

The Commission met on **Thursday, December 8, 2016**, with Chair Heydinger and Commissioners Lange and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

## **ENERGY AGENDA**

### **G-004/GR-15-879**

**In the Matter of the Application of Great Plains Natural Gas Company, a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., for Authority to Increase Non-Gas Natural Gas Rates in Minnesota**

### **G-004/MR-16-834**

**In the Matter of the Petition by Great Plains Natural Gas Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc. to Establish a New Base Cost of Gas in Compliance with the September 6, 2016 Commission Order in the General Rate Filing**

Commissioner Tuma moved to take the following actions:

1. Approve Great Plains' revenue apportionment methodology used in the September 22, 2016 Compliance Filing, reflected in Staff briefing papers, Table 3, column 1.
2. Approve the Department's preferred rounding rate design for Great Plains' monthly customer charge and distribution charge, as reflected in Staff briefing papers, Table 7, columns 5 and 6, reflecting rounding to the nearest dollar or half-dollar.
3. Authorize Great Plains to implement final rates on January 1, 2017.
4. Require Great Plains to submit final tariff sheets that incorporate the Commission's decisions herein within ten days after final rates become effective.
5. Require Great Plains to resubmit the CIP tracker account (including rates, revenues, expenses, and ending balance) for the entire period that interim rates were in effect within ten days after final rates become effective.
6. Approve Great Plains' proposed interim rate refund plan and require Great Plains to file, within ten days of the interim rate refund, a compliance filing report that reflects the actual refunds and interest paid by class including the calculations.
7. Approve Great Plains' updated base cost of gas filed in its September 22, 2016 compliance filing, Exhibit 6, and in its October 6, 2016 miscellaneous filing – new base cost of gas.

The motion passed 3–0.

**G-022/M-16-494**

**In the Matter of Greater Minnesota Gas's Request to Implement a Conservation Improvement Program Cost Recovery Rider**

Commissioner Tuma moved to take the following actions:

1. Approve Greater Minnesota Gas's (GMG's) request to implement a Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) cost recovery rider and an annual Conservation Cost Recovery Adjustment (CCRA).
2. Approve GMG's 2015 CIP tracker account activities as summarized in Table 2 of the Department's August 31, 2016 comments, giving the Company the option to modify the numbers in its compliance filing by adding in the 2015 and earlier Next Generation Energy Act (NGEA) assessments not already included in the tracker account.
3. Approve the proposed CCRA of \$0.18/Dth for all of GMG'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 GMG's waiver of carrying charges until after the three-year amortization period has expired and only then on Commission approval of any future carrying charges.
4. Require Greater Minnesota Gas, within ten days of the issue date of the order in the present docket, to submit a compliance filing with the relevant tariff sheets and necessary calculations that comply with the Commission's determinations.
5. Require Greater Minnesota Gas to provide monthly data in all future CIP tracker/CCRA filings.
6. Require Greater Minnesota Gas to submit annual CIP tracker and CCRA filings by May 1.

The motion passed 3–0.

**E-002/M-15-891**

**In the Matter of Xcel Energy's Petition for Approval of a Modification to Its Transmission Cost Recovery (TCR) Tariff, 2016 TCR Rate Factors, and 2015 True-up**

Chair Heydinger moved to take the following actions:

1. For 2016, approve the 2016 proposed revenue requirement of approximately \$78.4 million and authorize the recovery of actual 2016 costs through the TCR rider.
2. Approve the 2015 TCR true-up and tracker balance report and carryforward of the 2015 tracker balance. (The true-up may fluctuate up or down when the Company updates its forecasted numbers with actual numbers.) A large change in the revenue requirement would be brought to the Commission's attention.

3. Approve the resulting TCR Adjustment Factors by class to be included in the Resource Adjustment on bills for Minnesota electric customers. Authorize Xcel to recalculate the TCR adjustment factors at the completion of its currently pending rate case.
4. Approve the Company's proposed revised tariff sheet and proposed customer notice. (The TCR adjustment factors in the tariff and proposed customer notice may fluctuate up or down based on the Commission's decisions.)
5. Require the Company to submit a compliance filing updated to reflect the Commission's decisions in the order and updating the forecasted numbers with actual numbers within ten days of the date the Commission's order is issued.

The motion passed 3-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: January 25, 2017**

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

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**Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary**