

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )  
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY )  
D/B/A XCEL ENERGY FOR AUTHORITY TO )  
INCREASE ITS ELECTRIC RATES )  
)**

**ORDER EXTENDING  
SUSPENSION OF  
IMPOSITION OF TARIFF**

**EL09-009**

On June 30, 2009, Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy (Xcel), filed with the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for approval to increase rates for electric service to customers in its service territory by approximately \$18.6 million annually or approximately 12.7% based on Xcel's 2008 test year. Of this increase in base rates, approximately \$2.9 million is currently being collected through Xcel's Transmission Cost Recovery Rider and Environmental Cost Recovery Rider, which NSP is proposing to subsequently recover in base rates. Consequently, the annual increase in overall retail rates is approximately \$15.7 million or approximately 10.65%. The company states a typical residential electric customer using 750 kWh per month would see a net increase of 12.4 percent, or \$8.55 per month. The proposed rates may potentially affect approximately 81,000 customers in Xcel's service territory. On October 20, 2009, Commission Staff recommended that the suspension of the tariff be further extended for 60 days beyond October 28, 2009.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-34A, including 1-26-18, 1-26-19, 49-34A-2, 49-34A-3, 49-34A-4, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-8.1, 49-34A-10, 49-34A-11, 49-34A-12, 49-34A-13, 49-34A-13.1, 49-34A-14, 49-34A-16, 49-34A-17, 49-34A-19, 49-34A-19.1, 49-34A-19.2, 49-34A-20, 49-34A-21, 49-34A-22, and 49-34A-23.

At its October 20, 2009, meeting, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission voted unanimously to grant the extension sought by Commission Staff. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the proposed schedule of rates shall be further suspended for 60 days beyond October 28, 2009, pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-14.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 3rd day of November, 2009.

<p><b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b></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><i>Delaine Kelbo</i></u></p> <p>Date: <u>11/4/09</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

*Dustin M. Johnson*  
DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Chairman

*Steve Kolbeck*  
STEVE KOLBECK, Commissioner

*Gary Hanson*  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner