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Xcel Energy Data Request No. 2-3  
Docket No.: EL21-014  
Response To: South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
Requestor: Brittany Mehlhaff  
Date Received: September 3, 2021

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Question:

Page 6 of the Company's application states that the Business Saver's Switch program had one control event in 2020.

- a) Provide the number of hours associated with the one control event.
- b) What load conditions would result in Xcel controlling customer rooftop air conditioning units for more than the one required MISO event per year? How close has Xcel come to reaching these conditions in the past 5 years?

Response:

- a) The control event lasted for two hours.
- b) Business Saver's Switch can be activated to reduce customer demand under different scenarios:
  1. If the Company is directed to do so by MISO to help maintain grid stability in the MISO territory as whole.
  2. If, in the Company's opinion, the reliability of system is endangered. The need can be identified by Commercial Operations, Transmission, or Distribution. Reliability of the system could mean many things and take different circumstances and is not tied to a specific level of demand. In general, if there is a large concern about meeting firm load obligations with expected capacity, the Company can call on these programs to preserve firm load and may call on these programs prior to the imminent loss of firm loads. In the past five years, the Company has only activated the program annually for test purposes. With a dynamic criteria for justification of a control event, it is not possible to quantify how many times we have been close in the past five years.
  3. For some of the Company's demand management programs, we do have the option to curtail for economic purposes. In the past five years we have not done so in South Dakota.

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