

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Northern States Power Company
230/115 kV 336 MVA Transformer – Prairie Substation
Public Convenience and Necessity**

Case No. PU-14-126

ORDER GRANTING CERTIFICATE

May 28, 2014

On March 14, 2014, Northern States Power Company (NSP) filed an application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to add a transformer to NSP's Prairie Substation and extend 230 kV electric transmission line a distance of approximately 1,100 feet to interconnect with Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc.'s Prairie Substation in Grand Forks County, North Dakota.

On March 26, 2014, the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing, which provided until April 30, 2014 for receiving written comments or requests for hearing. No response was received. The notice identified the following issues to be considered:

1. Whether public convenience and necessity will be served by construction and operation of the facilities.
2. Whether the applicant is fit, willing, and able to provide service.

NSP is a Minnesota corporation duly authorized to conduct business in North Dakota as a public utility subject to the jurisdiction and regulation of this Commission. NSP is an experienced regional generation, transmission and distribution utility with the expertise and resources to construct the proposed 230 kV transmission line extension. NSP is fit, willing and able to provide service.

NSP's Grand Forks Load Serving Study indicates the best solution for area voltage issues is to install a new 230/115 kV 336 MVA transformer at NSP's Prairie Substation and approximately 1,100 feet of 230 kV transmission line to interconnect the substation with Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc.'s Prairie Substation located outside the city of Grand Forks in Brenna Township. Public convenience and necessity will be served by construction and operation of these facilities.

Order

The Commission Orders:

1. The application of Northern States Power Company for a certificate of public convenience and necessity is GRANTED.
2. Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 5831 is issued to Northern States Power Company to construct and operate approximately 1,100 feet of 230 kV transmission line and associated facilities necessary to interconnect the Prairie Substations in Grand Forks County.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



**Randy Christmann
Commissioner**



**Brian P. Kalk
Chairman**



**Julie Fedorchak
Commissioner**

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**

**Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
Certificate Number 5831**

This is to certify that public convenience and necessity require, and permission is granted for Northern States Power Company to construct and operate approximately 1,100 feet of 230 kV transmission line and associated facilities necessary to interconnect its Prairie Substation with Minnkota Power Cooperative's Prairie Substation located in Brenna Township, Grand Forks County, North Dakota.

This certificate is issued in accordance with the Order of this Commission dated May 28, 2014 in Case No. PU-14-126, and is subject to the conditions and limitations noted in the Order.

This certificate is conditioned upon Northern States Power Company securing the franchise or other authority of the proper municipal or other public authority for the exercise of these rights and privileges.

Bismarck, North Dakota, May 28, 2014.

ATTEST:

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Executive Secretary



Commissioner