

- Non Public Document – Contains Trade Secret Data**
 Public Document – Trade Secret Data Excised
 Public Document

Xcel Energy

Case No.: EL13-017

Response To: South Dakota Public Utilities Data Request No. 2-1
Commission

Requestor: Brian Rounds

Date Received: September 19, 2013

Question:

Please describe the extent to which the portfolio provides opportunities to all ratepayers.

Response:

The portfolio offers energy efficiency and load management programs to both our business and residential customer segments. All residential customers have the opportunity to learn more about energy conservation and get tips on how to reduce their home's usage through our consumer education program, which communicates with them through direct email campaigns, Xcel Energy's website, and at community events. Starting in 2014, the consumer education program plans to partner with MidAmerican Energy and the City of Sioux Falls to specifically encourage our residential customers to participate in a home energy audit to learn about their home's usage and identify improvements.

Residential customers looking to implement energy efficient improvements can take advantage of our Home Lighting, Ground Source Heat Pump, and Saver's Switch programs. Although the Ground Source Heat Pump program is limited to only those who use electricity as the primary heating and cooling source for their home, the Saver's Switch program is available to customers with a Central AC unit and the Home Lighting program is available to all residential customers.

Business customers can reduce their energy usage by updating their lighting with our Lighting Efficiency program (upon funds becoming available). In addition, most business customers have the ability to reduce their monthly bills by participating in either the Saver's Switch program or the Peak and Energy Control program.

The portfolio provides many opportunities for our customers to participate, but it also offers many benefits to our customer who choose not to participate, including a reduction in future capacity needs. The Total Resource Cost (TRC) ratio takes these benefits into account and compares it to the combined utility administration and participant capital investment costs of the demand-side management (DSM) portfolio. If the ratio of benefits to costs is above 1.0, it indicates that the DSM portfolio is a cost-effectiveness resource for both customers and the utility. As provided in our initial filing, the 2012 portfolio TRC was 2.55.

Witness:

Preparer: Kelsey Genung
Title: Senior Regulatory Analyst
Department: DSM Regulatory Strategy and Planning
Telephone: 612-337-2328
Date: October 11, 2013