

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**  
**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Northern States Power Company  
Integrated Resource Plan  
Information**

**Case No. PU-10-580**

**ORDER GRANTING TRADE SECRET PROTECTION**

On October 26, 2012, Northern States Power Company (NSP) filed an application for trade secret protection under North Dakota Administrative Code section 69-02-09-01 for protecting against public disclosure trade secret information as defined by North Dakota Century Code section 47-25.1-01(4).

North Dakota Administrative Code § 69-02-09-04 requires that the Commission staff examine the information and application and make a recommendation to the Commission.

On November 1, 2012, North Dakota Public Service Commission Staff filed a Staff Response to Application for Trade Secret Protection, recommending the Commission approve the request.

North Dakota Century Code § 44-04-18.4(2) authorizes protection for commercial, financial, proprietary, and trade secret information if privileged and if the information has not been previously publically disclosed. N.D.C.C. § 44-04-18.4(1). Commercial and financial information can be protected from disclosure if the information has not been previously disclosed and disclosure would impair the Commission's ability to obtain similar information in the future or would cause competitive injury to the person providing the information. N.D.C.C. §§ 44-04-18.4(2)(a) and 44-04-18.4(2)(b). Proprietary and trade secret information can be protected when the information derives independent economic value from not being generally known to or readily ascertainable by other persons, and is the subject of reasonable efforts to maintain its secrecy. N.D.C.C. §§ 44-04-18.4(2)(c) and 44-04-18.4(2)(d).

**Order**

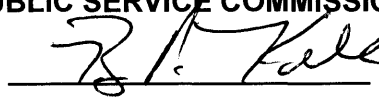
The Commission orders:

The application of Northern States Power Company, identified in the respective captioned case for protection of information is GRANTED.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**



**Kevin Cramer  
Commissioner**



**Brian P. Kalk  
Chairman**



**Bonny M. Fetch  
Commissioner**