

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**  
**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Northern States Power / Cass County Electric Coop.  
Fargo, North Dakota  
Service Area Agreement**

**Case No. PU-24-181**

**AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY CERTIFIED AND ELECTRONIC MAIL**

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
COUNTY OF BURLEIGH**

**Erica J. Getz** deposes and says that:

she is over the age of 18 years and not a party to this action and, on the **30th day of September 2024**, she deposited in the United States Mail, at Bismarck, North Dakota, **three** envelopes with certified postage, return receipt requested, fully prepaid, securely sealed and containing a photocopy of:

- **Order**

The envelopes were addressed as follows:

Lauren Steinhäuser  
Assistant General Counsel  
Xcel Energy Services, Inc.  
401 Nicollet Mall – 401, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
**Cert. No. 9589 0710 5270 1582 7556 75**

Christine Schwartz  
Regulatory Administrator  
Xcel Energy  
414 Nicollet Mall – 401, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
**Cert. No. 9589 0710 5270 1582 7556 82**

Paul Mattys  
President, CEO  
Cass County Electric Cooperative  
4100 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue South  
Fargo, ND 58104  
**Cert. No. 9589 0710 5270 1582 7556 99**

**Erica J. Getz** further deposes and says that on the **30th day of September 2024**, she sent an electronic message to **two** addresses, each including an electronic copy in portable document format of the same document.

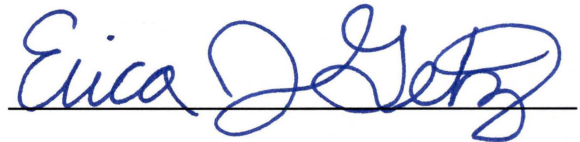
The electronic mail was addressed as follows:

Regulatory Records  
Xcel Energy  
[regulatory.records@xcelenergy.com](mailto:regulatory.records@xcelenergy.com)

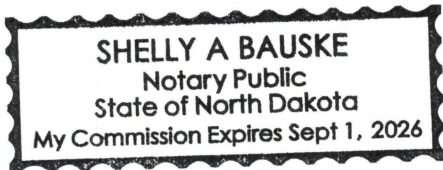
Alex Nisbet  
Northern States Power Company  
[alex.j.nisbet@xcelenergy.com](mailto:alex.j.nisbet@xcelenergy.com)

Each address shown is the respective addressee's last reasonably ascertainable post office and electronic address.

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this **30th day of September 2024**.



Erica J. Getz



Shelly A. Bauske  
Notary Public

SEAL

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**  
**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Northern States Power / Cass County Electric Coop  
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Service Area Agreement**

**Case No. PU-24-181**

**ORDER**

**September 27, 2024**

**Preliminary Statement**

On March 3, 2024, Northern States Power (NSP) and Cass County Electric Cooperative (Cass Electric) filed an application for approval of a Service Area Agreement (SAA) to designate service locations to be served by NSP and Cass Electric within and around the city of Fargo, North Dakota.

On June 5, 2024, the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing, which provided until July 19, 2024, for receiving written comments or hearing requests. No response was received. The notice identified the issues to be considered in the proceeding:

1. Whether the SAA complies with North Dakota Century Code § 49-03-06.
2. Whether approval of the SAA and resulting certificate of public convenience and necessity issuance is compatible with the public interest.

**Discussion**

The applicants contend that the agreement will:

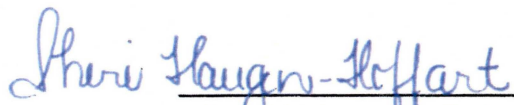
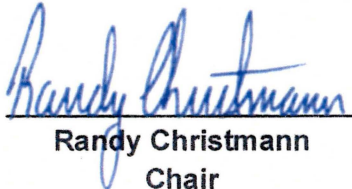
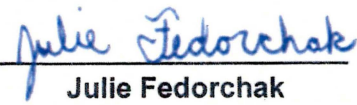
1. Avoid misunderstanding and disagreement over areas to be served by each party,
2. Accomplish the legislative intent of N.D.C.C. section 49-03-06 to encourage harmony and operational efficiency among electric providers, promote safety, discourage unreasonable duplication of electric facilities, assure adequate and reliable electric service and provide antitrust immunity to the electric providers, and
3. Provide both parties with equitable participation in the provision of electric distribution service in areas within and around the city of Fargo during the term of the agreement.

Having considered this matter the Commission finds that the Service Area Agreement complies with N.D.C.C. section 49-03-06 and that approval of the Service Area Agreement and resulting certificate issuance are compatible with the public interest. Therefore, the Commission issues the following:

**Order**

The Commission Orders the Electric Service Area Agreement filed jointly by Northern States Power and Cass County Electric Cooperative is APPROVED.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

		
<u>Sheri Haugen-Hoffart</u>	<u>Randy Christmann</u>	<u>Julie Fedorchak</u>
<b>Sheri Haugen-Hoffart</b> Commissioner	<b>Randy Christmann</b> Chair	<b>Julie Fedorchak</b> Commissioner