



2302 Great N. Drive
Fargo, North Dakota 58102
(701) 241-8632
dave.sederquist@xcelenergy.com

June 11, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mr. Steven M. Kahl, Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
State Capitol Building, Dept. 0408
600 East Boulevard
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

RE: COURTENAY WIND FARM MAINTENANCE
CASE NOS. PU-13-064, PU-15-174

Dear Mr. Kahl:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, respectfully submits this informational letter describing an upcoming project within the collector substation at our Courtenay Wind Facility. The primary work being planned will enable us to meet the requirements of our *Voltage Letter Agreement* with Otter Tail Power Company, the transmission owner and operator.

With the existing substation configuration, the Courtenay Wind Facility has been unable to consistently maintain the generated voltage within the agreed-to range. As part of this project, five additional capacitor banks (four 34.5 kV and one 115 kV) will be installed at the substation and the Company will re-configure the three existing 115 kV capacitor banks to provide more precise Voltage Ampere Reactive (VAR) control. The work will be done within the existing substation fence line.

In addition, we are installing equipment that will enable us to monitor energy output from the Courtenay facility at a meter located at Otter Tail Power's Jamestown substation, which is the point of interconnection with the Otter Tail Power system and where we are required to maintain the voltage schedule. The equipment will also enable us to remotely control the substation capacitor banks, allowing the Company to properly adjust for the generation tie line losses from the Courtenay Wind Facility to Jamestown.

We have reviewed the Siting Certificate for the Courtenay Wind Facility and note that provision number 34 indicates that we are to inform the Commission of any plans to “...modify the energy conversion facility, or of any plans to modify the site plan...”, and obtain written approval from the Commission before proceeding. We don’t believe this section applies to the type and scope of work contemplated here, which primarily involves equipment enhancements to ensure we comply with our voltage agreement with Otter Tail Power and operate the plant more efficiently. There will be no changes to the site configuration, no alterations to the overall boundary of the substation perimeter, and no equipment relocations at the Courtenay Wind Facility. Therefore, item number 34 is not applicable to this work and we are not seeking Commission action.

We intend to begin work on this project on July 8, 2020 with completion expected by the end of the first quarter 2021.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions about this project.

Sincerely,



David H. Sederquist
Sr. Regulatory/Financial Consultant
Xcel Energy