

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**Knife River Corporation
Variance, Permit KRGC-8404
Application**

Case No. RC-14-314

**VARIANCE TO THE PERFORMANCE BOND LIABILITY
PERIOD OF A SURFACE COAL MINING PERMIT**

July 30, 2014

Based on the application received on June 5, 2014, a variance to the Ten-Year Performance Bond Liability Period for a portion of Permit Number KRGC-8404 is hereby granted to the Knife River Corporation to combine the performance bond responsibility period for the reclaimed land that was redisturbed to improve drainage with that of the surrounding reclamation tracts on the following described areas:

Approximately 4.0 acres of reclaimed cropland within a tract of reclaimed cropland located in the NW1/4 of Section 33, T131N, R99W, Bowman County.

Based on the application for the variance to Permit Number KRGC-8404 and all information and documentation contained therein, the North Dakota Public Service Commission finds that:

1. The Knife River Corporation has affirmatively demonstrated that reclamation of the areas redisturbed in 2010 will provide equal or greater protection to the environment and to public health and safety;
2. The Commission has determined that all areas are reclaimed and vegetation is established as required by the approved reclamation plan; and
3. The Knife River Corporation must satisfy all reclamation success standards described in NDAC Chapter 69-05.2-22 when final bond release is requested.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Randy Christmann
Commissioner


Brian P. Kalk
Chairman


Julie Fedorchak
Commissioner