

September 8, 2014

Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2147

RE: **Response Comments of the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources**
Docket No. E001/M-14-374

Dear Dr. Haar:

This letter serves as the response comments of the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources (Department) in the following matter:

2013 Annual Service Quality Report submitted by Interstate Power and Light Company, an Alliant Energy Company.

On May 1, 2014, Interstate Power and Light (IPL or the Company) filed its petition (Report) to comply with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's (Commission) August 26, 2010 *Order Setting Reporting Requirements* in Docket No. G999/CI-09-409 (09-409 Order) and the Commission's March 6, 2012 *Order Accepting Reports and Setting Further Requirements* in Docket No. G001/M-11-361 (11-361 Order).

On July 1, 2014, the Department submitted its Comments which recommended that the Commission accept IPL's filing and requested that, in Reply Comments, the Company provide a discussion regarding the currently-anticipated timeline of each purchase agreement,¹ when IPL anticipates it would no longer serve Minnesota retail electric and gas customers, and for what time period the Company anticipates it would file its final gas service quality report.

IPL submitted its Reply Comments on July 24, 2014. The Company provided the information requested by the Department, as it did for its electric service quality report in Docket No. E001/M-14-282. IPL stated that it remains optimistic that the sale of gas assets to Minnesota Energy Resources Company (MERC) will close by year-end 2014. Assuming the gas transaction closes on December 31, 2014, IPL would not propose to file a natural gas service quality report in 2015.

¹ IPL has proposed to sell its electric and natural gas distribution system and assets in Docket Nos. E115, E140, E105, E139, E124, E126, E145, E001, E132, E114, E6521, E142, E135/PA-14-322 and G001, G011/PA-14-107, respectively.

The Department recognizes that, if the sale of gas assets to MERC is approved by the Commission and closes by December 31, 2014, beginning in 2015 IPL would no longer be subject to the previously-mentioned Commission Orders. Until then, IPL will continue to be subject to the provisions of the Commission's service quality Orders. While the next annual service quality report is not due until May 1, 2015, the reporting period for that report is calendar year 2014. If the sale is approved and finalized by December 31, 2014, the Department recommends that, at a minimum, IPL file an informational report by May 1, 2015 containing its 2014 service quality data in order to ensure that the Commission is able to review the service provided to Minnesota ratepayers served by IPL during 2014.²

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

Sincerely,

/s/ ANGELA BYRNE
Financial Analyst
651-539-1820

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² This includes all information routinely reported as part of the annual gas service quality reports.