



February 21, 2025

Mr. Steve Kahl  
Director of Administration/Executive Secretary  
ND Public Service Commission  
State Capitol Building  
Bismarck, ND 58505

**RE: Notice of Intent to Construct, Own and Operate the Bison – Alexandria 345 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project**

Dear Mr. Kahl:

Northern States Power, doing business as Xcel Energy, Great River Energy, Minnesota Power, Otter Tail Power Company, and Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (collectively, Utilities) provide this notification to the North Dakota Public Service Commission (Commission) that the Utilities are electric public utilities that own the existing Bison – Alexandria 345 kV transmission line and are willing and able to construct, own and operate a second Bison – Alexandria 345 kV transmission line on the existing structures between the two endpoint substations.

On December 12, 2024, the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (MISO), a federally registered planning authority and regional transmission organization, approved its Long-Range Transmission Planning (LRTP) Tranche 2.1 portfolio of projects as part of its 2024 Transmission Expansion Plan (MTEP24). MISO's LRTP Tranche 2.1 portfolio is made up of 24 projects, including project number 19, the second Bison – Alexandria 345 kV transmission line and connected and associated underlying facilities (Project). The Project is designated as a Multi-Value Project under MISO's Open Access Transmission, Energy and Operating Reserve Markets Tariff (Tariff).

As part of the Project, a second 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line will be installed on the existing structures between the existing Bison Substation near Fargo, ND, owned by Xcel Energy and the existing Alexandria Substation owned by Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency near Alexandria, MN. Based on the current route of the existing 345 kV line between these substations, the Utilities expect that approximately 34 miles of this second 345 kV transmission line will be located in North Dakota while the remaining 102 miles will be in Minnesota.

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The Utilities are in the initial stages of development efforts for the Project and will update the Commission through future correspondence and/or filings.

Sincerely,

/s/ Bria Shea

Bria Shea  
Regional Vice President, Regulatory Policy  
Northern States Power Company

/s/ JoAnn Thompson

JoAnn Thompson  
Vice President, Asset Management  
Otter Tail Power Company

/s/ Priti Patel

Priti Patel  
Vice President & Chief Transmission Officer  
Great River Energy

/s/ Daniel Gunderson

Daniel Gunderson  
Vice President – Transmission and Distribution  
Minnesota Power

/s/ Terry Wolf

Terry Wolf  
Second Assistant Secretary  
Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency