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**PUBLIC DOCUMENT
TRADE SECRET INFORMATION EXCISED**

April 14, 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: FINAL CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS REPORT
98.9 MW MOWER COUNTY WIND FACILITY REPOWER PROJECT
CASE NO. PU-19-310

Dear Mr. Kahl:

Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation operating in North Dakota (NSPM or the Company), submits to the North Dakota Public Service Commission the enclosed final Construction Progress Report (Attachment A) for the Mower County Wind Facility Repower Project located in Mower 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. Following completion of construction, NSPM and ESI Energy, LLC closed on the sale of the Mower County Wind Facility on March 23, 2021.

The facility is now part of the Company's generation assets. The Company's Purchased Power Agreement with the facility terminated upon transaction close, and the repowered facility is now considered in service.

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Attachment A is marked as Trade Secret. The information identified as Trade Secret in Attachment A is the same type of information as identified in the Company's August 30, 2019 Application for Trade Secret Protection in this Case, which the Commission approved in an Order issued December 18, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,



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

Enclosure

Northern States Power Company

Case No. PU-19-310
Final Construction Progress Report
98.9 MW Mower County Wind Facility
Attachment A – Page 1 of 2

**Mower County Wind Facility Repower Project
Final Construction Progress Report
Mower County, MN**

The Mower County Wind Facility Repower Project consisted 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) was reused. Additional concrete was added to the turbine pedestal 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 service on March 1, 2021. The project also included an upgraded wind control system.

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Transfer of the site to Xcel Energy occurred on March 23, 2021. Project area restoration will continue in April and is expected to be completed before the end of the second quarter of 2021.

Because 13 turbines will be operating in a “Noise Restriction Operation” mode, the output of the Mower County wind facility will be reduced from the original design. The Noise Restriction Operation of these turbines is a result of a sound analysis which can be referenced in Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Docket No. IP-6557/WS-06-91, Submission No. 201912-157979-03, Appendix D – Sound Study, with results on page 46 of 105.

In addition, one turbine will operate with original length blades to avoid interference with a Mower County maintained microwave beam path. The Mower County beam interference is described in Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Docket No. IP-6557/WS-06-91, Submission No. 20209-166833-01 as a minor permit amendment request.

[Trade Secret Begins

Trade Secret

Ends]

Additionally, the project close was delayed somewhat to complete process of verifying compliance with all NERC standards. This resulted in Production Tax Credits (PTCs) being credited to NextEra. The purchase price was further reduced to offset these lost PTCs.