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414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

November 12, 2015

**—VIA ELECTRONIC FILING—**

Daniel P. Wolf  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
121 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 350  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

RE: PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF A  
RENEWABLE\*CONNECT PILOT PROGRAM  
DOCKET NO. E002/M-15-\_\_\_\_\_

Dear Mr. Wolf:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, submits the enclosed Petition for approval to implement a Renewable\*Connect pilot program.

Please note that certain portions of our Petition have been designated as Trade Secret information pursuant to Minnesota Statute § 13.37, subd. 1(b). In particular, the information designated as Trade Secret derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by, other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use.

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216.17, subd. 3, we have electronically filed this document, and served copies on all parties on the attached service lists for Docket Nos. E002/M-13-603 and E002/M-14-162 as well as our Miscellaneous Electric Service list.

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact Amy Liberkowski at (612) 330-6613 or [amy.a.liberkowski@xcelenergy.com](mailto:amy.a.liberkowski@xcelenergy.com).

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Sincerely,

/s/

AAKASH CHANDARANA  
REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT, RATES AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Enclosures  
c: Service List

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STATE OF MINNESOTA  
BEFORE THE  
MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Beverly Jones Heydinger	Chair
Nancy Lange	Commissioner
Dan Lipschultz	Commissioner
John Tuma	Commissioner
Betsy Wergin	Commissioner

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF  
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY  
FOR APPROVAL OF A  
RENEWABLE\*CONNECT PILOT PROGRAM

DOCKET NO. E002/M-15-\_\_\_\_  
**PETITION**

**INTRODUCTION**

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, submits to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission this Petition for approval to implement Renewable\*Connect, a pilot “green tariff” program. Specifically, we request that the Commission:

- approve our proposal for implementing Renewable\*Connect on a pilot basis,
- authorize the Company to dedicate a portion of recently contracted resources to the pilot program, and
- approve our proposed Renewable\*Connect tariff and associated Customer Agreement.

The Company files this pilot program to offer customers a new option to be served by renewable resources and receive the benefits of wind and solar generation. Minn. Stat. § 216B.169, the Renewable and High-Efficiency Rate Options statute, specifies that a utility may offer its customers one or more options that allow a customer to determine that a certain amount of the electricity generated or purchased on behalf of the customer is renewable energy.

This pilot program will give customers an additional choice in how we meet their energy needs, while making sure all customers have access to safe, reliable electricity at a reasonable cost.

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We propose our program on a pilot basis to test the Renewable\*Connect concept and we hope to refine it through learnings over time. We believe Renewable\*Connect can eventually be a platform that accommodates multiple renewable energy offerings or “tranches” of resources. The initial offering will be a fixed amount of wind and solar energy, earmarked for and paid for by customers participating in the first tranche of resources. The customer in return sources a portion of his or her electricity use from renewable energy without any of the upfront installation costs, capital investments, property limitations, or equipment associated with on-site generation. The customer will receive a Renewable\*Connect charge on their bill that will replace the fuel clause charge they receive today.

The balance of this filing describes key pilot program features, including:

- *Pilot program objectives* — the Company aims to offer customers a new choice with unique value and transparent costs and benefits using carbon-free resources, and that provides the opportunity to explore a new model for meeting customer interest in renewable energy.
- *Pilot program description*—the Renewable\*Connect concept offers green power directly to customers through on bill purchases.
- *Terms of participation* — we discuss the eligibility requirements and the basic terms of participation in the Renewable\*Connect pilot.
- *Cost recovery proposal* —the Renewable\*Connect concept minimizes costs to non-participants by charging participants for the cost to acquire the energy and administer the program.

The Company includes the following Attachments in support of its Renewable\*Connect Petition:

Attachment A	Renewable Panel Study, Spring 2015	Trade Secret
Attachment B	MN Large Account Renewable Options Summary	Trade Secret
Attachment C	Sample Renewable*Connect Bill	
Attachment D	Renewable*Connect Pricing Model	
Attachment E	Capacity Credit	
Attachment F	Neutrality Adjustment	
Attachment G	Monthly Generation and Usage	
Attachment H	Sales, Revenue, and Expense Tracker	Trade Secret
Attachment I	Renewable*Connect Pilot Tariff	
Attachment J	Renewable*Connect Pilot Customer Agreement	

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**I. SUMMARY OF FILING**

A one-paragraph summary is attached to this filing pursuant to Minn. R. 7829.1300, subp. 1.

**II. SERVICE ON OTHER PARTIES**

Pursuant to Minn. R. 7829.1300, subp. 2, the Company has served a copy of this filing on the Office of the Attorney General – Antitrust and Utilities Division. A summary of the filing has been served on all parties on the enclosed service lists for Docket Nos. E002/M-13-603 and E002/M-14-162 as well as our Miscellaneous Electric Service list.

**III. GENERAL FILING INFORMATION**

Pursuant to Minn. R. 7829.1300, subp. 3, the Company provides the following information.

**A. Name, Address, and Telephone Number of Utility**

Northern States Power Company, doing business as:  
Xcel Energy  
414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
(612) 330-5500

**B. Name, Address, and Telephone Number of Utility Attorney**

Amanda Rome  
Deputy General Counsel  
Xcel Energy  
414 Nicollet Mall, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
(612) 215-5331

**C. Date of Filing**

The date of this filing is November 12, 2015.

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**D. Statute Controlling Schedule for Processing the Filing**

Minn. Stat. § 216B.16 subd. 1 requires 60-days of notice to the Commission of a proposed tariff change. Under the Commission’s rules, the proposed tariff change discussed in this Petition falls within the definition of a miscellaneous tariff filing under Minn. R. 7829.0100, subp. 11, since no determination of Xcel Energy’s general revenue requirement is necessary.

**E. Utility Employee Responsible for Filing**

Aakash Chandarana  
Regional Vice President, Rates and Regulatory Affairs  
Xcel Energy  
414 Nicollet Mall, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
(612) 215-4663

**IV. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION**

Pursuant to Minn. R. 7829.0700, the Company requests that the following persons be placed on the Commission’s official service list for this proceeding:

Amanda Rome  
Deputy General Counsel  
Xcel Energy  
414 Nicollet Mall, 5<sup>th</sup> floor  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
amanda.rome@xcelenergy.com

Carl Cronin  
Records Analyst  
Xcel Energy  
414 Nicollet Mall, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
regulatory.records@xcelenergy.com

Any information requests in this proceeding should be submitted to Mr. Cronin at the Regulatory Records email address above.

**V. EFFECT OF CHANGE UPON XCEL ENERGY REVENUE**

Company revenues will increase by the amount of participation revenues and administrative fees collected from Xcel Energy Renewable\*Connect participants to recover the cost of the resource Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs), marketing and administrative expenses associated with the program. The revenue increase would be net of any associated decrease in system fuel revenues resulting from customers migrating to Renewable\*Connect resources.

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**VI. DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF FILING**

“Green tariff” programs are emerging around the country. These programs are introduced where customers have identified a desire for more choices in their energy mix. Typically, utilities offering a “green tariff” allow customers to purchase energy and renewable energy certificates (RECs) from dedicated projects within the utility’s service territory. The customer receives renewable energy from the contracted renewable resource, grid energy to ensure a firm energy supply, and delivery services.

While green tariffs are gaining new customer interest in other states, Minnesota has embraced green tariffs since the Renewable and High-Efficiency Rate Options statute was passed in 2001. The Company’s Windsource® program was our first green tariff. We are pleased to now offer a new choice to our Minnesota customers.

With Renewable\*Connect, we bring forward a new choice that provides value to customers based on their unique preferences. In designing our program, we focused first on identifying customer needs and preferences. For example, we met with our customers, representatives of Xcel Energy Large Industrial customers (XLI), and other interested stakeholders as we began considering the design of this pilot program.<sup>1</sup> Those conversations have been valuable to the Company’s understanding of customer interests.

In considering a new program offer, we also performed market research to better understand what customers value.<sup>2</sup> The vast majority of the large account sample group we recently surveyed have corporate sustainability goals. More than 80 percent surveyed state that they would be interested in a green rate if one was available. Our program is designed to respond to this significant customer interest.

Our market research is consistent with the World Resources Institute (WRI) list of energy buyers’ top priorities.<sup>3</sup> The representative large businesses in the WRI research

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<sup>1</sup> In so doing, we complied with the Commission’s Order from our 2013 electric rate case. *See* Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Order, Docket No. E002/GR-13-868, In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company for Authority to Increase Rates for Electric Service in the State of Minnesota. May 8, 2015. Order Point 47.

<sup>2</sup> Our market research methodology and results are summarized at Attachment A, “Renewable Panel Study,” Spring 2015. A second study is provided at Attachment B, “MN Large Account Renewable Options Summary.” This study was performed using Survey Monkey and was distributed to 66 of the Company’s large managed accounts in Minnesota. Both Attachments are Trade Secret to the Company.

<sup>3</sup>See WRI’s Corporate Renewable Energy Buyers’ Principles at [http://www.wri.org/sites/default/files/corporate\\_renewable\\_energy\\_buyers\\_principles\\_1.pdf](http://www.wri.org/sites/default/files/corporate_renewable_energy_buyers_principles_1.pdf)

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agree with and have formally signed on to a list of principles that guide their energy decisions. These customers have identified their top energy priorities as:

1. Greater choice in options to procure renewable energy;
2. Cost competitiveness between traditional and renewable energy rates;
3. Access to longer-term, fixed price renewable energy;
4. Access to projects that are new or help drive new projects in order to reduce energy emissions beyond business as usual;
  - a. Access to bundled renewable energy products (energy + RECs)
  - b. Ability to prevent double counting
  - c. Renewable energy delivery from sources that are within reasonable proximity to customer facilities
5. Increased access to third-party financing, as well as standardized and simplified processes, contracts and financing for renewable energy projects; and
6. Opportunities to work with utilities and regulators to expand choices for buying renewable energy
  - a. Fairly share costs and benefits of renewable energy procurement
  - b. Apply to new and existing load.

These buyers' principles and market research findings have been instructive to the Company's approach to Renewable\*Connect and inform the design of the pilot program. One goal in introducing our pilot is to identify features that could become part of a broader platform for serving identified customer needs. By starting with our understanding of evolving customer interests on a pilot basis, we are in a position to test our market assumptions and to build a refined and responsive program. We discuss here our pilot program objectives.

**A. Pilot Program Objectives**

**1. Provide a Compelling New Customer Choice**

It is an exciting time for Minnesotans to choose renewable energy. Our customers today have a wider range of options available to them than ever before. Our customers can choose Windsource, a voluntary green energy program that gives customers the option source a portion of their energy needs from wind. Xcel Energy offers the program in five states: Colorado, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico and Wisconsin. With Windsource, customers can purchase as little as one 100-kilowatt-hour block of renewable energy or opt to have 100 percent of their electricity consumption provided through Windsource.



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In 2014, Windsource was ranked the third largest voluntary green energy program in the United States based upon customer participation, according to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). In Minnesota alone, there are approximately 39,000 Windsource customers and over 173,000 MWh in sales in 2014.

Despite the success of Windsource, we understand from some of our customers that the Windsource format does not meet all of their needs, and we have continued to explore other portfolio enhancements as a result. For example, customers have expressed a desire to source their energy from solar, and also to explore opportunities for increasing their long-term price certainty.

In 2014, we introduced the second generation of Solar\*Rewards, a rooftop solar program which pays incentives based on system production for qualifying systems under 20 kW.<sup>4</sup> The Department of Commerce offers Made in Minnesota, a program that pays incentives for solar energy generated by panels manufactured or assembled in Minnesota. Solar\*Rewards and Made in Minnesota invest a total of \$20 million per year into home grown solar, funded largely by our Renewable Development Fund (RDF).

We also launched Solar\*Rewards Community, providing a new choice for customers to access solar benefits. In this program, groups of customers can purchase portions of the output from a shared solar array, called a community solar garden. Customers form agreements with garden operators and earn utility bill credits for their share of the solar generation.<sup>5</sup>

Our growing portfolio of renewable choices builds on Xcel Energy's success as the nation's number one utility wind provider and solidifies the Company's aggressive posture toward increasing the green energy in its resource mix. In fact, the Company recently announced plans to achieve 60 percent reduction in carbon emissions by 2030. Our total resource mix is developed based on a number of factors – with customer choices being one key factor. The Renewable\*Connect pilot is designed to respond to our customers who seek a bundled REC option with flexible terms to source up to their full load from green energy. Renewable\*Connect offers an attractive new choice for customers – both new and existing – who want to “go green” in a way that works for them.

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<sup>4</sup> See Docket No. E002/M-13-1015.

<sup>5</sup> See Docket No. E002/M-13-867.

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**2. Unique Customer Benefits and Value**

Renewable\*Connect makes the benefits of clean, renewable resources available to our customers in a convenient, transparent, and customer-driven format. The pilot provides economic value to participants through reduced transaction costs compared to other alternatives like on-site generation. It offers quick uptake, no up-front costs, no financing prerequisites, and no decisions about equipment or installers. Customers can choose how long they want to participate and at what level.

Renewable\*Connect also gives customers an affordable way to invest in renewable energy. For a reasonable initial premium on their regular utility bill, customers can offset their energy use and achieve sustainability goals. Additionally, customers who choose the Renewable\*Connect gain added certainty about their future energy costs with the pilot's built-in long-term pricing options, reflecting the Company's ability to deliver reliable power from low-cost resources. This low-cost, easy format offers the benefits of renewable energy to more customers who have identified "going green" as a personal or business priority and long-term strategy.

**3. Transparent Costs and Benefits**

Under the program, customers subscribe to their desired level of energy, up to 100 percent of customer load or 10 percent of the available MWh associated with this tranche. When a customer enrolls in the Renewable\*Connect pilot, a monthly charge will appear on their bill. The charge consists of the participant's share of the cost to acquire the resource plus program administration costs, less a monthly capacity credit. The charge includes an adjustment that ensures that non-participants are minimally impacted by the participants' enrollment in the program. A sample bill for a Renewable\*Connect participant is provided as Attachment C.

A fundamental rate design principle is that rates reflect cost causation. This is core to the buyers' principles identified by WRI, too. The representative large businesses in the WRI research agree that the costs and benefits of renewable energy procurement should be shared fairly and should not impact other ratepayers. We have attempted to incorporate this principle into the Renewable\*Connect concept by minimizing the cost impact on non-participating customers and recovering from participants the full cost of Renewable\*Connect generation resources and the cost of administering the program. Our proposed mechanism, a "neutrality adjustment", prevents non-participants from experiencing a disproportionate increase in costs as a result of the program. The neutrality adjustment is intended to mitigate line losses, renewable energy integration and system balancing costs and the potential for stranded resources

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or adverse economic impacts associated with Renewable\*Connect customers migrating away from resources that were procured for the system and approved and/or ordered by the Commission. The neutrality adjustment is discussed further in Section B3, “Pricing and Customer Commitment.”

Finally, if more energy is produced each month on behalf of the pilot program than is needed to serve Renewable\*Connect participants, we propose that the energy will be purchased by all customers through the Fuel Clause Adjustment.<sup>6</sup> To minimize the amount of unallocated or unsubscribed energy, the Company will aggressively market the program. By starting on a pilot basis, the Company hopes to test techniques that best maintain a full subscription level.

#### **4. Customer Sustainability Goals**

We are eager to offer our new and existing customers an attractive option to help them meet their sustainability goals. Some of Minnesota’s largest companies have set internal targets for energy efficiency and renewable energy investments.<sup>7</sup>

We will retire the RECs associated with the customer’s portion of the Renewable\*Connect generation on behalf of the customer. That means that customers with sustainability goals measured in RECs can claim credit for their share of renewable production under the program. By retiring RECs on behalf of participants, the RECs are no longer available to the Company for purposes of either Renewable Energy Standard (RES) or Solar Energy Standard (SES) compliance.<sup>8</sup> By participating in the Renewable\*Connect pilot, customers have substantial assurance that their RECs are fully traceable and incremental to state mandated levels. All program RECs will be registered with the Midwest Renewable Energy Tracking System (M-RETS), and the Company will pursue Green-e Certification.

For the Renewable\*Connect pilot tranche, we will earmark a portion of the output of two new projects, recently secured through contracts approved by the Commission - the Odell Wind Farm and the North Star Solar Project. By using resources already

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<sup>6</sup> The Commission has already approved cost recovery of the Odell Wind Farm and the North Star Solar Project from all customers through the Fuel Clause Adjustment. See Docket No. E002/M-13-603 and Docket No. E002/M-14-162.

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.startribune.com/general-mills-best-buy-and-target-enlist-in-obama-s-global-warming-initiative/334415671/>

<sup>8</sup> Docket No. E002/RP-15-21, 2015 UPPER MIDWEST RESOURCE PLAN, January 2, 2015. See the discussion of RES and SES compliance in our “base case” scenario at Appendix E, pages 11-15.

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engaged, the Company can bring a pilot option to customers in the near term. If the program is successful in meeting customer needs, we intend to scale our pilot and eventually offer a full-fledged program, adding incremental renewable resources and incorporating program refinements. Future “tranches” of resources would be sourced from other suppliers and will prompt additional (and incremental) wind and solar investments and potential Company ownership opportunities. We propose the initial tranche from approved resources to expedite the availability of the pilot to customers.

**5. Explore a New Model for Customer Interest in Renewables**

Through this pilot, the Company hopes to learn more about bringing cost-effective renewable resources into its generation mix. The Renewable\*Connect pilot program offers the opportunity to test customers’ interest in participating in a program that includes a mix of on- and off-peak generation (by including both wind and solar resources) and customers’ desire for price certainty. We also hope to use the pilot to discover the extent of the marketplace interest in this model, gain data on customer goals, and test marketing techniques and customer education concepts. As many of the resources which supply the Windsource program are approaching their end of life, we believe this pilot has the potential to grow into a platform that can accommodate the next phase of Windsource.

With the Renewable\*Connect pilot, the Company wishes to explore the terms of participation that are most attractive to customers. The program model best fit to investigate these questions includes the potential for later modifications, refinements, and expansion: a pilot. We propose to offer Renewable\*Connect on a pilot basis for ten years, a period coinciding with the longest available term offered to customers. The Company will continue to explore future tranches during this pilot period, but will seek Commission approval prior to expanding beyond the initial tranche, revising customer offers, business rules and tariffed provisions as described here, or adding new resources.

We anticipate that this new customer choice, while delivering substantial benefits to customers, may not meet the needs of everyone in the near term. We believe there is potential to tailor a future Renewable\*Connect offer to meet other customer needs. We hope to further explore opportunities for tailored solutions – including during the pilot phase of Renewable\*Connect and its eventual refinement into a permanent program. One example might include a future tranche dedicated exclusively to municipal customers or large industrial customers.

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**B. Pilot Program Description**

**1. Energy Procurement**

We believe one of the significant benefits of a green tariff program is its ability to drive new investment in renewable energy projects and we believe that over the longer-term, Renewable\*Connect will fulfill this goal. Adding resources to our system involves deliberate processes and regulatory review. This takes time. In the short-term, therefore, the Company proposes to dedicate up to 50 MW of wind from the Odell Wind Farm<sup>9</sup> and 25 MW of solar from the North Star Solar Project<sup>10</sup> to the initial tranche of Renewable\*Connect. By using recently approved resources in the initial phase of the pilot, we can accelerate the deployment of this customer choice *by as much as two years* and accelerate the learning opportunity it provides. We expect that by accelerating the availability of Renewable\*Connect, we will stimulate customer interest that may cause new generation sources to be built to supply future tranches.

As an alternative to using 25 MW of solar from the North Star Solar Project already allocated to Minnesota, the Company is willing to supply a segment of the solar portion of the initial Renewable\*Connect tranche with 9 MW of the 187-MW solar portfolio approved by the Commission earlier this year initially allocated to North Dakota. We filed a request for an advance determination of prudence (ADP) and cost recovery of the North Dakota portion of the 187-MW solar portfolio with the North Dakota Public Service Commission (NDPSC). That request was denied.<sup>11</sup> As we will retire RECs on behalf of participants and the RECs are no longer available to the Company for purposes of either Renewable Energy Standard (RES) or Solar Energy Standard (SES) compliance, using the North Dakota portion of the 187-MW solar portfolio has the advantage of bringing incremental solar to the Minnesota system. Also, allowing this resource to be used by customers that are voluntarily electing additional renewable resources could provide part of a solution to an open recovery issue.

Customers enrolled in the initial tranche of the Renewable\*Connect pilot will receive a fixed blend of wind and solar based on the renewable energy resources dedicated to the program. Based on expected generation of the assets, the blend for participants in

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<sup>9</sup> See Docket No. E002/M-13-603, In the Matter of the Petition of Xcel Energy for Approval of the Acquisition of 600 MW of Wind Generation.

<sup>10</sup> See Docket No. E002/M-14-0162, Solar Portfolio for Initial Solar Energy Standard Compliance.

<sup>11</sup> Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order dated June 17, 2015 in NDPSC Case No. PU-14-810.

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the pilot is expected to yield a mix of approximately **[Trade Secret Begins: Trade Secret Ends]** on a MWh basis. We selected this mix of renewable resources to recognize and directionally align to the system need for on and off-peak energy. Table 1 shows the on- and off-peak energy profiles of the system requirement and specific resources.

**Table 1. Energy Profiles by Resource**

	<b>On-Peak Energy Profile</b>	<b>Off-Peak Energy Profile</b>
System Requirements	40%	60%
Wind Resource	34%	66%
Solar Resource	57%	43%
Renewable*Connect	39%	61%

Future program offerings will be based on the demand and supply market factors at that time. These market factors could include, but are not limited to, resource availability, resource pricing, customer demand, and associated on- and off-peak energy needs. These prevailing market factors will influence the future program offerings as well as any lessons learned in the pilot phase of the program.

## **2. Marketing and Enrollment**

Our pilot program will be available to all new and existing customers.<sup>12</sup> The Company will observe the customer response during the pilot phase of Renewable\*Connect and, prior to seeking approval to offer Renewable\*Connect as a standing program, will consider the need to reserve future tranche capacity based on customer class.

The program will be marketed with two key intentions: (1) building awareness for the program; and (2) customer enrollment. Awareness marketing will begin ahead of the enrollment period and continue throughout the life of the pilot.

Awareness marketing will include channels for reaching a broad audience including radio, search engine optimization, and public events. These channels will direct customers to the Renewable\*Connect website for additional information and enrollment through My Account, providing 24/7 access for sign up. Additionally, customer care representatives and account managers will be provided with

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<sup>12</sup> The exception to this is customers who do not purchase fuel or pay the Fuel Clause Adjustment. Those customers, including non-metered customers and streetlighting customers, are not eligible to participate.

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information and tools to support the awareness and enrollment process. Various online marketing tools will be available, including a bill estimate calculator, video tutorials, and social media engagement.

Similar to Windsource, customers may subscribe to 100 kWh blocks or 100 percent of their annual load.<sup>13</sup> Subscriptions may not exceed 100 percent of customers' annual load. Subscriptions will be available once the enrollment period opens and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Customers may not subscribe to a portion that exceeds 10 percent of the energy of this pilot tranche of resources.

Renewable\*Connect participants will sign a Customer Agreement (Agreement) on-line which confirms program details and terms of participation. Subscriptions will be specific to a customer premise and customers will have the option to transfer their subscription between premises. Agreements with customers that move outside of our service territory are subject to termination.

The Company will promote Renewable\*Connect to new and existing customers, consistent with our other regulated programs. We will revise our collateral materials, website, and other marketing channels to reflect the growing suite of options for customers, including extensive energy efficiency opportunities, rooftop solar, community solar, other distributed generation, Windsource, and now, Renewable\*Connect. By expanding our customer choices, and our investment in promoting a broad suite of choices, we anticipate driving increased customer interest in all of our programs.

### **3. Pricing and Customer Commitment**

The customer's cost to participate in Renewable\*Connect reflects the actual cost to acquire the resources and expected cost to administer the program. The proposed charge is a fixed \$/kWh rate and is the same, in a given year, for each participant enrolling in the same contract term. Further, costs are established upfront, and customers have the option of securing pricing certainty over time. The components of the Renewable\*Connect charge include the cost to acquire the resource (resource cost), a credit for the capacity associated with the resources (capacity credit), the cost to administer the program (administrative cost), and the cost to ensure other customers are not impacted by the program (neutrality adjustment). This

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<sup>13</sup> Also, similar to Windsource, Renewable\*Connect will include an option for customers to purchase renewable energy on a one-time basis for special events.

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Renewable\*Connect charge replaces the fuel clause charge on a customer's bill, recognizing the system fuel costs that were avoided by choosing renewables. The pricing model for the pilot tranche is provided at Attachment D.

When a customer enrolls in Renewable\*Connect, they have the assurance that the pricing structure used to calculate their bill will remain unchanged for the term of their contract. All customers enrolling in the same subscription duration in the same year will access the program at identical rates. Customers enrolling in later years will access the program at the rates specific to those years.

A customer may choose from one of three plans that best meets their needs.

- **Option 1 – Month-to-Month**  
Customers may opt for a month-to-month commitment. The pricing for customers under a month-to-month term will reflect a 10 year partially levelized cost for the wind and solar resources, relative to their subscription size. The cost to the customer is slightly higher under the month-to-month term, and best suits customers who prefer a shorter commitment period. The month-to-month option also includes higher administrative costs, reflecting the expectation that this option will drive a higher level of cost to market and greater effort to administer.
- **Option 2 – Five-year Term**  
Customers may also opt for a five year commitment. The pricing for customers under a five year term includes the actual cost to acquire the resource – that is, the costs of the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) in the pilot tranche – over the five year subscription period. The administrative charge embedded in the five-year term price is less than the charge for month-to-month participants, reflecting a lower administrative effort and marketing cost per kWh.
- **Option 3 – Ten-year Term**  
Customers seeking a longer term commitment may prefer the third option, a ten year term. The pricing for customers under a ten year term will reflect the actual cost of the resource. Pricing under this longer term commitment may be advantageous to many customers. In future years, the rate may moderate relative to system fuel costs. By committing to the pricing methodology under Renewable\*Connect, customers gain added certainty about their longer term energy costs.



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For the Five-year and Ten-year contract pricing, the Company proposes to lock the pricing based on current expectations of each pricing component. The proposed month-to-month pricing is similar, however, as the resource cost was partially levelized, and the Company plans to update the month-to-month pricing annually based on any market changes in the non-PPA pricing components. Pricing components are detailed here.

*a. Resource Cost*

The resource cost included in the pricing structure is the cost incurred to acquire the resource under the power purchase agreement. As our PPA agreements are typically long term (usually 20+ years) commitments, the resource cost portion of the pricing structure is fixed and known.

*b. Capacity Credit*

Similar to Windsource, Renewable\*Connect customers will receive a capacity credit that partially offsets participation costs. The capacity credit reflects the value of the additional capacity driven by participation in the program. The capacity credit is calculated based on the capacity value and is divided by expected kWh output of the resource. Specifically, the capacity value is the product of the MISO accreditation percentage and the annual cost of a combustion turbine. The expected output is the product of the expected capacity factor of the resource and an average system resource availability factor and the number of hours in a year. Attachment E provides an illustration of the capacity credit.

*c. Administrative Cost*

The Company will incur program administration costs for initial marketing, and program administration labor. These costs will be recovered from participating customers through their \$/kWh rate and are expected to decline in later years of the pilot. The first year operating budget is estimated below in Table 2.

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**Table 2. Operating Budget**

<b>Expense</b>	<b>First Year Estimate</b>
Marketing	\$254,178
Business Sales	\$ 50,000
Residential Sales	\$250,000
Incremental Administration	\$100,000
Total	\$654,178

*d. Neutrality Adjustment*

Our proposal includes a “neutrality adjustment” component to the Renewable\*Connect pricing to minimize the impact of the program on non-participants. The goal of the neutrality adjustment is to prevent non-participants from experiencing a disproportionate increase to their Fuel Clause Adjustment costs due to Renewable\*Connect customers migrating away from the system. The neutrality adjustment includes consideration for line losses, curtailment costs, renewable energy integration, system balancing costs and the potential for stranded resources or other adverse economic impacts. We make this neutrality adjustment consideration because Renewable\*Connect customers are migrating away from resources that were procured by the Company and approved and/or ordered by the Commission for the energy needs of these customers. Neutrality adjustment revenues will be credited to the Fuel Clause, thereby providing relief to non-participating customers from program-related costs.

In recognition that *new* load is not a “movement away” from the current mix, we propose that certain new customers coming to our system can avoid the neutrality adjustment in their Renewable\*Connect pricing. These customers include users of our Electric Vehicle (EV) tariff and our Business Incentive and Sustainability (BIS) Rider.

The Company determines the impact of Renewable\*Connect customers’ movement away from the system resource mix by comparing a non-participant’s cost of energy under two scenarios: the first, where a participant uses system fuel and second, where a participant uses Renewable\*Connect energy. The net difference is part of the basis of the neutrality adjustment which, in effect, mitigates the impact of the participant’s choice. The neutrality adjustment mitigates the stranding of the incremental cost of

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the renewable energy to the system. The estimated range of the first-year neutrality adjustment components are shown in Table 3.<sup>14</sup>

**Table 3. Neutrality Adjustment Components**

<b>Component</b>	<b>First-Year Estimated Cost/kWh</b>
Line Losses	\$0.0022
Curtailment	\$0.0000-\$0.0020
Balancing & Integration	\$0.0000-\$0.0010
Economic Impact	\$0.0000-\$0.0050
Proposed Neutrality Charge	\$0.004747

The longer term option has additional benefits. Under a ten-year contract, the neutrality adjustment decreases in years six through ten so that by year ten, the customer would only be charged roughly 75 percent of the original non-line loss portion of the neutrality adjustment, reflecting the diminishing impact on non-participating customers over time. The administrative charge embedded in the ten-year term price is less than the charge for month-to-month participants, reflecting a lower administrative effort and marketing cost per kWh.

The line losses portion of the neutrality adjustment compensates non-participants for line losses that occur between the resource and the customer's meter. The resource curtailment adjustment includes scenarios where the system cannot use the Renewable\*Connect energy in certain hours of the year, when baseload energy is serving the entire load of the system and transmission curtailment scenarios where there is not enough transmission capacity to handle the wind energy.

The Company is also recognizing balancing and integration costs in the neutrality adjustment. The impact of these events and services are not fully known today, but the Company proposes a reasonable charge to compensate the system for the potential financial impact of these components. The neutrality adjustment is detailed at Attachment F.

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<sup>14</sup> For the initial tranche of Renewable\*Connect resources, the Company has not quantified the value of each of the components the neutrality adjustment is designed to address. We intend to develop more information during the pilot that may allow us to refine the neutrality adjustment in future offerings.

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**4. Program Operations – Tracking and Balancing**

Given the intermittent nature of the Renewable\*Connect resource, customer usage and resource production will never be an exact match. The Company will balance and track customer usage and resource production on a monthly basis. The program will be balanced entirely with the identified resources in the prescribed wind/solar ratio. While the overall expectation is that this program would be subscribed to the level to support 50 MW of wind and 25 MW of solar, on an actual monthly basis it will either exceed or fall short of that level. The Company proposes that any surplus or shortfall between actual subscription and production be balanced through the Odell and North Star projects. An illustrative Monthly Generation and Usage Balancing schedule is included as Attachment G.

**5. Annual Reporting**

The Company will file annual reports each April 1 after the first full year of operation. Our reports will note progress from key indicators, including total number of participants, total wind production, total solar production, total Renewable\*Connect expenses, and total amount collected in Renewable\*Connect charges. The annual report will also include the tracker balances as shown in Attachment H.

We believe exploring true customer interest is the best way to start to meet unmet needs. Accordingly, the Company's annual report will include a reflection on the learnings over the year. These learnings will inform the structure of the program going forward. For example, if we observe imbalance in the interest of customers based on customer class, the Company may bring forward revised class-reservation or other terms. Similarly, as Renewable\*Connect scales and the Company seeks new, low cost resources for future tranches, additional learnings on successful customer offers will inform our approach to expansion.

**C. Terms of Participation**

The Renewable\*Connect Customer Agreement and tariff address the specific terms and conditions of participation. The pilot program will be included as a unique tariff in our Electric Rate Book (see proposed tariff at Attachment I) and the terms of the Customer Agreement also will be captured in our Electric Rate Book (see proposed Agreement at Attachment J).

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Month-to-month participants may terminate participation in the program without penalty. Customers who have made a longer term commitment by enrolling for five or ten years and who choose to end their participation early will pay a set fee to recover the administration and marketing costs associated with the transaction to end a subscription and acquire a new one. The early termination fee for longer-term customers is \$10/MWh multiplied by the customer's last 12 months of usage. We believe this termination fee is reasonable, as it sends an appropriate signal to participants in longer term commitments and reflects the estimated costs to replace that customer.

Customers who terminate their commitment early are restricted from participating in other tranches with the same load. This feature prevents customers from "shopping" for potentially favorable pricing in future tranches.

Eligible customers that also participate in the Company's other renewable program offers may subscribe to the Renewable\*Connect pilot up to their level of net usage not fulfilled through the other programs. For example, if a customer is also a participant of Windsource, a solar incentive program, or is net metering on-site generation, the customer may participate in the Renewable\*Connect pilot with their net remaining usage.

The Company is exploring ways to continue to build and streamline our renewable portfolio, and to eventually migrate existing Windsource customers into future tranches of Renewable\*Connect. As resources currently dedicated to Windsource approach the end of their term, we see an opportunity to transition customers onto a new tranche of resources. Future tranches could deliver additional value, including potentially favorable pricing compared to existing Windsource resources and providing the opportunity to supply energy needs using solar as well as wind.<sup>15</sup>

#### **D. Cost Recovery**

Minn. Stat. 216B.1645 provides for cost recovery of power purchase contracts, investments, or expenditures made by utilities to provide for renewable energy rate options. The Company proposes a cost recovery plan that aligns program costs with the associated benefits and risks of the program, by collecting from participants the

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<sup>15</sup> The Company discussed the need to respond to subscription trends in Windsource and the evolving customer demand for green energy products in its Compliance Report, dated April 29, 2015. Docket No. E002/M-01-1479. In the Matter of Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy's Compliance Report and Semi-Annual Tracker Account Report.

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costs to acquire the energy and administer the program. The Company will seek Commission approval under Minn. Stat. 216B.1645 before acquiring resources for Renewable\*Connect.

As discussed above, the Company proposes to use portions of the Odell Wind Farm and North Star Solar Project for the pilot tranche in order to make the Renewable\*Connect program available to customers as quickly as possible. The Commission has already approved cost recovery for the Company's PPA with Geronimo Energy for the Odell Wind Farm. The Commission also approved cost recovery for the Company's contract with Community Energy Renewables for the North Star Solar Project in April 2015 in Docket E002/M-14-162.<sup>16</sup>

In dedicating a portion of these approved resources to the pilot tranche of the Renewable\*Connect program, we are asking the Commission to modify its orders approving system recovery of the North Star and Odell PPA costs through the Fuel Clause Adjustment (FCA). Our proposal would allow us to first apply these resources to the pilot program, up to 50 MW from Odell and 25 MW from North Star. The portions of Odell and North Star not used in Renewable\*Connect would continue to be recovered from all customers through FCA, as was approved in Docket Nos. E002/M-13-716 and E002/M-14-162 and similar to the current treatment of Moraine II in the Windsource program.<sup>17</sup>

We believe the reasoning that the Commission relied on to approve cost recovery for Odell and North Star does not conflict with this proposed new treatment. Our proposed treatment of Odell and North Star will not compromise our compliance obligations under either the Renewable Energy Standard or the Solar Energy Standard. We are on track to meet or exceed our targets under the standards, even without the RECs generated from the portions of these projects used for Renewable\*Connect. This pilot proposal is poised to benefit all customers, as no customers are excluded from participating. For these reasons, the Company requests

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<sup>16</sup> See Order Approving Acquisitions with Conditions, Docket Nos. E-002/M-13-603 and E-002/M-13-716, December 13, 2013. "Having determined that Xcel's proposals warrant approval under Minn. Stat. § 216B.1645, the Commission finds the costs of the Courtenay and Odell power purchase agreements are eligible for recovery under Minn. Stat. § 216B.1645, subd. 2." Page 17. See also, Order Approving Solar Portfolio, Docket No. E002/M-14-162. "The Commission hereby approves the Marshall Solar, MN Solar 1, and North Star Solar PPAs, allows Xcel to count the energy purchased under the approved PPAs toward its SES requirements, and authorizes the Company to recover the costs of the PPAs through the Fuel Clause Rider consistent with past practice regarding jurisdictional allocation of costs." Page 10.

<sup>17</sup> See Order dated April 24, 2009 in Docket No. E002/M-08-1487.

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approval of its proposal, which modifies the Commission’s orders approving cost recovery for Odell and North Star.

Finally, if the alternative to use the North Dakota portion of the 187-MW solar portfolio is used for the initial tranche, then the Company requests the Commission approve the recovery of portions not used in Renewable\*Connect from all customers through the FCA. The Commission has already determined the 187-MW solar portfolio is “a cost-effective, reasonable, and prudent approach to complying with the Solar Energy Standard.”<sup>18</sup> If authorized, portions not used for Renewable\*Connect will be available to meet the Solar Energy Standard. As explained in the Company’s pending request for recovery of the incremental cost of the North Dakota portion of the Aurora Distributed Solar Power Purchase Agreement,<sup>19</sup> there are strong precedential and policy reasons for allowing such recovery.

**CONCLUSION**

We are pleased to offer a new choice for customers to participate in the benefits of renewable energy generation. By making this program available on a pilot basis directly to our new and existing customers, we hope to meet the unique needs of customers through a tailored offer that provides customers with sustainability benefits, increased fuel price certainty, and ease of use.

Xcel Energy respectfully requests that the Commission:

- approve our proposal for implementing the Renewable\*Connect program on a pilot basis,
- authorize the Company to dedicate a portion of wind from Odell Wind Farm and solar from the North Star Solar Project, and
- approve our proposed program tariff and tariffed Customer Agreement.

Dated: November 12, 2015

Northern States Power Company

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<sup>18</sup> Docket No. E002/M-14-162, Order Approving Solar Portfolio, p. 2 (Mar. 24, 2015).

<sup>19</sup> Docket No. E002/M-15-330.

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STATE OF MINNESOTA  
BEFORE THE  
MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Beverly Jones Heydinger	Chair
Nancy Lange	Commissioner
Dan Lipschultz	Commissioner
John Tuma	Commissioner
Betsy Wergin	Commissioner

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF  
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY  
FOR APPROVAL OF A  
RENEWABLE\*CONNECT PILOT PROGRAM

DOCKET NO. E002/M-15-\_\_\_\_\_

**PETITION**

**SUMMARY OF FILING**

Please take notice that on November 12, 2015, Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, filed with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission a Petition for approval of a Renewable\*Connect pilot program. The Company proposes to offer customers the option to source their energy from renewable sources. Customers will pay to receive wind and solar energy, and the Company will retire Renewable Energy Certificates on behalf of the customer.



**PUBLIC DOCUMENT –  
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**XCEL ENERGY – RENEWABLE PANEL STUDY MINNESOTA**

**This document is trade secret in its entirety.**

This document is a 27 page Power Point presentation summarizing the results of a customer survey conducted in Spring, 2015. The purpose of the survey was to better understand customer interests, perceptions, motivations and preferences regarding Xcel Energy and renewable energy.

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**Large Account Renewable Energy Options Survey**

**This document is trade secret in its entirety.**

The document summarizes the results of a customer survey performed with a subset of the the Company's managed account customers, conducted in the first quarter of 2015. The survey consisted of several questions regarding the goals, preferences and interest in different green rate options of the respondents.

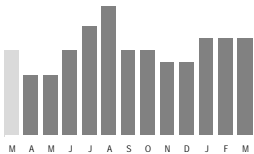


NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

Page 1 of 2

MAILING ADDRESS		ACCOUNT NUMBER	DUE DATE
J. SMITH 5555 MAIN STREET CITY MN 55XXX-XXXX		XX-XXXXXXX-X	05/18/2015
STATEMENT NUMBER	STATEMENT DATE	AMOUNT DUE	
XXXXXXXXXX	4/09/2015	<b>\$93.35</b>	

YOUR MONTHLY ELECTRICITY USAGE



DAILY AVERAGES	Last Year	This Year
Temperature	26° F	27° F
Electricity kWh	23.8	23.3
Electricity Cost	3.17	\$3.22

SUMMARY OF CURRENT CHARGES (detailed charges begin on page 2)

Other Recurring Charges	\$93.35
<b>Current Charges</b>	<b>\$93.35</b>

ACCOUNT BALANCE

Previous Balance	\$98.29
Payment Received	Check Free 09/10
Balance Forward	-\$98.29 CR
Current Charges	\$0.00
<b>Amount Due</b>	<b>\$93.35</b>

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR BILL

Different fuel sources are used to generate electricity, and they produce different air emissions. For updated environmental information for the year ended 2016, go to [www.xcelenergy.com/MN](http://www.xcelenergy.com/MN) Rates, then go to Additional Resources, Bill Inserts and Brochures/Insider Your Electric Bill-Environmental Disclosure & Costs.

Thank you for your payment

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR BILL?

See our website: [xcelenergy.com](http://xcelenergy.com)  
 Email us at: [Customerservice@xcelenergy.com](mailto:Customerservice@xcelenergy.com)  
 Please Call: 1-800-481-4700  
 Hearing Impaired: 1-800-895-4949  
 Fax: 1-800-311-0050  
 Or write us at: XCEL ENERGY  
 PO BOX 8  
 EAU CLAIRE WI 54702-0008

RETURN BOTTOM PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT - PLEASE DO NOT USE STAPLES, TAPE OR PAPER CLIPS



ACCOUNT NUMBER	DUE DATE	AMOUNT DUE	AMOUNT ENCLOSED
XX-XXXXXXX-X	05/18/2015	<b>\$93.35</b>	

To avoid a late pay charge of 1% of the unpaid balance, payment of total amount must be received by due date.  
Make your check payable to XCEL ENERGY

MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

manifest line

J. SMITH  
5555 MAIN STREET  
CITY MN 55XXX-XXXX

XCEL ENERGY  
P.O. BOX 9477  
MPLS MN 55484-9477



MAILING ADDRESS	ACCOUNT NUMBER	DUE DATE	
J. SMITH 5555 MAIN STREET CITY MN 55XXX-XXXX	XX-XXXXXXX-X	05/18/2015	
	STATEMENT NUMBER	STATEMENT DATE	AMOUNT DUE
	XXXXXXXXXX	04/09/2015	\$93.35

SERVICE ADDRESS: 5555 Main St, City, MN 55XXX-XXXX  
NEXT READ DATE: 10/22/2017

**ELECTRICITY SERVICE DETAILS**

PREMISES NUMBER: XXXXXXXXXX  
INVOICE NUMBER: XXXXXXXXXX

METER READING INFORMATION			
METER XXXXXXXXXX	Read Dates: 2/13/17 - 03/14/17 (29 days)		
DESCRIPTION	CURRENT READING	PREVIOUS READING	USAGE
Total Energy	18184 Actual	17509 Actual	675 kWh

**ELECTRICITY CHARGES**

RATE: Res Overhead

DESCRIPTION	USAGE UNITS	RATE	CHARGE
Basic Service Chg			\$8.00
Energy Charge Winter	675 kWh	\$0.073930	\$49.90
Fuel Charge Renewable*Connect	675 kWh	<del>\$0.028406</del> \$0.035960	\$24.27
Affordability Chrg			\$0.71
Resource Adjustment			\$3.33
<b>Subtotal</b>			\$86.22
City Fees			\$0.86
Transit Improvement Tax		0.25%	\$0.22
County Tax		0.15%	\$0.13
State Tax		6.875%	\$5.93
<b>Total</b>			\$93.35

**INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR BILL**

For an average residential customer, 56% of your bill refers to power plant costs, 8% to high voltage line costs and 36% to the cost of local wires that are connected to your home.

### Renewable\*Connect Pricing Options with Rate Components

Based on a Blend of 50MWs of Wind & 25MWs of Solar Production - Cents per kWh

	Effective Rate
<b>Month-to-Month Participation</b>	
Delevelized Resource Cost	3.2275
Capacity Credit	0.6562
Net Resources Cost	2.5713
Neutrality Charge	0.4747
Total Resource Cost	3.0460
Administrative Cost	0.5500
Month to Month Renewable*Connect Rate	3.5960

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
<b>5-Year Contract</b>	YR1	YR2	YR3	YR4	YR5	YR6	YR7	YR8	YR9	YR10
Resource Cost	3.1649	3.2371	3.3106	3.3862	3.4639	3.5431	3.6235	3.7061	3.7909	3.8780
Capacity Credit	0.6562	0.6719	0.6881	0.7046	0.7215	0.7387	0.7565	0.7746	0.7931	0.8121
Net Resources Cost	2.5087	2.5652	2.6225	2.6816	2.7424	2.8044	2.8670	2.9315	2.9978	3.0659
Neutrality Charge	0.4747	0.4798	0.4851	0.4904	0.4959	0.5016	0.5073	0.5131	0.5192	0.5253
Total Resource Cost	2.9834	3.0450	3.1076	3.1720	3.2383	3.3060	3.3743	3.4446	3.5170	3.5912
Administrative Cost	0.3000	0.2750	0.2500	0.2000	0.1500	0.1000	0.1000	0.1000	0.1000	0.1000
5-Year Renewable*Connect Rate	3.2834	3.3200	3.3576	3.3720	3.3883	3.4060	3.4743	3.5446	3.6170	3.6912
		1.1%	1.1%	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
<b>10-Year Contract</b>	YR1	YR2	YR3	YR4	YR5	YR6	YR7	YR8	YR9	YR10
Resource Cost	3.1649	3.2371	3.3106	3.3862	3.4639	3.5431	3.6235	3.7061	3.7909	3.8780
Capacity Credit	0.6562	0.6719	0.6881	0.7046	0.7215	0.7387	0.7565	0.7746	0.7931	0.8121
Net Resources Cost	2.5087	2.5652	2.6225	2.6816	2.7424	2.8044	2.8670	2.9315	2.9978	3.0659
Neutrality Charge	0.4747	0.4798	0.4851	0.4904	0.4959	0.4891	0.4823	0.4756	0.4692	0.4628
Total Resource Cost	2.9834	3.0450	3.1076	3.1720	3.2383	3.2935	3.3493	3.4071	3.4670	3.5287
Administrative Cost	0.2500	0.2250	0.2000	0.1500	0.1000	0.1000	0.1000	0.1000	0.1000	0.1000
10-Year Renewable*Connect Rate	3.2334	3.2700	3.3076	3.3220	3.3383	3.3935	3.4493	3.5071	3.5670	3.6287
		1.1%	1.1%	0.4%	0.5%	1.7%	1.6%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%

**Renewable\*Connect Capacity Credit***Based on methodology filed in Docket No. 15-826 for the Windsorce Rider*

<b>Wind</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
1 Annual CT Resource Cost /kW	\$68.90	\$70.44	\$72.02	\$73.64	\$75.29	\$76.97	\$78.70	\$80.46	\$82.26	\$84.10
2 MISO Accredited Wind Capacity	14.70%	14.70%	14.70%	14.70%	14.70%	14.70%	14.70%	14.70%	14.70%	14.70%
3 Annual Avoided Capacity Costs (Line 1 * Line 2)	\$10.13	\$10.35	\$10.59	\$10.83	\$11.07	\$11.31	\$11.57	\$11.83	\$12.09	\$12.36
4 Wind Capacity MW (AC)	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
5 Annual Capacity Value (\$000s) (Line 3 * Line 4)	\$506	\$518	\$529	\$541	\$553	\$566	\$578	\$591	\$605	\$618
<b>Solar</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
6 Annual CT Resource Cost /kW	\$68.90	\$70.44	\$72.02	\$73.64	\$75.29	\$76.97	\$78.70	\$80.46	\$82.26	\$84.10
7 MISO Accredited Solar Capacity	52.30%	52.30%	52.30%	52.30%	52.30%	52.30%	52.30%	52.30%	52.30%	52.30%
8 Annual Avoided Capacity Costs (Line 6 * Line 7)	\$36.03	\$36.84	\$37.67	\$38.51	\$39.38	\$40.26	\$41.16	\$42.08	\$43.02	\$43.98
9 Solar PV Capacity MW (AC)	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
10 Annual Capacity Value (\$000s) (Line 8 * Line 9)	\$901	\$921	\$942	\$963	\$984	\$1,006	\$1,029	\$1,052	\$1,076	\$1,100
<b>Total Wind and Solar</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
11 Renewable*Connect Average Annual Capacity Factor	34.4%	34.3%	34.3%	34.2%	34.1%	34.1%	34.0%	34.0%	33.9%	33.9%
12 Availability Factor 95%	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%
13 Hours per Year	8,760	8,760	8,760	8,760	8,760	8,760	8,760	8,760	8,760	8,760
14 Annual Hours of Operation (Line 11 * Line 12 * Line 13)	2,859	2,855	2,851	2,846	2,842	2,837	2,833	2,829	2,825	2,820
15 Renewable*Connect Capacity MW (AC)	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75
16 Annual Generation Forecast - MWh (000s) (Line 14 * Line 15)	214,459	214,124	213,791	213,462	213,134	212,808	212,485	212,164	211,846	211,529
17 Annual Capacity Value (\$000s) (Line 5 + Line 10)	\$1,407	\$1,439	\$1,471	\$1,504	\$1,538	\$1,572	\$1,607	\$1,643	\$1,680	\$1,718
18 Capacity Credit Cents per kWh (Line 16 / Line 17)	<b>0.6562 ¢</b>	<b>0.6719 ¢</b>	<b>0.6881 ¢</b>	<b>0.7046 ¢</b>	<b>0.7215 ¢</b>	<b>0.7387 ¢</b>	<b>0.7565 ¢</b>	<b>0.7746 ¢</b>	<b>0.7931 ¢</b>	<b>0.8121 ¢</b>

### Potential Non-Participant Impact from Renewable\*Connect (R\*C)

Illustrative Example

	2017 - No R*C Program			2017 - With R*C Program			Impact			
	GWh	\$ Cost	Rate/MWH	GWh	\$ Cost	Rate/MWH	GWh	\$ Cost	Rate/MWH	%
<b>Resource View</b>										
Renewable Connect (R*C) (Excludes Nuetrality Charge)	0	0	0	178	5,011	28.09	178	5,011	28.09	-
Legacy Renewable	7,561	317,838	42.04	7,561	317,838	42.04	0	0	0.00	
Standard	23,342	553,863	23.73	23,342	553,863	23.73	0	0	0.00	
Avoided Energy				(178)	(4,233)	23.73	(178)	(4,233)	23.73	
<b>System Energy</b>	30,903	871,702	28.208	30,724	867,468	28.23	0	0	0.03	0.1%
R*C and System Energy	30,903	871,702	28.21	30,903	872,479	28.23	0	778	0.03	0.1%

	2017 - No R*C Program			2017 With R*C Program			Impact			
	GWh	\$ Cost	Rate/MWH	GWh	\$ Cost	Rate/MWH	GWh	\$ Cost	Rate/MWH	%
<b>Customer View</b>										
<b>System Customers</b>										
Legacy Renewable	7,517	316,003	42.04	7,561	317,838	42.04	44	1,835	42.04	
Standard	23,207	550,666	23.73	23,342	553,863	23.73	135	3,198	23.73	
Avoided Energy				(178)	(4,233)	23.73	(178)	(4,233)	23.73	
System Unadjusted	30,724	866,669	28.21	30,724	867,468	28.23	0	799	28.23	0.1%
Economic Impact Adjustment System					(799)	(0.03)		(799)	(0.03)	-0.1%
	30,724	866,669	28.21	30,724	866,669	28.21	0	0	0.00	0.0%
<b>Renewable*Connect Customers</b>										
Legacy Renewable	44	1,835	42.04				(44)	(1,835)	0.00	
Standard	135	3,198	23.73				(135)	(3,198)	0.00	
New Renewable				178	5,011	28.09	178	5,011	0.00	
R*C Unadjusted	178	5,033	28.21	178	5,011	28.09	0	(22)	(0.12)	-0.4%
Economic Impact Adjustment					799	4.48		799	4.48	15.9%
R*C Adjusted	178	5,033	28.21	178	5,810	32.57	0	778	4.36	15.5%
<b>Total System</b>	30,903	871,702	28.21	30,903	872,479	28.23	0	778	0.00	0.1%

**Renewable\*Connect Monthly Generation and Usage Balancing***Illustrative Example (MWhs)*

<b>Renewable*Connect Production (Hypothetical)</b>										
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
Jan	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000
Feb	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Mar	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000
Apr	21,000	21,000	21,000	21,000	21,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
May	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000	22,000	22,000
Jun	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000
Jul	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000
Aug	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000
Sep	16,000	16,000	16,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Oct	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000
Nov	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000
Dec	16,000	16,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Total	214,000	214,000	213,000	212,000	212,000	211,000	210,000	210,000	209,000	209,000

<b>Potential Production Available for Delivery (Remove Curtailments and Line losses)</b>										
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
Jan	16,638	16,638	16,638	16,638	16,638	16,638	16,638	16,638	16,638	16,638
Feb	13,865	13,865	13,865	13,865	13,865	13,865	13,865	13,865	13,865	13,865
Mar	17,563	17,563	17,563	17,563	17,563	17,563	17,563	17,563	17,563	17,563
Apr	19,411	19,411	19,411	19,411	19,411	18,487	18,487	18,487	18,487	18,487
May	21,260	21,260	21,260	21,260	21,260	21,260	21,260	21,260	20,336	20,336
Jun	15,714	15,714	15,714	15,714	15,714	15,714	15,714	15,714	15,714	15,714
Jul	14,790	14,790	14,790	14,790	14,790	14,790	14,790	14,790	14,790	14,790
Aug	12,941	12,941	12,941	12,941	12,941	12,941	12,941	12,941	12,941	12,941
Sep	14,790	14,790	14,790	13,865	13,865	13,865	13,865	13,865	13,865	13,865
Oct	18,487	18,487	18,487	18,487	18,487	18,487	17,563	17,563	17,563	17,563
Nov	17,563	17,563	17,563	17,563	17,563	17,563	17,563	17,563	17,563	17,563
Dec	14,790	14,790	13,865	13,865	13,865	13,865	13,865	13,865	13,865	13,865
Total	197,812	197,812	196,888	195,963	195,963	195,039	194,115	194,115	193,190	193,190

<b>Potential Renewable*Connect Sales (Target is 90% of available production)</b>										
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
Jan	15,379	15,355	15,331	15,307	15,284	15,260	15,237	15,214	15,191	15,169
Feb	13,932	13,910	13,889	13,867	13,846	13,825	13,804	13,783	13,762	13,742
Mar	14,607	14,584	14,561	14,539	14,517	14,494	14,472	14,451	14,429	14,407
Apr	13,149	13,128	13,108	13,088	13,068	13,048	13,028	13,008	12,989	12,969
May	13,713	13,692	13,670	13,649	13,628	13,607	13,587	13,566	13,546	13,526
Jun	15,251	15,227	15,203	15,180	15,157	15,134	15,111	15,088	15,065	15,043
Jul	17,276	17,249	17,222	17,196	17,169	17,143	17,117	17,091	17,065	17,040
Aug	16,872	16,846	16,820	16,794	16,768	16,742	16,717	16,692	16,667	16,642
Sep	14,924	14,901	14,878	14,855	14,832	14,809	14,787	14,764	14,742	14,720
Oct	14,347	14,324	14,302	14,280	14,258	14,236	14,215	14,193	14,172	14,151
Nov	13,997	13,975	13,954	13,932	13,911	13,889	13,868	13,847	13,827	13,806
Dec	14,966	14,943	14,919	14,896	14,874	14,851	14,828	14,806	14,784	14,762
Total	178,412	178,134	177,857	177,583	177,310	177,040	176,771	176,504	176,239	175,975

<b>Production Available for Delivery to the System Net of Potential Renewable*Connect Sales</b>										
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
Jan	1,260	1,284	1,307	1,331	1,355	1,378	1,401	1,424	1,447	1,470
Feb	(67)	(45)	(23)	(2)	19	40	61	82	103	124
Mar	2,956	2,979	3,001	3,024	3,046	3,068	3,090	3,112	3,134	3,155
Apr	6,263	6,283	6,303	6,324	6,344	6,364	6,384	6,404	6,424	6,444
May	7,547	7,569	7,590	7,611	7,632	7,653	7,673	7,694	7,714	7,734
Jun	463	487	511	534	557	581	603	626	649	671
Jul	(2,486)	(2,459)	(2,433)	(2,406)	(2,380)	(2,353)	(2,327)	(2,301)	(2,276)	(2,250)
Aug	(3,931)	(3,905)	(3,879)	(3,853)	(3,827)	(3,801)	(3,776)	(3,751)	(3,726)	(3,701)
Sep	(134)	(111)	(88)	(65)	(42)	(19)	4	29	54	79
Oct	4,141	4,163	4,185	4,207	4,229	4,251	4,273	4,295	4,317	4,339
Nov	3,566	3,587	3,609	3,631	3,652	3,673	3,694	3,715	3,736	3,757
Dec	(176)	(153)	(130)	(107)	(84)	(61)	(38)	(15)	8	31
Total	19,400	19,678	19,956	20,234	20,512	20,790	21,068	21,346	21,624	21,902



**PUBLIC DOCUMENT:  
TRADE SECRET INFORMATION EXCISED -  
PUBLIC DATA**

**Renewable\*Connect Sales, Revenue and Expense Tracker***Illustrative Example (Sales in MWhs)*

<b>Renewable*Connect Sales</b>													
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Month-to-Month	5,126	4,644	4,869	4,383	4,571	5,084	5,759	5,624	4,975	4,782	4,666	4,989	59,471
5 Year Contract	5,126	4,644	4,869	4,383	4,571	5,084	5,759	5,624	4,975	4,782	4,666	4,989	59,471
10 Year Contract	5,126	4,644	4,869	4,383	4,571	5,084	5,759	5,624	4,975	4,782	4,666	4,989	59,471
Total	15,379	13,932	14,607	13,149	13,713	15,251	17,276	16,872	14,924	14,347	13,997	14,966	178,412
<b>[TRADE SECRET BEGINS:]</b>													
Wind Requirement													
Solar Requirement													
Total Renewable*Connect Requirement	15,379	13,932	14,607	13,149	13,713	15,251	17,276	16,872	14,924	14,347	13,997	14,966	178,412
Total Wind Production (Hypothetical)	60,000	50,000	60,000	60,000	70,000	50,000	40,000	30,000	50,000	70,000	70,000	60,000	670,000
Total Solar Production (Hypothetical)	10,000	14,000	19,000	22,000	25,000	22,000	25,000	24,000	16,000	13,000	8,000	7,000	205,000
Total Production	70,000	64,000	79,000	82,000	95,000	72,000	65,000	54,000	66,000	83,000	78,000	67,000	875,000
<b>[TRADE SECRET BEGINS:]</b>													
Wind Production to FCA													
Solar Production to FCA													
Total Production to FCA	54,621	50,068	64,393	68,851	81,287	56,749	47,724	37,128	51,076	68,653	64,003	52,034	696,588
<b>Renewable*Connect Program Recovery (Dollars)</b>													
Payments from Customer	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Month-to-Month	184,341	166,999	175,087	157,612	164,373	182,807	207,081	202,241	178,889	171,968	167,779	179,392	2,138,569
5 Year Contract	168,316	152,482	159,867	143,911	150,084	166,916	189,080	184,660	163,338	157,019	153,194	163,798	1,952,663
10 Year Contract	165,753	150,160	157,433	141,719	147,799	164,374	186,201	181,848	160,851	154,628	150,861	161,303	1,922,928
	518,409	469,641	492,387	443,242	462,256	514,097	582,362	568,750	503,077	483,614	471,833	504,493	6,014,160
Capacity Credits	100,916	91,422	95,850	86,283	89,985	100,076	113,365	110,715	97,931	94,142	91,849	98,207	1,170,742
Total Renewable Connect Revenue	619,325	561,063	588,237	529,525	552,241	614,173	695,727	679,465	601,008	577,756	563,682	602,699	7,184,902
<b>Renewable*Connect Program Expense (Dollars)</b>													
Credits to the Fuel Clause	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
R*C Production Payments	485,315	439,660	460,954	414,946	432,747	481,278	545,185	532,442	475,066	456,686	445,562	476,403	5,646,243
Neutrality Recovery	73,003	66,136	69,339	62,418	65,096	72,396	82,009	80,092	70,844	68,103	66,444	71,043	846,923
Credit to the Fuel Clause	558,318	505,795	530,293	477,364	497,843	553,674	627,194	612,534	545,910	524,790	512,006	547,446	6,493,166
Marketing and Admin. Expense	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	664,548
Total Renewable Connect Expense	613,697	561,174	585,672	532,743	553,222	609,053	682,573	667,913	601,289	580,169	567,385	602,825	7,157,714
<b>Over/Under Recovery - Reserve for Future Expenses</b>	5,628	(111)	2,565	(3,218)	(980)	5,120	13,154	11,552	(281)	(2,412)	(3,703)	(126)	27,188

**PUBLIC DOCUMENT:  
TRADE SECRET INFORMATION EXCISED -  
PUBLIC DATA**

**Renewable\*Connect Sales, Revenue and Expense Tracker***Illustrative Example (Sales in MWhs)*

MEMO: Individual Rate Component Recovery

**Neutrality (Dollars)**

Neutrality Revenue	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Month-to-Month	24,334	22,045	23,113	20,806	21,699	24,132	27,336	26,697	23,615	22,701	22,148	23,681	282,308
5 Year Contract	24,334	22,045	23,113	20,806	21,699	24,132	27,336	26,697	23,615	22,701	22,148	23,681	282,308
10 Year Contract	24,334	22,045	23,113	20,806	21,699	24,132	27,336	26,697	23,615	22,701	22,148	23,681	282,308
Total Neutrality Recovery	73,003	66,136	69,339	62,418	65,096	72,396	82,009	80,092	70,844	68,103	66,444	71,043	846,923

**Marketing & Admin (Dollars)**

Marketing and Admin. Charge Revenue	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Month-to-Month	28,194	25,542	26,779	24,106	25,141	27,960	31,673	30,932	27,361	26,302	25,661	27,438	327,089
5 Year Contract	15,379	13,932	14,607	13,149	13,713	15,251	17,276	16,872	14,924	14,347	13,997	14,966	178,412
10 Year Contract	12,816	11,610	12,172	10,957	11,428	12,709	14,397	14,060	12,437	11,955	11,664	12,472	148,677
	56,389	51,084	53,558	48,213	50,281	55,920	63,345	61,865	54,721	52,604	51,323	54,875	654,178
Marketing and Admin. Expenses	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Marketing Expense	49,255	49,255	49,255	49,255	49,255	49,255	49,255	49,255	49,255	49,255	49,255	49,255	591,060
Admin. Labor	6,124	6,124	6,124	6,124	6,124	6,124	6,124	6,124	6,124	6,124	6,124	6,124	73,488
Total Marketing & Admin Expense	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	55,379	664,548
Marketing/Admin - Over/(Under) Recovery	1,010	(4,295)	(1,821)	(7,166)	(5,098)	541	7,966	6,486	(658)	(2,775)	(4,056)	(504)	(10,370)

**Capacity Credit Amount Embedded in Base Rates (Dollars)**

Capacity Credit	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Renewable*Connect Sales	15,379	13,932	14,607	13,149	13,713	15,251	17,276	16,872	14,924	14,347	13,997	14,966	
Capacity Credit (Cents/kWh)	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.66	
Capacity Credits	100,916	91,422	95,850	86,283	89,985	100,076	113,365	110,715	97,931	94,142	91,849	98,207	1,170,742

**Redline**

**MINNESOTA ELECTRIC RATE BOOK - MPUC NO. 2**

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Date Filed:	<del>11-04-13</del> <u>11-12-15</u>	By: Christopher B. Clark	Effective Date:	<del>11-01-15</del>
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Docket No.	E002/ <del>GR-13-868M-15-</del>		Order Date:	<del>08-31-15</del>

**MINNESOTA ELECTRIC RATE BOOK – MPUC NO. 2**

**RATE SCHEDULES**

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		President, Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation		
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**VOLUNTARY RENEWABLE\*CONNECT PILOT PROGRAM  
RIDER**

Section No. 5  
Original Sheet No. 149

**AVAILABILITY**

The Renewable\*Connect program will be available to any customer who elects to participate in the program that would otherwise receive service under a rate schedule that is subject to the adjustments provided for in the Fuel Clause Rider.

In addition, customer bills under this rate are subject to the following adjustments and/or charges.

**RIDER**

Customer may elect to receive Renewable\*Connect energy service ("R\*C Service"). The following types of R\*C Service are available ("R\*C Service Type") in the following billing methods ("R\*C Billing Method"):

<u>R*C Service Types</u>	<u>R*C Billing Method</u>
<u>Month-to-Month</u>	<u>100 kWh Blocks</u>
<u>5 Years</u>	<u>Entire Monthly Usage</u>
<u>10 Years</u>	<u>Single Event</u>

Each month the Renewable\*Connect price ("R\*C Price") associated with the R\*C Service Type chosen by the customer will be applied to the R\*C Billing Method chosen by the customer, with partial 100 kWh blocks to be prorated on a kWh basis based on the customer's actual metered energy usage for the billing period (the product being the "R\*C Adjustment"); provided, however, that total usage will not exceed the customer's subscription level. The R\*C Price shall be applied to the customer's bill under the standard retail tariff each billing month according to the number of energy block(s) or total amount purchased. The R\*C Service is not subject to the Fuel Clause Rider but is subject to any other applicable adjustments and surcharges, including city surcharge or sales tax. The cost of the R\*C Service will appear each month on customers' bills as "Renewable\*Connect."

**DETERMINATION OF R\*C PRICE**

The R\*C Price shall be calculated as follows: for the month-to-month R\*C Service Type, pricing will be based on the partially levelized cost of the resources used to supply the program, adjusted for capacity credits and neutrality charges, plus recoverable program expenses. For the 5-year and 10-year R\*C Service Types, pricing shall be based on the actual cost of the resources used to supply the program adjusted, for capacity credits and neutrality charges, plus recoverable program expenses. Recoverable program expenses include renewable energy purchases, marketing, and other costs approved by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. The R\*C Price for the month-to-month R\*C Service Type may be revised annually with approval of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

(Continued on Sheet No. 5-150)

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Docket No. E002/M-15-

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**VOLUNTARY RENEWABLE\*CONNECT PILOT PROGRAM  
RIDER (CONTINUED)**

Section No. 5  
Original Sheet No. 150

**RATE**

The R\*C Price for each R\*C Service Type shall be as follows:

Month-To-Month R\*C Service Type \$0.035960 per kWh

5-Year and 10-Year R\*C Service Type

<u>Year</u>	<u>5-Year Contract</u>	<u>10-Year Contract</u>
	<u>(\$/kWh)</u>	<u>(\$/kWh)</u>
<u>2017</u>	<u>\$0.032834</u>	<u>\$0.032334</u>
<u>2018</u>	<u>\$0.033200</u>	<u>\$0.032700</u>
<u>2019</u>	<u>\$0.033576</u>	<u>\$0.033076</u>
<u>2020</u>	<u>\$0.033720</u>	<u>\$0.033220</u>
<u>2021</u>	<u>\$0.033883</u>	<u>\$0.033383</u>
<u>2022</u>	<u>\$0.034060</u>	<u>\$0.033935</u>
<u>2023</u>	<u>\$0.034743</u>	<u>\$0.034493</u>
<u>2024</u>	<u>\$0.035446</u>	<u>\$0.035071</u>
<u>2025</u>	<u>\$0.036170</u>	<u>\$0.035670</u>
<u>2026</u>	<u>\$0.036912</u>	<u>\$0.036287</u>

**NEUTRALITY CHARGE**

The R\*C Price includes a neutrality charge to ensure non-participating customers are not impacted by the Renewable\*Connect program. The standard neutrality charge is \$0.004747 per kWh. Customers receiving service under the Company's Business Incentive and Sustainability Rider, Competitive Response Rider, or Residential Electric Vehicle Service (Rate Code A08) shall not be subject to the neutrality charge portion of the R\*C Price.

**TRACKER ACCOUNT**

Due to the variability of renewable resources, the Renewable\*Connect program tracker account may have an excess or shortage of supply in any given hour or month. The Company will balance Renewable\*Connect program usage at the end of the program month and year in accordance with the expected resource blend. As a result, the program may require more or less of a share of the expected program allocation. The Company will maintain accounting of the monthly balance of total program production, total program usage, total revenues collected under the program and the expenses associated with offering the R\*C Service, including the renewable energy purchases, marketing and other costs for this program. The Company may petition the Commission annually to true up the marketing and administrative cost tracker balance and apply the resulting true-up factors to the Month-To-Month R\*C Service.

(Continued on Sheet No. 5-151)

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**VOLUNTARY RENEWABLE\*CONNECT PILOT PROGRAM  
RIDER (CONTINUED)**

Section No. 5  
Original Sheet No. 151

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE**

1. A customer may elect to subscribe by: (i) purchasing a specified number of 100 kWh blocks; (ii) the customer's entire usage; or (iii) entire usage for a special event; provided, however, that in no event shall the customer's total subscription exceed 10% of the total output of the resources used to supply the Renewable\*Connect program. For customers electing to receive their entire usage pursuant to the R\*C Service, Xcel Energy reserves the right to refuse R\*C Service for any portion of the customer's usage that exceeds their 12-month average usage as of the date R\*C Service was initiated. The minimum subscription to be billed each month is one 100 kWh block. In the event a customer's metered energy usage results in the partial consumption of a 100 kWh block, the charge on that block will be prorated accordingly.
2. Subscription periods are month-to-month, 5 years and 10 years. Month-to-month subscriptions shall continue until terminated by the customer with 30-day written notice. Customers that terminate 5-Year or 10-Year R\*C Service prior to the termination date shall be subject to a termination fee equal to the customer's actual R\*C Service usage for the 12-month period ended the date of the customer's notice of early termination multiplied by a per MWh amount of \$10.
3. The Company will submit reports to the Commission each April 1, or as otherwise ordered in relation to the tracker accounting.
4. For customers on time of day tariffs, their R\*C Service usage and any excess, non-R\*C Service usage shall both be assigned to the on-peak and off-peak periods in proportion to the customer's total billing period on-peak and off-peak usage.
5. Xcel Energy may, in its discretion, allow customers to subscribe to the R\*C Program on a limited basis for the energy used by a single event or series of events without making a long-term purchase commitment.
6. The discounts under Residential Controlled Air Conditioning and Water Heating Rider and Commercial and Industrial Controlled Air Conditioning Riders are not applicable to the charges under this Rider.
7. This Rider is provided to satisfy the conditions of Minn. Stat. §216B.169, subd. 2 related to renewable and high-efficiency energy rate options. The sales arrangements of renewable energy from the Renewable\*Connect program supplies are such that the power supply is sold only once to retail customers.
8. The Rider may only serve net energy needs of customers in excess of other renewable energy supplied by the customer or self-supplied.
9. Any customer taking service under Rider shall execute a Renewable\*Connect service agreement. The effective date of service under this Rider will be set forth in the service agreement.

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**Clean**

**MINNESOTA ELECTRIC RATE BOOK - MPUC NO. 2**

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**MINNESOTA ELECTRIC RATE BOOK – MPUC NO. 2**

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**RATE SCHEDULES**

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**VOLUNTARY RENEWABLE\*CONNECT PILOT PROGRAM  
RIDER**

Section No. 5  
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**AVAILABILITY**

The Renewable\*Connect program will be available to any customer who elects to participate in the program that would otherwise receive service under a rate schedule that is subject to the adjustments provided for in the Fuel Clause Rider.

In addition, customer bills under this rate are subject to the following adjustments and/or charges.

**RIDER**

Customer may elect to receive Renewable\*Connect energy service ("R\*C Service"). The following types of R\*C Service are available ("R\*C Service Type") in the following billing methods ("R\*C Billing Method"):

<u>R*C Service Types</u>	<u>R*C Billing Method</u>
Month-to-Month	100 kWh Blocks
5 Years	Entire Monthly Usage
10 Years	Single Event

Each month the Renewable\*Connect price ("R\*C Price") associated with the R\*C Service Type chosen by the customer will be applied to the R\*C Billing Method chosen by the customer, with partial 100 kWh blocks to be prorated on a kWh basis based on the customer's actual metered energy usage for the billing period (the product being the "R\*C Adjustment"); provided, however, that total usage will not exceed the customer's subscription level. The R\*C Price shall be applied to the customer's bill under the standard retail tariff each billing month according to the number of energy block(s) or total amount purchased. The R\*C Service is not subject to the Fuel Clause Rider but is subject to any other applicable adjustments and surcharges, including city surcharge or sales tax. The cost of the R\*C Service will appear each month on customers' bills as "Renewable\*Connect."

**DETERMINATION OF R\*C PRICE**

The R\*C Price shall be calculated as follows: for the month-to-month R\*C Service Type, pricing will be based on the partially levelized cost of the resources used to supply the program, adjusted for capacity credits and neutrality charges, plus recoverable program expenses. For the 5-year and 10-year R\*C Service Types, pricing shall be based on the actual cost of the resources used to supply the program adjusted, for capacity credits and neutrality charges, plus recoverable program expenses. Recoverable program expenses include renewable energy purchases, marketing, and other costs approved by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. The R\*C Price for the month-to-month R\*C Service Type may be revised annually with approval of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

(Continued on Sheet No. 5-150)

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**VOLUNTARY RENEWABLE\*CONNECT PILOT PROGRAM  
RIDER (CONTINUED)**

Section No. 5  
Original Sheet No. 150

**RATE**

The R\*C Price for each R\*C Service Type shall be as follows:

Month-To-Month R\*C Service Type \$0.035960 per kWh

5-Year and 10-Year R\*C Service Type

Year	5-Year Contract (\$/kWh)	10-Year Contract (\$/kWh)
2017	\$0.032834	\$0.032334
2018	\$0.033200	\$0.032700
2019	\$0.033576	\$0.033076
2020	\$0.033720	\$0.033220
2021	\$0.033883	\$0.033383
2022	\$0.034060	\$0.033935
2023	\$0.034743	\$0.034493
2024	\$0.035446	\$0.035071
2025	\$0.036170	\$0.035670
2026	\$0.036912	\$0.036287

**NEUTRALITY CHARGE**

The R\*C Price includes a neutrality charge to ensure non-participating customers are not impacted by the Renewable\*Connect program. The standard neutrality charge is \$0.004747 per kWh. Customers receiving service under the Company's Business Incentive and Sustainability Rider, Competitive Response Rider, or Residential Electric Vehicle Service (Rate Code A08) shall not be subject to the neutrality charge portion of the R\*C Price.

**TRACKER ACCOUNT**

Due to the variability of renewable resources, the Renewable\*Connect program tracker account may have an excess or shortage of supply in any given hour or month. The Company will balance Renewable\*Connect program usage at the end of the program month and year in accordance with the expected resource blend. As a result, the program may require more or less of a share of the expected program allocation. The Company will maintain accounting of the monthly balance of total program production, total program usage, total revenues collected under the program and the expenses associated with offering the R\*C Service, including the renewable energy purchases, marketing and other costs for this program. The Company may petition the Commission annually to true up the marketing and administrative cost tracker balance and apply the resulting true-up factors to the Month-To-Month R\*C Service.

(Continued on Sheet No. 5-151)

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**VOLUNTARY RENEWABLE\*CONNECT PILOT PROGRAM  
RIDER (CONTINUED)**

Section No. 5  
Original Sheet No. 151

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE**

1. A customer may elect to subscribe by: (i) purchasing a specified number of 100 kWh blocks; (ii) the customer's entire usage; or (iii) entire usage for a special event; provided, however, that in no event shall the customer's total subscription exceed 10% of the total output of the resources used to supply the Renewable\*Connect program. For customers electing to receive their entire usage pursuant to the R\*C Service, Xcel Energy reserves the right to refuse R\*C Service for any portion of the customer's usage that exceeds their 12-month average usage as of the date R\*C Service was initiated. The minimum subscription to be billed each month is one 100 kWh block. In the event a customer's metered energy usage results in the partial consumption of a 100 kWh block, the charge on that block will be prorated accordingly.
2. Subscription periods are month-to-month, 5 years and 10 years. Month-to-month subscriptions shall continue until terminated by the customer with 30-day written notice. Customers that terminate 5-Year or 10-Year R\*C Service prior to the termination date shall be subject to a termination fee equal to the customer's actual R\*C Service usage for the 12-month period ended the date of the customer's notice of early termination multiplied by a per MWh amount of \$10.
3. The Company will submit reports to the Commission each April 1, or as otherwise ordered in relation to the tracker accounting.
4. For customers on time of day tariffs, their R\*C Service usage and any excess, non-R\*C Service usage shall both be assigned to the on-peak and off-peak periods in proportion to the customer's total billing period on-peak and off-peak usage.
5. Xcel Energy may, in its discretion, allow customers to subscribe to the R\*C Program on a limited basis for the energy used by a single event or series of events without making a long-term purchase commitment.
6. The discounts under Residential Controlled Air Conditioning and Water Heating Rider and Commercial and Industrial Controlled Air Conditioning Riders are not applicable to the charges under this Rider.
7. This Rider is provided to satisfy the conditions of Minn. Stat. §216B.169, subd. 2 related to renewable and high-efficiency energy rate options. The sales arrangements of renewable energy from the Renewable\*Connect program supplies are such that the power supply is sold only once to retail customers.
8. The Rider may only serve net energy needs of customers in excess of other renewable energy supplied by the customer or self-supplied.
9. Any customer taking service under Rider shall execute a Renewable\*Connect service agreement. The effective date of service under this Rider will be set forth in the service agreement.

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**MINNESOTA ELECTRIC RATE BOOK – MPUC NO. 2**

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**VOLUNTARY RENEWABLE\*CONNECT PILOT PROGRAM  
RIDER SERVICE AGREEMENT**

Section No. 7  
Original Sheet No. 98



**RENEWABLE\*CONNECT SERVICE AGREEMENT**

THIS AGREEMENT, made this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, by and between NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY, a Minnesota corporation ("Xcel Energy") 414 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401, and \_\_\_\_\_ ("Customer").

**RECITALS**

Customer [has applied to receive] [currently receives] service from Xcel Energy at the following location (the "Premises"):

[Address Line 1]  
[Address Line 2]  
[City], [State] [Zip]

Customer desires to subscribe to Xcel Energy's Renewable\*Connect program, which is described in more detail in the General Rules and Regulations and/or in the Rate Schedules of Xcel Energy's Electric Rate Book for Customer's specific service, as they now exist or may hereafter be changed, on file with the state regulatory commission in the state where service the Premises is located. Unless otherwise defined in this Agreement, terms defined in Xcel Energy's Renewable\*Connect Rider, General Rules and Regulations and Rate Schedules are used in this Agreement as defined in Xcel Energy's Renewable\*Connect Rider, General Rules and Regulations and Rate Schedules.

**AGREEMENT**

Xcel Energy and Customer, each in consideration of the agreements of the other, agree as follows:

1. SUBSCRIPTION LEVEL: [Subject to the General Rules and Regulations and/or in the applicable Rate Schedules of Xcel Energy's Electric Rate Book, 100% of Customers' energy usage at the Premises will be served under Renewable\*Connect.] [Customer subscribes to \_\_\_\_\_ Renewable\*Connect blocks. Each Renewable\*Connect block is equal to 100 kWh.] [100% of Customer's energy usage for the \_\_\_\_\_ event (the "Special Event") to be held at the Premises with a starting date and time of \_\_\_\_\_ and an ending date and time of \_\_\_\_\_, as mutually agreed upon by the Customer and the Company.]
2. SUBSCRIPTION PERIOD: Customer subscribes to Renewable\*Connect for the following period:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ : Month-to-month
  - \_\_\_\_\_ : 5-Year
  - \_\_\_\_\_ : 10-Year
  - \_\_\_\_\_ : For the Special Event

(Continued on Sheet No. 7-99)

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**VOLUNTARY RENEWABLE\*CONNECT PILOT PROGRAM  
RIDER SERVICE AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)**

Section No. 7  
Original Sheet No. 99

3. TERM: This Agreement shall commence at 12:01 A.M. on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and shall continue [until terminated by at least 30-days' notice] [for a period ending at 12:01 A.M. on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_] [upon conclusion of the Special Event] (the "Termination Date"). After the Termination Date, Customer shall receive service as provided in the General Rules and Regulations and/or in the Rate Schedules of Xcel Energy's Electric Rate Book for Customer's specific service, as they now exist or may hereafter be changed, on file with the state regulatory commission in the state where service is provided.
4. EARLY TERMINATION: Customer may elect to terminate this agreement prior to the Termination Date upon 30-days' notice to Xcel Energy. If Customer so elects, Customer shall pay to Xcel Energy an early termination fee, which shall be calculated as follows: (i) Customer's actual usage for the 12-month period ended the date of the Customer's notice of early termination multiplied by (ii) the Early Termination Fee identified in the Renewable\*Connect Rider contained in Xcel Energy's Electric Rate Book as it now exists or may hereafter be changed, on file with the state regulatory commission in the state where service is provided. Further, if Customer elects to terminate this Agreement prior to the Termination Date, Customer may not subscribe the same load in a different Renewable\*Connect tranche.
5. CHANGE OF PREMISES: If Customer ceases to receive service at the Premises and begins taking service at another location in Xcel Energy's Minnesota service area, then Xcel Energy will automatically transfer Customer's Renewable\*Connect subscription to the new service location. If Customer's subscription period under Paragraph 2 was not month-to-month, the Customer ceases to receive service at the Premises and the Customer does not begin taking service at another location in Xcel Energy's Minnesota service area, then the provisions of Paragraph 4 regarding Early Termination shall apply.
6. CHARGES: All charges applicable to Customer shall be assessed as provided in the General Rules and Regulations and/or in the Rate Schedules of Xcel Energy's Electric Rate Book for Customer's specific service, as they now exist or may hereafter be changed, on file with the state regulatory commission in the state where service is provided.
7. RATES: All rates applicable to Customer shall be assessed as provided in the General Rules and Regulations and/or in the applicable Rate Schedules of Xcel Energy's Electric Rate Book for Customer's specific service, as they now exist or may hereafter be changed, on file with the state regulatory commission in the state where service is provided.

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**VOLUNTARY RENEWABLE\*CONNECT PILOT PROGRAM  
RIDER SERVICE AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)**

Section No. 7  
Original Sheet No. 100

8. TERMS AND CONDITIONS: The service hereunder shall be supplied for Customer's use as provided in the General Rules and Regulations and/or in the applicable Rate Schedules of Xcel Energy's Electric Rate Book for Customer's specific service, as they now exist or may hereafter be changed, on file with the state regulatory commission in the state where the services are provided. A copy of such Rules and Regulations and applicable Rate Schedules are available from Xcel Energy. Customer will not assign this Agreement except upon written consent of Xcel Energy.
9. TRADE SECRET DATA AND PERSONAL DATA. This Agreement and any information provided to Xcel Energy in support of this Agreement may be provided to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and/or other Minnesota regulatory agencies. Information related to Subscription Level and Subscription Term may be trade secrets of Customer and will be marked Trade Secret pursuant to Minnesota Government Data Practices Act.
10. COUNTERPARTS. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts and by any combination of the parties hereto in separate counterparts, each of which counterparts shall be an original and all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same Agreement.

**NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY,  
a Minnesota corporation ("Xcel Energy")**

<u>XCEL ENERGY REPRESENTATIVE</u>	<u>CUSTOMER</u>
Print Full Name: _____	Print Full Name: _____
Signature: _____	Signature: _____
Title: _____	Title: _____
Date: _____	Date: _____

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**MINNESOTA ELECTRIC RATE BOOK – MPUC NO. 2**

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**VOLUNTARY RENEWABLE\*CONNECT PILOT PROGRAM  
RIDER SERVICE AGREEMENT**

Section No. 7  
Original Sheet No. 98



**RENEWABLE\*CONNECT SERVICE AGREEMENT**

THIS AGREEMENT, made this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, by and between NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY, a Minnesota corporation ("Xcel Energy") 414 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401, and \_\_\_\_\_ ("Customer").

**RECITALS**

Customer [has applied to receive] [currently receives] service from Xcel Energy at the following location (the "Premises"):

[Address Line 1]  
[Address Line 2]  
[City], [State] [Zip]

Customer desires to subscribe to Xcel Energy's Renewable\*Connect program, which is described in more detail in the General Rules and Regulations and/or in the Rate Schedules of Xcel Energy's Electric Rate Book for Customer's specific service, as they now exist or may hereafter be changed, on file with the state regulatory commission in the state where service the Premises is located. Unless otherwise defined in this Agreement, terms defined in Xcel Energy's Renewable\*Connect Rider, General Rules and Regulations and Rate Schedules are used in this Agreement as defined in Xcel Energy's Renewable\*Connect Rider, General Rules and Regulations and Rate Schedules.

**AGREEMENT**

Xcel Energy and Customer, each in consideration of the agreements of the other, agree as follows:

1. **SUBSCRIPTION LEVEL:** [Subject to the General Rules and Regulations and/or in the applicable Rate Schedules of Xcel Energy's Electric Rate Book, 100% of Customers' energy usage at the Premises will be served under Renewable\*Connect.] [Customer subscribes to \_\_\_\_\_ Renewable\*Connect blocks. Each Renewable\*Connect block is equal to 100 kWh.] [100% of Customer's energy usage for the \_\_\_\_\_ event (the "Special Event") to be held at the Premises with a starting date and time of \_\_\_\_\_ and an ending date and time of \_\_\_\_\_, as mutually agreed upon by the Customer and the Company.]
2. **SUBSCRIPTION PERIOD:** Customer subscribes to Renewable\*Connect for the following period:  
\_\_\_\_\_: Month-to-month  
\_\_\_\_\_: 5-Year  
\_\_\_\_\_: 10-Year  
\_\_\_\_\_: For the Special Event

(Continued on Sheet No. 7-99)

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**VOLUNTARY RENEWABLE\*CONNECT PILOT PROGRAM  
RIDER SERVICE AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)**

Section No. 7  
Original Sheet No. 99

3. TERM: This Agreement shall commence at 12:01 A.M. on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and shall continue [until terminated by at least 30-days' notice] [for a period ending at 12:01 A.M. on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_] [upon conclusion of the Special Event] (the "Termination Date"). After the Termination Date, Customer shall receive service as provided in the General Rules and Regulations and/or in the Rate Schedules of Xcel Energy's Electric Rate Book for Customer's specific service, as they now exist or may hereafter be changed, on file with the state regulatory commission in the state where service is provided.
4. EARLY TERMINATION: Customer may elect to terminate this agreement prior to the Termination Date upon 30-days' notice to Xcel Energy. If Customer so elects, Customer shall pay to Xcel Energy an early termination fee, which shall be calculated as follows: (i) Customer's actual usage for the 12-month period ended the date of the Customer's notice of early termination multiplied by (ii) the Early Termination Fee identified in the Renewable\*Connect Rider contained in Xcel Energy's Electric Rate Book as it now exists or may hereafter be changed, on file with the state regulatory commission in the state where service is provided. Further, if Customer elects to terminate this Agreement prior to the Termination Date, Customer may not subscribe the same load in a different Renewable\*Connect tranche.
5. CHANGE OF PREMISES: If Customer ceases to receive service at the Premises and begins taking service at another location in Xcel Energy's Minnesota service area, then Xcel Energy will automatically transfer Customer's Renewable\*Connect subscription to the new service location. If Customer's subscription period under Paragraph 2 was not month-to-month, the Customer ceases to receive service at the Premises and the Customer does not begin taking service at another location in Xcel Energy's Minnesota service area, then the provisions of Paragraph 4 regarding Early Termination shall apply.
6. CHARGES: All charges applicable to Customer shall be assessed as provided in the General Rules and Regulations and/or in the Rate Schedules of Xcel Energy's Electric Rate Book for Customer's specific service, as they now exist or may hereafter be changed, on file with the state regulatory commission in the state where service is provided.
7. RATES: All rates applicable to Customer shall be assessed as provided in the General Rules and Regulations and/or in the applicable Rate Schedules of Xcel Energy's Electric Rate Book for Customer's specific service, as they now exist or may hereafter be changed, on file with the state regulatory commission in the state where service is provided.

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N

(Continued on Sheet No. 7-100)

Date Filed: 11-12-15 By: Christopher B. Clark Effective Date:  
President, Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation  
Docket No. E002/M-15- Order Date:

**VOLUNTARY RENEWABLE\*CONNECT PILOT PROGRAM  
RIDER SERVICE AGREEMENT (CONTINUED)**

Section No. 7  
Original Sheet No. 100

8. **TERMS AND CONDITIONS:** The service hereunder shall be supplied for Customer's use as provided in the General Rules and Regulations and/or in the applicable Rate Schedules of Xcel Energy's Electric Rate Book for Customer's specific service, as they now exist or may hereafter be changed, on file with the state regulatory commission in the state where the services are provided. A copy of such Rules and Regulations and applicable Rate Schedules are available from Xcel Energy. Customer will not assign this Agreement except upon written consent of Xcel Energy.
  
9. **TRADE SECRET DATA AND PERSONAL DATA.** This Agreement and any information provided to Xcel Energy in support of this Agreement may be provided to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and/or other Minnesota regulatory agencies. Information related to Subscription Level and Subscription Term may be trade secrets of Customer and will be marked Trade Secret pursuant to Minnesota Government Data Practices Act.
  
10. **COUNTERPARTS.** This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts and by any combination of the parties hereto in separate counterparts, each of which counterparts shall be an original and all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same Agreement.

**NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY,  
a Minnesota corporation ("Xcel Energy")**

XCEL ENERGY REPRESENTATIVE

CUSTOMER

Print Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

N  
|  
N

Date Filed: 11-12-15

By: Christopher B. Clark

Effective Date:

President, Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation

Docket No. E002/M-15-

Order Date:



## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Jim Erickson, hereby certify that I have this day served copies of the foregoing document on the attached list of persons.

xx by depositing a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped with postage paid in the United States mail at Minneapolis, Minnesota

xx electronic filing

Docket No. E002/M-15-\_\_\_\_

**XCEL ENERGY'S MISCELLANEOUS ELECTRIC SERVICE LIST  
SERVICE LIST DOCKET NO. E002/M-14-162  
SERVICE LIST DOCKET NO. E002/13-603**

Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> day of November 2015

/s/

---

Jim Erickson

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Christopher	Anderson	canderson@allete.com	Minnesota Power	30 W Superior St  Duluth, MN 558022191	Electronic Service	No	GEN_SL_Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy-Elec_Xcel Miscl Electric
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