

Sheppard James J.
Form 4
December 30, 2011

FORM 4

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31, 2015
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Sheppard James J.

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
XCEL ENERGY INC [XEL]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
414 NICOLLET MALL

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
12/28/2011

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55401

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|-------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Price | | | |
| | | | | Code | V | Amount | (D) | Price |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SEC 1474
(9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. D S (I) |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|---|------------|
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|---|------------|

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| Derivative Security | | | Disposed of (D) | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | |
|---------------------|---|---------------------|----------------------|------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| | | | (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | (A) | | | | | (D) |
| Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | |
| Phantom Stock | | \$ 0 ⁽¹⁾ | 12/28/2011 | A | 868.936 | <u>(2)</u> | <u>(2)</u> | Common Stock | 868.936 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Sheppard James J. 414 NICOLLET MALL MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55401 | | X | | |

Signatures

| | |
|---|------------|
| Tara M. Heine, Attorney in fact for James J. Sheppard | 12/30/2011 |
| __Signature of Reporting Person | Date |

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Security converts to common stock on a one-for-one basis.
- (2) Shares of phantom stock are payable in shares of common stock following termination of a reporting persons service. Partial shares are payable in cash.
- (3) Includes 84.785 shares of stock acquired pursuant to reinvestment of dividends.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.
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