

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF)	ORDER GRANTING JOINT
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY)	MOTION FOR APPROVAL
DBA XCEL ENERGY FOR APPROVAL OF)	OF SETTLEMENT
ITS 2013 TRANSMISSION COST RECOVERY)	STIPULATION
ELIGIBILITY AND RATE ADJUSTMENT)	
)	EL13-006

On February 27, 2013, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a Petition for Transmission Cost Recovery (TCR) from Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy (Xcel) for approval of its 2013 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 individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were received. On March 14, 2013, the Commission issued an Order Assessing Filing Fee and Suspending Operation of Rate Schedule. On June 10, 2013, Xcel filed a supplement to its 2013 TCR Petition requesting the TCR rate to be set at \$0.00 beginning on July 1, 2013, for the remainder of 2013. On June 25, 2013, the Commission issued an Order Approving Tariff Revision.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-4, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-8.4, 49-34A-10, 49-34A-11, 49-34A-12, 49-34A-25 et seq., and ARSD 20:10:13:19, 20:10:13:20 and 20:10:13:21.

On November 26, 2013, Staff filed a Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation, a Settlement Stipulation, and a Staff Memorandum. At its regularly scheduled meeting on December 3, 2013, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission heard from Xcel and Staff concerning the proposed Settlement Stipulation. Having thoroughly reviewed the filings in the docket and made further inquiry of the parties at the meeting, the Commission found that the terms and conditions proposed in the Settlement Stipulation were just, reasonable, and in the public interest and that good and sufficient cause was demonstrated to approve the Settlement Stipulation. The Commission voted unanimously to grant the Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation.

It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation is granted. The Settlement Stipulation is incorporated by reference into this Order the same as if it had been set forth in its entirety herein.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 9th day of December, 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: Joy Lashley

Date: 12/9/13

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commission

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commission