



# Public Service Commission

## State of North Dakota

### COMMISSIONERS

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December 21, 2015

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Great River Energy  
Attn: Marsha Parlow, Transmission Permitting Analyst  
12300 Elm Creek Blvd  
Maple Grove, MN 55369-4718

**Re: Case No. PU-12-398  
Post Construction Inspection Report & Tree & Shrub Mitigation  
Follow-up**

As per the North Dakota Public Service Commission order and Certification Relating to Order Provisions, the Commission retains the right to conduct construction inspections. The North Dakota Public Service Commission retained a third-party vendor to conduct these inspections. Below we provide a weblink to the third-party post construction inspection report for your review and a link to the Commission's order in this proceeding. We also list actions recommended in the post construction inspection report for follow-up by the Company to confirm compliance with the Commission order.

As per the post construction inspection report, the following information should be provided:

- Verification of Nelson and Ramsey County – Floodplain Administrators approval/permits.
- Verification of removal of old transmission line structures.
- Verification of compliance with the National Electric Safety Code.

The construction report can be found at:

<http://www.psc.nd.gov/database/documents/12-0398/057-020.pdf>

The Commission Order can be found at:

<http://www.psc.nd.gov/database/documents/12-0398/039-010.pdf>

Additionally, as per the Tree & Shrub Mitigation requirements, the Company is to report on its mitigation efforts for a minimum of three years. The Commission notes that the Company filed a report in 2014 but has yet to file a 2015 report. The requirement is a 75 percent survival rate after three years and, annual reporting and, potentially additional plantings. Please provide an update on the status of the tree and shrub survival rates as per this project.

The Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications can be found at:  
<http://www.psc.nd.gov/database/documents/12-0398/037-010.pdf>

Please forward your response to the recommended Company actions, confirming these activities are complete, and describe actions and timelines for activities that are not complete. Please provide this documentation within 30 days.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at 701-328-1035.

Best regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Lein". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "L".

Jerry Lein  
Public Utility Analyst