



The Commission met on **Thursday, January 13, 2022** with Chair Sieben and Commissioners Means, Schuerger, Sullivan, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

E-015/M-21-355

In the Matter of a Petition for approval of an Amended and Restated Electric Service Agreement between Mesabi Nugget Delaware, LLC, Mesabi Mining, LLC, and Minnesota Power

Commissioner Schuerger moved that the Commission Approve the amended and restated Electric Service Agreement between Mesabi Nugget Delaware LLC and Minnesota Power, as proposed by MP, retroactive to January 1st, 2022.

The motion passed 5–0.

IP-6997/WS-18-700

In the Matter of the Application of Plum Creek Wind Farm, LLC for a Site Permit for an up to 414 MW Large Wind Energy Conversion System in Cottonwood, Murray, and Redwood Counties, Minnesota

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission accept the amendments to Section 7.2 of the site permit as proposed by EERA and include the additional language proposed by staff concerning annual reporting requirements.

The motion passed 5–0.

E-002/M-21-558

In the Matter of a Petition for Approval of a Workforce Training and Development Program Pilot

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission:

1. Approve the programmatic framework for Xcel Energy’s Workforce Training and Development Program Pilot to be administered by DEED.

2. Request that DEED include members of the target community and regional workforce centers as part of the evaluation team for the RFP proposals and address stakeholders' concerns identified in comments for this docket.
3. Require Xcel to develop a budget in their present rate case not to exceed \$4 million in coordination with DEED after consultation with stakeholders.
4. Require Xcel in coordination with DEED to consult with stakeholders, including CA and regional workforce centers, on the development of a set of evaluation metrics and definitions prior to the issuance of any RFP to be filed as a compliance item within 14 days after they are developed with DEED.
5. Amend Xcel's Energy's workforce training and development pilot program to also include veterans as a targeted recipient of program outreach and training.

The motion passed 5–0.

E-002/M-21-237

In the Matter of Xcel Energy's annual report on safety, reliability, and service quality for 2020; and petition for approval of electric reliability standards for 2021

E-017/M-21-225

In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's 2020 Annual Safety, Reliability and Service Quality Report and Proposed SAIFI, SAIDI, and CAIDI Reliability Standards for 2021

E-015/M-21-230

In the Matter of Minnesota Power's 2020 Safety, Reliability and Service Quality Standards Report

Commissioner Schuerger moved that the Commission:

1. Accept the Safety and Reliability portions of Xcel Energy's, Otter Tail Power's, and Minnesota Power's annual Safety, Service Quality, and Reliability reports for 2020.
2. Set Minnesota Power's 2021 statewide Reliability Standard at the IEEE benchmarking 2nd Quartile for medium utilities. Set Minnesota Power's work center reliability standards at the IEEE benchmarking 2nd quartile for small utilities. Require a supplemental filing to Minnesota Power's 2021 SQSR report 30 days after IEEE publishes the 2021 benchmarking results, with an explanation for any standards the utility did not meet.
3. Establish three work centers for Minnesota Power, as described on pages 25-26 of the Company's 2020 Safety, Service Quality, Reliability report.

4. Set Otter Tail Power's 2021 statewide Reliability Standard at the IEEE benchmarking 2nd Quartile for medium utilities. Set Otter Tail's work center reliability standards at the IEEE benchmarking 2nd quartile for medium utilities. Require a supplemental filing to Otter Tail Power's 2021 SQSR report 30 days after IEEE publishes the 2021 benchmarking results, with an explanation for any standards the utility did not meet.
5. Establish 4 work centers for Otter Tail Power, as described on page 5 of the Company's 2020 Safety, Service Quality, Reliability report.
6. Set Xcel Energy's 2021 statewide Reliability Standard at the IEEE benchmarking 2nd Quartile for large utilities. Set Xcel's Southeast and Northwest work center reliability standards at the IEEE benchmarking 2nd quartile for medium utilities and Xcel's Metro East and Metro West work center reliability center standards at the IEEE benchmarking 2nd quartile for large utilities. Require a supplemental filing to Xcel Energy's 2021 SQSR report 30 days after IEEE publishes the 2021 benchmarking results, with an explanation for any standards the utility did not meet.
7. Develop a record in Xcel's current rate case (Docket 21-630) that examines Xcel's distribution system spending and maintenance in the Southeast Work Center compared to other areas of the Company's service territory.

The motion passed 5–0.

E-999/AA-20-171

In the Matter of the Review of the July 2018-December 2019 Annual Automatic Adjustments Reports

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission:

1. Adopt the Administrative Law Judge's Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Recommendations in its entirety, with modifications to correct Findings 30, 39, and 72.
2. Adopt the ALJ's recommendation and order that \$4,482,456 plus interest be refunded.
3. Use the U.S. Federal Reserve Prime Rate to calculate the interest amount owed to ratepayers.

4. Require Minnesota Power to submit a filing demonstrating compliance with the requirement to issue a refund, including the amount of the refund and any interest paid.

The motion passed 3–2, with Commissioners Schuerger and Sullivan voting against the motion.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: April 27, 2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Will Seuffert", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary