

General information

Public comment period begins: June 9, 2025

Public comment period ends: June 9, 2025

Current permit issued: October 26, 2020

Current permit expiration date: October 26, 2025

Name and address of Permittee:

Northern States Power Co-MN, an
Xcel Energy Co.
414 Nicollet Mall, GO2
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Facility name and location:

NSP/Xcel Energy Black Dog Generating
1400 Black Dog Rd E
Burnsville, MN 55337
Dakota County
T027N, R24W, Section 024

MPCA contact person:

Hannah Braatz
Industrial Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194
Phone: 651-757-2365
Email: hannah.braatz@state.mn.us

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

A draft permit and supporting information 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 Xcel Black Dog

Xcel Energy - Black Dog (Xcel) is a major Part 70 source that operates an electric generating plant. The plant is composed of a natural gas-fired combined cycle gas turbine with an associated duct burner, a simple cycle turbine, two emergency generators, one fire pump, and an auxiliary boiler. Additionally, there are two fugitive emission sources that represent natural gas leakage from connections and breakers that serve natural gas throughout the facility. Xcel also has space heaters, a distillate oil forwarding system, a laboratory, a sand blast cabinet, and miscellaneous brazing, soldering, torch-cutting, and welding activities that are considered insignificant activities.

The main pollutants of concern are nitrogen oxides (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), volatile organic compounds (VOC), formaldehyde, hexane, and carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e). Xcel uses continuous emissions monitoring systems (CEMS) to monitor NO_x emissions from the combined and simple cycle turbines. Xcel is also required to perform ongoing performance tests for particulate matter less than 10 microns (PM₁₀), and VOC from the combined cycle turbine and duct burner. The combined cycle turbine is equipped with low-NO_x burners and NO_x emissions are controlled by selective catalytic reduction (SCR).

The major amendment is to modify the operation of Unit 6 by removing the existing heat input limit to increase operational flexibility.

This permit action includes an administrative amendment for a 120-day performance test extension for Unit 6. The date of this extension has already passed, and the testing has been completed. No changes are included in the permit for this permit action.

This permit action includes a moderate amendment to modify Unit 5 to improve the efficiency and increase maximum power generation.

The preliminary determination to amend this Air permit is tentative.

The permit action is for modification and operation of the facility. The permit action is a major amendment; therefore, the draft permit has been placed on public notice.

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

Pollutant	PM	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}	SO ₂	NO _x	VOCs	CO	CO ₂ e	Lead
Total Facility PTE	88.0	72.0	68.0	24.6	494	640	1,530	2.51E+06	6.07E-03
Emissions Increase from Major Amendment	20.8	20.8	20.8	22.3	205	9.68	103	7.68E+05	3.21E-03
Emissions Increase from Modreate Amendment	4.75	4.75	4.75	1.38	76.5	0.00	0.00	3.81E+05	0.00
Net Emissions Increase	25.6	25.6	25.6	23.7	282	9.68	103	1.15E+06	3.21E-03

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

CO₂e = 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.

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:

Hannah Braatz
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194

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.