



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

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February 10, 2015

Cris Miller
Senior Environmental Project Specialist
Basin Electric Power Cooperative
1717 East Interstate Ave
Bismarck, ND 58503

Dear Mr. Miller:

Your January 26, 2015 letter provided a report to the Commission of damage to a communications cable operated by Consolidated Telephone as a result of the excavation for the AVS to Neset 345-kV transmission project.

As the portfolio holder for the siting of transmission lines and damage prevention, I want to personally encourage Basin Electric to optimize its role relating prevention of damage to underground facilities, including careful scrutiny of excavators, whether contractors or subcontractors, that will be utilized for construction and maintenance projects.

I applaud Basin Electric's response to this incident, its cooperation with Consolidated Telephone and its continued participation in the state's damage prevention principles.

If you have any questions, feel free to call.

Sincerely

Brian Kalk
Commissioner