

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

**Public Service Commission  
Investigation Into Home Protection Plans  
Investigation**

**Case No. PU-25-148**

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

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
COUNTY OF BURLEIGH

**Geralyn R. Schmaltz** deposes and says that:

she is over the age of 18 years and not a party to this action and, on the **3rd day of July 2025** 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 Requesting Comment on Home Protection Plans**

The envelopes were addressed as follows:

Cary Stephenson  
Associate General Counsel  
Otter Tail Power Company  
PO Box 496  
Fergus Falls, MN 56538-0496  
**Cert. No. 9589 0710 5270 2139 5693 25**

Travis Jacobson  
Director Regulatory Affairs  
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.  
400 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bismarck, ND 58501  
**Cert. No. 9589 0710 5270 2139 5693 32**

Christine Schwartz  
Regulatory Administrator  
Xcel Energy  
414 Nicollet Mall – 401, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
**Cert. No. 9589 0710 5270 2139 5693 49**

**Geralyn R. Schmaltz** further deposes and says that on the **3rd day of July 2025**, she sent an electronic message to **three** addresses, each including an electronic copy in portable document format of the same document.

The electronic mail was addressed as follows:

Regulatory Filing Coordinators  
Otter Tail Power Company

[Regulatory\\_Filing\\_Coordinators@otpc.com](mailto:Regulatory_Filing_Coordinators@otpc.com)

Regulatory Records  
Xcel Energy

[regulatory.records@xcelenergy.com](mailto:regulatory.records@xcelenergy.com)

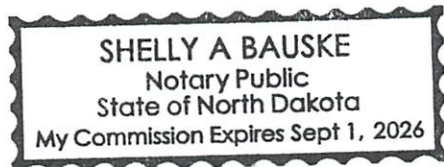
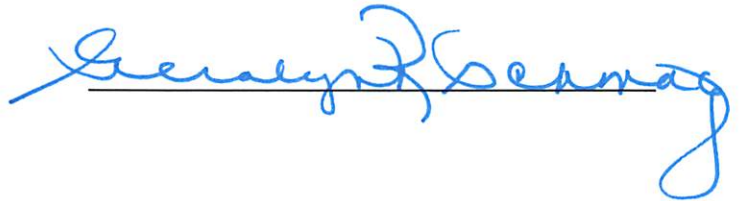
Alex Nisbet

Xcel Energy

[alex.j.nisbet@xcelenergy.com](mailto:alex.j.nisbet@xcelenergy.com)

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

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
This **3rd of day July 2025**.



SEAL



Notary Public

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

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**Case No. PU-25-148**

**ORDER REQUESTING COMMENT ON HOME PROTECTION PLANS**

**July 2, 2025**

On July 31, 2024, the Commission received an informal complaint pertaining to the HomeServe USA warranty program (HomeServe) and its partnership with a local utility. The complaint asserted that the relationship between the two is intertwined with the utilization of the utility's name causing the perception that the utility is directly involved in the warranty solicitation that HomeServe is independently pursuing.

The North Dakota Century Code section 49-02-02 states the powers of public service commission with reference to public utilities shall have power to:

1. Investigate all methods and practices of public utilities or other persons, subject to the provisions of this title.

The Commission finds that it is in the public interest to request information regarding the business arrangement with HomeServe and any other organization of similar nature. Accordingly, the Commission requests that each public utility file written comments that provide the following information:

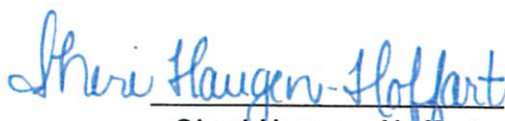
- a. An explanation of the full extent of the business arrangement with HomeServe or other organizations of a similar nature;
- b. The utilization of utility branding pertaining to HomeServe or others relating to the solicitation process;
- c. Any other information that the Commission should consider.

Having considered the matter, the Commission issues the following:

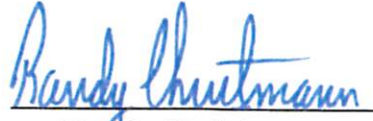
**Order**

The Commission orders North Dakota Electric Public Utilities to file initial comments addressing the business arrangement by September 2, 2025.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Sheri Haugen-Hoffart  
Commissioner



Randy Christmann  
Chair



Jill Kringstad  
Commissioner