Xcel Energy is one of the fastest growing investor-owned transmission systems with more than 20,000 miles of transmission lines and more than 1,200 substations across 10 states, serving 22,000 megawatts of customer load.

Xcel Energy operates in three NERC reliability regions (MRO, SPP, WECC) and has assets in two Regional Transmission Organizations (MISO, SPP). The company has developed, owned, operated and maintained projects ranging from core 69 kilovolt (kV) to multi-regional 500 kV Extra High Voltage lines, including HVDC ties which interconnect the Western and Eastern interconnections.

A collaborator in transmission

Xcel Energy was a leader in creating CapX2020, a joint initiative of 11 investor-owned utilities, generation and transmission cooperatives, and municipal joint action agencies. CapX2020 upgraded and expanded the electric transmission grid in four states to: ensure continued reliable and affordable service; meet state and regional energy policy goals; and support a diverse generation mix, including renewable energy. The five CapX2020 projects are a $2 billion investment in 800 miles of 161, 230 and 345 kV transmission lines, the largest development of new transmission in the Midwest in nearly 40 years.

A core objective of CapX2020 was collaboration in the planning and execution of projects. CapX2020 has a unique management and ownership structure that guarantees each partner utility, regardless of size, equal representation, and oversight and decision making authority in the governance process.
Xcel Energy is an industry leader in transmission development, delivering projects at a lower average cost than our regional averages. We have strong internal expertise and resources in every aspect of the transmission business, including planning, engineering, construction, operations, maintenance and compliance. Xcel Energy has key materials and services alliances to ensure sufficient and timely external resources; and we have the ability to effectively blend both internal and external resources to best manage cost and risk on each project.

**Getting the job done**

Xcel Energy is focused on best value project delivery. This means being able to deliver and execute at a reasonable cost while meeting today’s increasing and evolving stakeholder expectations. We know what it takes to deliver projects on time and on budget.

Even in an emerging competitive transmission environment, Xcel Energy will continue to operate with our foundational principles of focusing on customer benefit and collaborating with partners and stakeholders. We are deeply engaged in regional transmission planning and policy. We build transmission with life-cycle performance and long-term relationships in mind.

The Power for the Plains transmission expansion is a series of transmission line projects that Xcel Energy is upgrading or building in its Texas and New Mexico service area aimed at expanding and updating the electric grid to improve reliability, meet demand and provide new renewable energy outlets.

As part of Power for the Plains, Xcel Energy has invested in over 800 miles of new transmission lines since 2011 in New Mexico, Texas and Oklahoma. More than 700 additional miles of transmission line is planned to be constructed through 2021.

Xcel Energy (NASDAQ: XEL) provides the energy that powers millions of homes and businesses across eight Western and Midwestern states. Headquartered in Minneapolis, the company is an industry leader in responsibly reducing carbon emissions and producing and delivering clean energy solutions from a variety of renewable sources at competitive prices. For more information, visit xcelenergy.com or follow us on Twitter and Facebook.