

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	ORDER GRANTING JOINT
NORTHERN STATES POWER DBA XCEL)	MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF
ENERGY FOR AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS)	SETTLEMENT STIPULATION;
ELECTRIC RATES)	ORDER APPROVING
)	REFUND PLAN
)	
)	
)	EL22-017

On June 30, 2022, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application from 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 \$44.1 million annually or approximately 17.9% based on Xcel’s 2021 historic test year. Xcel states a typical residential electric customer using 750 kWh per month would see an increase of \$19.58 per month. The proposed changes affect approximately 97,500 customers.

On July 7, 2022, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of September 16, 2022, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission’s PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. On September 16, 2022, Steve Wegman, an Xcel customer, filed to intervene in the docket. 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 <https://puc.sd.gov/Dockets/Electric/2022/EL22-017Comments.aspx>.

On July 22, 2022, the Commission issued an Order Suspending Operation of Proposed Rates; Order Assessing Filing Fee; Order Authorizing Consulting Contracts. On September 29, 2022, the Commission issued an Order Granting Intervention to Steve Wegman. On November 15, 2022, Xcel filed its Notice of Intent to Implement Interim Rates effective for service on or after January 1, 2023. Multiple customers of Xcel filed comments requesting the rate be suspended and a public hearing be held. On November 28, 2022, the Commission held a public meeting on the Application in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. On May 24, 2023, Xcel and Commission staff filed a Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation, and a Settlement Stipulation, including Xcel’s Interim Refund Plan, and Commission staff filed a Staff Memorandum Supporting Settlement Stipulation. On June 2, 2023, Intervenor Steve Wegman filed his Concurrence to the Settlement Stipulation.

The revised tariff sheets proposed by Xcel, effective for service rendered on and after July 1, 2023, are as follows:

South Dakota Electric Rate Book – SDPUC No. 2

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Section No. 1 | |
| 9 th Revised Sheet No. 2 | Cancelling 8 th Revised Sheet No. 2 |
| Section No. 3 | |
| 2 nd Revised Sheet No. 1 | Cancelling 1 st Revised Sheet No. 1 |

Section No. 4

1st Revised Sheet No. 3
1st Revised Sheet No. 4
2nd Revised Sheet No. 5

Cancelling Original Sheet No. 3
Cancelling Original Sheet No. 4
Cancelling 1st Revised Sheet No. 5

Section No. 5

7th Revised Sheet No. 1
5th Revised Sheet No. 1.1
9th Revised Sheet No. 2
7th Revised Sheet No. 7
7th Revised Sheet No. 9
9th Revised Sheet No. 11
7th Revised Sheet No. 14
7th Revised Sheet No. 21
10th Revised Sheet No. 23
7th Revised Sheet No. 25
7th Revised Sheet No. 28
7th Revised Sheet No. 31
7th Revised Sheet No. 34
2nd Revised Sheet No. 38
2nd Revised Sheet No. 39
7th Revised Sheet No. 40
8th Revised Sheet No. 56
5th Revised Sheet No. 57
9th Revised Sheet No. 58
6th Revised Sheet No. 59
7th Revised Sheet No. 63
9th Revised Sheet No. 64
3rd Revised Sheet No. 66
7th Revised Sheet No. 68
12th Revised Sheet No. 74
2nd Revised Sheet No. 75
3rd Revised Sheet No. 76

Cancelling 6th Revised Sheet No. 1
Cancelling 4th Revised Sheet No. 1.1
Cancelling 8th Revised Sheet No. 2
Cancelling 6th Revised Sheet No. 7
Cancelling 6th Revised Sheet No. 9
Cancelling 8th Revised Sheet No. 11
Cancelling 6th Revised Sheet No. 14
Cancelling 6th Revised Sheet No. 21
Cancelling 9th Revised Sheet No. 23
Cancelling 6th Revised Sheet No. 25
Cancelling 6th Revised Sheet No. 28
Cancelling 6th Revised Sheet No. 31
Cancelling 6th Revised Sheet No. 34
Cancelling 1st Revised Sheet No. 38
Cancelling 1st Revised Sheet No. 39
Cancelling 6th Revised Sheet No. 40
Cancelling 7th Revised Sheet No. 56
Cancelling 4th Revised Sheet No. 57
Cancelling 8th Revised Sheet No. 58
Cancelling 5th Revised Sheet No. 59
Cancelling 6th Revised Sheet No. 63
Cancelling 8th Revised Sheet No. 64
Cancelling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 66
Cancelling 6th Revised Sheet No. 68
Cancelling 11th Revised Sheet No. 74
Cancelling 1st Revised Sheet No. 75
Cancelling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 76

Section No. 6

2nd Revised Sheet No. 4
3rd Revised Sheet No. 24
2nd Revised Sheet No. 27
Original Sheet No. 27.1
Original Sheet No. 27.2
2nd Revised Sheet No. 29
Original Sheet No. 29.1
1st Revised Sheet No. 30

Cancelling 1st Revised Sheet No. 4
Cancelling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 24
Cancelling 1st Revised Sheet No. 27

Cancelling 1st Revised Sheet No. 29

Cancelling Original Sheet No. 30

Section No. 8

5th Revised Sheet No. 2.1
3rd Revised Sheet No. 2.2
3rd Revised Sheet No. 3.1
3rd Revised Sheet No. 4.1
1st Revised Sheet No. 24

Cancelling 4th Revised Sheet No. 2.1
Cancelling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 2.2
Cancelling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 3.1
Cancelling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 4.1
Cancelling Original Sheet No. 24

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.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of June 6, 2023, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission heard from Xcel and Commission staff concerning the Joint Motion and Settlement Stipulation. Having thoroughly reviewed the filings in the docket and after having made further extensive inquiry of the parties, 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 that granted Xcel an annual increase in base rates to recover a net revenue deficiency of approximately \$3.6 million. When the base rate increase is combined with the 2023 Infrastructure Rider projects, the estimated 2023 overall revenue increase is approximately \$14.3 million, or an approximate 5.85% increase in retail revenues. 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-*de minimis* 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 hereby granted. The Settlement Stipulation is incorporated by reference into this 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, 2023.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 8th day of June 2023.

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>Adam DeHueck</u>
Date: <u>6/8/23</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chi Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner