

General information

Public comment period begins: July 9, 2026
Public comment period ends: August 10, 2026
Current permit issued: August 14, 2013
Current permit expiration date: August 14, 2018

Name and address of Permittee:	Facility name and location:	MPCA contact person:
Xcel Energy - Prairie Island Nuclear Plant 1717 Wakonade Dr E Welch, MN 55089-9642	Xcel Energy - Prairie Island Nuclear Plant 1717 Wakonade Dr E Welch, MN 55089-9642 Goodhue County T113N, R15W, Section 005	Austin Coy Industrial Division Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 520 Lafayette Rd St. Paul, MN 55155 Phone: 651-757-2763 Email: austin.coy@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.

Watershed: NA

Receiving water: NA

Description of permitted facility

This air emission facility is the Xcel Energy Prairie Island Nuclear Plant, a facility that generates 1076 MW of electricity in the city of Welch, Goodhue County, Minnesota. The air emission facility is composed of one distillate oil fired heating boiler and 19 emergency internal combustion engines used to generate power, pump cooling water, and pump water for firefighting, and potentially used in flood response. The generators and water pumps are required by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The main pollutants of concern are nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and carbon monoxide (CO).

This permit action incorporates a minor amendment authorizing the addition of a new emergency generator at the communications tower replacing the existing engine at the tower and the addition of a gasoline tank used to dispense gasoline to vehicles and equipment at the facility. This permit action also includes a minor amendment authorizing the addition of a new emergency generator at the substation. No construction is authorized.

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

Pollutant	PM	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}	SO ₂	NO _x	VOCs	CO	CO _{2e}	Total HAP
Total Facility PTE	17.42	17.24	17.11	0.119	225	19.85	53.17	9,088	20.07

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

HAP = Hazardous Air Pollutant -- if used and not defined above

The Permittee is not required to submit a pollution prevention progress report pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 115D.08.

The preliminary determination to modify this Air permit is tentative.

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:
Austin Coy
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Rd
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.