



414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

January 21, 2019

Darrell Nitschke  
Executive Secretary  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
Department 408  
600 East Boulevard  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

**Re: Project Update Case No. PU-17-102  
Northern States Power Company  
230 kV Transmission Line - McHenry & Ward Counties**

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

The purpose of this letter is to submit a project update and to present planned remedies for issues included in the As-Built Construction Inspection Report furnished by Interstate Engineering in November 2018.

Project Updates:

As-Built Filing – We are currently in final phases of preparing as-built drawings for the project. We expect these drawings and mapping to be filed in the coming weeks.

Tree Mitigation – We have contracted with the Ward County Soil Conservation District to plant the required mitigation trees and to provide three years of monitoring. Trees will be planted in the spring of 2019.

Additional Information Related to the As-Built Construction Inspection Report:

Section 4 of the inspection report indicated that there were three areas of concern documented in photos 48, 56 and 64. Northern States Power and Great River Energy will address these areas as follows.

- Photo 48 (Structure 187) – This photo shows an overturned kitchen chair in next to Structure 187. This chair was not onsite during construction activity (i.e. installation of foundation, structure/conductor installation) or at the time of site of restoration. Structure 187 is adjacent to 37th Ave SE and chair may be debris from roadway traffic; regardless, Xcel will remove the chair and dispose of at this location.
- Photo 56 – This is a photo looking south of the McHenry Substation, owned by Great River Energy. Great River Energy will clean up small piles of brush and/or debris

seen in the picture. The berms shown in the picture were there prior to the project and will remain. Any disturbed areas on the berms will be stabilized.

- Photo 64 (Structure 1) – This is a photo of a stockpile that is a result of Structure 1 foundation installation. The landowner requested that the spoil pile be left adjacent to foundation on their property for landowner use. This stockpile has been stabilized and bio-logs installed around the stockpile to prevent sedimentation. Bio-logs will be removed in spring if pile is stabilized.

Please feel free to contact me at (612) 330 5835 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Hillstrom". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "T".

Tom Hillstrom

Enclosures

Cc: Jerry Lein- NDPSC  
Veronica Meyer – Interstate Engineering  
Joe Samuel – Xcel Energy (Northern States Power)  
Marsha Parlow – Great River Energy