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Xcel Energy	Data Request No.	2-2
Docket No.:	EL25-020	
Response To:	South Dakota Public Utilities Commission	
Requestor:	Eric Paulson	
Date Received:	October 1, 2025	

Question:

Refer to DR1-14. What caused the significant increase in interruptions compared to previous years? Were they MISO required, or Xcel initiated interruptions?

Response:

MISO declared elevated system conditions on four occasions in the summer of 2025, two fewer than the six events recorded the prior year. Of last year's events, two were triggered by Geo-Magnetic Disturbances, while the remaining four were driven by extreme heat. This summer, all four events were attributed to extreme heat and increased forced outages across the MISO footprint.

Max Gen Events doubled compared to last summer, with the most significant escalation occurring on June 23 when MISO lost transfer capabilities, prompting a Max Gen Step 1 declaration. Additionally, MISO issued multiple Capacity Advisories and Hot Weather Alerts that did not escalate to elevated system conditions.

During many hours of these events, owing to those being prolonged, forced outages, NSP lacked sufficient resources to meet its load obligations and was a net buyer from the market. As a result, NSP activated interruptible load programs for the first time in many years.

MISO never called on the programs because the system never reached Max Gen EEA-2. These interruptions were all Xcel Energy initiated.

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