



**CERTIFICATE OF NEED FOR
ADDITIONAL DRY CASK STORAGE
AT THE MONTICELLO NUCLEAR
GENERATING PLANT INDEPENDENT
SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION**

**NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY
MPUC DOCKET NO. E002/CN-21-____
SEPT. 1, 2021**





414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

September 1, 2021

—Via Electronic Filing—

Will Seuffert
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF NORTHERN STATES POWER
COMPANY D/B/A XCEL ENERGY FOR A CERTIFICATE OF NEED FOR
ADDITIONAL DRY CASK STORAGE AT THE MONTICELLO NUCLEAR
GENERATING PLANT INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION
Docket No. E002/CN-21-____

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy (Xcel Energy) submits this Application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for additional spent fuel storage capacity at the Monticello Nuclear Power Generating Plant Independent Spent Fuel Storage Facility (ISFSI). Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §§116C.83 and 216B.243, this Application seeks a certificate of need for sufficient additional dry cask storage at the ISFSI to allow continued operation of the Monticello Plant until 2040.

We have closely examined the role our nuclear power plants play in the State's electrical supply system and in the transition to a low carbon and no carbon electric energy future. As we have presented in our Integrated Resource Plan, currently before the Commission, we conclude that our Alternate Plan, which includes continued operation of the Monticello Plant until 2040, provides the best option for Xcel Energy, our customers, the State and the region. The additional spent fuel storage capacity requested here is necessary to allow for that continued operation. Xcel Energy also intends to apply for a Subsequent License Renewal (SLR) from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in 2023.

In addition to the certificate of need, Minnesota Statutes §116.83, subd. 6(b) requires an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be prepared by the Department of Commerce – Energy Environment Review and Analysis (EERA), pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 116D and Minnesota Rules Chapter 4410. The first step in this process is for the developer to draft an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) to begin the process of identifying the scope of the issues to be examined in the EIS. Xcel Energy provided a draft EAW to EERA on August 6, 2021, and EERA is in the process of developing a scoping document, which will be published along with the EAW. We expect the environmental review process will take eight months to a year to complete, so that a final EIS will be available prior to the Commission’s consideration of the certificate of need.

Copies of our Application have been served on the attached service list. Pursuant to Minnesota Rules 7855.0210, subp. 1, a check in the amount of \$20,000, the application fee, has been provided separately.

Xcel Energy looks forward to working with all interested parties in this important proceeding regarding Minnesota’s energy future.

Please contact Bria Shea, Director, Regulatory and Strategic Analysis, at (612) 330-6064 if you have any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

Greg Chamberlain
Regional Vice President for Regulatory and Government Affairs
Northern States Power Company-Minnesota, d/b/a Xcel Energy

Enclosures
c: Service List

STATE OF MINNESOTA
BEFORE THE
MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Katie J. Sieben	Chair
Valerie Means	Commissioner
Matthew Schuerger	Commissioner
Joseph K. Sullivan	Commissioner
John A. Tuma	Commissioner

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY
D/B/A XCEL ENERGY FOR A
CERTIFICATE OF NEED FOR ADDITIONAL
SPENT FUEL STORAGE AT THE
MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING
PLANT INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL
STORAGE INSTALLATION

DOCKET NO. E002/CN-21-___

**APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF
NEED FOR ADDITIONAL SPENT FUEL
STORAGE**

SUMMARY OF FILING

Please take notice that on September 1, 2021, Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy (Xcel Energy) filed with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) an Application for a Certificate of Need (Application) for additional spent fuel storage at the existing Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) at the Monticello Nuclear Power Generating Plant (Monticello Plant). The procedures and criteria for this Certificate of Need are contained in Minnesota Statutes §216B.243 and Minnesota Rules Chapters 7855 and 7849.

The Application requests sufficient additional spent fuel storage at the existing ISFSI to allow continued operation of the Monticello Plant until 2040. That continued operation also requires approval of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), which oversees the safe operation of nuclear power plants.

Implementation of the additional storage at the existing ISFSI, and the continued operation of the Monticello Plant until 2040, will assure the continued adequacy, reliability and efficiency of energy supply and are a critical part of Xcel Energy's and the State's carbon emission reduction efforts.

Copies of the Application will be available from the Xcel Energy web site at www.xcelenergy.com.

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Lisa	Veith	lisa.veith@ci.stpaul.mn.us	City of St. Paul	400 City Hall and Courthouse 15 West Kellogg Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55102	Electronic Service	No	GEN_SL_Xcel Energy_Monticello Certificate of Need
Julie	Voeck	julie.voeck@nee.com	NextEra Energy Resources, LLC	700 Universe Blvd Juno Beach, FL 33408	Electronic Service	No	GEN_SL_Xcel Energy_Monticello Certificate of Need
Laurie	Williams	laurie.williams@sierraclub.org	Sierra Club	Environmental Law Program 1536 Wynkoop St Ste 200 Denver, CO 80202	Electronic Service	No	GEN_SL_Xcel Energy_Monticello Certificate of Need
Samantha	Williams	swilliams@nrdc.org	Natural Resources Defense Council	20 N. Wacker Drive Ste 1600 Chicago, IL 60606	Electronic Service	No	GEN_SL_Xcel Energy_Monticello Certificate of Need

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Joseph	Windler	jwindler@winthrop.com	Winthrop & Weinstine	225 South Sixth Street, Suite 3500 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	GEN_SL_Xcel Energy_Monticello Certificate of Need
Tim	Wulling	t.wulling@earthlink.net		1495 Raymond Ave. Saint Paul, MN 55108	Electronic Service	No	GEN_SL_Xcel Energy_Monticello Certificate of Need
Patrick	Zomer	Pat.Zomer@lawmoss.com	Moss & Barnett a Professional Association	150 S. 5th Street, #1200 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	GEN_SL_Xcel Energy_Monticello Certificate of Need



September 1, 2021

Eric F. Swanson
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VIA HAND DELIVERY

Will Seuffert
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 East Seventh Place, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: *In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy for a Certificate of Need for Additional Dry Cask Storage at the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation*
MPUC Docket No. E002/CN-21-____

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

Regarding the above-captioned docket, filed today, Minn. R. 7855.0210, Subpart I.E. establishes a fee of "\$20,000 plus such additional fees as are reasonably necessary for completion of the evaluation of need" for a CN for spent nuclear fuel storage. The rule states that 50% of the fee should accompany the application and the remaining 50% should follow in 90 days. For efficiency, one check for \$20,000 accompanies this Application, rather than two separate checks 90 days apart. It is Xcel Energy's understanding that the Commission's Staff will determine the amount and timing of additional fees and request additional payments as this proceeding moves forward.

Very truly yours,

WINTHROP & WEINSTINE, P.A.

Eric F. Swanson

Enclosure

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