COMMERCE DEPARTMENT

June 17, 2021

Will Seuffert
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

RE: Xcel Energy Request for a Change in Spent Fuel Storage Technology
Prairie Island Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation
Docket No. E002/CN-08-510

Dear Mr. Seuffert,

On May 27, 2021, Department of Commerce, Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) staff filed initial comments in the following matter:

> In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company D/B/A Xcel Energy for a Certificate of Need for Additional Dry Cask Storage at Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant

In these comments, EERA staff noted that Xcel Energy's proposed change in spent fuel cask technology at the Prairie Island plant was substantial new information affecting the potential human and environmental effects of spent fuel storage at the plant. Accordingly, EERA staff concluded that the 2009 Prairie Island final environmental impact statement (EIS) must be supplemented in accordance with Minnesota Statutes section 116D.04 and Minnesota Rule 4410.3000. EERA staff requested that the Commission take no action on Xcel Energy's request until EERA could supplement the 2009 final EIS.

EERA staff provides here an anticipated, draft schedule for supplementing the EIS (Table 1, below). EERA staff anticipates that a supplement could be completed by early 2022.

Sincerely,

Ray Kirsch
Environmental Review Manager

Table 1. EERA Draft Schedule for Supplementing 2009 Prairie Island Final EIS

Process Step	Approximate Date
Data Collection	June – July 2021
Prepare Draft Scoping Decision	August 2021
Public Meeting – Draft Scoping Decision	September 2021
Notice of Preparation of Supplement, Including Scope and Schedule	September 2021
Prepare Draft Supplement	October – November 2021
Issue Draft Supplement	December 2021
Public Meeting – Draft Supplement	December 2021
Prepare Final Supplement	January 2022
Determine Adequacy	January / February 2022