



Batch E-Filing for Docket 21-694

- **Paul Frank**
- **Ronald Eldred**
- **Martin Malecha**

From: [Wufoo](#)
To: [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)
Subject: Submitted Public Comment Form
Date: Sunday, June 25, 2023 3:23:56 PM

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Name *	Paul Frank
Address	<input type="checkbox"/> 11411 Park Ridge Drive West Minnetonka, Minnesota 55305
Provide the docket's number.	21-694
Leave a comment on the docket. *	Please do the right thing and continue the Project for the sake of humanity that is less fortunate ... thank you!

From: [Wufoo](#)
To: [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)
Subject: Submitted Public Comment Form
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 9:33:55 AM

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Name *	Ronald Eldred
Address	<input type="checkbox"/> 1420 W 32nd Street Unit 401 Minneapolis, MN 55408 United States
Phone Number	(651) 325-7527
Email	eldred7@gmail.com
Provide the docket's number.	21-694

Leave a comment on the docket. *

I am writing in support of continuing the work described in docket 21-694.

This project is a winner in terms of improving the lives of many who are in special need of it, and it will be huge in boosting the public opinion of Xcel, PUC and everyone else involved in making it happen. On the other hand the loss of momentum will just add more reasons for the general public to feel that those involved really do not care about the Resilient Minneapolis Project, about real efforts to improve our climate and ultimately taking every step we can to save the planet.

Please make a cost cap increase happen. Also consider that Xcel could ask us, its customers, to make an optional cost contribution to the project. My wife and I have done that for many years to help Xcel defray the cost of providing wind energy. We are in this together. We want to be able to praise the PUC and Xcel for doing this. When we go past the Sabathani Community Center, which we often do, we want to be to point to it as a key work that we jointly did for everyone's better well being.

Respectfully,

Ronald Eldred
eldred7@gmail.com
651 325 7527

From: [Wufoo](#)
To: [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)
Subject: Submitted Public Comment Form
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 7:14:20 PM

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Name * Martin Malecha

Address ☐ New Brighton, MN

Provide the docket's number. Docket No. E-002/M-21-694

Leave a comment on the docket. *

June 23, 2023

Will Seuffert
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

RE: Docket No. E-002/M-21-694
In the Matter of Xcel Energy's Resilient Minneapolis Project
Petition for Approval of Updated Costs

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

I am a long-time resident of Ramsey County and an Xcel customer and ratepayer.

The Resilient Minneapolis Project (the Project) would advance Xcel's professed Non-Wires Alternatives goals of enhancing the security, reliability, and resilience of the grid; enabling greater customer engagement, empowerment, and options for energy services; and demonstrate how local microgrids can be leveraged for the benefit of all Xcel Energy Customers. And the bulk of these benefits will happen in areas of Minneapolis with high concentrations of low income and BIPOC residents.

These are laudable goals, and should be pursued, particularly to rectify past neglect of, and wrongs inflicted upon, the low-income and BIPOC communities.

As stated in the Public Utilities Commission Order Accepting and Certifying the Project issued July 26, 2022, the Commission noted that Xcel "stated that if the estimated costs of the Project increased due to inflationary pressures the Company would not discontinue Project implementation before seeking additional input on costs from the Commission." (Document ID 20227-187764-01, Findings and Conclusions, Part III, Certification of the RMP, Part C, Commission Action). Furthermore, the Order Accepting and Certifying the Project, at No. 9, directs Xcel to file a letter to the docket if Xcel encounters any significant procurement challenges related to the Project, including delays, low bid numbers, or unexpected costs.

Xcel filed their Petition for Approval for Updated Costs April 19, 2023 (Doc. ID 20234-194964-01), citing inflationary and supply chain pressures, concluding they would proceed with the Project at the Sabathani and MAIC sites, but pause implementation at the North Minneapolis site pending a Commission decision on Xcel's Petition to increase the cost cap. But then, less than two months later, by letter to the Commission dated June 9, 2023 (Document ID 20236-196471-01) Xcel cites these same factors (inflationary pressures, delays), concluding that Xcel has determined that now is not the right time to proceed with the Project. Though the Commission is seeking clarification, Xcel seems to want to now halt the Project.

Did the inflationary and supply chain situations deteriorate so significantly between the April 19 Petition to increase the cost cap and the June 9 withdrawal letter that a complete halting of the Project is appropriate? I certainly hope Xcel's June 9 letter was not a reaction to the June 1, 2023 Commission decision limiting Xcel's rate increase request.

The Project is an important step forward to improve the lives of residents in some distressed communities in Minneapolis, as well as providing broader benefits to all Xcel customers. The Project should be pursued. If costs have gone up and can be justified, a cost cap increase would appear to be the appropriate response, not a halting of the entire project.

Sincerely,

Martin P. Malecha
New Brighton, MN
