

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY
D/B/A XCEL ENERGY FOR APPROVAL OF
ITS 2011-2012 TRANSMISSION COST
RECOVERY ELIGIBILITY AND RATE
ADJUSTMENT**

**Joint Motion for Approval of
Settlement Stipulation**

EL12-035

Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy ("Xcel"), and the Staff of South Dakota Public Utilities Commission ("Commission Staff"), collectively referred to as Parties, hereby file this joint motion asking the Commission to approve the Settlement Stipulation attached hereto. In support of this Motion, the Parties submit as follows:

1. This Motion is made pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:19.
2. If approved, the Parties mean for said Settlement Stipulation to resolve all issues in Docket No. EL12-035.
3. The Settlement Stipulation represents a negotiated settlement of specific issues in this case. The terms of the Settlement Stipulation agreed upon are, to the belief of the Parties, just, fair, reasonable, and consistent with South Dakota law.

For the foregoing reasons, the undersigned parties jointly request the Commission to adopt the attached Settlement Stipulation without modification for the purpose of resolving all issues in Docket No. EL12-035.

South Dakota Public Utilities

Northern States Power Company d/b/a

Commission Staff

Xcel Energy

By: Ryan Saye (Print)
[Signature] (Sign)

By: Laura McCarten (Print)
[Signature] (Sign)

Title: Special Assistant Attorney General

Title: Regional Vice President

Date: 08/07/12

Date: August 7, 2012