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Xcel Energy
Docket No.: IP6701/CN-09-1186, E002/M-09-1349, E002/M-09-1350
Response To: MN Office Energy Security Information Request No. 7
Analyst: Steve Rakow
Date Received: January 19, 2010

Question:

Please provide an estimate of the annual payments to local governments (property taxes, etc.) attributable to Xcel's recently approved Nobles wind project.

Response:

On average, we estimate property tax payments will total about [BEGIN TRADE SECRET END TRADE SECRET]. Of course, this may increase or decrease over the life of the project due to changes in local tax rates.

On average, we estimate production taxes will total about [BEGIN TRADE SECRET END TRADE SECRET] Of course, this can vary substantially each year due to actual wind conditions.

Note: Minn. Stat. 272.029, subd. 6 specifies that beginning in 2010, the distribution of production taxes will be 80 percent to counties, and 20 percent to cities and townships.

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Date: February 8, 2010