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South Dakota

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May 8, 2012

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

*Re: In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for
Authority to Increase its Electric Rates
Docket EL11-019*

Ms. Van Gerpen:

Attached for filing please find the following:

- ◆ Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation;
- ◆ Settlement Stipulation;
- ◆ Staff Memorandum; and
- ◆ Certificate of Service.

By copy of this correspondence, the foregoing is being served upon persons identified in the Commission's service list, this being intended as service by electronic mail. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Karen E. Cremer

Karen E. Cremer
Staff Attorney