

General information

Public comment period begins: February 6, 2026

Public comment period ends: March 9, 2026

Current permit issued: November 13, 2024

Current permit expiration date: November 13, 2029

Name and address of Permittee:

Xcel Energy
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401-1927

Facility name and location:

Xcel Energy - Red Wing Generating
Plant
801 East 5th St
Red Wing, MN 55066-2760
Goodhue County
T113N, R14W, Section 029

MPCA contact person:

Derek Nelson
Industrial Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Rd N
St. Paul, MN 55155
Phone: 651-757-2131
Email: derek.nelson@state.mn.us

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

A draft permit and technical support document 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 Energy – Red Wing Generating Plant

Xcel Energy - Red Wing Generating Plant (Xcel - Red Wing, or Facility) is a waste combustor electric power generating facility located along the Mississippi River in Red Wing, Minnesota. The Facility is rated at 25 Megawatts (MW) and consists of two boilers that primarily burn Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF). The RDF burned at this facility is processed under contract with the City of Red Wing Resource & Recovery Facility and the Ramsey/Washington Resource Recovery Facility in Newport, MN.

Energy is produced through combustion of RDF in the two traveling grate boilers installed in 1947. The units each have a rated capacity of 198 MMBtu/hr, which equates 18 tons of RDF per hour (at an assumed heat content of 5,500 Btu/lb). The waste combustors also burn wood and waste oil under the conditions of the permit, and natural gas which is used at start-up and is necessary to maintain proper combustion conditions. Ash produced in the course of waste combustion is stored in an enclosed area at the facility. The ash is transported using covered trucks to the Red Wing Ash Landfill.

Each boiler exhausts through separate pollution control equipment; dry lime injection for the control of acid gases and sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and a fabric filter for the control of particulate matter (PM), particulate matter less than 10 microns (PM10), and particulate matter less than 2.5 microns (PM2.5). Exhaust gases from each boiler are continuously monitored for carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_X), opacity, and oxygen (O₂). Operating parameters, including control equipment inlet temperature, lime feed rate, and steam flow rate, are also monitored continuously.

This permit action is a major amendment for a mandatory permit reopening under Minn. R. 7007.1600, subp. 1(D) to incorporate updated operating conditions imposed by notices of compliance issued following performance tests; therefore, the draft permit has been placed on public notice. Pursuant to Minn. R. 7007.1600, subp. 3, only the portions of the permit that are being amended are open for public comment or consideration at a meeting or hearing. Comments on other portions of the permit will not be considered by the MPCA when making the decision on whether to issue the permit.

No construction or facility modifications are authorized by this permit action. No changes in emission rates or limitations are authorized by this permit action.

The preliminary determination to amend this Air permit is tentative.

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:

Derek Nelson
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Rd N
St. 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.