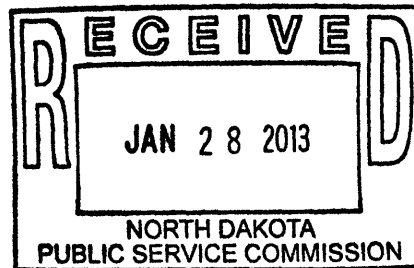




414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401-1993

January 28, 2013

Darrell Nitschke, Executive Director
North Dakota Public Service Commission
State Capitol Building, Dept. 408
600 East Boulevard
Bismarck, ND 59505-0480



**Re: Northern States Power Company
Advance Determination of Prudence -
CapX2020 Group 1 Application
Case No. PU-09-678**

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

In compliance with Order clause 7 in the North Dakota Public Service Commission's (Commission) October 6, 2010 Order Adopting Settlement in the above-referenced matter (Order) and paragraph 1 of the Settlement Agreement, Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, provides the following:

Start of Actual Physical Construction for the La Crosse Project

Xcel Energy advises the Commission that construction activities on CapX2020 La Crosse project began January 28, 2013.

Please feel free to contact Mr. Dave Sederquist at (701) 241-8632 if the Commission requires additional information or has any questions.

Respectfully,

/s/ Paul J Lehman

Paul J Lehman
Manager, Regulatory Compliance and Filings
Northern States Power Company

cc: Illona Jeffcoat-Sacco
Matt Dorsett
Mitch Armstrong

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Compliance filing - letter notice - start of actual
physical construction for the La Crosse Project

Northern States Power Company

Paul Lehman