

The Commission met on **Thursday, September 22, 2011**, with Chair Anderson and Commissioners Reha, O'Brien, and Wergin present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

### **ENERGY AGENDA**

#### **E-002, ET-2/CN-11-826**

**In the Matter of Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy and Great River Energy for a Certificate of Need for the Upgrade to the Southwest Twin Cities (SWTC) Chaska Area 69 kV Transmission Line to 115 kV Capacity**

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission:

1. Grant the requested variance to Minnesota Rule, part 7829.2550, subp. 6, on the timing of implementation of the notice plan.
2. Adopt the proposed notice plan as modified by the Department's recommendation to include the Commission's website address in the newspaper notice.

The motion passed 4-0.

#### **IP-6629/WS-07-297**

**In the Matter of the Site Permit of Bear Creek Wind Partners, LLC for a 47.5 Megawatt Large Wind Energy Conversion System in Todd and Otter Tail Counties**

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission:

Grant the petition for amendment by Bear Creek Wind Partners LLC and amend its Large Wind Energy Conversion System Site Permit as provided in the attached Amendment.

The motion passed 4-0.

#### **E-299, 132/SA-11-498**

**In the Matter of the Joint Request of Rochester Public Utilities and People's Cooperative Service, Inc. to Modify Electric Service Territory Boundaries**

Commissioner Reha moved that the Commission:

1. Approve the joint petition of Rochester Public Utilities and People's Cooperative Service, Inc. to modify electric service territory boundaries as defined in the Parties' agreement.

2. The Parties shall obtain approval of future electric service territory boundary changes from the Commission prior to completing the transaction.

The motion passed 4-0.

**E-017/GR-10-239**

**In the Matter of a Petition by Otter Tail Power Company for Authority to Increase Rates for Electric Service in Minnesota**

Commissioner Reha moved that the Commission:

1. Approve Otter Tail Power Company's compliance filing, with the exception of the Company's customer notice, which will be approved by the Executive Secretary in a separate filing in this docket. Direct the Company to apply final rates to bills rendered on and after October 1, 2011. Direct Otter Tail to file a report showing the actual refunds and interest paid by customer class, including the calculations, within 120 days of completing the refund.
2. Direct Otter Tail Power Company to include in its 2012 annual renewable rider update filing information regarding both the demand/energy split methodology and the percent-of-revenue methodology for renewable rider class allocations and rate design.

The motion passed 4 – 0.

**E, G-001/AI-11-82**

**Interstate Power and Light Company's Petition for Approval of an Affiliated Interest Agreement**

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission:

1. Conclude that IPL complied with the Commission's Order in Docket No. E,G-999/CI-98-651 and with the filing requirements under Minnesota Rule 7825.2200B.
2. Conclude that the Supply Agreement is reasonable and consistent with the public interest.
3. Approve IPL's Supply Agreement, effective at the time of approval.
4. Require that IPL file a copy of the PSCW reports to the Commission.

The motion passed 4-0.

**E-001/AI-11-83**

**In the Matter of Interstate Power and Light Company's Petition for Approval of an Affiliated Interest Agreement with IEI Barge Services, Inc.**

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission:

1. Approve the proposed Agreement between Alliant Energy Services Corp. and IEI Barge Services, Inc.
2. IPL shall fully explain each attachment included in future affiliated interest filings.
3. For all future agreements that extend, amend or replace an existing agreement, IPL shall include the consideration received by the affiliated interest for such agreement and a verified summary of the relevant cost records.
4. When bids are used to secure a future affiliated interest agreement, IPL's affiliated interest filing shall include support demonstrating the thoroughness of the efforts to identify and solicit bids from appropriate parties.
5. IPL shall ensure that in future affiliated interest filings the use of the trade secret designation is necessary and appropriate and that adequate justification is provided for each use of the trade secret designation.
6. IPL shall provide a complete description of the transportation alternatives in future affiliated interest filings. The description shall include the identification of all relevant inputs including:
  - a) IPL's electric generating facilities that use coal as a primary fuel;
  - b) All mines that could provide the coal types and amounts needed for these generating facilities;
  - c) All transportation alternatives from the mines to the generating facilities;
  - d) The best prices for rail transport;
  - e) Rail-to-barge transloading and barge transport;
  - f) Amount and type of coal that has to be delivered to each electric generating station;
  - g) Capacity of each transportation alternative; and any other relevant physical constraints.

The motion passed 4-0.

**E, G-001/AI-11-84**

**In the Matter of a Petition by Interstate Power and Light Company (IPL) for Approval of a Rail Transport Agreement Between IPL and its Affiliate, Alliant Energy's Transportation Company, the Cedar Rapids and Iowa City Railway Co. (CIC)**

Commissioner Reha moved that the Commission:

1. Approve the Rail Transport Agreement between IPL and the Cedar Rapids and Iowa City Railway Co.
2. For future affiliated interest filings, IPL shall provide (1) a list of all agreements outstanding between IPL and affiliated interests including the history of the agreements; (2) the consideration received by the affiliated interest for the agreements including historical dollar amounts; and (3) a verified summary of the relevant cost records related to the agreements.

The motion passed 4-0.

**E-999/CI-08-948**

**In the Matter of the Commission Consideration of Standards Related to Smart Grid Investments and Information under the Federal Independence and Security Act of 2007**

The Commission took no action.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: December 7, 2011**



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**Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary**