



# Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Eric Callisto, Chairperson  
Mark Meyer, Commissioner  
Lauren Azar, Commissioner

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**For Immediate Release – December 10, 2009**

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## **PSC Orders Electricity Rate Adjustment for NSP Customers**

MADISON – In an oral decision today the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) addressed Northern States Power Company-Wisconsin's (NSPW) request to adjust its electricity rates. The PSC decision results in no overall increase to customers although some customers will see slight bill increases and others will see slight bill decreases. Average NSPW residential customers using 730 kilowatt hours a month will see a monthly electric bill increase of about 25 cents. NSPW requested an electric rate increase of approximately \$30 million, or 5.7%, and did not ask for or receive a change in natural gas rates.

In addition, the PSC directed NSPW to refund over-collected fuel costs from 2009. This amount is currently estimated to be approximately \$10 million and would result in a one-time refund to customers in early 2010. An average residential customer would see a refund of about \$14. The final refund amount will be determined at the end of this year.

"I am pleased that we will be able to keep bill impacts for NSPW customers to a minimum," said PSC Chairperson Eric Callisto. "At this time of year and given the tough economic situation, this is an acceptable solution to providing reliable service."

"This rate case reiterated the fact that NSPW has taken a proactive approach in preparing for a future where carbon emissions must be reduced," Commissioner Lauren Azar said. "NSPW should be commended for these forward-looking efforts."

"The Commission considers all aspects of rate cases," said Commissioner Mark Meyer. "In the fairest way possible we decided that a refund to offset an increase was the best decision."

When a utility requests a change in rates, the PSC conducts a thorough audit of the utility's forecasted expenses and revenues. The agency looked at the amount NSPW needs to provide a reliable source of energy which includes costs for maintenance, new construction, fuels, environmental protection and employee wages. The Commission will issue a written order to finalize the rates approved in today's decision. The new rates become effective after the written order is issued.

Public hearings were held in October in La Crosse, Eau Claire and Madison. The testimony provided at the hearings was part of the record the Commission reviewed as it considered all the aspects of the application.

(more)

The documents associated with NSPW's application can be viewed on the PSC's Electronic Regulatory Filing System at <http://psc.wi.gov/>. Type case number 4220-UR-116 in the boxes provided on the PSC homepage or click on Electronic Regulatory Filing System button.

(END)