

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF) NORTHERN STATES POWER) COMPANY DBA XCEL ENERGY FOR) APPROVAL OF ITS 2016) TRANSMISSION COST RECOVERY) ELIGIBILITY AND RATE ADJUSTMENT)	ORDER APPROVING 2016 TRANSMISSION COST RECOVERY ADJUSTMENT EL15-030
---	--

On September 1, 2015, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a petition from Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy (Xcel) for approval of its 2016 Transmission Cost Recovery (TCR) Rider, TCR rate factor, and tracker account report. For 2016, Xcel proposes recovery of the South Dakota jurisdictional portion of the revenue requirements related to 18 transmission projects located throughout its service territory, three of which are new projects being added at this time. Xcel proposes to recover \$5.76 million associated with these projects for the 2016 calendar year. Included in the \$5.76 million figure is the 2015 over-collection balance of \$375,746. The total of the transmission investment costs and the tracker balance results in an average bill impact of \$2.04 per month for a typical residential electric customer using 750 kWh per month. This is an increase of \$0.23 per month from the current TCR Rider recovery. The Company proposes to implement a rate of \$0.002715 per kWh applied to all energy billed to each customer class beginning January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2016. This represents an increase of \$0.000298 from the existing rate of \$0.002417 per kWh. On November 4, 2015, the Commission received Revised Attachments 3 – Expenditures, 4 – Annual Tracker, 5 – 2014 Tracker, 6 – 2015 Tracker, 7 – 2016 Tracker, 8 – 2017 Tracker, 9 – Revenues, 10 – Universal Inputs, 11 – OATT Adjustment Factor, 12 – Inputs that Differ by Project, 13 – Regional Expansion Criteria and Benefits, 14 – Revenue Requirement by Projects, 15 – Proposed Tariff Page, and 16 – Proposed Customer Bill Notice.

On September 3, 2015, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of September 18, 2015, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were received. The revised tariff sheet is as follows:

South Dakota Electric Rate Book - SDPUC No. 2

Section No. 5

6th Revised Sheet No. 71

Canceling 5th 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 49-34A-25.1 through 49-34A-25.4.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on November 12, 2015, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission's staff recommended approval of the revised TCR rate factor of \$0.002688 and revised tariff sheet with an effective date of January 1, 2016. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the revised TCR rate factor of \$0.002688 and revised tariff sheet with an effective date of January 1, 2016. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the revised TCR rate factor of \$0.002688 and revised tariff sheet set

forth above are approved effective January 1, 2016.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 16th day of November, 2015.

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 or by mail.	
By:	<u>Rolayne West</u>
Date:	<u>11-16-15</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner