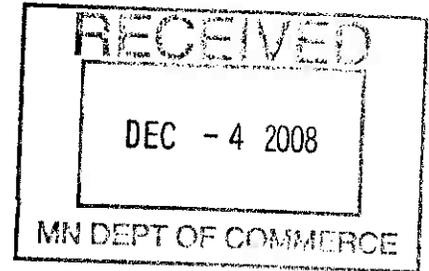


November 19, 2008

Chris DeVries
713 23rd North St
New Ulm, MN 56073
(507)354-7512



Scott Ek
State Planning director
Energy Facility Permitting

Dear Mr. Ek,

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns at the open house meeting that was held on Wednesday, November 19, 2008 regarding the West New Ulm to Fort Ridgely Transmission Line rebuild.

One of my concerns with this type of project is that it involves rebuilding a transmission line in a very residential neighborhood. Currently the power line that runs in front of my house and several other homes along 23rd North St. is approximately 47 feet from the front of the house to the center of the pole. The new proposed pole with the eight foot arms would put three more lines on each side of the pole carrying more voltage. This addition would put the power lines only 39 feet from the front of our homes. This puts the lines out of the right of way by at least a couple of feet, causing them to over hang a sidewalk and private property.

Thirty-nine feet does not seem like a safe distance for this type of transmission line to be running through a residential neighborhood. With children and others using the sidewalks and their yards on a daily basis, I am very concerned about possible health concerns. What if one of these lines was to go down in a storm? If they do go down are the lines still "hot"? How much of the Electro Magnetic Field does a line like this produce? What are the health concerns of EMF's and power lines carrying high voltage continuously? If there is no conclusive evidence of EMF's and power lines causing health problems, yet there are doubts, why even take the chance with people's health?

When this line was established, the area of 23rd North was not a residential area. It was fields and trees with a few homes. The existing road was a minimum maintenance road. The land rights dated back to the 1920's for the right of way and are very vague. Now the area is a very populated and a very residential neighborhood.

I am also concerned that the new proposed lines will decrease my property values by creating aesthetic, and health and safety issues. Most people would have the same issues looking at a house with a 115 kV transmission line running in front of it: health, safety, & resale concerns. This would adversely affect my ability to sell and receive a fair price for my home. If this new line is to go through, this will be impacting my life, family,

neighbors, and our properties. Will there be just compensation? What is fair compensation?

With the above concerns being expressed I would like you to consider the two proposed mapped routes that Tim Anderson and myself showed you at the open house meeting. One proposed line along Boundary Street is approximately the same in length as the existing line and does not impact as many people. The second route would continue along a line that would parallel Traulich Estates and along the 22nd North Street. These two routes would allow the project to establish a row corridor more appropriate for an 115KV transmission line and allowing for future growth of the city of New Ulm and future upgrades to the transmission line.

Thank you for your time. Please keep me informed about any new developments in regards to this rebuild.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris DeVries". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Chris DeVries

09-09-08

Objection to Xcel Transmission Line Rebuild Along 23rd North St. New Ulm, MN

We the undersigned, object to the placement of the Xcel Transmission Line Rebuild along the 23rd Street Corridor for the following reasons.

- The proposed line rebuild will put the new lines closer to homes and overhang private property.
- The land rights or the right of ways date back to the 1920's before this area became residential.
- Possible health and safety concerns with high voltage lines in close proximity to residents.
- Now would be the time to move and realign the proposed rebuild to a better and more suitable location for such a line upgrade.
- Possible decreased property values.

Erica DeVries	Karen A. Traulich
Ch. Skov	dean dea link
Stuart Hudakamp	Don Kayser
W. B.	Carol Sue like my
Maria Schreeber	
Donna Wilkerson	
Elen Humming	
Shelly Murphy	
Bruce Murphy	
J. B.	
Kelsey Brennan	
Scott Roloff	
Jane Kallay	
Bludys Le Pare	
Richard Le Pare	
K. J.	
W. B.	
Maura C. Anderson	

September 21, 2008

A copy of the enclosed petition is being mail to the following people.

Todd Olsen
New Ulm City Council Member
507-359-7093

Pat Wrase
City of New Ulm
507-359-8380

Gary J. Gleisner
Director of Utilities
New Ulm Public Utilities
507-359-8264

Joe Sedorski
Senior Project Manager
Westwood Professional Services
7699 Anagram Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55344
952-906-7405

Scott Ek
Minnesota Department of Commerce, Office of Energy Security
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101
1-800-657-3794

Tim Rogers
Xcel Energy
414 Nicollet Mall MP-8A
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Thank you for your time

Chris DeVries

**Milford Township
27332 187th Avenue
New Ulm, MN 56073-4071**

Supervisors

Leon Haubrich
Frederick Juni
Michael Dove

Town Clerk

Tom Giefer

Town Treasurer

Verne Radloff

Via E-Mail

Mr. Brian Mielke
Right-of-Way Agent
Siting and Land Rights Dept.
Xcel Energy
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401
brian.d.mielke@xcelenergy.com

Mr. David Birkholz
Public Advisor
Officer of Energy Security
85 – 7th Place East
Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
david.birkholz@state.mn.us

Mr. Tim Rogers
Xcel Energy
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401
timothy.g.rogers@xcelenergy.com

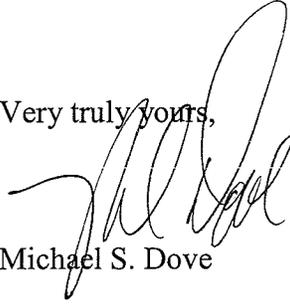
Re: West New Ulm to Fort Ridgely 115/69 Kilovolt Transmission Line Rebuild Project
E-002/TL-08-956
Our File No. 10554-000 -- Milford Township – General Matters

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find the comments provided to Scott Ek in connection with the above-referenced matter.

Thank you for your attention.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael S. Dove". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and "D".

Michael S. Dove

MSD:kkg

Enc.

cc: Mr. Leon Haubrich (w/enc.)
Mr. Frederick Juni (w/enc.)
Mr. Tom Giefer (w/enc.)

NULIB:321230.1



85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
main: 651.296.4026 tty: 651.296.2860 fax: 651.297.7891
www.commerce.state.mn.us

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
ENERGY FACILITY PERMITTING
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING COMMENT FORM**

**West New Ulm to Fort Ridgely 115/69 Kilovolt
Transmission Line Rebuild Project**

Name: Milford Township
Address: 27332 - 187th Avenue
City: New Ulm State: MN ZIP: 56073

Please share your comments on the potential impacts, mitigation measures and alternative routes to be considered in the scoping document and environmental assessment to be prepared for the proposed Xcel Energy, West New Ulm to Fort Ridgely 115/69 Kilovolt High Voltage Transmission Line Rebuild Project.

Turn this form in tonight or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to Scott Ek, Project Manager at: scott.ek@state.mn.us with **E-002/TL-08-956** in the subject line. **Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, December 5, 2008.**

See attached letter

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Milford Township
27332 187th Avenue
New Ulm, MN 56073-4071**

Supervisors

Leon Haubrich
Frederick Juni
Michael Dove

Town Clerk

Tom Giefer

Town Treasurer

Verne Radloff

Via E-Mail

scott.ek@state.mn.us

Mr. Scott Ek
Project Manager
Officer of Energy Security
85 – 7th Place East
Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Re: West New Ulm to Fort Ridgely 115/69 Kilovolt Transmission Line Rebuild Project
E-002/TL-08-956
Our File No. 10554-000 -- Milford Township – General Matters

Dear Mr. Ek:

The Milford Township Board of Supervisors (the “Town Board”) submits this reply with respect to potential impacts, mitigation measures and alternative routes to be considered in the scoping document and environmental assessment to be prepared for the proposed Xcel Energy, West New Ulm to Fort Ridgely 115/69 Kilovolt Transmission Line Rebuild Project (the “Substation”). The Town Board met and has formally adopted and approved this submission.

First, the Town Board is extremely disappointed that it did not receive any written notification from the State of Minnesota and/or Xcel Energy with respect to the public meeting held on November 19, 2008, regarding the permitting process for the Substation. Thankfully, Brian Mielke provided Leon Haubrich, the Town Board Chair, certain information after the public meeting.

I. THE TOWN BOARD OPPOSES THE PROPOSED SITE

The Town Board formally opposes the proposed site as described in the written materials presented at the public information meeting. The Town Board’s opposition to the proposed site is premised on the following:

1. The proposed site is prime agricultural land. Given the volatility of the commodity markets and agricultural production, it is vital to maintain and sustain as much agricultural land for production as possible.

2. The proposed site is in the City of New Ulm's proposed expansion corridor. It is undisputed that the growth corridor for the City of New Ulm is westward along Highway 14. The proposed site has the potential to impede an orderly development and expansion of the City of New Ulm westward. Highway 14 is "the" main road and business thoroughfare to the City of New Ulm. While it may be a certain period of time before expansion would reach the proposed site, it is undisputed that the growth corridor is westward from New Ulm. Accordingly, the proposed site causes potential disruption to growth in that corridor resulting in a negative impact for the Township and surrounding area.

II. ALTERNATIVE SITE

During the Town Board's meeting with Xcel representatives a few months ago, Xcel encouraged the Town Board to look for alternative sites. The Town Board believes that in order to mitigate the damages arising from the proposed site, an alternative route/site should be considered. The alternative site is located in Section 13, Milford Township, South of Brown County Highway 29. This alternative site, while currently agricultural in nature, is more suitable in location for the placement of the Substation.

The alternative site does not contain or impede on the major thoroughfare (Highway 14) to the City of New Ulm. Further, the alternative site would cause limited, if any, disruption in the industrial development growth corridor. Additionally, upon information and belief, no portion of the alternative site has any restrictions arising from the airport's flight paths.

The Town Board has discussed the alternative site with one of the individuals that has an ownership interest in the real estate, Richard Runck. Mr. Runck can be contacted at:

Richard Runck
16840 County Road 29
New Ulm, MN 56073
phone: 507-354-2620

The Town Board strongly encourages you to look at the alternative site for the reasons set forth above. Thank you for your attention.



Leon Haubrich



Frederick Juni



Michael S. Dove

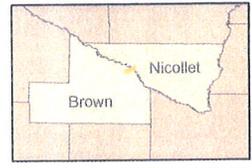
Nov 13th
8:30



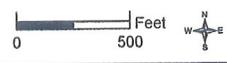
Proposed West New Ulm Substation and 115/69 kV Transmission Line Rebuild Project

Brown and Nicollet counties, MN

- Legend**
- GRE Switch
 - Existing Substation - Brown Co. REA
 - Proposed Xcel Energy West New Ulm Substation
 - Proposed Xcel Energy 115/69 kV Transmission Line
 - Proposed Route Corridor
 - Xcel Energy Transmission Line
 - Xcel Energy Transmission Line Connection
 - GRE Transmission Line
 - New Ulm Public Utilities Transmission Line
 - Railroad
 - MN DNR Wildlife Area
 - Waterbody
 - River/Stream
 - City Boundary
 - City of New Ulm Municipal Airport
 - Airport Runway Zone
 - Safety Zone "A"
 - Safety Zone "B"
 - Safety Zone "C"



Data Source(s): Xcel Energy, MN DNR, USDA.



Project Location Map
Revised Appendix B.2a

Map Document: P:\2009\091\gis\2009091.dwg(11_13_09.mxd)
9/11/2009 11:08:33 AM

Scott Ek

From: Tim & Maria Anderson [andtmkk@newulmtel.net]
Sent: Thursday, December 04, 2008 7:17 PM
To: Scott.Ek@state.mn.us
Subject: 115/69 kv transmission line rebuild
Attachments: Xcel Energy.docx

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING TO OUR CONCERNS ON NOVEMBER 19,2008 IN NEW ULM. WE WOULD LIKE TO REITERATE OUR CONCERNS WITH THIS PROJECT. OUR CONCERN PERTAINS TO THE 23RD NORTH PROPOSED ROUTE. WE ARE VERY HOPEFUL XCEL ENERGY, YOURSELF, AND THE CITY OF NEW ULM, WILL CONSIDER AN ALTERNATIVE ROUTE TO THE NORTH AND WEST OF TOWN OUT OF A RESIDENTIAL AREA, OR TO THE SOUTH ONE BLOCK TO A VACATED STREET 22ND NORTH IN A MORE INDUSTRIAL SETTING.FROM THERE IT COULD ALSO BE POSSIBLE TO LINK UP TO EXISTING LINE THAT FOLLOWS THE RAILROAD TRACKS.

ALSO WE ARE REQUESTING A STUDY BE CONDUCTED RELATED TO ANY HEALTH CONCERNS THIS CLOSE TO AN ELECTRO MAGNET FIELD ON A TRANSMISSION LINE OF THIS SIZE. IF THIS PROJECT IS ALLOWED TO USE THE EXISTING ROUTE THE LINES WILL HANG OVER PRIVATE PROPERTY ONLY 37 FT FROM THE FRONT OF OUR HOUSE. THIS IS FAR TO CLOSE FOR SAFETY AND WOULD MAKE IT VERY HARD TO MAINTAIN WITH OUT DAMAGING PRIVATE PROPERTY. I ALSO HAVE ATTACHED THE LETTER I SENT TO TIM RODGERS AT XCEL ENERGY THIS SUMMER. I HAVE MET ON SITE WITH TIM RODGERS, AND BRIAN MIELKE FROM XCEL ENERGY, THEY HAVE BEEN VERY HELPFUL THROUGH OUT THE PROCESS. I BELIEVE OUR CONCERNS ARE VALID AND REASONABLE.

PLEASE CONTACT ME IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS VIA E- MAIL OR PHONE, 507-354-4185 OR WORK AT 1-800-658-7211.

TIMOTHY AND MARIA ANDERSON
703 23RD NORTH STREET
NEW ULM MN 56073

andtmkk@newulmtel.net

To Xcel Energy

ATTN: Tim Rogers

Thank you for the dialog at the New Ulm Open House July 15, 2008. I do have a few concerns and opinions on the power lines going in the front our house at 703 23rd Street North in New Ulm, Minnesota.

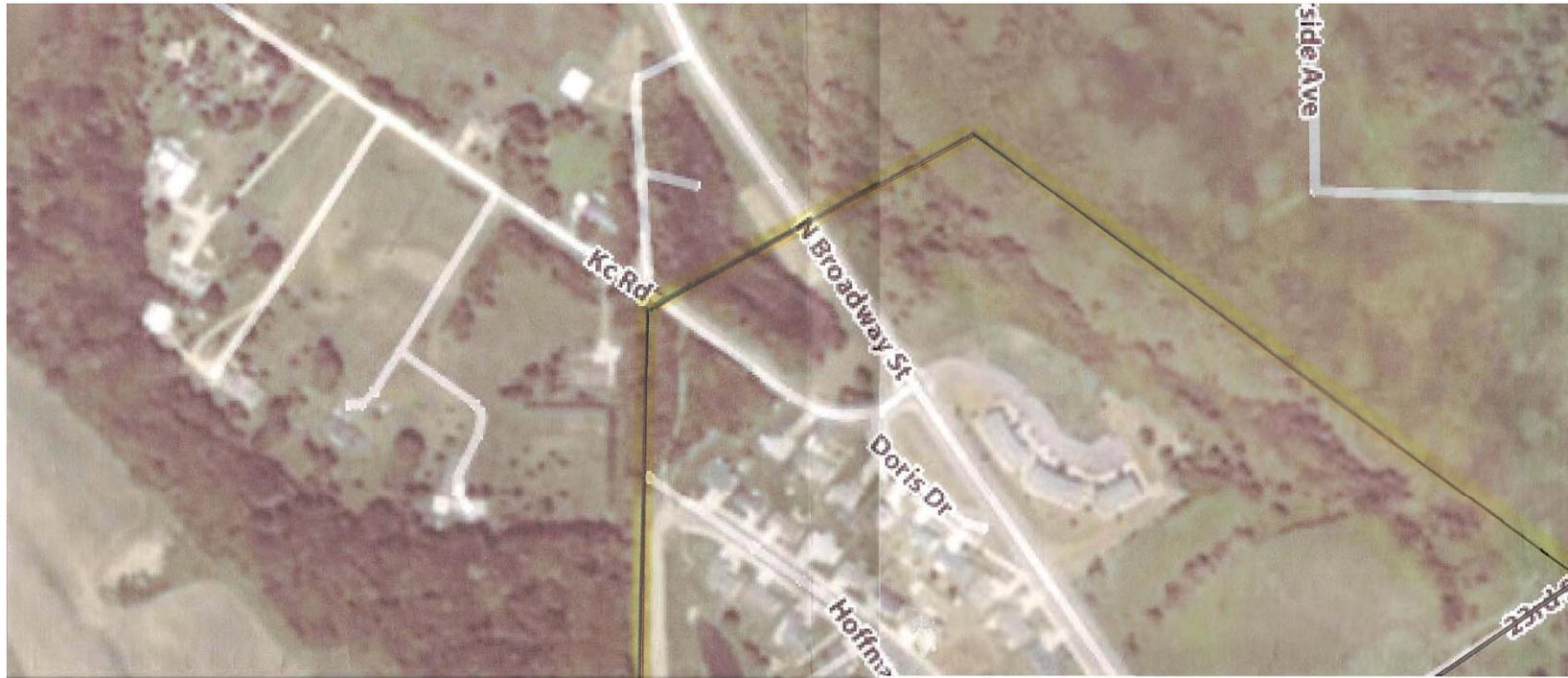
Currently, the pole is located in the center of our picture windows. At this open house we were told Xcel Energy will move poles to a more suitable part of lot if possible, on a lot line, etc. The major concern is that the current pole is 45 feet from the front of our house and that the replacement poles will have arms that extend out another 8 feet towards our house putting them just 37 feet away from the front our house. They will also have three more lines for a total of seven lines and more voltage.

I believe this is no longer a reasonable distance from a house or to have this type of utility running through a residential neighborhood. The power lines will extend over the top of our sidewalk onto our front yard. I hate to think what will happen if a line is blown off during a storm.

The land rights date back to the 1920's when the area was not residential. I believe now would be the time to realign your power lines to the North and West away from the populated area, as New Ulm continues to grow. This would give you the ability to expand over the next 80 years.

Timothy L. Anderson
Maria C. Anderson
703 23rd Street North
New Ulm MN 56073





Tim Anderson
703 23rd North
New Ulm Mn 56073
507 354 4185
andtmkk@newulmtnet.net

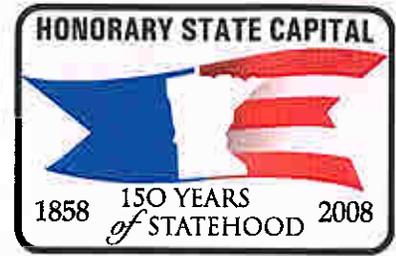




City of New Ulm

310 First North Street
New Ulm, Minnesota 56073
Telephone: (507) 359-8202
Fax: (507) 354-7318

Email: patrick.wruse@ci.new-ulm.mn.us
Web Site: www.ci.new-ulm.mn.us



December 4, 2008

Re: Xcel Energy 115/69kV High Voltage Transmission Rebuild - Fort Ridgley to Proposed New Ulm West Substation

Scott Ek
Project Manager
Office of Energy Security
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101

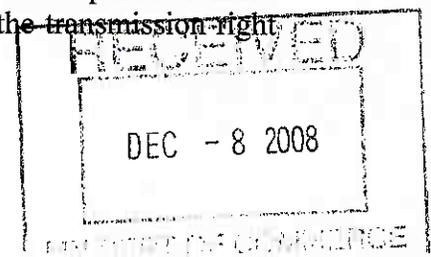
Dear Mr. Ek,

Regarding the above referenced project, we would like to comment on the proposed changes to the system within and adjacent to the City of New Ulm.

23rd North Street Corridor

With respect to the 23rd North Street corridor, the existing 69kV system is located within a 60' right of way which consists of a paved street, grass boulevard and sidewalk. The poles are currently located approximately 6 feet from the front property line of parcels occupied by single-family dwellings. As the line is presently constructed, the conductors are located approximately 1 foot off of the pole which places the conductor approximately 5' from the front property line. The poles that have been indicated for use on the project will place two transmission lines down the 23rd North Street corridor and will place one of the cables a distance of approximately 8 feet from the pole location. This will cause the newly constructed system to overhang privately held property by approximately 2 feet and will place the conductor approximately 7 feet closer to the single family dwellings. In order to minimize the impact of the project on these dwellings, we would ask that Xcel energy consider the following options for the 23rd North Street portion:

- 1) Consider an alternative route that would relocate the line from 23rd North Street to another location where a sufficient amount of right of way could be acquired to more suitably accommodate the entire double circuit installation within the transmission right of way area.



We would not be supportive of a relocation to the Boundary Street area since that would impact numerous existing property owners who are currently unaffected by existing transmission facilities. We are concerned that this suggested relocation would adversely impact several existing residential areas within Hoffman's Third Addition and Korth's Subdivision along Boundary Street. This relocation would also likely impact numerous residences within Hoffman's Second Addition as well as the apartment complex located to the east of North Broadway.

Another relocation possibility that could minimize the impact on any currently unimpacted residents would be to move the 23rd Street section from the front property line to the rear property line of the lots along 23rd Street.

- 2) Consider placing at least one of the circuits planned for the 23rd Street right of way underground thereby eliminating the impact of the second transmission system on the 23rd Street North residences.
- 3) If a relocation or construction of the facilities underground is not possible, either A) develop a revised pole design that maintains the existing distance from the front property line; or B) if a revised pole design is not possible, compensate the impacted property owners with either overhang payments or through the purchase of the additional right of way required to construct the projects planned installations.

In addition, the existing pole at the South West corner of North Broadway and 23rd North Street is currently within the right of way area reserved for sidewalk installation. With the proposed improvements we would ask that the location of this pole be adjusted to allow for the installation of city sidewalks

West New Ulm Substation

With respect to the location of the proposed West New Ulm substation, we would ask that the substation be located so that it does not interfere with the possible future expansion of the U.S. Highway 14 corridor. In the schematic drawings that have been presented thus far, it appears that the new substation will be located very close to U.S. 14. The City of New Ulm has experienced significant commercial growth along the U.S. 14 corridor in this location. It is likely that expansion will reach the intersection of U.S. 14 and CR 12 at some point in time in the future. As such, when the need arises to widen U.S. 14 to accommodate the increasing traffic flow and turning movements, it would be preferable to have maintained the appropriate setbacks to allow for this expected expansion. Our opinion is that the proposed location for the substation should be a minimum 75 foot half right of way on U.S. 14 and a minimum 50 foot half right of way on CR 12. We would recommend that Xcel confer with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and with the Brown County Highway Department respectively regarding the appropriate right of way requirements.

I appreciate your attention to these issues and I trust that you will work with Xcel Energy to develop the necessary solutions. Please contact me by telephone if there is any other information that you require. Thank you.

Sincerely,



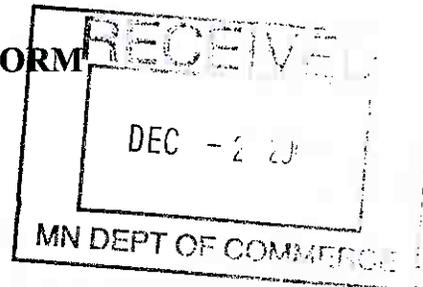
Patrick Wrase
Utilities Planning and Development Engineer
New Ulm Public Utilities

cc: Gary Gleisner
Brian Gramentz
David Schnobrich
Steve Koehler



85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
main: 651.296.4026 tty: 651.296.2860 fax: 651.297.7891
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STATE OF MINNESOTA
ENERGY FACILITY PERMITTING
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING COMMENT FORM



West New Ulm to Fort Ridgely 115/69 Kilovolt
Transmission Line Rebuild Project

Name: James and Alice Roberts
Address: 900 23rd North Street
City: New Ulm State: MN ZIP: 56073

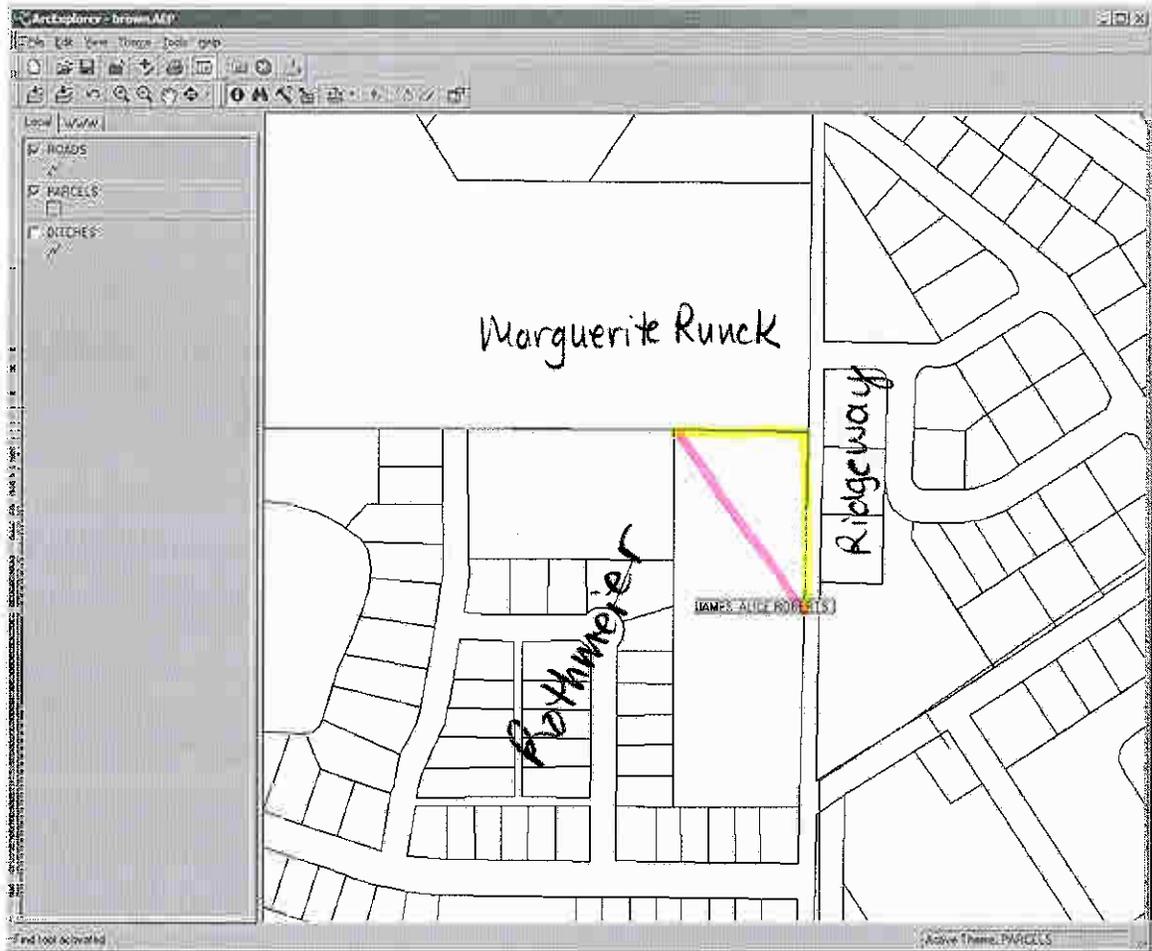
Please share your comments on the potential impacts, mitigation measures and alternative routes to be considered in the scoping document and environmental assessment to be prepared for the proposed Xcel Energy, West New Ulm to Fort Ridgely 115/69 Kilovolt High Voltage Transmission Line Rebuild Project.

Turn this form in tonight or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to Scott Ek, Project Manager at: scott.ek@state.mn.us with E-002/TL-08-956 in the subject line. Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, December 5, 2008.

Dear Scott and Tim,

On November 19, 2008, Brian Mielke visited with my husband and I at our home to discuss the transmission line rebuild project. Currently, a power line cuts across our 5 1/3 acre property. My husband and I are in our 80s and we are both disabled. Because of our health and finances, we would like to sub-divide our property and sell lots. Realtors have told us that the power line diminishes the marketability of our land, as nobody wants a power line cutting across their yard and house. Therefore, higher voltage lines would make a sale impossible. Our request is that the line be moved so that it runs along →

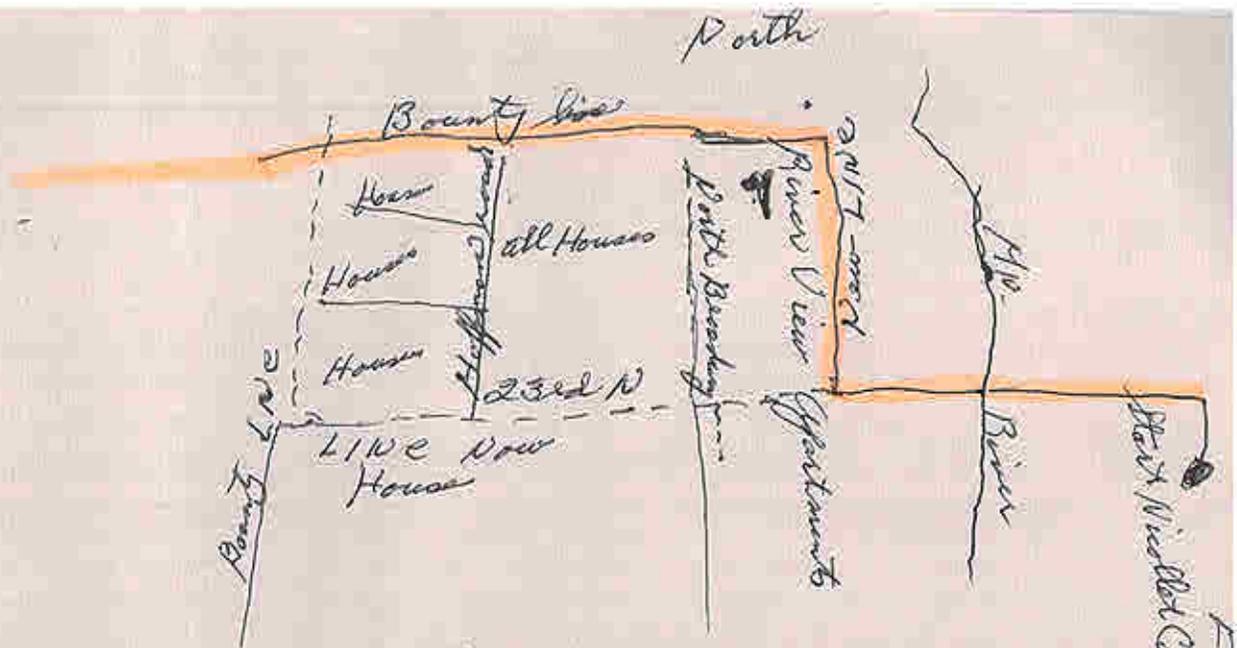
Signature: Alice M. Roberts Date: November 29, 2008 (see back)



Power line location requested by Jim + Alice Roberts

Current location of power line

Our request is that the powerline be moved to our property boundaries rather than its current location which cuts across our property.



The dots are the old lines

The orange line should be the New line