

Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation

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January 11, 2016

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Daniel P. Wolf Executive Secretary Minnesota Public Utilities Commission 121 Seventh Place East, Suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55101

> Re: Reply Comments of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation, In the Matter of the Petition of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation-Northern Natural Gas-Albert Lea for Approval of a Change in Demand Entitlement

Docket No. G011/M-15-724

Dear Mr. Wolf:

On December 31, 2015, the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources ("Department") filed Comments in the above referenced docket recommending that the Commission accept Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation's ("MERC") NNG-Albert Lea peak-day analysis with the caveat that approval not preclude any party from disputing the assumptions used by MERC in any other ongoing or future proceedings or future demand entitlement petitions. The Department also recommended that the Commission approve MERC-NNG-Albert Lea's proposed level of demand entitlement and proposed recovery of associated demand costs effective November 1, 2015. Additionally, the Department recommended that the Commission require MERC to fully justify its selection of weather station in the Company's next NNG-Albert Lea demand entitlement petition.

MERC thanks the Department for its analysis and review and accepts the Department's recommendation that acceptance of MERC's peak day analysis in this proceeding not preclude parties from disputing the assumptions used by MERC in any other ongoing or future proceeding. MERC also agrees to review the availability and quality of the Albert Lea weather station data, and will justify its selection of weather station to the extent the Albert Lea station data cannot be used in its next NNG-Albert Lea demand entitlement petition.

Please contact me at (651) 322-8965 if you have any questions regarding the information in this filing. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Amber S. Lee

Amber S. Lee Regulatory and Legislative Affairs Manager Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation

cc: Service List

Docket No. G011/M-15-724

In the Matter of the Petition of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation-Northern Natural Gas-Albert Lea for Approval of a Change in Demand Entitlement

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Kristin M. Stastny, hereby certify that on the 11th day of January, 2016, on behalf of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation (MERC), I electronically filed a true and correct copy of the enclosed Reply Comments on <u>www.edockets.state.mn.us</u>. Said documents were also served via U.S. mail and electronic service as designated on the attached service list.

Dated this 11th day of January, 2016.

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

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