



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401-1993

November 15, 2006

Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATES OF NEED FOR A 115/161 kV TRANSMISSION LINE
BETWEEN CHISAGO COUNTY SUBSTATION AND THE MINNESOTA BORDER AT TAYLORS
FALLS
DOCKET NO. E-002, ET-3/CN-04-1176

Dear Dr. Haar:

Pursuant to Minn. R. 7849.0200, subp. 2 and 4, enclosed are the original and 15 copies of the Application of Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy and Dairyland Power Cooperative for a Certificate of Need for a new transmission line between Chisago County Substation near North Branch, Minnesota and Apple River Substation near Amery, Wisconsin. We propose to replace an existing 69 kV line with our proposal. Portions of the proposal would be designed and constructed at 115 kV and a portion would be at 161 kV. Approximately 25 miles of the line would be in Minnesota. The line would cross the Minnesota Wisconsin border at Taylors Falls and St. Croix Falls. This transmission line project falls within the definition of large energy facility in Minnesota Statutes 216B.2421.

Xcel Energy and Dairyland Power Cooperative will be filing an Application for a Route Permit for the proposed facility in December. Doing so will provide the Commission the opportunity to consider addressing both the Need for our proposal and Route Permitting in one combined proceeding as provided for in the Commission's Rules. We do not object to varying the Commission's Rules having to do with the timing of consideration of our Certificate of Need Application if necessary to determine if a joint proceeding is appropriate.

Xcel Energy is separately sending the Commission a check for \$4250, which is in excess of 25% of the processing fee calculated in accordance with Minn. R. 7849.0210, subp. 1 and 2. Our fee calculation is based on the 161 kV voltage part of our proposal. We will contact your staff shortly to discuss in more detail any additional fees necessary to process our application.

Copies of this Application are being served on parties as provided in Minnesota Rules 7849.0200. A Summary of our Application, a copy of which is included in our application is being distributed as required in Minnesota Rule 7929.2500 subp. 3.

Xcel Energy looks forward to working with all the interested parties in this proceeding to develop the transmission infrastructure that is needed to maintain reliable service to the far northeastern part of the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

Please call Jim Alders at (612) 330-6732 if you have any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DJ', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Douglas W. Jaeger
Vice President, Transmission

Enclosure
c: Service List



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

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TRANSMISSION LINE BETWEEN CHISAGO COUNTY SUBSTATION AND THE
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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Please call Jim Alders at (612) 330-6732 if you have any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

DOUG JAEGER
VICE PRESIDENT, TRANSMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chuck Callies". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

CHUCK CALLIES
VICE PRESIDENT, POWER DELIVERY

Enclosure

cc: Service List

STATE OF MINNESOTA
BEFORE THE
MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

LeRoy Koppendraye	Chair
Marshall Johnson	Commissioner
Kenneth Nickolai	Commissioner
Thomas Pugh	Commissioner
Phyllis Reha	Commissioner

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY
D/B/A XCEL ENERGY AND
DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF NEED FOR A
115/161 KV TRNAMSISSION LINE
BETWEEN
CHISAGO COUNTY SUBSTATION AND
APPLE RIVER SUBSTATION

DOCKET NO. E-002, ET-3/CN 04 1176

FILING SUMMARY

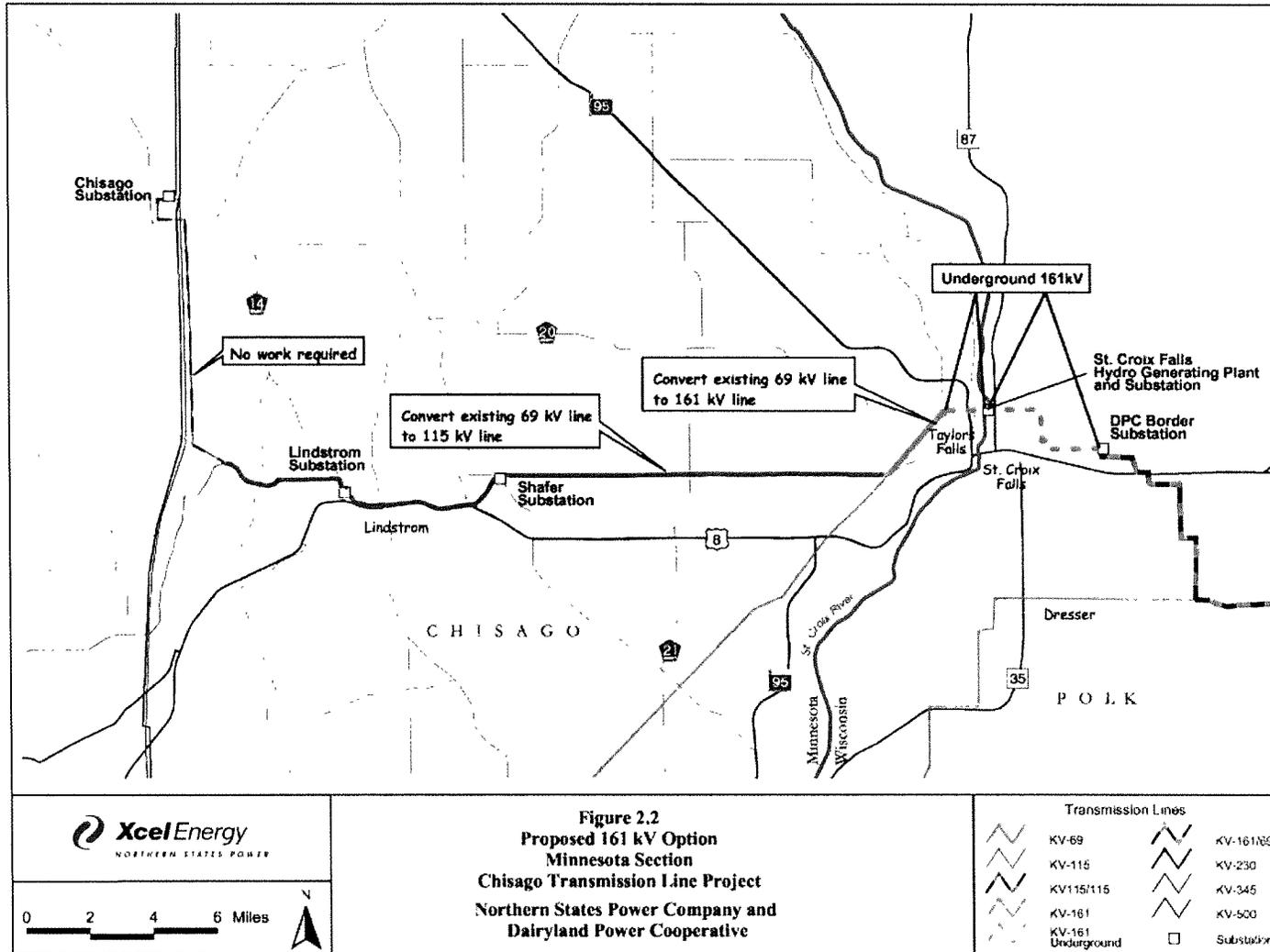
Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy (“Xcel Energy”) and Dairyland Power Cooperative (“Dairyland”) filed, with the Public Utilities Commission, an application for a Certificate of Need for a new transmission line between Chisago County Substation near North Branch, Minnesota and Apple River Substation near Amery, Wisconsin.

The line is needed to maintain reliable service to customers in parts of southern Chisago County, northern Washington County, Ramsey County and Polk County, Wisconsin.

Xcel Energy and Dairyland propose to replace an existing 69 kV transmission line that generally follows the State Highway 8 corridor from Lindstrom to Taylors Falls. A map depicting our proposal is included on the reverse of this summary.

Copies of the application can be obtained from the Xcel Energy web site at www.xcelenergy.com.

If you have questions concerning our filing you can contact James Alders at james.r.alders@xcelenergy.com or at 612 330-6732.



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

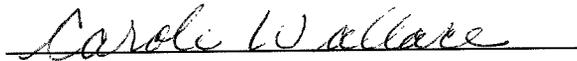
I, Carole, hereby certify that I have this day served copies or summaries of the foregoing document on the attached list of persons by delivery by hand or by causing to be placed in the U.S. mail at Minneapolis, Minnesota.

DOCKET NO. E002/CN-04-1176

**APPLICATION OF XCEL ENERGY & DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE FOR A
CERTIFICATE OF NEED:**

**115/161 kV TRANSMISSION LINE BETWEEN CHISAGO COUNTY SUBSTATION NEAR
NORTH BRANCH, MN AND APPLE RIVER SUBSTATION NEAR AMERY,
WISCONSIN**

Dated this 16th day of November 2006

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Carole Wallace", is written over a horizontal line.