

General information

Public comment period begins: May 6, 2025

Public comment period ends: June 5, 2025

Name and address of Permittee:

Northern States Power Co a
Minnesota Corp dba Xcel Energy
414 Nicollet Mall MP 7B
Minneapolis, MN 55401-1927

Facility name and location:

NSP dba Xcel Energy - Riverside
3100 Marshall St NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418-1821
Hennepin County
T029N, R24W, Section 003

MPCA contact person:

Jesse Loi
Industrial Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Rd
Saint Paul, MN 55155
Phone: 651-757-2330
Email: jesse.loi@state.mn.us

File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or
844-828-0942

A draft permit and supporting documentation are available for review on the MPCA Public Notices webpage at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/get-engaged/public-comments>. Additional materials relating to the issuance of this permit are available for inspection by appointment at any MPCA office (<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/about-mPCA/contact-us>) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The MPCA will mail or email a copy of the draft permit upon request. Comments, petitions, and other requests must be received at the MPCA in writing on or before the public comment period end date and U.S. Mail comments must be received by 4:30 p.m.

Description of permitted facility

The Facility is an electric utility power plant using twin GE 7FA combined cycle natural gas-fired turbines (234 megawatts electrical (MWe) per turbine, without supplemental duct firing), two heat recovery steam generators (HRSG), and a steam turbine generator. Electric power is generated by a mechanically driven generator for each combustion turbine, and the HRSG powers the steam turbine generator.

The facility also includes an auxiliary boiler (78 MMBtu/hr), two diesel-fired emergency generators (16.8 MMBtu/hr each), and two air handlers (7.5 MMBtu/hr each) used for comfort heat (not as part of the electricity generation processes).

The main pollutants of concern are nitrogen oxides (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), volatile organic compounds (VOC), particulate matter less than 10 microns (PM₁₀), particulate matter less than 2.5 microns (PM_{2.5}) and hazardous air pollutants (HAP).

Each combustion turbine has dry low-NO_x burners and uses selective catalytic reduction (SCR) with ammonia injection for NO_x control. During emergencies, the combustion turbines can undergo rapid startup and operate in simple cycle mode, with exhaust still routed through the HRSG and NO_x controlled by the SCR system. In this situation, steam from the HRSG will bypass the steam electric turbine generator and go directly to the condenser. Good combustion practices are used to control CO and VOC emissions. NO_x and CO are monitored by continuous emission monitoring systems (CEMS).

The combustion turbines have an add-on Opflex peaking package, which uses inlet evaporative cooling in warm weather to reduce power loss associated with warmer compressor inlet ambient air temperatures. The combustion turbines also have an Opflex extended turndown package, which enables the combustion turbines to run as low as 45% load while still achieving the emissions rates guaranteed for the stock turbines.

This permit action incorporates a moderate amendment to increase generating capacity of the EQUI 106 combined cycle turbine, and a major amendment to increase generating capacity of the EQUI 107 combined cycle turbine. This permit action also includes one administrative amendment which granted an extension for submitting NO_x modeling information originally due March 21, 2023.

The preliminary determination to reissue this Air permit is tentative.

The permit action is for modification and operation of the facility. The permit action is the reissuance of the Part 70 operating permit; therefore, the draft permit has been placed on public notice.

A summary of the Potential to Emit (PTE) and Emissions Increase in tons per year is as follows:

Pollutant	PM	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}	SO ₂	NO _x	VOCs	CO	CO _{2e}
Total Facility PTE	165	165	165	10.6	363	135	593	2,074,683
Emissions Increase from moderate amendment for EQUI 106	0.35	0.90	0.65	0.92	35.46	21.59	0.00	150,213
Emissions Increase from major amendment for EQUI 107	0.34	0.88	0.64	1.21	36.77	21.61	0.00	165,662

PM = Particulate Matter

PM_{2.5} = PM, 2.5 microns and smaller

NO_x = Nitrogen Oxides

CO = Carbon Monoxide

PM₁₀ = PM, 10 microns and smaller

SO₂ = Sulfur Dioxide

VOCs = Volatile Organic Compounds

CO_{2e} = Carbon Dioxide Equivalents as defined in Minn. R. 7007.0100

The Permittee is not required to submit a pollution prevention progress report pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 115D.08. Note that under PSD regulations, the two projects for modifying EQUI 106 and for modifying EQUI 107 are evaluated as separate projects that can be completed independently and are not dependent on one another for project viability.

Procedure for public participation

As stated in Minn. R. chs. 7000 and 7001, there are three formal procedures for public participation in the MPCA's consideration of this matter. Interested persons may:

- 1) Submit written comments on the draft permit.
- 2) Petition the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting.
- 3) Petition the MPCA to hold a contested case hearing.

Submitting written comments

Comments may be submitted:

- 1) Online at <https://mpca.commentinput.com/comment/search>; or
- 2) By U.S. postal mail to the following address:

Jesse Loi
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Rd
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Submitted comments or petitions must state:

- 1) Your interest in the permit application or the draft permit.
- 2) The action you wish the MPCA to take, including specific references to the section of the draft permit you believe should be changed.
- 3) The reasons supporting your position, stated with sufficient specificity as to allow the MPCA to investigate the merits of the position.

Public informational meeting

A public informational meeting is an informal meeting during which interested persons can ask questions concerning the proposed facility. MPCA staff will be present to provide information. If an interested person would like the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting, the person should include all information identified above and in addition include a statement of the reasons the person desires the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting and the issues that the person would like the agency to address at the public informational meeting.

Contested Case Hearing

A contested case hearing is a formal proceeding before an administrative law judge empowered to advise the MPCA regarding issues of fact. As described in Minn. R. 7000.1800, persons who submit petitions for a contested case hearing must also state the issues they propose to address in a contested case hearing, the specific relief requested or resolution of the matter, and the reasons (which may be in the form of proposed findings) supporting an MPCA decision to hold a contested case hearing. Failure to comply with these rules exactly may result in a denial of the request. To the extent known, the petitioner may also submit a list of prospective witnesses to be called at a hearing, a proposed list of publications, references, or studies to be introduced at a hearing and the approximate time required for the petitioner to present the matter at a hearing. The decision whether to hold a contested case hearing will be made under Minn. R. 7000.1900.