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August 12, 2016

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

—Via Efile—

RE: 2016-2030 UPPER MIDWEST RESOURCE PLAN – REPLY COMMENTS  
EL09-009 RATE CASE STIPULATION #3  
REPORTING OF RESOURCE PLAN COMPLIANCE

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Xcel Energy provides the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission the enclosed Reply to the July 8, 2016 Comments received on the Company's 2016-2030 Upper Midwest Resource Plan (IRP) as filed with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for the Northern States Power Company System (South Dakota, Minnesota, Michigan, North Dakota, and Wisconsin) on January 2, 2015 and supplemented March 16, 2015 and January 29, 2016. The Company is forwarding this Reply for informational purposes only. No formal action by the Commission is required.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at (605) 339-8350 or [James.C.Wilcox@xcelenergy.com](mailto:James.C.Wilcox@xcelenergy.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'J Wilcox'.

JIM WILCOX  
PRINCIPAL MANAGER  
GOVERNMENT AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

Enclosure