

December 13, 2016

**Black Dog Generating Plant
Coal Combustion Residual Ponds Closure Update**

As required by the final rule for the disposal of coal combustion residuals requirements for closure and post-closure care (“Inactive CCR Surface Impoundments” 40 CFR 257.100(b)(5) and “Criteria for Conducting the Closure or Retrofit of CCR Units” 257.102), Xcel Energy is in the process of closing the 3 CCR (bottom ash) impoundments at the Black Dog Generating Plant via closure by removal of CCR. The removal of CCRs from these three impoundments has been completed. Xcel Energy is now in the process of completing the required closure certification documentation. Once the documentation is completed it will be placed in the operating record, and posted to the CCR Public Web Site.