

Utility Updates for Q1 2018 Clean Energy Partnership Board Meeting

CenterPoint Energy Updates

Renewable Natural Gas Program

- CenterPoint Energy is designing a green-tariff program for RNG.
- The program will give customers the choice to voluntarily increase their gas cost in order to receive a portion of their natural gas from renewable sources.
- The idea is similar in concept to green tariff that have become common for electricity, such as Xcel's Windsource and Renewable*Connect.
- Renewable Natural Gas is derived from organic feedstocks; sources can include agricultural/livestock waste, municipal organic waste, landfill gas, and wastewater (among others).
- Use of renewable natural gas allows geologic natural gas to remain underground.
- Depending on sourcing, renewable natural gas may also reduce or eliminate methane and CO2 emissions.
- The program is in the design phase and we anticipate submitting a filing for PUC consideration this Spring.
- CenterPoint staff will reach out to each CEP Board member to provide additional information and respond to questions.

Energy Data Aggregation Tool

- **Status:** On Track: Launch – by end of 2018.
- **Description:** Facilitates benchmarking of multi-tenant buildings by aggregating energy use for the whole-building, while adhering to data privacy rules.
- **Contractor:** Accelerated Innovations selected via RFP process (Early 2018).
- **Next Steps:** March 20th stakeholder engagement meeting: CNP Energy River Building on West River Parkway.

On-Bill Loan Repayment

- **Status:** On Track; Soft Launch w/ select Trade Allies –Fall 2018.; Full Launch –by Early 2019.
- **Description:** Allows CenterPoint customers to make loan repayments for qualified energy efficiency upgrades on their natural gas bill.
- **Contractor:** Center for Energy and Environment selected RFP process (Late 2017); commenced program design and technical implementation.
- **Next Steps:** Submit filing to MN DOC in mid-year.

Xcel Energy Updates

85% Carbon free by 2030 Plan

- Xcel Energy is on track to reduce carbon by 60% by 2030, will be the first utility to reach more than 10,000 megawatts of wind on our system (company-wide, in the next five years) and the first utility to propose a wind project under lower federal incentives (Dakota Range project)
- Avoiding fuel and other costs, keeping our operating costs low and increase energy efficiency has helped lower residential customer bills by 2 percent. The new wind projects we have in the works – or under consideration – could save customers billions of dollars in the coming decades because these wind projects are so economical
- We will also need support for our nuclear plants to operate through their licenses that run through the 2030s.

Low Income Solar Garden at Roof Depot site

Xcel Energy worked with a current Renewable Development Fund awardee to renegotiate their contract from the original 2013 proposal. The original proposal was for a community solar garden prior to the value of solar (VOS) ruling. Following the VOS ruling, the project required less funding. The grantee agreed to 1) make the first two community solar gardens low income, 2) add a third garden and work with the city of Minneapolis. Xcel Energy filed a petition under the RDF requesting up to the remaining \$1.2M be used for a third low income community solar garden at the City owned Roof Depot site and to allow the awardee to participate in third party ownership of the garden – they do not want to own it themselves. In original comments, Department of Commerce (DOC) staff did not support third party ownership, but instead recommended a power purchase agreement and an award cut by 1/3 building of the garden itself. If the DOC analyst continues to support this position, and the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) approves it, the awardee will project likely will not go through. The City filed supportive comments with the PUC. At this time we continue to wait for further PUC review and it to come before the Commissioners for a Decision. DOCKET NO. E002/M-12-1278

Small Business Refrigeration Program

Xcel Energy filed to add a program focused on small business refrigeration at grocers, convenience stores, liquor stores, etc. The hired implementer is CEE. We will do targeted outreach in Minneapolis, working with the City and EVAC small business group and other business organizations. Green Zones will be a priority. Xcel Energy, the City and CEE have met to discuss Green Business Cost Share (GBCS) leverage, financing options, geographic outreach, marketing materials and communications. Rebates for the Xcel Energy program can reach 50% of project cost, GBSC will offer an additional 30% in green zones and 20% everywhere else in the City. We are expecting to receive decision for our December modification March 29.