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To All Interested Parties:

Xcel Energy Transmission Planning (XET) is pursuing development of the following three Northern States Power Company (NSP) transmission projects in southern and southeast Minnesota. These are representative solutions to recognized limitations to wind generation development.

1. Upgrading restricting substation equipment and some transmission line structures on the Blue Lake-Wilmarth-Lakefield Generating Station 345 kV line with proposed completion by end of 2009.
2. Constructing a new 161 kV Pleasant Valley-Byron line with a proposed completion in 2010.
3. Constructing a new 161 kV Pleasant Valley-Rochester line with a proposed completion in 2012.

An actual decision to construct these projects and their completion dates is dependent on gaining Midwest ISO, regulatory, and other approvals.

The schedule information about is preliminary and expressly **not** a modification to the construction milestones provided in any Large Generation Interconnection Agreement (LGIA) or other interconnection agreement for any specific generation project. Parties to specific interconnection agreements should review the milestone provisions of their interconnection agreement for specific milestone information.

XET is subject to FERC's Order No. 2004 rules establishing Standards of Conduct for Transmission Providers. Under those rules, XET cannot provide preferential access to transmission information such as construction schedule information. Questions may be submitted through the XET Question and Answer (Q&A) Function available at http://www.rmao.com/xfpp/nsp_qa.html. Answers will be made available to the public when the answer is posted on the Q&A page.

--Xcel Energy Transmission Planning
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