



Sherburne County Government Center  
Board of Commissioners  
13880 Business Center Drive NW  
Suite 100  
Elk River, MN 55330-1692  
763-765-3001  
1-800-438-5229  
Fax: 763-765-3002  
www.co.sherburne.mn.us

Hon. Katie Sieben, Chair  
& Members of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
c/o Mr. William Seuffert, Executive Secretary  
121 7th Place East, Suite #350  
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: Petition for Approval to Sell 348 Acres of Land at Sherco – Docket No. E002/M-22-489

Dear Chair Sieben and Members of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission;

On behalf of the Sherburne County Board of Commissioners, I am writing to convey our full support for the Xcel Energy land sale to Elk River Technologies LLC. Sherburne County's objective is to create strong, vibrant communities that will be supported by such land sales; through which proposed projects create jobs and capital investment in the region. The requested land sale and proposed project supports our commitment in attracting new industries for additional tax base and creation and retention of well-paying jobs for our community.

Additionally, Xcel Energy's requested land sale and Elk River Technologies' proposed project will take advantage of underutilized buffer land well positioned for this particular type of industrial expansion.

The sale would also create new opportunities for adjacent land to be repurposed for business attraction efforts, greatly helping offset the impacts of the planned Sherco Generating Station's closure of Units #1 and #2 (in 2026 and 2023 respectively), and projected closure of Unit #3 in 2030. This project would also leverage Xcel Energy's ability to provide renewable and reliable energy to the property.

In summary, Sherburne County would like to thank the PUC for its consideration of this impending economic transition of Sherco on the County and adjacent communities and the efforts Xcel Energy, the City of Becker, Sherburne County, and the State of Minnesota are taking to ameliorate the resulting economic and socioeconomic impacts. We fully support Xcel's Energy's Petition and planned Project.

Sincerely,

Barb Burandt

2022 Chair, Sherburne County Board of Commissioners

Cc: Sherburne County Board of Commissioners