



**It's Better
in Becker**

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Administration

February 9, 2021



Community
Center

Will Seuffert
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
PublicComments.PUC@state.mn.us



Community
Development

121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147



Finance

RE: In the Matter of Xcel Energy's 2020-2040 Integrated Resource Plan
MN PUC Docket Number: E002/RP-19-368

Dear Mr. Seuffert:



Parks and
Recreation

The following comments are offered on the above-referenced docket on behalf of the City of Becker, Minnesota as host community to the Sherburne County Generating Station (Sherco).



Pebble Creek
Golf Club

The City of Becker is a community of about 5,000 residents located in Sherburne County. Becker understands the changing environment within the utility industry and the shifting energy demands of consumers, including large-scale industrial facilities. Becker supports the ambitious carbon reduction goals that Xcel Energy has set forth and supports a logical and strategic pathway to meet the challenging goal of a balanced mix of fuel sources. With these comments, we wish to express support for the Xcel Energy Upper Midwest Integrated Resource Plan currently under consideration at the Public Utilities Commission, E002/RP-19-368.



Police
Department

Becker has long been part of the State's carbon reduction goals. We have studied the negative impacts of decommissioning large coal fueled generating stations to host communities. We ask for continued support for Becker and other transition communities as we search for equitable transition strategies and embrace our clean energy future.



Public Works

The City of Becker does support, and we are convinced, the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) currently before the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is in the best interest of the rate payers and the State of Minnesota.

Becker is in full support of the pathway to reduce carbon by building a combined cycle natural gas plant in Becker. We agree that this load supporting resource will be a critical component to providing reliable energy during peak times. This dispatchable resource will be especially important during the winter months when solar is typically unavailable and wind may not be available for long periods of time.



Administration

Becker also supports the use of carbon free nuclear power. Operating the Monticello Nuclear Generating Station through 2040 is a critical component to achieving our carbon reduction goals. In addition, Becker fully supports continued operation of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Station to ensure economic and reliable electricity throughout the system.



Community
Center

The Xcel Energy Upper Midwest Integrated Resource Plan 2020-2034 proposes significant changes to a wide variety of stakeholders, including the City of Becker. Becker has embraced change. The community will continue to build toward a successful transition. Becker is committed to continually working with regulators, policy makers and stakeholders to make this transition smooth and sustainable. We look forward to supporting emerging technology and hosting those technological advances that will support jobs and tax base in the City of Becker and Sherburne County.



Community
Development



Finance



Parks and
Recreation

We ask the Public Utilities Commission to approve the Xcel Energy IRP as a pathway to meeting carbon reduction goals, boosting carbon free energy by adding renewables, encouraging technological improvements through research and development, and providing our energy needs without sacrificing reliable and affordable power.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the IRP.



Pebble Creek
Golf Club

Sincerely,

Tracy Bertram
Mayor of Becker



Police
Department

Contact Information

Greg Pruszinske
763-200-4244



Public Works