



STATE OF MINNESOTA
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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Nancy Lange Commissioner
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John Tuma Commissioner
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City Council Member
Second Ward

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In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company, dba Xcel Energy, for Approval of Docket No. E002/M-13-867 its Proposed Community Solar Garden Program

LETTER IN SUPPORT OF SOLAR GARDEN COMMUNITY'S PETITION FOR EXPEDITED RELIEF

FILED May 1, 2015

Dear members of the Public Utilities Commission,

I am writing as Chair of the Minneapolis City Council's Health, Environment and Community Engagement Committee to support the position of the Solar Garden Community and Fresh Energy in the matter of Xcel Energy's proposed Community Solar Garden Program.

Solar Garden Community, an ad hoc community of solar businesses with invested interests in Xcel Energy's community solar garden program, filed a petition for expedited relief on April 29, 2015 in response to the supplemental comments and notice filed by Xcel Energy on April 28, 2015. The Petition seeks expedited relief asking inter alia that "the Commission enforce its prior orders, issuing another order putting Xcel Energy on notice that Xcel Energy's proposed actions in the Supplemental Comments would be a violation of the CSG Program Approval Order."

I am filing this letter to respectfully request that the Commission grant the Solar Garden Community's Petition for the reasons stated therein. Xcel's stated course of action in its April 28, 2015 Supplemental Comments would set a negative precedent of a unilateral and retroactive change to significant program rules. Such a precedent would cause long-term harm to Minnesota energy policy, and to the people of Minneapolis. I also support treatment of the Petition as an expedited request, because Xcel's threatened actions would cause immediate and irreparable harm to the Solar*Rewards Community projects already applied for under existing Commission orders, to the program's future, and to the future of renewable energy in Minneapolis and the State of Minnesota.

I will further note that Xcel Energy has made commitments to the City of Minneapolis to work with the City as a partner to meet the City's energy goals. These goals include the following from the Minneapolis Climate Action Plan, adopted in 2013:

- "Increase electricity from local and directly purchased renewables to 10 percent of the total consumed by 2025."
- "Support explicit authorization of third-party solar leasing and ownership and enabling community solar projects, and other delivery/financial mechanisms..."

The City's support for community solar is longstanding, and part of our broader commitment to addressing climate change.

I do not believe that the supplemental comments and notice filed by Xcel Energy on April 28, 2015, represent the utility following through with its commitments to being a good partner in working on the above goals. They appear to me to be a clear violation of the CSG Program Approval Order, and will likely have the effect of stifling or even preventing the addition of significant new distributed renewable resources to the electricity grid – new resources that Minneapolis residents and businesses strongly support, and are keen to invest in. As a longtime supporter of increasing renewable energy generation in our community, and as the Chair of the Minneapolis City Council's Health Environment and Community Engagement Committee, I ask that the Public Utilities Commission grant the Solar Garden Community expedited relief.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cam Gordon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Cam Gordon
Council Member, Ward 2

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Gregory Sautter, hereby certify that I have this day, served a true and correct copy of the following documents to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list by electronic filings, electronic mail, courier, interoffice mail or by depositing the same enveloped with postage paid in the United States mail at Minneapolis, Minnesota. Electronic filing and service was shall be completed on this First day of May, 2015. Paper Copies shall be posted no later than Monday, May 4, 2015

Letter in Support of Solar Garden Community's Petition for Expedited Relief

Docket Number E-002/M-13-867

Dated this 1st day of May, 2015.

/s/ GregoryPSautter

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Ross	Abbey	ross@mysunshare.com	SunShare, LLC	609 S. 10th Street Suite 210 Minneapolis, MN 55404	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13- 867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Ross	Abbey	abbey@fresh-energy.org	Fresh Energy	408 Saint Peter St Ste 220 St. Paul, MN 55102-1125	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13- 867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Michael	Allen	michael.allen@allenergysolar.com	All Energy Solar	721 W 26th st Suite 211 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55405	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13- 867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Julia	Anderson	Julia.Anderson@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	1800 BRM Tower 445 Minnesota St St. Paul, MN 551012134	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13- 867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Sara	Baldwin Auck	N/A	Interstate Renewable Energy Council, Inc.	PO Box 1156 Latham, NY 12110-1156	Paper Service	No	SPL_SL_13- 867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
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Michael J.	Bull	mbull@mncee.org	Center for Energy and Environment	212 Third Ave N Ste 560 Minneapolis, MN 55401	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13- 867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
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Arthur	Crowell	Crowell.arthur@yahoo.com	A Work of Art Landscapes	234 Jackson Ave N Hopkins, MN 55343	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Dustin	Denison	dustin@appliedenergyinnovations.org	Applied Energy Innovations	4000 Minnehaha Ave S Minneapolis, MN 55406	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
James	Denniston	james.r.denniston@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy Services, Inc.	414 Nicollet Mall, Fifth Floor Minneapolis, MN 55401	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Ian	Dobson	ian.dobson@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	Antitrust and Utilities Division 445 Minnesota Street, 1400 BRM Tower St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Bill	Droessler	bdroessler@iwla.org	Izaak Walton League of America-MWO	1619 Dayton Ave Ste 202 Saint Paul, MN 55104	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Betsy	Engelking	betsy@geronimoenergy.com	Geronimo Energy	7650 Edinborough Way Suite 725 Edina, MN 55435	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
John	Farrell	jfarrell@ilsr.org	Institute for Local Self-Reliance	1313 5th St SE #303 Minneapolis, MN 55414	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
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Hal	Galvin	halgalvin@comcast.net	Provectus Energy Development llc	1936 Kenwood Parkway Minneapolis, MN 55405	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Timothy	Gulden	info@winonarenewableenergy.com	Winona Renewable Energy, LLC	1449 Ridgewood Dr Winona, MN 55987	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Duane	Hebert	N/A	Novel Energy Solutions	1628 2nd Ave SE Rochester, MN 55904	Paper Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Lynn	Hinkle	lhinkle@mnseia.org	Minnesota Solar Energy Industries Association	2512 33rd Ave South #2 Minneapolis, MN 55406	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
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Eric	Jensen	ejensen@iwla.org	Izaak Walton League of America	Suite 202 1619 Dayton Avenue St. Paul, MN 55104	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Michael	Kampmeyer	mkampmeyer@a-e-group.com	AEG Group, LLC	260 Salem Church Road Sunfish Lake, Minnesota 55118	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel

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Madeleine	Klein	mklein@socoreenergy.com	SoCore Energy	225 W Hubbard Street Suite 200 Chicago, IL 60654	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13- 867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Brad	Klein	bklein@elpc.org	Environmental Law & Policy Center	35 E. Wacker Drive, Suite 1600 Suite 1600 Chicago, IL 60601	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13- 867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
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Michael	Krause	michaelkrause61@yahoo.com	Kandiyo Consulting, LLC	433 S 7th Street Suite 2025 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13- 867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
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Casey	MacCallum	casey@appliedenergyinnovations.org	Applied Energy Innovations	4000 Minnehaha Ave S Minneapolis, MN 55406	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13- 867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Erica	McConnell	emcconnell@kfwlaw.com	Keyes, Fox & Wiedman LLP	436 14th Street, Suite 1305 Oakland, California 94612	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13- 867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel

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Thomas	Melone	Thomas.Melone@AllcoUS.com	Minnesota Go Solar LLC	222 South 9th Street Suite 1600 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55120	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Andrew	Moratzka	apmoratzka@stoel.com	Stoel Rives LLP	33 South Sixth Street Suite 4200 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
Martin	Morud	mmorud@trunorthsolar.com	Tru North Solar	5115 45th Ave S Minneapolis, MN 55417	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
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Jeff	O'Neill	jeff.oneill@ci.monticello.mn.us	City of Monticello	505 Walnut Street Suite 1 Monticello, Minnesota 55362	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel
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Matthew J.	Schuerger P.E.	mjsreg@earthlink.net	Energy Systems Consulting Services, LLC	PO Box 16129 St. Paul, MN 55116	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL_13-867_Community Solar Garden - Xcel

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