

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )</b>	<b>ORDER GRANTING THIRD</b>
<b>XCEL ENERGY FOR A PERMIT TO )</b>	<b>MOTION TO EXTEND FINAL</b>
<b>CONSTRUCT 6.5 MILES OF 115 KV )</b>	<b>APPROVAL DEADLINE</b>
<b>TRANSMISSION LINE AND ASSOCIATED )</b>	
<b>MODIFICATIONS TO THE BROOKINGS )</b>	<b>EL08-001</b>
<b>SUBSTATION )</b>	

On January 31, 2008, Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota Corporation d/b/a Xcel Energy, submitted an application for a Construction Permit to build the following: 1. A new 6.5 mile 115 kV transmission line from the Brookings County Substation to the Minnesota/South Dakota border; and 2. Modifications to the Brookings County Substation to accommodate the new 115 kV line. The application comprises the western portion of the Buffalo Ridge Incremental Generation Outlet project which connects the Brookings County Substation to the Yankee Substation northwest of Lake Benton, Minnesota.

On February 6, 2008, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of April 1, 2008, to interested individuals and entities.

On February 26, 2008, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission, pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-12, unanimously voted to assess Xcel a filing fee not to exceed \$24,625, with an initial deposit of \$8,000. On March 31, 2008, the Commission received an Application for Party Status from the Brookings County Commission. At its regularly scheduled meeting of April 8, 2008, the Commission granted party status to the Brookings County Commission. On July 8, 2008, the Commission received a Motion to Extend Final Approval Deadline to October 31, 2008, from Xcel. On July 24, 2008, the Commission received a letter in support of the extension from the Brookings County Commission. At its regularly scheduled meeting of July 29, 2008, the Commission unanimously voted to grant the Motion to Extend Final Approval Deadline. On October 14, 2008, the Commission received a Second Motion to Extend Final Approval Deadline to November 30, 2008, from Xcel. At its regularly scheduled meeting of October 21, 2008, the Commission unanimously voted to grant the Second Motion to Extend Final Approval Deadline. On November 14, 2008, the Commission received a Third Motion to Extend Final Approval Deadline to January 31, 2009.

The Commission asserts jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-41B, specifically 49-41B-1, 49-41B-2, 49-41B-2.1, 49-41B-4, 49-41B-11, 49-41B-12, 49-41B-13, 49-41B-15, 49-41B-16, 49-41B-17, 49-41B-17.1, 49-41B-21, 49-41B-22, 49-41B-25, 49-41B-26, 49-41B-33, 49-41B-38, and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22.

