



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401-1993

October 15, 2009

--Via Electronic Filing--

Patricia Van Gerpen
Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
Capitol Building, 1st Floor
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: LETTER IN LIEU OF INITIAL BRIEF
CONSIDERATION OF THE NEW PURPA STANDARDS
DOCKET NO. EL08-028

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation operating in South Dakota ("Xcel Energy" or the "Company"), has reviewed the testimony submitted by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") staff and other parties in the above-entitled proceeding and provides this brief letter in lieu of an Initial Brief.

We appreciate the time and effort invested by the Commission and its staff in reviewing the new PURPA standards proposed for state consideration in the Federal 2007 Energy Independence and Security Act. We would like to thank the Commission for considering Xcel Energy's input in testimony and at hearing. At this time, we have no additional comments regarding the new PURPA standards, but look forward to the final recommendations made by the Commission.

Please contact me at (605) 339-8350 if you require any additional information.

SINCERELY,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Wilcox'.

JAMES C. WILCOX
Manager, Government & Regulatory Affairs

ENCLOSURES