

The Commission met on **Thursday, February 8, 2018** with Chair Lange and Commissioners Lipschultz, Schuerger, Sieben, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

**E-002/GR-13-868**

**E-002/GR-15-826**

**In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company for Authority to Increase Rates for Electric Service in the State of Minnesota**

Commissioner Lange moved that the Commission:

1. Accept the Company’s 2016 revenue decoupling evaluation report.
2. Approve the Company’s revenue decoupling rate adjustment factors as presented in the table below and in Table 2 of the Department of Commerce comments:

October 2017–March 2018 RDM Factors

	<b>Residential Without Space Heating (\$/kWh)</b>	<b>Residential (\$/kWh)</b>	<b>Small General Service (non-demand) (\$/kWh)</b>
Under(Over) Collection	(\$2,577,473)	\$936,992	(\$128,650)
October 2017-March 2018 Forecasted Sales	3,971,452,212	260,289,792	442,436,664
RDM Factor	(\$0.000649)	\$0.003600	(\$0.000291)

The motion passed 5-0.

**G-008/GR-13-316**

**In the Matter of the Application by CenterPoint Energy for Authority to Increase Natural Gas Rates in Minnesota**

Commissioner Schuerger moved that the Commission:

1. Accept the Company’s 2016 revenue decoupling evaluation report.
2. Approve the Company’s revenue decoupling adjustment factors as presented in the table below and in Table 10 of the Department of Commerce comments:

Revenue Decoupling Factors for the Company's Decoupled Customer Classes –  
Surcharge/(Refund) per Therm

Customer Class	RD Factor (\$/Therm)
Residential	\$0.0266
Com-A	\$0.0198
Com-Ind B	\$0.0251
Com-Ind C	\$0.0028
SVDF-A	\$0.0138
SVDF-B	\$0.0099
LVDF-STD	\$0.0004
LV-FIRM	(\$0.0172)

3. Approve the Company's request that the decoupling pilot be extended until the Commission makes a final decoupling determination in the Company's 2017 rate case.
4. Require that any changes to the decoupling formula approved in the Company's 2017 rate case be applied during the extension period approved above.
5. Require that all future Annual Reports include live spreadsheets in Excel format, with formulas intact, that provide all calculations for new annual decoupling amounts, the reconciliation for the prior year's true-up amount, and the new decoupling factors.

The motion passed 5-0.

**G-008/M-16-377**

**In the Matter of the 2015 Annual Gas Service Quality Report of CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas**

**G-008/M-17-342**

**In the Matter of the 2016 Annual Gas Service Quality Report of CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas**

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission accept the Company's 2015 and 2016 Annual Gas Service Quality Reports.

The motion passed 5-0.

**P-6850/M-15-833**

**In the Matter of WiMacTel, Inc. d/b/a Intellicall Operator Services's Revised Tariff**

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission:

1. Take no action.
2. The Executive Secretary will communicate with those who filed informal complaints during the compliance filing, thanking them for their assistance in providing verification with past orders and providing them with contact information for submitting future complaints to the Commission's Consumer Affairs Office, the Department of Commerce, and the Office of the Attorney General.

The motion passed 5-0.

**IP-6946/TL-17-322**

**In the Matter of the Application of Freeborn Wind Energy LLC for a Route Permit for the 161 kV Freeborn Wind Farm Transmission Line and Associated Facilities in Freeborn County, Minnesota**

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission:

1. Request that the Deputy Commissioner of Commerce include the Gold Route Segment in the scoping decision for the environmental assessment.
2. Request that the environmental assessment examine the possibility of (a) paralleling the existing transmission line corridor and (b) using existing transmission line right-of-way (either by reconstruction of the existing structures or an under/over build) for the Purple Route Segment and the Gold Route Segment.
3. Delegate authority to administer this route permit proceeding to the Executive Secretary.

The motion passed 5-0.

**IP-6851/WS-10-1238**

**In the Matter of the Site Permit Issued to Big Blue Wind Farm, LLC for the 36 MW Big Blue Wind Farm in Faribault County, Minnesota**

Commissioner Lipschultz moved that the Commission take the following actions:

1. Require Big Blue to file:
  - a. noise modeling of the Gamesa G97 wind turbines that indicates projected compliance with the MPCA noise standards within 30 days of the order;
  - b. an on/off noise monitoring protocol within 60 days of the order; and
  - c. completed on/off noise monitoring study (monitoring and report), sufficient to determine whether the facility complies with the MPCA noise standards within 9 months of the order.
2. Delegate to the Executive Secretary the ability to approve filings relating to modeling, noise protocols, and monitoring/study results.
3. Require any modeling, protocols, or monitoring to be completed by a third-party consultant. Big Blue Wind Farm, LLC shall contract for work to be conducted by the third-party and the contractor shall be approved by DOC EERA and Commission staff (state agencies). Any consultant's scope of work shall be approved by the state agencies. The consultant shall follow the approved scope of work and file its results with the state agencies directly.
4. Any noise monitoring conducted shall include information and reporting on noise related to periods of curtailment. Big Blue shall file a summary with the Commission within 30 days of the order detailing the duration and occurrences of curtailment in 2017. Noise monitoring shall also include monitoring during periods of curtailment, an assessment of the noise caused by curtailment conditions, and information sufficient to determine whether it complies with the MPCA noise standard. Big Blue shall be required to curtail their turbines, as, and if needed, in order to obtain valid monitoring results pertaining to curtailment-related noise.
5. Authorize Commission staff to file revised complaint procedures for the Big Blue project. Upon filing, authorize the Executive Secretary to require Big Blue to mail notice of the revised procedures to affected landowners (defined as those within the project boundary and adjacent to it) and to local governmental units. Big Blue shall file an affidavit with the Commission within 30 days of the mailing.

The motion passed 5-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: June 20, 2018**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel P. Wolf". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'D' and 'W'.

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Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary