



Natural Resources Conservation Service
502 Hwy 2 W, Suite 1
Devils Lake, ND 58301

January 12, 2012

**Michael Swenson
Environmental Scientist
HDR Engineering, Inc.
701 Xenia Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55416-3636**

**Subject: Farmland Conversion Impact Rating
Minnkota Power Cooperative, Center to Grand Forks Transmission Line Project**

Dear Mr. Swenson,

I have reviewed the transmission line plans and AD-1006 that you sent to Jill Haakenson at out NRCS Devils Lake Area Office. Due to the minor acreage of prime farmland conversion (<5 acres total) over a distance of 250 miles and crossing numerous counties, our agency will not require the completion of the AD-1006. The primary environmental concerns in relation to the completion of this project are to:

- 1. Protect the natural hydrology and functions of any wetlands along or in proximity to the transmission line route.**
- 2. Minimize any negative impacts to the farmland soils – particularly surface soil erosion or soil compaction.**
- 3. Prevent any waste materials or chemicals used in construction of the project from being carried by runoff water into any natural watercourses that the project crosses..**

Please contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan R. Gulsvig".

**Alan R. Gulsvig
MLRA Soil Survey Leader
Ph. (701) 662-7967, ext. 155**