

ADDITION TO NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

Issued: February 14, 2022

In the Matter of a Commission Investigation into the Impact of Severe Weather in February 2021 on Impacted Minnesota Natural Gas Utilities and Customers

PUC Docket Numbers: G-999/CI-21-135

Related PUC Dockets:

Docket No. G-008/M-21-138 – In the Matter of the Petition of CenterPoint Energy for Approval of a Recovery Process for Cost Impacts Due to February Extreme Gas Market Conditions

Docket No. G-004/M-21-235 – In the Matter of the Petition by Great Plains Natural Gas Co., a Division of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., for Approval of Rule Variances to Recover High Natural Gas Costs from February 2021

Docket No. G-002/CI-21-610 – In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy to Recover February 2021 Natural Gas Costs

Docket No. G-011/CI-21-611 – In the Matter of the Petition of Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation for Approval of a Recovery Process for Cost Impacts Due to February Extreme Gas Market Conditions

OAH Docket Number: 71-2500-37763

Addition: More Ways to Participate in Public Hearings

On February 4, 2022, the Commission issued a Notice of Virtual Public Hearings to be held on March 3, 2022 at 1pm and 6pm. This “addition” to the February 4th Notice is to inform the public that the Commission will also accept video comments as another method to participate in the virtual hearings.

How to Provide Video Comments

Public comments are encouraged as written submissions and “in-person” oral comments during virtual public hearings. However, if you prefer, you can record and submit a video comment using Flipgrid.

It is free to use Flipgrid. You will need a Microsoft or Google account, like a Gmail email address, to access Flipgrid. Videos can be up to 3 minutes in length and must include your name and the city and state where you live. Follow the link <https://flipgrid.com/7576e770> to record your video. You may also visit the Flipgrid main page at, <https://info.flipgrid.com/>, and type in Join Code 7576e770.

Video comment submissions may also be played during the public hearings. Recorded comments will be shown after those in attendance at the public hearing have had the opportunity to comment. Every submission will be played during one of the hearings, unless there is a significant volume of video submissions, in which case a selection identified by Administrative Law Judge Moseng representing the diversity of viewpoints among the videos received will be played. Regardless of whether a video comment is played during the public hearing, all videos **received by March 3rd at 6:00pm** will be reviewed by Administrative Law Judge Moseng. The entire collection of received videos can be viewed using the Flipgrid link above.

Privacy: Comments will be made available to the public, except in limited circumstances consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. The PUC does not edit or delete personally identifying information from submissions.

Background

On February 23, 2021, the Commission held a special planning meeting to hear comments from the rate regulated natural gas utilities, the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources (Department), and the Minnesota Office of the Attorney General—Residential Utilities Division (OAG), on the impact of the cold weather in February 2021 (February Event) on the natural gas utilities and their customers.

On March 2, 2021, the Commission issued its ORDER OPENING INVESTIGATION, and directed the impacted natural gas utilities to file information related to the February Event.

Between March 16 and April 9, 2021, CenterPoint Energy, Xcel Energy – Gas, Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation and Great Plains Natural Gas Co. submitted filings outlining their respective recovery proposals of February Event costs.

On August 4 and 5, 2021, the Commission met to consider the utilities’ proposals and, on August 30, 2021, the Commission issued an order referring recovery of extraordinary costs to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) for a contested proceeding. That proceeding is currently ongoing.

On January 27, 2022, the Commission’s Executive Secretary sent OAH a letter requesting that virtual public hearings be held in early March 2022. As outlined below, Commission Staff worked

with OAH in selecting the date and times for the hearings.

Public Hearings Dates, Times, and Instructions

Hearings will be held on March 3, 2022 at 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm. Anyone who wishes to participate can do join via telephone or the internet by following the instructions below.

Join by telephone (audio only)

March 3, 2022 1 pm	March 3, 2022 6 pm
Phone: 1-855-282-6330	Phone: 1-855-282-6330
Access Code: 2498 923 7063	Access Code: 2493 269 8672

Join by internet (audio and video)

Navigate on your computer to: <https://minnesota.webex.com>

In the open box asking you to enter “Meeting Information,” type the Event Number below:

March 3, 2022 1 pm	March 3, 2022 6 pm
Event Number: 2498 923 7063	Event Number: 2493 269 8672
Event Password, if needed: MnPUC!	Event Password, if needed: MnPUC!

Filing Requirements: Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are **required** to efile documents using the Commission’s electronic filing system (eFiling). All parties, participants, and interested persons are encouraged to use eFiling at:

<https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling>

Submit Public Comments:

Online: mn.gov/puc/consumers/public-comments, and follow the instructions.

Email: consumer.puc@state.mn.us

U.S. Mail: Consumer Affairs Office

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul MN 55101

Full Case Record: See all documents filed in this matter on the Commission's website at: mn.gov/puc/edockets, select *Go to eDockets Project Database*, enter the year (21) and the docket number (135, 138, 235, 610 or 611), and select *Search*.

Subscribe: To receive email notification when new documents are filed in this matter visit: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling> and select *Subscribe to Dockets*.

Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure? Contact Commission staff, Tera Dornfeld, at tera.dornfeld@state.mn.us or Jorge Alonso, at jorge.alonso@state.mn.us or 651-201-2258.

Change your mailing preferences: Email docketing.puc@state.mn.us or call Leesa Norton at 651-201-2246.

To request this document in another format such as large print or audio, call 651-296-0406 (voice). Consumers with a hearing or speech impairment may call using their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service or email consumer.puc@state.mn.us for assistance.