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**Geronimo Energy Announces Renewable Energy Purchase Agreements with Xcel Energy for the Courtenay Wind Farm and the Odell Wind Farm**

MINNEAPOLIS, July 16, 2013– Geronimo Energy announced today the signing of two long-term Wind Energy Purchase Agreements with Xcel Energy for a total of 400 megawatts of wind energy to be generated at the Courtenay Wind Farm and Odell Wind Farm.

The Courtenay Wind Farm is a 200 megawatt wind energy facility in Stutsman County, North Dakota. The project will consist of up to 125 wind turbines to be constructed across 25,000 acres of leased land from over 60 landowners. The energy generated from the project will power the equivalent of 60,000 homes. The wind farm will provide nearly \$850,000 in annual tax revenue and will create an estimated 200 construction jobs. The completed project will result in the creation of 10 to 12 permanent jobs for operations and maintenance of the facility.

The Odell Wind Farm is a 200 megawatt wind energy facility in Jackson, Watonwan and Cottonwood Counties, Minnesota. The project will consist of up to 125 wind turbines to be constructed across 34,000 acres of leased land from over 175 landowners. The energy generated from the project will power the equivalent of 60,000 homes. The wind farm will provide nearly \$840,000 in annual tax revenue and will create an estimated 200 construction jobs. The completed project will result in the creation of 10 to 12 permanent jobs for operations and maintenance of the facility.

“These power purchase agreements with Geronimo will help us reduce energy costs for our customers, enhance fuel diversity in our portfolio and further reduce carbon emissions,” said Dave

Sparby, president and CEO of Northern States Power Co.-Minnesota, an Xcel Energy company. “We’re proposing to add substantial amounts of wind power now to take advantage of very attractive prices for our customers that resulted from Congress' extension of the federal renewable electricity Production Tax Credit.”

“Geronimo is excited to once again work with Xcel Energy and to deliver an additional 400 megawatts of long-term, low cost renewable energy to Xcel Energy’s customers. These two projects will also bring strong economic benefits to the local residents and communities in which they are located,” said Blake Nixon, President of Geronimo Wind Energy.

### **About Geronimo Energy**

Geronimo Energy (Geronimo) is a utility-scale developer of wind and solar energy projects based in Edina, Minnesota. Having developed three operating wind farms in Minnesota, Geronimo is developing a large pipeline of wind and solar projects in various stages of development throughout the United States with a particular focus on the Midwest. Geronimo has a strategic partnership with Enel Green Power North America, giving it the credibility and capital strength necessary to deliver on projects for customers and communities. For more information about Geronimo Energy, visit them on the web at [www.geronimoenergy.com](http://www.geronimoenergy.com).

### **About Xcel Energy**

Xcel Energy (NYSE: XEL) is a major U.S. electricity and natural gas company with regulated operations in eight Western and Midwestern states. Xcel Energy provides a comprehensive portfolio of energy-related products and services to 3.4 million electricity customers and 1.9 million natural gas customers through its regulated operating companies. Company headquarters are located in Minneapolis. More information is available at [www.xcelenergy.com](http://www.xcelenergy.com).