XCEL ENERGY INC Form 10-Q May 10, 2016

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 FORM 10-Q (Mark One) QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF x1934 For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2016 or ..TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 Commission File Number: 001-3034 Xcel Energy Inc. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter) Minnesota 41-0448030 (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.) 414 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code) (612) 330-5500

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. x Yes "No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 and Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). x Yes "No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer", "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. Large accelerated filer x Accelerated filer "

Non-accelerated filer " Smaller reporting company "

(Do not check if smaller reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). " Yes x No

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

ClassOutstanding at May 4, 2016Common Stock, \$2.50 par value507,952,795 shares

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This Form 10-Q is filed by Xcel Energy Inc. Xcel Energy Inc. wholly owns the following subsidiaries: Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation (NSP-Minnesota); Northern States Power Company, a Wisconsin corporation (NSP-Wisconsin); Public Service Company of Colorado (PSCo); and Southwestern Public Service Company (SPS). Xcel Energy Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries are also referred to herein as Xcel Energy. NSP-Minnesota, NSP-Wisconsin, PSCo and SPS are also referred to collectively as utility subsidiaries. The electric production and transmission system of NSP-Minnesota and NSP-Wisconsin, which is operated on an integrated basis and is managed by NSP-Minnesota, is referred to collectively as the NSP System. Additional information on the wholly owned subsidiaries is available on various filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1 — FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

XCEL ENERGY INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (UNAUDITED) (amounts in thousands, except per share data)

	Three Months Ended March 31	
	2016	2015
Operating revenues Electric Natural gas Other Total operating revenues	\$2,185,119 565,689 21,465 2,772,273	\$2,224,863 715,996 21,360 2,962,219
Operating expenses Electric fuel and purchased power Cost of natural gas sold and transported Cost of sales — other Operating and maintenance expenses Conservation and demand side management program expenses Depreciation and amortization Taxes (other than income taxes) Loss on Monticello life cycle management/extended power uprate project Total operating expenses	861,852 312,117 8,245 577,410 57,436 320,020 145,323 2,282,403	950,132 472,371 10,049 585,830 53,805 273,098 136,626 129,463 2,611,374
Operating income	489,870	350,845
Other income, net Equity earnings of unconsolidated subsidiaries Allowance for funds used during construction — equity	4,250 13,182 13,113	3,161 7,776 12,660
Interest charges and financing costs Interest charges — includes other financing costs of \$6,336 and \$5,698, respectively Allowance for funds used during construction — debt Total interest charges and financing costs	156,443 (5,990) 150,453	144,940 (6,144) 138,796
Income before income taxes Income taxes Net income	369,962 128,650 \$241,312	235,646 83,580 \$152,066
Weighted average common shares outstanding: Basic Diluted	508,667 509,150	506,983 507,393

Earnings per average common share:		
Basic	\$0.47	\$0.30
Diluted	0.47	0.30
Cash dividends declared per common share	\$0.34	\$0.32
-		
See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements		

XCEL ENERGY INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (UNAUDITED) (amounts in thousands)

Net income	Three Mon March 31 2016 \$241,312	nths Ended 2015 \$152,066
Other comprehensive income		
Pension and retiree medical benefits: Amortization of losses included in net periodic benefit cost, net of tax of \$142 and \$569, respectively	211	876
Derivative instruments:		(11)
Net fair value decrease, net of tax of (2) and (7) , respectively	(4)) (11)
Reclassification of losses to net income, net of tax of \$604 and \$382, respectively	938	585
	934	574
Marketable securities:		
Net fair value increase, net of tax of \$0 and \$0, respectively		1
Other comprehensive income Comprehensive income	1,145 \$242,457	1,451 \$153,517

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

XCEL ENERGY INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (UNAUDITED) (amounts in thousands)

(amounts in thousands)			
	Three Months End		
	March 31		
	2016	2015	
Operating activities			
Net income	\$241,312	\$152,066	5
Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	323,761	277,388	
Conservation and demand side management program amortization	1,162	1,451	
Nuclear fuel amortization	25,750	28,465	
Deferred income taxes	160,379	82,773	
Amortization of investment tax credits	(1,307) (1,384)
Allowance for equity funds used during construction	(13,113) (12,660)
Equity earnings of unconsolidated subsidiaries) (7,776)
Dividends from unconsolidated subsidiaries	11,481	9,876	,
Share-based compensation expense	13,099	10,225	
Loss on Monticello life cycle management/extended power uprate project		129,463	
Net realized and unrealized hedging and derivative transactions	5,576	12,778	
Other	(388) —	
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:	(/	
Accounts receivable	(4,780) (291)
Accrued unbilled revenues	129,444	183,974	,
Inventories	88,570		
Other current assets) 56,685	
Accounts payable	-) (99,029)
Net regulatory assets and liabilities	34,404	146,097)
Other current liabilities) 34,642	
Pension and other employee benefit obligations	(118,774	-)
Change in other noncurrent assets	-) (5)
Change in other noncurrent liabilities	-) (25,885)
Net cash provided by operating activities	790,063	985,394)
The cash provided by operating activities	170,005	,00,00	
Investing activities			
Utility capital/construction expenditures	(700 319) (770,609)
Proceeds from insurance recoveries	(700,51)	24,241)
Allowance for equity funds used during construction	13,113	12,660	
Purchases of investments in external decommissioning fund	-) (387,826)
Proceeds from the sale of investments in external decommissioning fund	104,280	386,111)
Investments in WYCO Development LLC and other) (321)
Other, net	•) (2,645)
Net cash used in investing activities	-) (738,389)
The easily used in investing derivities	(0)4,107) (150,50))
Financing activities			
Repayments of short-term borrowings, net	(663,000) (50 500)
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt	747,127		,
Repayments of long-term debt	-) (455)
repujitons of fong torm door	(000) (155	,

Proceeds from issuance of common stock Purchase of common stock for settlement of equity awards Dividends paid Net cash used in financing activities	(162,410)	1,411
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	16,551	53,436
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	84,940	79,608
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$101,491	\$133,044
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:		
Cash paid for interest (net of amounts capitalized)	\$(164,511)	\$(161,717)
Cash received for income taxes, net	7,414	62,697
Supplemental disclosure of non-cash investing and financing transactions:		
Property, plant and equipment additions in accounts payable	\$192,818	\$239,905
Issuance of common stock for reinvested dividends and 401(k) plans	7,703	14,433
See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements		

XCEL ENERGY INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (UNAUDITED) (amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

	March 31, 2016	Dec. 31, 2015
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$101,491	\$84,940
Accounts receivable, net	729,386	724,606
Accrued unbilled revenues	525,423	654,867
Inventories	520,054	608,584
Regulatory assets	317,489	344,630
Derivative instruments	23,293	33,842
Deferred income taxes	180,513	140,219
Prepaid taxes	180,825	163,023
Prepayments and other	154,143	155,734
Total current assets	2,732,617	2,910,445
Property, plant and equipment, net	31,433,406	31,205,851
Other assets	1 017 700	1 002 005
Nuclear decommissioning fund and other investments	1,917,709	1,902,995
Regulatory assets	2,897,502	2,858,741
Derivative instruments	55,612	51,083
Other	32,998	32,581
Total other assets	4,903,821	4,845,400
Total assets	\$39,069,844	\$38,961,696
Liabilities and Equity		
Current liabilities		
Current portion of long-term debt	\$656,516	\$657,021
Short-term debt	183,000	846,000
Accounts payable	809,656	960,982
Regulatory liabilities	272,647	306,830
Taxes accrued	525,934	438,189
Accrued interest	148,112	166,829
Dividends payable	172,704	162,410
Derivative instruments	27,553	29,839
Other	392,446	490,197
Total current liabilities	3,188,568	4,058,297
Deferred credits and other liabilities	(102 (11	(202 ((1
Deferred income taxes	6,493,644	6,293,661
Deferred investment tax credits	67,112	68,419
Regulatory liabilities	1,373,140	1,332,889
Asset retirement obligations	2,639,628	2,608,562
Derivative instruments	167,299	168,311

Customer advances Pension and employee benefit obligations Other Total deferred credits and other liabilities	221,683 812,998 285,743 12,061,247	228,999 941,002 261,756 11,903,599
Commitments and contingencies		
Capitalization		
Long-term debt	13,148,395	12,398,880
Common stock — 1,000,000,000 shares authorized of \$2.50 par value; 507,952,795 an 507,535,523 shares outstanding at March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015, respectively	^d 1,269,882	1,268,839
Additional paid in capital	5,889,939	5,889,106
Retained earnings	3,620,421	3,552,728
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(108,608) (109,753)
Total common stockholders' equity	10,671,634	10,600,920
Total liabilities and equity	\$39,069,844	\$38,961,696

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

XCEL ENERGY INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMMON STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (UNAUDITED) (amounts in thousands)

	Commo	n Stock Issue			Accumulated	Total
	Shares	Par Value	Additional Paid In Capital	Retained Earnings	Other Comprehensiv Loss	Common e Stockholders' Equity
Three Months Ended March 31, 2016	and 2015		_			
Balance at Dec. 31, 2014 Net income Other comprehensive income	505,733	\$1,264,333	\$5,837,330	\$3,220,958 152,066	\$ (108,139) 1,451	\$10,214,482 152,066 1,451
Dividends declared on common stock				(163,120)	1,7,7,1	(163,120)
Issuances of common stock Share-based compensation	931	2,326	893 6,772			3,219 6,772
Balance at March 31, 2015	506,664	\$1,266,659	\$5,844,995	\$3,209,904	\$ (106,688)	\$10,214,870
Balance at Dec. 31, 2015 Net income	507,536	\$1,268,839	\$5,889,106	\$3,552,728 241,312	\$ (109,753)	\$10,600,920 241,312
Other comprehensive income					1,145	1,145
Dividends declared on common stock				(173,619)		(173,619)
Issuances of common stock	417	1,043	(3,755)			(2,712)
Purchase of common stock for settlement of equity awards			(789)			(789)
Share-based compensation			5,377			5,377
Balance at March 31, 2016	507,953	\$1,269,882	\$5,889,939	\$3,620,421	\$ (108,608)	\$10,671,634

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

XCEL ENERGY INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (UNAUDITED)

In the opinion of management, the accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements contain all adjustments necessary to present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), the financial position of Xcel Energy Inc. and its subsidiaries as of March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015: the results of its operations, including the components of net income and comprehensive income, and changes in stockholders' equity for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015; and its cash flows for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015. All adjustments are of a normal, recurring nature, except as otherwise disclosed. Management has also evaluated the impact of events occurring after March 31, 2016 up to the date of issuance of these consolidated financial statements. These statements contain all necessary adjustments and disclosures resulting from that evaluation. The Dec. 31, 2015 balance sheet information has been derived from the audited 2015 consolidated financial statements included in the Xcel Energy Inc. Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended Dec. 31, 2015. These notes to the consolidated financial statements have been prepared pursuant to the rules and regulations of the SEC for Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q. Certain information and note disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP on an annual basis have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations. For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto, included in the Xcel Energy Inc. Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended Dec. 31, 2015, filed with the SEC on Feb. 19, 2016. Due to the seasonality of Xcel Energy's electric and natural gas sales, interim results are not necessarily an appropriate base from which to project annual results.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The significant accounting policies set forth in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements in the Xcel Energy Inc. Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended Dec. 31, 2015, appropriately represent, in all material respects, the current status of accounting policies and are incorporated herein by reference.

2. Accounting Pronouncements

Recently Issued

Revenue Recognition — In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Revenue from Contracts with Customers, Topic 606 (Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2014-09), which provides a framework for the recognition of revenue, with the objective that recognized revenues properly reflect amounts an entity is entitled to receive in exchange for goods and services. The new guidance also includes additional disclosure requirements regarding revenue, cash flows and obligations related to contracts with customers. The guidance is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after Dec. 15, 2017. Xcel Energy is currently evaluating the impact of adopting ASU 2014-09 on its consolidated financial statements.

Presentation of Deferred Taxes — In November 2015, the FASB issued Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes, Topic 740 (ASU No 2015-17), which eliminates the requirement to present deferred tax assets and liabilities as current and noncurrent on the balance sheet based on the classification of the related asset or liability, and instead requires classification of all deferred tax assets and liabilities as noncurrent. This guidance will be effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after Dec. 15, 2016, and early adoption is permitted. Other than the prescribed classification of all deferred tax assets and liabilities as noncurrent, Xcel Energy does not expect the implementation of ASU 2015-17 to have a material impact on its consolidated financial statements.

Classification and Measurement of Financial Instruments — In January 2016, the FASB issued Recognition and Measurement of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities, Subtopic 825-10 (ASU No. 2016-01), which among other changes in accounting and disclosure requirements, replaces the cost method of accounting for non-marketable equity securities with a model for recognizing impairments and observable price changes, and also eliminates the available-for-sale classification for marketable equity securities. Under the new guidance, other than when the consolidation or equity method of accounting is utilized, changes in the fair value of equity securities are to be recognized in earnings. This guidance will be effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after Dec. 15, 2017. Xcel Energy is currently evaluating the impact of adopting ASU 2016-01 on its consolidated financial statements.

Leases — In February 2016, the FASB issued Leases, Topic 842 (ASU No. 2016-02), which, for lessees, requires balance sheet recognition of right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for all leases. Additionally, for leases that qualify as finance leases, the guidance requires expense recognition consisting of amortization of the right-of-use asset as well as interest on the related lease liability using the effective interest method. This guidance will be effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after Dec. 15, 2018, and early adoption is permitted. Xcel Energy is currently evaluating the impact of adopting ASU 2016-02 on its consolidated financial statements.

Stock Compensation — In March 2016, the FASB issued Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting, Topic 718 (ASU 2016-09), which amends existing guidance to simplify several aspects of accounting and presentation for share-based payment transactions, including the accounting for income taxes and forfeitures, as well as presentation in the statement of cash flows. This guidance will be effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after Dec. 15, 2016, and early adoption is permitted. Xcel Energy is currently evaluating the impact of adopting ASU 2016-09 on its consolidated financial statements.

Recently Adopted

Consolidation — In February 2015, the FASB issued Amendments to the Consolidation Analysis, Topic 810 (ASU No. 2015-02), which reduces the number of consolidation models and amends certain consolidation principles related to variable interest entities. Xcel Energy implemented the guidance on Jan. 1, 2016, and other than the classification of certain real estate investments held within the Nuclear Decommissioning Trust as non-consolidated variable interest entities, the implementation did not have a significant impact on its consolidated financial statements.

Presentation of Debt Issuance Costs — In April 2015, the FASB issued Simplifying the Presentation of Debt Issuance Costs, Subtopic 835-30 (ASU No. 2015-03), which requires the presentation of debt issuance costs on the balance sheet as a deduction from the carrying amount of the related debt, instead of presentation as an asset. Xcel Energy implemented the new guidance as required on Jan. 1, 2016, and as a result, \$94.5 million of deferred debt issuance costs are presented as a deduction from the carrying amount of long-term debt on the consolidated balance sheet as of March 31, 2016, and \$91.8 million of such deferred costs were retrospectively reclassified from other non-current assets to long-term debt on the consolidated balance sheet as of Dec. 31, 2015.

Fair Value Measurement — In May 2015, the FASB issued Disclosures for Investments in Certain Entities that Calculate Net Asset Value per Share (or Its Equivalent), Topic 820 (ASU No. 2015-07), which eliminates the requirement to categorize fair value measurements using a net asset value (NAV) methodology in the fair value hierarchy. Xcel Energy implemented the guidance on Jan. 1, 2016, and the implementation did not have a material impact on its consolidated financial statements. For related disclosures, see Note 8 to the consolidated financial statements.

3. Selected Balance Sheet Data

(Thousands of Dollars)	Mar 201	rch 31, Dec. 31, 6 2015
Accounts receivable, ne	t	
Accounts receivable	\$77	8,953 \$776,494
Less allowance for bad	debts (49,	567) (51,888)
	\$72	9,386 \$724,606
(Thousands of Dollars)	March 31,	Dec. 31,
(Thousands of Dollars)	2016	2015
Inventories		
Materials and supplies	\$298,345	\$290,690
Fuel	172,098	202,271
Natural gas	49,611	115,623
	\$520,054	\$608,584

(Thousands of Dollars)	March 31, 2016	Dec. 31, 2015
Property, plant and equipment, net	_010	2010
Electric plant	\$36,604,585	\$36,464,050
Natural gas plant	5,017,324	4,944,757
Common and other property	1,720,351	1,709,508
Plant to be retired ^(a)	34,606	38,249
Construction work in progress	1,486,070	1,256,949
Total property, plant and equipment	44,862,936	44,413,513
Less accumulated depreciation	(13,790,489)	(13,591,259)
Nuclear fuel	2,450,363	2,447,251
Less accumulated amortization	(2,089,404)	(2,063,654)
	\$31,433,406	\$31,205,851

In 2017, PSCo expects to both early retire Valmont Unit 5 and convert Cherokee Unit 4 from a coal-fueled
(a) generating facility to natural gas, as approved by the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). Amounts are presented net of accumulated depreciation.

4. Income Taxes

Except to the extent noted below, Note 6 to the consolidated financial statements included in Xcel Energy Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended Dec. 31, 2015 appropriately represents, in all material respects, the current status of other income tax matters, and are incorporated herein by reference.

Federal Tax Loss Carryback Claims — In 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015, Xcel Energy identified certain expenses related to 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014 and 2015 that qualify for an extended carryback beyond the typical two-year carryback period. As a result of a higher tax rate in prior years, Xcel Energy recognized a tax benefit of approximately \$5 million in 2015, \$17 million in 2014 and \$12 million in 2013 and \$15 million in 2012.

Federal Audit — Xcel Energy files a consolidated federal income tax return. In the third quarter of 2012, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) commenced an examination of tax years 2010 and 2011, including the 2009 carryback claim. As of March 31, 2016, the IRS had proposed an adjustment to the federal tax loss carryback claims that would result in \$14 million of income tax expense for the 2009 through 2011 and 2013 claims, the recently filed 2014 claim, and the anticipated claim for 2015. In the fourth quarter of 2015, the IRS forwarded the issue to the Office of Appeals (Appeals); however, the outcome and timing of a resolution is uncertain. The statute of limitations applicable to Xcel Energy's 2009 through 2011 federal income tax returns expires in December 2016 following an extension to allow additional time for the Appeals process. In the third quarter of 2015, the IRS commenced an examination of tax years 2012 and 2013. As of March 31, 2016, the IRS had not proposed any material adjustments to tax years 2012 and 2013.

State Audits — Xcel Energy files consolidated state tax returns based on income in its major operating jurisdictions of Colorado, Minnesota, Texas, and Wisconsin, and various other state income-based tax returns. As of March 31, 2016, Xcel Energy's earliest open tax years that are subject to examination by state taxing authorities in its major operating jurisdictions were as follows:

StateYearColorado2009Minnesota2009Texas2009

Wisconsin 2011

In February 2016, the state of Texas began an audit of years 2009 and 2010. As of March 31, 2016, the state of Texas had not proposed any adjustments, and there were no other state income tax audits in progress.

Unrecognized Tax Benefits — The unrecognized tax benefit balance includes permanent tax positions, which if recognized would affect the annual effective tax rate (ETR). In addition, the unrecognized tax benefit balance includes temporary tax positions for which the ultimate deductibility is highly certain but for which there is uncertainty about the timing of such deductibility. A change in the period of deductibility would not affect the ETR but would accelerate the payment of cash to the taxing authority to an earlier period.

A reconciliation of the amount of unrecognized tax benefit is as follows:

(Millions of Dollars)	March 31,	Dec. 31,
(withous of Donais)	2016	2015
Unrecognized tax benefit — Permanent tax positions	s\$ 26.3	\$25.8
Unrecognized tax benefit — Temporary tax position	s96.2	94.9
Total unrecognized tax benefit	\$ 122.5	\$120.7

The unrecognized tax benefit amounts were reduced by the tax benefits associated with net operating loss (NOL) and tax credit carryforwards. The amounts of tax benefits associated with NOL and tax credit carryforwards are as follows:

(Millions of Dollars)	March 31, Dec. 31,		
(withous of Donars)	2016	2015	
NOL and tax credit carryforwards	\$ (38.5)	\$(36.7)	

It is reasonably possible that Xcel Energy's amount of unrecognized tax benefits could significantly change in the next 12 months as the IRS Appeals and audit progress, the Texas audit progresses and other state audits resume. As the IRS Appeals, IRS audit, and Texas audit progress, it is reasonably possible that the amount of unrecognized tax benefit could decrease up to approximately \$58 million.

The payable for interest related to unrecognized tax benefits is partially offset by the interest benefit associated with NOL and tax credit carryforwards. The payables for interest related to unrecognized tax benefits at March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015 were not material. No amounts were accrued for penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits as of March 31, 2016 or Dec. 31, 2015.

5. Rate Matters

Except to the extent noted below, the circumstances set forth in Note 12 to the consolidated financial statements included in Xcel Energy Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended Dec. 31, 2015, appropriately represent, in all material respects, the current status of other rate matters, and are incorporated herein by reference.

NSP-Minnesota

Pending and Recently Concluded Regulatory Proceedings — Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC)

NSP-Minnesota – Minnesota 2016 Multi-Year Electric Rate Case — In November 2015, NSP-Minnesota filed a three-year electric rate case with the MPUC. The rate case is based on a requested return on equity (ROE) of 10.0 percent and a 52.50 percent equity ratio. The request is detailed in the table below:

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NSP-Minnesota also proposed a five-year alternative plan that would extend the rate plan two additional years. In addition, NSP-Minnesota has requested the MPUC encourage parties to engage in a formal mediation type procedure as outlined by Minnesota's rate case statute which may streamline the settlement process.

In December 2015, the MPUC approved interim rates for 2016. The MPUC deferred making a decision on incremental interim rates for 2017 and indicated that NSP-Minnesota could bring back its request in the fourth quarter of 2016.

The major components of the requested rate increase are summarized below	ow:			
(Millions of Dollars)	2016	2017	2018	Total
2014 multi-year rate case items:				
Excess depreciation reserve	\$26.0	\$51.0	\$—	\$77.0
Department of Energy (DOE) settlement	25.7			25.7
Monticello life cycle management (LCM)/extended power uprate (EPU)	11.2	(1.6)	(1.5)	8.1
	62.9	49.4	(1.5)	110.8
Additional items:				
Capital investments	128.7	12.8	44.6	186.1
Property taxes	30.2	7.6	5.2	43.0
NOL carryforwards	(6.3)	(24.5)	(6.5)	(37.3)
Other costs	(20.9)	6.8	8.6	(5.5)
	131.7	2.7	51.9	186.3
Total rate request	\$194.6	\$52.1	\$50.4	\$297.1

The next steps in the procedural schedule are expected to be as follows:

Intervenors' direct testimony — June 14, 2016; Rebuttal testimony — Aug. 9, 2016; Surrebuttal testimony — Sept. 16, 2016; Settlement conference — Sept. 26, 2016; Evidentiary hearing — Oct. 4-7, 2016; Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) report — Feb. 21, 2017; and MPUC order — June 1, 2017.

NSP-Minnesota – 2016 Transmission Cost Recovery (TCR) Filing — In October 2015, NSP-Minnesota submitted its 2016 TCR filing with the MPUC, requesting recovery of \$19.2 million of 2016 transmission investment costs not included in electric base rates. This filing included an option to keep approximately \$59.1 million of revenue requirements associated with two CapX2020 projects completed in 2015 within the TCR rider or to include these revenue requirements in electric base rates during the interim rate implementation of the next electric rate case. In November 2015, NSP-Minnesota submitted an update to its TCR filing in which it confirmed that it was requesting the MPUC approve keeping the two CapX2020 projects in the TCR rider, increasing the revenue requirements to \$78.3 million, until the conclusion of the 2016 Minnesota electric rate case.

In April 2016, NSP-Minnesota received comments from the Minnesota Department of Commerce (DOC) requesting additional support for the costs incurred for the CapX2020 La Crosse-Madison project and the CapX2020 Big Stone-Brookings project, as well as the updated financial impact for the actual non-prorated accumulated deferred income tax (ADIT) as opposed to the forecasted prorated ADIT used in the cost recovery calculations. An MPUC decision is expected later in 2016.

NSP-Minnesota – Nuclear Project Prudence Investigation — In 2013, NSP-Minnesota completed the Monticello LCM/EPU project. The multi-year project extended the life of the facility and increased the capacity from 600 to 671 megawatts (MW) in 2015. The Monticello LCM/EPU project expenditures were approximately \$665 million. Total capitalized costs were approximately \$748 million, which includes allowance for funds used during construction (AFUDC). In 2008, project expenditures were initially estimated at approximately \$320 million, excluding AFUDC.

In 2013, the MPUC initiated an investigation to determine whether the final costs for the Monticello LCM/EPU project were prudent. In March 2015, the MPUC voted to allow for full recovery, including a return, on approximately \$415 million of the total plant costs (inclusive of AFUDC), but only allow recovery of the remaining \$333 million of costs with no return on this portion of the investment over the remaining life of the plant. Further, the MPUC determined that only 50 percent of the investment was considered used-and-useful for 2014. As a result of these determinations, Xcel Energy recorded an estimated pre-tax loss of \$129 million in the first quarter of 2015, after which the remaining book value of the Monticello project represented the present value of the estimated future cash flows.

NSP-Wisconsin

Pending Regulatory Proceedings — Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW)

Wisconsin 2017 Electric and Gas Rate Case — On April 1, 2016, NSP-Wisconsin filed a request with the PSCW for an increase in annual electric rates of \$17.4 million, or 2.4 percent, and an increase in natural gas rates by \$4.8 million, or 3.9 percent, effective January 2017.

The electric rate request is for the limited purpose of recovering increases in (i) generation and transmission fixed charges and fuel and purchased power expenses related to the interchange agreement with NSP-Minnesota, and (ii) costs associated with forecasted average rate base of \$1.188 billion in 2017.

The natural gas rate request is for the limited purpose of recovering expenses related to the ongoing environmental remediation of a former manufactured gas plant site and adjacent area in Ashland, Wis.

No changes are being requested to the capital structure or the 10.0 percent ROE authorized by the PSCW in the 2016 rate case. As part of an agreement with stakeholders to limit the size and scope of the case, NSP-Wisconsin also agreed to an earnings cap, solely for 2017, in which 100 percent of the earnings in excess of the authorized ROE would be refunded to customers.

The major components of the requested rate increases are summarized below:

Electric Rate Request (Millions of Dollars)	Request
Rate base investments	\$11.0
Generation and transmission expenses (excluding fuel and purchased power) ^(a)	6.8
Fuel and purchased power expenses	11.0
Subtotal	28.8
2015 fuel refund	(9.5)
DOE settlement refund	(1.9)
Total electric rate increase	\$17.4

Includes Interchange Agreement billings. The Interchange Agreement is a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) tariff under which NSP-Wisconsin and its affiliate, NSP-Minnesota, own and operate a single integrated

 (a) electric generation and transmission system and both companies pay a pro-rata share of system capital and operating costs. For financial reporting purposes, these expenses are included in operating and maintenance expenses.

Natural Gas Rate Request (Millions of Dollars)	Request
Environmental remediation expenses	\$ 4.8
Total natural gas rate increase	\$ 4.8

A PSCW decision is anticipated in the fourth quarter of 2016.

PSCo

Pending Regulatory Proceedings - CPUC

PSCo – Annual Electric Earnings Tests — As part of an annual earnings test, PSCo must share with customers' earnings that exceed the authorized ROE threshold of 9.83 percent for 2015 through 2017. In April 2016, PSCo filed the 2015 earnings test, proposing an electric customer refund obligation of \$14.9 million, subject to review by the CPUC. The proposed refund obligation related to the 2015 earnings test was accrued for as of March 31, 2016. The current estimate of the 2016 earnings test, based on annual forecasted information, did not result in the recognition of a liability as of March 31, 2016.

SPS

Pending Regulatory Proceedings — Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT)

SPS – Texas 2015 Electric Rate Case — In December 2014, SPS filed a retail electric rate case in Texas seeking an overall increase in annual revenue of approximately \$64.8 million, or 6.7 percent. The filing was based on a historic test year (HTY) ending June 2014, adjusted for known and measurable changes, a ROE of 10.25 percent, an electric rate base of approximately \$1.6 billion and an equity ratio of 53.97 percent.

SPS requested a waiver of the PUCT post-test year adjustment rule which would allow for inclusion of \$392 million (SPS total company) additional capital investment for the period July 1, 2014 through Dec. 31, 2014. In June 2015, SPS revised its requested rate increase to \$42.1 million.

In December 2015, the PUCT made the following decisions:

Disallowed SPS' proposed adjustment to jurisdictional allocation factors to reflect Golden Spread Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s wholesale load reductions from 500 MW to 300 MW, effective June 1, 2015; Disallowed incentive compensation;

Approved an equity ratio of 51.00 percent instead of the actual 53.97 percent; and A ROE of 9.70 percent.

The following table reflects the ALJs' position and PUCT's decision:

	ALJs'		PUCT	
	Proposa	ıl	FUCI	
(Millions of Dollars)			Decision	
		Decision		n
SPS' revised rate request	\$ 42.1		\$42.1	
Investment for capital expenditures - post-test year adjustments	(8.9)	(8.9)
Lower ROE	(6.3)	(6.3)
Lower capital structure			(3.7)
Annual incentive compensation	(0.2)	(0.3)
O&M expense adjustments	(4.6)	(4.6)
Depreciation expense	(2.7)	(2.7)
Property taxes	(0.9)	(0.9)
Revenue adjustments	(1.1)	(1.6)
Wholesale load reductions			(11.5)
Southwest Power Pool, Inc. (SPP) transmission expansion plan	(4.2)	(4.2)
Other, net	1.4		(1.2)
Total, gross of rate case expenses	\$ 14.6		\$(3.8)
Adjustment to move rate case expenses to a separate docket	(0.2)	(0.2)
Total, net of rate case expenses	\$ 14.4		\$(4.0)
New depreciation rates	(11.2)	(11.2)
Earnings impact	\$ 3.2		\$(15.2)

In January 2016, SPS filed its motion for rehearing on capital structure, incentive compensation and known and measurable adjustments, including wholesale load reductions and post test-year capital additions. In February 2016, the PUCT orally denied requests for rehearing. A second motion for rehearing was filed by SPS in March 2016. The PUCT took no action on the motions for rehearing and, as a result, the motions were overruled by operation of law. In

April 2016, SPS filed an appeal of the PUCT's order on rehearing.

SPS – Texas 2016 Electric Rate Case — In February 2016, SPS filed a retail electric, non-fuel rate case in Texas with each of its Texas municipalities and the PUCT requesting an overall increase in annual base rate revenue of approximately \$71.9 million, or 14.4 percent. The filing is based on a HTY ended Sept. 30, 2015, a requested ROE of 10.25 percent, an electric rate base of approximately \$1.7 billion, and an equity ratio of 53.97 percent. In April 2016, SPS revised its request to \$68.6 million. The modification reflects actual results for the period of Oct. 1, 2015 through Dec. 31, 2015.

The following table summarizes the revised net request:		
(Millions of Dollars)	Request	
Capital expenditure investments	\$ 38.9	
Change in jurisdictional allocation factors	9.8	
Changes in ROE and capital structure	11.6	
Estimated rate case expenses	4.5	
Other, net	3.8	
Total	\$ 68.6	

Key dates in the procedural schedule are as follows:

Intervenor direct testimony — Aug. 16, 2016; PUCT Staff direct testimony — Aug. 23, 2016; PUCT Staff and Intervenors' cross-rebuttal testimony — Sept. 7, 2016; SPS' Rebuttal testimony — Sept. 9, 2016; and Hearings — Sept. 27 - Oct. 7, 2016.

The final rates established at the end of the case will be made effective relating back to July 20, 2016. A PUCT decision is expected in the first quarter of 2017.

Pending Regulatory Proceedings - New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC)

SPS – New Mexico 2015 Electric Rate Case — In October 2015, SPS filed an electric rate case with the NMPRC seeking an increase in non-fuel base rates of \$45.4 million. The proposed increase would be offset by a decrease in base fuel revenue of approximately \$21.1 million. The decrease in base fuel revenue will be reflected in adjustments collected through the fuel and purchased power cost adjustment clause (FPPCAC). The rate filing is based on a June 30, 2015 HTY adjusted for known and measurable changes, a requested ROE of 10.25 percent, an electric jurisdictional rate base of approximately \$734 million and an equity ratio of 53.97 percent.

On May 2, 2016, SPS, the NMPRC Staff and all other parties filed a unanimous black-box stipulation that resolves all issues in the case. Under the stipulation, SPS will implement a non-fuel base rate increase of \$23.5 million and a decrease in base fuel revenue of approximately \$21.1 million. The decrease in base fuel revenue will be reflected in adjustments collected through the FPPCAC. The stipulation places no restriction on when SPS may file its next base rate case.

The stipulation is subject to approval by the NMPRC. A decision by the NMPRC on the settlement and implementation of final rates is expected by August 2016.

Pending and Recently Concluded Regulatory Proceedings - FERC

Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (MISO) ROE Complaints/ROE Adder — In November 2013, a group of customers filed a complaint at the FERC against MISO transmission owners (TOs), including NSP-Minnesota and NSP-Wisconsin. The complaint argued for a reduction in the ROE in transmission formula rates in the MISO region from 12.38 percent to 9.15 percent, a prohibition on capital structures in excess of 50 percent equity, and the removal of ROE adders (including those for regional transmission organization (RTO) membership and being an independent transmission company), effective Nov. 12, 2013.

In June 2014 the FERC adopted a new ROE methodology, which requires electric utilities to use a two-step discounted cash flow analysis that incorporates both short-term and long-term growth projections to estimate the cost of equity.

In December 2015, an ALJ initial decision recommended the FERC approve a ROE of 10.32 percent. A FERC order is expected to be issued no earlier than late 2016 or 2017.

Certain MISO TOs separately requested FERC approval of a 50 basis point ROE adder for RTO membership, which was approved effective Jan. 6, 2015, subject to the outcome of the ROE complaint. Certain intervenors sought rehearing of this order, which the FERC denied in 2015.

In February 2015, a second complaint was filed seeking to reduce the MISO region ROE from 12.38 percent to 8.67 percent, prior to any adder. The FERC set the second complaint for hearings, and established a refund effective date of Feb. 12, 2015. The MPUC, the North Dakota Public Service Commission (NDPSC), the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission and the DOC joined a joint complainant/intervenor initial brief recommending an ROE of either 8.82 percent or 8.81 percent. FERC staff recommended a ROE of 8.78 percent. The MISO TOs recommended a ROE of 10.92 percent. An ALJ initial decision is expected in June 2016 with a FERC decision expected no earlier than late 2016 or 2017.

NSP-Minnesota has recorded a current liability representing the current best estimate of a refund obligation associated with the new ROE, including the RTO membership adder, as of March 31, 2016. The new FERC ROE methodology is estimated to reduce transmission revenue, net of expense, between \$8 million and \$10 million, annually, for the NSP System.

SPP Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT) Upgrade Costs — Under the SPP OATT, costs of participant-funded (or "sponsored") transmission upgrades may be recovered, in part, from other SPP customers whose transmission service depends on capacity enabled by the sponsored upgrade. The SPP OATT has allowed SPP to collect charges since 2008, but to date SPP has not charged its customers any amounts attributable to these upgrades.

On April 1, 2016, SPP filed a request with the FERC to recover the charges not billed since 2008. The SPP has indicated the investment subject to the retroactive charges could total \$720 million, but the SPP filing does not quantify the charges that might be billed to individual SPP transmission customers, including SPS. SPS could also collect revenues as it has constructed a sponsored upgrade. On April 22, 2016, SPS protested the SPP filing, arguing that SPP has failed to establish that it is justified. Due to the limited information available and lack of historical precedent, the potential loss to SPS, if any, is not currently estimable. No accrual has been recorded for this matter.

6. Commitments and Contingencies

Except to the extent noted below and in Note 5 above, the circumstances set forth in Notes 12, 13 and 14 to the consolidated financial statements included in Xcel Energy Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended Dec. 31, 2015, appropriately represent, in all material respects, the current status of commitments and contingent liabilities, and are incorporated herein by reference. The following include commitments, contingencies and unresolved contingencies that are material to Xcel Energy's financial position.

Purchased Power Agreements (PPAs)

Under certain PPAs, NSP-Minnesota, PSCo and SPS purchase power from independent power producing entities for which the utility subsidiaries are required to reimburse natural gas or biomass fuel costs, or to participate in tolling arrangements under which the utility subsidiaries procure the natural gas required to produce the energy that they purchase. These specific PPAs create a variable interest in the associated independent power producing entity.

The Xcel Energy utility subsidiaries had approximately 3,698 MW of capacity under long-term PPAs as of March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015, with entities that have been determined to be variable interest entities. Xcel Energy has concluded that these entities are not required to be consolidated in its consolidated financial statements because it does not have the power to direct the activities that most significantly impact the entities' economic performance. These agreements have expiration dates through 2033.

Guarantees and Bond Indemnifications

Xcel Energy Inc. and its subsidiaries provide guarantees and bond indemnities under specified agreements or transactions. The guarantees and bond indemnities issued by Xcel Energy Inc. guarantee payment or performance by its subsidiaries. As a result, Xcel Energy Inc.'s exposure under the guarantees and bond indemnities is based upon the net liability of the relevant subsidiary under the specified agreements or transactions. Most of the guarantees and bond indemnities issued by Xcel Energy Inc. and its subsidiaries limit the exposure to a maximum amount stated in the guarantees and bond indemnities. As of March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015, Xcel Energy Inc. and its subsidiaries had no assets held as collateral related to their guarantees, bond indemnities and indemnification agreements.

The following table presents guarantees and bond indemnities issued and outstanding for Xcel Energy:

(Millions of Dollars)	March 31, Dec. 31,		
	2016	2015	
Guarantees issued and outstanding	\$ 9.0	\$ 12.5	
Current exposure under these guarantees	0.1	0.1	
Bonds with indemnity protection	42.3	41.3	

Other Indemnification Agreements

Xcel Energy Inc. and its subsidiaries provide indemnifications through contracts entered into in the normal course of business. These are primarily indemnifications against adverse litigation outcomes in connection with underwriting agreements, as well as breaches of representations and warranties, including corporate existence, transaction authorization and income tax matters with respect to assets sold. Xcel Energy Inc.'s and its subsidiaries' obligations under these agreements may be limited in terms of duration and amount. The maximum potential amount of future payments under these indemnifications cannot be reasonably estimated as the obligated amounts of these indemnifications often are not explicitly stated.

Environmental Contingencies

Ashland Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) Site — NSP-Wisconsin has been named a potentially responsible party (PRP) for contamination at a site in Ashland, Wis. The Ashland/Northern States Power Lakefront Superfund Site (the Site) includes property owned by NSP-Wisconsin, previously operated as a MGP facility (the Upper Bluff), and two other properties: an adjacent city lakeshore park area (Kreher Park); and an area of Lake Superior's Chequamegon Bay adjoining the park (the Sediments).

In 2010, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued its Record of Decision (ROD), including their preferred remedy for the Sediments which is a hybrid remedy involving both dry excavation and wet conventional dredging methodologies (the Hybrid Remedy). A wet conventional dredging only remedy (the Wet Dredge), contingent upon the completion of a successful Wet Dredge pilot study, is another potential remedy.

In 2012, under a settlement agreement, NSP-Wisconsin agreed to perform the remediation of the Phase I Project Area (which includes the Upper Bluff and Kreher Park areas of the Site). The excavation and containment remedies are complete, and a long-term groundwater pump and treatment program is now underway. The final design was approved by the EPA in 2015. The current cost estimate for the cleanup of the Phase I Project Area is approximately \$68.1 million, of which approximately \$50.5 million has already been spent.

Negotiations are ongoing between the EPA and NSP-Wisconsin regarding who will pay for or perform the cleanup of the Sediments and which remedy will be implemented. The EPA's ROD includes estimates that the cost of the Hybrid Remedy is between \$63 million and \$77 million, with a potential deviation in such estimated costs of up to 50 percent higher or 30 percent lower. NSP-Wisconsin believes the Hybrid Remedy is not safe or feasible to implement. In 2015, NSP-Wisconsin constructed a breakwater at the site to serve as wave attenuation and containment for a wet dredge pilot study and full scale sediment remedy at the site. Equipment mobilization for the wet dredge pilot study commenced in April 2016.

Three other PRPs have contributed \$15.9 million to the remediation of the site, as a result of litigation and settlements approved by the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin in 2015. NSP-Wisconsin's litigation effort against other PRPs is now complete.

At March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015, NSP-Wisconsin had recorded a liability of \$94.2 million and \$94.4 million, respectively, for the Site based upon potential remediation and design costs together with estimated outside legal and consultant costs; of which \$17.2 million and \$17.0 million, respectively, were considered a current liability. NSP-Wisconsin's potential liability, the actual cost of remediation and the timing of expenditures are subject to change. NSP-Wisconsin also continues to work to identify and access state and federal funds to apply to the remediation cost of the entire site.

NSP-Wisconsin has deferred the estimated site remediation costs as a regulatory asset. The PSCW has consistently authorized NSP-Wisconsin rate recovery for all remediation costs incurred at the Site. In a December 2012 decision, the PSCW agreed to allow NSP-Wisconsin to pre-collect certain costs, to amortize costs over a ten-year period, and to apply a three percent carrying cost to the unamortized regulatory asset. In December 2015, the PSCW approved NSP-Wisconsin's 2016 rate case request for an increase to the annual recovery for MGP clean-up costs from \$4.7 million to \$7.6 million. In April 2016, NSP-Wisconsin filed a limited natural gas rate case for recovering additional expenses associated with remediating the Site. If approved, the annual recovery of MGP clean-up costs would increase from \$7.6 million in 2016 to \$12.4 million in 2017.

Fargo, N.D. MGP Site — In May 2015, underground pipes, tars and impacted soils were discovered in Fargo, N.D., which may be related to a former MGP site operated by NSP-Minnesota or a prior company. NSP-Minnesota has removed the impacted soils and other materials from the project area. NSP-Minnesota is undertaking further investigation of the location of the historic MGP site and nearby properties. In October 2015, NSP-Minnesota initiated insurance recovery litigation in North Dakota. The U.S. District Court for the District of North Dakota agreed to the parties' request for a stay of the litigation until July 2016 to allow NSP-Minnesota time to further investigate site conditions.

As of March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015, NSP-Minnesota had recorded a liability of \$2.2 million and \$2.7 million, respectively, related to further investigation and additional planned activities. Uncertainties include the nature and cost of the additional remediation efforts that may be necessary, the ability to recover costs from insurance carriers and the potential for contributions from entities that may be identified as PRPs. Therefore, the total cost of remediation, NSP-Minnesota's potential liability and amounts allocable to the North Dakota and Minnesota jurisdictions related to the site cannot currently be reasonably estimated. In December 2015, the NDPSC approved NSP-Minnesota's request to defer the portion of investigation and response costs allocable to the North Dakota jurisdiction.

Environmental Requirements

Air

Regional Haze Rules — The regional haze program is designed to address widespread haze that results from emissions from a multitude of sources. In 2005, the EPA amended the best available retrofit technology (BART) requirements of its regional haze rules, which require the installation and operation of emission controls for industrial facilities emitting air pollutants that reduce visibility in certain national parks and wilderness areas. In their first regional haze state implementation plans (SIPs), Colorado, Minnesota and Texas identified the Xcel Energy facilities that will have to reduce SO₂, NOx and particulate matter (PM) emissions under BART and set emissions limits for those facilities.

PSCo

In 2011, the Colorado Air Quality Control Commission approved a SIP (the Colorado SIP) that included the Clean Air Clean Jobs Act (CACJA) emission reduction plan as satisfying regional haze requirements for facilities included within the CACJA plan. In addition, the Colorado SIP included a BART determination for Comanche Units 1 and 2. The EPA approved the Colorado SIP in 2012. Emission controls at Hayden Unit 1 were placed into service in November 2015 and Hayden Unit 2 is expected to be placed into service in late 2016, at an estimated combined cost of \$75.2 million, completing the pollution control equipment required on PSCo plants under the CACJA. PSCo anticipates these costs will be fully recoverable through regulatory mechanisms.

NSP-Minnesota

In 2009, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) approved a SIP (the Minnesota SIP) and submitted it to the EPA for approval. The MPCA's source-specific BART limits for Sherco Units 1 and 2 require combustion controls for NOx and scrubber upgrades for SO₂. The MPCA supplemented its Minnesota SIP in 2012, determining that CSAPR

meets BART requirements, but also implementing its source-specific BART determination for Sherco Units 1 and 2 from the 2009 Minnesota SIP. In June 2012, the EPA approved the Minnesota SIP for EGUs and also approved the source-specific emission limits for Sherco Units 1 and 2. The combustion controls were installed first and the scrubber upgrades were completed in December 2014, at a cost of \$46.9 million. NSP-Minnesota has included these costs for recovery in rate proceedings.

In August 2012, the National Parks Conservation Association, Sierra Club, Voyageurs National Park Association, Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness, Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy and Fresh Energy appealed the EPA's approval of the Minnesota SIP to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit (Eighth Circuit). In January 2016, the Eighth Circuit issued their opinion which upheld the EPA's approval of the Minnesota SIP. In March 2016, after granting a rehearing request, the Eighth Circuit issued a revised opinion that included additional explanation and continued to uphold the EPA's approval of the Minnesota SIP.

SPS

Texas developed a SIP (the Texas SIP) that finds the CAIR equal to BART for EGUs. As a result, no additional controls beyond CAIR compliance would be required. In December 2014, the EPA proposed to approve the BART portion of the Texas SIP, with the exception that the EPA would substitute CSAPR compliance for Texas' reliance on CAIR. In January 2016, the EPA adopted a final rule that defers its approval of CSAPR compliance as BART until the EPA considers further adjustments to CSAPR emission budgets in relation to the 2012 particle national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS). In March 2016, the EPA requested information under the Clean Air Act (CAA) related to EGUs at SPS' plants. SPS replied to the request in April 2016 and identified Harrington Units 1 and 2, Jones Units 1 and 2, Nichols Unit 3 and Plant X Unit 4 as BART-eligible units. These units will be evaluated based on their impact on visibility. Additional emission control equipment under the EPA's BART guidelines for PM, SQ and NOx could be required if a unit is determined to "cause or contribute" to visibility impairment. Xcel Energy cannot evaluate the impact of additional emission controls until the EPA concludes their evaluation of BART. The EPA is expected to issue a proposed rule in December 2016.

In December 2014, the EPA proposed to disapprove the reasonable progress portions of the Texas SIP and instead adopt a federal implementation plan (FIP). In January 2016, the EPA adopted a final rule establishing a FIP for the state of Texas. As part of this final rule, the EPA imposed SO₂ emission limitations that reflect the installation of dry scrubbers on Tolk Units 1 and 2, with compliance required by February 2021. Investment costs associated with dry scrubbers could be approximately \$600 million. In March 2016, SPS appealed the EPA's decision and has asked the court to stay the final rule while it is being reviewed by the court. In addition, SPS filed a petition with the EPA requesting reconsideration of the final rule. SPS believes these costs would be recoverable through regulatory mechanisms if required, and therefore does not expect a material impact on results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

Reasonably Attributable Visibility Impairment (RAVI) — RAVI is intended to address observable impairment from a specific source such as distinct, identifiable plumes from a source's stack to a national park. In 2009, the United States Department of the Interior certified that a portion of the visibility impairment in Voyageurs and Isle Royale National Parks is reasonably attributable to emissions from NSP-Minnesota's Sherco Units 1 and 2.

In December 2012, a lawsuit against the EPA was filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota (Minnesota District Court) by the following organizations: National Parks Conservation Association, Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy, Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness, Voyageurs National Park Association, Fresh Energy and Sierra Club.

In May 2015, NSP-Minnesota, the EPA and the six environmental advocacy organizations filed a settlement agreement in the Minnesota District Court. The agreement anticipates a federal rulemaking that would impose stricter SO_2 emission limits on Sherco Units 1, 2 and 3, without making a RAVI attribution finding or a RAVI BART determination. The emission limits for Units 1 and 2 reflect the success of a recently completed control project. The Unit 3 emission limits will be met through changes in the operation of the existing scrubber. The Minnesota District Court issued an order staying the litigation for the time needed to complete the actions required by the settlement agreement. The plaintiffs agreed to withdraw their complaint with prejudice when those actions are completed. Plaintiffs also agreed not to request a RAVI certification for Sherco Units 1, 2 and/or 3 in the future.

In March 2016, the EPA adopted a final rule which set the agreed-upon SO_2 emission limits. As a result, the Minnesota District Court dismissed the litigation with prejudice in March 2016. NSP-Minnesota does not anticipate the costs of compliance with the final rule will have a material impact on the results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

Implementation of the NAAQS for SO_2 — The EPA adopted a more stringent NAAQS for SOn 2010. In 2013, the EPA designated areas as not attaining the revised NAAQS, which did not include any areas where Xcel Energy operates power plants. However, many other areas of the country were unable to be classified by the EPA due to a lack of air monitors.

Following a lawsuit alleging that the EPA had not completed its area designations in the time required by the CAA and under a consent decree the EPA is requiring states to evaluate areas in three phases. The first phase includes areas near PSCo's Pawnee plant and SPS' Tolk and Harrington plants. The Pawnee plant recently installed an SQscrubber and the Tolk and Harrington Plants utilize low sulfur coal to reduce SO_2 emissions. In February 2016, the EPA notified the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the Colorado Department of Health and Environment of its preliminary SO_2 designations. The EPA has proposed to designate the area near the Tolk plant as meeting the standard and the areas near the Harrington and Pawnee plants as "unclassifiable." If finalized as proposed, the unclassifiable areas will be monitored for three years and final designations will be made by December 2020. The EPA's final decision is expected by July 2016.

If an area is designated nonattainment, the respective states will need to evaluate all SO_2 sources in the area. The state would then submit an implementation plan, which would be due in 18 months, designed to achieve the NAAQS within five years. The TCEQ could require additional SO_2 controls on one or more of the units at Tolk and Harrington. The areas near the remaining Xcel Energy power plants will be evaluated in the next designation phase, ending December 2017. The remaining plants, PSCo's Comanche and Hayden plants along with NSP-Minnesota's King and Sherco plants, utilize scrubbers to control SO_2 emissions. Xcel Energy cannot evaluate the impacts until the designation of nonattainment areas is made and any required state plans are developed. Xcel Energy believes that, should SO_2 control systems be required for a plant, compliance costs will be recoverable through regulatory mechanisms and therefore does not expect a material impact on results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

Legal Contingencies

Xcel Energy is involved in various litigation matters that are being defended and handled in the ordinary course of business. The assessment of whether a loss is probable or is a reasonable possibility, and whether the loss or a range of loss is estimable, often involves a series of complex judgments about future events. Management maintains accruals for such losses that are probable of being incurred and subject to reasonable estimation. Management is sometimes unable to estimate an amount or range of a reasonably possible loss in certain situations, including but not limited to when (1) the damages sought are indeterminate, (2) the proceedings are in the early stages, or (3) the matters involve novel or unsettled legal theories. In such cases, there is considerable uncertainty regarding the timing or ultimate resolution of such matters, including a possible eventual loss. For current proceedings not specifically reported herein, management does not anticipate that the ultimate liabilities, if any, arising from such current proceedings would have a material effect on Xcel Energy's financial statements. Unless otherwise required by GAAP, legal fees are expensed as incurred.

Employment, Tort and Commercial Litigation

Pacific Northwest FERC Refund Proceeding — A complaint with the FERC posed that sales made in the Pacific Northwest in 2000 and 2001 through bilateral contracts were unjust and unreasonable under the Federal Power Act. The City of Seattle (the City) alleges between \$34 million to \$50 million in sales with PSCo is subject to refund. In 2003, the FERC terminated the proceeding, although it was later remanded back to the FERC in 2007 by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (Ninth Circuit).

In May 2015, in the remand proceeding, the FERC issued an order rejecting the City's claim that any of the sales made resulted in an excessive burden and concluded that the City failed to establish a causal link between any contracts and any claimed unlawful market activity. In June 2015, the City requested the FERC grant rehearing of its order, which the FERC denied in December. The City subsequently appealed this decision to the Ninth Circuit on Feb. 22, 2016.

Also in December 2015, the Ninth Circuit issued an order and held that the standard of review applied by the FERC to the contracts which the City was challenging is appropriate. The Ninth Circuit dismissed questions concerning whether the FERC properly established the scope of the hearing, and determined that the challenged orders are preliminary and that the Ninth Circuit lacks jurisdiction to review evidentiary decisions until after the FERC's proceedings are final. The City joined the State of California in its request seeking rehearing of this order.

Preliminary calculations of the City's claim for refunds from PSCo are approximately \$28 million, excluding interest. PSCo has concluded that a loss is reasonably possible with respect to this matter; however, given the surrounding uncertainties, PSCo is currently unable to estimate the amount or range of reasonably possible loss in the event of an adverse outcome of this matter. In making this assessment, PSCo considered two factors. First, notwithstanding PSCo's view that the City has failed to apply the standard that the FERC has established in this proceeding, and the

recognition that this case raises a novel issue and the scope of the proceeding established by FERC is being challenged in the Ninth Circuit, the outcome of such an appeal cannot be predicted with any certainty. Second, PSCo would expect to make equitable arguments against refunds even if the City were to establish that it was overcharged for transactions. If a loss were sustained, PSCo would attempt to recover those losses from other PRPs. No accrual has been recorded for this matter.

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Gas Trading Litigation — e prime, inc. (e prime) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Xcel Energy. e prime was in the business of natural gas trading and marketing, but has not engaged in natural gas trading or marketing activities since 2003. Thirteen lawsuits were commenced against e prime and Xcel Energy (and NSP-Wisconsin, in two instances) between 2003 and 2009 alleging fraud and anticompetitive activities in conspiring to restrain the trade of natural gas and manipulate natural gas prices. The cases were consolidated in U.S. District Court in Nevada. In 2009, five of the cases were settled and one was dismissed. The U.S. District Court, in 2011, issued an order dismissing entirely six of the remaining seven lawsuits, and partially dismissing the seventh. Plaintiffs appealed the dismissals to the Ninth Circuit, which reversed the U.S. District Court. The matter was ultimately heard by the U.S. Supreme Court in early 2015, which agreed with the Ninth Circuit and remanded the matter to the U.S. District Court. In September 2015, the District Court held a status conference and set deadlines for certain litigation related activities in 2016. Trial dates have not yet been set, but are not expected to occur prior to early 2017. Xcel Energy, NSP-Wisconsin and e prime have concluded that a loss is remote with respect to this matter.

Line Extension Disputes — In December 2015, Development Recovery Company (DRC) filed a lawsuit in Denver State Court, stating PSCo failed to award proper allowances and refunds for line extensions to new developments pursuant to the terms of electric service agreements entered into by PSCo and various developers. The dispute involves assigned interests in those claims by over fifty developers. On May 9, 2016, the district court granted PSCo's motion to dismiss the lawsuit, essentially concluding that jurisdiction over this dispute resides with the CPUC. It is uncertain whether plaintiffs will appeal this decision. PSCo has concluded that a loss is remote with respect to this matter as the service agreements were developed to implement CPUC approved tariffs and PSCo has complied with the tariff provisions. Also, if a loss were sustained, PSCo believes it would be allowed to recover these costs through traditional regulatory mechanisms as the line extension payments from developers, for which DRC is seeking a refund, have served to reduce rate base over the period in dispute. The amount or range in dispute is presently unknown and no accrual has been recorded for this matter.

7. Borrowings and Other Financing Instruments

Short-Term Borrowings

Money Pool — Xcel Energy Inc. and its utility subsidiaries have established a money pool arrangement that allows for short-term investments in and borrowings between the utility subsidiaries. NSP-Wisconsin does not participate in the money pool. Xcel Energy Inc. may make investments in the utility subsidiaries at market-based interest rates; however, the money pool arrangement does not allow the utility subsidiaries to make investments in Xcel Energy Inc. The money pool balances are eliminated in consolidation.

Commercial Paper — Xcel Energy Inc. and its utility subsidiaries meet their short-term liquidity requirements primarily through the issuance of commercial paper and borrowings under their credit facilities. Commercial paper outstanding for Xcel Energy was as follows:

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	Three	Twelve
	Months	Months
(Amounts in Millions, Except Interest Rates)	Ended	Ended
	March	Dec. 31,
	31, 2016	2015
Borrowing limit	\$2,750	\$2,750
Amount outstanding at period end	183	846
Average amount outstanding	774	601
Maximum amount outstanding	1,183	1,360

Weighted average interest rate, computed on a daily basis0.73% 0.48%Weighted average interest rate at period end0.630.82

Letters of Credit — Xcel Energy Inc. and its subsidiaries use letters of credit, generally with terms of one year, to provide financial guarantees for certain operating obligations. At March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015, there were \$29 million of letters of credit outstanding under the credit facilities. The contract amounts of these letters of credit approximate their fair value and are subject to fees.

Credit Facilities — In order to use their commercial paper programs to fulfill short-term funding needs, Xcel Energy Inc. and its utility subsidiaries must have revolving credit facilities in place at least equal to the amount of their respective commercial paper borrowing limits and cannot issue commercial paper in an aggregate amount exceeding available capacity under these credit facilities. The lines of credit provide short-term financing in the form of notes payable to banks, letters of credit and back-up support for commercial paper borrowings.

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At March 31, 2016, Xcel Energy Inc. and its utility subsidiaries had the following committed credit facilities available:

(Millions of Dollars)	Credit Facility ^(a)	Drawn (b)	Available				
Xcel Energy Inc.	\$ 1,000	\$ 25	\$ 975				
PSCo	700	4	696				
NSP-Minnesota	500	91	409				
SPS	400	87	313				
NSP-Wisconsin	150	5	145				
Total	\$ 2,750	\$ 212	\$ 2,538				
^(a) These credit facilities expire in October 2019.							

^(b) Includes outstanding commercial paper and letters of credit.

All credit facility bank borrowings, outstanding letters of credit and outstanding commercial paper reduce the available capacity under the respective credit facilities. Xcel Energy Inc. and its subsidiaries had no direct advances on the credit facilities outstanding at March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015.

Long-Term Borrowings

In March 2016, Xcel Energy Inc. issued \$400 million of 2.4 percent senior notes due March 15, 2021 and \$350 million of 3.3 percent senior notes due June 1, 2025.

8. Fair Value of Financial Assets and Liabilities

Fair Value Measurements

The accounting guidance for fair value measurements and disclosures provides a single definition of fair value and requires certain disclosures about assets and liabilities measured at fair value. A hierarchical framework for disclosing the observability of the inputs utilized in measuring assets and liabilities at fair value is established by this guidance. The three levels in the hierarchy are as follows:

Level 1 — Quoted prices are available in active markets for identical assets or liabilities as of the reporting date. The types of assets and liabilities included in Level 1 are highly liquid and actively traded instruments with quoted prices.

Level 2 — Pricing inputs are other than quoted prices in active markets, but are either directly or indirectly observable as of the reporting date. The types of assets and liabilities included in Level 2 are typically either comparable to actively traded securities or contracts, or priced with models using highly observable inputs.

Level 3 — Significant inputs to pricing have little or no observability as of the reporting date. The types of assets and liabilities included in Level 3 are those valued with models requiring significant management judgment or estimation.

Specific valuation methods include the following:

Cash equivalents — The fair values of cash equivalents are generally based on cost plus accrued interest; money market funds are measured using quoted prices.

Investments in equity securities and other funds — Equity securities are valued using quoted prices in active markets. The fair values for commingled funds, international equity funds, private equity investments and real estate

investments are measured using a NAV methodology, which takes into consideration the value of underlying fund investments, as well as the other accrued assets and liabilities of a fund, in order to determine a per-share market value. The investments in commingled funds and international equity funds may be redeemed for net asset value with proper notice. Proper notice varies by fund and can range from daily with one or two days notice to annually with 90 days notice. Private equity investments require approval of the fund for any unscheduled redemption, and such redemptions may be approved or denied by the fund at its sole discretion. Unscheduled distributions from real estate investments may be redeemed with proper notice, which is typically quarterly with 45-90 days notice; however, withdrawals from real estate investments may be delayed or discounted as a result of fund illiquidity.

Investments in debt securities — Fair values for debt securities are determined by a third party pricing service using recent trades and observable spreads from benchmark interest rates for similar securities.

Interest rate derivatives — The fair values of interest rate derivatives are based on broker quotes that utilize current market interest rate forecasts.

Commodity derivatives — The methods used to measure the fair value of commodity derivative forwards and options utilize forward prices and volatilities, as well as pricing adjustments for specific delivery locations, and are generally assigned a Level 2. When contractual settlements extend to periods beyond those readily observable on active exchanges or quoted by brokers, the significance of the use of less observable forecasts of long-term forward prices and volatilities on a valuation is evaluated, and may result in Level 3 classification.

Electric commodity derivatives held by NSP-Minnesota include transmission congestion instruments, generally referred to as financial transmission rights (FTRs), purchased from MISO, PJM Interconnection, LLC, Electric Reliability Council of Texas, SPP and New York Independent System Operator. Electric commodity derivatives held by SPS include FTRs purchased from SPP. FTRs purchased from a RTO are financial instruments that entitle or obligate the holder to monthly revenues or charges based on transmission congestion across a given transmission path. The value of an FTR is derived from, and designed to offset, the cost of energy congestion, which is caused by overall transmission load and other transmission constraints. In addition to overall transmission load, congestion is also influenced by the operating schedules of power plants and the consumption of electricity pertinent to a given transmission path. Unplanned plant outages, scheduled plant maintenance, changes in the relative costs of fuels used in generation, weather and overall changes in demand for electricity can each impact the operating schedules of the power plants on the transmission grid and the value of an FTR. The valuation process for FTRs utilizes complex iterative modeling to predict the impacts of forecasted changes in these drivers of transmission system congestion on the historical pricing of FTR purchases.

If forecasted costs of electric transmission congestion increase or decrease for a given FTR path, the value of that particular FTR instrument will likewise increase or decrease. Given the limited observability of management's forecasts for several of the inputs to this complex valuation model – including expected plant operating schedules and retail and wholesale demand, fair value measurements for FTRs have been assigned a Level 3. Monthly settlements for non-trading FTRs are included in fuel and purchased energy cost recovery mechanisms as applicable in each jurisdiction, and therefore changes in the fair value of the yet to be settled portions of most FTRs are deferred as a regulatory asset or liability. Given this regulatory treatment and the limited magnitude of FTRs relative to the electric utility operations of NSP-Minnesota and SPS, the numerous unobservable quantitative inputs to the complex model used for valuation of FTRs are insignificant to the consolidated financial statements of Xcel Energy.

Non-Derivative Instruments Fair Value Measurements

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requires NSP-Minnesota to maintain a portfolio of investments to fund the costs of decommissioning its nuclear generating plants. Together with all accumulated earnings or losses, the assets of the nuclear decommissioning fund are legally restricted for the purpose of decommissioning the Monticello and Prairie Island (PI) nuclear generating plants. The fund contains cash equivalents, debt securities, equity securities and other investments – all classified as available-for-sale. NSP-Minnesota plans to reinvest matured securities until decommissioning begins. NSP-Minnesota uses the MPUC approved asset allocation for the escrow and investment targets by asset class for both the escrow and qualified trust.

NSP-Minnesota recognizes the costs of funding the decommissioning of its nuclear generating plants over the lives of the plants, assuming rate recovery of all costs. Given the purpose and legal restrictions on the use of nuclear decommissioning fund assets, realized and unrealized gains on fund investments over the life of the fund are deferred as an offset of NSP-Minnesota's regulatory asset for nuclear decommissioning costs. Consequently, any realized and unrealized gains and losses on securities in the nuclear decommissioning fund, including any other-than-temporary

impairments, are deferred as a component of the regulatory asset for nuclear decommissioning.

Unrealized gains for the nuclear decommissioning fund were \$322.7 million and \$328.8 million at March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015, respectively, and unrealized losses and amounts recorded as other-than-temporary impairments were \$100.3 million and \$100.2 million at March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015, respectively.

The following tables present the cost and fair value of Xcel Energy's non-derivative instruments with recurring fair value measurements in the nuclear decommissioning fund at March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015: March 31, 2016

March 51, 2010						
		Fair Value	e			
(Thousands of Dollars)	Cost	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Investments Measured at NAV ^(b)	Total
Nuclear decommissioning fund ^(a)						
Cash equivalents	\$11,899	\$11,899	\$—	\$ -	-\$	\$11,899
Commingled funds	390,345				395,709	395,709
International equity funds	264,340		_		242,312	242,312
Private equity investments	108,882		_		158,915	158,915
Real estate	73,577		_		100,576	100,576
Debt securities:						
Government securities	24,320		23,213			23,213
U.S. corporate bonds	76,952		70,723			70,723
International corporate bonds	18,117		17,343			17,343
Municipal bonds	47,088		49,902			49,902
Asset-backed securities	2,841		2,836			2,836
Mortgage-backed securities	11,065		11,407			11,407
Equity securities:						
Common stock	481,968	649,015				649,015
Total	\$1,511,394	\$660,914	\$175,424	\$ -	\$ 897,512	\$1,733,850

Reported in nuclear decommissioning fund and other investments on the consolidated balance sheet, which also ^(a) includes \$132.8 million of equity investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries and \$51.1 million of miscellaneous investments.

(b) Based on the requirements of ASU 2015-07, investments measured at fair value using a NAV methodology have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy. See Note 2 for further information on the adoption of ASU 2015-07. Dec. 31, 2015

		Fair Value				
(Thousands of Dollars)	Cost	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Investments Measured at NAV ^(b)	Total
Nuclear decommissioning fund ^(a)						
Cash equivalents	\$27,484	\$27,484	\$—	\$ -	-\$	\$27,484
Commingled funds	392,838				410,634	410,634
International equity funds	259,114				231,122	231,122
Private equity investments	105,965	—	—		157,528	157,528
Real estate	61,816	—	—		84,750	84,750
Debt securities:						
Government securities	24,444	—	21,356			21,356
U.S. corporate bonds	73,061	—	65,276			65,276
International corporate bonds	13,726	—	12,801			12,801
Municipal bonds	49,255	—	51,589			51,589
Asset-backed securities	2,837	—	2,830			2,830
Mortgage-backed securities	11,444		11,621			11,621
Equity securities:						
Common stock	473,615	647,159				647,159

.015					
Г	•	τ	7	1	

Total \$1,495

\$1,495,599 \$674,643 \$165,473 \$ -\$ 884,034 \$1,724,150

Reported in nuclear decommissioning fund and other investments on the consolidated balance sheet, which also

^(a) includes \$130.0 million of equity investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries and \$48.9 million of miscellaneous investments.

(b) Based on the requirements of ASU 2015-07, investments measured at fair value using a NAV methodology have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy. See Note 2 for further information on the adoption of ASU 2015-07.

For the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015 there were no Level 3 nuclear decommissioning fund investments and no transfers of amounts between levels.

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The following table summarizes the final contractual maturity dates of the debt securities in the nuclear decommissioning fund, by asset class, at March 31, 2016:

Final Contractual Maturity								
Due								
in 1	Due in	Due in	Due after					
Year	1 to 5	5 to 10	10	Total				
or	Years	Years	Years					
Less								
\$—	\$—	\$3,144	\$20,069	\$23,213				
	18,909	56,102	(4,288)	70,723				
—	2,795	11,505	3,043	17,343				
151	266	16,323	33,162	49,902				
_		2,836		2,836				
_			11,407	11,407				
\$151	\$21,970	\$89,910	\$63,393	\$175,424				
	Due in 1 Year or Less \$ 151 	Due in 1 Due in Year 1 to 5 or Years Less \$ \$ - 18,909 2,795 151 266 	Due in 1 Due in Due in Year 1 to 5 5 to 10 or Years Years Less \$	in 1Due inDue inDue afterYear1 to 55 to 1010orYearsYearsYearsLess $=$ \$3,144\$20,069-18,90956,102(4,288-2,79511,5053,04315126616,32333,1622,836-				

Derivative Instruments Fair Value Measurements

Xcel Energy enters into derivative instruments, including forward contracts, futures, swaps and options, for trading purposes and to manage risk in connection with changes in interest rates, utility commodity prices and vehicle fuel prices.

Interest Rate Derivatives — Xcel Energy enters into various instruments that effectively fix the interest payments on certain floating rate debt obligations or effectively fix the yield or price on a specified benchmark interest rate for an anticipated debt issuance for a specific period. These derivative instruments are generally designated as cash flow hedges for accounting purposes.

At March 31, 2016, accumulated other comprehensive losses related to interest rate derivatives included \$3.5 million of net losses expected to be reclassified into earnings during the next 12 months as the related hedged interest rate transactions impact earnings, including forecasted amounts for unsettled hedges, as applicable.

Wholesale and Commodity Trading Risk — Xcel Energy Inc.'s utility subsidiaries conduct various wholesale and commodity trading activities, including the purchase and sale of electric capacity, energy and energy-related instruments. Xcel Energy's risk management policy allows management to conduct these activities within guidelines and limitations as approved by its risk management committee, which is made up of management personnel not directly involved in the activities governed by this policy.

Commodity Derivatives — Xcel Energy enters into derivative instruments to manage variability of future cash flows from changes in commodity prices in its electric and natural gas operations, as well as for trading purposes. This could include the purchase or sale of energy or energy-related products, natural gas to generate electric energy, natural gas for resale, FTRs, vehicle fuel and weather derivatives.

At March 31, 2016, Xcel Energy had various vehicle fuel contracts designated as cash flow hedges extending through December 2016. Xcel Energy also enters into derivative instruments that mitigate commodity price risk on behalf of electric and natural gas customers but are not designated as qualifying hedging transactions. Changes in the fair value of non-trading commodity derivative instruments are recorded in other comprehensive income or deferred as a regulatory asset or liability. The classification as a regulatory asset or liability is based on commission approved regulatory recovery mechanisms. Xcel Energy recorded immaterial amounts to income related to the ineffectiveness

of cash flow hedges for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015.

At March 31, 2016, net losses related to commodity derivative cash flow hedges recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive losses included \$0.1 million of net losses expected to be reclassified into earnings during the next 12 months as the hedged transactions occur.

Additionally, Xcel Energy enters into commodity derivative instruments for trading purposes not directly related to commodity price risks associated with serving its electric and natural gas customers. Changes in the fair value of these commodity derivatives are recorded in electric operating revenues, net of amounts credited to customers under margin-sharing mechanisms.

The following table details the gross notional amounts of commodity forwards, options and FTRs at March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015:

$(\mathbf{A} \mathbf{m} \mathbf{a} \mathbf{u} \mathbf{n} \mathbf{t} \mathbf{a} \mathbf{t} \mathbf{n} \mathbf{t} \mathbf{h} \mathbf{a} \mathbf{u} \mathbf{a} \mathbf{a} \mathbf{h} \mathbf{h} \mathbf{a} \mathbf{h} \mathbf{h} \mathbf{a} \mathbf{h} \mathbf{h} \mathbf{h} \mathbf{h} \mathbf{h} \mathbf{h} \mathbf{h} h$	March 31	, Dec. 31,
(Amounts in Thousands) ^{(a)(b)}	2016	2015
Megawatt hours of electricity	29,130	50,487
Million British thermal units of natural gas	37,663	20,874
Gallons of vehicle fuel	106	141

^(a) Amounts are not reflective of net positions in the underlying commodities.

^(b) Notional amounts for options are included on a gross basis, but are weighted for the probability of exercise.

The following tables detail the impact of derivative activity during the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, on accumulated other comprehensive loss, regulatory assets and liabilities, and income: Three Months Ended March 31, 2016

(Thousands of Dollars) Derivatives designated as cash flow hedges Interest rate Vehicle fuel and other commodity Total	Pre-Tax Fair Value Losses Recognized During the Period in: AccurRugateatory Other(Assets) Comparedensive Loss Liabilities \$ \$	Pre-Tax Losses Reclassified into Income During the Period from: Accumulated Other Assets and Comprehensive Loss \$1,485 ^(a) \$ 57 ^(b) \$1,542 \$	Pre-Tax Gains (Losses) Recognized During the Period in Income \$ \$
Other derivative instruments Commodity trading Electric commodity Natural gas commodity Total		— 11,666	$ \begin{array}{c} \$ 1,009 & (c) \\ \hline \\ (d) & _ \\ (e) & (5,024 &) \\ \$ & (4,015 &) \end{array} $
(Thousands of Dollars) Derivatives designated as cash flow hedges Interest rate Vehicle fuel and other commodity	Pre-Tax Fair Value Losses Recognized During the Period in:	y Accumulated Other Comprehensive	Pre-Tax Gains Recognized During the Period in Income
Total Other derivative instruments Commodity trading	\$(18) \$ \$(18) \$ \$ \$	\$967 \$ <u>-</u> \$- \$-	\$ — \$ 3,880 ^(c)

Electric commodity		(9,471) —	(5,123) ^(d) —	
Natural gas commodity		(216) —	(8,831) ^(e) 8,991	(e)
Total	\$—	\$ (9,687) \$—	\$ (13,954) \$ 12,871	

^(a) Amounts are recorded to interest charges.

^(b) Amounts are recorded to O&M expenses.

(c) Amounts are recorded to electric operating revenues. Portions of these gains and losses are subject to sharing with electric customers through margin-sharing mechanisms and deducted from gross revenue, as appropriate.

Amounts are recorded to electric fuel and purchased power. These derivative settlement gain and loss amounts are ^(d) shared with electric customers through fuel and purchased energy cost-recovery mechanisms, and reclassified out of income as regulatory assets or liabilities, as appropriate.

Amounts for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015 included an immaterial amount of settlement losses on derivatives entered to mitigate natural gas price risk for electric generation, recorded to electric fuel and

(e) purchased power, subject to cost-recovery mechanisms and reclassified to a regulatory asset, as appropriate. The remaining derivative settlement gains and losses for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015 relate to natural gas operations and are recorded to cost of natural gas sold and transported. These gains and losses are subject to cost-recovery mechanisms and reclassified out of income to a regulatory asset or liability, as appropriate.

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Xcel Energy had no derivative instruments designated as fair value hedges during the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015. Therefore, no gains or losses from fair value hedges or related hedged transactions were recognized for these periods.

Consideration of Credit Risk and Concentrations — Xcel Energy continuously monitors the creditworthiness of the counterparties to its interest rate derivatives and commodity derivative contracts prior to settlement, and assesses each counterparty's ability to perform on the transactions set forth in the contracts. Given this assessment, as well as an assessment of the impact of Xcel Energy's own credit risk when determining the fair value of derivative liabilities, the impact of considering credit risk was immaterial to the fair value of unsettled commodity derivatives presented in the consolidated balance sheets.

Xcel Energy Inc. and its subsidiaries employ additional credit risk control mechanisms when appropriate, such as letters of credit, parental guarantees, standardized master netting agreements and termination provisions that allow for offsetting of positive and negative exposures. Credit exposure is monitored and, when necessary, the activity with a specific counterparty is limited until credit enhancement is provided.

Xcel Energy's utility subsidiaries' most significant concentrations of credit risk with particular entities or industries are contracts with counterparties to their wholesale, trading and non-trading commodity activities. At March 31, 2016, one of Xcel Energy's 10 most significant counterparties for these activities, comprising \$16.7 million or 7 percent of this credit exposure, had investment grade credit ratings from Standard & Poor's Ratings Services, Moody's Investor Services or Fitch Ratings. Seven of the 10 most significant counterparties, comprising \$67.2 million or 30 percent of this credit exposure, were not rated by these external agencies, but based on Xcel Energy's internal analysis, had credit quality consistent with investment grade. The remaining two most significant counterparties, comprising \$16.5 million or 7 percent of this credit exposure, had credit quality less than investment grade, based on ratings from external and internal analysis. Nine of these significant counterparties are municipal or cooperative electric entities or other utilities.

Credit Related Contingent Features — Contract provisions for derivative instruments that the utility subsidiaries enter, including those recorded to the consolidated balance sheet at fair value, as well as those accounted for as normal purchase-normal sale contracts and therefore not reflected on the balance sheet, may require the posting of collateral or settlement of the contracts for various reasons, including if the applicable utility subsidiary is unable to maintain its credit ratings. At March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015, there were no derivative instruments in a liability position that would have required the posting of collateral or settlement of applicable outstanding contracts if the credit ratings of Xcel Energy Inc.'s utility subsidiaries were downgraded below investment grade.

Certain derivative instruments are also subject to contract provisions that contain adequate assurance clauses. These provisions allow counterparties to seek performance assurance, including cash collateral, in the event that a given utility subsidiary's ability to fulfill its contractual obligations is reasonably expected to be impaired. Xcel Energy had no collateral posted related to adequate assurance clauses in derivative contracts as of March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015.

Recurring Fair Value Measurements — The following table presents for each of the fair value hierarchy levels, Xcel Energy's derivative assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis at March 31, 2016:

	March 31, 2016	
	Fair Value	Fair Counterparty
(Thousands of Dollars)	Level Level 2 Level 3	Value Counterparty Value Netting ^(b) Total

Current derivative assets

Other derivative instruments:							
Commodity trading	\$1,054	\$17,417	\$453	\$18,924	\$ (10,970)	\$7,954
Electric commodity		_	7,879	7,879	(1,443)	6,436
Total current derivative assets	\$1,054	\$17,417	\$8,332	\$26,803	\$ (12,413)	14,390
PPAs ^(a)							8,903
Current derivative instruments							\$23,293
Noncurrent derivative assets							
Other derivative instruments:							
Commodity trading	\$250	\$35,248	\$—	\$35,498	\$ (8,893)	\$26,605
Natural gas commodity		9		9	_		9
Total noncurrent derivative assets	\$250	\$35,257	\$—	\$35,507	\$ (8,893)	26,614
PPAs ^(a)							28,998
Noncurrent derivative instruments							\$55,612

	March 31, 2016 Fair Value			Fair	~			
(Thousands of Dollars)	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Value Total	Counterpar Netting ^(b)	ty	Total	
Current derivative liabilities								
Derivatives designated as cash flow hedges:								
Vehicle fuel and other commodity	\$—	\$152	\$—	\$152	\$ —		\$152	
Other derivative instruments:								
Commodity trading	1,334	14,767	35	16,136	(11,805)	4,331	
Electric commodity			1,443	1,443	(1,443)		
Natural gas commodity		119		119			119	
Other commodity		92		92			92	
Total current derivative liabilities	\$1,334	\$15,130	\$1,478	\$17,942	\$ (13,248)	4,694	
PPAs ^(a)							22,859	
Current derivative instruments							\$27,553	
Noncurrent derivative liabilities								
Other derivative instruments:								
Commodity trading	\$215	\$27,025	\$—	\$27,240	\$ (12,497)	\$14,743	
Natural gas commodity		6		6			6	
Total noncurrent derivative liabilities	\$215	\$27,031	\$—	\$27,246	\$ (12,497)	14,749	
PPAs ^(a)							152,550	
Noncurrent derivative instruments							\$167,299	

In 2003, as a result of implementing new guidance on the normal purchase exception for derivative accounting, Xcel Energy began recording several long-term PPAs at fair value due to accounting requirements related to underlying price adjustments. As these purchases are recovered through normal regulatory recovery mechanisms in

- (a) the respective jurisdictions, the changes in fair value for these contracts were offset by regulatory assets and liabilities. During 2006, Xcel Energy qualified these contracts under the normal purchase exception. Based on this qualification, the contracts are no longer adjusted to fair value and the previous carrying value of these contracts will be amortized over the remaining contract lives along with the offsetting regulatory assets and liabilities. Xcel Energy nets derivative instruments and related collateral in its consolidated balance sheet when supported by a legally enforceable master netting agreement, and all derivative instruments and related collateral amounts were (b) subject to master netting agreements at March 31, 2016. At March 31, 2016, derivative assets and liabilities include
- (b) subject to master netting agreements at March 31, 2016. At March 31, 2016, derivative assets and liabilities include no obligations to return cash collateral and the rights to reclaim cash collateral of \$4.4 million. The counterparty netting amounts presented exclude settlement receivables and payables and non-derivative amounts that may be subject to the same master netting agreements.

The following table presents for each of the fair value hierarchy levels, Xcel Energy's derivative assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis at Dec. 31, 2015:

(Thousands of Dollars)	Fair V	31, 2015 Value Level 2	Level 3	Fair Value Total	Counterpa Netting ^(b)	^{rty} Total
Current derivative assets						
Other derivative instruments:						
Commodity trading	\$225	\$10,620	\$1,250	\$12,095	\$ (5,865) \$6,230
Electric commodity	—		21,421	21,421	(4,088) 17,333
Natural gas commodity		496		496	(303) 193
Total current derivative assets	\$225	\$11,116	\$22,671	\$34,012	\$ (10,256) 23,756

PPAs ^(a)				10,086
Current derivative instruments				\$33,842
Noncurrent derivative assets				
Other derivative instruments:				
Commodity trading	\$—	\$27,416 \$—	\$27,416 \$ (6,555) \$20,861
Total noncurrent derivative assets	\$—	\$27,416 \$	\$27,416 \$ (6,555) 20,861
PPAs ^(a)				30,222
Noncurrent derivative instruments				\$51,083

		31, 2015 Value		Fair	~		
(Thousands of Dollars)	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Value Total	Counterpare Netting ^(b)	ty	Total
Current derivative liabilities							
Derivatives designated as cash flow hedges:							
Vehicle fuel and other commodity	\$—	\$205	\$—	\$205	\$ —		\$205
Other derivative instruments:							
Commodity trading	152	7,866	555	8,573	(6,904)	1,669
Electric commodity			4,088	4,088	(4,088)	
Natural gas commodity	—	5,407		5,407	(303)	5,104
Total current derivative liabilities	\$152	\$13,478	\$4,643	\$18,273	\$ (11,295)	6,978
PPAs ^(a)							22,861
Current derivative instruments							\$29,839
Noncurrent derivative liabilities							
Other derivative instruments:							
Commodity trading	\$—	\$19,898	\$—	\$19,898	\$ (9,780)	\$10,118
Total noncurrent derivative liabilities	\$—	\$19,898	\$—	\$19,898	\$ (9,780)	10,118
PPAs ^(a)							158,193
Noncurrent derivative instruments							\$168,311

In 2003, as a result of implementing new guidance on the normal purchase exception for derivative accounting, Xcel Energy began recording several long-term PPAs at fair value due to accounting requirements related to underlying price adjustments. As these purchases are recovered through normal regulatory recovery mechanisms in

- (a) the respective jurisdictions, the changes in fair value for these contracts were offset by regulatory assets and liabilities. During 2006, Xcel Energy qualified these contracts under the normal purchase exception. Based on this qualification, the contracts are no longer adjusted to fair value and the previous carrying value of these contracts will be amortized over the remaining contract lives along with the offsetting regulatory assets and liabilities. Xcel Energy nets derivative instruments and related collateral in its consolidated balance sheet when supported by a legally enforceable master netting agreement, and all derivative instruments and related collateral amounts were
- (b) subject to master netting agreements at Dec. 31, 2015. At Dec. 31, 2015, derivative assets and liabilities include no obligations to return cash collateral and rights to reclaim cash collateral of \$4.3 million. The counterparty netting amounts presented exclude settlement receivables and payables and non-derivative amounts that may be subject to the same master netting agreements.

Three Months

The following table presents the changes in Level 3 commodity derivatives for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015:

^(a) These amounts relate to commodity derivatives held at the end of the period.

Xcel Energy recognizes transfers between levels as of the beginning of each period. There were no transfers of amounts between levels for derivative instruments for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015.

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Fair Value of Long-Term Debt

As of March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015, other financial instruments for which the carrying amount did not equal fair value were as follows:

	March 31, 20)16	Dec. 31, 201	5	
(Thousands of Dollars)	Carrying	Fair Value	Carrying	Fair Value	
(Thousands of Donars)	Amount	Fall Value	Amount		
Long-term debt, including current portion ^(a)	\$13,804,911	\$15,410,430	\$13,055,901	\$14,094,744	
(a) Amounts reflect the classification of debt issuance costs as a deduction from the carrying amount of the related					
			.1 1 .1	C + CTT 0015 00	

debt. See Note 2, Accounting Pronouncements for more information on the adoption of ASU 2015-03.

The fair value of Xcel Energy's long-term debt is estimated based on recent trades and observable spreads from benchmark interest rates for similar securities. The fair value estimates are based on information available to management as of March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015, and given the observability of the inputs to these estimates, the fair values presented for long-term debt have been assigned a Level 2.

9. Other Income, Net

Other income, net consisted of the following:

	Three Months				
	Ended March 31				
(Thousands of Dollars)	2016	2015			
Interest income	\$4,070	\$4,238			
Other nonoperating income	680	968			
Insurance policy expense	(500)	(2,045)			
Other income, net	\$4,250	\$3,161			

10. Segment Information

The regulated electric utility operating results of NSP-Minnesota, NSP-Wisconsin, PSCo and SPS, as well as the regulated natural gas utility operating results of NSP-Minnesota, NSP-Wisconsin and PSCo are each separately and regularly reviewed by Xcel Energy's chief operating decision maker. Xcel Energy evaluates performance by each utility subsidiary based on profit or loss generated from the product or service provided. These segments are managed separately because the revenue streams are dependent upon regulated rate recovery, which is separately determined for each segment.

Xcel Energy has the following reportable segments: regulated electric utility, regulated natural gas utility and all other.

Xcel Energy's regulated electric utility segment generates, transmits and distributes electricity primarily in portions of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, North Dakota, South Dakota, Colorado, Texas and New Mexico. In addition, this segment includes sales for resale and provides wholesale transmission service to various entities in the United States. Regulated electric utility also includes commodity trading operations.

Xcel Energy's regulated natural gas utility segment transports, stores and distributes natural gas primarily in portions of Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, Michigan and Colorado.

Revenues from operating segments not included above are below the necessary quantitative thresholds and are therefore included in the all other category. Those primarily include steam revenue, appliance repair services, nonutility real estate activities, revenues associated with processing solid waste into refuse-derived fuel and

investments in rental housing projects that qualify for low-income housing tax credits.

Xcel Energy had equity investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries of \$132.8 million and \$130.0 million as of March 31, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2015, respectively, included in the regulated natural gas utility segment.

Asset and capital expenditure information is not provided for Xcel Energy's reportable segments because as an integrated electric and natural gas utility, Xcel Energy operates significant assets that are not dedicated to a specific business segment, and reporting assets and capital expenditures by business segment would require arbitrary and potentially misleading allocations which may not necessarily reflect the assets that would be required for the operation of the business segments on a stand-alone basis.

To report income from operations for regulated electric and regulated natural gas utility segments, the majority of costs are directly assigned to each segment. However, some costs, such as common depreciation, common O&M expenses and interest expense are allocated based on cost causation allocators. A general allocator is used for certain general and administrative expenses, including office supplies, rent, property insurance and general advertising.

(Thousands of Dollars)	Regulated Electric	Regulated Natural Gas	All Other	Reconciling Eliminations	Consolidated Total
Three Months Ended March 31, 2016					
Operating revenues from external customers	\$2,185,119	\$565,689	\$21,465	\$ —	\$2,772,273
Intersegment revenues	335	287	—	(622)	
Total revenues	\$2,185,454	\$565,976	\$21,465	\$ (622)	\$2,772,273
Net income (loss)	\$178,237	\$78,338	\$(15,263)	\$ —	\$241,312
(Thousands of Dollars)	Regulated Electric	Regulate Natural Gas	ed All Othe	Reconciling Elimination	0
Three Months Ended March 31, 2015					
Operating revenues from external customers	\$2,224,863	\$715,99	6 \$21,360	\$ —	\$2,962,219
Intersegment revenues	330	676	—	(1,006) —
Total revenues	\$2,225,193	\$716.67	2 \$21,360	\$ (1,006) \$2,962,219
	$\phi_{2,223,193}$	ψ / 10,07	2 021,500	φ (1,000) \$2,702,217

^(a) Includes a net of tax charge related to the Monticello LCM/EPU project. See Note 5.

11. Earnings Per Share

Basic earnings per share (EPS) was computed by dividing the earnings available to Xcel Energy Inc.'s common shareholders by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted EPS was computed by dividing the earnings available to Xcel Energy Inc.'s common shareholders by the diluted weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted EPS reflects the potential dilution that could occur if securities or other agreements to issue common stock (i.e., common stock equivalents) were settled. The weighted average number of potentially dilutive shares outstanding used to calculate Xcel Energy Inc.'s diluted EPS is calculated using the treasury stock method.

Common Stock Equivalents — Xcel Energy Inc. currently has common stock equivalents related to certain equity awards in share-based compensation arrangements.

Common stock equivalents causing dilutive impact to EPS include commitments to issue common stock related to time based equity compensation awards and time based employer matching contributions to certain 401(k) plan participants.

Stock equivalent units granted to Xcel Energy Inc.'s Board of Directors are included in common shares outstanding upon grant date as there is no further service, performance or market condition associated with these awards. Restricted stock, granted to settle amounts due to certain employees under the Xcel Energy Inc. Executive Annual Incentive Award Plan, is included in common shares outstanding when granted.

Share-based compensation arrangements for which there is currently no dilutive impact to EPS include the following:

Equity awards subject to a performance condition; included in common shares outstanding when all necessary conditions for settlement have been satisfied by the end of the reporting period.

Liability awards subject to a performance condition; any portions settled in shares are included in common shares outstanding upon settlement.

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The dilutive impact of common stock equivalents affecting EPS was as follows:						
	Three Months Ended March Three Months End					ed March
	31, 2016			31, 2015		
			Per			Per
(Amounts in thousands, except per share data)	Income	Shares	Share	Income	Shares	Share
			Amount			Amount
Net income	\$241,312			\$152,066		
Basic EPS:						
Earnings available to common shareholders	241,312	508,667	\$ 0.47	152,066	506,983	\$ 0.30
Effect of dilutive securities:						
Time based equity awards		483			410	
Diluted EPS:						
Earnings available to common shareholders	\$241,312	509,150	\$ 0.47	\$152,066	507,393	\$ 0.30

12. Benefit Plans and Other Postretirement Benefits

Components of Net Periodic Benefit Cost (Credit)

	Three Months Ended March 31					
	2016	2015	2016	2015		
			Postret	irement		
(Thousands of Dollars)	Pension l	Benefits	Health			
			Care B	enefits		
Service cost	\$22,920	\$24,828	\$432	\$529		
Interest cost	40,023	37,131	6,527	6,324		
Expected return on plan assets	(52,575)	(53,473)	(6,249)	(6,650)		
Amortization of prior service credit	(484)	(451)	(2,672)	(2,672)		
Amortization of net loss	24,385	31,288	1,011	1,351		
Net periodic benefit cost (credit)	34,269	39,323	(951)	(1,118)		
Costs not recognized due to the effects of regulation	(4,452)	(7,496)				
Net benefit cost (credit) recognized for financial reporting	\$29,817	\$31,827	\$(951)	\$(1,118)		

In January 2016, contributions of \$125.0 million were made across four of Xcel Energy's pension plans. Xcel Energy does not expect additional pension contributions during 2016.

13. Other Comprehensive Income

Changes in accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income, net of tax, for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015 were as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2016				
	Gains and	Unrealized	Defined		
	Losses	Gains and	Benefit		
(Thousands of Dollars)	on Cash	Losses	Pension and	Total	
	Flow	on Marketa	al Po stretireme	ent	
	Hedges	Securities	Items		
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income at Jan. 1	\$(54,862)	\$ 110	\$ (55,001) \$(109,753)	
Other comprehensive loss before reclassifications	(4) —	(653) (657)	

Losses reclassified from net accumulated other comprehensive loss	938		864	1,802
Net current period other comprehensive income	934		211	1,145
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income at March 31	\$(53,928)	\$ 110	\$ (54,790)	\$(108,608)

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2015			
	Gains and	Unrealized	Defined	
	Losses	Gains and	Benefit	
(Thousands of Dollars)	on Cash	Losses	Pension and	Total
	Flow	on Marketa	ab Bo stretiremen	t
	Hedges	Securities	Items	
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income at Jan. 1	\$(57,628)	\$ 110	\$ (50,621)	\$(108,139)
Other comprehensive (loss) income before reclassifications	(11)	1		(10)
Losses reclassified from net accumulated other comprehensive loss	585	_	876	1,461
Net current period other comprehensive income	574	1	876	1,451
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income at March 31	\$(57,054)	\$ 111	\$ (49,745)	\$(106,688)

Reclassifications from accumulated other comprehensive loss for the three months ended March 31, 2016 and 2015 were as follows:

	Amounts Reclassified from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	
(Thousands of Dollars)	Three Months Ended March 31, 2016	Three Months Ended March 31, 2015
(Gains) losses on cash flow hedges:		
Interest rate derivatives	\$ 1,485 ^(a)	\$ 941 ^(a)
Vehicle fuel derivatives	57 (b)	26 ^(b)
Total, pre-tax	1,542	967
Tax benefit	(604)	(382)
Total, net of tax		