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Xcel Energy

Case No.: EL14-016

Response To: South Dakota Public Utilities                      Data Request No.                      1-3  
Commission

Requestor: Kristin Edwards

Date Received: March 7, 2014

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Question:

Please provide an update on the Hollydale CON and Route applications pending approval by the MN PUC.

Response:

Both of these applications are still pending with the MN PUC. On December 10, 2013, the Company petitioned the MN PUC to allow for the withdrawal of the Certificate of Need and Route Permit applications for this project. In doing so, the Company stated that we believe the preferred route was problematic and that we needed additional time to develop better project and route alternatives. We further stated that:

*Withdrawal will allow time for the Applicants to work collaboratively with residents and other stakeholders on an infrastructure solution and route for this community. After this public outreach and broader acceptance of a solution is complete, we intend to seek the necessary regulatory approvals, which we believe, at this time, would involve submitting new Certificate of Need and Route Permit applications.*

The MN PUC has scheduled our request for withdrawal for consideration at its April 10, 2014 agenda meeting. The Company will supplement our response to this data request following that meeting.

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Date: March 21, 2014