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Xcel Energy Information Request No. 11
Docket No.: E002/M-25-142
Response To: Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
Requestor: Hanna Terwilliger, Sophie Nikitas
Date Received: May 4, 2026

Question:

Xcel has provided a forecast of its budget for vegetation management throughout its IDP, and a report on past miles of overhead distribution lines trimmed through its vegetation management program in its 26-27 Service Quality Annual Report.¹

Does Xcel have a forecast of the miles of overhead distribution lines it expects to conduct vegetation management for over the IDP period? If so, please provide.

¹ Docket No. E002/M-26-27, In The Matter Of Northern States Power Company's Annual Report On Safety, Reliability, And Service Quality For 2025; And Petition For Approval Of Electric Reliability Standards For 2026, Compliance Filing Part 2 (April 1, 2026), Attachment J, p. 6 (PDF p. 80).

Response:

The Company does not maintain a specific forecast of vegetation-management miles for the IDP period. Consistent with its annual planning approach, the Company develops its vegetation management work plan using the most current, available risk model to prioritize overhead distribution circuits with the highest vegetation-related reliability impact over the previous 12-24 months – together with historical cycle information for the applicable region and updated system risk models. The resulting plan is designed to optimize available resources while maintaining flexibility to address changing field conditions and emerging needs. As work is executed during the year, the Company begins with the highest-impact circuits and adjusts as appropriate to reflect differences in vegetation conditions and treatment requirements across circuits.

Preparer:	Alex Autio	Fletcher Johnson
Title:	Director, Distribution Ops	Director, Veg Management & Pole Integrity
Department:	Distribution Business Operations	Veg Management
Telephone:	651-229-5573	651-229-2485
Date:	May 18, 2026	