Attachment No. 11 Page 4 of 4

## Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East | Suite 280 | St. Paul, MN 55101 Information Request

Docket Number: E015/AA-20-463 Requested From: Minnesota Power Type of Inquiry: Financial □ Nonpublic ⊠ Public Date of Request: 4/22/22 Response Due: 5/2/22

SEND RESPONSE VIA <u>EMAIL</u> TO: <u>Utility.Discovery@state.mn.us</u> as well as the assigned analyst(s). Assigned Analyst(s): Nancy Campbell & Mark Johnson Email Address(es): <u>nancy.campbell@state.mn.us</u> & <u>mark.a.johnson@state.mn.us</u>

g) As stated in responses a) and d), Minnesota Power is evaluating how the revenue can best be utilized for all customers and under the current approved process, Minnesota Power would receive [TRADE SECRET DATA BEGINS TRADE SECRET DATA ENDS] (total Company) in capacity revenue from June 2022 thru December 2022. This is a [TRADE SECRET DATA BEGINS TRADE SECRET DATA ENDS] reduction in total 2022 forecasted FAC costs and would not exceed the Commission's June 12, 2019 Order in Docket No. E999/CI-03-802 of plus or minus 5 percent of all FCA costs and revenues to determine if an event qualifies as a significant unforeseen impact that justifies an adjustment to the approved fuel rates.

2022 FAC Forecast Total Costs	Capacity Revenues from June - December 2022	Updated 2022 FAC Forecast Total Costs	Percentage Difference
	[TRADE SECRET DATA BEGINS		•
\$229,065,935			
a share been to a strong			TRADE SECRET DATA ENDS

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Sharon Ferguson, hereby certify that I have this day, served copies of the following document on the attached list of persons by electronic filing, certified mail, e-mail, or by depositing a true and correct copy thereof properly enveloped with postage paid in the United States Mail at St. Paul, Minnesota.

Minnesota Department of Commerce Public Comments

Docket No. E015/M-22-216

Dated this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June 2022

/s/Sharon Ferguson

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Kevin	Adams	kadams@caprw.org	Community Action Partnership of Ramsey & Washington Counties	450 Syndicate St N Ste 35 Saint Paul, MN 55104	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Jorge	Alonso	jorge.alonso@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th Place East Suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Lori	Andresen	info@sosbluewaters.org	Save Our Sky Blue Waters	P.O. Box 3661 Duluth, Minnesota 55803	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Allen	Barr	allen.barr@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	445 Minnesota St Ste 1400 Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Jessica L	Bayles	Jessica.Bayles@stoel.com	Stoel Rives LLP	1150 18th St NW Ste 325 Washington, DC 20036	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Sara	Bergan	sebergan@stoel.com	Stoel Rives LLP	33 South Sixth Street Suite 4200 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Kristin	Berkland	kristin.berkland@ag.state. mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	445 Minnesota Street Bremer Tower, Suite 1 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service 400	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
David F.	Boehm	dboehm@bkllawfirm.com	Boehm, Kurtz & Lowry	36 E 7th St Ste 1510 Cincinnati, OH 45202	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Jason	Bonnett	jason.bonnett@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 East 7th Place suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Elizabeth	Brama	ebrama@taftlaw.com	Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP	2200 IDS Center 80 South 8th Street Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Jon	Brekke	jbrekke@grenergy.com	Great River Energy	12300 Elm Creek Boulevard Maple Grove, MN 553694718	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Matthew	Brodin	mbrodin@allete.com	Minnesota Power Company	30 West Superior St Duluth, MN 55802	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Christina	Brusven	cbrusven@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson Byron	200 S 6th St Ste 4000 Minneapolis, MN 554021425	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Jennifer	Cady	jjcady@mnpower.com	Minnesota Power	30 W Superior St Duluth, MN 55802	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
David	Cartella	David.Cartella@cliffsnr.co m	Cliffs Natural Resources Inc.	200 Public Square Ste 3300 Cleveland, OH 44114-2315	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Greg	Chandler	greg.chandler@upm.com	UPM Blandin Paper	115 SW First St Grand Rapids, MN 55744	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Steve W.	Chriss	Stephen.chriss@walmart.c om	Wal-Mart	2001 SE 10th St. Bentonville, AR 72716-5530	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Generic Notice	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.st ate.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Riley	Conlin	riley.conlin@stoel.com	Stoel Rives LLP	33 S. 6th Street Suite 4200 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Brooke	Cooper	bcooper@allete.com	Minnesota Power	30 W Superior St Duluth, MN 558022191	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Sean	Copeland	seancopeland@fdlrez.com	Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	1720 Big Lake Rd Cloquet, MN 55720	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Hillary	Creurer	hcreurer@allete.com	Minnesota Power	30 W Superior St Duluth, MN 55802	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Patrick	Cutshall	pcutshall@allete.com	Minnesota Power	30 West Superior Street Duluth, MN 55802	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Lisa	Daniels	lisadaniels@windustry.org	Windustry	201 Ridgewood Ave Minneapolis, MN 55403	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Richard	Dornfeld	Richard.Dornfeld@ag.state .mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	Minnesota Attorney General's Office 445 Minnesota Street, Suite 1800 Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
J.	Drake Hamilton	hamilton@fresh-energy.org	Fresh Energy	408 St Peter St Ste 350 Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Brian	Edstrom	briane@cubminnesota.org	Citizens Utility Board of Minnesota	332 Minnesota St Ste W1360 Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Ron	Elwood	relwood@mnlsap.org	Legal Services Advocacy Project	970 Raymond Avenue Suite G-40 Saint Paul, MN 55114	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn .us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 280 Saint Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Frank	Frederickson	ffrederickson@mnpower.co m	Minnesota Power	30 W Superior St. Duluth, MN 55802	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Edward	Garvey	garveyed@aol.com	Residence	32 Lawton St Saint Paul, MN 55102	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
John R.	Gasele	jgasele@fryberger.com	Fryberger Buchanan Smith & Frederick PA	700 Lonsdale Building 302 W Superior St Ste Duluth, MN 55802	Electronic Service 700	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Bruce	Gerhardson	bgerhardson@otpco.com	Otter Tail Power Company	PO Box 496 215 S Cascade St Fergus Falls, MN 565380496	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Barbara	Gervais	toftemn@boreal.org	Town of Tofte	P O Box 2293 7240 Tofte Park Road Tofte, MN 55615	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Jerome	Hall	hallj@stlouiscountymn.gov	Saint Louis County Property Mgmt Dept	Duluth Courthouse 100 N 5th Ave W Rm Duluth, MN 55802-1209	Electronic Service 515	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Adam	Heinen	aheinen@dakotaelectric.co m	Dakota Electric Association	4300 220th St W Farmington, MN 55024	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Kimberly	Hellwig	kimberly.hellwig@stoel.co m	Stoel Rives LLP	33 South Sixth Street Suite 4200 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Annete	Henkel	mui@mnutilityinvestors.org	Minnesota Utility Investors	413 Wacouta Street #230 St.Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Valerie	Herring	vherring@taftlaw.com	Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP	2200 IDS Center 80 S. Eighth Street Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Katherine	Hinderlie	katherine.hinderlie@ag.stat e.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	445 Minnesota St Suite 1400 St. Paul, MN 55101-2134	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Lori	Hoyum	Ihoyum@mnpower.com	Minnesota Power	30 West Superior Street Duluth, MN 55802	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
James	Jarvi	N/A	Minnesota Ore Operations - U S Steel	P O Box 417 Mountain Iron, MN 55768	Paper Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Alan	Jenkins	aj@jenkinsatlaw.com	Jenkins at Law	2950 Yellowtail Ave. Marathon, FL 33050	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Richard	Johnson	Rick.Johnson@lawmoss.co m	Moss & Barnett	150 S. 5th Street Suite 1200 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Kelsey	Johnson	info@taconite.org	Iron Mining Association	324 West Superior St Ste 502 Duluth, MN 55802	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Sarah	Johnson Phillips	sarah.phillips@stoel.com	Stoel Rives LLP	33 South Sixth Street Suite 4200 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Nick	Kaneski	nick.kaneski@enbridge.co m	Enbridge Energy Company, Inc.	11 East Superior St Ste 125 Duluth, MN 55802	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Nicolas	Kaylor	nkaylor@mojlaw.com		120 South 6th St Ste 2400 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Travis	Kolari	N/A	Keetac	PO Box 217 Keewatin, MN 55753	Paper Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Michael	Krikava	mkrikava@taftlaw.com	Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP	2200 IDS Center 80 S 8th St Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Becky	Lammi	cityclerk@ci.aurora.mn.us	City of Aurora	16 W 2nd Ave N PO Box 160 Aurura, MN 55705	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Carmel	Laney	carmel.laney@stoel.com	Stoel Rives LLP	33 South Sixth Street Suite 4200 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
David	Langmo	david.langmo@sappi.com	Sappi North America	P O Box 511 2201 Avenue B Cloquet, MN 55720	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Emily	Larson	eLarson@duluthmn.gov	City of Duluth	411 W 1st St Rm 403 Duluth, MN 55802	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
James D.	Larson	james.larson@avantenergy .com	Avant Energy Services	220 S 6th St Ste 1300 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Annie	Levenson Falk	annielf@cubminnesota.org	Citizens Utility Board of Minnesota	332 Minnesota Street, Suite W1360 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
LeRoger	Lind	llind@yahoo.com	Save Lake Superior Association	P.O. Box 101 Two Harbors, MN 55616	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Eric	Lindberg	elindberg@mncenter.org	Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy	1919 University Avenue West Suite 515 Saint Paul, MN 55104-3435	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Eric	Lipman	eric.lipman@state.mn.us	Office of Administrative Hearings	PO Box 64620 St. Paul, MN 551640620	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Patrick	Loupin	PatrickLoupin@Packaging Corp.com	Packaging Corporation of America	PO Box 990050 Boise, ID 83799-0050	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Susan	Ludwig	sludwig@mnpower.com	Minnesota Power	30 West Superior Street Duluth, MN 55802	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Peter E.	Madsen	pmadsen@taftlaw.com	Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP	2200 IDS Center 80 South 8th Street Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Kavita	Maini	kmaini@wi.rr.com	KM Energy Consulting, LLC	961 N Lost Woods Rd Oconomowoc, WI 53066	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Discovery	Manager	discoverymanager@mnpo wer.com	Minnesota Power	30 W Superior St Duluth, MN 55802	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Sarah	Manchester	sarah.manchester@sappi.c om	Sappi North American	255 State Street Floor 4 Boston, MA 02109-2617	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Pam	Marshall	pam@energycents.org	Energy CENTS Coalition	823 7th St E St. Paul, MN 55106	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Emily	Marshall	emarshall@mojlaw.com	Miller O'Brien Jensen, PA	120 S. 6th Street Suite 2400 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216

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Keith	Matzdorf	keith.matzdorf@sappi.com	Sappi Fine Paper North America	PO Box 511 2201 Avenue B Cloquet, MN 55720	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Daryl	Maxwell	dmaxwell@hydro.mb.ca	Manitoba Hydro	360 Portage Ave FL 16 PO Box 815, Station N Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 2P4	Electronic Service Iain	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
				Canada			
Matthew	McClincy	MMcClincy@usg.com	USG	35 Arch Street Clouqet, MN 55720	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Craig	McDonnell	Craig.McDonnell@state.mn .us	MN Pollution Control Agency	520 Lafayette Road St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Natalie	McIntire	natalie.mcintire@gmail.com	Wind on the Wires	570 Asbury St Ste 201 Saint Paul, MN 55104-1850	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Joseph	Meyer	joseph.meyer@ag.state.mn .us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	Bremer Tower, Suite 1400 445 Minnesota Street St Paul, MN 55101-2131	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
David	Moeller	dmoeller@allete.com	Minnesota Power	30 W Superior St Duluth, MN 558022093	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Andrew	Moratzka	andrew.moratzka@stoel.co m	Stoel Rives LLP	33 South Sixth St Ste 4200 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
James	Mortenson	james.mortenson@state.m n.us	Office of Administrative Hearings	PO BOX 64620 St. Paul, MN 55164-0620	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216

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Evan	Mulholland	emulholland@mncenter.org	Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy	1919 University Ave W Ste 515 Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
David	Niles	david.niles@avantenergy.c om	Minnesota Municipal Power Agency	220 South Sixth Street Suite 1300 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Michael	Noble	noble@fresh-energy.org	Fresh Energy	408 Saint Peter St Ste 350 Saint Paul, MN 55102	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Rolf	Nordstrom	rnordstrom@gpisd.net	Great Plains Institute	2801 21ST AVE S STE 220 Minneapolis, MN 55407-1229	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
M. William	O'Brien	bobrien@mojlaw.com	Miller O'Brien Jensen, P.A.	120 S 6th St Ste 2400 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Christopher J.	Oppitz	N/A	-	PO Box 910 Park Rapids, MN 56470-0910	Paper Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Elanne	Palcich	epalcich@cpinternet.com	Save Our Sky Blue Waters	P.O. Box 3661 Duluth, MN 55803	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Max	Peters	maxp@cohasset-mn.com	City of Cohasset	305 NW First Ave Cohasset, MN 55721	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Jennifer	Peterson	jjpeterson@mnpower.com	Minnesota Power	30 West Superior Street Duluth, MN 55802	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
William	Phillips	wphillips@aarp.org	AARP	30 E. 7th St Suite 1200 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Marcia	Podratz	mpodratz@mnpower.com	Minnesota Power	30 W Superior S Duluth, MN 55802	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Tolaver	Rapp	Tolaver.Rapp@cliffsnr.com	Cliffs Natural Resources	200 Public Square Suite 3400 Cleveland, OH 441142318	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Generic Notice	Residential Utilities Division	residential.utilities@ag.stat e.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	1400 BRM Tower 445 Minnesota St St. Paul, MN 551012131	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Kevin	Reuther	kreuther@mncenter.org	MN Center for Environmental Advocacy	26 E Exchange St, Ste 206 St. Paul, MN 551011667	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Ralph	Riberich	rriberich@uss.com	United States Steel Corp	600 Grant St Ste 2028 Pittsburgh, PA 15219	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Buddy	Robinson	buddy@citizensfed.org	Minnesota Citizens Federation NE	2110 W. 1st Street Duluth, MN 55806	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Santi	Romani	N/A	United Taconite	PO Box 180 Eveleth, MN 55734	Paper Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Susan	Romans	sromans@allete.com	Minnesota Power	30 West Superior Street Legal Dept Duulth, MN 55802	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Richard	Savelkoul	rsavelkoul@martinsquires.c om	Martin & Squires, P.A.	332 Minnesota Street Ste W2750 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Thomas	Scharff	thomas.scharff@versoco.c om	Verso Corp	600 High Street Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Peter	Scholtz	peter.scholtz@ag.state.mn. us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	Suite 1400 445 Minnesota Street St. Paul, MN 55101-2131	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Robert H.	Schulte	rhs@schulteassociates.co m	Schulte Associates LLC	1742 Patriot Rd Northfield, MN 55057	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Will	Seuffert	Will.Seuffert@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th PI E Ste 350 Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Janet	Shaddix Elling	jshaddix@janetshaddix.co m	Shaddix And Associates	7400 Lyndale Ave S Ste 190 Richfield, MN 55423	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Doug	Shoemaker	dougs@charter.net	Minnesota Renewable Energy	2928 5th Ave S Minneapolis, MN 55408	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Brett	Skyles	Brett.Skyles@co.itasca.mn. us	Itasca County	123 NE Fourth Street Grand Rapids, MN 557442600	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Richard	Staffon	rcstaffon@msn.com	W. J. McCabe Chapter, Izaak Walton League of America	1405 Lawrence Road Cloquet, Minnesota 55720	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
James M	Strommen	jstrommen@kennedy- graven.com	Kennedy & Graven, Chartered	150 S 5th St Ste 700 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Eric	Swanson	eswanson@winthrop.com	Winthrop & Weinstine	225 S 6th St Ste 3500 Capella Tower Minneapolis, MN 554024629	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Lynnette	Sweet	Regulatory.records@xcele nergy.com	Xcel Energy	414 Nicollet Mall FL 7 Minneapolis, MN 554011993	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Robert	Tammen	bobtammen@frontiernet.ne t	Wetland Action Group	PO Box 398 Soudan, MN 55782	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Jim	Tieberg	jtieberg@polymetmining.co m	PolyMet Mining, Inc.	PO Box 475 County Highway 666 Hoyt Lakes, MN 55750	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Jessica	Tritsch	jessica.tritsch@sierraclub.o rg	Sierra Club	2327 E Franklin Ave Minneapolis, MN 55406	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Karen	Turnboom	karen.turnboom@versoco.c om	Verso Corporation	100 Central Avenue Duluth, MN 55807	Paper Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Kodi	Verhalen	kverhalen@taftlaw.com	Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP	80 S 8th St Ste 2200 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Kevin	Walli	kwalli@fryberger.com	Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick	380 St. Peter St Ste 710 St. Paul, MN 55102	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Laurie	Williams	laurie.williams@sierraclub. org	Sierra Club	Environmental Law Program 1536 Wynkoop St Ste Denver, CO 80202	Electronic Service 200	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216
Scott	Zahorik	scott.zahorik@aeoa.org	Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency	702 S. 3rd Avenue Virginia, MN 55792	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-216_AA-22- 216