

MEMORANDUM

May 6, 2013

TO: City of Blaine
Stefan Higgins, Assistant City Engineer

FROM: Colette Jurek, Community Relations Manager
Jeff Blom, Electric/Gas Design Manager
Doug Christenson, Gas Construction Manager
Mark Rubedor, Electric Construction Manager

SUBJECT: Proposed ROW Ordinance
Xcel Energy Feedback

Stefan,

Thank you very much for providing a copy of the City of Blaine's proposed ROW ordinance to Xcel Energy for review. The following is a brief summary of our feedback comments:

Reporting Obligations (Section 1.09, Subd. 1) Page 10

Each registrant will file a construction and major maintenance plan for utility projects by December 1 of each year (one year and five year plan). The City will have available for inspection a composite list of all projects. *Xcel Energy response:* Our company would ask that the city's project list include only minimal information. For system security and integrity purposes, no electric or natural gas system maps/diagrams should be reviewed by any persons other than city staff.

Right-of-Way Fee Payment (Section 1.13 Permit Fees, Subd. 4) Page 13

No permits will be issued without payment. Option is available to be billed quarterly for permit fees. *Xcel Energy response:* We appreciate the city's flexibility with respect to permit fee payment options. Our staff will attempt to provide fee payments at the time we submit ROW permit applications. Our accounts payable department is located out of state which can extend our payment processing timeline. We may encounter situations throughout the construction season where we may request invoice billing to expedite the processing of a ROW permit. Again, we appreciate the city's flexibility with respect to payment options. The city's proposed ROW permit fee schedule appears to be reasonable.

Installation Requirements (Section 1.20, Subd. 1 Notice of Completion) Page 20

When permitted work is finished, the permittee shall furnish a completion certificate in accordance with MN Rule 7819.1300. *Xcel Energy response:* Our company is interpreting this requirement will apply to routine scheduled construction work and not

storm restoration work. Should our company be responding to widespread storm restoration work, this request would be extremely burdensome and would hamper our ability to restore service as quickly and efficiently as possible. We are requesting additional information as to what form of notification is preferred by the city on routine construction projects . . . a phone call? An e-mail message?

Emergency Work (Sec. 1.21 Work Done Without a Permit, Subd. 1) Page 21

Utilities conducting emergency work have two business days within which to apply for the necessary permits and to pay the associated fees. *Xcel Energy response:* Xcel Energy has no objection to this request as this request is in compliance with state ROW regulations. As we mentioned earlier in this memo, we may be requesting fee payment invoicing in order to meet the city's payment requirements.

Mapping Data (Sec. 1.24, Subd. 1 Information Required) Page 22

Within 90 days following completion of any work pursuant to a permit, the permittee shall provide the director accurate maps and drawings certifying the 'as built' location of all equipment installed, owned and maintained by the permittee. *Xcel Energy response:* Xcel Energy has no objection to providing as-built information following the completion of our construction activities. We remind the city that, in the future, we might not have complete information regarding system location due to items like grade changes that might happen after we install our underground facilities.

Summary

Thank you again, Stefan, for the opportunity to provide input on the city's proposed ROW ordinance. Xcel Energy values its working relationship with the City of Blaine. We intend to continue to deliver safe and reliable energy to our Blaine customers while meeting our ROW obligations. If you have any questions regarding the Xcel Energy comments outlined above, please feel free to contact Colette Jurek (Manager of Community Relations & Economic Development) at (651) 779-3105 or colette.c.jurek@xcelenergy.com. Thank you!