

SUBURBAN RATE AUTHORITY

150 South Fifth Street, Suite 700
Minneapolis, MN 55402
(612) 337-9233

INVOICE**TO:**

Mr. Daniel Buchholtz
City Administrator
City of Spring Lake Park
1301 81st Avenue NE
Spring Lake Park, MN 55432-2116

DATE: 02/10/2021

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>NUMBER OF VOTES</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2021 Membership Assessment: (\$461.00 per vote)	2	\$922
Assessment Paid:		\$0
<u>First Half Assessment Due and Payable:</u>		<u>\$461</u>

Please Send Payment To:

Mr. Darin Nelson
Treasurer
Suburban Rate Authority
Minnetonka City Hall
14600 Minnetonka Boulevard
Minnetonka, MN 55345-1502



Offices in
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Saint Paul
St. Cloud

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February 10, 2020

Mr. Daniel Buchholtz
City Administrator
City of Spring Lake Park
1301 81st Avenue NE
Spring Lake Park, MN 55432-2116

Re: 2021 First Half Suburban Rate Authority Assessment

Dear Mr. Buchholtz:

Enclosed is the first half assessment for 2021 membership in the SRA, as well as a W-9 form with the SRA's new mailing address. With its 32 city membership, the SRA continues to be a strong, collective voice for cities and their gas, electric and telecommunications ratepayers.

The second half of 2020 was very active for the SRA with good results for SRA members with Xcel Energy and CenterPoint customers. The COVID pandemic has hit most sectors very hard and put a great strain on city budgets. In late December, the SRA supported and the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission adopted a "stay out" alternative proposal from Xcel Energy instead of proceeding with its filed rate case in November 2020 seeking double-digit rate increases across all customer classes. The stay out deferral will maintain current rates at substantially the same levels throughout 2021 while cities and their constituents recover from the pandemic. This includes city street lighting and municipal pumping rates, and rates to residential customers, in particular.

CenterPoint also brought a rate case that settled in August 2020 reducing its requested rate increase by 38%, and with no increase to the fixed customer charge. The SRA was active in evaluating a residential customer energy conservation assistance program proposed by the City of Minneapolis. The program seeks to assist low- and moderate-income homeowners and renters but was not developed to a sufficient point to implement it even as a pilot, with unquantified costs that the City sought to recover from all ratepayers. The program was referred to a new docket for further vetting.

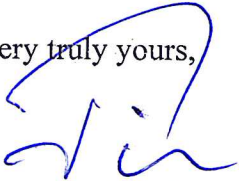
Finally, many SRA cities have participated in solar and other clean energy programs and adopted energy policies over the last decade. These issues are becoming central to Xcel Energy costs and system structure over the next twenty years and beyond. The SRA board has taken steps to become and stay informed on these issues. The SRA, its member cities and their residents and businesses must be engaged as Xcel Energy and CenterPoint make important long-term generation,

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transmission, and distribution decisions in providing safe, reliable clean energy and cost-effective service for all customers.

Thank you for the City's important contribution to protecting municipal interests and the interests of residents and businesses within SRA cities on utility matters. If you have any questions about the issues the SRA is currently addressing, please contact me.

Very truly yours,



James M. Strommen
General Counsel

Enclosure

cc: SRA Delegate