

Sherburne County Generating Plant Bottom Ash Pond 1

Notification of Sealing and Replacement of Deficient Monitoring Well

Northern States Power Company of Minnesota (NSPM), an Xcel Energy Company, owns and operates Sherburne County Generating Plant (Sherco), a coal-fired, steam turbine electric generating station. There is a total of four CCR units on site, three active (two impoundments and one landfill) and one inactive pond. Sherco previously operated Bottom Ash Pond 1 (BAP1) for storage and dewatering of bottom ash sluice water until October 31, 2020 when operations ceased and closure was initiated. BAP1 has been dewatered to grade and closure in place will be completed in 2024.

Protecting the environment is a priority for Xcel Energy

Xcel Energy conducts all our business in an environmentally responsible manner and that includes regularly monitoring operations and taking steps to protect air, water, and other natural resources. Xcel Energy has detected a potentially deficient monitoring well at the unit boundary of CCR unit (BAP1). Upon review of groundwater monitoring results from well P-01A-02, elevated Appendix IV parameters appear to coincide with the redrilling of this well in Spring of 2022, potentially indicating that the well inadvertently intersected the CCR Unit during drilling. The well was re-drilled due to drought resulting in a dry monitoring well in recent years. The nearest downgradient monitoring well and analytic results have remained consistent through this period. Xcel Energy is implementing a response plan to seal and replace the well and will continue to monitor groundwater conditions in the area. Data and additional information related to this well and the replacement well will be provided in the next annual groundwater monitoring report.