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August 6, 2014

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Burl W. Haar Executive Secretary Minnesota Public Utilities Commission 121 Seventh Place East, Suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55101

> Re: Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation's (MERC's) 2013 Annual Service Quality Report (Report) Docket No. G011/M-14-365 Supplemental Reply Comments

Dear Dr. Haar:

On July 2, 2014, the Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources filed Comments recommending that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) accept MERC's Annual Service Quality Report pending the provision of additional information in MERC's Reply Comments. On July 22 and July 24, 2014, MERC submitted responses to the Department's requests for additional information based on information then available and indicated it was continuing to collect some of the information necessary to respond to the Department's remaining questions and would submit responses to those requests as soon as possible.

MERC submits these Supplemental Reply Comments to respond to the remaining additional requests from the Department. Specifically, MERC is submitting updated Rule 7820.0500 reports for 2012 and 2013 and a clarification regarding the number of complaints received in July 2013. MERC thanks the Department for its review and apologizes for the delay in providing the additional information requested.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Michael J. Ahern

Michael J. Ahern

STATE OF MINNESOTA

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Beverly Jones Heydinger David C. Boyd Nancy Lange Dan Lipschultz Betsy Wergin Chair Commissioner Commissioner Commissioner

In the Matter of the Review of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation's (MERC's) 2013 Annual Service Quality Report Docket No. G011/M-14-365

SUPPLEMENTAL REPLY COMMENTS OF MINNESOTA ENERGY RESOURCES CORPORATION

On July 2, 2014, the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy

Resources (Department) filed Comments in this docket recommending that MERC provide

additional information in its Reply Comments, specifically:

- A. An updated Attachment 1 reflecting 2013 data;
- B. A full reconciliation and explanation of why the complaint totals reported for 2012 and 2013, in the 13-355 docket and current docket in Attachment F, are different from the complaint totals contained in the 2013 and 2014 filings submitted by MERC pursuant to Minnesota Rule 7820.0500;
- C. A clarification regarding the number of complaints received in July 2013;
- D. An updated Attachment 6 reflecting 2013 data;
- E. A clarification regarding whether the MnOPS reportable event in 2013 caused by a system issue resulted in gas line damage; and
- F. An explanation detailing why monthly O&M expense in March 2013 were noticeably different than the monthly average.

On July 22 and July 24, 2014, MERC submitted responses to the Department's requests for additional information based on information then available and indicated it was continuing to collect some of the information necessary to respond to the Department's remaining questions. Below, MERC responds to the Department's remaining requests.

A. A full reconciliation and explanation of why the complaint totals reported for 2012 and 2013, in the 13-355 docket and current docket in Attachment F, are different from the complaint totals contained in the 2013 and 2014 filings submitted by MERC pursuant to Minnesota Rule 7820.0500.

As explained in MERC's Reply Comments filed July 22, 2014, the complaint total for the 2013 filing submitted by MERC pursuant to Minnesota Rule 7820.0500 inadvertently doublecounted the number of complaints received by MERC's commercial and industrial customers. The complaint total for the 2012 Rule 7820.0500 report omitted consumer complaints made directly to the Commission, the Office of the Attorney General, or the Better Business Bureau. MERC has reviewed the internal process used to compile and file these reports and has implemented steps to ensure the consistency and accuracy of the information provided in future filings. Attached to these Supplemental Reply Comments as Attachment A are corrected 2012 and 2013 Rule 7820.0500 reports to reflect the correct complaint totals. These corrected reports were filed in Docket No. 14-13 on July 29, 2014.

B. A clarification regarding the number of complaints received in July 2013.

In July 2013, 215 complaints were received and all of those have since been resolved. MERC has confirmed that the 99 complaints that appeared as unresolved in MERC's initial filing were in fact resolved, but the resolution time was not shown on the report due to a data error with the report. And updated version of Attachment 5 (Complaints) is attached to these Supplemental Reply Comments as Attachment 5-b.

DATED this 6th day of August, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP

<u>/s/ Michael J. Ahern</u> Michael J. Ahern 50 South Sixth Street Minneapolis, MN 55402 (612) 340-2881

Attorney for Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation

Supplemental Reply Comments Docket No.G011/M-14-365 Attachment A

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission **Consumer Affairs Office** 121 7th Place East #350 St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Interruptible

Number

Resolved

0

Number

Unresolved

0

Number

Received

Λ



AMENDED on July 29, 2014

ANNUAL SUMMARY OF CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS For Year End 2012 Due May 1st Docket 377 In accordance with MINN. Reg. PSC 284

Name of Utility: Minnesota Energy Resources Address: 2665 145TH STREET WEST, ROSEMOUNT, MN Prepared By: Nancy Lilienthal Phone: 651-322-8902

NUMBER OF DISCONNECTS FOR NON-PAYMENT (By Month)

* * * * * *	1	2	3
JAN	73	17	
FEB	181	15	
MAR	383	44	
APR	632	78	
MAY	1688	70	
JUNE	1536	71	
JULY	1477	30	
AUG	594	18	
SEPT	270	7	
OCT	169	16	
NOV	13	3	
DEC	13	8	

Number	Number	Number
Received	Resolved	Unresolved

Residential

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

I. Compl . .

A. Service
B. Billing
C. Rates
D. Rules
TOTAL COMPLAINTS

laint Type		
rvice	1047	1047
lling	218	218
tes	286	286
lles	232	232
COMPLAINTS	1783	1783

Cor	Commercial/Industrial						
Number	Number	Number					
Received	Resolved	Unresolved					
	-						

	51	51
	20	20
	21	21
	29	29
C	121	121

*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
		I	•			• .	•	1	C	Co	m	me	erc	ia	ł/					•		1

	Commercial/	
Residential	Industrial	Interruptible

7,029	377	0
0	0	0
191,448	21,331	461
965	-29	-47

1. Residential

7,029

TOTAL

2 Commercial/Industrial

377

0

3. Interruptible

- П. A. Number of Disconnections for Nonpayment
 - B. Number of Escrow Forms Filed (per PSC Rule 302G)
- III. A. Total Number of Customers (year end)

* * * * * * *

B. Number of Customer's Added During Year

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission



Consumer Affairs Office 121 7th Place East #350 St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

ANNUAL SUMMARY			INITS		AMENDED	-	9, 2014 esota Energ	v Posourco	ic.										
For Year End 2013		Due May 1st				-	STREET WES	-					NIIMBE	R OF DISCO	NNECTS				
In accordance with N		•	DOCKET				Lilienthal	-	-					FOR NON-PAYMENT					
						- ,								(By Month					
* * * * * * * * * * * *	* * * * * * *	* * * * * *	* * * * * * *	* * * * * *	* * * * * * *	* * * * * * *	* * * * * * *	* * * * * *	* * * * * * *	* * * * * *	* * * * * * *	* * * * * *	* * * * * * *	1	2	3			
													JAN	92	6				
		Residential			Co	mmercial/	Industrial			Interruptik	ole		FEB	334	28				
	Number	Number	Number		Number	Number	Number		Number	Number	Number		MAR	388	35				
	Received	Resolved	Unresolved		Received	Resolved	Unresolved		Received	Resolved	Unresolved		APR	1548	87				
I. Complaint Type	-				-	-			-				MAY	3107	127	1			
A. Service	730	730			35	35							JUNE	2193	68				
B. Billing	250	250			36	36							JULY	1192	54				
C. Rates	449	449			32	32							AUG	315	16				
D. Rules	209	209			12	12							SEPT	177	10	1			
TOTAL COMPLAINTS	1638	1638	0		115	115	0		0	0	0		OCT	72	2				
													NOV	17	9				
* * * * * * * * * * * *	* * * * * * *	* * * * * *	* * * * * * *	* * * * * *	* * * * * * *	* * * * * * *	* * * * * * *	* * * * * *	* * * * * * *	* * * * * *	* * * * * * *	* * * * * *	*DEC	14	2				
													TOTAL	9,449	444	2			
					Residential	Commercial/ Industrial	Interruptible							1. Residen	tial				

2 Commercial/Industrial

3. Interruptible

II. A. Number of Disconnections for Nonpayment B. Number of Escrow Forms Filed (per PSC Rule 302G)

III. A. Total Number of Customers (year end) B. Number of Customer's Added During Year

444	2
0	0
21,377	445
46	-16
	0 21,377

2013	JANU	JARY	FEBR	UARY	MA	RCH	AP	RIL	M	AY	JU	NE	JL	JLY	AUG	GUST	SEPTE	MBER	OCT	OBER	NOVE	MBER	DECEMBER	
# OF COMPLAINTS	17	75	1	28	125 2		22	21	23	38	24	18	2	15	139		71		8	35	5	3	5	5
TYPE OF COMPLAINT	# of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	% of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	# of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	% of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	# of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	% of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	# of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	% of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	# of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	% of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	# of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	% of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	# of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	% of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	# of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	% of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	# of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	% of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	# of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	% of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	# of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	% of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	# of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints	% of complaints which are 5% or > of total complaints
Employee Action/Behavior Issue	2	1%	0	0%	4	3%	4	1%	3	1%	1	0%	4	2%	1	1%	1	1%	3	4%	1	2%	1	2%
Billing/Meter Reading Issue	32	18%	17	13%	21	17%	20	6%	42	18%	31	13%	56	26%	32	23%	10	14%	5	6%	0	0%	7	13%
Collection/Disconnection Issue	49	28%	39	30%	37	30%	78	24%	76	32%	88	35%	43	20%	30	22%	19	27%	10	12%	7	13%	7	13%
Service Quality	29	17%	14	11%	14	11%	34	10%	45	19%	52	21%	35	16%	28	20%	16	23%	42	49%	19	36%	11	20%
Meter Adjustment	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	0%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Outage	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
"My bill is too high"	21	12%	20	16%	18	14%	16	5%	28	12%	35	14%	38	18%	20	14%	4	6%	10	12%	7	13%	11	20%
TIME TO RESOLVE COMPLAINT Initially Within 10 days > 10 days	9	138 102 9 23 28 3		3	107 17 1		217 3 1		228 7 3		237 9 0		149 55 11		101 37 1		69 2 0		65 16 4		50 1 2		51 3 1	
COMPLAINT RESOLUTION	# resolved by taking the listed actions	by taking the	# resolved by taking the listed actions	by taking the		% resolved by taking the listed actions		by taking the		by taking the	# resolved by taking the listed actions	by taking the		by taking the	# resolved by taking the listed actions	by taking the	# resolved by taking the listed actions	by taking the		by taking the	# resolved by taking the listed actions	by taking the	# resolved by taking the listed actions	% resolved by taking the listed actions
Taking action as customer requested	58	33%	45	35%	61	49%	78	35%	92	39%	84	34%	89	41%	54	39%	32	45%	37	44%	22	42%	23	42%
Agreeable compromise	87	50%	64	50%	44	35%	119	54%	112	47%	128	52%	96	45%	58	42%	30	42%	44	52%	26	49%	27	49%
Not within the control of the utility	2	1%	0	0%	1	1%	2	1%	2	1%	1	0%	0	0%	2	1%	0	0%	0	0%	2	4%	1	2%
Refuse to customer requested action	28	16%	19	15%	19	15%	22	10%	32	13%	35	14%	30	14%	25	18%	9	13%	9	11%	3	6%	4	7%
PUC COMPLAINTS	()		4		2	t	L	(5	2	2		2	:	1	()		5	1		1	L

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA)) ss COUNTY OF HENNEPIN)

Kristin M. Stastny hereby certifies that on the 6th day of August, 2014, she filed the attached Supplemental Reply Comments on behalf of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation with the E-Docket system and provided service as specified on the attached service list.

<u>/s/ Kristin M. Stastny</u> Kristin M. Stastny

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th Day of August, 2014.

<u>/s/ Alice Jaworski</u> Notary Public, State of Minnesota

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Daryll	Fuentes	N/A	USG	550 W. Adams Street Chicago, IL 60661	Paper Service	No	OFF_SL_14-365_M-14-365
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Daryll	Fuentes	N/A	USG	550 W. Adams Street Chicago, IL 60661	Paper Service	No	GEN_SL_Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation_General Service List
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