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December 12, 2011

Ms. Donell Murphy
Project Manager
Environmental Resources Management
1701 Golf Road
Suite 1-1000
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008-4242

RECEIVED

DEC 13 2011

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**NDSHPO REF.: 11-0928 PSC Xcel Energy and Great River Energy
CapX2020 Fargo to St. Cloud 345kV Transmission Line Project "Class I
Literature Search and Class III Intensive Archaeological Investigation of the
CapX2020 Fargo to St. Cloud Project, Cass County, North Dakota"**

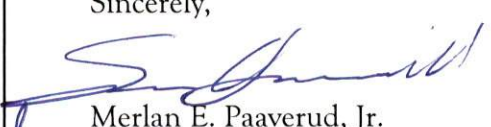
Dear Ms. Murphy,

We reviewed NDSHPO REF.: 11-0928 PSC Xcel Energy and Great River Energy CapX2020 Fargo to St. Cloud 345kV Transmission Line Project "Class I Literature Search and Class III Intensive Archaeological Investigation of the CapX2020 Fargo to St. Cloud Project, Cass County, North Dakota," and find the captioned report acceptable.

If consulted by a federal or state agency, we would concur with "No Historic Properties Affected" and "No Significant Sites Affected" determinations provided for the surveyed portions of the project, provided it remains as described and mapped in the report.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. We look forward to review of the remaining approximately 573 acres and the Bison Substation section of the project. If you have questions please contact Susan Quinnell at squinnell@nd.gov or (701) 328-3576.

Sincerely,


Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr.
State Historic Preservation Officer (North Dakota)
and
Director, State Historical Society of North Dakota

C: Mr. Patrick Fahn, PSC

47

PU-07-759 Filed: 12/13/2011 Pages: 1
Letter concurrence - no historic properties and no significant sites affected