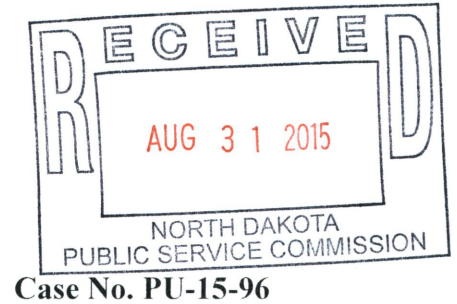


STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



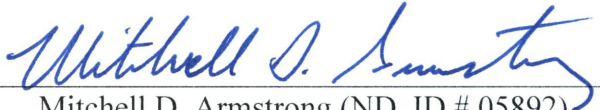
Norther States Power Company
Advance Prudence – 345 MW Mankato Energy Center

**ADVOCACY STAFF’S RESPONSE TO NORTHERN STATE POWER’S
FEBRUARY 13, 2015, APPLICATION FOR TRADE SECRET PROTECTION
AND ADVOCACY STAFF’S APPLICATION FOR TRADE SECRET
PROTECTION FOR RICHARD A. POLICH’S TESTIMONY**

On February 13, 2015, NSP filed its application for advance determination of prudence. Along with the application, NSP requested certain documents be granted trade secret protection. Advocacy Staff does not contest the designation of the requested information as “trade secret.”

As Advocacy Staff has prepared its case and testimony in this case, it has entered into a *Protective Agreement* with NSP in order to expedite discovery and the presentation of testimony. In that agreement, Advocacy Staff has agreed to also file any information designated by NSP as trade secret in the manner allowed pursuant to N.D.A.C. ch. 69-02-09. Accordingly, Advocacy Staff requests Trade Secret designation to file the complete testimony of Richard Polich as trade secret as certain portions of his testimony and some of the exhibits include information designated as trade secrets by NSP. Advocacy Staff relies upon the reasons provided for trade secret protection in NSP’s February 13, 2015, *Application for Trade Secret Protection*.

Dated this 31st day of August, 2015.

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