

STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
FOR THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application of
Northern States Power Company d/b/a
Xcel Energy for Certificates of Need for
Four Large High Voltage Transmission
Line Projects in Southwestern Minnesota

SIXTH PREHEARING ORDER

Xcel Energy filed a Motion to Reconsider Ruling Precluding Admission of Evidence Relating to Option 1H and Memorandum on May 20, 2002. The Izaak Walton League of America and the Sierra Club moved to strike portions of the Prefiled Supplemental Testimony of Richard Gonzalez dated May 24, 2002. Both motions were argued on May 29, 2002. Appearances on behalf of each party are on file.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Xcel Energy's Motion to Reconsider is GRANTED.
2. The Motion to Strike portions of the Prefiled Supplemental Testimony of Richard Gonzalez is GRANTED IN PART. The following lines are struck:

Page 8, line 4, beginning "As is..." through Page 9, line 7.

Page 11, line 7, beginning "If the..." through Page 13, line 6.
3. The parties shall submit any additional requests for data to Xcel Energy by June 7, 2002.
4. Xcel Energy shall respond to any requests for data by June 13, 2002.
5. A prehearing conference will be held on June 18, 2002 at 1:30 p.m. at the Public Utilities Commission, Small Hearing Room. At that time, any data disputes will be addressed and the hearing schedule, including the schedule of witnesses, will be set.
6. The Department of Commerce shall prefile any rebuttal testimony to Mr. Gonzalez's Supplemental Testimony dated May 24, 2002 by June 19, 2002. Any other parties who intend to rebut Mr. Gonzalez's Supplemental Testimony shall also prefile any rebuttal testimony by June 19, 2002, or request an alternative schedule at the prehearing conference.

7. The hearing will reconvene at 9:00 a.m. on June 24, 2002 at the Centennial Building, Room 302, St. Paul, MN. The hearing shall continue at the same location each day that week until the hearing is completed.

Dated this 6th day of June, 2002.

BEVERLY JONES HEYDINGER
Administrative Law Judge