

January 22, 2025

Chairman Todd Porter Members of House Energy and Natural Resources North Dakota State Capitol 600 East Boulevard Bismarck, ND 58505-0360

RE: HB 1258

Chairman Porter and Members of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in favor of House Bill 1258.

For more than 116 years, Xcel Energy has been proud to be the trusted energy provider for residential and commercial customers in North Dakota. We continue to invest strategically to support our economy, build and maintain energy infrastructure to withstand severe weather events, and to deliver safe, reliable, and affordable service.

HB 1258 will ensure the state has the authority to enable the development of critical electricity transmission infrastructure. Transmission lines are a vital link to deliver electricity over long distances from power sources to transmission substations closer to homes and businesses. A strong transmission system ensures reliable and affordable service. Transmission expansion is critical to ensuring North Dakota's energy future.

Thank you, Chairman Porter and committee members, for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Beth Feldner

Beth Feldner Community Relations Manager