

The Commission met on **Thursday, August 25, 2016**, with Chair Lipschultz and Commissioners Schuerger and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

ENERGY FACILITIES PLANNING AGENDA

IP-6866/WS-11-831

In the Matter of the Application for a Large Wind Energy Conversion System Site Permit for the 40 Megawatt Getty Wind Project in Stearns County

IP-6853/WS-10-1240

In the Matter of the Site Permit Application for a 40 Megawatt Large Wind Energy Conversion System in Stearns County

Commissioner Tuma moved to take the following actions:

1. Authorize the site permit transfer from Getty Wind Company, LLC to Black Oak Wind, LLC; and
2. Require the new project owner, Black Oak Wind, LLC, to notify local governmental units and project landowners of the approved site permit transfer and to file an affidavit of service with the Commission within 30 days of notification.

The motion passed 3–0.

ENERGY AGENDA

E-114,126/SA-16-480

In the Matter of the Joint Request of Federated Rural Electric Association and Nobles Cooperative Electric for Approval of an Agreement for Confirmation and Realignment of Electric Service Area to Make Changes to the Boundaries of the Assigned Service Area of Each Electric Utility

Commissioner Tuma moved to approve the requested service territory transfer from Nobles to Federated. MnGeo should update the Commission's maps to reflect the service area transfer as stated in the Agreement.

The motion passed 3–0.

E-002/M-16-282

In the Matter of a Petition by Northern States Power Company for Approval of a Proposed 2015 Electric Demand Side Management Financial Incentive, the Conservation Cost Recovery Contained in Its Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) Tracker Account for Its Electric CIP, and a Proposed Electric CIP Adjustment Factor

Commissioner Schuerger moved to take the following actions:

1. Approve the 2015 Xcel Electric CIP Tracker Account activity shown in Table 1 of the Department's June 23, 2016 comments;
2. Approve Xcel's proposed bill message effective the first month the 2016/2017 CIP Adjustment Factor takes effect;
3. Approve a DSM financial incentive of \$43,277,219 for Xcel's 2015 electric CIP achievements, and allow Xcel to include the incentive in the Company's electric CIP tracker account no sooner than the issue date of the Commission's order in the present docket; and
4. Approve a CIP Adjustment Factor for 2016/2017 of \$0.001941/kWh beginning with the first billing cycle of October 2016, conditional on the Company submitting, within ten days of the issue date of the order in the present docket, a compliance filing with tariff sheets and necessary calculations that comply with the Commission's determinations in this matter.

The motion passed 3-0.

G-011/M-16-385

In the Matter of the Petition of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation for Approval of 2015 Conservation Improvement Program Tracker Account, DSM Financial Incentive, and Conservation Cost Recovery Adjustment Factor

Commissioner Schuerger moved to take the following actions:

1. Approve MERC's 2015 DSM financial incentive of \$3,392,001 to be included in the Company's CIP tracker account no sooner than the issue date of the Commission's order in the present docket;
2. Approve MERC's 2015 CIP tracker account activities as summarized in Table 1 of the Department's July 26, 2016 comments;
3. Approve the revised gas CCRA of \$0.00750 per therm for all of MERC's Minnesota customer classes, to be effective January 1, 2017, or on the first billing cycle in the next full month after Commission approval, whichever is later. The approval is conditioned on the Company submitting, within ten days of the issue date of the order in the present

docket, a compliance filing with the relevant tariff sheets and necessary calculations that comply with the Commission's determinations; and

4. Require MERC to include the following bill message (with the appropriate date) following the date of the order in the present docket, or January 1, 2017, whichever is later:

Effective [insert date], a revised CCRA (conservation cost recovery adjustment) has been included on your bill. The CCRA is an annual adjustment to true-up under-recovery or over-recovery of CIP (conservation improvement program) expenses. Effective [insert date], the CCRA rate will be \$0.00750 per therm.

The motion passed 3–0.

G-008/M-16-366

In the Matter of Center Point Energy's 2015 Demand Side Management Financial Incentives and Annual Filing to Update the CIP Rider

Commissioner Schuerger moved to take the following actions:

1. Approve CenterPoint Energy's (CPE's) 2015 financial incentive for CIP achievements;
2. Approve CPE's 2015 CIP tracker account as indicated at page six of the Department's June 28, 2016 comments;
3. Utilize 0.36% (short-term cost of debt established in the Company's 2013 rate case) from October 2015 through the effective date of final rates from the Company's 2015 rate case and use the new rate 0.65% (short-term debt rate established in most recent rate case) on a going forward basis beginning with the effective date of final rates in the Company's 2015 rate case as recommended by the Department;
4. Approve CPE's proposed bill message with the modifications that the effective date and gas CCRA listed in the bill message be updated in the compliance filing to reflect the Commission's determinations of the effective date and approved rate;
5. Delegate authority to the Executive Secretary to approve customer notices for the duration of this proceeding;
6. Set the CCRA at \$0.1553/Dtherm beginning January 1, 2017, as recommended by CPE; and
7. Approve monthly status report filings with the Commission until project completion.

The motion passed 3–0.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGENDA

P-421/AM-16-496

In the Matter of the Petition of CenturyLink QC to be Regulated Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 237.025

P-421/AM-16-547

Repository for “Highly Sensitive Protected Data” Subject to Additional Protection in Docket No. 16-496

Commissioner Tuma moved to approve the protective order proposed by Department and attached to its comments of July 22, 2016.

The motion passed 3–0.

Commissioner Tuma moved to find that Minn. Stat. § 237.025 states that the Commission shall make a final determination regarding CenturyLink’s petition within 180 days of the date all information required under subdivision 2 was submitted, as determined by the Commission.

The motion passed 3–0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: September 28, 2016

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel P. Wolf". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary