

Memorandum

To: Commissioners Christmann, Haugen-Hoffart and Fedorchak

From: Chris Hanson, Public Utility Analyst

Date: November 7, 2023

Re: Northern States Power Company (NSP), Service Reconnection Charge & Manual Meter Reading, Tariff and Rates, Case No. PU-23-307

On September 15, 2023, Northern States Power Company (NSP) filed an application to change its tariffs to modify the Service Reconnection Charge and the Manual Meter Reading Rider contained in its Electric Rate Book to reflect the cost of remote reconnection and remote meter reading related to its Advanced Meter Reading Infrastructure (AMI).

A motion issuing a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing was added to the Commission meeting on September 6, 2023, which expires on November 10, 2023. As of the date of this memo, no comments have been received.

The purpose of this filing is to revise the Manual Meter Reading Rider Rate Schedule (Section 5, Sheet 92) that was established in Northern States Power, AMI Smart Meter-Related Tariff Changes and Rule Variances, Case No. PU-22-180 as well as the Service Reconnection Charges (Section 6, Sheet 1.1). It also provides information regarding the disconnection and reconnection processes NSP will follow as they replace their current Automated Meter Reading (AMR) system as well as an update on the deployment of their new AMI and their customer communications. For the purpose of this memo, I will focus on the proposed Tariff and Rate changes.

The overall change that is being affected is twofold. First, it establishes in Section 5, Sheet 92 that customers who opt out of the automated meter reading will be subject to a higher service reconnection fee subsequent to a disconnection. Second, in Section 6, Sheet 1.1 it lists the new rates that are established for reconnections depending upon whether customers are on AMI, opt for manual meter reading, etc. It also phases in these rates to coincide with the implementation schedule by breaking them into three groups: rates through December 31, 2023, rates between January 1, 2024, and December 31, 2025, and rates from January 1, 2026, and thereafter.

For residential customers, the reconnection rates stay the same at \$50 through December 31, 2023. As of January 1, 2024, the rates for AMI customers decrease to \$13.50 while customers remaining on manual meter reading stay at \$50. As of January

1, 2026, when the AMI is expected to be fully implemented, the reconnection rate for customers opting for manual meter reading increases to \$100.

An informal meeting to discuss the case has been scheduled for November 8, 2023.