NEWS RELEASE Jan. 19, 2022 For Immediate Release, Contact: Julie Fedorchak, (701) 498-2859 Randy Christmann, (701) 328-4096

PSC Schedules Virtual Public Input Sessions for Proposed Xcel Gas Rate Increase

BISMARCK, ND – The North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) will hold two public input sessions on Feb. 2, which will allow participants to view and provide comments from the comfort of their own home. The sessions will be an opportunity for Xcel natural gas customers to provide comments regarding a request for an increase to their natural gas rates.

During the sessions, officials from Xcel will provide a presentation regarding their proposal and then public comments will be taken. The proposed increase would result in an annual increase in its North Dakota gas service revenue of \$7.1 million or 10.5 percent.

In keeping with recommendations of public health officials to minimize public gatherings while COVID is circulating and to make it easier for people to participate, this hearing will be held remotely and members of the public are encouraged to provide their comments in writing or by telephone.

Details for the public input sessions are as follows:

- Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2022 Noon and 5:30 p.m. Central
- View the hearing online: https://psc.nd.gov/public/meetings/live.php
- Listen via telephone: 1-888-585-9008 Room Code 671-872-185.

Public Input: The Commission will receive comments through the following methods:

- <u>Written</u> Written comments may be submitted via e-mail by sending to <u>ndpsc@nd.gov</u> or by mail addressed to: Public Service Commission, 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 408, Bismarck, ND 58505. Written comments will be accepted Feb. 2-9, 2022.
- <u>Telephone</u> Xcel customers wanting to comment on the phone during the public input sessions should call 701-328-4081 to be placed on a list. On Feb. 2, 2022, the Commission will call you back during the designated public input session.

Public input sessions are not considered part of the formal technical hearing, but the PSC Commissioners will be attending and using the information gathered at the sessions to identify areas of concern that may require further investigation during the formal technical hearing.

The North Dakota Public Service Commission is a constitutionally created state agency with authority to permit, site and regulate certain business activities in the state including electric and gas utilities, telecommunications companies, power plants, electric transmission lines, pipelines, railroads, auctioneers, commercial weighing devices, pipeline safety and coal mine reclamation. For more information, contact the Public Service Commission at (701) 328-2400 or www.psc.nd.gov.