

May 9, 2025

Will Seuffert Minnesota Public Utilities Commission 121 7th Place East, Suite 350 St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2147

RE: Response Letter of the Minnesota Department of Commerce

Docket No. E002/AA-23-153

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

On March 3, 2025, Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy (Xcel or the Company) filed a petition in the instant docket requesting the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) authorize Xcel to implement true-up factors by class for the Company's 2024 Fuel Clause Adjustment (FCA) True-Up.<sup>1</sup>

On April 15, 2025, the Minnesota Department of Commerce (Department) filed Comments recommending the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) approve the 2024 FCA true-up subject to confirming Xcel's class factor calculations, and requested additional information from the Company. Specifically, the Department requested live spreadsheets to verify refunds related to Xcel's Sherco 3 outage, an explanation of differences between the Sherco 3 outage refund as detailed in the Petition and what was approved by the Commission in its April 2025 Order, and additional information related to Reactor Coolant Pump seal replacements at Xcel's Prairie Island Unit 1 nuclear facility.

On May 1, 2025, Xcel in Reply Comments provided the requested calculations and additional information.<sup>3</sup> The Department reviewed the Company's calculations and resulting class factors, and found them to be reasonable. The Department also reviewed Xcel's explanation for the changes to its Sherco 3 refund as a result of moving from a 12 month refund to a one-time refund in April 2025 with

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company for Approval of the 2024 Annual Fuel Forecast and Monthly Fuel Charges, Petition, Xcel Energy, March 3, 2025, Docket No. E002/AA-23-153, (eDockets) 20253-215976-01.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company for Approval of the 2024 Annual Fuel Forecast and Monthly Fuel Charges, Comments, Minnesota Department of Commerce, April 15, 2025, Docket No. E002/AA-23-153, (eDockets) 20254-217695-01.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company for Approval of the 2024 Annual Fuel Forecast and Monthly Fuel Charges, Reply Comments, Xcel Energy, May 1, 2025, Docket No. E002/AA-23-153, (eDockets) 20255-218447-01.

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supporting spreadsheets and found them reasonable. Finally, the Company stated it will provide timely updates regarding potential vendor credits relating to Prairie Island Unit 1.

The Department appreciates the Company's response to Department requests in this docket and recommends the Commission approve Xcel's 2024 true-up and is available to answer any questions the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission may have.

Sincerely,

/s/ Dr. Sydnie Lieb Assistant Commissioner of Regulatory Analysis

AG/ad Attachment

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Sharon Ferguson, hereby certify that I have this day, served copies of the following document on the attached list of persons by electronic filing, certified mail, e-mail, or by depositing a true and correct copy thereof properly enveloped with postage paid in the United States Mail at St. Paul, Minnesota.

Minnesota Department of Commerce Response to Reply Comments

Docket No. E002/AA-23-153

Dated this 9<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025

/s/Sharon Ferguson

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36	Annie	Levenson Falk	annielf@cubminnesota.org	Citizens Utility Board of Minnesota		Minnesota Street, Suite W1360 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		No	23- 153AA- 23-153
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45	Christa	Moseng	christa.moseng@state.mn.us		Office of Administrative Hearings	P.O. Box 64620 Saint Paul MN, 55164- 0620 United States	Electronic Service		No	23- 153AA- 23-153
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