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February 16, 2012

Mr. Darrel Nitschke  
Executive Secretary  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 E. Boulevard Avenue, Department 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

**RE: Minnesota Power's Application for a Corridor Certificate  
and a Route Permit  
Southwest Oliver 230 kV Transmission Line  
Case No. PU-11-620**

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Enclosed please find 11 copies of the Conditional Use Permit issued by Oliver County Board of Commissioners dated February 3, 2012; the Certificate of Approval of a Conditional Use Zoning issued by the Board of Mercer County Commissioners dated January 2, 2012; and the Morton County Conditional Use Permit dated February 15, 2012 in the above-referenced case.

Please contact me at the number above should you have any questions related to this filing.

Yours truly,

David R. Moeller

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Enc.



# OLIVER COUNTY

PERMIT NO. 641

- BUILDING PERMIT
- OCCUPANCY PERMIT
- CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT
- TEMPORARY USE PERMIT
- OUTDOOR ADVERTISING PERMIT

GRANTED TO: Minnesota Power  
(APPLICANT)

FOR: 230 KV Transmission Line  
(USE)

LOCATION: Sec 31-35, T141N, R86W & Sec 31-36, T141N, R87W

With the understanding that the applicant will satisfy all conditions set forth in the Oliver County Zoning Ordinance and the applicant will satisfy any additional conditions deemed necessary by the Board of County Commissioners. Failure of the applicant to comply with these conditions will constitute a violation of the ordinance under section 18 and all penalties under section 18.3 apply..

ISSUED BY: Duane Halvorson DATE: 2-3-12  
(COUNTY COMMISSIONER)

RECEIVED BY: [Signature] DATE: 2/3/12  
(APPLICANT SIGNATURE)

COMMENTS: Fee = \$75<sup>00</sup> + \$5<sup>00</sup> / Acre over 10 Acres  
all within the ROW.

**MERCER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
STANTON, NORTH DAKOTA**

**CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL OF A CONDITIONAL USE  
ZONING CASE 11-11-01**

**ISSUED TO:** Allete/Minnesota Power  
30 West Superior Street  
Duluth, MN 55802

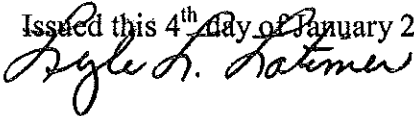
**CONDITIONAL USE:** To construct a 230 kilovolt (kV) overhead electrical transmission line, a 34.5/230 kV step-up substation and two potential transmission line structures.

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** A 30 acre site within the SE4 of Section 36, T141N, R88W, of the 5<sup>th</sup> Principle Meridian, Mercer County, ND

**PLANNING COMMISSION:** Recommended approval on December 15<sup>th</sup> 2011 subject to conditions listed below.

**REMARKS:** Planning commission asks for a signed purchase agreement, legal description, and a plat showing the location of the substation within the 30 acre tract. These requirements have been met.

Issued this 4<sup>th</sup> day of January 2012, by the Board of Mercer County Commissioners.



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Lyle L. Latimer, Chairman



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Monte J. Erhardt, County Auditor

COMMISSIONERS:

BRUCE STRINDEN, Chairman  
Mandan, ND

ANDY ZACHMEIER Vice Chairman  
Mandan, ND

MARK BITZ  
Mandan, ND

JAMES BOEHM,  
Mandan, ND

DICK TOKACH  
Mandan, ND

# MORTON COUNTY

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

210 2nd AVENUE NW  
MANDAN, NORTH DAKOTA 58554

DAWN R. RHONE, County Auditor



Morton County Conditional Use Permit for ALLETE, Inc – Southwest Oliver 230 kV Transmission Line.

Daniel McCourtney  
Environmental Compliance Planner  
Allete/Minnesota Power  
30 West Superior St  
Duluth MN 55802

Dear Mr. McCourtney

The Morton County Commissioners have granted on February 14, 2012 a Conditional Use Permit to construct a 230 kV overhead electrical transmission line (Southwest Oliver 230 kV Transmission Line). The proposed construction would include a 34.5/230 kV step-up substation (Tri-County 34.5/230 kV Substation) and two potential transmission line structures. The transmission line originates from the existing 34.5/230 kV Bison Substation in Morton County to the proposed Tri-County 34.5/230 kV Substation in Mercer County.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Belinda Eckroth". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B".

Belinda Eckroth  
Planning & Zoning Director

February 15, 2012