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Kristie Fiegen, Vice Chair
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South Dakota

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August 7, 2012

Patricia Van Gerpen
Executive Director
SD Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

Re: EL12-035 – 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

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

On April 30, 2012, the Commission received a petition from Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy (Xcel) requesting approval of its 2011-2012 Transmission Cost Recovery (TCR) rider. After extended negotiations on part of Xcel and Commission Staff, the parties have entered into a settlement stipulation. Please find the attached:

- 1) Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation
- 2) Executed Settlement Stipulation; and
- 3) Staff memo in support of settlement stipulation.

Xcel and Commission Staff request approval of these documents as resolution of all issues presented in Commission Docket EL12-035.

Sincerely,

Brittany Mehlhaff

Brittany Mehlhaff
Staff Analyst