

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

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

**ORDER ASSESSING
FILING FEE AND SUSPENDING
OPERATION OF RATE
SCHEDULE**

EL12-035

On April 30, 2012, Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy (Xcel) filed with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) a Petition for Transmission Cost Recovery (Petition). The Petition requests Commission approval of its 2011-2012 Transmission Cost Recovery Rider (TCR), Adjustment Factor, and Tracker Account report. The Petition is intended to replace Xcel's petition filed in Docket EL10-014. Xcel is resubmitting its TCR Petition as a 2011-2012 consolidated filing because of cost allocation issues pertaining to regional transmission projects and the Commission's decision in Docket EL10-015.

On May 3, 2012, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of May 18, 2012, to interested persons. No petitions to intervene were filed. The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1A and 49-34A.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on May 22, 2012, the Commission considered this matter. Commission Staff requested that the Commission assess a filing fee of up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) as authorized by SDCL 49-1A-8 to defray expenses incident to analyzing and ruling upon this type of filing and suspend the imposition of the rate pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-14. The Commission voted unanimously to assess a filing fee for actual expenses incurred in the review of this filing up to the statutory limit of \$50,000.00 and to suspend the operation of the schedule of rates proposed by Xcel Energy for a period not to exceed one hundred and eighty (180) days. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Xcel Energy shall be assessed a filing fee for actual expenses not to exceed \$50,000 pursuant to SDCL 49-1A-8. It is further

ORDERED, that the proposed schedule of rates shall be suspended for a period not to exceed 180 days from the date of filing pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-14.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 24th day of May, 2012.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically.

By: Joy King

Date: May 24, 2012

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner