

## NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD

Issued: July 3, 2019

### In the Matter of Xcel Energy's 2020-2034 Upper Midwest Integrated Resource Plan

**PUC Docket Number: E002/RP-19-368**

**Comment Period:** Initial comment period closes November 8, 2019 at 4:30pm  
Reply comment period closes January 8, 2020 at 4:30pm

*Comments received after the close of the comment period may or may not be considered by the Commission.*

**Issues:** Should the Commission approve, reject, or modify Xcel Energy's 2020-2034 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP)?

Should Xcel be required to initiate a competitive resource acquisition process upon the conclusion of the IRP proceeding, and if so, should it be an all-source or resource-specific bidding process?

Should the Commission address the future of the Prairie Island nuclear plant in subsequent resource plans, as Xcel proposes?

When should Xcel file its next IRP? What additional information should the Commission require Xcel provide as part of its next IRP?

If parties believe Xcel's filing is incomplete and the Commission should conduct a completeness review under Minn. R. 7843.0300, subp. 3, please submit comments on completeness by **Thursday, August 1, 2019.**

**Background:** On July 1, 2019, Xcel filed its 2020-2034 Upper Midwest IRP. Among other things, Xcel's "Preferred Plan" proposes to:

- Retire the coal-fired King and Sherco 3 facilities in 2028 and 2030, respectively;
- Extend the operating license of the Monticello nuclear generating plant through 2040 (10 years longer than its current license);
- Add 4,000 MW of cumulative utility-scale solar and approximately 1,200 MW of cumulative wind by 2034;

- Acquire the natural gas-fired 760 megawatt (MW) Mankato Energy Center and build the approximately 800 MW Sherco combined cycle facility in the mid-2020s; and
- Achieve 780 gigawatt-hours (GWh) of energy savings annually through 2034 and implement 400 MW of incremental demand response by 2023.

The Commission's review is governed by section 216B.2422, subd. 2 of the Minnesota Statutes and Chapter 7843 of the Minnesota Rules. In reviewing a proposed resource plan, the Commission evaluates whether the resource options and plans are able to: (1) maintain or improve the adequacy and reliability of service, (2) keep the customers' bills as low as possible, given regulatory and other constraints, (3) minimize adverse socioeconomic and environmental effects, (4) enhance the utility's ability to respond to changes affecting its operations, and (5) limit the risk of adverse effects on customers and the utility that the utility cannot control.

**How to Participate:** Any entity or interested person may become a formal party to this proceeding by filing a petition to intervene pursuant to Minn. R. 7843.0300, subp. 7 and 7829.0800. The deadline for intervention is prior to initial comments, although the Commission may allow late intervention, upon good cause. It is not necessary to formally intervene in order to comment as a participant or member of the public. Any interested person may submit comments to the Commission.

**Filing Requirements:** Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are **required** to file documents using the Commission's electronic filing system (eFiling). All parties, participants and interested persons are encouraged to use eFiling: [mn.gov/puc](https://mn.gov/puc), select *eFiling*, and follow the prompts.

**Submit Public Comments:** Visit [mn.gov/puc](https://mn.gov/puc), select *Speak Up!* to find this docket, and add your comments to the discussion or email your comments to [consumer.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:consumer.puc@state.mn.us). For general information on integrated resource planning, please refer to the Commission's website: <https://mn.gov/puc/energy/resource-planning/>

**Attend a public meeting:** On the July 1, 2019, the Commission made an oral decision to hold public meetings as an additional forum to gather public input on Xcel's IRP. Xcel is required to send notification to each Minnesota customer at least 10 days before the first public meeting, and notice will also be posted in this docket.

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**Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure?** Contact Commission staff, Sean Stalpes, at [sean.stalpes@state.mn.us](mailto:sean.stalpes@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2252 or Andy Bahn, at [andrew.bahn@state.mn.us](mailto:andrew.bahn@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2249.

For public meeting questions, contact Hanna Terwilliger, at [hanna.terwilliger@state.mn.us](mailto:hanna.terwilliger@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2243

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