



Public Utilities Commission

Joshua B. Epel, Chairman
James K. Tarpey, Commissioner
Matt Baker, Commissioner
Doug Dean, Director

John W.
Hickenlooper
Governor

Barbara J.
Kelley
Executive
Director

NEWS RELEASE

February 2, 2012
For immediate release

News Release Contact:
Terry Bote, 303-894-2827

PUC TO TAKE PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED XCEL ENERGY ELECTRIC RATE HIKE

DENVER – The Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) will take public comment on Monday, February 13, on a proposal by Xcel Energy to increase its electric rates by \$141.9 million. The public hearing will start at 4 p.m. in Hearing Room A, 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, in Denver.

Xcel Energy's proposal would increase monthly bills for residential customers, using an average of 632 kilowatt-hours (kwh) per month, by \$4.01, or 5.99 percent. Monthly bills for commercial customers, using 1,123 kwh per month, would rise by \$5.30, or 4.83 percent.

More than half of the proposed increase is due to the loss of the Black Hills Electric wholesale contract, which expired at the end of 2011, and increases in property taxes. The company also is seeking to recover recent investments in the electric distribution system, costs associated with efforts to improve the state's air quality, and a \$10 million plan to clear and remove trees killed by the mountain pine beetle from Xcel's transmission and distribution lines.

Customers who wish to submit written comments about the rate proposal may send them to the PUC at 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, CO 80202. Comments should be addressed to Docket No. 11AL-947E. Customers may also submit email comments to pucconsumer.complaints@dora.state.co.us; or use the on-line comment form at <http://www.dora.state.co.us/puc/consumer/ConsumerComment.htm>.

DORA is dedicated to preserving the integrity of the marketplace and is committed to promoting a fair and competitive business environment in Colorado. Consumer protection is our mission.

###

1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, Colorado 80202
TTY Users 711 (Relay Colorado) www.dora.state.co.us/puc
Permit and Insurance (Outside Denver) 1-800-888-0170

303-894-2000
Fax 303-894-2065
Transportation Fax 303-894-2071

Consumer Affairs 303-894-2070

Consumer Affairs (Outside Denver) 1-800-456-0858

