
**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) December 17, 2020

Commission File Number	Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter; State of Incorporation; Address of Principal Executive Offices; and Telephone Number	IRS Employer Identification Number
001-3034	XCEL ENERGY INC. (a Minnesota corporation) 414 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis Minnesota 55401 (612) 330-5500	41-0448030
001-31387	NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY (a Minnesota corporation) 414 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis Minnesota 55401 (612) 330-5500	41-1967505

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- ☐ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- ☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act

Title of each class	Trading Symbol	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, \$2.50 par value	XEL	Nasdaq Stock Market LLC

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CFR §230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR §240.12b-2).
Emerging growth company ☐

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. ☐

Item 8.01. Other Events

NSP-Minnesota 2020 Electric Rate Case

In November 2020, Northern States Power Company-Minnesota (NSP-Minnesota), a Minnesota corporation, and a wholly owned subsidiary of Xcel Energy Inc. (Xcel Energy), filed a three-year electric rate case with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC). The request is driven by ongoing investments in carbon free electrical generation, distribution and transmission infrastructure. The rate case is based on a requested return on equity (ROE) of 10.2% and a 52.5% equity ratio. The request is detailed in the table below:

(Amounts in Millions, Except Increase Percentage)	2021	2022	2023	Total
Rate request	\$ 406	\$ 98	\$ 93	\$ 597
Increase percentage	13.2 %	3.3 %	3.2 %	19.7 %
Rate base	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,300	\$ 10,700	N/A

In addition, NSP-Minnesota requested interim rates, subject to refund, of \$309 million to be implemented in January 2021 and an incremental \$96 million to be implemented in January 2022. NSP-Minnesota also filed a stay-out alternative in which it would withdraw its rate case filing.

On Dec. 17, 2020, the MPUC verbally approved the stay-out alternative petition, which includes the extension of the sales, capital and property tax true-up mechanisms and delay of any increase to the Nuclear Decommissioning Trust annual accrual until Jan. 1, 2022.

Additionally, NSP-Minnesota has agreed to not seek recovery of incremental COVID-19 pandemic related bad debt expense and to commit to fund \$17.5 million in a Residential Payment Plan Credit Program or other similar customer relief programs, as directed by the MPUC.

NSP-Minnesota also agreed to an earnings test in which all earnings above an ROE of 9.06% in 2021 will be refunded to customers.

A final written order is expected by the end of the first quarter of 2021.

Certain information discussed in this Current Report on Form 8-K is forward-looking information that involves risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Such forward-looking statements, including our expectations regarding the regulatory proceedings, as well as assumptions and other statements are intended to be identified in this document by the words "anticipate," "believe," "could," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "may," "objective," "outlook," "plan," "project," "possible," "potential," "should," "will," "would," and similar expressions. Actual results may vary materially. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and we expressly disclaim any obligation to update any forward-looking information. The following factors, in addition to those discussed in Xcel Energy's and NSP-Minnesota's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended Dec. 31, 2019, and subsequent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, could cause actual results to differ materially from management expectations as suggested by such forward-looking information: uncertainty around the impacts and duration of the COVID-19 pandemic; operational safety, including our nuclear generation facilities; successful long-term operational planning; commodity risks associated with energy markets and production; rising energy prices and fuel costs; qualified employee work force and third-party contractor factors; ability to recover costs, changes in regulation and subsidiaries' ability to recover costs from customers; reductions in our credit ratings and the cost of maintaining certain contractual relationships; general economic conditions, including inflation rates, monetary fluctuations and their impact on capital expenditures and the ability of Xcel Energy and its subsidiaries to obtain financing on favorable terms; availability or cost of capital; our customers' and counterparties' ability to pay their debts to us; assumptions and costs relating to funding our employee benefit plans and health care benefits; our subsidiaries' ability to make dividend payments; tax laws; effects of geopolitical events, including war and acts of terrorism; cyber security threats and data security breaches; seasonal weather patterns; changes in environmental laws and regulations; climate change and other weather; natural disaster and resource depletion, including compliance with any accompanying legislative and regulatory changes; and costs of potential regulatory penalties.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dec. 18, 2020

Xcel Energy Inc. (a Minnesota corporation)

Northern States Power Company (a Minnesota corporation)

/s/ BRIAN J. VAN ABEL

Brian J. Van Abel

Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Director