

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA,

ss.

County of Brookings

Christopher J. Schumacher, being first duly sworn, on oath says that he is the publisher of the Elkton Record, a weekly newspaper published in Elkton, said County of Brookings, and has full personal knowledge of all the facts herein stated; that said newspaper is a legal newspaper and has a bona-fide circulation of at least two hundred copies weekly, and has been published within said county for fifty-one successive weeks next prior to the publication of the notice herein mentioned, and was and is printed wholly or in part in an office maintained at said place of publication; that the

SD Public
Utilities Comm.

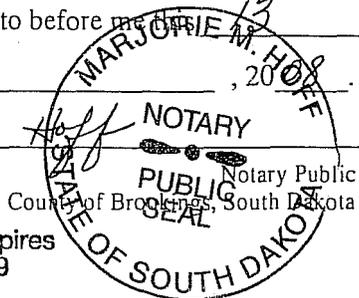
Legal Bar # 43005, a printed copy of which, taken from the paper in which the same was published, is attached to this sheet, and is made a part of this affidavit, was published in said newspaper at least once in each week for one successive weeks, on the day of each week on which said newspaper was regularly published to wit:

Mar 13, 2008; _____, 20 _____
_____, 20 _____; _____, 20 _____
_____, 20 _____; _____, 20 _____
_____, 20 _____; _____, 20 _____
_____, 20 _____; _____, 20 _____

that the full amount of the fees for the publication of the annexed notice is \$ 165.00

Subscribed and sworn to before me on the 13 day of March, 2008.

Margorie M. Hoff
NOTARY PUBLIC
Notary Public
County of Brookings, South Dakota



My Commission Expires August 18, 2009

RECEIVED
MAR 17 2008

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

WHAT: Xcel Energy Transmission Line Project, Br
WHEN: Monday, March 10, 2008, at 12:15 p.m.
WHERE: McKnight Community Center, 300 West 1

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15 and 49-41B-16, the S Commission (Commission) will hold a public input hearing on an application filed by Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy (Xcel) for a Facility Permit to construct a new 6.5 mile 115 kV transmission line from the Brookings County Substation to accommodate the new project which connects the Brookings County Substation northwest of Lake Benton, Minnesota.

At the hearing, Xcel will present a brief description of interested persons may appear and present their questions regarding the application. Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-14 in the Brookings County Auditor's office and in the Commission's web site at www.puc.sd.gov under Comr Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2008 Electric Dockets, EL08

The parties to this proceeding are currently Xcel and SDCL 49-41B-17, any person residing in the area of the county, and governmental agency in the project area formed in whole or in part to promote conservation of environment, personal health or other biological values to promote consumer interests, to represent commercial promote the orderly development of the project area, or be granted formal party status in this proceeding by mail Commission as provided in ARSD 20-10-22.40 on or before 2008

Following the public input hearing, the Commission may subsequent formal evidentiary hearings conforming to SDCL any issues raised by any intervening party, Commission itself. At such formal hearing, all parties will have the right to present evidence and cross-examine the other parties with rights afforded by SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1 and 49-4 20-10-22. Absent a contested issue, the Commission decision at a regular or special meeting of the Commission

For approval, Xcel must show that the proposed transmission line will comply with all applicable laws and rules, will not pose a threat to the environment, nor to the social and economic conditions of the inhabitants in the siting area, will not substantially impair the region with due consideration having been given to the affected local units of government. Broo