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October 2, 2008

RECEIVED

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Members of the Public Service Commission
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard; Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Re: Case Number PU 08-48

Dear Members of the Public Service Commission:

As you are aware, Minnkota Power Cooperative is constructing a Generation Outlet Line from Pillsbury, ND to the Maple River Substation near Fargo, ND. The PSC granted to Minnkota a route permit and a corridor certificate after a public hearing before the PSC. Minnkota submits this letter for informational purposes and as a supplement to its weekly construction update in a desire to keep the Commission informed of its progress. Minnkota has determined there is a need for the temporary construction of a 69 kV line as described later in this letter. The temporary line is depicted on the attached aerial map.

Minnkota filed a condemnation case in Cass County District Court, Cass County, ND. It cannot construct the Generation Outlet on part of Section 12 of Raymond Township and part of Section 7 of Reed Township until the condemnation case is successfully resolved. Minnkota has determined that the condemnation case may not be concluded by December 31, 2008. As the Commissioners are aware, the federal Production Tax Credit is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2008. Minnkota, with the approval of the interconnection customers that own the wind generation now being constructed, has agreed to construct a 69 kV temporary line to ensure the generators and off-takers receive the maximum benefit of the PTC through continued production of energy. The 69 kV line will permit it to temporarily bypass the area concerned with the condemnation. The 69 kV line will only be constructed for 69 kV and will not have the ability to be upgraded to transport energy at 230 kV. In order for the windfarm generators and off-takers from the Generation Outlet to see the full value of the PTC, they must be in a position to commission wind turbines, but also to continually deliver energy. The plan is to obtain easements for use while the condemnation case is in progress, expecting the matter to be successfully resolved by 2009. Minnkota will remove the poles as soon as practicable after the condemnation is resolved and construction of the 230 kV Generation Outlet line is completed and energized.

Minnkota has determined it feasible and necessary to run the temporary 69 kV transmission line south from pole no. 494 in Section 12, Raymond Township, as indicated in the pole placement document as filed in PU-08-48. The 69 kV line would run south to the railroad tracks located in Section 24 of Raymond Township, then in a southeasterly direction along the railroad tracks to a point as shown on the attached map, then in a southerly direction to another point, and then finally crossing the west boundary of Section 19. The temporary line is about 2.5 miles in length. Minnkota will tap into an existing 69 kV line that continues on to the Maple River Substation. Minnkota has agents in the field soliciting temporary easements to accomplish its goal to construct this temporary 69 kV line. As indicated, the poles will be removed when there is no longer a need for this 69 kV line.

Very truly yours,

PEARCE & DURICK

By 

Jerome C. Kettleison
Phone: (701) 333-0104

JCK/ef



BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

APPLICATION TO THE NORTH DAKOTA)
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION FOR A)
WAIVER OF PROCEDURES AND TIMELINES,)
AND CONSOLIDATED CERTIFICATE OF)
CORRIDOR COMPATIBILITY AND ROUTE)
PERMIT, PILLSBURY-FARGO GENERATION)
OUTLET PROJECT)

Docket No. PU-08-48

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF BURLEIGH)

Evelyn Froebe, being first duly sworn on oath, does depose and say: That she is over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to the above-entitled matter;

That on the 2nd day of October, 2008, this affiant served a true and correct copy of the following document in the above-captioned action:

1. Letter to Public Service Commission of notification of temporary construction of a 69-kV line.

That copies of the above document were enclosed and secured in an envelope and addressed as follows:

Public Service Commission
State Capitol Building
600 E. Boulevard Avenue; Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Hand-Delivered – Original and 7 Copies

To the best of affiant's knowledge, information and belief, such address as given above was the actual post office address of the party intended to be so served.

That the above documents were duly served in accordance with the provisions of the North Dakota Rules of Civil Procedure.

Evelyn Froebe
Evelyn Froebe

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day of October, 2008.

Annette Kirschenheiter
Notary Public

