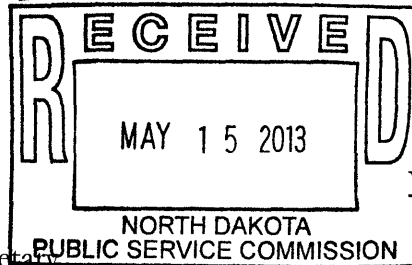




2302 Great N. Drive
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VIA ELECTRONIC
AND U.S. MAIL

May 15, 2013

Darrell Nitschke, Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
Department 408
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Re: **XCEL ENERGY UNDERGROUND CABLE OUTAGE REPORT**
CASE NOS. PU-10-657, PU-11-55

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Pursuant to the terms of the approved Settlement Agreement in the above referenced case, I hereby submit our summary of underground residential distribution ("URD") cable failures for the first quarter, 2013.

As you will note on page 1, there were twelve URD cable failures in our North Dakota system during January through March, four of which qualified for replacement under our cable replacement guidelines or our 500 MCM cable replacement program. I have attached the guidelines to the report for your reference, on page 2.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments you have about the information provided. Thank you.

Sincerely,

DAVID SEDERQUIST
SR. REGULATORY CONSULTANT

cc: Jerry Lein

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Compliance filing - underground cable outage report - first quarter 2013
Northern States Power Company
David Sederquist

209 PU-10-657 Filed 05/15/2013 Pages: 3
Compliance filing - underground cable outage report - first quarter 2013
Northern States Power Company
David Sederquist

Xcel Energy - North Dakota Electric
2012 URD Cable Outage, Review, and Replacement Summary
(Compliance Report - Case Nos. PU-10-657, PU-11-55)

#	Date of Cable Failure	Outage Duration	Service Area	Customers Impacted	Feeder Serving Area	Date of Engineering Review ¹	Meets Criteria to Replace? ²	Footage Replaced	Scope of Replacement ³	Date of Work Order	Date Project Started	Date Project Completed
1	Jan-01 9:59 PM	4:01	Fargo	79	RED093	Jan-07	Yes	1,360	Multiple	Feb-06	May-21	-
2	Jan-06 8:07 PM	11:45	Fargo	287	RED232	Jan-14	Yes	1,312	Multiple	Feb-15	Jul-01	-
3	Jan-24 4:00 AM	3:12	Grand Forks	112	NOR026	N/A	No					
4	Jan-26 8:00 PM	3:06	Fargo	42	CAS082	Jan-28	No					
5	Jan-31 1:26 PM	1:31	Fargo	102	CAS082	Feb-04	Yes		Multiple	Feb-20	In Design	-
6	Feb-08 8:17 PM	2:13	Fargo	81	CAS083	Feb-11	No					
7	Feb-16 10:13 AM	2:25	Grand Forks	1,139	NOR035	Feb-18	No					
8	Feb-19 12:40 PM	3:05	Grand Forks	866	GAT033	N/A	No					
9	Feb-24 4:51 AM	2:01	Fargo	167	CAS082	N/A	No					
10	Mar-06 5:36 AM	2:54	Fargo	39	RED231	N/A	No					
11	Mar-06 2:29 PM	0:34	Fargo	3,476	RED094	Mar-11	Yes	849	Segment	Mar-08	Mar-12	Apr-22
12	Mar-29 5:03 PM	1:06	Grand Forks	1,359	GAT021	N/A	No					

Footnotes

¹ The Company's Reliability Management System ("REMS") compiles and processes outage-related information and will flag an engineering review if one of the protective devices (i.e., fuse, breaker, recloser) designed to isolate the fault and protect the system operates *twice within a two year period*. The review will determine if a failed cable qualifies for replacement. A designation of "na" in this column indicates that REMS did not flag such a review for this event.

² See URD Cable Replacement Guidelines summary, attached. An * indicates this was a 500 MCM replacement.

³ Based on our replacement guidelines, cable replacements can involve 1) a single cable segment, 2) multiple cable segments, or 3) all common vintaged cable on a radial, or 4) all common vintaged cable on a half-loop.

Xcel Energy

Underground Residential Distribution Cable Replacement Guidelines

Effective Jan. 1, 2009

Radial Feeds:

- After two cable failures occur anywhere on a given radial within a two year period, any cable segments (on the radial) that have failed within the last two years are replaceable.
- If two thirds (2/3) of the cable segments on the radial qualify for replacement, all segments (on the radial) that are of the *same vintage*, regardless of their failure history are replaceable.

Loop Feeds:

- After two failures occur on any single cable segment within a two year period, the cable segment is replaceable.
- After two failures occur anywhere on the same half of the loop within a two year period, any cable segments that have failed (on the half-loop) within the last two years are replaceable.
- If two thirds (2/3) of the cable segments on the same half of the loop qualify for replacement, all segments (on the half-loop) that are of the *same vintage* are replaceable.

Any Feeder Configuration:

- If a cable replacement project can be shown to reduce the customer minutes out ("CMO") at a cost of \$0.13 or less per reduced CMO, the cable may be replaced.
- If a repaired cable segment fails again within one week after being placed back into service, the cable is replaceable.

Note: Final decisions regarding the replacement (and/or related scheduling) of failed underground cable is subject to the consideration of circumstances not contemplated in the guidelines shown here.