



Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

November 4, 2013

Re: XCEL REQUEST FOR COMMENT PERIOD EXTENSION
RENEWABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND CYCLE 4-SELECTION REPORT

Dear Mr. Haar:

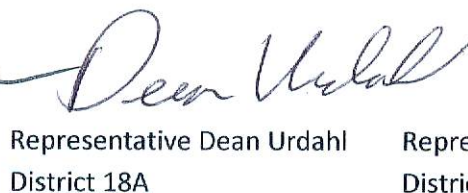
We are writing in response to Xcel Energy's Request for Extension to Comment Period letter dated October 7, 2013 and public comments received regarding Xcel Energy's Renewable Development Fund Cycle 4-Selection Report. It is good to see that Xcel Energy acknowledges the errors and is taking the additional steps to address those errors that have occurred. Though we support the proposed *audit*, it seems that 60-90 days may unreasonably delay the process. Perhaps 30 days is an adequate amount of time to complete the audit process and keep the process moving forward in a timely manner. It is expected that the audit process will correct and verify that all scoring errors have been properly addressed.

Our primary concern is that the best projects are selected to receive Xcel RDF funding allocations. Previous Xcel RDF cycles that had similar issues were clouded because of either a lack of transparency or inconsistency in the selection process. The corrective actions taken to address the concerns with the 4th RDF cycle will undoubtedly need to be considered with future RDF cycles so that history does not continue to repeat itself.

It is worth noting that we continue to support the fair treatment of the City of Hutchinson Solar Project. We trust that you will take the necessary steps to ensure that all projects are properly assessed. The Xcel RDF is important to the continued development of local renewable infrastructure and research.

Sincerely,


Senator Scott Newman
District 18


Representative Dean Urdahl
District 18A


Representative Glenn Gruenhagen
District 18B