

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF )  
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY )  
DBA XCEL ENERGY FOR APPROVAL OF )  
A CREDIT MECHANISM FOR PAYMENTS )  
FROM THE SECOND EXTENDED )  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY )  
SETTLEMENT )**

**ORDER APPROVING  
CONTINUATION OF CREDIT  
MECHANISM AND APPROVING  
BILL CREDIT**

**EL19-002**

On January 22, 2019, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a petition from Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy (Xcel) asking for approval of a continuation of a credit mechanism for funds received pursuant to an extended Settlement with the United States Department of Energy (DOE) for DOE's partial breach of its contract to take spent nuclear fuel for the period January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019. The gross amount currently available for credit is approximately \$15.4 million on a total NSP system basis, or \$858,358 on a South Dakota jurisdictional basis. NSP is requesting this DOE refund be reduced by its supplemental November 2018 TCJA refund amount of \$252,677, for a net DOE refund amount of \$605,681. Due to refunds in other jurisdictions, NSP is proposing that the first of the bill credits be applied in August 2019, with the two additional future bill credits for 2018 and 2019 being refunded in a more timely manner consistent with the Commission's Orders in Docket EL11-023 and EL16-001.

On January 24, 2019, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of February 8, 2019, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On February 12, 2019, Staff filed a Memorandum regarding Recommendation for Docket.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-4, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-10, and 49-34A-12.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on February 15, 2019, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission voted unanimously to approve Xcel's request for the continuation of the bill credit mechanism subject to the recommendations made in staff's memorandum and that the first of the bill credits be applied in August 2019. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Xcel's request for the continuation of the bill credit mechanism consistent with the Commission's Orders in Docket EL11-023 and Docket EL16-001 is hereby granted subject to the recommendations made in staff's memorandum. It is further

ORDERED, that Xcel's request that the first of the bill credits be applied in August 2019 and the two additional future bill credits for 2018 and 2019 be refunded in a timely manner consistent with the Commission's Orders in Docket EL11-023 and Docket EL16-001.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February 2019.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically or by mail.	
By:	<u>Karen E. Bremer</u>
Date:	<u>02/23/19</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen  
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner