

The Commission met on **Thursday, April 20, 2006**, Chaired by Commissioner Koppendrayer with Commissioners Johnson, Pugh and Reha present.

**Comment [COMMENT1]:** Minutes by Peter Brown. 10 motions were made.

## ENERGY AGENDA

### **G-008/M-06-158**

#### **In the Matter of a Request by Centerpoint Energy for Approval of Changes to Transportation Service Daily Balancing Charges to Non-system Underrun Limitation Days, Non-system Overrun Limitation Days, and Non-critical Days**

Commissioner Pugh moved that the Commission

1. approve CenterPoint Energy's Petition, with an effective date of the Commission's Order in the present docket for service rendered on or after the date of the Order; and
2. require CenterPoint Energy to submit, as a compliance filing within 10 days of the date of the Order in the present docket, the relevant tariff sheets that comply with the Commission's determination in this matter.

The motion passed, 4-0.

### **E-111/M-06-344**

#### **In the Matter of a Petition by Dakota Electric Association to Modify the Monthly Rate for the Optional Renewable Energy Rider**

Commissioner Reha moved that the Commission approve Dakota Electric Association's petition as filed.

The motion passed, 4-0.

### **PT-6530/WS-06-157**

#### **In the Matter of the Application of MinnDakota Wind, LLC, for a Large Wind Energy Conversion System Site Permit**

Commissioner Koppendrayer moved that the Commission

1. make a preliminary determination that a draft site permit shall be issued;
2. approve the proposed draft site permit for the MinnDakota Wind, LLC project for distribution and comment with one change: on the front page of the Draft Site Permit, replace PPM ENERGY, INC. with MinnDakota Wind, LLC; and
3. direct the Department of Commerce Energy Facility Permitting staff to initiate the public

review process found in Minn. Rules, Chapter 4401.

The motion passed, 4-0.

**ET2/TL-06-468**

**In the Matter of the Application of Great River Energy for a Transmission Route Permit under the Alternative Permitting Process for the RDO 115kV Project in Hubbard County**

Commissioner Reha moved that the Commission

1. accept the Application of Great River Energy and Itasca-Mantrap Electric Cooperative Association for a route permit under the alternative permitting process;
2. appoint Ms. Deborah Pile as public advisor;
3. determine that a Citizens Advisory Task Force is not necessary to identify additional route alternatives to be evaluated in the Environmental Assessment;
4. direct the Department EFP staff to initiate the public review process required by Minn. Rules, Parts 4400.2500 to 4400.2900; and
5. authorize Department EFP staff to name a hearing examiner to conduct the public hearing on the project at a later date.

The motion passed, 4-0.

**E-002/CN-06-154**

**In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company (d/b/a Xcel Energy) for a Certificate of Need for Three 115 kV Transmission Lines in Southwestern Minnesota**

1. accept Xcel's Notice Plan as amended in the Company's reply comments;
2. require Xcel to make a compliance filing which provides a final copy of the notice and proof to the Commission that the plan has been carried out in a timely fashion; and
3. require Xcel, as part of its compliance filing, to include a list of the names and addresses of landowners.

The motion passed, 4-0.

**E-002/M-06-85**

**In the Matter of a Request by Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy for**

**Approval of a Power Purchase Agreement with MinnDakota Wind LLC**

Commissioner Reha moved that the Commission

1. approve the PPA as amended by the 1st Amendment distributed by Xcel at the hearing today, April 20 [see copy attached to Order issued to implement this motion];
2. allow Xcel to recover the costs of the PPA, except for the costs as specified in Commission Decision Alternative 1 above, via the Company's automatic fuel adjustment;
3. require Xcel to credit to the fuel clause any compensation it receives from the relevant transmission authority for calling an interruption of the energy generated from this project during the period that Xcel is recovering curtailment provision costs from ratepayers;
4. require Xcel to identify in its monthly fuel adjustment report the date, length, costs to ratepayers and reason for each voluntary curtailment associated with this project; all such events should be summarized in Xcel's annual automatic adjustment (AAA) report.
5. for any future projects selected in a competitive bidding process, a PPA between Xcel and the selected project must be signed within one year after the selection has been approved by the Commission.

The motion passed, 4-0.

**E-002/GR-05-1428**

**In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy for Authority to Increase Rates for Electric Service in Minnesota**

Commissioner Pugh moved to grant the preliminary determination of eligibility for intervenor compensation to Energy Cents Coalition.

The motion passed, 4-0.

**E-002/M-05-1887**

**In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy for Approval of a Community-Based Energy Development Tariff**

Commissioner Reha moved that the Commission

1. approve the tariff language as modified and agreed;
2. direct Xcel to provide C-BED information on its web site, allowing the Company to

determine how to present the information;

3. direct Xcel to provide on written request a list of substation areas and feeders where generation would be beneficial;
4. leave the discount rate outside the tariff;
5. adopt the reporting requirements proposed by the Department and agreed to by Xcel; direct the Company to follow the Commission's established protocol for asserting trade secret classification.;
6. leave the time line for Xcel action [regarding what?] unspecified;
7. say nothing about security of performance;
8. require proof that price is within 2.7¢ ceiling;
9. wait until a filing is made to determine a procedure for approving power purchase agreements; post information about C-BED filings on the Commission's website in a separate location.

The motion passed, 4-0.

#### **TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGENDA**

##### **P-999/CI-06-405**

##### **In the Matter of Annual Consideration of Possible Changes in the Telephone Assistance Plan (TAP) Surcharge and the Telephone Assistance Plan State Credit**

Commissioner Johnson moved that the Commission accept the TAP Reports and make no changes to the TAP surcharge and/or benefit.

The motion passed, 4-0.

##### **P-421/C-06-413**

##### **In the Matter of the Complaint by the Minnesota Independent Equal Access Corporation, Inc. Against Qwest Communications Regarding Centralized Equal Access Charges**

Commissioner Pugh moved that the Commission

1. find that the matter is within the Commission's jurisdiction and that there are reasonable grounds to investigate the matter;
2. serve the Complaint, but vary the requirement of Minn. Rules, Part 7829.1800, subpart 2 that Qwest file an answer to the Complaint within 20 days of service of the complaint and

direct Qwest to either file its answer or a joint petition with MIEAC to dismiss the action by June 12, 2006;

3. direct that, if Qwest files an answer, replies to the answer should be filed within 20 days of the filing of the answer.

The motion passed, 4-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: MAY 3, 2006**

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**Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary**