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July 31, 2020

**VIA EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL**

Steven M. Kahl, Executive Secretary  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 East Boulevard  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

RE: QUARTERLY CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS REPORT  
1,550 MW WIND PORTFOLIO & 304.2 MW DAKOTA RANGE PROJECT  
CASE NOS. PU-17-120 AND PU-17-372

Dear Mr. Kahl:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, provides the following quarterly construction progress report in compliance with the North Dakota Public Service Commission's December 6, 2018 ORDER ON SETTLEMENT in the above-referenced Advanced Determination of Prudence (ADP) cases.

Order point 2 states:

- 2. NSP shall file quarterly construction progress reports until the last project is in service, indicating the development status of each project.*

### **Q2 2020 REPORT**

Below is an update on the activity for each approved project during April, May and June of 2020. The Company is continually monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic and the effect it could have on the projects that have not reached commercial operation. We will keep the Commission updated on any COVID-19 pandemic impacts in these quarterly filings.

#### **Foxtail (150 MW, ND)**

The project achieved commercial operation in December 31, 2019.

#### **Blazing Star I (200 MW, MN)**

The project achieved commercial operation on April 3, 2020.

### **Blazing Star II (200 MW, MN)**

The project is on track for commercial operation in December 2020. The project team is monitoring equipment supply risks as a result of COVID-19.

Below are the Q2 2020 completed milestones:

04/20/2020	Construction commenced.
06/16/2020	First wind turbine foundation backfilled.
06/20/2020	Main power transformers commissioning completed.

### **Freeborn (200 MW, MN & IA)**

The site permitting approval process has taken longer than either Invenergy or the Company anticipated. As a result, we experienced delays in our contracting that exposed us to additional costs. This has also resulted in scheduling-related cost pressures on the project. Several construction activities scheduled to occur in 2019 had to shift back to 2020 due to the absence of an approved site permit. Due to COVID-19 delays, Freeborn is currently forecasted for commercial operation by March 31, 2021.

Below are the Q2 2020 completed milestones:

04/06/2020	O&M Building construction commenced.
05/13/2020	Pre-construction meeting with MPUC/DOC.
05/27/2020	MPUC issued letter authorizing construction.
06/12/2020	Written order denying AFLC petition for reconsideration issued.
06/18/2020	First wind turbine foundation excavated.

### **Crowned Ridge I (200 MW, SD, Power Purchase Agreement)**

Crowned Ridge I achieved commercial operation on January 10, 2020.

### **Crowned Ridge II (200 MW, SD, Build-Own-Transfer)**

The project is currently forecasted for commercial operation in fourth quarter 2020. This represents a shift in our initial expectation regarding commercial operation (from fourth quarter 2019). The size of this project has been reduced from 300 MW to 200 MW due to extensive interconnection cost assessments.

Below are the Q2 2020 completed milestones:

05/07/2020	Construction commenced.
06/08/2020	Started Wind Turbine Component deliveries to site.
07/01/2020	Erection of first wind turbine T85.

### **Lake Benton II (100 MW, MN, Build-Own-Transfer)**

The commercial operation date for Lake Benton II was November 15, 2019.

**Glen Ullin Energy Center, previously known as Clean Energy #1  
(106.08 MW, ND, Power Purchase Agreement)**

The Glen Ullin Energy Center Project achieved commercial operation on December 19, 2019.

**Dakota Range I and II (302.4 MW, SD)**

The project is on track for commercial operation in December 2021.

Below are the Q2 2020 completed milestones:

05/04/2020	Started civil engineering design for project access roads.
05/05/2020	Commenced wind turbine foundation design engineering.
05/27/2020	Selected BOP Contractor for the project construction.

Please feel free to contact me at (701) 241-8632 or [dave.sederquist@xcelenergy.com](mailto:dave.sederquist@xcelenergy.com) should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



DAVID H. SEDERQUIST  
SR. CONSULTANT, REGULATION & FINANCE