

**NOTICE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) RETIREMENT PROCESS FOR
RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARDS, BIENNIAL REPORTING OBLIGATIONS, AND
GREEN PRICING PROGRAM REC RETIREMENT**

Issued: April 5, 2018

In the Matter of Commission Consideration and Determination of Compliance with Renewable Energy Standards for Year 2017

In the Matter of the Green Pricing Verification Filing Process

PUC Docket Number(s): **E-999/M-18-78**
 E-999/PR-02-1240
 E-999/PR-18-12

PLEASE NOTE: M-RETS has instituted substantial system enhancements that have changed the REC retirement process. Please contact M-RETS for questions related to the REC retirement process and reports.

All utilities subject to [Minn. Stat. §216B.1691](#), as well as those with Green Pricing Programs, must retire Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) and file annual verification reports for the Renewable Energy Standards (RES) and Green Pricing Programs. These may be addressed by completing the information requested in the spreadsheet and filing it no later than **June 1, 2018**. The spreadsheet may be found here:

[Filing Template \(.xlsx\)](#)

For the 2017 compliance year, RECS must be retired by May 1, 2018.

Please note Tab 5 of the spreadsheet addresses the filing requirements for the RES biennial reporting obligation and is only included in years in which the biennial report requirement applies, as it does this year. Utilities are required to file this information pursuant to the Commission's [Order Finding Utilities In Compliance With Minn. Stat. §216b.1691 And Modifying Biennial Reporting Procedures](#), in Docket No. E-999/M-12-958, issued May 28, 2013.

In accordance with the Commission's [March 19, 2010 Order](#) (Docket No. E-999/CI-03-869), all entities covered under Minn. Stat. §216B.1691, except Xcel Energy, must retire RECs representing

17 percent of annual retail sales for calendar year 2017. Xcel Energy is required to retire RECs representing **25 percent** of annual retail sales for calendar year 2017.

Compliance is measured on a calendar year basis. Utilities must retire a sufficient number of RECs to meet the 2017 RES and retire a sufficient number of RECs to meet the green pricing sales for the applicable calendar year. These retirements must be completed by May 1 of the year following the compliance year. For example, RECs for compliance (calendar) year 2017 must be transferred and retired by May 1, 2018.

Eligible energy facilities: RECs must originate from eligible energy technology as defined by Minn. Stat. §216B.1691, subd. 1.

REC shelf life: Only RECs retired before the end of their Commission-designated shelf life (the year of generation plus four years) will be counted towards either the RES requirement or a utility's Green Pricing Program.

M-RETS instruction document: An instruction document on REC retirement and report creation for Minnesota RES compliance and Green Pricing Programs is available in the training section of the M-RETS website: <http://www.mrets.org/training/>. Additionally, an intercom document to assist utilities has been created and is available here: <https://intercom.help/gokart-labs-79ad9c529b6b/compliance/minnesota-compliance-training>. Questions regarding the online retirement process or the generation of M-RETS reports may be directed to: Ben Gerber, M-RETS Executive Director at (651) 789-3338 or ben@mrets.org or Rosie Hoyem, M-RETS Program Manager at (651) 789-3324 or systemadmin@mrets.org.

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.

Subscribe to receive email notification when new documents are filed in this docket at mn.gov/puc, select *Subscribe*, or click [HERE](#) and follow the prompts.

Questions about this docket? Contact Commission staff: Kelly Martone, at kelly.martone@state.mn.us or (651) 201-2245 or Hanna Terwilliger, at hanna.terwilliger@state.mn.us or (651) 201-2243

Questions about the Green Pricing section of the reporting form may be directed to Lise Trudeau, Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources staff, at DG.Energy@state.mn.us or (651) 539- 1861.

To request this document in another format such as large print or audio, call (651) 296-0406 (voice). Persons with a hearing or speech impairment may call using their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service or email consumer.puc@state.mn.us for assistance.