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November 22, 2017

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Daniel P. Wolf  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
121 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 350  
St. Paul, MN 55101

**Re: Crown Hydro, LLC Comments**  
**In the Matter of Xcel Energy's Renewable Development Fund (RDF) Annual**  
**Report, Tracker Account True-up, and Request for 2018 Rider Factor**  
**PUC Docket No.: E-002/M-17-712**  
**Our File No.: 2151-01**

Dear Mr. Wolf:

Crown Hydro, LLC ("Crown Hydro") provides these comments in the above-referenced docket in response to two of the topics included in the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") notice seeking comment.

First, *"Has Xcel Energy complied with Minnesota Laws 2017, Chapter 94, Article 10, Section 3, Subd. 1(b) with respect to transfer of funds to the renewable development fund account (RDA) on July 1, 2017? Is there action the Commission should take?"* Crown Hydro is in agreement with Xcel Energy ("Xcel") with respect to this issue and believes that Xcel is in compliance with the statute. For two reasons, satisfying either one would preclude return of funds; Crown Hydro has expended all funds provided by Xcel on the project and has no grant funds in its possession, and as declared by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"), Crown Hydro has commenced construction effective 2007. Furthermore, Crown Hydro does not believe there is any additional action the Commission should take at this time.

The next topic *"Should the commission take any action on the Crown Hydro RDF grant contract (AH01) under Minnesota Laws 2017, Chapter 94, Article 10, Section 29, or other authority?"* Crown Hydro does not believe that the Commission should take any other action with respect to

Daniel P. Wolf  
November 22, 2017  
Page Two

Crown Hydro. Contrary to assertions, Crown Hydro has made significant progress and provided the progress details to Xcel on a quarterly basis as part of the RDF process. In reliance on the RDF grant, Crown Hydro has continued to pursue the project and made significant progress. In that reliance, the project owners have expended a large amount of funds in addition to the RDF funds advanced, both of which would be lost if the project were canceled. Crown Hydro is currently going through an amendment process at FERC to move the project forward (FERC Project No. 11175-025). Interested parties are welcome to participate in that process and many already have. Crown Hydro encourages those interested in its project and improving the same, to participate in the FERC proceedings.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Very truly yours,

/s/

Richard J. Savelkoul

RJS:lmr