

May 21, 2020

Will Seuffert
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101-2147

RE: **Comments of the Minnesota Commerce Department, Division of Energy Resources**
Docket No. E,G002/D-19-723

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

This letter serves as the Comments of the Minnesota Commerce Department, Division of Energy Resources (Department), in the following matter:

Northern States Power Company, d/b/a Xcel Energy's Request for Extension, 2020
Annual Review of Remaining Lives & Five-Year Depreciation and Net Salvage Study for
Electric and Gas Production and Gas Storage Facilities

The Petition was filed on May 15, 2020 by:

Laurie J. Wold
Senior Manager, Capital Asset Accounting
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

In its Petition, Northern States Power Company, d/b/a Xcel Energy (Xcel or the Company) requested that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) grant the Company a three-month extension to submit its 2020 Review of Remaining Lives and Five-Year Depreciation and Net Salvage Study Petition (2020 Annual Review). Order Point 1 of the Commission's January 22, 2020 Order in this instant docket directed the Company to "file its 2020 Annual Review by May 18, 2020."¹

Xcel stated that it is working to develop a plan in response to Commissioner Sullivan's May 5, 2020 Memo in Docket No. E,G999/CI-20-425 requesting discussion on how prudent utility infrastructure investments or other programs can aid in Minnesota's economic recovery from COVID-19. Further, the

¹ Due to on-boarding issues with the Company's contractor for its five-year dismantling study, on November 18, 2019, Xcel requested a three month extension to the original filing deadline of February 18, 2020, as set forth in Order Point 7 of the Commission's October 22, 2019 Order in Docket No. E,G002/D-19-161.

Company stated that, while it does not know what the outcome will be in that docket, Xcel believes that some of its proposals could result in changes that would impact the 2020 Petition.

The Department does not see any conflicts or issues with granting Xcel's request at this time. Therefore, the Department recommends that the Commission **grant an additional three-month extension to Xcel and allow the Company to file its 2020 Annual Review by August 18, 2020.**

The Department is available to answer any questions that the Commission may have in this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ ANGELA C. BYRNE
Financial Analyst

ACB/ja

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Sharon Ferguson, hereby certify that I have this day, served copies of the following document on the attached list of persons by electronic filing, certified mail, e-mail, or by depositing a true and correct copy thereof properly enveloped with postage paid in the United States Mail at St. Paul, Minnesota.

Minnesota Department of Commerce
Comments

Docket No. E,G002/D-19-723

Dated this **21st** day of **May 2020**

/s/Sharon Ferguson

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