

Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation

2685 145th Street West Rosemount, MN 55068 www.minnesotaenergyresources.com

July 10, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

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

Re: Reply Comments of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation

In the Matter Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation's Petition for Approval of 2019 Revenue Decoupling Mechanism Adjustment and 2019 Revenue Decoupling Evaluation Report Docket No. G011/M-20-332

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

On June 26, 2020, the Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources (the "Department") filed Comments in the above-referenced docket recommending that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the "Commission"):

- Approve Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation's ("MERC's") 2019 revenue decoupling adjustments;
- Accept MERC's 2019 revenue decoupling evaluation report; and
- Approve MERC's Small Commercial and Industrial ("SC&I") customer class reconciliation proposal, with the exception of the associated deferred accounting request.

With respect to MERC's proposal of deferred accounting treatment of the residual Revenue Decoupling Mechanism ("RDM") over- or under- recovery amounts for the SC&I customer class, the Department recommends that at the conclusion of MERC's application of the RDM adjustment for the SC&I class on February 28, 2022 (the 2018 Reconciliation Adjustment), MERC no longer track and defer any remaining over- or under- recovery amounts for the SC&I customer class.

MERC thanks the Department for its thorough review and supports the Department's recommendations as set forth in its June 26, 2020 Comments.

While MERC had proposed to defer any residual over- or under- recovered amounts related to termination of the SC&I RDM, MERC agrees with the Department that any residual amounts are likely to be small and comprise a small subset of ratepayer costs and benefits of MERC's RDM. Given this, MERC does not object to the Department's recommendation that, at the conclusion of MERC's application of the RDM adjustment for the SC&I class on

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February 28, 2022 (the 2018 Reconciliation Adjustment), MERC no longer track and defer any remaining over- or under- recovery amounts for the SC&I customer class.

Finally, as noted in the Department's Comments, MERC participated in the Department-led stakeholder group regarding a streamlined revenue decoupling evaluation report, which was required by Order Point 4 of the Commission's December 5, 2019 Order Docket No. G011/M-19-201. On July 1, 2020, the Department filed Comments regarding the proposed streamlined revenue decoupling evaluation report in that docket. As required by the Commission in Order Point 5 of its December 5, 2019 Order in Docket No. G011/M-19-201, MERC will submit a compliance filing on or before July 31, 2020 detailing the proposed changes to the annual evaluation report and responding to the Department's July 1, 2020 Comments.

Please contact me at (414) 221-4208 if you have any questions regarding the information in this filing. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Joylyn Hoffman Malueg Project Specialist 3

John C. Hogna Malueg

Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation

cc: Service List

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Colleen T. Sipiorski, hereby certify that on the 10th day of July, 2020, on behalf of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation (MERC), I electronically filed Reply Comments of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation on www.edockets.state.mn.us. Said documents were also served via U.S. mail and electronic service as designated on the attached service list.

Dated this 10th day of July, 2020.

/s/ Colleen T. Sipiorski
Colleen T. Sipiorski

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