



May 11, 2015

—VIA ELECTRONIC FILING—

Daniel P. Wolf Executive Secretary Minnesota Public Utilities Commission 121 7th Place East, Suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: REPLY COMMENTS

RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD RIDER

DOCKET NO. E002/M-15-304

Dear Mr. Wolf:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, submits to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission this Reply to the April 29, 2015 Comments of the Minnesota Department of Commerce – Division of Energy Resources regarding our Renewable Energy Standard Rider Petition.

We appreciate the Department's thorough review of our Petition and its recommendation that the Commission approve our proposed RES Rider revenue requirements and resulting Adjustment Factors. The Department proposed minor changes to our proposed bill messages, to which we have no objection. We agree that the Department's edits to the bill message for the month the RES Rider has a negative rate should be clarified as follows:

For this month only, the Resource Adjustment has decreased due to changes in the Renewable Energy Standard (RES) Rider which recovers our investments and expenses to add renewable energy systems to our generation resources. To return excess collections, the RES Rider portion of the Resource Adjustment is negative 2.609% of these charges on your bill: basic service charge, energy charge, and demand charge.

We agree with the Department's assessment that the first edit helps to clarify that the RES refund will be disbursed only in a single month. We also agree that the second

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edit helps to ensure that customers understand the reference to the RES Rider later in the message.

Consistent with this second edit, we also agree with the Department to edit the message to be included in bills the month the rate becomes zero as follows:

Starting this month, the Renewable Energy Standard (RES) Rider portion of the Resource Adjustment is 0.00%.

We have provided these edited bill messages for the Commission's Consumer Affairs Office (CAO) to review, and they had no objection to the new proposed bill message language. We request that the Commission approve our Petition with these minor adjustments to the bill messages.

We also agree with the Department's recommendation to submit 2014 tax documentation verifying our 2014 PTCs after it becomes available in September 2015.

We have electronically filed this document, and copies have been served on the parties on the attached service list. Please contact me at 612-330-7529 or paul.lehman@xcelenergy.com if you have any questions regarding this filing.

SINCERELY,

/s/

PAUL J LEHMAN
MANAGER, COMPLIANCE AND FILINGS

c: Service List

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, SaGonna Thompson, hereby certify that I have this day served copies of the foregoing document on the attached list of persons.

- <u>xx</u> by depositing a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped with postage paid in the United States mail at Minneapolis, Minnesota
- xx electronic filing

DOCKET No. E002/M-15-304

Dated this 11th day of May 2015

/s/

SaGonna Thompson

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