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November 21, 2011

Mr. John Zuther
Assessor/ Zoning Administrator
Harmony Township
PO Box 23
Mapleton, ND 58059-0023

Re: CapX2020 Alexandria to Bison 345 kV Transmission Line
CUP and Variance Application

Dear Mr. Zuther,

Due to the growth of renewable energy development in North Dakota, primarily wind generation, and the need to transport the electrical energy to market, CapX2020 has proposed the construction of a 345 kV transmission line from a proposed Bison Substation in Harmony Township to Alexandria, Minnesota (see map). In order to meet the zoning requirements of Harmony Township, Xcel Energy on behalf of CapX2020 hereby makes application for:

- Conditional Use Permits (CUP) for the Bison Substation.

In addition to local governmental permits, a permit from the North Dakota Public Service Commission will be required to construct this project.

The proposed substation will require a CUP to be located within the Agricultural District per Section 5.1.3.5 of the Harmony Zoning Ordinance. The installation of the substation standards for a CUP as set out in Section 8.2.6 of the Ordinance as follows:

Section 8.2.6.1- The establishment, maintenance or operation of the substation will not be detrimental to or endanger the public health, safety, morals, comfort or general welfare.

Section 8.2.6.2 – That the uses, values, and enjoyment of other property in the neighborhood for purposes already permitted shall be in no foreseeable manner substantially impaired or diminished by the establishment, maintenance or operation of the substation. CapX2020 is in the process of purchasing the land where the substation will be located.

Section 8.2.6.3 – The establishment of the conditional use for the substation will not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of the surrounding property for uses permitted in the agricultural district. Adequate land is being purchased for the substation site to allow for buffer from adjoining land uses.



Section 8.2.6.4 – The project will provide for adequate utilities, access roads (temporary or existing), drainage and other necessary site improvements for the construction and maintenance of the substation.

Section 8.2.6.5 – Adequate measures have been or will be taken to provide ingress and egress so designed to minimize traffic impact on the area. The substation site will have a permanent drive way permitted for construction and continued use. After the substation facility has been constructed, maintenance traffic will be approximately one vehicle per week.

Section 8.2.6.6 – The substation will conform to all applicable regulations of the Agricultural District. By this application for a CUP for the substation, CapX2020 is submitting the project for review by the Township to ensure that it complies with all applicable regulations that do not conflict with CapX2020's public utility rights and obligation to construct and operate the substation.

Please review the enclosed submission and contact Stefan "Oly" Olafson, CapX2020 Right-of-Way Specialist, at 701-208-8855 if you need anything else to process the CUP and variance request. CapX2020 submits this application in compliance with the Township's statutory zoning authority which allows for review of these facilities so they meet applicable zoning requirements. However by this application, CapX2020 does not waive or subordinate its utility rights and obligations to develop and construct the proposed substation.

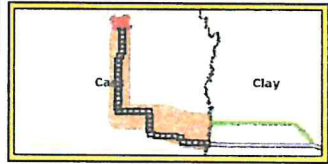
Sincerely,



David G. Callahan
Supervisor,
Siting & Land Rights
612/330-5951

Enclosures

cc: Jerry Lein, North Dakota Public Service Commission

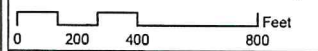


Legend

- Preliminary Pole Location
 - ~ Preliminary Alignment
 - ~ Preliminary Right-of-Way
 - ▭ Municipal Boundary
 - ▭ Township Boundary
 - ▭ Section Line
 - ▭ Parcel Boundary
 - Existing Substation
- Existing Transmission Line (kV)**
- ~ 345
 - ~ 250
 - ~ 230
 - ~ 115
 - ~ 69



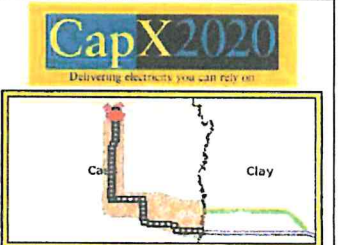
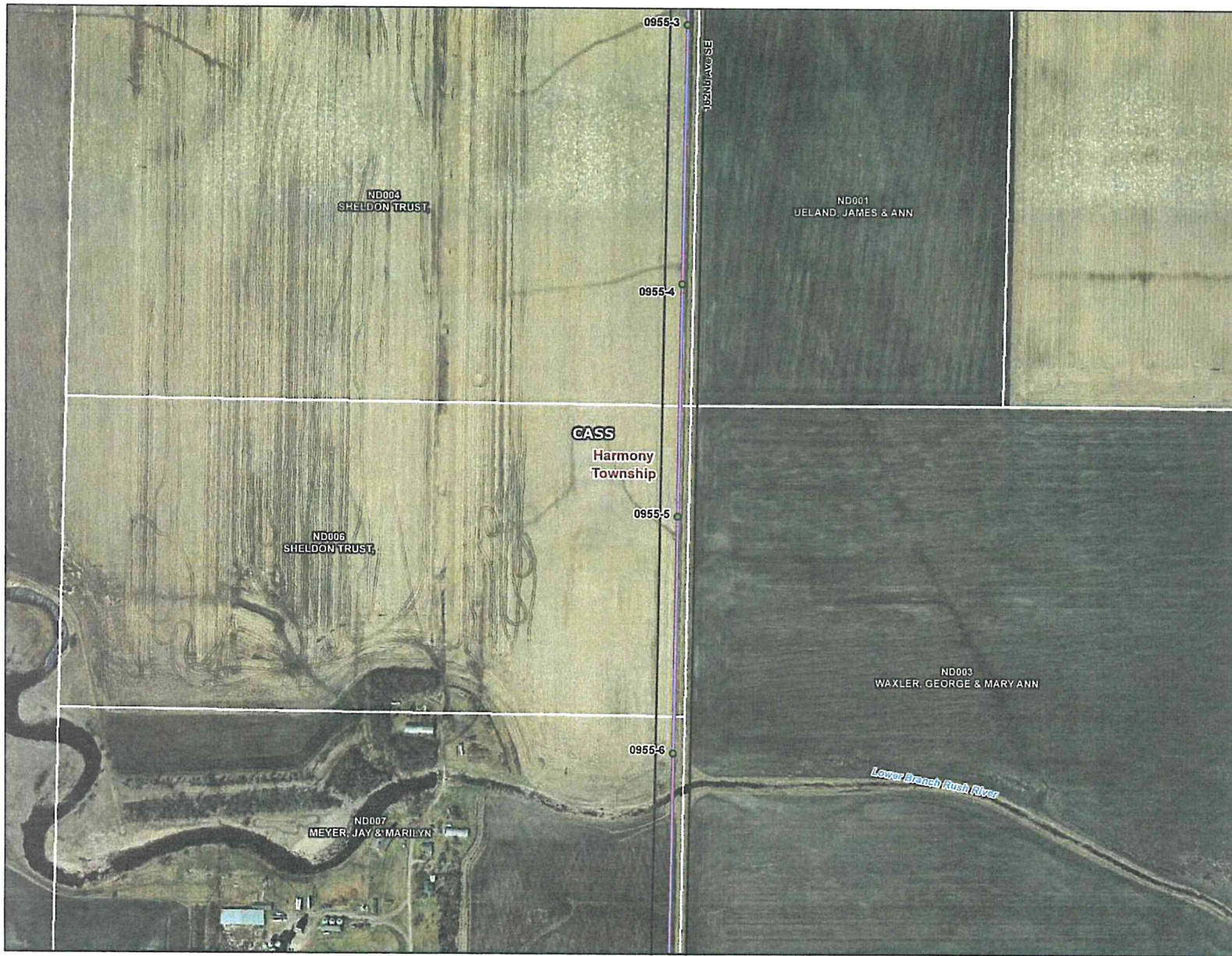
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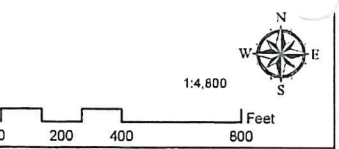
**Fargo to St. Cloud
345 kV Transmission
Line Project
ND Parcel Map**

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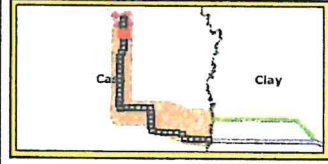
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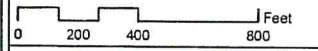
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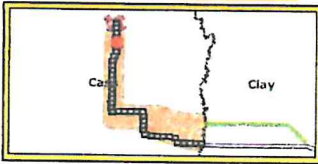
**Fargo to St. Cloud
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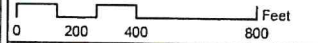
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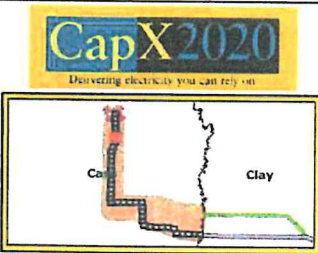
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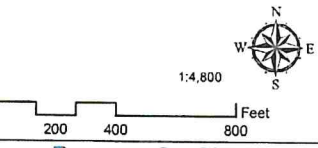
**Fargo to St. Cloud
 345 kV Transmission
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 ND Parcel Map**

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