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December 27, 2018

Zeviel T. Simpser
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VIA EMAIL AND FEDERAL EXPRESS

Darrell Nitschke
Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0480

**Re: NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY
ADVANCE PRUDENCE - 151.2 MW DAKOTA RANGE III WIND FACILITY
Case No. PU-18-_____**

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, respectfully submits this Application for an Advance Determination of Prudence for the 151.2 MW Dakota Range III wind project power purchase agreement

The Company's Application and supporting testimony contain trade secret information. In accordance with Section 69-02-09-02 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, an Application for Trade Secret Protection is being provided along with a single copy of the trade secret version of the Application and supporting testimony in a sealed envelope marked **PROTECTED INFORMATION – PRIVATE**.

An original and ten copies of the public version of our Application are also being provided, along with the following:

- Direct testimonies of Company witnesses Ms. Bria Shea and Mr. Philip Joseph Martin, supporting the Company's Application;
- Verifications for the testimonies of Ms. Shea and Mr. Martin;
- CD containing the public version of the Application, testimonies and verifications, and Application for Trade Secret Protection; and
- A filing fee of \$175,000.



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The Company is providing the \$175,000 filing fee as required by N.D.C.C. § 49-05-16(1)(b).

Please feel free to contact me at (612) 977-8865 or zsimpser@briggs.com or David Sederquist at (701) 241-8632 or dave.sederquist@xcelenergy.com if you have any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

BRIGGS AND MORGAN, P.A.

/s/ Zeviel T. Simpser

Zeviel T. Simpser

Enclosures

cc: Via Email – Public Version Only
Illona A. Jeffcoat-Sacco
Victor Schock
Patrick J. Fahn
Jerry Lein
Jack Schuh