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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY DBA XCEL ENERGY FOR AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS ELECTRIC RATES ORDER GRANTING JOINT MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT STIPULATION; ORDER APPROVING REFUND PLAN

## EL14-058

On June 23, 2014, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application for Authority to Increase Electric Rates in South Dakota (Application) filed by Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy (Xcel) for approval to increase rates for electric service to customers in its South Dakota service territory by approximately \$15.6 million annually or approximately 8.0% based on Xcel's 2013 test year. Xcel stated that a typical residential electric customer using 750 kWh per month would see an increase of \$8.49 per month, or 9.71%. The proposed changes would potentially affect approximately 87,000 customers in Xcel's South Dakota service territory. Xcel proposed an effective date of January 1, 2015.

On June 26, 2014, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the Application and the intervention deadline of September 12, 2014, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No applications or petitions for intervention were filed. Comments were received from a number of persons, all of which are available for review on the Commission's web site for this docket at: <a href="http://www.puc.sd.gov/Dockets/Electric/2014/el14-058.aspx">http://www.puc.sd.gov/Dockets/Electric/2014/el14-058.aspx</a>

On November 12, 2014, Xcel filed its Notice of Intent to Implement Interim Rates effective for service on or after January 1, 2015. On June 1, 2015, a Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation, Settlement Stipulation, Interim Refund Plan, and Staff Memorandum were filed with the Commission.

The revised tariff sheets proposed by Xcel, effective for service rendered on and after July 1, 2015, are as follows:

## South Dakota Electric Rate Book - SDPUC No. 2

Section No. 1Cancelling 6th Revised Sheet No. 27th Revised Sheet No. 2Cancelling 6th Revised Sheet No. 2Section No. 5Cancelling 4th Revised Sheet No. 15th Revised Sheet No. 1Cancelling 2th Revised Sheet No. 1.17th Revised Sheet No. 2Cancelling 6th Revised Sheet No. 2.15th Revised Sheet No. 2Cancelling 6th Revised Sheet No. 2.25th Revised Sheet No. 7Cancelling 4th Revised Sheet No. 25th Revised Sheet No. 7Cancelling 4th Revised Sheet No. 75th Revised Sheet No. 9Cancelling 4th Revised Sheet No. 97th Revised Sheet No. 11Cancelling 6th Revised Sheet No. 11

3 <sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 12	Cancelling 2 <sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 12
5 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 14	Cancelling 4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 14
5 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 21	Cancelling 4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 21
8 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 23	Cancelling 7 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 23
5 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 25	Cancelling 4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 25
5 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 28	Cancelling 4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 28
5 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 31	Cancelling 4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 31
4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 32	Cancelling 3rd Revised Sheet No. 32
5 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 34	Cancelling 4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 34
4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 36	Cancelling 3 <sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 36
5 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 40	Cancelling 4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 40
4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 42	Cancelling 3rd Revised Sheet No. 42
5 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 56	Cancelling 4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 56
4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 57	Cancelling 3 <sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 57
5 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 58	Cancelling 4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 58
4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 59	Cancelling 3 <sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 59
5 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 63	Cancelling 4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 63
8 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 64	Cancelling 7 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 64
1 <sup>st</sup> Revised Sheet No. 64.1	Cancelling Original Sheet No. 64.1
3 <sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 64.2	Cancelling 2 <sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 64.2
5 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 68	Cancelling 4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 68
3 <sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 74	Cancelling 2 <sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 74
1 <sup>st</sup> Revised Sheet No. 75	Cancelling Original Sheet No. 75
1 <sup>st</sup> Revised Sheet No. 76	Cancelling Original Sheet No. 76

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-34A, including 1-26-20, 49-34A-3, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-8.4, 49-34A-10, 49-34A-11, 49-34A-12, 49-34A-13, 49-34A-13.1, 49-34A-14, 49-34A-17, 49-34A-19, 49-34A-19.1, 49-34A-19.2, 49-34A-21, and 49-34A-22.

The Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation and Interim Rate Refund Plan (Refund Plan) were duly noticed for Commission consideration and action at the Commission's ad hoc meeting on June 15, 2015. The Commission heard from Xcel and Commission 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. The Commission also considered the issue of approval of Xcel's Interim Refund Plan. Finding that the Interim Refund Plan as proposed by Xcel properly balances the interests of Xcel in having a workable plan that is not unduly administratively burdensome and the interests of customers in obtaining a prompt and substantially complete refund of non-diminimus over-collections during the interim period and is therefore just and reasonable, the Commission voted unanimously to approve Xcel's Interim Refund Plan. It is therefore

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

ORDERED, that Xcel's Interim Refund Plan is approved as filed. It is further

ORDERED, that the aforementioned tariff sheets are approved for service rendered on and after July 1, 2015.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this  $\underline{16^{+h}}$  day of June, 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.	
By: ALS	
Date: 6/16/15	
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

THE COMMISSION: BY ORDE OF CHRIS NEL SON. Chairman intie Lieg

KRISTE FIEGEN, Commissioner

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GARY HANSON, Commissioner