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October 24, 2022

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

Re: Crowned Ridge II Wind Energy Facility  
Complaint Sound Monitoring Protocol  
Docket No. EL19-027

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Northern States Power Company doing business as Xcel Energy (“NSP”) hereby submits a Complaint Monitoring Protocol (“Protocol”) for Crowned Ridge II. The Protocol follows the methodology and conditions set forth in paragraph 26 of the Permit Conditions, as well as SDPUC staff guidance. NSP met with SDPUC staff and their acoustics expert David Hessler, October 18th, 2022, to discuss and finalize this Protocol.

A Post-Construction Noise Study (Post-Con Study) completed in June 2021 concluded that the Project was compliant with the Permit. Results of the Post-Con Study and ongoing noise complaints from the Project were discussed at the SDPUC meeting on August 30, 2022. At the meeting, Xcel agreed to the SDPUC’s request to perform a second noise study in the fall/ winter because residents felt that the Project was louder that time of year.

Pursuant to the attached Protocol, NSP will continuously monitor sound levels at the three complainant residences included in the Post-Con Study, for 14 days or more. Monitoring will be performed as described in the Protocol. NSP intends to begin sound monitoring on or around November 18th, 2022.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 605-339-8350.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Steve Kolbeck'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Steve Kolbeck

Enclosure

cc: Service List