



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

June 1, 2011

—VIA U.S. MAIL & ELECTRONIC FILING—

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

Sherrie Flaherty
Environmental Health Supervisor
Radiation Control Unit
Health Department
625 Robert Street North
P.O. Box 64975
St Paul, MN 55164-0975

Victoria Winfrey, Tribal Council
President
Prairie Island Indian Community
3838 Island Boulevard
Welch, MN 55089

Mayor Dennis Egan
City of Red Wing
315 West 4th Street
Red Wing, MN 55066

RE: COMPLIANCE FILING
WELL MONITORING REPORT – FIRST QUARTER 2011
DOCKET NO. E002/GS-08-690

Dear Dr. Haar, Mayor Egan, President Winfrey and Ms. Flaherty:

Pursuant to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's (the "Commission") Order dated December 18, 2009 ("Order"), in Docket No. E002/GS-08-690, Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation ("Xcel Energy" or the "Company") submits the attached tritium monitoring report for its first quarter 2011 findings.

As specified by the Commission's Order at Section 5B-b, Xcel Energy is to:

"b. Provide detailed written reports to the Community and the city of Red Wing, as well as the Minnesota Department of Health, every three months, which will include well monitoring information in and around the plant, as well as

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summarize material information discovered as it implements and maintains each discrete subpart of the groundwater protection initiative.”

First Quarter 2011 Sampling Results

Program findings for January, February and March 2011 are included in the attached tables, presented in a 24-month revolving format, and they reveal no unusual or above normal findings when compared to past data.

No material information was discovered through our on-going participation in the nuclear industry’s groundwater protection initiative since the Fourth Quarter 2010 Well Monitoring Report was filed on March 1, 2011. Also, as we reported previously, we began testing additional locations as part of the Nuclear Energy Institute’s initiative. In the current filing we include a new septic tank water sample point (Warehouse Septic), which is located on the plant site. Samples were obtained in February and March, and the results are included in Table 3.

On-going Investigation Update

Our previous Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program (“REMP”) reports identified two potential contributors to the fluctuating tritium levels in well P-10: the radioactive waste discharge line and the discharge of turbine building sump water into the landlocked area. The discharge line was replaced in 1992, and we discontinued discharging into the landlocked area in 2009. As we have continued to investigate the fluctuating levels in well P-10, we have identified a potential third tritium source. We briefly mentioned this discovery in our recent (May 15, 2011) REMP filing with the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

During the 1977/1978 heating season, there was a condensate leak in a heating system that was upgradient from well P-10. We are investigating this incident as a possible contribution to the fluctuating tritium level in well P-10.

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Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter in more detail,
please feel free to contact me at 612-330-5641 or by email at
brian.r.zelenak@xcelenergy.com.

Sincerely,

/s/

Brian R. Zelenak
Manager, Regulatory Administration

Enclosures

cc: Pam Gorman
Service List

**Table 1: Onsite Wells
April 2009 – March 2010**

	SAMPLE DATES	APR 2009	MAY 2009	JUN 2009	JUL 2009	AUG 2009	SEP 2009	OCT 2009	NOV 2009	DEC 2009	JAN 2010	FEB 2010	MAR 2010
CODE	SAMPLE LOCATIONS	pCi/L											
P-10*	Sample well	428	445	544	432	226	455	686	219	178	252	172	212
MW-7*	Sample well	39	49	47	68	68	44	76	84	94	108	85	43
MW-8*	Sample well	542	476	453	474	438	298	287	264	248	321	336	304
P-5*	Sample well				77								
P-11*	Sample well				<19								
P-9	Plant well # 2			<161	23		<148			<153		<146	
P-2*	Sample well				30								
P-3*	Sample well				<19								
P-6*	Sample well				<19								
P-7*	Sample well				59								
PZ-1*	Sample well				<19								
PZ-2*	Sample well				<19								
PZ-4*	Sample well				22								
PZ-5*	Sample well				<19								
PZ-7*	Sample well				<19								
PZ-8*	Sample well				<19								
MW-4*	Sample well				<19								
MW-5*	Sample well				<19								
MW-6*	Sample well				47								
P-26	PITC well				<19								
P-30	Env. Lab well				22								
SW-3	CT pump				<19								
SW-4	New Admin				<19								
SW-5	Pln Scrns				24								

- Notes:
- * Gamma isotopic performed at Prairie Island Plant on 3000 mL sample in 2009; no radionuclides above Lower Level of Detection (“LLD”) were detected.
 - Shaded data is part of the annual Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program (“REMP”) reporting. Samples collected are tested to the LLD of 180 pCi/L. The value reported varies depending on laboratory conditions and protocols.
 - All other non-shaded data is from the Special Tritium Monitoring Program (Attachment E, of the REMP Report). Data for the Special Tritium Monitoring Program are tested to a LLD of 19 pCi/L.

**Table 1: Onsite Wells
April 2010 – March 2011**

	SAMPLE DATES	APR 2010	MAY 2010	JUN 2010	JUL 2010	AUG 2010	SEP 2010	OCT 2010	NOV 2010	DEC 2010	JAN 2011	FEB 2011	MAR 2011
CODE	SAMPLE LOCATIONS	pCi/L											
P-10*	Sample well	222	370	293	606	290	337	2980	2526	388	148	82	66
MW-7*	Sample well	61	68	52	54	41	46	70	56	50	43	54	40
MW-8*	Sample well	436	253	260	231	233	181	299	297	201	250	269	283
P-5*	Sample well	68			54		85		57				
P-11*	Sample well				27								
P-9	Plant well # 2		<151		41	<154				<146		<148	
P-2*	Sample well	42			48		50		72				
P-3*	Sample well	22			24		33		55				
P-6*	Sample well	26			<19		41						
P-7*	Sample well				30				88				
PZ-1*	Sample well				32								
PZ-2*	Sample well				46								
PZ-4*	Sample well				30								
PZ-5*	Sample well				<19				36				
PZ-7*	Sample well	38			38								
PZ-8*	Sample well	21			31		117						
MW-4*	Sample well	55			25		20		60				
MW-5*	Sample well	37			31		<19		32				
MW-6*	Sample well				28								
P-26	PITC well				<19								
P-30	Env. lab well				<19								
SW-3	CT pump				<19								
SW-4	New Admin				<19								
SW-5	Pln Scrns				34								

- Notes: - * Gamma isotopic performed at Prairie Island Plant on 3000 mL sample in 2009: no radionuclides above Lower Level of Detection (“LLD”) were detected.
- Shaded data is part of the annual Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program (“REMP”) reporting. Samples collected are tested to the LLD of 180 pCi/L. The value reported varies depending on laboratory conditions and protocols.
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**Table 2: Offsite Wells
April 2009 – March 2010**

	SAMPLE DATES	APR 2009	MAY 2009	JUN 2009	JUL 2009	AUG 2009	SEP 2009	OCT 2009	NOV 2009	DEC 2009	JAN 2010	FEB 2010	MAR 2010
CODE	SAMPLE LOCATIONS	pCi/L	pCi/L	pCi/L	pCi/L	pCi/L	pCi/L	pCi/L	pCi/L	pCi/L	pCi/L	pCi/L	pCi/L
P-43	Peterson Farm(Control)	<19	27	<19 <161	21	<19	56 <148	36	<19	<19 <153	<19	<147 <19	<19
SW-1	Hanson Farm (Control)	<19	24	<19	<19	<19	<19	<19	<19	<19	<19	<19	<19
P-24	Suter residence	<19		<157	24		<148	38		<153	<19	<146	
P-8	PI Comm. Well			<157	<19		<148			<153		<146	
REMP P-6	Lock & Dam #3 well			<157	<19		<148			<153		<146	
REMP P-11	RW Drinking water			<148			<152			<155			<144
PIIC-02	2077 Other Day Rd				<19								
PIIC-03 ¥	6096 Whipple Way												
PIIC-19 ¥	6372 Sturgeon Lake Rd												
PIIC-20	2158 Holmquist Rd				<19								
PIIC-22	1773 Buffalo Slough Rd				51								
PIIC-23	2.7 miles NW of plant				<19								
PIIC-24 ¥	6424 Sturgeon Lake Rd												
PIIC-26	1771 Buffalo Slough Rd				29								
PIIC-28	1960 Larson Lane				<19								
SW-2‡	STA House												

- Notes:
- ‡ Sampling was not performed at this location in 2008 and 2009 because well was dry.
 - Shaded data is part of the annual Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program (“REMP”) reporting. Samples collected are tested to the Lower Level of Detection (“LLD”) of 180 pCi/L. The value reported varies depending on laboratory conditions and protocols.
 - All other non-shaded data is from the Special Tritium Monitoring Program (Attachment E, of the REMP Report). Data for the Special Tritium Monitoring Program are tested to a LLD of 19 pCi/L.
 - ¥ Each year we work with the Prairie Island Indian Community's Water/Wastewater Department to identify wells that they will collect water from for our tritium sampling program. In 2010, three additional Community wells were included on their sampling list.
 - * Denotes snow samples.

**Table 2: Offsite Wells
April 2010 – March 2011**

	SAMPLE DATES	APR 2010	MAY 2010	JUN 2010	JUL 2010	AUG 2010	SEP 2010	OCT 2010	NOV 2010	DEC 2010	JAN 2011	FEB 2011	MAR 2011
CODE	SAMPLE LOCATIONS	pCi/L											
P-43	Peterson Farm(Control)	<19	<151 <19	<19	<19	<154 <19	<19	<19	<19	<146 <19	43* <19	<148 22	23
SW-1	Hanson Farm (Control)	<19	<19	<19	<19	<19	<19	<19	<19	<19	<19	<19	<19
P-24	Suter residence	<19	<151	<19	<19	<154	<19	<19	<19	<146	38	<148 <19	
P-8	PI Comm. Well		<151		<19	<154 <19				<146		<148	
REMP P-6	Lock & Dam #3 well		<151	<19	<19	<154				<146		<148	
REMP P-11	RW Drinking water			<157			<159			<145			<142
PIIC-02	2077 Other Day Rd					<19							
PIIC-03 ¥	6096 Whipple Way					<19							
PIIC-19 ¥	6372 Sturgeon Lake Rd					<19							
PIIC-20	2158 Holmquist Rd					<19							
PIIC-22	1773 Buffalo Slough Rd					22							
PIIC-23	2.7 miles NW of plant					31							
PIIC-24 ¥	6424 Sturgeon Lake Rd					<19							
PIIC-26	1771 Buffalo Slough Rd					32							
PIIC-28	1960 Larson Lane					<19							
SW-2‡	STA House												

- Notes:
- ‡ Sampling was not performed at this location in 2008 and 2009 because well was dry.
 - Shaded data is part of the annual Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program (“REMP”) reporting. Samples collected are tested to the Lower Level of Detection (“LLD”) of 180 pCi/L. The value reported varies depending on laboratory conditions and protocols.
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 - ¥ Each year we work with the Prairie Island Indian Community's Water/Wastewater Department to identify wells that they will collect water from for our tritium sampling program. In 2010, three additional Community wells were included on their sampling list.
 - * Denotes snow samples.

**Table 3: On-Site and Off Site Surface Water & On-Site Storage Tanks
April 2009 – March 2010**

	SAMPLE DATES	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR
		2009	2009	2009	2008	2008	2008	2009	2009	2009	2010	2010	2010
CODE	SAMPLE LOCATIONS	pCi/L											
S-6	Storm Water Runoff		515				56				125*		
S-7**	Parking Lot Runoff		48				187				46*		
S-1	Mississippi River upstream				32								
S-2	Recirculation/Intake canal				42								
S-3	Cooling water canal				23								
S-4	Discharge Canal (end)				34								
S-5	Discharge Canal (midway)				<19								
S-8 **	P-10 area snow										46		
S-9 **	MW-7/8 area snow										66		
REMP P-5	Mississippi River Upstream			<147			<152			<155			<151
REMP P-6	Mississippi River Downstream			<147			<152			<155			<151
P-31	Birch Lake Seepage 1												
Septic System	Storage tank	36		156	74	215	320	121	98	61	48	93	69
Warehouse Septic**	Storage tank												
11 CST	Storage tank		<19				31						
21 CST	Storage tank		<19				46						
22 CST	Storage tank		<19				20						
U1/U2† Demin Header	Storage tank		<19				<19						

- Notes: - * Denotes snow samples.
 - ** Denotes newly established sampling area: May 2009 for S-7; early 2010; S-8, S-9 & P-31 and early 2011 Warehouse Septic. Established as part of the NEI GPI.
 - *** Sampling for the Septic System location was not obtained in May 2010 and should be noted that this monitoring point is not required.
 - † Deleted U2 sample area in 2009 because it comes from the same sample source as U1.

**Table 3: On-Site and Off Site Surface Water & On-Site Storage Tanks
April 2010 – March 2011**

	SAMPLE DATES	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR
		2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2011	2011	2011
CODE	SAMPLE LOCATIONS	pCi/L											
ON-SITE & OFF-SITE SURFACE WATER													
S-6	Storm Water Runoff		29				97				132*		
S-7**	Parking Lot Runoff		<19				23				249*		
S-1	Mississippi River upstream				<19								
S-2	Recirculation/Intake canal				<19								
S-3	Cooling water canal				23								
S-4	Discharge Canal (end)				35								
S-5	Discharge Canal (midway)				<19								
S-8 **	P-10 area snow										101*		
S-9 **	MW-7/8 area snow										302*		
REMP P-5	Mississippi River Upstream			<182			<159			<145			<142
REMP P-6	Mississippi River Downstream			<182			230			<145			<142
P-31	Birch Lake Seepage 1			<19			<19						
ONSITE STORAGE TANKS													
Septic System	Storage tank	178	***	112	116	89	76	109	55	61	62	79	80
Warehouse Septic**	Storage tank											62	42
11 CST	Storage tank		<19				30						
21 CST	Storage tank		<19				<19						
22 CST	Storage tank			20			26						
U1/U2† Demin Header	Storage tank		<19				<19						

- Notes: - * Denotes snow samples.
 - ** Denotes newly established sampling area: May 2009 for S-7; early 2010; S-8, S-9 & P-31 and early 2011 Warehouse Septic. Established as part of the NEI GPI.
 - *** Sampling for the Septic System location was not obtained in May 2010 and should be noted that this monitoring point is not required.
 - † Deleted U2 sample area in 2009 because it comes from the same sample source as U1.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Lindsey L. Didion, hereby certify that I have this day served copies of the foregoing document or a summary thereof on the attached lists of persons:

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

xx via electronic filing

DOCKET No. E002/M-08-690

Dated this 1st day of June, 2011

/s/

Lindsey L. Didion

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