

- ☐ Not-Public Document – Not For Public Disclosure
☐ Public Document – Not-Public Data Has Been Excised
☒ Public Document

Xcel Energy	Information Request No.	4
Docket No.:	E002/M-25-142	
Response To:	Minnesota Public Utilities Commission	
Requestor:	Hanna Terwilliger, Sophie Nikitas	
Date Received:	May 4, 2026	

Question:

In its April 23, 2026 Reply Comments, the Department requested the Commission authorize it to seek specialized technical assistance from the Commissioner of Management and Budget under Minn. Stat. § 216B.62, subd. 8 for the proposed Planning Standard Review Process (\$1 million) and Wildfire Mitigation Plan Review (\$300,000).

As this recommendation was not provided until reply comments, does the Company have any response to the Department's request?

Response:

The Company opposes the Planning Standard Review Process proposed by the Department and, accordingly, also opposes the Department's request to seek technical assistance to conduct such a review. As discussed in our response to MPUC IR No. 3, the Company is responsible for providing safe and adequate service to its customers and therefore maintains the expertise necessary to plan and operate its system appropriately. The review process proposed by the Department would be complex and burdensome, would divert Company resources from its core obligations, and lacks a clearly defined purpose. With respect to the request for technical expertise to review a future Wildfire Mitigation Plan, the Company believes such a request would be more appropriately considered in conjunction with the Company's submission of that plan.

Preparer:	Joe Verbout
Title:	Manager, System Planning and
Department:	NSP Distribution Planning
Telephone:	651-245-2383
Date:	May 18, 2026