



414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

January 22, 2015

—Via Electronic Filing—

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

RE: LETTER  
COMMUNITY SOLAR GARDENS  
DOCKET NO. E002/M-13-867

Dear Mr. Wolf:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, submits this letter to inform the Commission of actions the Company is taking in processing applications to our Solar\*Rewards Community program.

We appreciate the guidance offered by the Commission at the hearing on January 15<sup>th</sup>. There, we understood the Commission to state that the Company will manage its program according to the terms of its tariff and that technical issues and programmatic concerns that arise in the course of program implementation can be addressed in the Implementation Workgroup. Where parties reach an impasse on disputed issues, those issues or issues with policy significance may appropriately come before the Commission.

With this guidance in mind, we are keeping the Commission apprised of communications the Company has made and will make to developers regarding their pending Solar\*Rewards Community applications over the next few days.

We are pleased to note the first set of community solar gardens is moving forward. Developers who have submitted complete applications – that is, those who have provided applications with the requisite conforming detail– are being notified that their projects are advancing.

At the same time, we are also notifying other applicants that their projects will not proceed until supplementary information is provided. These applications are incomplete for one of two reasons: either they lack the requisite detail for further evaluation or the information provided does not conform to our tariff requirements.

The application deficiencies we have identified fall into these general categories:

- Improper placement of gardens behind existing service,
- Lack of separate service for each 1 MW garden,
- Omitted production meters,
- Omitted grounding transformer specifications,
- Improper placement of external utility disconnect switches,
- Improper placement of customer owned facilities; and
- Primary meter design deficiencies.

These omissions are material deficiencies. For example, grounding transformer specifications are important to ensure the safety of our system. The majority of applications received to date are incomplete and will not advance under the “first ready, first served” process defined in the Company’s tariff. Once applicants provide supplementary detail and/or all documentation, we will again consider the application, and each applicant’s projects will advance for engineering review as of the date the Company determines the application to be complete.

We expect that under any new program, there will be a learning curve as participants become familiar with the technical requirements that help safeguard customers and maintain system reliability. As we manage this program, we are mindful of the need for transparency and consistency in applicant treatment. For these reasons, we are applying the “first ready, first served” process defined in the tariff and serving those applicants who have submitted complete applications. Should parties have questions regarding the status of their application, they may contact [srcmn@xcelenergy.com](mailto:srcmn@xcelenergy.com).

We have electronically filed this document with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, and copies have been served on the parties on the attached service list.

Please contact Jessica Peterson at [Jessica.K.Peterson@xcelenergy.com](mailto:Jessica.K.Peterson@xcelenergy.com) or 612-330-6850 if you have any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

/s/

AAKASH CHANDARANA  
REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT  
RATES AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Enclosure  
c: Service List

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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

xx 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-13-867**

Dated this 22nd day of January 2015

/s/

---

Tiffany Hughes

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Ross	Abbey	abbey@fresh-energy.org	Fresh Energy	408 Saint Peter St Ste 220  St. Paul, MN 55102-1125	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Michael	Allen	michael.allen@allenergysolar.com	All Energy Solar	721 W 26th st Suite 211  Minneapolis, Minnesota 55405	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Julia	Anderson	Julia.Anderson@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	1800 BRM Tower 445 Minnesota St St. Paul, MN 551012134	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Kenneth	Bradley	kbradley1965@gmail.com		2837 Emerson Ave S Apt CW112  Minneapolis, MN 55408	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Michael J.	Bull	mbull@mncee.org	Center for Energy and Environment	212 Third Ave N Ste 560  Minneapolis, MN 55401	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Jessica	Burdette	jessica.burdette@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place East Suite 500 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Joel	Cannon	jcannon@tenksolar.com	Tenk Solar, Inc.	9549 Penn Avenue S  Bloomington, MN 55431	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
John J.	Carroll	jcarroll@newportpartners.com	Newport Partners, LLC	9 Cushing, Suite 200  Irvine, California 92618	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Arthur	Crowell	Crowell.arthur@yahoo.com	A Work of Art Landscapes	234 Jackson Ave N  Hopkins, MN 55343	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Dustin	Denison	dustin@appliedenergyinnovations.org	Applied Energy Innovations	4000 Minnehaha Ave S  Minneapolis, MN 55406	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
James	Denniston	james.r.denniston@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy Services, Inc.	414 Nicollet Mall, Fifth Floor  Minneapolis, MN 55401	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Ian	Dobson	ian.dobson@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	Antitrust and Utilities Division 445 Minnesota Street, 1400 BRM Tower St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Bill	Droessler	bdroessler@iwla.org	Izaak Walton League of America-MWO	1619 Dayton Ave Ste 202  Saint Paul, MN 55104	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Betsy	Engelking	betsy@geronimoenergy.com	Geronimo Energy	7650 Edinborough Way Suite 725 Edina, MN 55435	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
John	Farrell	jfarrell@ilsr.org	Institute for Local Self-Reliance	1313 5th St SE #303  Minneapolis, MN 55414	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 500  Saint Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Nathan	Franzen	nathan@geronimoenergy.com	Geronimo Energy	7650 Edinborough Way Suite 725 Edina, MN 55435	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Hal	Galvin	halgalvin@comcast.net	Provectus Energy Development llc	1936 Kenwood Parkway  Minneapolis, MN 55405	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Timothy	Gulden	info@winonarenewableenergy.com	Winona Renewable Energy, LLC	1449 Ridgewood Dr  Winona, MN 55987	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Lynn	Hinkle	lhinkle@mnseia.org	Minnesota Solar Energy Industries Association	2512 33rd Ave South #2  Minneapolis, MN 55406	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Jan	Hubbard	jan.hubbard@comcast.net		7730 Mississippi Lane  Brooklyn Park, MN 55444	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Tiffany	Hughes	Regulatory.Records@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy	414 Nicollet Mall FL 7  Minneapolis, MN 554011993	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
John S.	Jaffray	jjaffray@jrpowers.com	JJR Power	350 Highway 7 Suite 236  Excelsior, MN 55331	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Eric	Jensen	ejensen@iwla.org	Izaak Walton League of America	Suite 202 1619 Dayton Avenue St. Paul, MN 55104	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Michael	Kampmeyer	mkampmeyer@a-egroup.com	AEG Group, LLC	260 Salem Church Road  Sunfish Lake, Minnesota 55118	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Brad	Klein	bklein@elpc.org	Environmental Law & Policy Center	35 E. Wacker Drive, Suite 1600  Suite 1600 Chicago, IL 60601	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
John	Kluempke	jwkluempke@winlectric.com	Elk River Winlectric	12777 Meadowvale Rd  Elk River, MN 55330	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Jon	Kramer	jk2surf@aol.com	Sundial Solar	4708 york ave. S  Minneapolis, MN 55410	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Rebecca	Lundberg	rebecca.lundberg@powerfullygreen.com	Powerfully Green	11451 Oregon Ave N  Champlin, MN 55316	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Casey	MacCallum	casey@appliedenergyinnovations.org	Applied Energy Innovations	4000 Minnehaha Ave S  Minneapolis, MN 55406	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Erica	McConnell	emcconnell@kfwlaw.com	Keyes, Fox & Wiedman LLP	436 14th Street, Suite 1305  Oakland, California 94612	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Thomas	Melone	Thomas.Melone@AllcoUS.com	Minnesota Go Solar LLC	222 South 9th Street Suite 1600 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55120	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Andrew	Moratzka	apmoratzka@stoel.com	Stoel Rives LLP	33 South Sixth Street Suite 4200 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Martin	Morud	mmorud@trunorthsolar.com	Tru North Solar	5115 45th Ave S  Minneapolis, MN 55417	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Rolf	Nordstrom	rnordstrom@gpisd.net	Great Plains Institute	2801 21ST AVE S STE 220  Minneapolis, MN 55407-1229	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Jeffrey C	Paulson	jeff.jcplaw@comcast.net	Paulson Law Office, Ltd.	7301 Ohms Ln Ste 325  Edina, MN 55439	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Donna	Pickard	dpickard@aladdinsolar.com	Aladdin Solar	1215 Lilac Lane  Excelsior, MN 55331	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Gayle	Prest	gayle.prest@minneapolismn.gov	City of Mpls Sustainability	350 South 5th St, #315  Minneapolis, MN 55415	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Dan	Rogers	drogers@sunedison.com	SunEdison	N/A	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel



First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Matthew J.	Schuerger P.E.	mjsreg@earthlink.net	Energy Systems Consulting Services, LLC	PO Box 16129  St. Paul, MN 55116	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Doug	Shoemaker	dougs@mnRenewables.org	MRES	2928 5th Ave S  Minneapolis, MN 55408	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Eric	Swanson	eswanson@winthrop.com	Winthrop Weinstine	225 S 6th St Ste 3500 Capella Tower Minneapolis, MN 554024629	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Thomas P.	Sweeney III	tom.sweeney@easycleanenergy.com	Clean Energy Collective	P O Box 1828  Boulder, CO 80306-1828	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Pat	Treseler	pat.jcplaw@comcast.net	Paulson Law Office LTD	Suite 325 7301 Ohms Lane Edina, MN 55439	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Daniel	Williams	DanWilliams.mg@gmail.com	Powerfully Green	11451 Oregon Avenue N  Champlin, MN 55316	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel