

The Commission met on **Thursday, March 22, 2018**, with Vice Chair Lipschultz and Commissioners Schuerger, Sieben, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

**E-999/CI-14-643**

**In the Matter of the Further Investigation into Environmental and Socioeconomic Costs Under Minnesota Statutes Section 216B.2422, Subdivision 3**

Commissioner Tuma moved to deny the Minnesota Large Industrial Group's petition for reconsideration.

The motion passed 4–0.

**E-002/M-17-530**

**In the Matter of Xcel Energy's Petition for Approval to Terminate the Power Purchase Agreement with Benson Power, LLC, Acquire the Benson/Fibrominn Plant, and Close the Facility**

**E-002/M-17-551**

**In the Matter of Xcel Energy's Petition for Approval to Terminate the Power Purchase Agreement with Laurentian Energy Authority I, LLC**

Commissioner Schuerger moved to deny the petitions for reconsideration filed by the Minnesota Timber Producers Association, the Contract Loggers and Truckers of Minnesota, the Turkey Growers Association, North American Fertilizer and Beaver Creek Transport, and Benson Power Suppliers and Haulers.

The motion passed 4–0.

**PL-6580/M-17-809**

**In the Matter of a Petition by Greater Minnesota Transmission, LLC (GMT) for Approval of a Firm Transportation Agreement with Lake Region Energy Services, Inc. (LRES)**

Commissioner Schuerger moved to take the following actions:

1. Approve the Firm Transportation Agreement between GMT and LRES; and
2. Require GMT to include the Dent pipeline project in its annual load-utilization-factor letter.

The motion passed 4–0.

**PL-6580/M-17-810**

**In the Matter of a Petition by Greater Minnesota Transmission, LLC (GMT) for Approval of a Firm Transportation Agreement with Lake Region Energy Services, Inc. (LRES)**

Commissioner Tuma moved to take the following actions:

1. Approve the Firm Transportation Agreement between GMT and LRES; and
2. Require GMT to include the Miltona pipeline project in its annual load-utilization-factor letter.

The motion passed 4–0.

**G-6977/M-17-829**

**In the Matter of a Petition by Lake Region Energy Services, Inc. (LRES) for a Small Gas Utility Franchise Exemption to Provide Natural Gas Service to the Municipalities of Dent and Miltona**

Commissioner Sieben moved to take the following actions:

1. Approve LRES’s petition for a small gas utility franchise exemption under Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subd. 12.
2. Clarify in the Commission’s order that LRES is subject to the following statutes, rules, and reporting requirements:
  - a. Annual Cold Weather Rule reports will be filed as required under Minn. Stat. § 216B.096, subd. 11 and Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subd. 12 (c);
  - b. Annual tariff updates with municipally approved rates will be submitted to the Commission (Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subd. 12 (c));
  - c. Any subsequent changes in rates, tariffs, and contracts for service outside the Municipalities will be filed at least 30 days in advance of implementation (Minn. Stat. § 216B.16 subd. 12 (b));
  - d. Provide annual Minnesota Natural Gas Utility Information reporting to the Department (required by Minn. Rules 7610.0800–.0860 to monitor reliability and costs of energy service in Minnesota) on July 1 of each year;
  - e. Notification to the Commission should LRES’s customer base expand beyond the 5,000-customer threshold (Minn. Stat. § 216B.16, subd. 12 (a));
  - f. Notice to cities of utility disconnection (Minn. Stat. § 216B.0976); and
  - g. Residential customer protections (Minn. Stat. § 216B.098).

3. Require LRES to make an annual compliance filing on March 1 in this docket with the following information:
  - a. Customer count by customer class, including the applicable rates for each customer class;
  - b. The associated annual gas and non-gas revenues by customer class; and
  - c. Net Plant in Service by year and on an accumulated basis from when LRES began construction on its natural gas system. (Net Plant in Service = Total Plant in Service – Accumulated Depreciation – Deferred Income Taxes)

The motion passed 4–0.

There being no further business, the meeting was concluded.

**APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: April 4, 2018**

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