

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**Northern States Power Company
Monthly Billing Modification
Tariff**

Case No. PU-22-427

ORDER

March 8, 2023

Preliminary Statement

On December 22, 2022, Northern States Power Company (NSP) filed an application for approval of tariff modifications to NSP's Electric and Gas Rate Books. The tariff modification will add Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a company holiday beginning in 2023 and will result in a change to the billing cycle by adding the month of February to the months an extended billing cycle may occur.

On January 11, 2023, the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing (Notice), which provided until February 24, 2023, for receiving written comments and hearing requests. No response or request for hearing was received. The Notice provided that, if deemed appropriate, the Commission can determine the matter without a hearing.

The Notice identified the following issues to be considered:

1. Whether the proposed tariff changes are reasonable, and
2. Whether the tariff changes should be approved.

Discussion

NSP proposes to add Martin Luther King Jr. as a company holiday beginning in 2023, which will necessitate a revision to the Meter Reading schedule. This revision will result in certain billing cycles in February having 35 days between meter reading dates. A billing cycle is the interval between two consecutive meter readings and is typically 30 days. The current tariff language states that if the billing period is longer or shorter than the normal billing period by more than five days the bill will be prorated on a daily basis. An exception is made for the months of November, December, and January, which are prorated on a daily basis whenever the billing period is less than 25 days and more than 40 days. The tariff revision will add February as a month where an extended billing cycle may occur. This change will apply to both the Electric and Gas Rate Books.

Additionally, NSP discovered the Monthly Billing provision in the natural gas tariff language did not match the electric tariff language. Conforming changes will be made to align the natural gas tariff language with the electric tariff language.

The Commission finds NSP's proposed tariff revisions are reasonable and prudent.

Order

The Commission Orders Northern States Power Company's proposed tariff revisions are APPROVED.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Sheri Haugen-Hoffart
Commissioner


Randy Christmann
Chair


Julie Fedorchak
Commissioner