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Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary

STATE OF MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

**NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD ON POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS TO  
RULE CHAPTER 7829, EXCLUDING PART 7829.2550**

*Issued: August 7, 2013*

**In the Matter of Possible Amendments to Rules Governing Utility Proceeding,  
Practice, and Procedure, Minnesota Rules Chapter 7829, Excluding Part 7829.2550,  
Which is Subject to a Separate Pending Rulemaking**

**PUC Docket Number/s:** U-999/R-13-24

**OAH Docket Number:** N/A

**Comment Period:** Comment period closes September 6, 2013 at 4:30pm.

**Topics Open for Comment:**

- Any issue arising from the draft of possible amendments filed in the Commission's electronic filing system in this docket as an attachment to Staff Briefing Papers on July 25, 2013—with emphasis on the following possible revisions:
- What should the Commission consider when deciding whether to include language that discusses possible sanctions for violations of the proposed Commission rule governing representations of fact or law to the Commission (Part 7829.0250)?
- Assuming that the Commission were to decide that a sanctions provision is appropriate, the Commission seeks comment on the following proposed language:  
**Subp. 2. Sanctions.** If, after notice and an opportunity for comment and reply, the commission determines that subpart 1 has been violated, the commission may impose a sanction on any party or participant who violated subpart 1 or is responsible for the violation. A sanction imposed under this rule must be limited to what suffices to deter repetition of the conduct or comparable conduct by others similarly situated. An order imposing a sanction must describe the sanctioned conduct and explain the basis for the sanction.
- What should the Commission consider when deciding whether to amend rule part 7829.2600 to read “If commission staff recommend action not advocated by any party, at the request of any party and to the extent practicable, all parties must be granted an opportunity to comment.”?

**Project Background:** On September 13, 2012, the Commission directed staff to open a rulemaking to consider amending the Commission's rules of practice and proceeding. The rulemaking is intended to eliminate outdated rule language, to address statutory changes, to clarify existing Commission procedures, and to establish procedural requirements that permit the Commission to more effectively perform its quasi-legislative and quasi-judicial functions.

On February 19, 2013, the Commission published a Request for Comments in the *State Register* and did a mass mailing to the general rulemaking list, requesting comments on amending the rules and on whether the Commission should appoint an advisory committee. The Commission received a range of comments which appear in the Commission's electronic filing system.

In light of the comments received, a revised draft was presented to the Commission at its meeting on August 1, 2013. The Commission directed that public comments be taken on the issues identified above.

**Submit Public Comments:** E-file using the Commission's electronic filing system, or email to Christopher.Moseng@state.mn.us. Persons without e-mail access may send by U.S. mail to Christopher Moseng, Staff Attorney, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Full Case Record:** All documents filed in this docket are available on the Commission's website at [www.puc.state.mn.us](http://www.puc.state.mn.us), select "Search eDockets," enter the year (13) and the docket number (24), select "Search."

**Subscribe to the Docket:** Receive notification when new documents are filed in this docket at [www.puc.state.mn.us](http://www.puc.state.mn.us), select "Subscribe to a Docket," and follow the prompts.

**Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure?** Contact Commission staff, Christopher Moseng, at [Christopher.Moseng@state.mn.us](mailto:Christopher.Moseng@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2223.

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