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January 22, 2018

--Via Electronic Filing--

Daniel P. Wolf
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: APPLICATION TO THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
FOR A ROUTE PERMIT FOR THE HUNTLEY-WILMARTH 345 kV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT
DOCKET NO. E002, ET6675/TL-17-185

Dear Mr. Wolf:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, and ITC Midwest LLC (collectively, the Applicants) respectfully submit this Route Permit application for the Huntley –Wilmarth 345 kV Transmission Line Project (Project) to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission). The Project consists of an approximately 50-mile 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line between Xcel Energy's existing Wilmarth Substation north of Mankato, Minnesota and ITC Midwest's Huntley Substation south of Winnebago, Minnesota, and necessary modifications to the existing Wilmarth and Huntley substations to accommodate this new 345 kV transmission line. Route alternatives for the proposed transmission line traverse Blue Earth, Faribault, Martin, and Nicollet counties in Minnesota. This Route Permit is submitted under the Full Permitting Process set forth in Minnesota Statutes § 216E.03 and Minnesota Rules 7850.1700 to .2700; and 7850.4000 to .4400.

The Applicants filed a Certificate of Need with the Commission in Docket No. E002, ET6675/CN-17-184 on January 17, 2018. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.243, subd. 4, Applicants request that the Certificate of Need and Route Permit proceedings be combined because it would be feasible, more efficient, and in the public interest.

Daniel P. Wolf
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The initial application fee payment and additional copies of the Route Permit application are being sent to the Department of Commerce under separate cover.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact either Tom Hillstrom, Principal Permitting Agent at thomas.g.hillstrom@xcelenergy.com or 612-330-5835, or Tim Tessier, Manager-Regulatory Strategy at ttessier@itctransco.com or 515-282-5300 ext. 455.

SINCERELY,



TERESA MOGENSEN
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, TRANSMISSION
XCEL ENERGY SERVICES INC. ON BEHALF OF
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY, A MINNESOTA CORPORATION



KRISTA K. TANNER
PRESIDENT, ITC MIDWEST LLC
VICE PRESIDENT, ITC HOLDINGS CORP.

cc: Service List

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION TO
THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION FOR A ROUTE PERMIT FOR
THE HUNTLEY-WILMARTH 345 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

DOCKET NO. E002, ET6675/CN-17-185

Theresa Senart certifies that on the 22nd day of January, 2018, she filed a true and correct copy of the **Application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for a Route Permit for the Huntley-Wilmarth 345 kV Transmission Line Project** by posting the same on www.edockets.state.mn.us. Said Application for a Route Permit has also been served via U.S. Mail or e-mail as designated on the Official Service List on file with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in the above-referenced docket. Said Application has also been served via U.S. Mail or courier on the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and as required by Minnesota Rule 7850.1700, subp. 1 as indicated on the attached list. Said Application has also been served via U.S. Mail or via courier on the Minnesota Department of Commerce and Office of the Attorney General as indicated on the attached list.

s/Theresa A. Senart
Theresa Senart

Service List for MPUC Docket No. E002,ET6675/CN-17-185: Paper Service – U.S. Mail

(Service is via a CD containing all files for Route Permit with instructions on how to obtain a paper copy.)

Matt Steinrueck
Clean Water Action
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Minneapolis, MN 55401

Kristen Eide Tollefson
R-CURE
28477 N Lake Ave
Frontenac, MN 55026

Colleen Mueller
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Paynesville, MN 56362

Thomas Davis
1161 50th Ave
Sherburn, MN 56171

Requested a paper copy

Jason Larsen
9370 345th Avenue
Blue Earth, MN 56013

Service List for MPUC Docket No. E002,ET6675/CN-17-185: Hand Delivery
(includes copies required by Minn. R. 7850.1700, subp. 1)

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Dr. Steve Rakow (3 paper copies and 1 CD)
MN Department of Commerce
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Raymond Kirsch (15 copies and 15 CDs)
Environmental Review Manager, Energy
Environmental Review and Analysis
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Sharon Ferguson (1 paper copy)
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