Renewable Natural Gas Supply

Request for Information

RFI Issue Date: May 26, 2020

Responses Due: July 15, 2020

RFI Website: www.xcelenergy.com/RNGRFI
I. Background

Xcel Energy, (“Company”) has three strategic priorities, one of which is to lead the Clean Energy Transition. On the electric side of our business, we have ambitious carbon reduction goals to reduce emissions 80% by 2030 and deliver carbon-free electricity by 2050. On the gas side of our business, we seek to operate the cleanest distribution system possible while helping customers reduce their own emissions and urging upstream suppliers to implement best practices.

In this Request for Information (“RFI”) the Company is requesting information from developers of Renewable Natural Gas (“RNG”) projects and sellers of RNG to be used to explore the possibilities for developing a voluntary RNG customer program and obtain alternative fuel supplies for our electric generation fleet to further our clean energy transition.

The Company requests general and technical responses to this RFI from RNG project developers, marketers and others that can provide for delivery of the RNG to the Company (“Respondents”). The Company is interested in RNG supply for its customers in its Colorado, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas and Wisconsin service territories. Responders can provide information on RNG for sale from facilities currently in operation, projects that are under development or ventures being planned or considered. The requested information includes production method, daily production volumes, gas quality, locations, start-up dates and contract terms. Company also requests information about the Respondent.

II. Schedule/Timeline/Communication

Company seeks responses to this RFI between May 26, 2020 and July 15, 2020.

This RFI, additional documentation related to this RFI, including, but not limited to, the structure, format and timing of the process, shall be posted on www.xcelenergy.com/RNGRFI. Respondents are encouraged to check the [secure] webpage frequently to ensure that they have the latest documentation and information.

Please submit any questions regarding the RFI by email to: 2020RNGRFI@xcelenergy.com. For any questions that are clearly identified as containing confidential and proprietary information, Xcel Energy will respond through direct email communication. Xcel Energy will post answers to all other questions through the Q&A document posted on the RFI Website before the response deadline.

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1 RNG is defined as “Pipeline compatible gaseous fuel derived from biogenic or other renewable sources that has lower lifecycle CO2e emissions than geological natural gas”. This definition is in line with the definition of the American Gas Association (https://www.aga.org/natural-gas/renewable/).
### Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RFI Issued</th>
<th>May 26, 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deadline for submitting questions</td>
<td>June 8, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline to respond to questions submitted</td>
<td>June 23, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFI responses due date, 5:00 pm CT</td>
<td>July 15, 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### III. Requirements

The Company seeks information for RNG supplies which meet the following requirements:

i. Gas quality requirements (see Exhibit 1 through 3 for pipeline tariff specifications)

ii. General pressure requirements: greater than the line pressure of the connecting pipeline without exceeding that pipeline’s maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP)

iii. Acceptable locations:
   - Tier 1: Sites connecting to a pipeline system(s) within the states of Colorado, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas and Wisconsin.
     - Company LDC Gas systems (see Exhibit 1 for links to maps or other information for each system).
     - Intrastate pipelines (see Exhibit 2 for links to maps or other information for each system).
     - Interstate pipelines (see Exhibit 3 for links to maps of each system).
   - Tier 2: Sites in neighboring states connecting to an interstate pipeline system that can deliver to a Company LDC Gas system or power plant dispatched by Company (restrictions for certain interstate pipelines are identified in Exhibit 3).
   - Tier 3: Sites elsewhere in the country that could provide the environmental attributes identified in footnote 1 to the Company.

iv. Finance Lease Accounting Considerations
   - Company’s objectives with respect to contract provisions (term lengths, asset life, pricing structures, percentage of RNG sold to Company, etc.) are to avoid or minimize the adverse financial impact of imputed debt from a finance lease obligation as defined in Accounting Standard Codification 842.
v. Environmental Attributes

- Company intends to purchase the RNG together with all the environmental attributes associated with the RNG as a bundled product.
- Company requires the seller of the RNG to, at its sole cost and expense, cooperate with Company in obtaining and conveying to Company all environmental attributes associated with the RNG, including by preparing, signing and filing reasonably necessary or useful paperwork, providing information, consenting to monitoring of activities and collection of data and all other activities reasonably necessary or useful for Company to obtain the full benefit of all environmental attributes.

IV. Requested Information

Information should be provided in the spreadsheet entitled “Xcel Energy RNG RFI Forms.xlsx” that is issued together with this RFI document, to the fullest extent possible. The Company will accept a partial response only to the extent information is not available or applicable. Any and all information regarding the following topics that can be provided at this stage in the RFI process is appreciated:

i. General Information
ii. Operations
iii. Gas Quality
iv. Pricing
v. Financial and Ownership/Partnership
vi. Environmental
vii. Other Information

V. RFI Conditions

This RFI is issued solely for information and planning purposes – it does not constitute a

Environmental Attributes include but are not limited to: (i) any avoided emissions of pollutants to the air, soil or water such as Sulphur oxides (SO\textsubscript{x}), nitrogen oxides (NO\textsubscript{x}), carbon monoxide (CO) and other pollutants; (ii) any avoided emissions or reduced intensity of carbon dioxide (CO\textsubscript{2}), methane (CH\textsubscript{4}) and other greenhouse gases; (iii) “Green Attributes” within the meaning of California Air Resources Board rules and reporting requirements (or terms with similar meaning that may be recognized in the future under applicable law); (iv) displacement or avoidance of any amount of conventional natural gas or fossil energy generation resources; (v) the reporting rights to these avoided emissions and/or reduced intensities; and (vi) any renewable fuel attributes, including any necessary to generate Renewable Identification Numbers under the federal Renewable Fuels Standard and credits under California’s Low Carbon Fuel Standard. Environmental Attributes do not include any tax incentives.
Request for Qualifications (“RFQ”), Request for Proposal (“RFP”) or other solicitation. This RFI is not a promise to issue an RFP, RFQ or solicitation in the future, nor does it constitute the commencement of any other type of procurement process. This request for information does not commit Company to contract for any supply or service, and does not constitute a commitment, implied or otherwise, that Company will take any procurement action. Company reserves the right to use any form(s) of solicitation to acquire gas supply, including RNG, and is under no obligation to pursue an agreement with any Respondent.

Company makes no representation or warranty, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy or completeness of any information contained herein or otherwise provided to any respondent by or on behalf of Company.

Respondents are encouraged to conduct their own investigation and analysis of any and all information contained herein or otherwise provided by or on behalf of Company. No Respondent will have any claim whatsoever against Company, its employees, officers, or consultants arising from, in connection with, or in any way relating to this RFI.

Participation in this RFI is voluntary. Company will not pay for any information or administrative costs incurred in response to this RFI; all costs associated with responding to this RFI will be solely at the Respondent’s expense.

In its sole discretion and without notice to Respondents, Company reserves the right to: 1) modify, change, supplement or withdraw the RFI; 2) extend the submission date/time and/or to supplement, amend, substitute or otherwise modify the RFI at any time prior to the submission date/time; 3) require, permit or reject amendments (including, without limitation, submitting information omitted), modifications, clarifying information, and/or corrections to responses by some or all Respondents at any time before or after the submission date/time; 4) require, request or permit, in discussions with any Respondent, any information relating to the subject matter of this RFI that Company deems appropriate, whether or not it was described in the Response or this RFI; 5) decline to consider any response to this RFI; and, 6) elect to proceed or not to proceed with discussions or presentations regarding the subject matter of this RFI with any Respondent.

At any time prior to the RFI due date and time, a Respondent may withdraw its response by submitting a request in writing and signed by a duly authorized representative. Facsimiles, telegraphic or mailgram withdrawals are acceptable.

Company and Respondent agree to keep confidential information that is clearly identified as containing confidential and proprietary information, including but not
limited to the response to the RFI as well as information and documents exchanged between Company and Respondent during the course of the preparation of the response to the RFI and the response evaluation process ("Confidential Information"). Company and Respondent shall only disclose the Confidential Information to those within their organizations with a need to know. In addition, such Confidential Information shall only be used by Respondent to respond to the RFI or by Company to evaluate the response. Company and Respondent agree that they shall not disclose Confidential Information to agents or consultants unless the agent or consultant has: 1) a need to know such information; 2) agrees to only use the Confidential Information to respond to the RFI or evaluate the Response; and, 3) is contractually bound to disclosure standards and policies at least as restrictive as those set forth in this paragraph. Regardless of the confidentiality, all such Confidential Information may be subject to review by: 1) any other governmental authority or judicial body with jurisdiction relating to these matters; and, 2) legal and regulatory discovery. Under such circumstances, Company and Respondent shall make all reasonable efforts to preserve the confidentiality of the Confidential Information, including requesting that it be filed under seal, but acknowledge that such treatment is neither automatic nor guaranteed.

By submitting a response to this RFI, Respondents are deemed to have acknowledged and agreed to the conditions set out within it.
RNG facilities that can connect to the following systems would be considered Tier 1 locations.

**Northern States Power – Minnesota (NSPM) LDC Gas systems**
Gas Quality: Historically, NSPM receives gas delivered through interstate pipeline systems from other regions of the country and Canada. Acceptable RNG quality standards should meet the gas quality specifications of Northern Natural Gas, Viking Gas Transmission Company or WBI Energy Transmission, shown below in Exhibit 2 and 3.

NSPM system map: A map of the system can be found at www.xcelenergy.com/RNGRFI, which shows the NSPM service territory shaded in pink. The location of the system pipelines can be found on the National Pipeline Mapping System (https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/).

**Northern States Power – Wisconsin (NSPW) LDC Gas systems**
Gas Quality: Historically, NSPW receives gas delivered through interstate pipeline systems from other regions of the country and Canada. Acceptable RNG quality standards should meet the gas quality specifications of ANR Pipeline, Great Lakes Gas Transmission, or Northern Natural Gas, shown below in Exhibit 3.

NSPW system map: A map of the system can be found at www.xcelenergy.com/RNGRFI, which shows the NSPW service territory shaded in purple. The location of the system pipelines can be found on the National Pipeline Mapping System (https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/).

**Public Service Company of Colorado (PSCo) LDC Gas systems**
Gas Quality Specifications can be found in the PSCo Gas Tariff, Sheets R24B through R24D:

PSCo system map:
https://gastransport.xcelenergy.com/staticfiles/microsites/gastransport/docs/PSCO/Non%20Critical/ColoGasTransSysMap-EXTERNAL%202017.pdf
RNG facilities that can connect to the following systems would be considered Tier 1 locations.

**Greater Minnesota Transmission**
Gas Quality: Historically, Greater Minnesota Transmission receives gas delivered from Northern Natural Gas and Viking Gas Transmission. Acceptable RNG quality standards should meet the gas quality specifications of Northern Natural Gas or Viking Gas, shown below in Exhibit 3.
System Map: A map of the system is not available. The location of the system can be found on the National Pipeline Mapping System (https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/). The system is located in 22 counties primarily in western and southeastern Minnesota.

**MarkWest Power Tex**
Gas Quality: Historically, MarkWest Power Tex receives gas delivered from Northern Natural Gas and El Paso Natural Gas. Acceptable RNG quality standards should meet the gas quality specifications of Northern Natural Gas or El Paso Natural Gas, shown below in Exhibit 3.
System Map: A map of the system is not available. The location of the system can be found on the National Pipeline Mapping System (https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/). The system is located in Hockley and Lubbock Counties in Texas, beginning west of Levelland, Texas and running southeast and then east along the south side of Lubbock, Texas before terminating at Southwestern Public Service Company’s Jones Station on the southeast side of Lubbock, Texas.

**ONEOK WesTex Gas Transmission**
Gas Quality: https://www.oneok.com/-/media/oneok/customers/ngp/pipelines/westex-transmission/tariffs/owt-intrastate-soc--effective-may-1-2016owt-intrastate-soc--effective-may-1-2016.ashx
System Map: https://www.oneok.com/-/media/oneok/customers/ngp/pipelines/westex-transmission/documents/owt-system-map.ashx
RNG facilities that can connect to the following systems would be considered Tier 1 or Tier 2 locations, as further identified below.

**ANR Pipeline – southwest leg and market zone**
Tier 1: Connect within Wisconsin.
Tier 2: Connect in other states.

**Cheyenne Connector pipeline – currently under construction**
Tier 1: Any location.

**Cheyenne Plains Gas Pipeline Company**
Tier 1: Connect within Colorado.
Tier 2: Connect in Kansas.
Gas Quality:
[https://pipeline2.kindermorgan.com/Documents/CP/CP_EntireTariff.pdf#gtcq](https://pipeline2.kindermorgan.com/Documents/CP/CP_EntireTariff.pdf#gtcq)

**Colorado Interstate Gas Company**
Tier 1: Connect within Colorado.
Tier 2: Connect in other states.
Gas Quality:

**El Paso Natural Gas Company**
Tier 1: Connect within New Mexico or Texas.
Tier 2: Connect in other states.
Gas Quality:
Great Lakes Gas Transmission
Tier 1: Connect within Wisconsin or the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.
Tier 2: Connect in other states.
Gas Quality: http://tcplus.com/Great%20Lakes/GasQualityDataChromatograph/TariffPdf

Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America – Permian and Midcontinent Receipt and Delivery Zones
Tier 1: Connect within Texas.
Tier 2: Connect in other states.
Gas Quality:
https://pipeline2.kindermorgan.com/Documents/NGPL/NGPL_EntireTariff.pdf#qual

Northern Border Pipeline – east of Ventura, Iowa
Tier 2: Connect in Iowa, Illinois and Indiana.

Northern Natural Gas
Tier 1: Connect within Minnesota, New Mexico, Texas or Wisconsin.
Tier 2: Connect in other states.
Gas Quality:
https://www.northernnaturalgas.com/infopostings/GasQuality/Pages/Requirements.asp
System Map:
**Northwestern Pipeline**
Tier 1: Connect within Colorado.
Tier 2: Connect in other states.
Gas Quality:
System Map:

**Rockies Express Pipeline – Rate Zone 1**
Tier 1: Connect within Colorado.
Tier 2: Connect in other states.
Gas Quality:
System Map:

**Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline – Rawlins – Hesston Pool zone**
Tier 1: Connect within Colorado.
Tier 2: Connect in other states.
Gas Quality:
https://csimain.southernstar.com/EBBPostingDocs/other/TariffShark/tariff.pdf#gtcquality
System Map:
https://csimain.southernstar.com/EBBPostingDocs/Other/TariffShark/ProductionArea.pdf

**Tallgrass Interstate Gas Transmission – West Zone (Segments 105, 125, 130, 145, 150, 160, 790, 795, and Colorado Lateral)**
Tier 1: Connect within Colorado.
Tier 2: Connect in other states.
Gas Quality:
System Map:
https://pipeline.tallgrassenergylp.com/Content/TIGT/TIGT_FERC_Web_Map.pdf
**Trailblazer Pipeline**
Tier 1: Connect within Colorado.
Tier 2: Connect in other states.
Gas Quality:
System Map:
https://pipeline.tallgrassenergylp.com/Content/TPC/TPC_FERC_Web_Map.pdf

**TransColorado Gas Transmission Company**
Tier 1: Connect within Colorado.
Tier 2: Connect in other states.
Gas Quality:
https://pipeline2.kindermorgan.com/Documents/TCP/TCP_EntireTariff.pdf#gasqual

**Transwestern Pipeline Company – East of Thoreau Zone**
Tier 1: Connect within New Mexico or Texas.
Tier 2: Connect in other states.
Gas Quality: https://twtransfer.energytransfer.com/ipost/TW/gas-quality/tariff-provisions
System Map: http://twtransfer.energytransfer.com/ipost/TW/maps/system-map

**Viking Gas Transmission Company**
Tier 1: Any location.
Gas Quality: https://www.oneok.com/vgt/-/media/ngp/vgt/informational-postings/tariff/vgt_tariff.ashx#nameddest=Part8Quality
System Map: https://www.oneok.com/vgt/-/media/ngp/vgt/systemmap/vgtsystemmap.ashx

**WBI Energy Transmission – pipeline segments 1, 2, 3, and 24**
Tier 1: Connect within North Dakota.
Tier 2: Connect in other states.
Gas Quality:
https://transmission.wbienergy.com/Tariff_Documents/Third%20Revised%20Volume%20No.%201.pdf#Quality
System Map:
http://transmission.wbienergy.com/informational_postings/maps/maps.aspx
Wyoming Interstate Company
Tier 1: Connect within Colorado.
Tier 2: Connect in other states.
Gas Quality:
https://pipeline2.kindermorgan.com/Documents/WIC/WIC_EntireTariff.pdf#gtcq