

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**Northern States Power Company
Advanced Determination of Prudence –
150 MW Merricourt Wind Project
Application**

Case No. PU-08-908

**Northern States Power Company
Certificate of Public Convenience and
Necessity
Application**

Case No. PU-08-910

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY CERTIFIED MAIL

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
COUNTY OF BURLEIGH

Janet Marquart deposes and says that:

she is over the age of 18 years and not a party to this action and, on the **20th day of January, 2009**, she deposited in the United States Mail, Bismarck, North Dakota, **four** envelopes with certified postage, return receipt requested, fully prepaid, securely sealed and each containing a photocopy of:

Notice of Opportunity for Hearing

The envelopes were addressed as follows:

Mr. James Alders
Director, Regulatory Administration
Northern States Power Company
dba Xcel Energy
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis MN 55401-1993
Cert. No. 7008 1830 0004 1758 8765

Mr. Dave Sederquist
Xcel Energy
Northern States Power Co.
2302 Great Northern Drive
Fargo ND 58107
Cert. No. 7008 1830 0004 1758 8772

Lawrence Bender, Attorney
Fredrickson & Byron, PA
200 N 3rd St, Suite 150
Bismarck ND 58501-3879

Cert. No. 7008 1830 0004 1758 8796

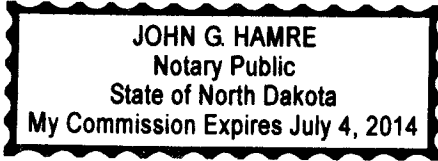
SaGonna Thompson, Rcds Splst
Xcel Energy
414 Nicollet Mall, 7th Floor
Minneapolis MN 55401

Cert. No. 7008 1830 0004 1758 8789

Each address shown is the respective addressee's last reasonably ascertainable post office address.

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 20th day of January, 2009.

SEAL



Janet Marquart

John G. Hamre

Notary Public

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

January 14, 2009

On December 3, 2008, Northern States Power Company (NSP) filed an application for Advanced Determination of Prudence and Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for its proposed 150 MW Merricourt Wind Project located in the counties of McIntosh and Dickey, North Dakota.

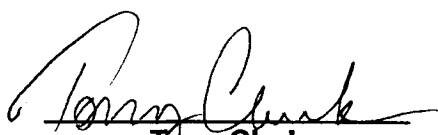
The issues to be considered in this matter are:

1. Whether public convenience and necessity will be served by the construction and ownership of the proposed facilities; and
2. Whether NSP is fit, willing and able to provide such service; and
3. Whether NSP's investment in the Merricourt Wind Project is prudent.

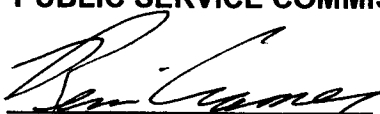
Those interested are invited to comment on the application in writing. Persons desiring a hearing must file a written request identifying their interest in the proceeding and the reasons for requesting a hearing. Comments and requests for hearings must be received by **February 27, 2009**. If deemed appropriate, the Commission can determine these matters without a hearing.

For more information contact the Public Service Commission, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505, 701-328-2400 or Relay North Dakota 1-800-366-6888 TTY. If you require any auxiliary aids or services, such as readers, signers, or Braille materials, please notify, Darrell Nitschke, Executive Secretary, at least 24 hours in advance.

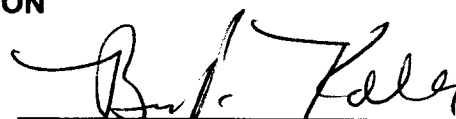
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Tony Clark
Commissioner



Kevin Cramer
President



Brian P. Kalk
Commissioner

3 **PU-08-910** Filed: 1/14/2009 Pages: 1
Notice of Opportunity for Hearing

5 **PU-08-908** Filed: 1/14/2009 Pages: 1
Notice of Opportunity for Hearing