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Xcel Energy

Docket No.: EL13-008

Response To: SDPUC

Data Request No.

Requestor: Darren Kearney

1-1

Date Received: April 3, 2013

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Question:

1-1) Were any of the expenses in 2012 spent on lobbying?

Response:

No. I have inquired with all of the economic development organizations we are invested with and none of them utilize any of our economic development monies for lobbying purposes. All of the money we invest with these economic development organizations are utilized for economic development purposes.

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Preparer: Jim Wilcox

Title: Manager

Department: Xcel Energy - SD

Telephone: 605 / 339 - 8350

Date: April 25, 2013

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Question:

1-2) What method does Xcel Energy use for measuring and monitoring the effectiveness of the dollars spent on economic development activities?

Response:

There are a limited number of economic development organizations within the Xcel Energy territory. We work to connect with all either by having employees serve on their boards or by being in direct contact with the staff of these organizations. We certainly review the annual reports of each of the organizations that we contribute to and seek to ensure that these organizations are still relevant and pursuing relevant economic development efforts.

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Question:

1-3) When making one-time donations (i.e. not funding routine membership dues to various chambers and associations), how does Xcel Energy determine what organizations/projects to fund and the potential economic benefit that may result from funding those organizations/projects?

Response:

Economic development organizations in the communities that Xcel Energy is privileged to serve, know that we have a limited amount of economic development funding available each year. We work to rotate among the communities we serve and provide funding for projects that have economic development relevancy which we hope will help to enable the towns to pursue growth and prosperity.

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Question:

1-4) For expenses that only had invoices filed to document that the transactions occurred, please confirm that all those invoices were paid in full.

Response:

In several cases we submitted a check request and had the check directly mailed to the organization, thus we did not see or keep a copy of the paper check.

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Question:

1-5) For projects that are currently in the fundraising phase (e.g. Alexandria City Library), what measures are in place to funnel those dollars toward economic development activities should a project not go forward due to not being able to secure the overall funding needed to complete the project?

Response:

Should a project not occur, we are in close contact with representatives of those communities and those folks would likely find another worthy economic development effort where the funds might be directed.

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