

E-002/M-93-29 ORDER ALLOWING WITHDRAWAL OF JOINT PETITION

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Don Storm	Chair
Tom Burton	Commissioner
Cynthia A. Kitlinski	Commissioner
Dee Knaak	Commissioner
Norma McKanna	Commissioner

In the Matter of the Joint
Petition of Northern States
Power Company and North Star
Steel Company for Approval of a
Contract Amendment

ISSUE DATE: April 9, 1993
DOCKET NO. E-002/M-93-29
ORDER ALLOWING WITHDRAWAL OF
JOINT PETITION

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On January 15, 1993, Northern States Power Company (NSP) and North Star Steel (NSS) filed a joint petition seeking Commission approval of a contract amendment to their Electric Service Agreement. The amendment would eliminate NSS's demand charge for increased load due to expansion of its facilities.

On February 1, 1993, the Department of Public Service (DPS) and the Residential Utilities Division of the Office of Attorney General (RUD-OAG) filed a joint Motion to Dismiss for Failure to State Grounds upon Which Relief Can Be Granted. The agencies requested that the Commission either dismiss the joint petition without prejudice or require that it be amended to state the legal and regulatory grounds upon which such a contract amendment may be approved.

Between February 19, 1993, and March 18, 1993, comments regarding the proposed contract amendment were received from Metalcasters of Minnesota, the City of St. Paul, and United Steelworkers of America.

On March 16, 1993, NSP and NSS filed a joint request to withdraw their proposed amendment. NSP and NSS indicated that withdrawing the petition "would be most efficient for all concerned." NSP and NSS stated that they intended to revise and resubmit the filing in the near future.

The matter came before the Commission for consideration on April 1, 1993.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The parties to the Electric Service Agreement and the agencies who filed a Motion to Dismiss have agreed that withdrawing the present petition would be in the best interests of all concerned. NSP and NSS have indicated that they will rework the petition, presumably with the concerns of the DPS and the RUD-OAG in mind. The Commission finds that it is in the best interests of all concerned parties to allow NSP and NSS the opportunity to develop the best possible terms and language for their proposed contract amendment. The Commission will therefore allow the companies to withdraw their petition at this time.

ORDER

1. The Commission approves Northern States Power Company's and North Star Steel Company's request to withdraw their joint petition for amendment of their Electric Service Agreement.
2. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Richard R. Lancaster
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)