



414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

**PUBLIC DOCUMENT  
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January 18, 2019

**—Via Electronic Filing—**

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

RE: RESPONSES TO MPUC INFORMATION REQUEST NOS. 1 REVISED, 2 REVISED  
AND 6  
ACQUISITION OF THE MANKATO ENERGY CENTER (MEC)  
DOCKET NO. IP6949, E002/PA-18-702

Dear Mr. Wolf:

At the request of Commission staff, we enclose our responses to the referenced Minnesota Public Utilities Commission information requests in the above-noted docket for e-filing.

Please contact me at (612) 337-2268 or [amber.r.hedlund@xcelenergy.com](mailto:amber.r.hedlund@xcelenergy.com) if you have any questions regarding this submission.

Sincerely,

/s/

Amber Hedlund  
Regulatory Case Specialist

Enclosures  
c: Service List

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Xcel Energy Information Request No. 1  
Docket No.: E002/PA-18-702 **REVISED**  
Response To: MN Public Utilities Commission  
Requestor: Sean Stalpes  
Date Received: December 19, 2018

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**Question:**

Please provide a table showing the annual capacity factors (in the Strategist modeling) for every existing and generic dispatchable resource over the modeled time horizon (through 2057) for the four expansion plans shown in Tables 15-18 of Attachment F of the Petition. (For comparison purposes, please refer to Xcel's response to PUC Information Request No. 12 in the Dakota Range docket, Docket No. E002/M-17-694.)

**Response:**

Please see Trade Secret Attachment A for a table showing the annual capacity factors for the four expansion plans shown in Tables 15-18 of Attachment F of the Petition.

Attachment A to this response includes information the Company considers to be trade secret data as defined by Minn. Stat. § 13.37(1)(b). The information derives independent economic value from not being generally known or readily ascertainable by others who could obtain a financial advantage from its use. Thus, Xcel Energy considers this not public data.

**Revised:**

Attachment A to this response has been revised to provide the average capacity factor for each unit.

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Preparer: Jon Landrum  
Title: Manager, Resource Planning Analytics  
Department: Resource Planning  
Telephone: 303-571-2765  
Date: January 10, 2019 2019 **REVISED:** January 18, 2019

## Capacity Factors

Base PVSC (High Ext Costs thru 2024, High Reg Costs)

**PROTECTED DATA ENDS]**

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## Capacity Factors

Base PVSC (High Ext Costs thru 2024, High Reg Costs)

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Xcel Energy

Information Request No. 2

Docket No.: E002/PA-18-702

**REVISED**

Response To: MN Public Utilities Commission

Requestor: Sean Stalpes

Date Received: December 19, 2018

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Question:

Please provide a table showing the actual annual capacity factors for the following thermal units over the 2013-2017 five-year period:

- Mankato I
- Black Dog 5/2
- High Bridge
- Riverside
- LS Power – Cottage Grove

Response:

Please see the table below for actual annual capacity factors for the five-year period between 2013-2017.

Date	Mankato I	Black Dog 5/2	High Bridge	Riverside	LS Power-Cottage Grove
2017	21%	26%	34%	38%	11%
2016	27%	44%	40%	57%	17%
2015	14%	34%	37%	62%	10%
2014	11%	17%	19%	24%	6%
2013	18%	18%	36%	33%	13%

This response includes information the Company considers to be trade secret data as defined by Minn. Stat. § 13.37(1)(b). The information derives independent economic value from not being generally known or readily ascertainable by others who could obtain a financial advantage from its use. Thus, Xcel Energy considers this nonpublic data.

**Revised:**

The Company has revised the response above. The table provided above had previously been marked Not Public. We have removed the Not Public markings to provide the data publicly.

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Preparer: Keith Howe  
Title: Resource Planning Analyst  
Department: Resource Planning  
Telephone: 612-330-6252  
Date: January 10, 2019

**REVISED:** January 18, 2019



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Xcel Energy Information Request No. 6  
Docket No.: E002/PA-18-702  
Response To: MN Public Utilities Commission  
Requestor: Sean Stalpes  
Date Received: January 11, 2019

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Question:

In Xcel's response to PUC Information Request No. 2, Xcel designated all information in the table showing the five-year historical capacity factors for its thermal units as trade secret.

Commission staff requests Xcel re-submit the table without a trade secret designation so this information can be made public. If Xcel still believes this information should be trade secret, staff requests Xcel explain in detail why historical output of existing facilities "derives independent economic value from not being generally known or readily ascertainable by others who could obtain a financial advantage from its use." (Minn. Stat. § 13.37(1)(b).)

Staff notes that part of the intention of Information Request No. 2 was so Xcel itself could provide accurate data showing historical thermal unit utilization rates in a succinct, transparent, and easily accessible manner. Notably, Xcel already makes public actual unit capacity factors in its Electric Utility Annual Reports required under Minn. Rule 7610.0130 (see, for example, Document ID 20186-144416-03 in Docket No. 18-11).

Second, staff further requests Xcel remove the trade secret designation in its response to PUC Information Request No. 1, showing the annual capacity factors in the Strategist modeling. Staff acknowledges that this information, unlike historical capacity factors, is not already publicly available; as such, it would be acceptable if Xcel would make public only the average capacity factor (according to the Strategist results) for each unit over the 2018-2057 study period.

Response:

The Company has revised our response to MPUC IR No. 1 and provided a new Attachment A that contains an average capacity factor column. This column is

provided as public data. We have also revised our response to MPUC IR No. 2 to show the historical capacity factors as public data.

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Preparer: Amber Hedlund  
Title: Case Specialist  
Department: Regulatory Affairs  
Telephone: 612.337.2268  
Date: January 18, 2019