

Xcel Energy – St. Paul, MN



Type: Office Buildings, Xcel's Rice Street Electric/Natural Gas Service Center

Employees at this location: 350 (estimate)

Location: St. Paul, MN

Year built: 1925

Parking: 200+ spots, surface lots

Website: www.xcelenergy.com

Property owner: Northern States Power Co. d/b/a Xcel Energy

Property management: Facilities Dept – Xcel Energy

Number of other companies at this location: none

Power: Xcel Energy

Description:

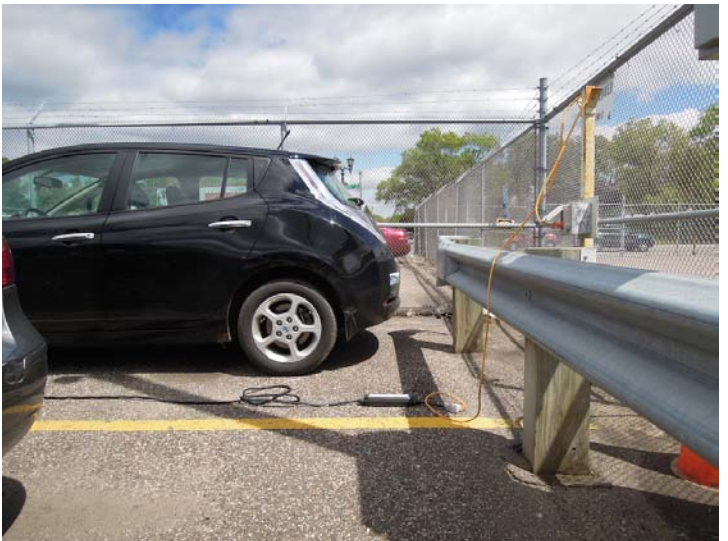
At Xcel Energy's Rice Street office, their workplace-charging program is small but growing. As of May 2015, there are two charging spots providing a Level 1 power source outlet (120 volts.) Employees encouraged facilities team to add outlets for EV charging during a unrelated project to add sidewalk heating near the security gate in the employee parking lot. Conduit was added to allow for 4 to 5 charging spots to be developed. Participating employees are required to pay for a reserved parking spot and to cover electricity usage. Xcel Energy employees (throughout the company) that want charging are directed to contact Xcel's Repowering Transportation coordinator to arrange for charging infrastructure to be prepared if economically feasible.

PEV Charging plans and infrastructure: Currently, there are two Level 1 outlets (15 amp circuit) available in two reserved spots in the employee parking lot. The parking lot itself is ripe for an expanded charging program since it has about 75 parking spots already wired with plug-ins for engine block heaters used by Xcel's fleet vehicles.

EVSE locations: outlets only, surface lot.

Metering and billing: Employees are charged \$20/month and they pay quarterly by mailing a check to Xcel's Denver office.

Renewable Energy Option: Employees can purchase extra blocks of renewable energy through Xcel's Windsource program via their personal residential electric accounts to cover their electricity usage at the office.



WorkplaceCharging.com Case Report

Networking and service fees: n/a

Access control: Reserved parking spots that have extra signage indicating it is for EV parking only.

Parking: There are 169 non-reserved spots in one lot – 2 spots have signage for EVs and are reserved for employees that have signed up for workplace charging. There is also an employee lot on Rice St across from the office building that has about 60 spots but no electricity service.

Demand charges: n/a

Demand charge mitigation strategy: By limiting equipment to Level 1 charging, demand charges are not impacted at this location.

Signage and parking enforcement: Workplace charging spots have signage indicated there is no parking except for EV charging. In the past, if a non-EV has parked in the charging spots, the employees can call the security operations center.

Insurance needs: n/a

Employee WPC policy: Employee inquires with Repowering Transportation coordinator (Eric Van Orden) who contacts Facilities to determine if a 120 V, 15 amp circuit is accessible or can be installed for low cost. If so invoicing starts and employee starts plugging in.

Program promotion: There are regular internal office newsletters on sustainability issues that go out via the Xcel Energy Intranet. Xcel Energy is also a DOE Workplace Charging Challenge partner and has a goal of promoting workplace charging throughout its operations.

Program monitoring and evaluation: Ongoing, it has been a pilot program across the company.

Future expansion capability: Program expansion at this site is easy since there are many existing block heater outlets that can be used by EV owners or better yet they can be replaced with Level 1 EVSEs.

Biggest challenges/learnings:

COST OF PROGRAM

Minimal costs. No direct budget for program and any ongoing cost is part of overall facilities management efforts.

Public charging availability nearby: There are four Eaton Level 2 EVSE spots within one mile of Xcel's building. The units feature free charging (must pay for parking).

