



Jim Wilcox, Manager,
Government & Regulatory Affairs
500 West Russell Street
P.O. Box 988
Sioux Falls, SD 57101-0988
Telephone (605) 339-8350 fax 612/573-9083
internet - james.c.wilcox@xcelenergy.com

August 16, 2011

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen, Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
State Capitol Building
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

RE: PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF A CREDIT MECHANISM FOR A DOE
SETTLEMENT PAYMENT WITH DEFERRED ACCOUNTING
DOCKET NO. EL-11-_____

Dear Ms Van Gerpen:

Enclosed please find the Petition of Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation (“Xcel Energy” or the “Company”), operating in South Dakota, requesting approval of a credit mechanism for funds received from a Settlement (“Settlement”) with the United States Department of Energy (“DOE”) for DOE’s partial breach of its contract to begin accepting spent nuclear fuel on or before January 31, 1998.

As described in our July 8, 2011, letter, the Company recently reached the Settlement. The recovered Settlement funds will be credited to benefit our customers.

You may direct any questions regarding this Petition to myself at 339-8350 or Kari Valley (612) 215-4526.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'J Wilcox'.

Jim Wilcox