



STATE OF MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

July 22, 2011

To: Stakeholders  
From: Burl Haar, Executive Secretary   
Re: Post shutdown issues affecting filings at the PUC

The Commission is back in operation as of Thursday, July 21. Needless to say, we are glad to be back to work.

One of our main challenges over the next week or two will be to implement an orderly process for managing the backlog of work that built up during shutdown, as well as new filings. To that end, I would like to make a request concerning new filings and provide guidance for filings in cases before the Commission with due dates occurring during shutdown.

**New filings:** I would request that, from July 21 through July 28, filers please limit submissions to items requiring immediate attention (e.g., statutory due dates) and to please delay until after the 28<sup>th</sup> filings of a more routine or lower priority nature. Self-editing of this nature by filing entities will significantly enhance the ability of the Commission and the Department of Commerce to recover to a normal mode of operations.

**Due dates during shutdown:** For certain electricity and natural gas cases before the Commission with comments due during the period of the shutdown (i.e., July 1, 2011 through July 20, 2011), the new due date for comments is 30 days from the date they were originally due. For example, if reply comments were due July 5<sup>th</sup>, the new due date is August 4<sup>th</sup>. A separate notice concerning these extensions will be issued in the near future.

Please note: this generic 30 day extension will NOT APPLY if subsequently superseded by a specific notice establishing a different due date. Also, this extension does NOT APPLY to matters pending before the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH). The OAH is responsible for revising due dates in matters pending with that agency.

[www.puc.state.mn.us](http://www.puc.state.mn.us)

PHONE (651) 296-7124 • FAX (651) 297-7073 • TDD (651) 297-1200 • 121 7th PLACE EAST • SUITE 350 • SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55101-2147

In addition, submissions via postal delivery, e-mail or other means, which did not arrive at the Commission until **after 4:30 PM on June 30, 2011, have not been officially received by the Commission**. If you wish to offer your submission officially into the record of a proceeding, submit it via the eFiling system. As noted above, if the filing is of a more routine nature, we'd ask that you wait until after July 28<sup>th</sup> to make the filing. Please be sure to identify the relevant PUC docket number.

We appreciate your patience as we work to recover from the shutdown. We believe these measures will provide for an orderly process for all concerned.