

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF)	
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY)	ORDER ASSESSING
DBA XCEL ENERGY FOR APPROVAL OF)	FILING FEE AND SUSPENDING
ITS 2013 TRANSMISSION COST)	OPERATION OF RATE
RECOVERY ELIGIBILITY AND RATE)	SCHEDULE
ADJUSTMENT)	EL13-006

On February 27, 2013, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a petition from Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy (Xcel) for approval of its 2013 Transmission Cost Recovery (TCR) Rider, Adjustment Factor, and Tracker Account report. For 2013, Xcel proposes to begin recovery of the South Dakota jurisdictional portion of the revenue requirements related to twenty-two transmission projects located throughout its service territory. Xcel proposes to recover \$2.45 million associated with these projects for the 2013 calendar year. Included in the \$2.45 million figure is the 2012 unrecovered balance of \$227,462. The total of the transmission investment costs and the tracker balance results in an average bill impact of \$0.46 per month for a typical residential electric customer using 750 kWh per month. This is a decrease of \$1.82 per month from the current TCR Rider recovery. Xcel proposes to implement a rate of \$0.000612 per kWh applied to all energy billed to each customer class beginning April 1, 2013, through December 2013. This represents a decrease of \$0.002426 from the existing rate of \$0.003038 per kWh.

On February 28, 2013, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of March 15, 2013, to interested persons on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1A and 49-34A, particularly 49-34A-25.1 through 49-34A-25.4.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on March 12, 2013, the Commission considered this matter. Commission Staff requested that the Commission assess a filing fee of up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) as authorized by SDCL 49-1A-8 to defray expenses incident to analyzing and ruling upon this type of filing and suspend the imposition of the rate pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-14. The Commission voted unanimously to assess a filing fee for actual expenses incurred in the review of this filing up to the statutory limit of \$50,000 and to suspend the operation of the schedule of rates proposed by Xcel for a period not to exceed one hundred and eighty (180) days.

It is therefore

ORDERED, that Xcel shall be assessed a filing fee for actual expenses not to exceed \$50,000 pursuant to SDCL 49-1A-8. It is further

ORDERED, that the proposed schedule of rates shall be suspended for a period not to exceed 180 days from the date of filing pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-14.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 14th day of March, 2013.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically.

By:

Date:

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner