



January 28, 2020

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

**Subject: Northern States Power Company - Minot Load Serving Project-
Submittal of Tree Mitigation Monitoring Report – Year 1
Case No PU-17-102**

Dear Mr. Kahl:

Enclosed with this letter is a Tree and Shrub Mitigation Monitoring Report for the Minot Load Serving Project. The Project was approved by the North Dakota Public Service Commission on October 4, 2017 under Corridor Certificate Number 200 and Route Permit Number 211 (Case No. PU-17-102). The tree and shrub mitigation plan required submittal of monitoring reports for three years after planting. Attached is the monitoring report for the first year monitoring after planting.

Planting and monitoring is being provided by Ward County Soil Conservation District. After evaluating first year survival district staff indicated that one of the planting sites (Curt Lee) had poor survival and that they would work with Mr. Lee to replace some of the non-surviving trees.

Tree mitigation for trees removed at the McHenry Substation site was performed by Great River Energy. Those replacement trees were planted last fall and will be monitored by Great River Energy. First year monitoring for trees planted at the McHenry Substation has not yet been completed.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to me at 612-330-5835 or by email at thomas.hillstrom@xcelenergy.com.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T Hillstrom', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Thomas Hillstrom

cc: Jerry Lein

TREE PLANTING REPORT FORM

Fill out for each planting site.

Cooperator Craig Saugstad

Planting Location: Quarter NE Sec. 4 TWP. 154 RG. 82

Check Date _____

Starting Time _____ Finish Time _____

Temperature (daytime high) _____

Cloud Cover	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clear	<input type="checkbox"/>	Partly Cloudy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cloudy
Humidity	<input type="checkbox"/>	High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Low
Wind Speed	<input type="checkbox"/>	High	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Low
Soil Moisture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dry

Planting Date

Type of Planting Farmstead Field Wildlife _____

Soil Type (s) F 576A Suitability Group 5

Species	Age Class	Number of Trees Planted	Package Date	Tree Survival Date	# Survived
CBS	2-2	30		12/5/19	28
BHS	2-2	30			29
Common Hackberry		16			8
Green Ash		17			17
Common Chokecherry		27			23
Pear		27			26

Comments: Trying different tree in place of Hackberry 89%

TREE PLANTING REPORT FORM

Fill out for each planting site.

Cooperator Marlo Stromberg

Planting Location: Quarter S1/2 Sec. 4 TWP. 156 RG. 84

Date 12/5/19

Starting Time _____ Finish Time _____

Temperature (daytime high) <u>80.5</u>					
Cloud Cover	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clear	<input type="checkbox"/>	Partly Cloudy	<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	Cloudy
Humidity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	High	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	Low
Wind Speed	<input type="checkbox"/>	High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	Low
Soil Moisture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wet	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
					Dry

Type of Planting Farmstead Field Wildlife _____

Soil Type (s) F55A Suitability Group _____

Species	Age Class	Number of Trees Planted	Package Date	Tree Survival Date	# Survived
BHS	2-2	426		12/5/19	206

Comments: 48%

TREE PLANTING REPORT FORM

Fill out for each planting site.

Cooperator Warren Colby

Planting Location: Quarter SW Sec. 24 TWP. 153 RG. 79

check Date 11/14

Starting Time 12:40 Finish Time 1:15

Planting Date

Temperature (daytime high) _____						
Cloud Cover	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clear	<input type="checkbox"/>	Partly Cloudy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cloudy
Humidity	<input type="checkbox"/>	High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Low
Wind Speed	<input type="checkbox"/>	High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Low
Soil Moisture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dry

Type of Planting Farmstead Field Wildlife _____

Soil Type (s) G751B, G738C Suitability Group 2KK

Species	Age Class	Number of Trees Planted	Package Date	Tree Survival Date	# Survived
CBS	2-2	168		11/14	142
BHS	2-2	168		11/14	142

Comments: 85% overall

TREE PLANTING REPORT FORM

Fill out for each planting site.

Cooperator Curt Feist

Planting Location: Quarter _____ Sec. _____ TWP. _____ RG. _____

Check Date 11/14

Starting Time _____ Finish Time _____

Temperature (daytime high) _____						
Cloud Cover	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clear	<input type="checkbox"/>	Partly Cloudy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cloudy
Humidity	<input type="checkbox"/>	High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Low
Wind Speed	<input type="checkbox"/>	High	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Low
Soil Moisture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dry

Type of Planting Farmstead Field Wildlife _____

Soil Type (s) _____ Suitability Group _____

Species	Age Class	Number of Trees Planted	Package Date	Tree Date	Survival # Survived
BHS	2.2	200		11/14	142

Comments: 71%

TREE PLANTING REPORT FORM

Fill out for each planting site.

Cooperator John Thomas

Planting Location: Quarter NE Sec. 4 TWP. 153 RG. 80

Check Date 11/14

Starting Time _____ Finish Time _____

Planting Date

Temperature (daytime high) _____

Cloud Cover	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clear	<input type="checkbox"/>	Partly Cloudy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cloudy
Humidity	<input type="checkbox"/>	High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Low
Wind Speed	<input type="checkbox"/>	High	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Low
Soil Moisture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dry

Type of Planting Farmstead Field Wildlife _____

Soil Type (s) F160B, F143C Suitability Group 3

Species	Age Class	Number of Trees Planted	Package Date	Tree Survival Date	# Survived
BHS	2-2	469		11/14	426

Comments: 9290

TREE PLANTING REPORT FORM

Fill out for each planting site.

Cooperator Curt Lee

Planting Location: Quarter SW Sec. 11 TWP. 153 RG. 80

Check Date 11/14

Starting Time _____ Finish Time _____

Planting Date

Temperature (daytime high) _____						
Cloud Cover	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clear	<input type="checkbox"/>	Partly Cloudy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cloudy
Humidity	<input type="checkbox"/>	High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Low
Wind Speed	<input type="checkbox"/>	High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Low
Soil Moisture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dry

Type of Planting Farmstead Field Wildlife _____

Soil Type (s) F160B Suitability Group 1

Species	Age Class	Number of Trees Planted	Package Date	Tree Survival Date	# Survived
Ponderosa Pine	3-0	478		11/14	78

Comments: 16%