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November 29, 2021

VIA Electronic Filing

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

**Subject: Final Application for a New License for a Major Water Power Project
Cornell Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 2639)
Chippewa River, Chippewa County, Wisconsin**

Dear Secretary Bose:

In accordance with 18 CFR 4.32(h), Northern States Power Company – Wisconsin (NSPW or Licensee), d/b/a Xcel Energy, is hereby filing the Final License Application (FLA) for the relicensing of the Cornell Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2639). The Project is located on the Chippewa River in the City of Cornell and Towns of Birch Creek, Cleveland, Estella, and Lake Holcombe in Chippewa County, Wisconsin. The current license expires on November 30, 2023.

The Licensee has prepared this FLA pursuant to the requirements of the Commission's regulations at 18 CFR §§ 4.38, 4.61, and 16.10 as required under the Traditional Licensing Process (TLP). The Licensee's request to use the TLP was approved via the Commission's February 5, 2019 letter. Pursuant to 18 CFR § 4.38 and by copy of this letter, the Licensee is providing a link to the Project's relicensing website at <http://hydrorelicensing.com/cornell/>. From this website, an electronic copy of the FLA may be downloaded by relevant resource agencies, tribes, non-governmental organizations, and other potential interested parties as included in the attached distribution list.

NSPW has distributed hard copies of the FLA to the Cornell Public Library located at 117 N. 3rd Street, Cornell, WI and Xcel Energy's Skypark Office located at 1414 W. Hamilton Avenue, Eau Claire, WI. Should stakeholders experience difficulty downloading the document, prefer to receive an electronic version on a USB drive via U.S. mail, or wish to schedule an appointment to review the hardcopy version located at Xcel's Eau Claire Skypark Office, they may contact Matthew Miller at 715-737-1353 or matthew.j.miller@xcelenergy.com.

It should be noted that there are four differences between the FLA information filed with the Commission and the information provided to the stakeholders. The differences are as follows:

- Exhibit F drawings included in Volume 2 contain Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII). NSPW has filed the CEII Version of Volume 2 with the Commission and designated it as such.
- The Flashboard Alternatives Study, found in Appendix E-43, contains CEII. Therefore, NSPW has filed the CEII version of Volume 3 with the Commission and designated it as such.

- Appendix E-30 of Volume 3 contains privileged threatened and endangered resources locational information. As such, NSPW has filed Appendix E-30 separately with the Commission and designated the information as privileged.
- Appendix E-32 of Volume 3 includes the Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP) which contains privileged archaeological site locational information. As such, NSPW has filed Appendix B of the HPMP separately and designated the information as privileged.

NSPW will publish a public notice of the FLA twice, in accordance with 18 CFR § 4.32(b), no later than 14 days after the FLA filing date, in a newspaper of general circulation in Chippewa County and provide notice of the publication promptly to the Commission.

Should you have any questions, please contact Matthew Miller at 715-737-1353 or matthew.j.miller@xcelenergy.com.

Sincerely,

James M. Zyduck
Director, Hydro Plants

Attachment

cc: Distribution List

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that I, on behalf of Northern States Power Company, a Wisconsin corporation (NSPW), d/b/a Xcel Energy, have this day served by First Class Mail the foregoing documents in electronic format upon each person designated on the attached distribution list.

Dated this 29th day of November, 2021

Darrin Johnson

Darrin Johnson
Mead & Hunt, Inc.

Cornell Hydroelectric Project Licensing

FERC Project No. 2639

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