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Xcel Energy Data Request No. 8
Docket No.: EL25-20
Response To: South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
Requestor: Eric Paulson
Date Received: September 10, 2025

Question:

Refer to page 9 of the Petition filed on August 1st, on page 9 Xcel states that the cost for 6,000 switches are proposed to be recovered in base rates. Provide the total cost of these switches. Have any of these 6,000 switched been replaced? If not, when will replacement of these 6,000 switches start?

Response:

As discussed in Laurie J. Wold's testimony submitted to Docket EL25-024¹, and further detailed in Vol 3 IX K&M Adj 1. Capital Known & Measurable workpaper, the total plant additions for the Saver's Switch are \$2.2 million. This total includes all switches for both residential and commercial customers in 2026. The estimate for Residential Saver's Switch in 2026 is \$1.7 M.

None of the estimated 6,000 switches have been replaced; they are all switches which we generally refer to as first-generation technology operated by radio. If the costs are approved through the Electric Rate Case, replacement of these switches will begin in 2026.

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¹ *In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company for Authority to Increase Rates for Electric Service in South Dakota*, Docket EL25-024, Sch 10 Known & Measurable Capital Projects (June 30, 2025)