

Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary

STATE OF MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD

Issued: August 10, 2015

In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company, dba Xcel Energy, for Approval of Its Proposed Community Solar Garden Program

PUC Docket Number: E-002/M-13-867

Comment Period:Initial comment period closes August 31, 2015 at 4:30 pm
Reply comment period closes September 14, 2015 at 4:30 pm
Comments must be received by 4:30 pm on the close date
Comments received after comment period closes may not be considered

Project Background: On July 24, 2015, Xcel Energy (Xcel) filed a letter jointly submitted by the co-signatories of the Partial Settlement Agreement in the above-cited docket. Xcel requested that the Commission open an investigation into prospective design changes for the Company's Community Solar Garden (CSG) program and refer the investigation to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH). In addition, Xcel suggested specific issues that the proceeding should address and proposed a schedule (see <u>Xcel's letter</u>).

Topics open for comment:

For each issue listed in Xcel's July 24 letter, please separately address the following:

- Is Commission action necessary, and if so, in what time frame and why?
- What is the relative priority of the issues presented?
- Are there facts in dispute? If so, list the issues and what factual disputes exist within those issues. Please differentiate between issues that involve statutory requirements and those that address program design. Would a contested case assist the Commission in its statutory interpretation?
- Does the record-to-date contain adequate information for the Commission to make a decision? Would some issues benefit from greater experience with the CSG program? For what time period and why?
- What is the best way to develop additional information if needed---contested case, further comments, stakeholder meetings, additional time, other?

• What timelines are reasonable for developing additional information?

If you wish to suggest other issues to be addressed, describe the issue(s) and answer each of the questions listed above.

Filing Requirements: Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are **required** to file documents using the Commission's electronic filing system (eFiling). All parties, participants and interested persons are encouraged to use eFiling: <u>mn.gov/puc</u>, select *eFiling*, and follow the prompts.

Submit Public Comments: Visit <u>mn.gov/puc</u>, select *Comment on an Issue*, find this docket, and add your comments to the discussion.

Persons without Internet access may send by U.S. Mail to Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul MN 55101-2147. Please include the Commission's docket number in all communications.

Full Case Record: All documents filed in this docket are available at <u>mn.gov/puc</u>, select *Search eDockets*, enter the year (2013) and the docket number (867), select *Search*.

Subscribe to the Docket: Receive email notification when new documents are filed in this docket at <u>mn.gov/puc</u>, select *Subscribe to a Docket*, and follow the prompts.

Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure? Contact Commission staff, Susan Mackenzie, at <u>susan.mackenzie@state.mn.us</u> or Andrew Bahn at <u>andrew.bahn@state.mn.us</u>.

Change your mailing preferences: Email docketing.puc@state.mn.us or call 651-201-2234

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