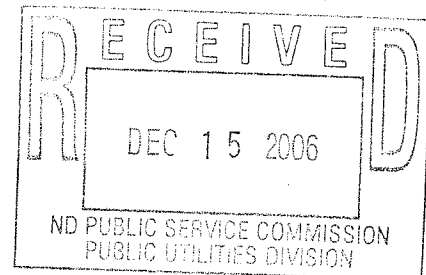




2302 Great Northern Drive
P O Box 2747
Fargo, ND 58108-2747
(701) 241-8632
dave.sederquist@xcelenergy.com

December 15, 2006

Illona A. Jeffcoat-Sacco, Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
State Capitol Building, Dept. 408
600 East Boulevard
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480



Re: Application of Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation and wholly owned subsidiary of Xcel Energy Inc. for Authority to Increase Rates for Natural Gas Service In North Dakota
Notice of Change in Rates for Natural Gas Service

Dear Ms. Jeffcoat-Sacco:

Pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 49-05-05, Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation and wholly owned subsidiary of Xcel Energy Inc. (the "Company" or "Xcel Energy") submits an original and eight (8) copies of a Notice of Change in Rates for Natural Gas Service (the "Notice"). With this Notice the Company proposes a \$2.8 million or 3.0 percent increase in its annual North Dakota natural gas revenues. The rate changes would be effective January 14, 2007, unless suspended by the North Dakota Public Service Commission ("Commission").

Also included with this Notice is an Alternative Petition for Interim Rates, should the Commission suspend the general Notice of Change in Rates. Pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 49-05-06, subd. 2, interim rates would be effective February 13, 2007.

This Notice has been organized into the following sections:

- Notice Petition;
- Supporting Revenue Requirement Schedules, comprised of a deficiency summary, the proposed revenue increase apportionment by customer class, a comparison of present and proposed rates, a schedule showing typical

monthly bill impacts, and a North Dakota jurisdictional cost of service summary;

- Revised Tariffs, reflecting the changes in both red-line and regular formats; and
- Interim Rate Petition, including related schedules and tariffs.

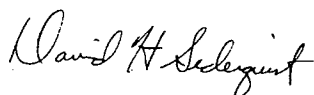
In addition, the following testimony is being filed with this Notice:

- Policy;
- Overall Revenue Requirements;
- Class Cost of Service and Rate Design;
- Sales Forecast;
- Compensation;
- Natural Gas Demand Side Management (“DSM”); and
- Return On Equity.

Pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 49-05-05, Xcel Energy has prepaid the filing fee of \$50.00 through its periodic regulatory fee payments to the Commission.

Please affix the Commission’s filing stamp to the extra copy of the Notice and return it to Mr. Sederquist in the enclosed pre-paid envelope. You may direct any questions regarding this Notice or the Alternative Petition for Interim Rates to me at (701) 241-8632 or Ms. Megan Hertzler at (612) 215-4589.

Sincerely,



David H. Sederquist
Sr. Consultant, Regulation & Finance
Northern States Power Co., a Minnesota corporation and wholly owned
subsidiary of Xcel Energy Inc.

Enclosures