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Xcel Energy

Docket No.: E002, ET2/CN-06-1115

Response To: Susan Peirce Information Request No. 42  
MN Department of Commerce

Date Received: January 22, 2008

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Question:

For each of the facilities identified in response to DOC No. 34 in which a utility obtains the energy under a power purchase agreement (PPA), please identify who owns the green tags or environmental attributes for the renewable energy being generated.

Response:

Great River Energy, Missouri River Energy Services, Minnesota Power, Dairyland Power Company and Rochester Public Utilities own all of the green tags and/or Renewable Energy Credits (“RECs”) from all of the PPA facilities identified in response to Department of Commerce Information Request No. 34. Information about Minnkota Power Cooperative was not included in response to Request to No. 34, but its PPA with Langdon was included in response to Department of Commerce Information Request No. 39, and Minnkota owns the RECs associated with this PPA.

Xcel Energy owns the RECs or green tags associated with the renewable energy generated from all of the PPA facilities identified in Department of Commerce Information Request No. 34. Xcel Energy recognizes that some of its older renewable PPAs are not explicit in separating REC ownership from ownership of renewable energy generated by those facilities. In the M-RETS Dockets (MPUC Docket Nos. E-999/CI-04-1616 and E-999/CI-03-869), the Commission ordered Xcel Energy to work with the contract vendors in these so-called “silent contracts” and determine whether any of those vendors have a different opinion about Xcel Energy's right to claim entitlement to the RECs. Xcel Energy's investigation into this issue is ongoing. Per the Commission's Order, Xcel Energy will report to the Commission the outcome of its investigation on March 1, 2008.

Southern Minnesota Municipal Association has one PPA for the Big Blue Wind Farm that will be operational in late 2009. The company will own all of environmental attributes which will be tracked via the Midwest Renewable Energy Tracking System (“M-RETS”).

Central Minnesota Municipal Power Agency and Otter Tail Power Company own all of the attributes for the resources shown in the response to Department of Commerce Information Request No. 34 with the exception of those facilities listed on the attached Excel spreadsheet.

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DOC0042 Attachment		
	From 0034	Response to 0042
	Relevant Facility	Owner of Green Tags or Environmental Attributes
Central Minnesota Municipal Power Agency	Blue Breezes	City of Blue Earth
	Mt. Lake Wind	City of Mountain Lake
	Willmar Wind	City of Willmar
	Glencoe Landfill Gas	City of Glencoe
Otter Tail Power Company		Otter Tail Power Company owns the renewable energy credits associated with the surplus energy sold to Otter Tail. University of Minnesota-Morris, owns the renewable energy credits associated with the energy used on campus.
	University of Minnesota-Morris	
	Potlatch Cogeneration Facility (OTP Share)	NA - facility no longer in operation
	Lac Qui Parle Valley School	Lac Qui Parle Valley School currently owns the attributes. Otter Tail Power Company intends to make a proposal to the school to acquire the attributes.
	Trautman	This facility is under the North Dakota Small Power Producer Tariff. Otter Tail Power Company has incorporated renewable energy credit language and prices into the tariff, so the RECs for energy delivered to Otter Tail Power Company belong to Otter Tail Power Company.
	<b>PROJECTED PROJECTS</b>	
	Dennis Tuel Wind	Undetermined at this time
	UM-Morris Biomass	University of Minnesota-Morris and Otter Tail Power have reached an oral agreement that the new PPA will assume that all biomass energy remains on campus, and thus the related RECs will belong to the University. As a result, more wind energy will be delivered to Otter Tail Power Company. The RECs for this delivered wind energy belong to Otter Tail Power Company. The RECs for wind energy that is used on campus belong to University of Minnesota-Morris.
	UM-Morris Wind	PPA not finalized, but energy delivered to Otter Tail Power will include RECs