

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Allete, Inc.
230 kV Transmission Line – Morton/Oliver Counties
Siting Application**

Case No. PU-09-587

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY CERTIFIED MAIL

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
COUNTY OF BURLEIGH

Janet Marquart deposes and says that:

she is over the age of 18 years and not a party to this action and, on the **5th** day of **January, 2010**, she deposited in the United States Mail, at Bismarck, North Dakota, one envelope with certified postage, return receipt requested, fully prepaid, securely sealed and containing original of:

Notice of Filing and Notice of Hearing

The envelopes were addressed as follows:

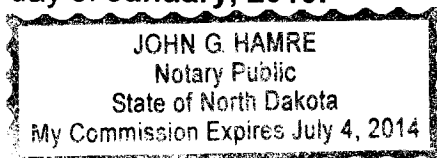
Mr David Moeller, Attorney
Minnesota Power
Allete Inc.
30 W Superior St
Duluth MN 55802-2093

Cert. No. 7009 1680 0001 2689 0704

Each address shown is the respective addressee's last reasonably ascertainable post office address.

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this **5th** day of **January, 2010**.

SEAL



Janet Marquart

John G. Hamre

Notary Public

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**NOTICE OF FILING AND NOTICE OF HEARING
December 31, 2009**

On October 6, 2009 and on December 14, 2009, Minnesota Power, an operating division of Allete, Inc., (Allete) filed an application for a waiver of procedures and time schedules, a corridor certificate and a route permit to authorize construction of 22.1 miles of 230 kV electric transmission line and associated facilities in Morton and Oliver Counties of North Dakota, as shown on the attached map.

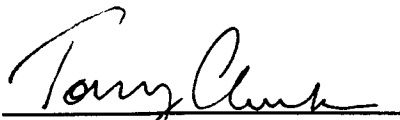
Minnesota Power requests the Commission waive procedures and time schedules set forth in North Dakota Century Code chapter 49-22 and North Dakota Administrative Code article 69-06 to allow for a single consolidated application for corridor certificate and route permit and to hold a combined hearing on the waiver request and application for corridor certificate and route permit.

A **Public Hearing** on the application is scheduled to begin **February 1, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. CST, at the Oliver County Court House, 115 Main Street, Center, North Dakota 59503**. The issues to be considered are:

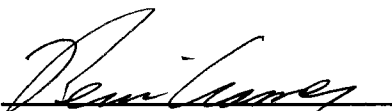
1. Will the location, construction, and operation of the proposed facilities produce minimal adverse effects on the environment and upon the welfare of the citizens of North Dakota?
2. Are the proposed facilities compatible with the environmental preservation and the efficient use of resources?
3. Will the proposed facility locations minimize adverse human and environmental impact while ensuring continuing system reliability and integrity and ensuring that energy needs are met and fulfilled in an orderly and timely fashion?
4. Is it appropriate for the Commission to waive procedures and time schedules as requested, including the request for a single consolidated application for corridor certificate and route permit?

For more information contact the Public Service Commission, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505, 701-328-2400; or Relay North Dakota, 1-800-366-6888 TTY. If you require any auxiliary aids or services, such as readers, signers, or Braille materials, please notify the Commission.

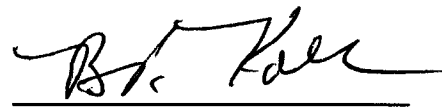
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



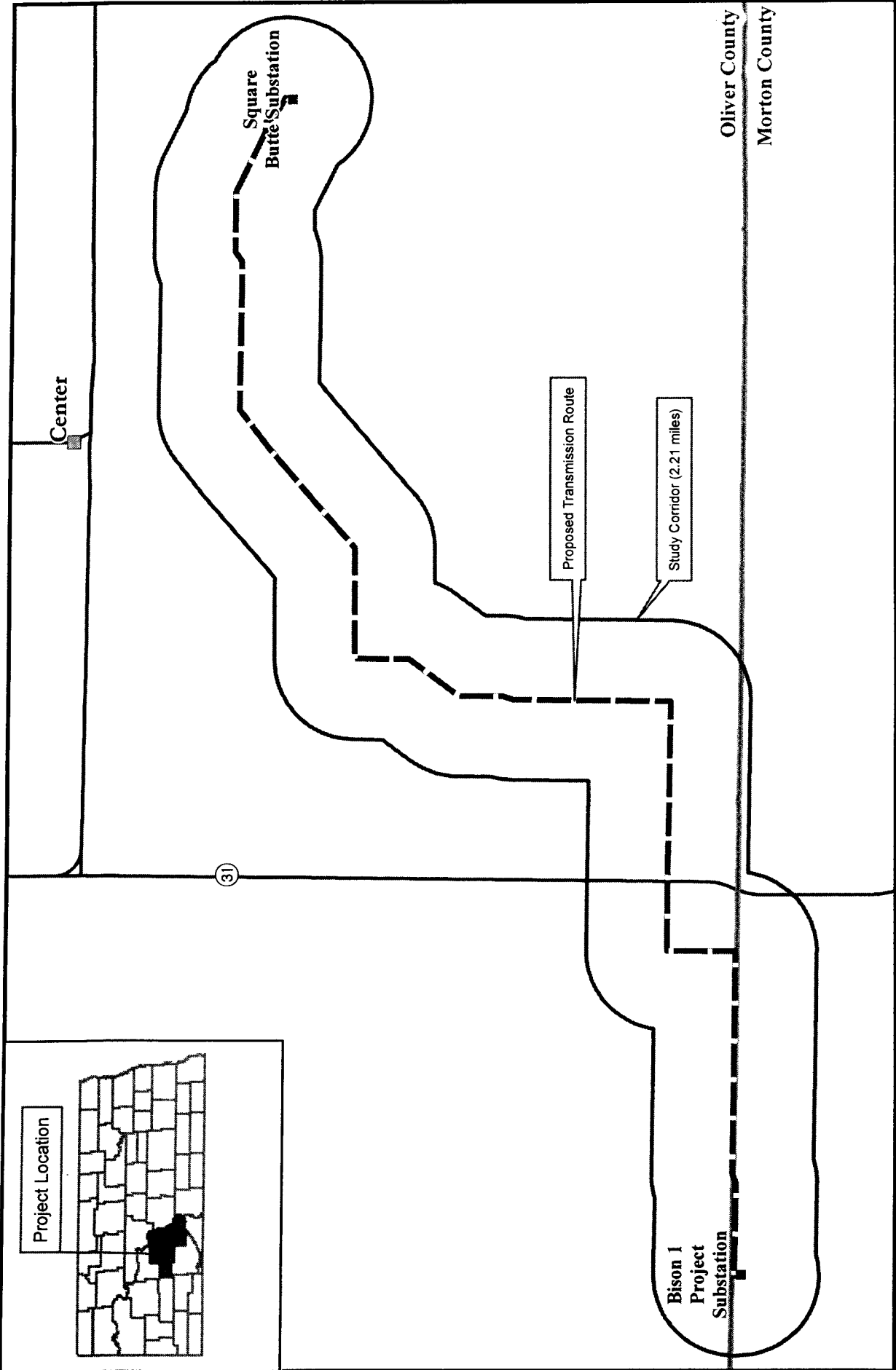
**Tony Clark
Commissioner**



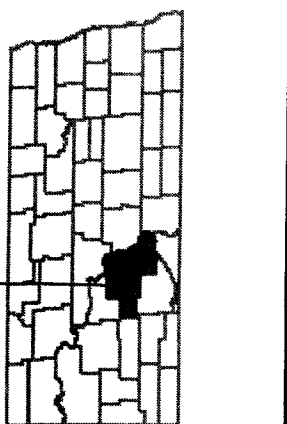
**Kevin Cramer
Chairman**



**Brian P. Kalk
Commissioner**



Project Location



Square Butte Substation

Center

31

Proposed Transmission Route

Study Corridor (2.21 miles)

Bison 1 Project Substation

Oliver County
Morton County