



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

June 1, 2017

—VIA ELECTRONIC FILING—

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

RE: COMPLIANCE FILING
RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING TARIFF
DOCKET NO. E002/M-15-111

Dear Mr. Wolf:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, submits this filing in compliance with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's June 22, 2015 *ORDER APPROVING TARIFFS AND REQUIRING FILINGS* in Docket No. E002/M-15-111. As specified by Order point 8, Xcel Energy is to provide the following:

- "8. *Annually, by June 1st, each utility must file an Electric Vehicle Tariff Report in its electric vehicle tariff docket. Each utility must include, on a per-quarter basis and in addition to the information required by Minn. Stat. § 216B.1614, subd. 3(1) and (2), the following information in its reports:*
- a. The amount of energy sold in on- and off-peak periods, if applicable;*
 - b. A brief description of all development and promotional activities and their costs;*
 - c. The number of customers choosing the renewable-source option;*
 - d. The status of the communications costs tracker account, if applicable; and*
 - e. Copies of any EV promotional materials distributed to customers."*

We have electronically filed this document with the Commission, and copies have been served on the parties on the attached service list.

Daniel P. Wolf
Page Two
June 1, 2017

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this filing in greater detail, please contact Cynthia Harrington at cynthia.d.harrington@xcelenergy.com or (612) 330-5953.

Sincerely,

/s/

AMY A. LIBERKOWSKI
DIRECTOR, REGULATORY PRICING & ANALYSIS

Enclosure
cc: Service List

STATE OF MINNESOTA
BEFORE THE
MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Nancy Lange	Chair
Dan Lipschultz	Commissioner
Matthew Schuerger	Commissioner
Katie J. Sieben	Commissioner
John A. Tuma	Commissioner

IN THE MATTER OF NORTHERN STATES
POWER COMPANY'S ANNUAL REPORT ON
RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV)
CHARGING TARIFF

DOCKET NO. E002/M-15-111

ANNUAL REPORT

INTRODUCTION

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, submits to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission this Annual Report regarding our Residential Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Tariff for the period ending April 30, 2017. We submit this Report pursuant to the Commission's Order dated June 22, 2015 in this Docket and request the Commission accept our 2017 Annual Report.

Our Residential EV Charging Service (EV Rate or EV Charging Rate) was launched on August 1, 2015 as a voluntary option to provide residential customers an incentive to charge their electric vehicles during off-peak hours. This rate is among the Company's broader activities to support existing and potential EV drivers, which we discuss further below.

In its Order, the Commission required that each utility file an Annual EV Tariff Report, including the following information on a per quarter basis:

- the number of customers who have arranged to purchase electricity under the tariff;
- the total amount of electricity sold under the tariff;
- the amount of energy sold in on- and off-peak periods, if applicable;
- a brief description of all development and promotional activities and their costs;
- the number of customers choosing the renewable-source option;
- the status of the communications costs tracker account, if applicable; and
- copies of any EV promotional materials distributed to customers.

In this Report we provide the information requested above for the period beginning October 2015 through April 2017, including an update on our outreach and research efforts related to EV technologies related to this tariff.

ANNUAL REPORT

A. Customer Participation and Usage

Customer participation in the Residential EV Charging Rate and their energy usage history by month through April 2017 is summarized below in Table 1.

Table 1: Total Customer Participation and Energy Usage

Date	Monthly KWH			
	Customers	On-Peak	Off-Peak	Total
Oct-2015	8	0	1,443	1,443
Nov-2015	7	77	1,967	2,044
Dec-2015	9	128	3,008	3,136
Jan-2016	15	413	6,263	6,676
Feb-2016	13	181	5,716	5,897
Mar-2016	17	331	6,575	6,906
Apr-2016	20	511	6,869	7,380
May-2016	31	1,202	13,737	14,939
Jun-2016	32	356	7,050	7,406
Jul-2016	38	1,040	12,838	13,878
Aug-2016	42	696	14,508	15,204
Sep-2016	46	1,280	21,662	22,942
Oct-2016	56	718	10,932	11,650
Nov-2016	61	1,709	20,284	21,993
Dec-2016	64	2,240	22,240	24,480
Jan-2017	82	2,894	35,194	38,088
Feb-2017	79	2,469	31,409	33,878
Mar-2017	90	2,780	33,738	36,518
Apr-2017	95	2,001	31,061	33,062

The average monthly share of Residential EV Charging Rate usage during the off-peak period (9:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m., holidays and weekends) is 93 percent. The current participation level is similar to increased participation in the whole-house Residential Time of Day Service rate option of approximately 120 customers since October 2015. Customers also may choose EV charging with the default Residential Service flat energy rate.

B. Development and Promotional Activities

The educational campaign continued during the past twelve months, after creating the foundational information and materials mentioned in the Company's previous annual report, including online information. The EV Rate webpage on the Company's website provides information about the rate, installation guidelines, and provides an online enrollment option at: www.xcelenergy.com/EVRates.

In addition to the online information, Xcel Energy has had many opportunities to promote its EV driver options directly with customers and the industry. For example, the Company hosted and participated in multiple events which included a focus on the EV Rate, as well as broader messaging about EVs. The various events included consumer events such as farmers markets and the State Fair, "lunch and learn" speaking events at local employers' campuses, workshops with local communities, and industry meetings with organizations like Drive Electric Minnesota. Brochures and promotional materials were distributed at these events. Xcel Energy also matched funds for the Midwest EVolve project, a collaborative EV education program managed by multiple Clean Cities organizations with additional funding from the Department of Energy and partners. This initiative will continue into 2019 and will be a channel for distributing EV Rate-specific information, as well as general EV information.

Based on previous development activities aimed to help prioritize the most effective communications channels, Xcel Energy initiated an outreach campaign to educate auto dealers and electricians. The Company is working with the Minnesota Auto Dealers Association to develop an engaging training initiative about electric vehicles and Xcel Energy programs. Similarly, we offered a preliminary electricians meeting in 2016 to explain metering standards and increase EV awareness. Similar sessions are also planned in 2017.

C. Renewable Program Participation

As of April 30, 2017, 10 customers were enrolled in Windsource along with the EV Charging Rate. The bill credit promotion for Windsource enrollment with the EV Charging Rate ended on December 31, 2015. In addition, enrollment in the Company's new Renewable*Connect program recently opened and we will report on Renewable*Connect participation levels among EV drivers in our next annual report due June 1, 2018.

D. Communications Cost Tracker

Costs associated with EV Rate education and outreach activities are monitored by a tracker account that was established in 2015, of which \$106,050.29 was attributed to the EV Tracker account between May 1, 2016 and April 30, 2017. These costs can be attributed to sponsorship and participation in community events, digital advertising, print materials, other customer communications, and planning mentioned in the Development and Promotional Activities section above.

As mentioned in the Company's previous annual report, in an effort to align with the legislative intent of the EV legislation¹ and customer interest in different types of information related to electric vehicles, the Company expanded the message of educational initiatives to include general EV information, as well as EV Rate specific information. Costs associated with this outreach were attributed to the EV Tracker. As EV adoption increases, the Company will continue to tailor the messaging and educational efforts to provide relevant information about EVs through appropriate channels.

E. Response to Metering Cost Concerns

In this proceeding, parties have raised a concern about the cost of parallel wiring for the separate meter required to participate in this rate. In order to address these concerns, we have engaged stakeholders in a process to develop a potential Company-led pilot program. The goal of a pilot program would be to test alternative EV charging technologies to improve the customer experience, to seek and confirm cost saving opportunities compared to the existing EV Service rate, and to test the feasibility of providing reliable and secure billing data.

The Company has received bids from charging and metering technology vendors and is in process reviewing bids and product demonstrations. Pending a successful outcome of the RFP and vendor selection process, the Company intends make a filing with the Commission later in 2017, to put forth additional information regarding a potential EV residential pilot program.

CONCLUSION

This is the first full year of reporting on participation and initiatives related to the Residential EV Charging Rate and electric vehicle education. Customer enrollment has aligned with Xcel Energy's expectations and we expect enrollment in the EV Rate to continue at a moderate pace.

¹ Minn. Stat. § 216B.1614, Subd. 2(2).

One of the most influential variables on the total enrollment count will be the total number of customers that drive EVs and adoption is increasing.

In addition to other new electric vehicle makes and models, starting in 2017, the Chevy Bolt and Tesla Model 3 will be the first vehicles with more than 200 miles of electric range, priced competitively with an average light-duty vehicle. This is expected to lead to increased adoption of electric vehicles.

Xcel Energy plans to continue connecting with customers that drive or are considering driving electric vehicles through the existing rate options and educational campaign. As EV adoption increases, Xcel Energy will focus on opportunities that create operational efficiencies and policy solutions that reduce costs for all customers, while continuing to provide safe, clean, and reliable energy.

We respectfully request the Commission accept this 2017 Annual EV Report in compliance with its June 22, 2015 Order in this Docket.

Dated: June 1, 2017

Northern States Power Company

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Carl Cronin, hereby certify that I have this day served copies or summaries of the foregoing document on the attached list(s) of persons.

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

or

xx electronic filing

DOCKET No. E002/M-15-111

Dated this 1st day of June 2017

/s/

Carl Cronin
Regulatory Administrator

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