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**LOBBYING REPORT**

Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (Section 5) - All Filers Are Required to Complete This Page

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                  |                                                  |                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Registrant Name<br><b>The Smith-Free Group</b>                                                                                                                                                                         |                                  |                                                  |                                    |
| 2. Registrant Address <input type="checkbox"/> Check if different than previously reported<br>Address <b>1401 K Street NW</b> <b>12th Floor</b><br>City <b>Washington</b> State/Zip (or Country) <b>DC 20005-3401 USA</b> |                                  |                                                  |                                    |
| 3. Principal Place of Business (if different from line 2)<br>City _____ State/Zip (or Country) _____                                                                                                                      |                                  |                                                  |                                    |
| 4. Contact Name<br><b>Robina Spruill-Lynch</b>                                                                                                                                                                            | Telephone<br><b>202-393-4760</b> | E-mail (optional)<br><b>rlynch@smithfree.com</b> | 5. Senate ID #<br><b>35800-354</b> |
| 7. Client Name <input type="checkbox"/> Self<br><b>Xcel Energy Service Inc.</b>                                                                                                                                           | 6. House ID #<br><b>30770034</b> |                                                  |                                    |

8. Year 2000 Midyear (January 1-June 30)  OR Year End (July 1-December 31)

9. Check if this filing amends a previously filed version of this report

10. Check if this is a Termination Report  >> Termination Date \_\_\_\_\_ 11. No Lobbying Activity

| INCOME OR EXPENSES - Complete Either Line 12 OR Line 13                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>12. Lobbying Firms</b></p> <p>INCOME relating to lobbying activities for this reporting period was:</p> <p>Less than \$10,000 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>\$10,000 or more <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> &gt;&gt; \$ <u>\$40,000.00</u><br/>Income (nearest \$20,000)</p> <p>Provide a good faith estimate, rounded to the nearest \$20,000 of all lobbying related income from the client (including all payments to the registrant by any other entity for lobbying activities on behalf of the client).</p> | <p><b>13. Organizations</b></p> <p>EXPENSES relating to lobbying activities for this reporting period were:</p> <p>Less than \$10,000 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>\$10,000 or more <input type="checkbox"/> &gt;&gt; \$ _____<br/>Expenses (nearest \$20,000)</p> <p><b>14. REPORTING METHOD.</b> Check box to indicate expense accounting method. See instructions for description of options.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Method A. Reporting amounts using LDA definitions only</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Method B. Reporting amounts under section 6033(b)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Method C. Reporting amounts under section 162(e) of the Internal Revenue Code</p> |

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date 02/08/2001

Printed Name and Title Alicia W. Smith - Senior VP & Corp. Secretary Page 1 of 2

Registrant Name: The Smith-Free Group

Client Name: Xcel Energy Service Inc.

**LOBBYING ACTIVITY.** Select as many codes as necessary to reflect the general issue areas in which the registrant engaged in lobbying on behalf of the client during the reporting period. Using a separate page for each code, provide information as requested. Attach additional page(s) as needed.

- 15. General issue area code ENG (one per page)
- 16. Specific Lobbying issues  
General Appropriations Issues

- 17. House(s) of Congress and Federal agencies contacted  Check if None  
House of Representatives  
Senate

18. Name of each individual who acted as a lobbyist in this issue area

| Name                    | Covered Official Position (if applicable) | New       |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <u>Free, James C.</u>   |                                           | <u>No</u> |
| <u>Hickmott, Robert</u> |                                           | <u>No</u> |
|                         |                                           |           |
|                         |                                           |           |
|                         |                                           |           |
|                         |                                           |           |
|                         |                                           |           |

- 19. Interest of each foreign entity in the specific issues listed on line 16 above  Check if None

Signature *Alicia W. Smith* Date 02/08/2001

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