

**BASIN ELECTRIC
POWER COOPERATIVE**

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September 15, 2014

Darrell Nitschke
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505



Re: Case No. PU-11-696-AVS-Neset 345-kV
Case No. 10,144-AVS-Charlie Creek 345-kV
Case No. 9782-Double Circuit AVS-LOS & Single Circuit 345-kV AVS-Broadland

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

On July 23, 2014, Basin Electric Power Cooperative ("**Basin Electric**") filed an Amendment ("**Amendment**") in Case No. PU-11-696 regarding the AVS-Neset 345 kV Transmission Project ("**Project**") to be built by Basin Electric.

As you know from the recent filing, the Corridor/Route change identified as Route Change Number 1 in Case No. PU11-696 involves an area located just west of Basin Electric's existing Antelope Valley Substation in Mercer County. This area is highly congested due to three existing 345-kV transmission line interconnections converging into the AVS Switchyard. The three existing lines interconnecting into the AVS Switchyard are:

- AVS to Broadland (depicted in Red on the attached map)
- Double Circuit AVS to Leland Olds (depicted in Black on the attached map)
- AVS to Charlie Creek (depicted in Blue on the attached map)

The proposed Project (depicted in yellow) also requires interconnection to the AVS Switchyard. The proposed change, detailed in the Amendment includes approximately 2.5 miles where the proposed Corridor/Route will replace the existing AVS to Broadland 345-kV line route. The North Dakota Public Service Commission granted Basin Electric a Route Permit 20 on February 12, 1979 and Certificate of Site Compatibility 20 on February 12, 1979 for the AVS-Broadland Project.

Further, because of the Project, the existing AVS to Charlie Creek 345-kV line will need be relocated. The North Dakota Public Service Commission granted Basin Electric Route Permit 20 on February 12, 1979 and Certificate of Site Compatibility 35 on October 5, 1981. The existing AVS-Charlie Creek line will be relocated adjacent to the existing AVS to Broadland circuit on Right of Way that was originally intended for the Project. The AVS to Broadland circuit will then be double circuited with the relocated existing AVS to Charlie Creek line, making room for the proposed Project's circuit to occupy the vacated alignment. The existing AVS to Charlie Creek line will be relocated to avoid locating both the existing AVS to Charlie Creek and proposed Project on the same double circuit structures, as was previously proposed. This line swap is necessary to avoid future conflict with mining operations and maintain system reliability.

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Basin Electric is giving this notice to the PSC to inform them we will be performing the above described work in conjunction with the construction of the Project. In accordance with North Dakota Century Code 49-22-03 3(a)(3), please find enclosed a notarized certification that the above described work will not affect any known exclusion or avoidance area, as those terms are defined in N.D.A.C. 69-06-08-02(1) and (2), and that Basin Electric will comply with all applicable conditions and protections in siting laws and rules and commission orders previously issued.

If you need additional information regarding this, please contact me please contact me at cmiller@bepc.com or (701) 557-5635.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cris Miller".

Cris Miller
Sr. Environmental Project Specialist

cm/cjj/ds
enclosures

cc: Amanda Wangler
Casey Jacobson



