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July 6, 2022

VIA Electronic Filing

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

Subject: **Draft Application for Subsequent License for the Saxon Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2610-011) and New License for the Superior Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2587-065)**

Dear Secretary Bose:

Northern States Power Company, a Wisconsin corporation (NSPW, Licensee, or Applicant) is the owner and operator of the Saxon Falls Hydroelectric Project (Saxon Falls Project - FERC No. 2610) and the Superior Falls Hydroelectric Project (Superior Falls Project - FERC No. 2587).¹ The Projects are located on the Montreal River, in Ironwood Township in Gogebic County, Michigan and the Town of Saxon in Iron County, Wisconsin. The current licenses expire on December 31, 2024.

In accordance with 18 CFR 4.32 (h), NSPW hereby files the Draft License Application for the relicensing of the Saxon Falls and Superior Falls Hydroelectric Projects.² The Licensee has prepared the DLA to conform to the Commission's regulations under 18 CFR §§ 4.38, 4.61, and 16.10, as required under the Traditional Licensing Process (TLP). Licensee's request to use the TLP for both Projects was approved by the Commission via letter dated February 13, 2020.

Pursuant to 18 CFR § 4.38, and by copy of this letter (via email and/or US mail), the Licensee is providing a link to the Projects' relicensing website at <http://hydrorelicensing.com/>. From this website, an electronic copy of the public portions of the DLA may be downloaded for review by relevant resource agencies, tribes, non-governmental organizations, and other interested parties included in the attached distribution list. Written comments are due within 90 days of the date of this filing. Should stakeholders experience difficulty downloading the document or prefer to receive an electronic version on a USB drive via US mail, they may contact Matthew Miller at 715-737-1353 or matthew.j.miller@xcelenergy.com.

¹ Throughout the documents included with this transmittal, the Saxon Falls Project and Superior Falls Project are individually referred to as Project or collectively as Projects.

² Since both Projects are located on the Montreal River in Michigan and Wisconsin, with the Superior Falls Project being located approximately 2 miles downstream of the Saxon Falls Project, one Application for both Projects is being submitted.

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It should be noted that there are four items hereby filed with the Commission that are unavailable to the public for security or confidentiality reasons. Those four items are as follows:

- Exhibit F drawings included in Volume 2 contain Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII). Therefore, NSPW has filed the CEII version of Volume 2 with the Commission and designated it as such.
- Appendices E-39 and E-40 included in Volume 3 contain privileged locational information for threatened and endangered species. As such, NSPW has filed Appendices E-39 and E-40 separately with the Commission and designated the information as privileged.
- Appendix E-16 contains archaeological site locational information. As such NSPW has filed Appendix E-16 separately with the Commission and designated the information as privileged.

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

Sincerely,

Scott A. Crotty
Senior Hydro Operations Manager

Enclosure

cc: Distribution List

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that I, on behalf of Northern States Power Company, a Wisconsin corporation, 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 _____6th_____ day of July, 2022



Darrin Johnson
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Saxon Falls and Superior Falls Hydroelectric Project Licensing

FERC Project No. 2610 and 2587

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