

The Commission met on **Thursday, July 8, 2010**, with Chair Boyd and Commissioners O'Brien, Pugh, Reha, and Wergin present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

## **TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGENDA**

### **P-421/AM-08-1489**

#### **In the Matter of the Petition of Qwest Corporation for Approval of Batch Collocation**

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission approve Qwest's rates and close the docket.

The motion passed 5-0.

### **P-466, P-430, P-551/C-10-10-642**

#### **In the Matter of the Formal Complaint by Sprint Communications Company L.P. Against Embarq Minnesota, Inc. and CenturyTel of Minnesota, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink Regarding Threatened Disconnection of Services**

Commissioner O'Brien moved that the Commission find that:

1. The Commission has jurisdiction over the complaint;
2. There are not reasonable grounds to investigate the allegations at this time and dismiss the complaint without prejudice.

The motion passed 5-0.

## **ENERGY AGENDA**

### **E-002/M-09-1048**

#### **In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power company, a Minnesota Corporation, for Approval of a Modification to its TCR Tariff, 2010 Project Eligibility, TCR Rate Factors, Continuation of Deferred Accounting and 2009 True-up Report**

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission grant reconsideration of its April 12, 2010 Order to allow more time to consider the merits.

The motion passed 5-0.

**E-111/GR-09-175**

**In the Matter of the Application of Dakota Electric Association to Increase Rates for Electric Service in Minnesota**

Commissioner Reha moved to approve the Company's compliance filing, as recommended by the OES.

The motion passed 5-0.

**E-015/M-10-273**

**In the Matter of Minnesota's Petition for approval of its Renewable Resource Rider for the Bison 1 Wind Project under Minn. Stat. § 216B.1645.**

Commission Reha moved that the Commission

1. Approve Minnesota Power's proposal to recover \$8.5 million for the twelve month period ending March 31, 2011 and:

- a. Determine that the costs for the first 12 month period, beginning April 1, 2010, be collected over the remaining eight months in the 12 month period, subject to Minnesota Power submitting the required compliance filing with new tariff sheets that reflect the new renewable cost recovery factors and subject to Minnesota Power notifying customers of the rate increase. The cost recovery factors would be approximately:

\$0.75 per kW for all Billing Demand kW and \$0.75 per kWh for Larger Power Customers

\$0.149 per kWh for all other applicable Retail Rate Customers.

- b. Require MP to implement the new rates no sooner than 90 days after March 29, 2010. MP agrees to implement the new rates beginning August 1, 2010.
- c. Require MP to file an update with the Commission within 30 days of any additional credits received by MP as a result of the Bison 1 Project and require MP to add the credit as an offset to the revenue requirement.
- d. Require MP to allocate Large Power customers' revenue requirements between demand and energy consistently with the allocation approved by the Commission in MP's most recently completed rate case.
- e. Require Minnesota Power to file a report, including a financial impact statement, with the Commission and the OES if the in-service dates for phase 1 or 2 of the project are delayed more than some period of time the Commission considers reasonable (60 or 90 days).

The motion passed 5-0.

**IP-6838/CN-10-80**

**In the Matter of the Application of Prairie Rose Wind, LLC for a Certificate of Need for a 101-MW Wind Project and Related 115 kV Transmission Line in Pipestone and Rock County in Southwestern Minnesota**

Commissioner Pugh moved that the Commission:

1. Accept the application as substantially complete as supplemented on June 16, 2010;
2. Direct use of the informal review process;
3. Delegate authority to the Executive Secretary to process the review of the application;
4. Require the following:
  - a. the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the Commission employee designated to facilitate citizen participation in the process;
  - b. request that the Office of Energy Security continue to study issues and indicate during the hearing process its position on the reasonableness of granting a certificate to the Applicant;
  - c. a requirement that the Applicant facilitate in every reasonable way the continued examination of the issues by the OES and Commission staff;
  - d. a directive that the Applicant place a CD or hard copy of the Application in Government Centers and Public Libraries in the vicinity of the project;
  - e. a directive that Commission staff work with the Administrative Law Judge, the OES and the applicant in selecting suitable locations for a public hearing on the application; and
  - f. a directive that the Applicants work with staff of the Commission and the OES to arrange for publication of the notice of the hearings in newspapers of general circulation at least ten (10) days prior to the hearings, that such notice be in the form of visible display ads, and proofs of publication of such ads be obtained from the newspapers selected.
5. Grant a variance to Minn. Rule 7849,0200, subp., 5 to allow sufficient time to prepare a written order of the Commission's decision.

The motion passed 5-0.

**PL-95/PPL-07-361**

**In the Matter of the Applications of Enbridge Pipeline, LLC.**

Commissioner Pugh moved that the Commission:

1. Require the use of the complaint procedure provided for in the Route Permit.
2. Allow the complainant 30 days to further supplement the complaint.
3. Require Enbridge to respond to the issues raised by the complainant within 30 days of the filing of the supplement.
4. Request that the OES work with the complainant and Enbridge to further clarify the record.

The motion passed 5-0.

**E-002, ET-2/TL-09-246**

**In the Matter of the Application for a Route Permit for the Monticello to St. Cloud 345-kV Transmission Line Project**

Commissioner Pugh moved to approve and adopt the proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order submitted by the Energy Facilities Permitting Staff of the Office of Energy Security in the revised form submitted at the Commission meeting, including the substitution of maps 13x, 14,x, and 15x, submitted at the Commission meeting, for original maps 13, 14, and 15, thereby

1. Determining that the Environmental Impact Statement and record created at the public hearing adequately address the issues identified in the EIS Scoping Decision; and
2. Issuing the high-voltage transmission line route permit, as attached to the proposed Findings of fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order, to Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy and Great River Energy.

The motion passed 5-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: AUGUST 4, 2010**



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**Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary**