

MEMORANDUM

To: Commissioners Fedorchak, Christmann, and Kroshus

From: Adam Renfandt

Date: January 14, 2021

Re: 1/14/2021, Northern States Power Company (NSP) Updated Cogeneration Rates, Case No. PU-21-16

On January 4, 2021, NSP filed its annual update of cogeneration and small power production rate schedules as required under the federal Public Utilities Regulatory Policies Act of 1979 (PURPA) and Commission rules. These rate schedules provide standard rates for purchase of energy and generating capacity from small customer-owned Qualifying Facilities (QFs) as defined under PURPA. PURPA originally obligated utilities to purchase electricity delivered by QFs at a price equal to the costs the utility would have paid to generate the electricity itself or purchase the electricity elsewhere (avoided costs). Amendments to PURPA under the Energy Policy Act of 2005 allow the FERC to relieve utilities of that purchase obligation if the FERC finds that the QF has access to energy markets, such as the MISO or SPP markets. NSP has not been relieved.

The filing includes revised tariff rates for NSP's Net Energy Billing Service, Purchase and Sale Billing Service and Time of Day Purchase Service. Metering charges are unchanged, and capacity and energy payments have decreased in all rates. NSP has two customers with rooftop solar without a battery and one customer with rooftop solar with a battery under the Net Energy Billing Service.

Staff has reviewed the filing and recommends approval.