

NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD

Issued: August 9, 2019

In the Matter of Establishing a Distributed Solar Value Methodology under Minn. Stat. § 216B.164, subd. 10 (e) and (f)

PUC Docket Number: E-999/M-14-65

In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company, doing Business as Xcel Energy, Requesting Approval of its Proposed Community Solar Gardens Program

PUC Docket Number: E-002/M-13-867

Comment Period: Comment period closes August 23, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.

Comments received after the close of the comment period may or may not be considered by the Commission.

Issue: Should the Commission adopt Xcel Energy's proposal for a modification to the Value of Solar (VOS) methodology to be applied beginning with the 2020 VOS bill credit rate in the Company's Community Solar Garden (CSG) program?

Topics Open for Comment:

- Is Xcel's proposal to modify the avoided distribution cost component in the CSG VOS bill credit rate reasonable and in the public interest?
- Should the modification of this VOS cost component be adopted by the Commission for use as an input in the 2020 VOS bill credit rate for Xcel's CSG program?
- Are there alternative ways in which the VOS methodology could be adjusted to address the volatility of this cost component in the short term, prior to a longer term solution?

Background: On August 2, 2019, Xcel Energy filed a petition seeking to modify the calculation of the avoided distribution cost component in the Company's VOS methodology for the CSG program. The petition was filed in Docket No. E-999/M-14-65 and cross-filed in Docket No. E-002/M-13-867.

Xcel's petition alerted the Commission that under the current VOS methodology, preliminary calculations indicate a 2020 levelized VOS rate more than twice that of the 2019 rate. Xcel

maintained this result was unreasonable, and asked the Commission to modify the avoided distribution cost component consistent with the Company's May 1, 2019 proposal, which it attached to the petition. Xcel's petition requests that the modification begin with the 2020 VOS bill credit rate, and indicates that the Commission could act on the petition based on the record developed in Docket No. E-002/M-13-867, including the Company's May 1, 2019 filing.

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!* to find this docket, and add your comments to the discussion or email your comments to consumer.puc@state.mn.us.

Full Case Record: See all documents filed in these dockets via the Commission's website at mn.gov/puc, select *Search eDockets*, enter the year (13) and the docket number (867), select *Search* or enter the year (14) and the docket number (65), select *Search*.

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Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure? Contact Commission staff, Susan Mackenzie, at susan.mackenzie@state.mn.us or 651-201-2241.

Change your mailing preferences: Email docketing.puc@state.mn.us or call Leesa Norton at 651-201-2246.

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