



1414 West Hamilton Avenue
P.O. Box 8
Eau Claire, WI 54702-0008

March 20, 2006

Dr. Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 Seventh Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: Xcel Energy's Application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for a New Colvill Substation, Two 115 kV Transmission Line Segments to Connect the Existing Cannon Falls to Empire 115 kV Transmission Line and Expansion of the Cannon Falls Substation

Notification of Intent to File Application Pursuant to Alternative Permitting Process

Dear Dr. Haar:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, hereby notifies the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) of its intent to submit an application for a route permit for the Cannon Falls project (Project) following the procedures in Minnesota Rules 4400.2000 to 4400.2950 as authorized by Rule 4400.2000, subp. 2.

The proposed Project is comprised of the following:

- Construction of a new Cannon Falls Substation located at Township 112 North, Range 17 West, Section 6, Goodhue County, Minnesota;
- Construction of two new 115 kV transmission line segments connecting the new Colvill Substation to the existing Cannon Falls to Empire 115 kV transmission line; and
- Expansion of the Cannon Falls Substation on land owned by Xcel Energy.

Appendix A.1

Xcel Energy plans to file the application in late March or early April. We will work with PUC and Department of Commerce Staff to address any comments they have in order to expedite application acceptance and completion of the environmental assessment.

If you should have any questions, please contact me at (715) 839-4661.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela Jo Rasmussen". Below the signature is a small, stylized monogram "JR".

Pamela Jo Rasmussen
Team Lead Siting and Permitting

cc: Jim Alders
Chris Ayika
Lisa Agrimonti, Briggs & Morgan
Robert Cupit, MN PUC
Deb Pile, MN DOC