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November 1, 2011

Mr. Mark Ottis
Chairman
Normanna Township
5350 166th Avenue SE
Kindred, ND 58051

Mr. Bob Staloch
Zoning Administrator
Normanna Township
3514 41st Avenue S
Fargo, ND 58104

Re: CapX2020 Alexandria to Bison 345 kV Transmission Line
Conditional Use Permits (CUP) and Variance Application

Dear Messrs. Ottis and Staloch,

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 Normanna Township to Alexandria, Minnesota (see map). In order to meet the zoning requirements of Normanna Township, Xcel Energy on behalf of CapX2020 hereby makes application for:

- CUP for the transmission line and property line and road right of way setback variances required for the transmission line structures as depicted on the enclosed information.

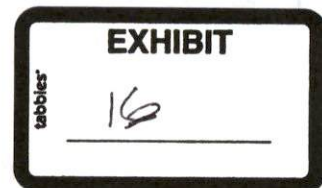
In addition to local governmental permits, a permit from the North Dakota Public Service Commission will be required to construct this project.

The proposed transmission line will require a CUP to be located within the Agricultural District per Section 4.1.1 of the Normanna Township Zoning Ordinance. The installation of the line and substation the 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 conditional use will not be detrimental to or endanger the public health, safety, morals, comfort or general welfare.

Section 8.2.6.2 – The uses, values and enjoyment of other property in the area for purposes already permitted shall be in no foreseeable manner substantially impaired or diminished by the establishment maintenance or operation of the conditional use.

Section 8.2.6.3 – The establishment of the conditional use for the will not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of the surrounding properties for uses permitted in the district.



Section 8.2.6.4 – The adequate utilities, access roads, drainage and other necessary site improvements have been or are being provided.

Section 8.2.6.5 – The adequate measures have been or will be taken to provide ingress and egress so designed to minimize traffic impact on the area.

Section 8.2.6.6 – The conditional use shall substantially conform to all applicable regulations of the district in which it is located.

In addition to the CUP permit requested above, there are several structure (pole) locations that are proposed to be on property lines or closer to the road right of way than the 100-foot setback required in Section 3.8 of the zoning code. This variance request is made on behalf of the landowners that farm the adjacent land as to meet the setbacks would impose a hardship on the tillage of their fields. As shown on the enclosed alignment maps, CapX2020 would propose that the centerline of the proposed transmission line would be located 8 feet off of the road right of way where the line parallels existing or statutory Township roads. It is not clear that these roads will ever be widened and if widened, would require a 100-hundred foot setback. If this is the case, then the hardship of placing these structures 100 feet into the cultivated field is the basis for the setback variance request.

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 these applications 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 transmission line and substation.

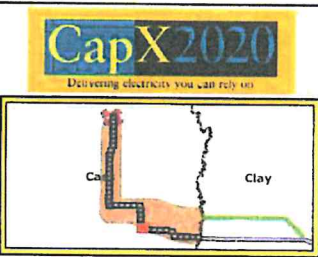
Sincerely,



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

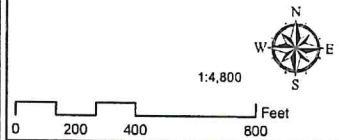
Enclosures

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

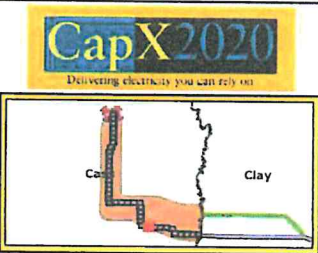
- Existing Transmission Line (kV)**
- ~ 345
 - ~ 250
 - ~ 230
 - ~ 115
 - ~ 69



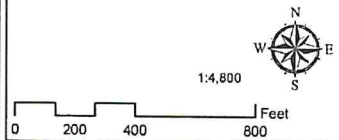
**Fargo to St. Cloud
345 kV Transmission
Line Project
ND Parcel Map**

DATE: 09/20/11 DRAWN BY: MLTEICHERT

Xcel 0122295 CapX Monticello to Fargo
GIS Fargo MLT 09/20/11 03 ND_Parcel1
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- Legend**
- Preliminary Pole Location
 - ~ Preliminary Alignment
 - ~ Preliminary Right-of-Way
 - ⬜ Municipal Boundary
 - ⬜ Township Boundary
 - ⬜ Section Line
 - ⬜ Parcel Boundary
 - Existing Substation
- Existing Transmission Line (kV)**
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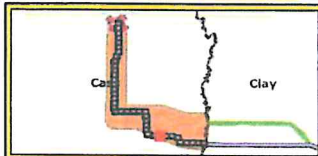


**Fargo to St. Cloud
345 kV Transmission
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ND Parcel Map**

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Xcel#122295 CapX Monticello to Fargo
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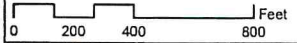
Legend

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- ⊕ Municipal Boundary
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**Fargo to St. Cloud
345 kV Transmission
Line Project
ND Parcel Map**

DATE: 09/20/11 DRAWN BY: MLTEICHERT

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