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Xcel Energy Data Request No. 1-7
Docket No.: EL23-028
Response To: South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
Requestor: Patrick Steffensen
Date Received: November 14, 2023

Question:

Explain how and when customers will see the benefit of decreased costs for Xcel’s monthly meter reads.

Response:

Deployment of the AMI meters will begin in Q1 2024 and conclude in 2025. Field Area Network (FAN) deployment precedes AMI meter deployment by approximately three to six months to ensure that there is a fully operational network for the meters to communicate with when they are installed. To support this, we began FAN installation in April 2023.

Monthly metering costs are part of the Company’s Operations and Management (O&M) budget. In our next rate case – which will be based on actuals, since it is a historical test year – the O&M costs will be part of the next revenue requirement. Until that rate case is approved, customers will continue to pay the pre-AMI meter reading cost. After approval, customers will pay the new, lower cost.

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