

REVISED NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD ON PETITION

Issued: April 7, 2017

In the Matter of the Petition of Xcel Energy for Approval of the Acquisition of Wind Energy

PUC Docket Number: E002/M-16-777

Comment Period: Initial comment period closes May 1, 2017 at 4:30pm

Reply comment period closes May 15, 2017 at 4:30pm

Comments received after comment period closes may not be considered

Topics Open for Comment:

- Should the Commission approve Xcel's proposed 1,550 MW of wind resource additions to the NSP system?
- Should the Commission authorize an aggregate, symmetrical cost cap for the four self-build project portfolio?
- Should the Commission determine that Xcel's proposal to acquire 1,550 MW of wind resources is a reasonable and prudent approach to meetings its obligations under Minnesota's Renewable Energy Standard pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.1645, subd. 1?
- Is the company's proposal to deal with the jurisdictional cost allocation issues and cost recovery of these projects reasonable? If not, what are reasonable options?
- Are there any other any other related issues or concerns?
- **(New)** Is the acquisition of the Lake Benton II Project consistent with the public interest and should the Commission approve the project pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.50?
- **(New)** Should the Commission grant a variance for the Lake Benton II Project from the filing requirements provided in Minn. Rule 7825.1800 (B)?

Project Background: On September 22, 2016 Xcel Energy issued a request for proposal for new wind generation ([2016 Wind RFP](#)). To meet part of the resources solicited under the RFP, Xcel is proposing to build, own, and operate a portion of the new generation.

In its January 11, 2017 [Order](#), the Commission approved Xcel's wind procurement of at least 1,000 MW of wind by 2019. Xcel proposed to use a resource procurement process as authorized and established under Minnesota Statute § 216B.2422, Subd. 5 (as further modified in the January 11, 2017 Order) to acquire new wind generation resources. Through this process, Xcel proposed to submit any self-build proposals the day before the RFP deadline of October 25, 2016 and file the remaining proposals selected through the RFP process in early 2017.

On October 24, 2016 Xcel filed its [Initial Wind Petition](#) containing its proposed 750 MW of self-build proposals and on March 15, 2017, Xcel filed the [Supplemental Wind Petition](#) which included the 800 MW of projects selected as a result of the RFP.

In a filing on April 3, 2017, Xcel clarified it was also seeking approval pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.50 for the acquisition of the Lake Benton II and a variance from filing requirements in Minn. Rule 7825.1800. This revised notice of comment period acknowledges those requests and due to the length of time remaining in the comment periods, the initial and reply comment period dates will not be modified.

Filing Requirements: Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are **required** to file documents using the Commission's electronic filing system (eFiling). All parties, participants and interested persons are encouraged to use eFiling: mn.gov/puc, select *eFiling*, and follow the prompts.

Submit Public Comments: Visit mn.gov/puc, select *Speak Up!*, find this docket, and add your comments to the discussion.

Send U.S. Mail to Public Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul MN 55101. Please include the Commission's docket number in all communications.

Full Case Record: See all documents filed in this docket via the Commission's website - mn.gov/puc, select *Search eDockets*, enter the year (*16*) and the docket number (*777*), select *Search*.

Subscribe to receive email notification when new documents are filed in this docket at mn.gov/puc, select *Subscribe*, and follow the prompts.

Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure? Contact Commission staff, Tricia DeBleeckere, at tricia.debleeckere@state.mn.us or 651-201-2254 or Sean Stalpes, at sean.stalpes@state.mn.us or 651-201-2252.

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