



414 Nicollet Mall
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August 4, 2021

—Via Electronic Filing—

Will Seuffert
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM – HOSTING CAPACITY ANALYSIS REPORT
DOCKET NO. E002/M-20-812

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy submits this Supplemental Information to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission regarding the Company's 2020 Hosting Capacity Analysis (HCA) Report.

With this filing, we inform the Commission that we have refreshed the HCA data on our website with an interim update consistent with our commitment in our November 2020 HCA Report. In that report, we outlined several potential futures for the HCA and stated our intent to increase the frequency of the HCA to a quarterly cadence from its current annual cadence starting in Q3 2021. We noted that this would be responsive to what we heard from stakeholders and a reasonable approach to deliver some immediate improvements on the way to achieving the long-term goal set by the Commission.

We also noted in our HCA Report that the interim updates we are able to perform at this time are fully manual and that we expected to gain insights through the process. We started this first interim update early in 2021, and we learned that an interim update is resource-intensive and requires focused resources comparable to the annual HCA process. We estimated in our HCA Report that we would need to add two full-time Engineers (and incremental Geospatial resources also) to support the manual HCA cadence; our experience with this first interim update confirmed that need. Like we do for our annual HCA Report, we relied heavily on engineering interns to

complete this update and will do the same with our next quarterly update on November 1, 2021 (which will fulfill our current annual report requirement). We have initiated the process to add the necessary incremental engineering resources, and quarterly updates beyond our November 1, 2021 Report will depend on those resources being onboarded.

That said, we provide a few highlights of this August 2021 HCA Report. We said we would update the feeders: (1) where Solar*Rewards Community (CSG) Distributed Energy Resources (DER) has been interconnected and is operational since the last HCA update, and (2) where any capacity upgrades are scheduled to be completed in the upcoming six months. In addition to CSG, we also factored-in other solar additions – updating any feeders where there was at least 500 kW of solar installed since the last HCA report. As a result of these drivers, we updated approximately five percent of our Minnesota feeders. We also said we would update a portion of the remaining feeders, with a goal of ensuring all feeders are updated at least once per year, regardless of whether they had DER additions or capacity upgrades. So in total, this August HCA Report involved updating approximately 25 percent of our Minnesota feeders.

The August 2021 HCA results show that 95 feeders have zero maximum hosting capacity (compared to 122 in our November 2020 Report). Most of these feeders (76) have at least 1 MW of existing DER on them (compared to 97 feeders in our November 2020 Report). We note that DRIVE considers potential DER in increments of 100 kW on three-phase sections, which means that even if a feeder shows zero hosting capacity, the actual available capacity may be something between zero and 100 kW. Therefore, additional small-scale DER may not be prohibitive. As is also the case with the Annual HCA Report, this August 2021 HCA is a snapshot in time and reflects installed DER generation and feeder topology at the time of the analysis.¹

We are excited to provide this first interim update and recognize that it took longer to produce than one quarter. The process provided important learnings and is a solid first step toward improved hosting capacity information going forward.

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216.17, subd. 3, we have electronically filed this document with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, and copies have been served on all parties on the attached service list. Please contact Jody Londo at jody.l.londo@xcelenergy.com or me at bria.e.shea@xcelenergy.com if you have any questions regarding this filing.

¹ Data as of January 31, 2021.

Sincerely,

/s/

BRIA E. SHEA
DIRECTOR, REGULATORY & STRATEGIC ANALYSIS

c: Service List

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Mustafa Adam, hereby certify that I have this day served copies of the foregoing document on the attached lists of persons.

xx by depositing a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped with postage paid in the United States mail at Minneapolis, Minnesota

xx electronic filing

Docket No. E002/M-20-812

Dated this 4th day of August 2021

/s/

Mustafa Adam
Regulatory Administrator

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