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April 8, 2020

—VIA EMAIL & U.S. MAIL—

Mr. Steven M. Kahl, Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
State Capitol Building, Dept. 408
600 East Boulevard
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

RE: NOTIFICATION OF FUNCTIONAL AIRCRAFT DETECTION LIGHTING SYSTEM
FOXTAIL WIND ENERGY CENTER SITING APPLICATION (CASE NO. PU-17-284)

Dear Mr. Kahl:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, hereby notifies the Commission that the Aircraft Detection Lighting System (ADLS) at its Foxtail Energy Center became fully operational on April 7, 2020.

As we previously reported, installation of the ADLS was hampered by adverse weather conditions during much of November 2019 through February 2020, making it necessary for our ADLS vendor (TERMA) to develop and install a work shelter on the radar tower so that technicians could safely and effectively wire the system notwithstanding the cold weather. TERMA completed physical installation of the ADLS equipment on February 27, 2020.

TERMA completed Site Acceptance Testing of the ADLS System and 67 of 68 aviation lights on March 31, 2020. At that time, the ADLS was functioning properly (i.e., no red lights blinking unless an aircraft entered the radar zone) for all but one of the turbines on site. The remaining turbine light control module required additional time to address technical issues impacting communication between the module and the radar tower. This remaining light operated in the default blinking mode until the issue was resolved on April 7.

Xcel Energy sincerely regrets the delay in achieving full functionality of the Foxtail ADLS. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this notification. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'David H. Sederquist'.

DAVID H. SEDERQUIST
SR. CONSULTANT, REGULATION & FINANCE

cc: Pat Fahn
Brian Johnson

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Letter notice of fully operational Aircraft Detection Lighting System
Northern States Power Company
Dave Sederquist