

The Commission met on **Tuesday, March 8, 2011**, with Commissioners O'Brien, Pugh, and Reha present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

ENERGY AGENDA

E-104,306/SA-10-1119

In the Matter of a Joint Petition of the City of Saint Peter and Benco Electric Cooperative for Approval of their Settlement Agreement concerning a Change in their Service Territory Boundaries and Related Compensation

Commissioner Pugh recommended approval of the petition.

The motion passed 3-0.

E-111/M-10-1271

In the Matter of Dakota Electric Association's Request for a Variance to Minnesota Rules Governing Net Energy Billing

Commissioner O'Brien moved that the Commission grant Dakota Electric's requested variance as shown in the Schedule PG-1 tariff sheet attached to Dakota Electric's petition.

The motion passed 3-0.

E-111/M-11-49

In the Matter of Dakota Electric Association's Request for Approval to Clarify Various Tariff Provisions

Commissioner Reha moved that the Commission approve Dakota Electric's proposed revisions to its rate schedules.

The motion passed 3-0.

E-111/M-11-50

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

Commissioner Pugh moved that the Commission find that Dakota Electric's calculations are correct and appropriate and approve the petition.

The motion passed 3-0.

E-122,202/SA-11-44

In the Matter of the Joint Petition of the City of Aitkin and Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative, Inc. for Approval of the Electric Service Territory Agreement

Commissioner O'Brien moved that the Commission approve the proposed agreement.

The motion passed 3-0.

E-016/S-06-10-1251

In the Matter of Northwestern Wisconsin Electric Company's Petition for Approval of its Proposed Issuance of First Mortgage Bonds

Commissioner Pugh moved that the Commission approve the Company's proposed issuance of \$4,500,000 first mortgage bonds and grant the requested variance to Minn. Rules, parts 7825.1400 and .1500. This approval is conditioned upon the assumed approval of a similar petition by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

The motion passed, 3-0.

E-015/M-10-961

In the Matter of the Petition of Minnesota Power for Approval of a Power Purchase Agreement with Manitoba Hydro

Commissioner O'Brien moved that the Commission take the following actions:

1. Approve the Company's PPA with Manitoba Hydro and recommend to MP that it use a competitive bidding process for future resource selections.
2. Grant MP's request for a variance to Minn. Rules, part 7825.2400, subp. 9 and part 7825.2500.
3. Approve the revised tariff page, Section V, page 50, Rider for Fuel and Purchased Energy Adjustment, as attached to MP's September 1, 2010 petition in this docket.
4. Require MP to provide the following information in future annual automatic adjustment reports:
 - a. the number of times Manitoba Hydro offered Product B and/or Product C energy to MP
 - b. whether or not MP accepted the Product B and C energy offered
 - c. MP's efforts to determine whether lower cost energy exists
 - d. the prices of alternative energy
 - e. the cost comparison of energy under Product B and/or Product C and the alternative energy sources.

The motion passed 3-0.

E-015/M-10-799

In the Matter of Minnesota Power’s Petition for Approval of its Transmission Cost Recovery Rider

This item was pulled.

IP-6630/WS-07-318

In the Matter of the Site Permit issued to Comfrey Wind Energy, LLC for a Large Wind Energy Conversion System in Brown and Cottonwood Counties

Commissioner Pugh moved that the Commission amend Comfrey Wind Energy’s Wind Energy Conversion System Site Permit.

The motion passed 3-0.

IP-6853/WS-10-1240

In the Matter of the Site Permit Application for a 42 Megawatt Large Wind Energy Conversion System in Stearns County, Minnesota

Commissioner Pugh moved that the Commission:

1. Make a preliminary determination that a draft site permit may be issued.
2. Approve the proposed draft site permit for distribution and public comment. Authorize EFP staff to implement the public participation process outlined in Minnesota Rules, part 7854.0900.

The motion passed 3-0.

IP-6851/WS-10-1238

In the Matter of the Application of Big Blue Wind Farm, LLC for a Large Wind Energy Conversion System Site Permit for the 36 MW Big Blue Wind Farm in Faribault County

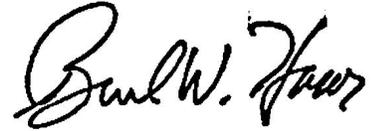
Commissioner O’Brien moved that the Commission:

1. Make a preliminary determination that a draft site permit may be issued.
2. Approve the proposed draft site permit for the Big Blue Wind Farm for distribution and public comment. Authorize OES EFP staff to implement the public participation process found in Minnesota Rules, part 7854.0900.

The motion passed 3-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: March 31, 2011

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Burl W. Haar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B" and a distinct "H".

Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary