

XCEL ENERGY INC  
Form 4  
December 28, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 \*  
**OBRIEN RICHARD T**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

**6363 S. FIDDLERS GREEN  
CIRCLE, STE. 800**

(Street)

**GREENWOOD  
VILLAGE, CO 80111**

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
**12/28/2012**

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

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

**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 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)	Amount		Price

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

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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	2. Conversion or Exercise	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. D
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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
				Code	V				
Phantom Stock	\$ 0 <sup>(1)</sup>	12/28/2012		A	903.614	<sup>(2)</sup>	<sup>(2)</sup>	Common Stock	903.614

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
OBRIEN RICHARD T 6363 S. FIDDLERS GREEN CIRCLE STE. 800 GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80111	X			

Signatures

Tara M. Heine, Attorney in Fact for Richard T. O'Brien	12/28/2012
<sup>__</sup> 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 32.035 shares of stock equivalent units acquired pursuant to reinvestment of phantom stock 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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