Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy
Information Request

Docket No.:	EL25-032 South Dakota Knife River	
Requestor:	Xcel Energy	
Requested From:	Sioux Valley Energy	
Analyst:	Steve Kolbeck	
Date of Request:	March 10, 2026	Data Request No. 1-3
Response Due:	March 24, 2026	

Question:
Ted Smith states in his rebuttal testimony that "a rough cost estimate of the construction of an on-site distribution system necessary for Knife River to receive electric service from Xcel Energy as currently proposed would range from approximately $1.2 to $1.5 Million dollars." Provide all facts that support, were relied upon, or assumed for this testimony.

Response:
Based on the information presented earlier in the request, the cost estimate was based on Knife River needing to install roughly 9,400 of three-phase medium voltage distribution line and install nine on-site distribution transformers along with all the necessary labor and miscellaneous equipment. The additional equipment needed would include, but not be limited to, sectionalizing enclosures, grounding equipment, cable terminations, lightning protection, subgrade equipment bases, switches, etc. Typically for a facility of that size with that amount of services there would also be switches to allow for portions of the facility to be taken offline without affecting other areas or in the event of a fault on the facilities the effect of the outage could be limited. An estimate for those switches is also included in the estimate. A breakdown of the estimated costs are as follows:

Approximately 9,400 ft of three-phase medium voltage underground distribution line
28,200 ft of cable @ $4/ft = $112,800
Trenching/Boring cable of 9,400 ft @ $10/ft = $94,000
Miscellaneous Equipment = $35,000
Total for medium voltage cable facilities = $241,800

Switchgear to provide overcurrent protection and switching capabilities
Total of three pad mounted switches @ $150,000/ea = **$450,000**

Transformers
1 – 1,500 kVA 480/277 V secondary for Service Point 1 @ **$75,000**
1 – 1,000 kVA 4,160/2,400 V secondary for Service Point 1 @ **$75,000**
1 – 500 kVA 480/277 V secondary for Service Point 2 @ **$31,000**
1 – 1,000 kVA 480/277 V secondary for Service Point 3 @ **$52,000**
1 – 1,500 kVA 480/277 V secondary for Service Point 4 @ **$75,000**
1 – 1,000 kVA 480/277 V secondary for Service Point 5 @ **$52,000**
1 – 2,500 kVA 4,160/2,400 V secondary for Service Point 5 @ **$77,000**
1 – 2,500 kVA 480/277V secondary for Service Point 6 @ **$97,000**
1 – 500 kVA 480/277 V secondary for Service Point 7 @ **$31,000**
Total Distribution Transformer Cost = $565,000

Total estimated cost of distribution facilities to service the plant
$1,256,800

20% additional estimate value to cover unknown design variances and material fluctuations based on timing = $251,360

Preparer:	Ted Smith
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Department:	Engineering/Operations
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Date:	March 24, 2026