

## NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD

Issued: April 15, 2026

### In the Matter of the Petition for Approval of an Electric Service Agreement between Google and Minnesota Power

**PUC Docket Number(s):** E-015/M-26-159

**Comment Period:** Initial comment period closes July 21, 2026 at 4:30pm

Reply comment period closes August 14, 2026 at 4:30pm

Response comment period closes August 28, 2026 at 4:30 pm

*Comments received after the close of the comment period may or may not be considered by the Commission.*

**Issue:** Should the Commission approve the Electric Service Agreement between Google and Minnesota Power?

#### Topic(s) Open for Comment:

- Is the proposed Electric Service Agreement in the public interest and consistent with Minn. Stat. §216B.1622?
- Does the Electric Service Agreement (ESA) provide benefits or rates that would not be available to any other large power customer?
- Does the ESA provide adequate protection for low-income customers from adverse rate impacts due to the ESA?
- Are there other issues or concerns related to this matter?

#### Background

On March 27, 2026, Minnesota Power filed a Petition with the Commission for approval of an Electric Service Agreement (ESA) between itself and Harmony Group, LLC, a subsidiary of Alphabet, Inc. (Google), pursuant to Minn. Stat. 216B.05. In this petition, Minnesota Power requested that the Commission:

1. Approve the ESA between Minnesota Power and Google.
2. Recognize the renewable energy supply actions to support the ESA are aligned with MP's 2025 IRP and make any other necessary approvals.
3. Approve its modifications to the LPS to modernize the language in the Schedule relating to applicability of its Large Power Surcharge. (Att. D to the Petition)

4. Approve modifications to the Rider for Conservation Program Adjustment, to address data center participation in conservation improvement programs (CIPs), consistent with Minn. Stat. 216B.241 Subd 1a as amended through 2025. (Att. F to the Petition)

Legislation passed in June 2025 (Laws 2025, 1st Special Session, Chapter 12) defines a “data center”<sup>1</sup> and places additional requirements for evaluation of tariffs and/or energy supply agreements to serve data centers.<sup>2</sup> This statute also exempts Large Data Centers from contributing to a utility’s environmental conservation plan and requires that such a facility pay an annual fee, based on size, to be deposited in an energy and conservation account established under Minn. Stat. §216B.241 subd. 2a.<sup>3</sup> The specific amount to be paid by the facility is to be treated as non-public data, by statute.<sup>4</sup> Minn. Stat. 216B.1622, Subd. 1 requires the Commission to approve the definition and appropriate characteristics of a very large customer class or subclass for each public utility providing electric service by December 15, 2026 (see Docket No. 26-126 for Minnesota Power).

The following dockets are related to requests made in Minnesota Power’s petition (all deadlines are subject to change):

Docket No.	Title	PUC Process	Deadlines
25-127	Minnesota Power Integrated Resource Plan	Comment Period  <i>Agenda Meeting (tent.)</i>	Initial: Apr 20 Reply: May 18 Supplemental: Jun. 15 <i>Summer</i>
26-126	Modifications to Large Power Tariff	Comment Period  <i>Agenda Meeting (tent.)</i>	Initial: May 8 Reply: May 19 <i>Late Summer/Fall</i>

On April 14, 2026, Minnesota Power filed the proposed tariff modifications initially filed in the instant docket in Docket No. 26-126. Similarly, there has been record development in the Company’s IRP (Docket No. 25-127) related to generation necessary to meet the demand in the ESA. Commission Staff anticipate the Commission addressing Minnesota Power’s requests #2-4 from the list above in the related dockets identified.

**Filing Requirements:** Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are **required** to efile documents using the Commission’s electronic filing system (eFiling). All parties, participants, and interested persons are encouraged to use eFiling at:

<https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling>

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<sup>1</sup> Minn Stat. §216B.02, Subd. 11.

<sup>2</sup> Minn. Stat. §216B.1622.

<sup>3</sup> Minn. Stat. §216B.72

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid*, Subd. (c).

**Submit Public Comments:**

**Online:** <https://mn.gov/puc/get-involved/public-comments/>, and follow the instructions.

**Email:** [consumer.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:consumer.puc@state.mn.us)

**U.S. Mail:** Consumer Affairs Office  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
121 7th Place East, Suite 350  
St. Paul MN 55101

**Full Case Record:** See all documents filed in this matter on the Commission's website at: [mn.gov/puc/edockets](https://mn.gov/puc/edockets), select *Go to eDockets*, enter 26-159 under Docket #s, and select *Search*.

**Subscribe:** To receive email notification when new documents are filed in this matter visit: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling> and select *Subscribe to Dockets*.

**Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure?** Contact Commission staff, Robert Manning, at [Robert.manning@state.mn.us](mailto:Robert.manning@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2197.

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