



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

December 2, 2025

—Via Electronic Filing and U.S. Mail—

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

RE: REPLY COMMENTS
CHANGES IN CONTRACT DEMAND ENTITLEMENTS
DOCKET No. E002/M-25-67

Dear Ms. Bergman:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, submits this Reply to the November 19, 2025 Comments of the Minnesota Department of Commerce (Department) in the above-referenced docket. We appreciate the Department's thorough review and recommendation of approval of our Petition. Below, we provide additional information regarding the Sibley facility as requested by the Department and propose a modification to the reporting requirements recommended by the Department.

A. Project Timing, Outage Timeframe, and Expected Return to Service

Initial work on the Sibley project began in summer 2024 to upgrade the facility and ensure continued safe and reliable gas supply to the system during design day scenarios. Planned improvements for the plant included the complete replacement of all tank bank gas piping and valves, electrical systems, fire and gas detection and suppression, and instrumentation and measurement devices for each of the 37 propane tanks in the plant. To do so, the tanks at the plant were de-inventoried, beginning with two of the five tank banks in 2024. During this time, the plant was in-service, available, and dispatched for vaporization into the system several times during the 2024-2025 heating season.

In April 2024, after the heating season concluded, the plant was taken out of service with the intention of completing the project prior to the start of the 2025-2026 heating season. Unfortunately, due to some project delays, the Sibley facility is unavailable to start the 2025-2026 heating season.

As of November 24, 2025, construction activities on all piping, valves, and propane tanks have been completed. Plant commissioning has been delayed due to extensive flange coating degradation that required recoating. Quality assurance of that work is expected to be completed by the third week of December. Once compliance inspection of the rework is completed, all plant piping will be pressure tested and purged of oxygen to remove moisture prior to bringing in propane. The Plant is scheduled to be available for use by January 15, 2026.

B. Company Communications

The Company first discussed this fire detection and suppression work in our last natural gas rate case in Docket No. G002/GR-23-413. Company witness Alicia Berger discussed investments for fire detection/suppression system upgrade work at our Wescott and Maplewood plants, and she noted that similar work was planned for the Sibley plant.¹ She later stated that work at the Sibley plant was expected to begin in the fall of 2024 with an in-service date in 2025.²

In the Company's currently pending natural gas rate case, Company witness Randy Capra describes the fire detection/suppression work at the Sibley plant and that the work is expected to be in-serviced in 2025.³ He also indicated that the Company's plans account for potential schedule impacts, but there are factors that may impact the in-service date.

As mentioned above, the Sibley plant was available for use during the 2024/25 heating season and taken out of service in April 2025. When the Company made its initial filing in the current docket on August 1, 2025, the plant was anticipated to be available prior to the start of the 2025/26 heating season. Because the Company expected the plant to be available prior to the heating season covered in the Petition, we did not mention the outage.

The Company acknowledges that it would have been appropriate to discuss the outage at the Sibley plant in our status update filings providing updates of similar

¹ *In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company, d/b/a Xcel Energy, for Authority to Increase Rates for Natural Gas Service in Minnesota*, Docket No. G002/GR-23-413 (November 1, 2023), Exhibit____(AEB-1), Berger Direct Testimony at 60.

² *In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company, d/b/a Xcel Energy, for Authority to Increase Rates for Natural Gas Service in Minnesota*, Docket No. G002/GR-23-413 (November 1, 2023), Exhibit____(AEB-1), Berger Direct Testimony at 70.

³ *In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company, d/b/a Xcel Energy, for Authority to Increase Rates for Natural Gas Service in Minnesota*, Docket No. G002/GR-25-356 (October 31, 2025), Exhibit____(RAC-1), Capra Direct Testimony at 7 and 23.

work being done at our Maplewood plant. It would have also been appropriate to provide information on this project in our August 1, 2025 Contract Demand Entitlement Petition filed in the current docket. As discussed below, the Company commits to providing this type of information in future Contract Demand Entitlement filings.

C. Reporting Recommendations

The Department recommends that the Commission require the Company to discuss peaking facility maintenance outages in future demand entitlement filings.

The Company notes that planned maintenance outages are regularly scheduled during the non-heating season to repair known issues and or complete capital upgrades, and thus it is common for the plant to be unavailable during the summer when the capacity from the peaking facilities is not necessary to meet customer demands. These projects are generally completed timely and do not warrant additional reporting. However, the Company acknowledges that in the past two years some projects took longer than expected to be completed, and the delays had the potential to impact winter operations. To balance those conditions, we would propose a modification to the Department's proposed reporting requirement that would narrow the range of maintenance outages to be discussed in future August 1 Contract Demand Entitlement filings to those at the Company's peaking facilities in process on August 1 whose delay would impact winter operations.

The Company also agrees with the Department recommendation that the Company provide monthly updates on the state of the Sibley facility until such time as it returns to service at its full capacity, similar to the updates the Company has been regularly filing with regards to the Maplewood facility. The Company commits to providing the next monthly update for Maplewood and Sibley on or before January 6, 2025.

We have electronically filed this document with the Commission, and copies have been served on the parties on the attached service list. Please contact me at (612) 330-7681 or lisa.r.peterson@xcelenergy.com or Megan Spear at megan.spear@xcelenergy.com if you have any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

/s/

LISA PETERSON
DIRECTOR, REGULATORY PRICING AND ANALYSIS

Enclosures
cc: Service List

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Victor Barreiro, 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. G002/M-25-0067

Dated this 2nd day of December 2025

/s/

Victor Barreiro
Regulatory Administrator

#	First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Agency	Address	Delivery Method	Alternate Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
1	Kristine	Anderson	kanderson@greatermngas.com	Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc.		1900 Cardinal Lane PO Box 798 Faribault MN, 55021 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
2	Katherine	Arnold	katherine.arnold@ag.state.mn.us		Office of the Attorney General - Department of Commerce	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
3	Mara	Ascheman	mara.k.ascheman@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy		414 Nicollet Mall Fl 5 Minneapolis MN, 55401 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
4	Gail	Baranko	gail.baranko@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy		414 Nicollet Mall 7th Floor Minneapolis MN, 55401 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
5	Sasha	Bergman	sasha.bergman@state.mn.us		Public Utilities Commission		Electronic Service		Yes	M-25-67
6	Elizabeth	Brama	ebrama@taftlaw.com	Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP		2200 IDS Center 80 South 8th Street Minneapolis MN, 55402 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
7	Matthew	Brodin	mbrodin@allete.com	Minnesota Power		30 West Superior Street Duluth MN, 55802 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
8	Mike	Bull	mike.bull@state.mn.us		Public Utilities Commission	121 7th Place East, Suite 350 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	M-25-67
9	Robert S.	Carney, Jr.				4232 Colfax Ave. S. Minneapolis MN, 55409 United States	Paper Service		No	M-25-67
10	Olivia	Carroll	oliviac@cubminnesota.org	Citizens Utility Board of Minnesota		332 Minnesota St W1360 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
11	Joey	Cherney	joey.cherney@ag.state.mn.us		Office of the Attorney General - Residential Utilities Division	445 Minnesota Street STE 1800 Saint Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
12	John	Coffman	john@johncoffman.net	AARP		871 Tuxedo Blvd. St. Louis MO, 63119-2044 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
13	Generic	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us		Office of the Attorney General - Department of Commerce	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	M-25-67

#	First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Agency	Address	Delivery Method	Alternate Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
14	Riley	Conlin	riley.conlin@xcelenergy.com	Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy-Elec		414 Nicollet Mall, 401 8th Floor Minneapolis MN, 55401 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
15	Brandon	Crawford	brandonc@cubminnesota.org	Citizens Utility Board of Minnesota		332 Minnesota St Ste W1360 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
16	George	Crocker	gwillc@nawo.org	North American Water Office		5093 Keats Avenue Lake Elmo MN, 55042 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
17	Brian	Edstrom	briane@cubminnesota.org	Citizens Utility Board of Minnesota		332 Minnesota St Ste W1360 Saint Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
18	Rebecca	Eilers	rebecca.d.eilers@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy		414 Nicollet Mall - 401 7th Floor Minneapolis MN, 55401 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
19	Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce		85 7th Place E Ste 280 Saint Paul MN, 55101-2198 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
20	Edward	Garvey	garveyed@aol.com	Residence		32 Lawton St Saint Paul MN, 55102 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
21	Todd J.	Guerrero	todd.guerrero@kutakrock.com	Kutak Rock LLP		Suite 1750 220 South Sixth Street Minneapolis MN, 55402-1425 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
22	Matthew B	Harris	matt.b.harris@xcelenergy.com	XCEL ENERGY		401 Nicollet Mall FL 8 Minneapolis MN, 55401 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
23	Annette	Henkel	mui@mutilityinvestors.org	Minnesota Utility Investors		413 Wacouta Street #230 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
24	Valerie	Herring	vherring@taftlaw.com	Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP		2200 IDS Center 80 S. Eighth Street Minneapolis MN, 55402 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
25	Katherine	Hinderlie	katherine.hinderlie@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General - Residential Utilities Division		445 Minnesota St Suite 1400 St. Paul MN, 55101-2134 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
26	Michael	Hoppe	lu23@ibew23.org	Local Union 23, I.B.E.W.		445 Etna Street Ste. 61 St. Paul MN,	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67

#	First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Agency	Address	Delivery Method	Alternate Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
						55106 United States				
27	Richard	Johnson	rick.johnson@lawmoss.com	Moss & Barnett		150 S. 5th Street Suite 1200 Minneapolis MN, 55402 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
28	Sarah	Johnson Phillips	sjphillips@stoel.com	Stoel Rives LLP		33 South Sixth Street Suite 4200 Minneapolis MN, 55402 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
29	Nicolle	Kupser	nkupser@greatermngas.com	Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc.		1900 Cardinal Ln PO Box 798 Faribault MN, 55021 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
30	Peder	Larson	plarson@larkinhoffman.com	Larkin Hoffman Daly & Lindgren, Ltd.		8300 Norman Center Drive Suite 1000 Bloomington MN, 55437 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
31	Annie	Levenson Falk	annielf@cubminnesota.org	Citizens Utility Board of Minnesota		332 Minnesota Street, Suite W1360 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
32	Eric	Lipman	eric.lipman@state.mn.us	Office of Administrative Hearings		PO Box 64620 St. Paul MN, 55164-0620 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
33	Christine	Marquis	regulatory.records@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy		414 Nicollet Mall MN1180-07-MCA Minneapolis MN, 55401 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	M-25-67
34	Mary	Martinka	mary.a.martinka@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy Inc		414 Nicollet Mall 7th Floor Minneapolis MN, 55401 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
35	Stephen	Melchionne	stephen.melchionne@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General - Department of Commerce		445 Minnesota Street, Ste. 1400 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
36	Greg	Merz	greg.merz@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General - Department of Commerce		445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400 1400 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
37	Joseph	Meyer	joseph.meyer@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General - Residential Utilities Division		Bremer Tower, Suite 1400 445 Minnesota Street St Paul MN, 55101-2131 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67

#	First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Agency	Address	Delivery Method	Alternate Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
38	Kimberly	Middendorf	kimberly.middendorf@state.mn.us		Office of Administrative Hearings	PO Box 64620 600 Robert St N Saint Paul MN, 55164-0620 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
39	David	Moeller	dmoeller@allete.com	Minnesota Power			Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
40	Andrew	Moratzka	andrew.moratzka@stoel.com	Stoel Rives LLP		33 South Sixth St Ste 4200 Minneapolis MN, 55402 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
41	Travis	Murray	travis.murray@ag.state.mn.us		Office of the Attorney General - Residential Utilities Division	445 Minnesota St Ste 1400 Saint Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
42	David	Niles	david.niles@avantenergy.com	Minnesota Municipal Power Agency		220 South Sixth Street Suite 1300 Minneapolis MN, 55402 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
43	Samantha	Norris	samanthanorris@alliantenergy.com	Interstate Power and Light Company		200 1st Street SE PO Box 351 Cedar Rapids IA, 52406-0351 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
44	Greg	Palmer	gpalmer@greatermngas.com	Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc.		1900 Cardinal Ln PO Box 798 Faribault MN, 55021 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
45	Kevin	Pranis	kpranis@liunagroc.com	Laborers' District Council of MN and ND		81 E Little Canada Road St. Paul MN, 55117 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
46	Generic Notice	Residential Utilities Division	residential.utilities@ag.state.mn.us		Office of the Attorney General - Residential Utilities Division	1400 BRM Tower 445 Minnesota St St. Paul MN, 55101-2131 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	M-25-67
47	Joseph L	Sathe	jsathe@kennedy-graven.com	Kennedy & Graven, Chartered		150 S 5th St Ste 700 Minneapolis MN, 55402 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
48	Elizabeth	Schmiesing	eschmiesing@winthrop.com	Winthrop & Weinstine, P.A.		225 South Sixth Street Suite 3500 Minneapolis MN, 55402 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
49	Peter	Scholtz	peter.scholtz@ag.state.mn.us		Office of the Attorney General - Residential Utilities Division	Suite 1400 445 Minnesota Street St. Paul MN, 55101-2131 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
50	Janet	Shaddix Elling	jshaddix@janetshaddix.com	Shaddix And Associates		7400 Lyndale Ave S Ste 190 Richfield MN, 55423 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67

#	First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Agency	Address	Delivery Method	Alternate Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
51	Suzanne	Todnem	suzanne.todnem@state.mn.us		Office of Administrative Hearings	600 Robert St N PO Box 64620 St. Paul MN, 55164 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
52	Amelia	Vohs	avohs@mncenter.org		Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy	1919 University Avenue West Suite 515 St. Paul MN, 55104 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67
53	Joseph	Windler	jwindler@winthrop.com		Winthrop & Weinstine	225 South Sixth Street, Suite 3500 Minneapolis MN, 55402 United States	Electronic Service		No	M-25-67