

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF)	ORDER ASSESSING
NORTHERN STATES POWER)	FILING FEE AND
COMPANY DBA XCEL ENERGY FOR)	SUSPENDING OPERATION OF
APPROVAL OF ITS 2014)	RATE SCHEDULE
TRANSMISSION COST RECOVERY)	
ELIGIBILITY AND RATE ADJUSTMENT)	EL14-016

On February 21, 2014, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a petition from Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy (Xcel) for approval of its 2014 Transmission Cost Recovery (TCR) Rider, TCR rate factor, and tracker account report. For 2014, Xcel proposes to continue recovery of the South Dakota jurisdictional portion of the revenue requirements related to 22 transmission projects located throughout its service territory. No new projects are being added at this time. Xcel proposes to recover \$3.97 million associated with these projects for the 2014 calendar year. Included in the \$3.97 million figure is the 2013 over-collection balance of \$407,217. The total of the transmission investment costs and the tracker balance results in an average bill impact of \$1.95 per month for a typical residential electric customer using 750 kWh per month. This is an increase of \$1.95 per month from the current TCR Rider recovery. The Company proposes to implement a rate of \$0.002606 per kWh applied to all energy billed to each customer class beginning April 1, 2014, through December 2014. This represents an increase of \$0.002606 from the existing rate of \$0.00 per kWh.

On February 27, 2014, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of March 14, 2014, 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 18, 2014, 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. Staff also requested that the Commission suspend the imposition of the tariff for 180 days beyond the filing date. 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 imposition of the tariff for 180 days beyond February 21, 2014. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Xcel shall be assessed a filing fee pursuant to SDCL 49-1A-8 for actual expenses incurred by the Commission not to exceed \$50,000. 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 21st day of March, 2014.

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:

Joy Jadhley
03.24.14

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner