

The Commission met on **Thursday, January 17, 2013**, with Chair Jones Heydinger, and Commissioners Reha, O'Brien, and Wergin present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGENDA

P466/PA-12-1289

In the Matter of the Joint Petition of Sprint Communications Company, L.P. and Starburst for Approval of Indirect Transfer of Control of Sprint Communications Company, L.P. to Starburst II, Inc.

Commissioner Reha moved that the Commission approve the Transfer of Control of Sprint Communications Company L.P. to Starburst II, Inc. with the following clarifications:

- Sprint Communications Company L.P. will continue to exist, and its current certificates of authority are not cancelled.
- Sprint Communications Company L.P. must continue to submit jurisdictional annual reports, as well as any other required regulatory filings and payments for regulatory assessments.
- Petitioners must notify the Commission within 20 days of the closing of the proposed transaction.

The motion passed 4 – 0.

P421/SA-12-1026

In the Matter of CenturyLink's Petition to Amend its Certificate of Authority to provide service to certain customers in Prior Lake, Minnesota

Commissioner Wergin moved that the Commission grant CenturyLink's petition to amend its certificate of authority to include non-voice local service in the Prior Lake exchange of Scott-Rice Telephone Company.

The motion passed 4 – 0.

ENERGY AGENDA

E-002/CN-12-1240

In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company to Initiate a Competitive Resource Acquisition Process

Commissioner Wergin moved to take the following actions:

1. Approve the attached Notice, as revised.

2. Require Xcel to publish notice in the following publications by, or on, February 1, 2013.
 - i. Star Tribune
 - ii. Pioneer Press
 - iii. Energy Central (including, but not limited to, EnergyBiz)
 - iv. Megawatt Daily
 - v. Platts Electric Power Newsletters
3. Require Xcel to provide DOC-approved guidance on what will be required to be submitted by alternative bidders on their website by February 1, 2013.
4. Require Xcel to refine the guidance provided on their website (if necessary) by February 28, 2013 in response to Commission action in docket E002/RP-10-825 anticipated in February, 2013.
5. Require Xcel to file a compliance filing with the Commission by February 8, 2013 outlining and confirming publication and publication dates of the approved Notice.
6. Allow any further modifications to the Notice Plan to be approved by the Executive Secretary.

The motion passed 4 – 0.

E002/M-03-1883

In the Matter of Xcel Energy’s Petition for Approval of an Assignment of a Renewable Development Fund Contract

Commissioner Reha moved that the Commission approve the agreement with the conditions as recommended by the Department.

The motion passed 4 – 0.

E,G-002/S-12-1164

In the Matter of Northern States Power Company’s Request for Approval of its 2013 Capital Structure Prior to Issuing Securities

Commissioner Wergin moved to take the following actions:

1. Approve the Petition
2. Adopt the Department’s recommendation and:
 - Approve NSP-MN’s requested 2013 capital structure; this approval to be in effect until the 2014 Capital Structure Order is issued.

- Approve a ± 10 percent range around NSP-MN's common equity ratio of 52.0 percent (i.e., a range of 46.8 to 57.2 percent).
 - Approve NSP-MN's short-term debt issuance not to exceed 15 percent of total capitalization at any time while the 2013 Capital Structure is in effect.
 - Approve NSP-MN's total capitalization contingency of \$439 million (i.e., a total capitalization of \$9,000 million, including the \$439 million).
 - Continue the variance authorizing NSP-MN to enter into multi-year credit agreements and issue associated notes thereunder, but require NSP-MN to also continue to report on its use of such facilities, including:
 - how often they are used,
 - the amount involved,
 - rates and financing costs, and
 - the intended uses of the financing.
 - Approve NSP-MN's request to issue securities provided that the Company remain within the contingency ranges or does not exceed them for more than 60 days.
 - Require NSP-MN to obtain the Commission's preapproval of any issuance expected to result in the Company remaining outside the contingency ranges for more than 60 days.
 - Approve NSP-MN's flexibility to use risk-management instruments that qualify for hedge accounting treatment under ASC No. 815.
 - Require, in its next capital structure filing, NSP-MN to include an exhibit providing a general projection of capital needs, projected expenditures, anticipated sources, and anticipated timing, with the understanding that such exhibit is not intended to require dollar-for-dollar on the uses identified in the exhibit or to limit issuances to project specific financing. The exhibit need not list short-term, recurring security issuances.
 - Require, in its next annual capital structure filing, NSP-MN to include a report of actual issuances and uses of the funds from the prior year. The report will be for information purposes only and need not cover short-term recurring security issuances.
 - Require, within 20 days of each non-recurring security issuance, NSP-MN to file for informational purposes only an after-the-fact report providing the following information: 1) the type of security issued; 2) the total amount issued; 3) the purpose of the issuance; 4) the issuance cost associated with the security issuance; and 5) the total cost of the security issuance, including details such as interest rate or cost per share of common equity issued.
2. Require NSP to file its request for approval of its 2014 securities issuances no later than November 1, 2013.

3. Clarify that approval of securities issuances, and the resulting capital structure, within this proceeding is not a determination of the appropriate capital structure for rate making purposes.

The motion passed 4 – 0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: February 13, 2013

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

Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary