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September 17, 2012

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

**RE: XCEL ENERGY RELIABILITY PERFORMANCE PLAN PROPOSAL
CASE NOS. PU-10-657, PU-11-55, AND PU-11-557**

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Enclosed is Xcel Energy's Direct Testimony in support of the Company's Reliability Performance Plan proposal which was submitted to the North Dakota Public Service Commission on June 1, 2012 in the above noted dockets.

The proposed Plan will support our ongoing efforts to improve reliability and complement the reliability initiatives approved in the Settlement Agreement in the above-referenced dockets. The Plan, therefore, benefits customers in North Dakota and addresses the reliability issues raised by the Commission in our previous rate proceeding.

To the extent necessary, verifications of the enclosed testimony will be provided at a later date. Please contact me at 701-241-8632 or dave.sederquist@xcelenergy.com if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

DAVID SEDERQUIST
SR. REGULATORY CONSULTANT

cc: Mike Diller

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Direct testimony of David Sederquist and Betsy Coppock
Northern States Power Company
David Sederquist

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