

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**Northern States Power Company
230/115kV 336 MVA transformer- Prairie Substation
Public Convenience & Necessity**

Case No. PU-14-126

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY CERTIFIED & REGULAR MAIL

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
COUNTY OF BURLEIGH

Cara DeSaye deposes and says that:

she is over the age of 18 years and not a party to this action and, on the **29th** day of **May, 2014**, she deposited in the United States Mail, at Bismarck, North Dakota, **one** envelope with certified postage, return receipt requested, fully prepaid, securely sealed and containing a photocopy of:

Order Granting Certificate

And an original of:

Certificate Number 5831

The envelope was addressed as follows:

Matthew Langan
Xcel Energy
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis MN 55401

Cert. No. 7012 2210 0001 5061 0008

Cara DeSaye further deposes and says that on the **29th** day of **May, 2014**, she deposited in the United States Mail, Bismarck, North Dakota, **two** envelopes by regular mail, with postage fully prepaid, securely sealed, each containing a photocopy of the same.

The envelopes were addressed as follows:

Dave Sederquist
Xcel Energy
2302 Great Northern Drive
Fargo ND 58102

Alison Archer
Xcel Energy
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis MN 55401

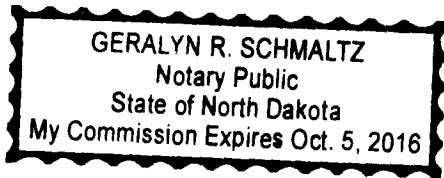
Affidavit of Service
Page 2
May 29, 2014

Each address shown is the respective addressee's last reasonably ascertainable post office address.

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 29th day of May, 2014.

Cara Delaney
Geraldyn R. Schmaltz
Notary Public

SEAL



**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Northern States Power Company
230/115 kV 336 MVA Transformer – Prairie Substation
Public Convenience and Necessity**

Case No. PU-14-126

ORDER GRANTING CERTIFICATE

May 28, 2014

On March 14, 2014, Northern States Power Company (NSP) filed an application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to add a transformer to NSP's Prairie Substation and extend 230 kV electric transmission line a distance of approximately 1,100 feet to interconnect with Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc.'s Prairie Substation in Grand Forks County, North Dakota.

On March 26, 2014, the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing, which provided until April 30, 2014 for receiving written comments or requests for hearing. No response was received. The notice identified the following issues to be considered:

1. Whether public convenience and necessity will be served by construction and operation of the facilities.
2. Whether the applicant is fit, willing, and able to provide service.

NSP is a Minnesota corporation duly authorized to conduct business in North Dakota as a public utility subject to the jurisdiction and regulation of this Commission. NSP is an experienced regional generation, transmission and distribution utility with the expertise and resources to construct the proposed 230 kV transmission line extension. NSP is fit, willing and able to provide service.

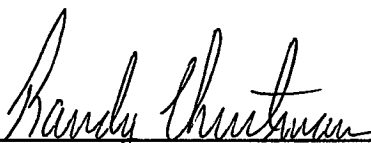
NSP's Grand Forks Load Serving Study indicates the best solution for area voltage issues is to install a new 230/115 kV 336 MVA transformer at NSP's Prairie Substation and approximately 1,100 feet of 230 kV transmission line to interconnect the substation with Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc.'s Prairie Substation located outside the city of Grand Forks in Brenna Township. Public convenience and necessity will be served by construction and operation of these facilities.

Order

The Commission Orders:

1. The application of Northern States Power Company for a certificate of public convenience and necessity is GRANTED.
2. Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 5831 is issued to Northern States Power Company to construct and operate approximately 1,100 feet of 230 kV transmission line and associated facilities necessary to interconnect the Prairie Substations in Grand Forks County.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Randy Christmann
Commissioner


Brian P. Kalk
Chairman


Julie Fedorchak
Commissioner

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**

**Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
Certificate Number 5831**

This is to certify that public convenience and necessity require, and permission is granted for Northern States Power Company to construct and operate approximately 1,100 feet of 230 kV transmission line and associated facilities necessary to interconnect its Prairie Substation with Minnkota Power Cooperative's Prairie Substation located in Brenna Township, Grand Forks County, North Dakota.

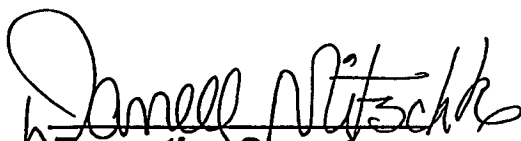
This certificate is issued in accordance with the Order of this Commission dated May 28, 2014 in Case No. PU-14-126, and is subject to the conditions and limitations noted in the Order.

This certificate is conditioned upon Northern States Power Company securing the franchise or other authority of the proper municipal or other public authority for the exercise of these rights and privileges.

Bismarck, North Dakota, May 28, 2014.

ATTEST:

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Executive Secretary


Commissioner