

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF)	ORDER APPROVING
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY)	TARIFF REVISION
DBA XCEL ENERGY FOR APPROVAL OF)	
ITS 2015 TRANSMISSION COST)	EL14-080
RECOVERY ELIGIBILITY AND RATE)	
RIDER ADJUSTMENT)	

On August 29, 2014, Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy (Xcel) filed a Petition for Transmission Cost Recovery with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) requesting approval of its 2015 Transmission Cost Recovery (TCR) Rider, TCR Adjustment Factor, and Tracker Account Report. For 2015, Xcel proposes to continue recovery of the South Dakota jurisdictional portion of the revenue requirements related to 15 transmission projects located throughout its service territory. No new projects are being added at this time. Xcel proposes to recover \$4.97 million associated with these projects for the 2015 calendar year. Included in the \$4.97 million figure is the 2014 over-collection balance of \$256,483. The total of the transmission investment costs and the tracker balance results in an average bill impact of \$1.82 per month for a typical residential electric customer using 750 kWh per month. This is a decrease of \$0.33 per month from the current TCR Rider recovery. Xcel proposes to implement a rate of \$0.002425 per kWh applied to all energy billed to each customer class beginning January 1, 2015, through December 31, 2015. This represents a decrease of \$0.000443 from the existing rate of \$0.002868 per kWh. On December 2, 2014, Xcel filed Revised Attachments 3 – Expenditures, 4 – Annual Tracker, 5 – 2013 Tracker, 6 – 2014 Tracker, 7 – 2015 Tracker, 8 – 2016 Tracker, 9 – Revenues, 12 – Inputs that Differ by Project, 15 – Proposed Tariff Page, and 16 – Proposed Customer Bill Notice. Xcel and Staff agree to a January 1, 2015 effective date and removal of the Meadow Lake project. The revised attachments reflect the revised rate due to the removal of the Meadow Lake project.

On September 4, 2014, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of September 19, 2014, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. The revised tariff sheet is as follows:

South Dakota Electric Rate Book – SDPUC No. 2

Section No. 5

5th Revised Sheet No. 71

Cancelling 4th Revised Sheet No. 71

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, particularly 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-10, 49-34A-12, and 49-34A25.1 through 49-34A-25.4.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on December 9, 2014, the Commission considered this matter. Commission Staff recommended approval of the revised TCR rate factor and revised tariff sheet, which reflects the removal of the Meadow Lake project, with an effective date of January 1, 2015. The Commission unanimously voted to approve the TCR rate factor and revised tariff sheet. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the TCR rate factor and above-described revised tariff sheet are approved effective January 1, 2015.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 17th day of December, 2014.

<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>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.</p> <p>By: <u>Joy Lashley</u></p> <p>Date: <u>12.17.14</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner