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August 25, 2014

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

RE: APPLICATION OF NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF A  
SERVICE TERRITORY EXCEPTION AGREEMENT WITH SIOUX VALLEY ENERGY  
COOP. AND [REDACTED].  
DOCKET NO. EL14-\_\_\_

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, submits the enclosed petition to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission for approval of a service territory exception agreement with Sioux Valley Energy Cooperative.

In accordance with ARSD §§ 20:10:01:39 through 42, Xcel Energy respectfully requests confidential treatment of certain information contained in this filing. In compliance with ARSD § 20:10:01:41, we have clearly marked each page containing confidential information as "**CONFIDENTIAL**".

Pursuant to ARSD § 20:10:01:41, we provide the following information in support of our request:

- (1) We request confidential treatment of these listed documents in their entirety:  
Confidential petition cover letter dated August 25, 2014 including Exhibits B and C and the executed Service Territory Exception Agreement dated August 12, 2014.

The Company treats customer information as highly confidential information, and it is our policy and practice to not release customer names or addresses to the public.

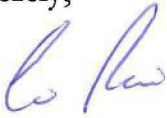
- (2) We request these documents be treated as confidential forever.
- (3) If you have questions regarding this request please contact:  
Kari Valley  
Assistant General Counsel  
Xcel Energy Services Inc.  
414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
(612) 215-4526
- (4) We request confidential treatment on the grounds that the material is confidential customer information. The information meets the definition of “proprietary information” under SDCL § 1-27-28, which is defined as “information on pricing, costs, revenue, taxes, market share, customers, and personnel held by private entities and used for that private entity’s business purposes.”
- (5) The noted documents qualify for confidential treatment because they contain proprietary business information which the Company does not disclose to the public. In addition, the Company treats customer information as highly confidential information, and it is our policy and practice to not release customer names or addresses to the public.

We request that communications regarding this Application be directed to:

Kari Valley  
Assistant General Counsel  
Xcel Energy Services Inc.  
414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
612-215-4526

SaGonna Thompson  
Records Analyst  
Xcel Energy Services Inc.  
414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
612-330-5532

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eric Pauli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Eric" and last name "Pauli" clearly distinguishable.

ERIC PAULI  
MANAGER OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Enclosures