

- Non Public Document – Contains Trade Secret Data
 Public Document – Trade Secret Data Excised
 Public Document

Xcel Energy
Docket No.: EL12-046
Response To: South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
Requestor: Data Request No. 2-13
Date Received: July 30, 2012

Question:

Referring to the Sherco Unit 3 Cooling Tower adjustment:

- a) Please provide copies of work order authorizations.
- b) Provide a statement of status for the project, i.e., actual expenditures and projected expenditures by month, expected in-service date, etc.
- c) Please provide revised PF27 work papers to reflect actual costs incurred.

Response:

- a) See Attachment A to this response.
 - b) Actual costs and projected expenditures are included in the updated work paper PF27-5 included as Attachment B. Expected in-service date is January 1, 2013.
 - c) Please see Attachment B to this response for updated work papers PF27-1 through PF27-6, which reflects actual project costs through June, 2012.
-

Preparer: Russell C. Girtz \ Thomas E. Kramer
Title: Project Manager \ Principal Rate Analyst
Department: ES Plant Projects Sherco \ Revenue Requirements – North
Telephone: 763-261-3509 \ 612-330-5866
Date: August 16, 2012

PROJECT OVERVIEW

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Plant Project Num | SHC--11443 | Project Name | Replace U3 Cooling Tower |
| Plant Name | Sherco | Plant Contact | Dave Lien |
| Operating Company | NSP Minnesota | System | Cooling Tower |
| Unit | 3 | Sub-System | Structure |
| JDE Parent Num | 11487992 | Project Initiator | Russell Girtz |
| | | Project Lead | Russell Girtz |

PROJECT CRITERIA

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Project Priority | Urgent, Extreme Risk or Imm | Category | Environmental Excellence |
| Outage Requirement | NA | Sub Category | Reduce Potential for Environmental Incidents |
| Wind Integration | No | PCA | Red |
| | | Env Code | Other |
| | | leat Rate Improv | 0 |
| | | CO2 Reduc | 0 |

PROJECT DATES

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|-------------------|--------|------------------------|----------|-------------------|---------|
| Date Submitted | 11/17/11 | Start Date | 4/2/12 | In Service Date | 12/14/12 | Close Date | 3/20/13 |
|-----------------------|----------|-------------------|--------|------------------------|----------|-------------------|---------|

ESTIMATE

Yearly Breakdown - Dollars in Thousands

| Year | Total | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 2012 | \$23,883 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$263 | \$315 | \$365 | \$1,950 | \$4,115 | \$5,925 | \$4,575 | \$4,100 | \$2,275 |
| 2013 | \$115 | \$60 | \$40 | \$15 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Totals | \$23,998 | \$60 | \$40 | \$15 | \$263 | \$315 | \$365 | \$1,950 | \$4,115 | \$5,925 | \$4,575 | \$4,100 | \$2,275 |

PROJECT FORMS

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|------------------|---------|-------------------------------|-----|
| AMC Form Status | Complete | AMC Date | 6/15/12 | | |
| NSR Form Status | In Progress | NSR Date | 6/15/12 | | |
| CIP Form Status | Complete | CIP Date | 6/15/12 | | |
| FERC Form Status | Complete | FERC Date | 6/15/12 | PVRR "Do" Case (\$) | \$0 |
| PVRR Form Status | Missing | PVRR Date | | PVRR "Don't" Case (\$) | \$0 |

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Description | SHC2010 - Replace Unit 3 Cooling Towers. Replace with FRP construction to restore original design capability and eliminate the risk of collapse. |
| Justification | Cooling Towers reaching end of predicted life. The long outage expected for the repair of the U3 turbine has had a severe impact on the expected life of the existing wood structure. The wood has now dried out and is weakened due to that fact and due to general wear over the life of the tower. |
| Alternatives | Do nothing. Risk of collapse due to U3 being out of service. |
| Capitalization Criteria | (From Corporate Capitalization Policy): Reconstruction Work Replace a complete unit FERC Account(s): For Electric Utility: 311, Structures and Improvements - Steam Production 314, Turbogenerator Units - Steam Production 323, Turbogenerator Units - Nuclear Production 343, Prime Movers - Other Production |

- Non Public Document – Contains Trade Secret Data**
 Public Document – Trade Secret Data Excised
 Public Document

Xcel Energy

Docket No.: EL12-046

Response To: SDPUC

Data Request No.

Requestor: South Dakota Public
Utilities Commission

8-1

Date Received: September 12, 2012

Question:

Please refer to the Company's response to DR 2-12 and DR 2-13.

In response to DR 2-12 (b), the Company indicated that it planned to have Sherco 3 online by March 2013. In response to DR 2-13 (b), the Company indicated that it planned to place the cooling towers in service on January 1, 2013. Please explain how the cooling towers can be considered in service if the unit is not online.

Response:

The construction on the cooling towers will be complete in approximately December 2012. Initial commissioning and testing of the cooling towers will occur in December/January. The cooling towers will thus be "ready for service" in December/January and will be available for full operation when the entire Unit 3 is ready to run which is currently planned for March 2013.

Please see Attachment A for revised work papers PF27-1 through PF27-6 that reflect a March 2013 in service date for the Sherco 3 cooling towers consistent with the expected return of the unit.

Preparer: Russell C. Girtz \ Thomas E. Kramer

Title: Project Manager \ Principal Rate Analyst

Department: ES Plant Projects Sherco \ Revenue Requirements – North

Telephone: 763-261-3509 \ 612-330-5866

Date: September 25, 2012