



April 24, 2009

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

**RE: Application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for a Route Permit for the Hiawatha Project
MPUC Docket No. E002/TL-09-38**

Dear Dr. Haar:

Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation (“Xcel Energy” or “the Applicant”) are electronically filing an application for a route permit (“Application”) for the Hiawatha Project (“the Project”). The Application is made pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 216E and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7849.

The Project consists of two new 115 kilovolt (“kV”) transmission lines, approximately 1.40 miles long, that would connect two proposed distribution substations that would tap the existing Elliot Park – Southtown 115 kV transmission line in south Minneapolis, in an area known as the Midtown District.

The submission consists of the body of the Application and associated appendices, 9 files in total, as follows:

Cover Letter – 1 file
Application, Main Body – 1 file
Appendices: Appendix A-B.8 – 1 file
Appendix B.9-C – 1 file
Appendix D Introduction-D.2 – 1 file
Appendix D.3 – 2 files
Appendix D.4-F - 1 file
Appendix G-J – 1 file

The application fee is being sent separately to the Department of Commerce Office of Energy Security (“OES”). Per the request of the OES, Xcel Energy is providing the OES with 35 hard copies and 35 CD copies of the Application. Xcel Energy will also be submitting 2 hard copies and 2 CD copies of the Application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

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Within 15 days of this filing, Xcel Energy will publish and mail notices of the filing of the Application in compliance with Minnesota Statutes Section 216E.03 and Minnesota Rule 7849.5240.

Please contact RaeLynn Asah at 612-330-6512 or raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com if you have any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,



Pamela J. Rasmussen
Xcel Energy
1414 W. Hamilton Avenue
P.O. Box 8
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54702-0008

Enclosure

cc: Department of Commerce Office of Energy Security