

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Great River Energy
DC Line Clearance Issues
Siting Application

Case No. PU-13-900

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY CERTIFIED MAIL

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
COUNTY OF BURLEIGH

Cara DeSaye deposes and says that:

she is over the age of 18 years and not a party to this action and, on the 28th day of **March, 2014**, she deposited in the United States Mail, at Bismarck, North Dakota, **one** envelope with certified postage, return receipt requested, fully prepaid, securely sealed and containing a photocopy of:

Order Granting Variance

The envelope was addressed as follows:

Carole L. Schmidt
Great River Energy
12300 Elm Creek Boulevard
Maple Grove MN 55369-4718

Cert. No. 7013 2630 0001 2317 0798

The address shown is the respective addressee's last reasonably ascertainable post office address.

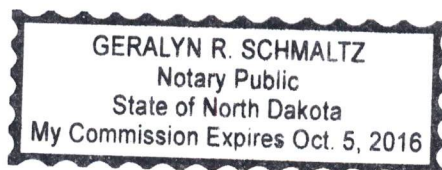


Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 28th day of **March, 2014**.



Notary Public

SEAL



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Affidavit of service cert. mail- Order

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
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ORDER GRANTING VARIANCE

March 26, 2014

On December 13, 2013 and January 10, 2014, Great River Energy filed a request for variance from Special Condition #4 of Route Permit No. 1 issued Dec 17, 1976 for GRE's 400 kV DC Line. Specifically, GRE requests a variance to allow the existing ground clearances of four conductor spans that are less than the minimum 35 feet required by Special Condition #4 of the permit:

Span Location	Existing Ground Clearance
Structures 64-65 T144N, R80W, S18, McLean County	34 feet
Structures 65-66 T144n, R80W, S19, McLean County	31.4 feet
Structures 137A-138 T143N,R77W, S30, Burleigh County	34.9 feet
Structures 236-237 T141N, R74W, S24, Kidder County	34.8 feet

On January 14, 2014 the Commission issued a notice of opportunity for hearing, which provided until February 28, 2014 for receiving written comments and hearing requests. No response was received. The Notice identified the issue to be considered in this proceeding as whether the requested variance should be granted.

Having considered this matter, the Commission finds the existing ground clearances are in compliance with the National Electric Safety Code and the cost to increase the clearances to 35 feet as required by the permit are excessive. Therefore, the requested variance should be granted.

Order

The Commission Orders Great River Energy's request for variance is granted.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Randy Christmann
Commissioner



Brian P. Kalk
Chairman



Julie Fedorchak
Commissioner