

The Commission met on **Thursday, April 5, 2012**, with Acting Chair Reha, Commissioners O'Brien, and Wergin present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

### **ENERGY AGENDA**

#### **E-111/M-12-128**

#### **In the Matter of Dakota Electric Association's Request for a Variance to the Billing Error Rules**

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission approve DEA's variance request and a one-time modification to the Cooperative's tariff.

The motion passed, 3-0.

#### **E-017/M-12-46**

#### **In the Matter of the Request for Approval of a Proposed Addition of a General Service Pilot Program to the Air Conditioning Control Rider 14.08**

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission:

1. Approve Dakota Electric Association's request for a variance; and
2. Approve Dakota Electric Association's request for a one-time modification to the Cooperative's tariff.

The motion passed, 3-0.

#### **~~P-6923/CI-10-519~~**

#### **~~In the Matter of an Investigation into TracFone's Compliance with Remittance Responsibilities under Minn. Stat. §§ 403.11 and 237.52~~**

**PULLED**

#### **E-002/T:-11-223**

#### **In the Matter of the Application for a HVTL Route Permit for the Orono Substation Expansion and Ne 115 kV Transmission Line Project**

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission approve and adopt the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order for the Xcel Energy Orono Substation Replacement and new 115 kV Transmission Project (PUC docket No. E-002/T:L-11-223) which:

1. Determines that the environmental assessment and record created at the public hearing address the issues identified in the EA Scoping Decision;
2. Designates the proposed HVTL route and replacement of the Orono Substation as the route/site for the construction and implementation of the Orono Substation Replacement and 115 kV Transmission Line Project and associated facilities; and
3. Issues a HVTL Route Permit with appropriate conditions, to Northern States Power Company (Xcel Energy).

The motion passed, 3-0.

**E-002/CN-12-113**

**In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company and Great River Energy for a Certificate of Need for the Hollydale 114 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County, Minnesota**

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission grant the Applicants' exemption request in part, requiring the Applicants to provide or otherwise evaluate the availability of the data identified by the Department as part of the certificate of need application.

The motion passed, 3-0.

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission adopt the proposed notice plan as modified by the Department's recommendation to include the general right-of-way requirements for a 115 kV line and a copy of the map to include in the notice letters and require the Applicants to incorporate the signatories to the Plymouth Residents Petition to the direct mail notice list.

The motion passed, 3-0.

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission grant the requested variance to Minnesota Rule, part 7829.2550, subp. 6, on the timing of the implementation of the notice plan.

The motion passed, 3-0.

**E-002/TL-11-152**

**In the Matter of the Route Permit Application for the Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County**

Commissioner O'Brien moved that the Commission:

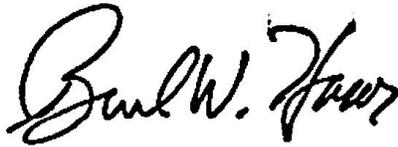
1. Grant the applicants' request to convert the pending route permit proceeding from the alternative permitting process (Minnesota Rules 7850.2800 to 7850.3900) to the full permitting process (Minnesota Rules 7850.2000 to 7850.2700).

2. Refer the Xcel Energy and Great River Energy 115 kV Hollydale Transmission Line Route Permit Docket No. E002/TL-11-152 to the Office of Administrative Hearings for conduct of the Minnesota Rules 1405 contested case hearing.

The motion passed, 3-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: April 18, 2012**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Burl W. Haar". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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**Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary**