



414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

March 9, 2023

—Via Electronic Filing—

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

RE: IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF XCEL ENERGY FOR A CERTIFICATE OF NEED FOR TWO GEN-TIE LINES FROM SHERBURNE COUNTY TO LYON COUNTY, MINNESOTA  
DOCKET NO. E002/CN-22-131

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy (Company or Xcel Energy), respectfully submits this Certificate of Need application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for Xcel Energy's proposed Minnesota Energy Connection Project (MN Energy Connection or Project), which consists of an approximately 160- to 180-mile 345 kilovolt double-circuit transmission line and associated facilities connecting the Sherburne County Generation Station Substation (Sherco Substation) in Becker, Minnesota, and a new substation in Lyon County, Minnesota. The Company plans to place the Project in-service in the third quarter of 2027.

The Project is part of Xcel Energy's approved 2020-2034 Upper Midwest Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), Docket No. E002/RP-19-368, which will reduce carbon emissions more than 85 percent from 2005 levels by 2030 and help to achieve the Company to deliver 100 percent carbon-free electricity. Xcel Energy will achieve these goals by retiring coal plants in the Upper Midwest, including the three Sherco units totaling approximately 2,000 MW of coal-fired generation, and adding significant amounts of renewable energy. Connecting the new renewable energy to the Sherco Substation enables Xcel Energy to reuse valuable and existing transmission interconnection rights.

We have electronically filed this document and the application with the Commission. Copies of this application are also being served on the persons on the attached distribution lists as provided in Minn. R. 7849.0200, subp. 2. A short summary of this application is being distributed, as required by Minn. R. 7829.2500, subp. 3. Notice of the filing of this application will be published in the Star Tribune. The application processing fee, as required by Minn. R. 7849.0210, subp. 1, is being sent under separate cover. Please contact Monsherra Blank, Director, Regulatory and Strategic Analysis, Xcel Energy at [monsherra.s.blank@xcelenergy.com](mailto:monsherra.s.blank@xcelenergy.com) or 214-422-3672 if you have any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Bria E. Shea*

BRIA E. SHEA  
REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT, REGULATORY POLICY

c: Service Lists

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**In the Matter of the Application of Xcel  
Energy for a Certificate of Need for Two  
Gen-Tie Lines from Sherburne County to  
Lyon County, Minnesota  
MPUC Docket No. E002/CN-22-131**

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Breann L. Jurek certifies that on the 9th day of March 2023, she e-filed on behalf of Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, a true and correct copy of the following documents:

1. Filing Letter;
2. Application of Northern States Power Company doing business as Xcel Energy for a Certificate of Need for the Minnesota Energy Connection Project, with Appendices A-H;
3. Summary of Filing; and
4. Certificate of Service.

with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission via eDockets ([www.edockets.state.mn.us](http://www.edockets.state.mn.us)). Said documents were also served on the Official Service Lists of record on file with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and as attached hereto.

Executed on: March 9, 2023

*Signed: /s/ Breann L. Jurek*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.  
200 South Sixth Street  
Suite 4000  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
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Mara	Ascheman	mara.k.ascheman@xcenergy.com	Xcel Energy	414 Nicollet Mall Fl 5  Minneapolis, MN 55401	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
Sarah	Beimers	sarah.beimers@state.mn.us	Department of Administration - State Historic Preservation Office	50 Sherburne Avenue Suite 203 St. Paul, MN 55155	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
David	Bell	david.bell@state.mn.us	Department of Health	POB 64975  St. Paul, MN 55164	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
Generic Notice	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400  St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
Randall	Doneen	randall.doneen@state.mn.us	Department of Natural Resources	500 Lafayette Rd, PO Box 25  Saint Paul, MN 55155	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
Adam	Duininck	aduininck@ncsrcc.org	North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters	700 Olive Street  St. Paul, MN 55130	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
Bret	Eknes	bret.eknes@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	Suite 350 121 7th Place East St. Paul, MN 551012147	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
Kate	Fairman	kate.frantz@state.mn.us	Department of Natural Resources	Box 32 500 Lafayette Rd St. Paul, MN 551554032	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
Annie	Felix Gerth	annie.felix-gerth@state.mn.us		Board of Water & Soil Resources 520 Lafayette Rd Saint Paul, MN 55155	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131

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Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 280  Saint Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
Todd	Green	Todd.A.Green@state.mn.us	Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry	443 Lafayette Rd N  St. Paul, MN 55155-4341	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
Kari	Howe	kari.howe@state.mn.us	DEED	332 Minnesota St, #E200 1ST National Bank Bldg St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
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Ray	Kirsch	Raymond.Kirsch@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 500  St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
Chad	Konickson	chad.konickson@usace.army.mil	U.S.Army Corps of Engineers	180 5th St # 700  Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
Nicholas	Korn	NJKORN@GMAIL.COM		27445 County Road 23  Albany, MN 56307	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
Stacy	Kotch Egstad	Stacy.Kotch@state.mn.us	MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	395 John Ireland Blvd.  St. Paul, MN 55155	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
Karen	Kromar	karen.kromar@state.mn.us	MN Pollution Control Agency	520 Lafayette Rd  Saint Paul, MN 55155	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
Dawn S	Marsh	dawn_marsh@fws.gov	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	Minnesota-Wisconsin Field Offices 4101 American Blvd E Bloomington, MN 55425	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Kevin	Pranis	kpranis@liunagro.com	Laborers' District Council of MN and ND	81 E Little Canada Road  St. Paul, Minnesota 55117	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
Stephen	Rakow	stephen.rakow@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	Suite 280 85 Seventh Place East St. Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
Generic Notice	Residential Utilities Division	residential.utilities@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	1400 BRM Tower 445 Minnesota St St. Paul, MN 551012131	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
Stephan	Roos	stephan.roos@state.mn.us	MN Department of Agriculture	625 Robert St N  Saint Paul, MN 55155-2538	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
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Bria	Shea	bria.e.shea@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy	414 Nicollet Mall  Minneapolis, MN 55401	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_22-131_CN-22-131
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First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
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Cynthia	Warzecha	cynthia.warzecha@state.mn.us	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	500 Lafayette Road Box 25 St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4040	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
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