Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy
Southwest Minnesota 825 MW Wind Transmission Expansion Project
Updated In-service Date Projection
October 25, 2007

Background:

This posting is an update of projected in-service dates for various components of the Southwestern Minnesota 825 MW wind transmission project. This replaces the update posted in September 2007.

Wind developers, their financiers and power purchasers have periodically requested information regarding the status of the transmission infrastructure upgrades in southwestern Minnesota associated with the Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy (Xcel Energy) 825 MW wind generation outlet transmission capacity expansion project. The project was approved by the Minnesota PUC in its certificate of need order in Docket No. E002/CN-01-1958. This informational update is provided to respond to those requests.

The Xcel Energy Transmission Function (XET) may post periodic updates to the project schedule below on OASIS as construction progresses and more information is available. Interested parties should periodically check the OASIS site (http://oasis.midwestiso.org/OASIS/NSP) for updated in-service schedule information.

Current Project In-Service Schedule:

Project component	**Projected In Service Date**
Bird Island to Franklin rebuild 69 kV	Complete
Chanarambie – Lake Yankton - Lyon Co. new 115 kV	Complete
Lyon substation	Complete
Wilmarth to Martin Co. 345 kV upgrade	Complete
Paynesville to Wakefield 115 kV rebuild	Complete
Willmar to Kerkhoven 115 kV rebuild	Complete
Summit to Dome to Loon Tap 115 kV rebuild	Complete
Grant Co. to Brandon 115 kV rebuild	Complete
Brandon to Alexandria 115 kV rebuild	Complete
Alexandria to Douglas Co. 115 kV rebuild	Complete
Willmar Transformer	Complete
Black Dog Transformer	Complete
Paynesville Transformer	Complete
Lake Yankton substation and SVC	Complete
Loon Tap to West Faribault 115 kV rebuild	Complete
Troy substation 69 kV new	Complete
Lyon County to Marshall 115 kV upgrade	Complete
Fox Lake substation upgrade	Complete
West Faribault substation upgrade	Complete
Lakefield to Fox Lake 161 kV line	Complete
Bird Island substation upgrade	Complete
Franklin substation upgrade	Complete
Chanarambie to Fenton 115 kV line	Complete
Chanarambie substation upgrade	Complete

Project component	**Projected In Service Date**
Douglas substation upgrade	Complete
Minn Valley to Redwood Falls Tap 115 kV rebuild	Complete
Redwood Falls Tap to Franklin 115 kV rebuild	Complete
Lakefield Junction to Lakefield Generation phase raise	Complete
Fenton substation	Complete
Buffalo Ridge to Yankee 115 kV line	Complete
Buffalo Ridge substation upgrade	Complete
Yankee substation	Complete
Minn Valley Transformers	Complete except 115 kV bus tie breaker replacement to be completed November 2007
Fenton to Nobles County 115 kV line	On or before November 13, 2007
Series Compensation – Wilmarth – Lakefield Generation line	On or before November 13, 2007
Special Protection Scheme (SPS) in lieu of Fox Lake to Winnebago 161 kV rebuild	On or before November 13, 2007
Lakefield Junction substation upgrade	On or before November 13, 2007
Nobles County to Lakefield Junction 345 kV line	On or before November 13, 2007
Nobles Co. substation	On or before November 13, 2007
Brookings County Substation	November 15, 2007
Yankee to Brookings County 115 kV line	November 15, 2007
Brookings County to White 345 kV line	December 15, 2007
White substation upgrade	December 15, 2007
Split Rock substation upgrade	July 2008
Split Rock to Nobles County 345 kV line	July 2008
Nobles County Substation 35 kV	Postponed pending further MISO studies

Limitations:

The table above provides the current estimate by XET of the in-service date for specific facilities associated with the 825 MW project. The actual in-service date for individual component projects may be affected or delayed if required approvals cannot be obtained or are delayed, or if XET experiences construction delays for any reason (because of inclement weather, etc.).

In addition, the schedule information above is 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.

Increases to Available Transfer Capability for Buffalo Ridge Generation Outlet

Certain project components from the table above will likely allow an increase in transmission outlet capacity above the current 425 MW level. Specifically, new ties between generation and the existing 345

kV system (such as Fenton-Nobles-Lakefield Junction and Yankee-Brookings County-White) have the greatest potential for increasing available transfer capability (ATC). As these components near completion, Xcel Energy will conduct the appropriate studies in coordination with the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc. (MISO) and make adjustments similar to those made in late 2004 when outlet ATC was increased from 260 MW to the current 425 MW.

Access to the Xcel Energy transmission system is managed by MISO, as Transmission Provider. Any change to the ATC in the Buffalo Ridge area would be posted on the MISO OASIS as the change is effectuated.

If You Have Questions:

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. To facilitate disclosure, there are two ways interested parties can obtain 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.

As noted earlier, project information of more general interest (such as updates to this schedule) will also be periodically posted at the MISO OASIS (http://oasis.midwestiso.org/OASIS/NSP).

Interested parties should check these sites periodically.

Thank you.