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

CI-02-2034/M12-383

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

Sundial Energy submits this letter to raise concerns regarding Xcel Energy's proposal to accelerate certain energy projects in response to the Covid 19 economic downturn.

While we applaud the general interest in rebuilding employment levels and creating new jobs in the energy sector, I would like to point out that **Xcel is doing just the opposite with the way it is running its interconnection process for Distributed Energy Resources (DER) on its system.**

We, and every Minnesota solar development company I have spoken with (nearly all of them) have expressed extreme frustration with Xcel missing deadlines, incorrectly reviewing plans, and side-lining projects for no reason. Our company has experienced, and continues to experience, incredibly onerous delays and missed deadlines for projects in Xcel's interconnection process. We have dozens of projects which should have started months ago that are not yet through Xcel's engineering review. This problem is not unique to Sundial – it is industry-wide.

Xcel's delays are causing serious economic hardships and preventing already-existing energy sector employees from returning to work. We believe the PUC should be focusing on these current barriers to employment on energy projects before encouraging Xcel to expand the scope of its own energy development activities. Given that nearly all of the projects Xcel has identified for accelerated development are its own projects, we are concerned that these projects will receive priority attention and thus make matters worse for the Minnesota solar industry.

Until Xcel dramatically improves its performance and the timeliness of its current interconnection queues for DERs, we do not support an acceleration of the work on Xcel's projects.

Sincerely,

Jon Kramer, CEO