



February 10, 2025

—Via Electronic Filing—

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

RE: NOTICE OF INTENT TO CONSTRUCT, OWN, AND MAINTAIN THE NORTH
ROCHESTER – COLUMBIA 765 kV TRANSMISSION PROJECT
DOCKET NO. E002/CN-25-_____

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, respectfully submits this notice to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) pursuant to Minnesota Statute § 216B.246, subd. 3(a), that Xcel Energy intends to construct, own, and maintain the North Rochester – Columbia 765 kilovolt (kV) transmission line.

On December 12, 2024, the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (MISO), a federally registered planning authority and regional transmission organization, approved its Long-Range Transmission Planning (LRTP) Tranche 2.1 portfolio of projects as part of its 2024 Transmission Expansion Plan (MTEP24). MISO's LRTP Tranche 2.1 portfolio is made up of 24 projects, including project no. 26, the North Rochester – Columbia 765 kV transmission line and connected and underlying associated facilities (the North Rochester – Columbia 765 kV Transmission Project or the Project). The Project is designated as a Multi-Value Project under MISO's Open Access Transmission, Energy and Operating Reserve Markets Tariff (Tariff).

The North Rochester – Columbia 765 kV Transmission Project involves the construction of a new 765 kV transmission line from Xcel Energy's existing North Rochester Substation, near Pine Island, Minnesota, to the Columbia Substation in Columbia County, Wisconsin.

Xcel Energy is an incumbent electric transmission owner in the state of Minnesota. Pursuant to Minnesota Statute § 216B.246, subd. 3(a), Xcel Energy, as an incumbent electric transmission owner, provides the Commission notice that we intend to construct, own, and maintain the transmission line and associated facilities that comprise the Project. In accordance with the statute, the Certificate of Need (or request

February 10, 2025

Page 2

for certification under the Biennial Transmission Report process) will be filed within 12 months of the date of this letter.

We have electronically filed this document with the Commission, and copies have been served on the parties on the attached service lists. Please contact Jody Londo at jody.l.londo@xcelenergy.com if you have any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

/s/ Bria Shea

BRIA SHEA
REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT, REGULATORY POLICY
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

cc: Power Plant Siting Act General List
Tribal Government Contact List
Tribal Historic Preservation Office List
Minnesota Energy Utilities General Service List