

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2011 2:28 PM  
**To:** Nelson, Chris  
**Subject:** Xcel Rate Increase

Dear Mr. Nelson, As an Xcel customer I am very concerned about the recent petition to the PUC for an increase in rates by Xcel Energy. As you know, Xcel was given a rate hike in 2009. Although the reasons given for the rate increase may be compelling, the current state of our economy makes this an extremely bad time for ANY increases. We are having a tough time paying for the services we currently have and are forced with many hard decisions to make every day. Please consider this in your decision concerning this matter. Perhaps sometime in the future when the economy turns for the better a rate hike would be easier for us in the middle class to absorb. Now is not the time for this. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely, Mark S. Marcotte