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March 22, 2013

VIA ELECTRONIC
AND U.S. MAIL

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

Re: 2012 North Dakota Electric and Natural Gas Meter Test Reports

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

In accordance with sections 69.09.01.16 and 69.09.02.28 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation with operations in North Dakota, encloses summary results of the testing of the Company's North Dakota electric and natural gas meters in 2012.

Please call or email me if you have any questions about the information provided.

Sincerely,

DAVID SEDERQUIST
SR. REGULATORY CONSULTANT

Enclosures

**Xcel Energy - State of North Dakota
Electric Meter Testing
Summary of 2012 Results**

Test Category	Meters	Acceptable¹		Slow²		Fast³		No Register	
	#	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
New receipted meters	205	205	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Customer requested	34	34	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Reconditioned / re-serviced	1,385	1,384	99.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%
Random tests	3	3	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Periodic tests	84	84	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Special - interchange / large customer	0	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Automated energy services tests	101	100	99.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.0%
Low Consumption (internal request)	0	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Tamper suspected	0	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Manufacturer defect	0	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Dead register	16	16	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Older vintaged meter test	1	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Company request / field check	2	2	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
2012 Electric Meter Totals:	1,831	1,829	99.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.1%

¹ Meters that test within acceptable tolerance have an average error within plus or minus 2% of accurate

² Meters that test slow (under measuring) have an average error lower than -2% of accurate

³ Meters that test fast (over measuring) have an average error higher than +2% of accurate

**Xcel Energy - State of North Dakota
 Natural Gas Meter Testing
 Summary of 2012 Results**

Meter Test Group

Residential (capacity < 400 cubic ft/hr) 387
 Small C&I (capacity 400 - 999 cubic ft/hr) 69
 Large C&I (capacity > 999 cubic ft/hr) 199
Natural Gas Meter Totals 655

Meters #	Acceptable ¹		Slow ²		Fast ³		No Register	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
387	377	97.4%	3	0.8%	7	1.8%	0	0.0%
69	63	91.3%	3	4.3%	3	4.3%	0	0.0%
<u>199</u>	<u>189</u>	<u>95.0%</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2.5%</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2.5%</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
655	629	96.0%	11	1.7%	15	2.3%	0	0.0%

Note: Meters are tested at two flow rates. The accuracy is the average of the two tests.

- ¹ Meters that test within acceptable tolerance have an average error within plus or minus 2% of accurate
- ² Meters that test slow (under measuring) have an average error lower than -2% of accurate
- ³ Meters that test fast (over measuring) have an average error higher than +2% of accurate