

The Commission met on **Thursday, April 10, 2014**, with Acting Chair Boyd and Commissioners Lange and Lipschultz present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGENDA

P-999/PR-14-8

In the Matter of Eligible Telecommunications Carriers' Annual Universal-Service-Support Certifications

Commissioner Lipschultz moved to modify the schedule for 2014 and future annual certifications as follows:

July 1	Deadline for ETCs to file petitions and supporting documentation (including the information required by federal form 481)
September 1	Deadline for comments by the Department, OAG, and other interested persons
September 8	Deadline for replies

The motion passed 3-0.

ENERGY AGENDA

E-999/CI-13-542

In the Matter of the Implementation of Solar Energy Standards Pursuant to 2013 Amendments to Minn. Stat. § 216B.1691

Commissioner Lange moved to take the following actions:

1. Find that a solar renewable-energy credit (S-REC) associated with a solar photovoltaic device installed and generating electricity in Minnesota after August 1, 2013, but before 2020 has a four-year shelf life commencing January 2020;
2. Find that all SRECs created after January 2020 have a shelf life of four years;
3. Find that the shelf life set by the Commission for S-RECs generated outside Minnesota shall be identical to S-RECs generated within Minnesota;

4. Find that the Commission's investigative and enforcement authority under Minn. Stat. § 216B.1691, subd. 7, applies in the event of utility noncompliance with the SES (Solar Energy Standard);
5. Require utilities to file annual reports containing all of the information listed below in order to meet the reporting requirement of Minn. Stat. § 216B.1691, subd. 2f(g):
 - A. Annual Minnesota retail sales for the previous calendar year;
 - B. Annual excluded customer sales for the previous calendar year;
 - C. A list of customers requesting exclusion from the requirements of the SES, the NAICS code associated with their manufacturing activity, and their annual kWh usage;
 - D. The total Minnesota retail sales for customers excluded from the SES requirement;
 - E. Annual solar generation on the utilities' system for the previous calendar year (including the total number of units registered in M-RETS to that utility and S-RECs generated in the past year from those units);
 - F. Estimated amount of solar generation (expressed as capacity) a utility would be required to obtain in 2020;
 - G. Estimated solar energy requirements to meet the SES in 2020;
 - H. Short summary of ongoing efforts to obtain solar energy (including a brief summary of the anticipated mix of project sizes for SES compliance);
 - I. Progress toward compliance with the ten (10) percent carve-out for systems less than 20 kW;
 - J. Brief summary of the state(s) in which the solar generation is located or anticipated to be located; and
 - K. Purchases and sales of S-RECs to meet the SES;
6. The annual reports referenced above will be required to include a breakdown of S-RECs, identifying which credits were associated with
 - Facilities receiving a value-of-solar rate;
 - Community solar gardens;
 - Facilities under a net-metering tariff;
 - Utility-owned solar projects;
 - Solar facilities that have entered into a PPA with the utility; and
 - Facilities receiving an incentive, such as Solar Rewards or Made in Minnesota;

7. Delegate authority to the Executive Secretary to issue a notice listing the reporting requirements set forth above for the SES, to be filed in a separate docket. By June 1 of each year, utilities will be required to file the SES annual reports in that docket. Further process on the SES annual reports will be developed in response to any party comments on the reports;
8. Require all S-RECs to be generated from facilities registered in M-RETS to be eligible for SES compliance; and
9. Find that the requirement to meet the SES, and retire sufficient S-RECs to do so, continues after 2020 unless and until changed by statute or Commission order.

The motion passed 3-0.

IP-6914/TL-13-591

In the Matter of Odell Wind Farm, LLC's Route-Permit Application for a 115-kV Transmission Line and Associated Facilities in Cottonwood, Jackson, and Martin Counties

Commissioner Lipschultz moved to take no action.

The motion passed 3-0.

E-002/CN-12-113

In the Matter of Xcel Energy and Great River Energy's Application for a Certificate of Need for the Hollydale 115-kV Transmission-Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina

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 Lipschultz moved to take the following actions:

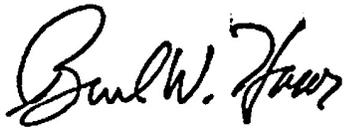
1. Grant the petition to withdraw the Certificate of Need and Route Permit applications for the Hollydale Project.
2. As a condition of approving the withdrawal, require that Xcel demonstrate the need for any new transmission it proposes for the Plymouth or Medina project area.
3. Request a summary of public comments and testimony from the Office of Administrative Hearings.

4. Require Xcel to file a discussion on its public outreach efforts and an update on the load-serving capacity of, and any improvements made to, the distribution system serving the area six months from the date of the order granting withdrawal and quarterly thereafter. This filing shall include a report on DSM and other resources available to address the reliability issues in the area.

The motion passed 3-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was concluded.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: June 11, 2014



Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary