

December 10, 2020

To: Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

From: City of Burnsville

RE: Support for Xcel Energy Upper Midwest Energy Plan

We write today to express support for the Xcel Energy Upper Midwest Energy Plan currently under consideration at the Public Utilities Commission (docket number E002/M-19-368).

We support reducing carbon emissions and expanding clean energy, and we know that reliable electricity is key to meeting our needs and the needs of our customers and our community. Xcel Energy's plan will reduce emissions, invest in renewable energy, and deliver reliable electricity while also keeping bills affordable.

We support the Xcel Energy plan to retire or repurpose its coal plants, which they have already successfully done in Burnsville at their Black Dog Power Plant, expand wind and solar energy, continue operating its carbon-free nuclear plants, and build a natural gas plant in Becker to ensure reliability. We ask the Public Utilities Commission to approve the Xcel Energy plan, as they are our trusted community partner and have the experience and expertise to continue meeting the energy needs of our community, our state, and our region.

Please note that in Burnsville we are already working on our 2<sup>nd</sup> generation Sustainability Plan as we've made tremendous progress on the goals in our 1<sup>st</sup> generation plan. The City reached its 2015 greenhouse gas ("GHG") reduction goals in 2010 and continued our accelerated pace by meeting our 2025 goal of 30% reduction in GHG emissions compared to 2005 levels in 2019. We would not have been able to exceed our goals without Xcel's progressive work on responsibly moving power generation towards renewable energy sources. We also know that reliability is exceedingly important as we cannot pump and process drinking water or keep our buildings operational without a reliable power source, so we understand the need for natural gas backup. Their plan to move towards renewable energy sources and away from coal meets the City's goal of greenhouse gas reductions over time while providing reliable energy for residents and business needs.

Sincerely,



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