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January 25, 2021

Via Electronic Filing and U.S. Mail

Steven M. Kahl, Executive Director
North Dakota Public Service Commission
Department 0408, State Capitol
600 East Boulevard
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Re: CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS REPORT - 98.9 MW MOWER COUNTY WIND FACILITY
CASE NO. PU-19-310 (ADVANCE DETERMINATION OF PRUDENCE)

Dear Mr. Kahl:

Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation operating in North Dakota, submits to the North Dakota Public Service Commission the enclosed Construction Progress Report (Attachment A) for fourth quarter 2020 for the Mower County Wind Facility located in Cottonwood County, Minnesota. This report is being filed pursuant to the April 8, 2020 Settlement Agreement filed jointly by the Company and Commission Advocacy Staff in the above-noted proceeding. The Commission approved the Settlement in its ORDER ON SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT issued August 26, 2020.

Settlement Term No. D.1. requires the Company to provide quarterly construction progress reports until the repowered facility is in service. The Mower County Wind Facility is temporarily in service as a purchased power supplier to Xcel Energy until the approved acquisition transaction closes, at which time it will become part of Xcel Energy's generation assets. The Company's Purchased Power Agreement with the facility will terminate upon transaction close, which is estimated to occur in late January or early February 2021. The repowered facility will then be considered in service at that time.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

DAVID H. SEDERQUIST
SR. CONSULTANT, REGULATION & FINANCE
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

Enclosure

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Mower County Wind Facility Construction Progress Report - 4th Quarter 2020
Northern States Power Company
David Sederquist

Mower County Wind Facility Fourth Quarter 2020 Construction Progress Report Grand Meadow, MN

The Mower County Wind Facility repower project consists of replacing blades, hubs, and drive trains. The existing electrical system, towers, and equipment within the turbine nacelles (the cover housing that contains all of the generating components in a wind turbine, including the generator, gearbox, drive train, and brake assembly) can be reused and thus will not be replaced. Additional concrete was added to the turbine pedestal, however, to allow for the longer turbine blades.

Construction began on August 24, 2020, and the turbine commissioning of the first repowered turbine began on October 9, 2020. Deliveries of new blades, hubs, and drive trains to the project site were completed on November 13, 2020. The commissioning of the last turbine occurred on December 11, 2020, and the aircraft detection lighting system was also put in learning mode in December.

Currently, the project is completing the control system upgrade and interconnection to the Xcel Energy network for monitoring. Project area restoration and closeout activities are also in progress. Transfer of the site to Xcel Energy is expected to occur in late January or early February 2021.

