





EL 03-018

MAY 27 2003

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
Jim Wilcox, Manager,  
Government & Regulatory Affairs  
500 West Russell Street  
P.O. Box 988  
Sioux Falls, SD 57101-0988  
Telephone (605) 339-8350 fax 612/573-9083  
internet - james.c.wilcox@xcelenergy.com

May 22, 2003

Ms. Pam Bonrud, Executive Director  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
State Capitol Building  
500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070

RE: Petition for approval of  
The Customer Buyback Program  
Docket No. EL00-013

Dear Ms. Bonrud:

Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy ("Xcel Energy") hereby submits for filing a petition to continue the Customer Buyback Program that expired on December 31, 2002.

If anyone has any questions, please call me at 339-8350

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'J Wilcox'.

Jim Wilcox

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA  
BEFORE THE  
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Robert Sahr  
Gary Hanson  
James Burg

Chair  
Commissioner  
Commissioner

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY  
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY  
d/b/a XCEL ENERGY FOR  
APPROVAL OF THE CUSTOMER  
BUYBACK PROGRAM

DOCKET NO. EL00-013

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE CUSTOMER BUYBACK PROGRAM**

Overview

On July 20, 2000, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) approved Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy’s (“Xcel Energy” or “Company”) Customer Buyback Program and the associated Enabling Agreement (South Dakota Electric Rate Book – SDPUC No. 2, Section No. 8, Original Sheet No. 13, 14, 15). In its June 19, 2002 Order, the Commission approved this tariff to be in effect until December 31, 2002. If the Company were to desire to continue this program after the expiration date, the Company would have to submit a filing in another proceeding.

The Company most recently submitted a compliance report to the Commission on February 4, 2003 on report buyback activities for 2002. There was no program activity for 2002. However, the Company believes that there is merit in continuing the program and this petition seeks approval to implement the program.

Request for Program Approval

Although Xcel Energy has seen limited buyback activity thus far, the Company believes that the use of the buyback program has the potential to more effectively manage price risk for our retail customers.

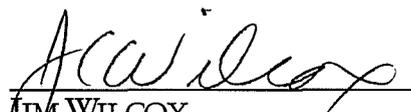
Further, the Company would like to permanently enable this program without the need for an annual renewal. Tariffs are in place to guide the Company's actions. Approval of this request would negate the necessity for an annual renewal filing and would eliminate the need for an annual staff analysis.

The Company intends to continue to operate this program within the restrictions and reporting requirements outlined in the Commission's original order dated July 20, 2000. As always, the Commission could act at any time to stop the program if there was some event or reason to warrant curtailing the program.

The Company respectfully requests that the Commission enable the existing Buy Back Program.

If you have any questions regarding this filing please contact me at (605) 339-8350.

Respectfully submitted,



JIM WILCOX  
MANAGER,  
GOVERNMENT & REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Dated: May 22, 2003

**South Dakota Public Utilities Commission**  
**WEEKLY FILINGS**  
For the Period of May 22, 2003 through May 28, 2003

If you need a complete copy of a filing faxed, overnight expressed, or mailed to you, please contact Delaine Kolbo within five business days of this report. Phone: 605-773-3705

**ELECTRIC**

**EL03-018**      **In the Matter of the Application of Xcel Energy for Approval to Renew the Customer Buyback Program.**

Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy (Xcel) is requesting the Commission renew Xcel's Customer Buyback Program. The original program tariff was approved by the Commission on July 20, 2000 and expired December 31, 2001. The program was renewed by the Commission on June 19, 2002 with a December 31, 2003 expiration date. This filing renews the program with no expiration date.

Staff Analyst: Keith Senger  
Staff Attorney: Kelly Frazier  
Date Docketed: 05/27/03  
Intervention Deadline: 06/13/03

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**TC03-088**      **In the Matter of the Filing by Qwest Corporation for Approval of Revisions to its Exchange and Network Services Tariff.**

On May 22, 2003, Qwest Corporation filed revisions to its South Dakota Exchange and Network Services Tariff. These revisions introduce PAL-specific fraud protection service offerings.

Staff Analyst: Keith Senger  
Staff Attorney: Kelly Frazier  
Date Docketed: 05/22/03  
Intervention Deadline: 06/13/03

**TC03-089**      **In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Agreement for Terms and Conditions for Interconnection, Unbundled Network Elements, Ancillary Services and Resale of Telecommunications Services between Qwest Corporation and iLOKA Inc. d/b/a Microtech.tel.**

On May 28, 2003, the Commission received a filing of an Agreement for Terms and Conditions for Interconnection, Unbundled Network Elements, Ancillary Services, and Resale of Telecommunications Services provided by Qwest Corporation for iLOKA Inc. d/b/a Microtech-tel. According to the parties, the Agreement is a negotiated agreement which sets forth the terms, conditions and pricing under which Qwest will offer and provide to any requesting CLEC network interconnection, access to unbundled network elements, ancillary services and telecommunications services available for resale within the geographical areas in which Qwest is providing local exchange service at that time and for which Qwest is the incumbent local exchange carrier within the State of South Dakota for purposes of providing local

telecommunications services. Any party wishing to comment on the agreement may do so by filing written comments with the Commission and the parties to the agreement no later than June 17, 2003. Parties to the agreement may file written responses to the comments no later than twenty days after the service of the initial comments.

Staff Attorney: Kelly Frazier

Date Docketed: 05/28/03

Initial Comments Due: 06/17/03

**You may receive this listing and other PUC publications via our website or via internet e-mail.  
You may subscribe or unsubscribe to the PUC mailing lists at <http://www.state.sd.us/puc>**

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ) ORDER APPROVING TARIFF  
XCEL ENERGY FOR APPROVAL TO RENEW ) REVISIONS  
THE CUSTOMER BUYBACK PROGRAM ) EL03-018**

On May 27, 2003, Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy (Xcel) Minneapolis, Minnesota, filed with the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) proposed revisions to its South Dakota Electric Rate Book - SDPUC No. 2, specifically the Customer Buyback Program Tariff:

Section No. 8, 2nd Revised Sheet Nos. 13, 14 and 15, canceling 1st Revised Sheet Nos. 13, 14 and 15

The Customer Buyback Program Tariff allows Xcel to make energy purchases from its South Dakota customers who voluntarily agree to interrupt their firm load. Xcel is seeking renewal of this program originally approved on July 20, 2000 (EL00-013) and renewed on June 19, 2002 (EL02-007). Xcel is requesting that the tariff be permanently enabled thus eliminating the renewal process.

On May 29, 2003, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of June 13, 2003, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. At its regularly scheduled meeting of July 1, 2003, the Commission considered approval of the application. Commission Staff recommended approval as filed with the continuation of the restrictions and reporting requirements found in EL00-013.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A. The Commission voted to approve the tariff revisions. The Commission finds the revisions are just and reasonable. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that Xcel's revised tariff, as described above, is approved as filed with the continuation of the restrictions and reporting requirements found in EL00-013, and it shall be effective for service rendered on and after the date of this order.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2003.

<p><b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b></p> <p>The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.</p> <p>By: <u>Delaine Kolbo</u></p> <p>Date: <u>7/16/03</u></p> <p style="text-align:center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
---

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Robert K. Sahr

ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner

James A. Burg

JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner