

The Commission met on **Tuesday, August 14, 2012**, with Commissioners Heydinger, Boyd, O'Brien, Reha, and Wergin present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGENDA

P5434/RV-12-579

In the Matter of the Revocation of Desktop Media, Inc.'s Certificate of Authority

Commissioner Wergin moved to revoke Desktop Media, Inc.'s Certificate of Authority consistent with the recommendations of the Department of Commerce.

The motion passed 5 – 0.

ENERGY AGENDA

G007,011/M-12-709

Petition by Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation (MERC) For Approval of a Variance to Adjust a Monthly Purchase Gas Adjustment (PGA) Calculation Error via the September 2012 Annual Automatic Adjustment Filing

Commissioner Boyd moved that the Commission approve the requested variance subject to the following conditions:

1. MERC shall add interest to the refund at the prime rate up to the time of the refund.
2. MERC shall provide detailed calculations of the refund and interest.
3. MERC shall show the credit amount as a separate line item in the upcoming true-up filing.

The motion passed 5 – 0.

E, G-999/CI-00-1343

In the Matter of the Investigation into Disclosure of Environmental Information to Utility Customers

E, G-999/CI-01-1127

In the Matter of an Investigation into Informing Customers of the Costs of Generation and Delivery of Electricity

Commissioner Reha moved that the Commission approve Dakota Electric Association's request to file its annual update regarding its environmental disclosure and costs of electric generation,

transmission, and distribution brochure and website each July 1 instead of June 1, beginning in 2013.

The motion passed 5– 0.

E,G999/CI-11-1149

E015/M-12-324

E015/M-11-241

E017/M-12-36

E017/M-11-185

E,G001/M-12-317

E001/M-11-244

G001/M-11-245

E,G002/M-12-220

E002/M-11-278

G002/M-11-279

G008/M-12-323

G-008/M-11-383;

G007,011/M-12-321

G007/M-11-406

G011/M-11-407

G004/M-12-285

G004/M-11-404

In the Matter of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's Implementation of Minnesota Laws 2011, Chapter 97, Sections 8,18,19,21, and 31 and Revisions to Tariffs for CIP Cost Recovery.

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission:

1. Approve the proposed tariff language amendments and find that the proposed amendments reflect the changes addressed in the Commission's March 1, 2012 order in this docket.
2. Require that the utilities make revised compliance filings in Centerpoint, Docket No. G008/M-12-323; Great Plains, Docket No. G004/M-12-285; Xcel, Docket No. E,G002/M-12-220; MERC, Docket No. G007/M-12-321; Minnesota Power, Docket No. E015/M-12-324; Otter Tail Power, Docket No. E017/M-12-361; and Interstate Power, Docket No. E,G001/M-12-317, incorporating the Department modifications within 20 days from the date of the Commission's Order.
3. Require the utilities to incorporate additional tariff language modifications as follows:
 - a. In the "Applicability Section," the tariff should list all of the types of customers eligible for CIP exemptions for that utility. All of the utilities included "large customer facilities," but many of the gas utilities did not include "commercial gas customers" and "large energy facilities."

- b. The tariff should separately state the current CCRC and CCRA rates.
 - c. In the “Rate Determination Section,” the tariff should state the proper calculation for determining the CCRA and CCRC rates including language on excluding CIP exempt customer volumes from the denominator in the calculation.
 - d. In the “Exemption Section,” the tariff should incorporate exemption language to permit the utility to exempt customers from being charged the CCRC and CCRA charges once the CIP exemption has been granted. The language should include a separate discussion for each type of applicable CIP exemption including “large customer facility,” “commercial gas customers,” and “large energy facility.”
4. Within 30 days of the date of the Commission’s Order, require that Interstate Power (Gas) file proposed tariff modifications for CIP exempt gas customers, reflecting the requirements of the Commission’s March 1, 2012 order.
 5. Order that commercial gas customer CIP exemption language become effective January 1 of the following year. Customers who file for CIP exemption on or before October 1 will be eligible for the January 1 effective date.
 6. Require that the utilities identify the CCRC revenue amounts, together with associated calculations, that would have been collected in 2012 from all exempted facilities in the utilities’ CIP tracker account filings to be filed in 2013.

The motion passed 5 – 0.

E-002/TL-12-401

In the Matter of the Application of Xcel Energy and Great River Energy for a Route Permit for the Upgrade of the Southwest Twin Cities Chaska Area 69kV Transmission Line to 115 kV Capacity

Commissioner Boyd moved that the Commission:

1. Accept the Application as complete.
2. Refer the application to the Office of Administrative Proceedings for summary proceedings.
3. Grant a variance to Minn. Rules, part 7850.3700, subp. 3, to extend the ten-day timeline for determining the scope of the environmental assessment.
4. Request that the EFP present draft route alternatives to the Commission in order for the Commission to provide input to the DOC Commissioner prior to the Final Scoping Decision.
5. Appoint Michael Kaluzniak, of the Commission staff, as public advisor.

6. Take no action on an advisory committee at this time.

The motion passed 5-0.

E6472/GS-06-668

In the Matter of the Application of Mesaba Energy for a Large Electric Power Generating Plant Site Permit, High Voltage Transmission Line Route Permit, and Pipeline Route Permit

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission:

1. Find that the Mesaba Energy Project Site and Route Permits are valid for a natural gas fueled facility at the same site, and no further state environmental review document is required.
2. Require Excelsior Energy to file, at least 180 days prior to construction, a plan outlining how it will comply with the terms and conditions of the site permit. Require that the filing outline any site permit amendments or modifications that it believes may be necessary to develop the natural gas combined-cycle facility at the West Range site.

The motion passed 5 – 0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: October 3, 2012



Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary