



## NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND PUBLIC MEETINGS

Issued: February 1, 2022

**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**

Docket Number: E002/CN-08-510

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Minnesota Department of Commerce (Department) has issued the draft supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) for Xcel’s Energy’s proposed change in spent fuel storage technology at the Prairie Island independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI). The Department will conduct public meetings at the following times and locations to provide opportunities for public comment on the draft SEIS.

In-Person Meeting	Virtual Meeting
<p><b>Wednesday, February 16, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.</b>            Red Wing Ignite   Community Development            City Hall Annex            419 Bush St.            Red Wing, MN 55066</p>	<p><b>Thursday, February 17, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.</b>            Internet: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/595vrhy5">https://tinyurl.com/595vrhy5</a>            Password: Commerce1</p>

**Bad weather?** To find out if the in-person meeting has been postponed due to bad weather, call 651-539-1841 or visit [mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities](https://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities). If the in-person meeting is postponed, it will be held at the same location and time on February 23, 2022.

Department staff will make a brief presentation at each meeting. Following the presentation, members of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide comments on the draft SEIS. Written comments on the draft SEIS will be accepted through **Thursday, March 3, 2022**.

### Meeting Information

- The same information will be presented at both meetings.
- Masks are required for the in-person meeting at the Red Wing City Hall Annex. Disposable masks will be available for attendees who do not have a mask.
- Public meetings are not open-house style meetings; we recommend that you arrive by the meeting start time.
- Attendees will have the opportunity to enter comments into the record. A public comment period will extend past the meeting dates to allow for written comments.
- Department staff will preside over the meeting. Department staff, as well as staff from

Xcel Energy, will be available to answer questions.

- Meetings will conclude after everyone who wishes to offer comments has had an opportunity to speak.
- Comments received at the meetings and during the public comment period will be used to develop the final SEIS for this project.

### **Virtual Meeting**

- Meeting video and audio are available only via the internet.
- Logon five to 10 minutes before the meeting begins. You will be asked to join the meeting through a Webex application or through a plug-in for your web browser. You will be asked to enter your name and email address.
- Attendees will be muted. If you would like to ask a question or make a comment during the meeting, use the chat function to send a message to the meeting moderator. Your line will be unmuted, and you will be able to ask your question or make a comment.
- If you have questions about participating in the meeting or need assistance during the meeting, please contact David Birkholz at the Department (contact information below).

### **Submit Comments**

Please focus your comments on information that will help answer the following question(s):

- *What information needs to be clarified or included in the draft SEIS to ensure that the final SEIS is complete and accurate?*

**Comment Period:** Comments will be accepted through **Thursday, March 3, 2022**. Please include the docket number (08-510) in all communications.

**U.S. Mail:** Ray Kirsch, Environmental Review Manager  
Minnesota Department of Commerce  
85 7th Place East, Suite 280  
St. Paul, MN 55101

**Email:** [raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us](mailto:raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us)

**Online:** [mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities](http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities)

**Fax:** 651-539-0109

**Important:** Comments will be made available to the public, except in limited circumstances consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. Personally-identifying information is not edited or deleted from submissions.

### **Draft SEIS Availability**

The draft SEIS can be viewed on the Department's website:

<http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities>. Select *Power Plants* and then select *Prairie Island Nuclear Plant Spent Fuel Storage*.

It can also be viewed through the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's website: <http://mn.gov/puc>. Select *eDockets*, enter the year (08) and the docket number (510), and then select *Search*.

The draft SEIS will be available for viewing at the Red Wing Public Library, 225 East Ave., Red Wing, MN 55066. A limited number of print copies of the draft SEIS will be available at the public meeting in Red Wing.

### **Project Description**

Xcel Energy proposes to use a different spent fuel storage technology in the Prairie Island ISFSI. Xcel Energy proposes to use any fuel storage cask approved by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) at the ISFSI, rather than being limited to the TN-40HT casks approved by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) in 2009. Xcel Energy would select from NRC-approved cask designs based on considerations including price and compatibility with future offsite storage facilities.

### **Process Information**

The draft SEIS analyzes the potential human and environmental impacts of Xcel Energy's proposed change in spent fuel storage technology. At the conclusion of the public comment period, the Department will prepare and issue a final SEIS. The final SEIS will respond to timely and substantive comments on the draft SEIS. The Department will determine the adequacy of the final SEIS. Subsequently, the Commission will determine whether to approve Xcel Energy's request for a change in spent fuel storage technology.

### **Additional Information**

**Full Case Record.** See all documents filed in this matter via the Commission's website at [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc), select *eDockets*, enter the year (08) and a docket number (510), and select *Search*.

**Subscribe to the Docket.** To receive email notification when new documents are filed in this matter visit: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling>, select *Subscribe to Dockets* and follow the prompts.

**Project Mailing List.** Sign up to receive notices about project milestones and opportunities to participate or change your mailing preference. Email [docketing.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:docketing.puc@state.mn.us) or call Leesa Norton at 651-201-2246 with the docket number (08-510), your name, mailing address, and email address.

### **Project Contacts**

#### **Department of Commerce**

Ray Kirsch, Environmental Review Manager, [raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us](mailto:raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us) or 651-539-1841.  
David Birkholz, Virtual Meeting Assistance, [david.birkholz@state.mn.us](mailto:david.birkholz@state.mn.us) or 651-539-1838.

**Public Utilities Commission**

Michael Kaluzniak, Senior Energy Facilities Planner, [mike.kaluzniak@state.mn.us](mailto:mike.kaluzniak@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2257.

**Xcel Energy**

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