

The Commission met on **Thursday, September 20, 2012**, with Chair Heydinger, and Commissioners Reha, O'Brien and Wergin present.

The following matters came before the Commission:

## **TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGENDA**

### **P-999/PR-12 26**

#### **In the Matter of Annual Certifications Related to Eligible Telecommunications Carriers' Use of the Federal Universal Service Support**

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission certify, based on the information provided, that all of the petitioning ETCs only used Federal High-Cost USF support, including interstate access service, if any, received in the preceding calendar year and will only use the support in the coming calendar year for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

The motion passed, 4-0.

## **ENERGY AGENDA**

### **E-002/M-12-861**

#### **In the Matter of Northern States Power Company's, d/b/a Xcel Energy, Request for a Variance to the Billing Error Rules**

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission approve Xcel's request for a variance to Minnesota Rules, part 7820.3800 and a one-time modification to its Billing Error Tariff. The Commission further moved that an additional two-year period (2000 and 2001) be included in the credit to be accorded Customer B.

The motion passed, 4-0.

### **E-111/M-12-882**

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

Commissioner Reha moved that the Commission approve Dakota Electric Association's request for a variance and a one-time modification to the Cooperative's tariff.

The motion passed, 4-0.

**E-299,142/SA-12-860**

**In the Matter of the Joint Request of Rochester Public Utilities and People's Energy Cooperative for Approval of a Service Territory Agreement**

Commissioner O'Brien moved that the Commission approve the Rochester Public Utilities' requested service territory transfer from Peoples's Energy Cooperative to the City.

The motion passed, 4-0.

**E-002/M-11-1184**

**In the Matter of Northern States Power Company's Request for Approval to Modify the Accessible Escrow Fund Accounts for Nuclear Plant Decommissioning**

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission:

1. Approve the Amended and Restated Escrow and Custody Agreement;
2. Approve Xcel's proposed new asset allocation; and
3. Require Xcel to file with the Department and the Commission at the end of each calendar year the following information:
  - a. The total annual return on the Escrow Fund;
  - b. The total annual return on the benchmark portfolio (the portfolio provided by the Company in Part c of its response to the Department's Information Request No. 2); and
  - c. The asset allocation by category (i.e., Small Cap, Large Cap, etc.).

The motion passed, 4-0.

**G-999/AA-10-885**

**In the Matter of the Review of the 2009-2010 Annual Automatic Adjustment Reports and Annual Purchased Gas Adjustment True-up Filings**

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission:

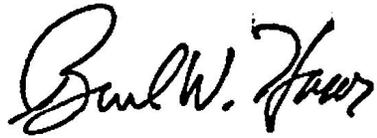
1. Accept the May 29, 2012 CenterPoint summary of all natural gas utilities' proposals (includes MERC, CenterPoint, Great Plains, Xcel, IPL, and Greater Minnesota) as meeting all the requirements specified in the April 3, 2012 Commission Order for repair costs associated with contractor main strikes.

2. Accept the May 29, 2012 CenterPoint summary of the four natural gas utilities' proposals (includes MERC, CenterPoint, Great Plains, and IPL) as meeting all the requirements specified in the April 3, 2012 Commission Order for gas lost that impacts the system LUF associated with contractor main strikes.
3. Accept the contractor main strike plans for MERC and CenterPoint as reflected in the May 29, 2012 CenterPoint summary as meeting all the requirements specified in the April 3, 2012 Commission Order for gas lost that impacts the system LUF associated with contractor main strikes.
4. Accept the contractor main strike plan for Great Plains as reflected in the May 29, 2012 CenterPoint summary as meeting all the requirements specified in the April 3, 2012 Commission Order for gas lost that impacts the system LUF associated with contractor main strikes, but with conditions. Require Great Plains to include in its annual PGA true-up filings information sufficient to demonstrate that the other customers are receiving the benefit of the contractor main strikes collections.
5. Accept the contractor main strike plans for IPL as reflected in the May 29, 2012 CenterPoint summary as meeting all the requirements specified in the April 3, 2012 Commission Order for gas lost that impacts the system LUF associated with contractor main strikes, but with conditions. Require IPL to remove the word "significant" from its proposal and to notify the Commission when the change has been made.
6. Require Xcel to provide a status report on its progress toward implementing a contractor main strikes mechanism for gas lost (LUF) and provide a report on its progress by December 1, 2012.
7. Require Greater Minnesota to develop and file with the Commission a proposal estimating gas lost (LUF) associated with contractor main strikes and begin assessing the charge to all at fault contractor main strikes, and begin appropriately accounting for LUF. Require Greater Minnesota to provide a report on its progress in finalizing its gas lost from contractor main strikes proposal by December 1, 2012.
8. Require all gas utility companies to file as part of their annual AAA reports a schedule reflecting the contractor main strikes during the corresponding period as specified on Page 7 of the briefing papers.
9. Accept the utility companies' compliance filings as meeting the requirements set forth in the Commission's April 3, 2012 Order.
10. Require all utility companies to file any updates within an annual period in their annual AAA reports. Require the test metering reports to be incorporated into the AAA report starting in 2012, or other appropriate date.

The motion passed, 4-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: October 10, 2012**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Burl W. Haar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B' and 'H'.

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**Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary**