

E-002/M-91-216 ORDER APPROVING REVISED TARIFF

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Darrel L. Peterson	Chair
Cynthia A. Kitlinski	Commissioner
Dee Knaak	Commissioner
Norma McKanna	Commissioner
Patrice M. Vick	Commissioner

In the Matter of Northern States  
Power Company's Request to  
Revise its Saver's Switch  
Experimental Load Control Tariff

ISSUE DATE: April 19, 1991

DOCKET NO. E-002/M-91-216

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**PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

On April 24, 1990, the Commission approved Northern States Power Company's (NSP) two experimental tariffs as part of a pilot load-control project called Saver's Switch. The pilot project began in late 1989 and continued through the summer of 1990.

On January 3, 1991, NSP submitted an evaluation of the Saver's Switch project and proposed revisions to the two experimental tariffs.

On March 22, 1991, the Minnesota Department of Public Service (the Department) filed its report on NSP's proposed tariff and recommended that the Commission grant temporary approval of NSP's proposed changes to its Saver's Switch Project until the Commissioner of Public Services issues a decision regarding NSP's Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) program.

The Commission met on April 2, 1991 to consider this matter.

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

The Commission views NSP's request to revise its Savers' Switch tariffs as a miscellaneous tariff change and will hold it to the standard applicable to such requests, i.e. that the rates resulting from the proposed changes must be fair and reasonable as required by Minn. Stat. § 216B.03 (1990).

The Commission finds that the proposed rates would be cost-effective from all perspectives: utility, participant, non-participant, and all ratepayers. The core of the revised Savers' Switch tariffs is a fifteen percent rate discount which was

arrived at through extensive research and evaluation of last year's pilot offering of Savers' Switch to two areas. The discount is easy to administer and easy to understand. Moreover, the project is popular, is consistent with rate design goals of encouraging conservation and efficiency and could lower coincident peak demand. At the same time, information filed as part of NSP's 1991 general rate case indicates that the expected effects of Savers' Switch are included in the test year forecast and, therefore, Savers' Switch will not erode revenues.

Based on this evaluation, the Commission finds that the Savers' Switch rates are fair and reasonable and, therefore, will approve the revised Savers' Switch Experimental Load Control Tariff proposed by NSP.

**ORDER**

1. Northern States Power Company's (NSP) revised Saver's Switch Experimental Load Control tariff is approved.
2. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Richard R. Lancaster  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)