

The Commission met on **Thursday, March 23, 2023,** with Chair Sieben and Commissioners Means, Schuerger, Sullivan, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

## G-002/GR-21-678

In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy's Petition for Authority to Increase Natural Gas Rates in Minnesota

## GR-002/MR-21-679

In the Matter of a Petition by Northern States Power Company for Approval of a New Base Cost of Gas

Commissioner Sullivan moved that the Commission:

- Accept the October 4, 2022, Settlement Agreement concerning the application of Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy for authority to increase natural gas rates in Minnesota pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subd. 1, and adopt the Administrative Law Judge's Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Recommendation to Approve Settlement, except as set forth herein.
- 2. Approve the settlement schedules, which include: a calculation of Xcel's authorized cost of capital, a rate base summary, an operating income statement summary, a gross revenue deficiency calculation, and a statement of the total allowed revenues.
- 3. Require Xcel to make the following compliance filings within 30 days of the issuance of the final order in this docket:
  - A. A revised base cost of gas, supporting schedules, and revised fuel adjustment tariffs to be in effect on the date final rates are implemented.
  - B. A summary listing of all other rate riders and charges in effect, and continuing, after the date final rates are implemented.
  - C. A computation of the Conservation Cost Recovery Charge (CCRC) based upon the decisions made herein.

- D. A schedule detailing the Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) tracker balance at the beginning of interim rates, the revenues (CCRC and CIP Adjustment Factor) and costs recorded during the period of interim rates, and the CIP tracker balance at the time final rates become effective.
- E. If final authorized rates are lower than interim rates, a proposal to make refunds of interim rates, including interest to affected customers.
- 4. Require Xcel to make a filing that does the following:
  - A. Reflects the Commission's final decision.
  - B. Provides revised schedules of rates and charges reflecting the revenue requirement and the rate design decisions authorized herein, along with the proposed effective date.
  - C. Includes Xcel's total operating revenues, disaggregated by type.
  - D. Includes schedules showing all billing determinants for sales of natural gas—retail and wholesale—including at least the following:
    - i. For each customer class:
      - a. total revenues
      - b. total number of customers
      - c. the customer charge
      - d. total customer charge revenues
      - e. total number of commodity- and demand-related billing units
      - f. per unit of commodity and demand cost of gas
      - g. the non-gas margin
      - h. total commodity and demand-related sales revenues
    - ii. Revised tariff sheets incorporating authorized rate design decisions.
    - iii. Proposed customer notices explaining the final rates, the monthly basic service charges, all changes to rate design and customer billing, and the date the new rates will take effect.
- 5. Require Xcel, in its filing for credit card cost tracking and reimbursement, to provide an analysis of the impact on each ratepayer class.

6. Authorize comments on all compliance filings within 30 days of the date they are filed. However, comments are not necessary on Xcel's proposed customer notice.

The motion passed 5–0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: April 5, 2023** 

Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary

William Lefte