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Xcel Energy Information Request No. 13
Docket No.: E002/M-25-378
Response To: Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
Requestor: James Worlobah, Hanna Terwilliger, Sophie Nikitas
Date Received: February 26, 2026

Question:

In its February 24 press release announcing a new Google data center, the Company stated:

As part of the agreement, Xcel and Google are partnering to bring 1,900 megawatts of new clean energy to the grid ... A Clean Energy Accelerator Charge (CEAC) will provide for 1,400 MW of wind, 200 MW of solar and 300 MW of long-duration energy storage, *along with a \$50 million investment towards Xcel Energy's Capacity*Connect Program*, which will help drive reliability on the grid. [emphasis added]

Please provide additional information about how Google's \$50 million investment will impact Capacity*Connect if the program and the forthcoming Electric Service Agreement (ESA) are approved by the Commission. Explain:

- A. How the \$50 million will impact the overall budget
- B. Whether a portion of C*C capacity (or energy) will count toward the 1900 MW of wind, solar, and storage Google plans to develop with the Company, and if so how much.
- C. What is the contractual arrangement between Google and Xcel for the \$50 million contribution and corresponding capacity or energy dedication amount, if there is one. Does Xcel intend to present this to the PUC?

Response:

- A. Google's investment complements the budget requested in the Company's Capacity*Connect proposal, and would offset the total cost of Phase 2 for the Company's customers. The impact on the total Program budget will be dependent on the Commission's decisions on Phase 2. Google's Capacity*Connect (C*C) investment will correlate with a certain number of megawatts of installed battery energy system (BESS) capacity. For its investment, Google will receive matched capacity credits for the megawatts of C*C that the \$50 million funds. We are still determining the mechanics and will

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provide additional information in the forthcoming ESA Petition, which we anticipate filing in the coming weeks.

- B. No, the C*C investment is on top of the 1,900 MW of wind, solar, and long duration energy storage. Based on the initial budget we estimated for C*C Phase 2, the goal is for Google's \$50 million C*C investment to fund approximately [PROTECTED DATA BEGINS [REDACTED] PROTECTED DATA ENDS] of C*C capacity.
- C. The contractual arrangement is part of the ESA that will be filed with the Commission for approval. This provision of the ESA states:

[PROTECTED DATA BEGINS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] **PROTECTED DATA ENDS]**

Portions of this response are marked "Not-Public" as it contains information the Company considers to be trade secret data as defined by Minn. Stat. § 13.37(1)(b). The information contains confidential economic data that derives an independent economic value from not being generally known or readily ascertainable by others who could obtain economic value or a financial advantage from its disclosure or use. The Company takes efforts to protect this information from public disclosure. Thus, Xcel Energy excises this information as protected data pursuant to Minn. Rule 7829.0500.

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