



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

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September 14, 2010

Chris Schmit
1622 7th St. N
Fargo, ND 58102

Re: Xcel Energy power surge

Dear Mr. Schmit,

We have received your petition that you and 19 of your neighbors have signed conveying your displeasure for how Xcel Energy is handling a power surge that took place on August 27, 2010 in your neighborhood.

I am mailing you this letter to let you know that the Public Service Commission discussed this matter at the administrative portion of its regular meeting on September 8, 2010 and followed that discussion by passing a motion to open an investigation at a Special Meeting held later the same day. Staff will be conducting the investigation and will come back to the Commission with their findings. The case number for the investigation is PU-10-577. We are now in the process of designating staff to begin the investigation. You may follow the case from our website by going to "case search" and in putting case number.

Your comments will be part of the information compiled in the investigation. Staff may need to follow up with you to obtain more information. It is important to note that the information we have so far, and probably all of the information obtained through the investigation (there are only a few narrow exceptions) will be open and available to others. If this becomes a formal contested case before the commission, both written and verbal comments submitted to the commission, and information obtained through a staff investigation, are not part of the formal evidentiary record on which the decision must be based unless made part of that record as sworn testimony subject to cross-examination. When testimony is made or submitted at a formal or technical hearing, it must be made under oath and subject to cross-examination.

Sincerely,
Scott Sheldon
Consumer Affairs/Public Outreach Specialist
328-4082

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Letter response to residents affected by power disruption

Public Service Commission
Scott Sheldon