

The Commission met on **Thursday, August 18, 2011**, with Chair Anderson and Commissioners Boyd, O'Brien, Reha, and Wergin present.

The following matters came before the Commission:

### **ENERGY AGENDA**

#### **E-015/D-11-327**

#### **In the Matter of Minnesota Power's Request for Approval of its 2011 Remaining Life Depreciation Petition and Production Plant Depreciation Study**

Commissioner Boyd moved to do the following:

1. Approve Minnesota Power's requested remaining lives, salvage rates, and resulting depreciation rates effective January 1, 2011, and
2. Require Minnesota Power to continue to provide in future depreciation studies an explanation and schedule of the differences between the planning lives of electric generation plant used for purposes of a) depreciation remaining lives and b) resource planning.

The motion passed 5 – 0.

#### **E-001/M-11-494**

#### **E-001/M-09-663**

#### **In the Matter of a Petition for Renewal of Variance to the Fuel Clause Adjustment Rules**

Commissioner O'Brien moved to grant an extension of the Commission's order of August 17, 2009, until a Commission decision is reached and the final order is issued in this proceeding.

The motion passed 5 – 0.

#### **E,G-999/CI-09-970**

#### **In the Matter of Updating Language to Comply with Minnesota Statute and Rule Changes**

Commissioner Boyd moved to do the following:

1. Approve the compliance filing of filings of Minnesota Power, Otter Tail Power Company, Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation, Interstate Power and Light Company, Greater Minnesota Gas, Xcel Energy, Great Plains Natural Gas Company, and CenterPoint Energy as complying with Order Point 2.f and Order Point 3 of the Commission's Order Establishing Franchise Fee Filing Requirements (March 23, 2011) in this docket.

2. Approve the following companies' proposed customer notice language, as agreed to by the Minnesota Department of Commerce (the Department): Xcel Energy, Minnesota Power, Otter Tail Power, Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation, Interstate Power and Light, Great Plains Natural Gas. Dakota Electric, Minnesota Power, Otter Tail Power, and Great Plains Natural Gas shall file the approved language in their tariffs within 15 days of the Commission's Order in this docket.
  
3. Regarding CenterPoint Energy's Customer Bill Notice Language,
  - Direct CenterPoint Energy to file the Department-recommended franchise/municipal fee bill notice language in its tariff within 15 days of the Order in this docket and direct the Company to begin using the Department-recommended language on franchise fee customer bill notices on the date the tariff language becomes effective.
  
  - Defer the changes requested by the Suburban Rate Authority to CenterPoint Energy's back-of-bill language to Docket No. G-008/M-11-809, *In the Matter of a Petition of CenterPoint Energy Minnesota Gas for approval of a Tariff Revision*.
  
4. Require Xcel Energy to modify the City Fee description on its bill backer to the following:
 

*A fee some cities impose that Xcel Energy collects from customers and pays directly to the city.*

The motion passed 5 – 0.

**E-002/C-11-423**

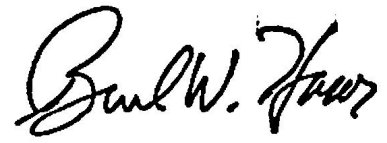
**In the Matter of a Complaint by Three Customers and Community Action of Minneapolis Against Xcel Energy Regarding Various Tariffs and Billing Practices**

Commissioner Wergin moved to do the following:

1. Find that the Commission has jurisdiction over Xcel's tariffs, procedures, and practices raised in the complaint.
  
2. Dismiss the complaint based on not having met the formal complaint threshold and direct Xcel to work with the Consumer Affairs Office to resolve this dispute.
  
3. Direct staff to open a generic docket and issue a notice requesting comments on the appropriate practices and tariff language for utilities regarding the issues raised in this proceeding.

The motion passed 5-0.

**APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: October 19, 2011**

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

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**Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary**