



Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary

STATE OF MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

**NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD ON MOTION TO UPDATE
ENVIRONMENTAL COST VALUES**

Issued: October 14, 2013

**In the Matter of the Investigation into Environmental and Socioeconomic Costs
Under Minn. Stat. §216B.2422, subd. 3.**

PUC Docket Number: E-999/CI-00-1636

Reference Docket Number: E-999/CI-93-583

Comment Period: Initial comment period closes November 8, 2013 at 4:30pm.
Reply comment period closes November 18, 2013 at 4:30pm.

Topic/s Open for Comment:

- Should the Commission grant the motion of Clean Energy Organizations to start a proceeding to establish and update environmental values?
- If so, should the scope of the issues addressed in the proceeding be as recommended by the Clean Energy Organizations?
- Should the Commission engage a consultant as recommended by the Clean Energy Organizations?
- Should the Commission refer the matter to the Office of Administrative hearings or set some other procedure?
- Should the Commission set a 12 month deadline for a decision?

Project Background:

In 1993, legislation was enacted that required the Commission to the extent practicable “quantify and establish a range of environmental costs associated with each method of electricity generation” which are to be used, along with other external factors, when evaluating resource options in all proceedings before the Commission. Initially the Commission established interim values effective March 1, 1994 and then established more permanent values, in a January 3, 1997 ORDER ESTABLISHING ENVIRONMENTAL COST VALUES, and July 2, 1997 ORDER AFFIRMING IN PART AND MODIFYING IN PART ORDER ESTABLISHING ENVIRONMENTAL COST VALUES, Docket E-999/CI-93-583. In 2000, the Commission examined whether certain values should be updated or added, and ultimately decided to update the existing values annually to reflect inflation (see the Commission’s May 3, 2001 Order in the current docket).

On October 9, 2013, the Clean Energy Organizations (Izaak Walton League of America - Midwest Office, Fresh Energy, Sierra Club, Center for Energy and Environment, Will Steger Foundation, and Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy) filed a motion asking the Commission to: 1) establish environmental cost values for PM_{2.5} emissions; 2) establish environmental cost values for SO₂ emissions, and 3) update the current cost values for CO₂ and NO_x.

Submit Public Comments: E-mail to PublicComments.PUC@state.mn.us.

Persons without e-mail access may send by U.S. mail to Burl Haar, Executive Secretary, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul MN 55101-2147. Please include the Commission's docket number in all communications.

Filing Requirements: Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are **required** to file documents using the Commission's electronic filing system (eFiling). All parties, participants and interested persons are encouraged to use eFiling: www.puc.state.mn.us, select "eFiling," and follow the prompts.

Full Case Record: All documents filed in this docket are available on the Commission's website at www.puc.state.mn.us, select "Search eDockets," enter the year (2000) and the docket number (1636), select "Search."

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Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure? Contact Commission staff, Michelle Rebholz, at [651-201-2206](tel:651-201-2206) or Janet Gonzalez at 651-201-2231.

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