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April 24, 2015

Via Electronic Filing

Jerry Lein, Public Utility Analyst  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 East Boulevard Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Re: Northern States Power Company Fargo-Monticello MN  
345 kV CapX2020 Transmission Line, Tree Replacement Plan  
Case No. PU-07-759

Dear Mr Lein:

This letter presents an amendment to the March, 2015 Tree and Shrub Inventory and Mitigation Plan submitted to the Commission on March 23, 2015.

This amendment removes the last paragraph in Section 5. This paragraph relates to buckthorn trees. Buckthorn trees were inventoried prior to right-of-way preparation and their removal requires mitigation. However, regrowth of buckthorn cannot be counted as mitigation because this species is considered undesirable. We therefore do not propose to count buckthorn re-growth as mitigation.

The mitigation plan, even without relying on buckthorn regrowth, provides sufficient mitigation to meet the Commission's requirements.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Tom Hillstrom  
Permit Project Lead  
Xcel Energy

253 PU-07-759 Filed: 4/27/2015 Pages: 1  
Amendment to March 23, 2015 tree and shrub  
inventory and mitigation plan

Northern States Power Company

Tom Hillstrom