

December 10, 2024

VIA E-MAIL AND FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Steven Kahl
Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

**RE: In the Matter of the Consolidated Application of Minnesota Power, an operating division of ALLETE, Inc., for a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and Route Permit for a HVDC Modernization Project in Oliver County, North Dakota
Case No. PU-24-____**

and

**In the Matter of the Consolidated Application of Great River Energy for a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and Route Permit for a HVDC Modernization Project in Oliver County, North Dakota
Case No. PU-24-____**

Dear Mr. Kahl:

Pursuant to North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) §§ 49-22-07 and 49-22-08.2, Minnesota Power, an operating division of ALLETE, Inc., and Great River Energy (together, Applicants) submit to the North Dakota Public Service Commission (Commission) an original and six (6) copies of a consolidated application (Consolidated Application) for a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and Transmission Facility Route Permit for a High-voltage Direct-Current (HVDC) Modernization Project (Project) for each of the above-referenced dockets (in total, 14 copies are enclosed).

The Applicants are also submitting with this Consolidated Application an original and six (6) copies of a request for waiver of procedures and time schedules pursuant to NDCC § 49-22-07.2 (Waiver Request) in each docket (in total, 14 copies are enclosed). As discussed in the Waiver Request, the Project is of such length, design, location, and purpose that it will produce minimal adverse effects and, therefore, the Applicants request that the PSC issue a notice of opportunity for hearing and only conduct a public hearing in the event that a request is properly made and granted by the Commission.

1 PU-24-381 Filed 12/11/2024 Pages: 604
Consolidated Application for a Certificate of
Corridor Compatibility and Route Permit and
Waiver or Reduction of Procedures and Time Schedules
Minnesota Power & Light
Mollie Smith, Fredrikson&Byron, P.A.

1 PU-24-382 Filed 12/11/2024 Pages: 604
Consolidated Application for a Certificate of
Corridor Compatibility and Route Permit and
Waiver or Reduction of Procedures and Time Schedules
Great River Energy
Mollie Smith, Fredrikson&Byron, P.A.

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Also enclosed are: (1) a check in the amount of \$150,000 for Minnesota Power's filing fee; (2) a check in the amount of \$26,000 for Great River Energy's filing fee; and (3) a USB drive containing GIS data (public) in shapefile format in projected coordinate system NAD 1983 UTM Zone 14N (WKID 26914).


Per discussions with Commission Staff, the Applicants understand the preference is to have separate dockets for each of the Applicants for ease of reference in the future, but that the Consolidated Application, Waiver Request, and all subsequent filings will be processed together. Therefore, along with the hard copies, electronic copies of the enclosed documents and this letter were filed in each of the above-referenced dockets and future submissions will be filed in each docket.

By copy of this letter, the Oliver County Auditor is being served with a copy of the enclosed documents in accordance with NDAC § 69-06-05-01(4). An Affidavit of Service on the county auditor will be provided under separate cover.

Unredacted, NON-PUBLIC versions of the cultural resource inventory report (Appendix F to the Consolidated Application) and associated GIS data will be provided under separate cover with an Application for Protection of Information.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mollie M. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

MOLLIE M. SMITH

MMS/ms/84462759
Enclosures

cc: Jaden Schmidt, Oliver County Auditor
Victor Schock (via e-mail only)
Brian Johnson (via e-mail only)