



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

September 20, 2013

—Via Electronic Filing—

Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: SHERCO UNIT 3 RESTORATION UPDATE
DOCKET NO. E002/AA-11-1173

Dear Dr. Haar:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, provides this update to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission on restoration activities at the Sherburne County Generating Station Unit 3 after the event that occurred on November 19, 2011.

As we noted in our last update, the Sherco 3 restoration work has been completed. We synchronized to the grid on September 4, 2013 following a series of successful initial return-to-service tests.

Sherco 3 operated at 240 MWs until it was taken off-line on September 7, 2013 to address post-restoration items including change-out of the fine-mesh screens that protect the turbine from small particulate damage when the unit initially starts-up.

At this time we anticipate this short post-restoration outage to end with Sherco 3 returning to service on or around October 7, 2013. Following that return there will be four days of testing at load before the unit is released for full economic dispatch.

We are continuing to work on the release of our root cause analysis report with our insurance provider. We will continue to provide updates to the Commission, with our next update expected to be filed in October 2013.

We appreciate the opportunity to update the Commission on our work at Sherco 3. Please contact me at christoper.b.clark@xcelenergy.com or (612) 215-4593 if there are any questions regarding this update.

Sincerely,

/s/

CHRISTOPHER B. CLARK
REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
RATES AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Enclosures
c: Service List

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, SaGonna Thompson, hereby certify that I have this day served copies of the foregoing document on the attached list of persons.

xx by depositing a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped with postage paid in the United States mail at Minneapolis, Minnesota;

xx by email; or

xx by electronic filing.

Docket No. E002/AA-11-1173 Sherco Unit 3 Restoration Update

Dated this 20th day of September 2013

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