



2302 Great N. Drive
Fargo, ND 58102
701-241-8632

September 20, 2013

—Via Electronic Filing—

Darrell Nitschke
Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard
Bismarck, ND 58505

RE: SHERCO UNIT 3 RESTORATION UPDATE
CASE NO. PU-12-12

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, provides this update to the North Dakota Public Service Commission on restoration activities at the Sherburne County Generating Station Unit 3 after the event that occurred on November 19, 2011.

As we noted in our last update, the Sherco 3 restoration work has been completed. We synchronized to the grid on September 4, 2013 following a series of successful initial return-to-service tests.

Sherco 3 operated at 240 MWs until it was taken off-line on September 7, 2013 to address post-restoration items including change-out of the fine-mesh screens that protect the turbine from small particulate damage when the unit initially starts-up.

At this time we anticipate this short post-restoration outage to end with Sherco 3 returning to service on or around October 7, 2013. Following that return there will be four days of testing at load before the unit is released for full economic dispatch.

We are continuing to work on the release of our root cause analysis report with our insurance provider. We will continue to provide updates to the Commission, with our next update expected to be filed in October 2013.

We appreciate the opportunity to update the Commission on our work at Sherco 3.
Please contact me if there are any questions regarding this update.

Sincerely,

/s/

DAVID SEDERQUIST
SR. REGULATORY CONSULTANT

Enclosures
c: Service List