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July 2, 2010

Dr. Burl W. Haar  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
127 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 350  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

**RE: Comments and Recommendation of the Office of Energy Security Energy  
Facility Permitting Staff on a Route Permit (Docket No. ET2/TL-08-1474)**

Dear Dr. Haar:

Attached are the Comments and Recommendation of the Office of Energy Security Energy  
Facility Permitting (EFP) staff:

**In the Matter of the Route Permit Application for a 345 kV Transmission Line from  
Brookings County, South Dakota to Hampton, Minnesota**

EFP staff recommends issuance of a route permit along the Applicants' Modified Preferred  
Route, modified by Alternative 6P-06, further modified by the North-South Connector Example  
#2, detailed within the attached Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order, and Route  
Permit. Hard copies of the Route Maps will be delivered separately.

EFP staff is available to answer questions from the Commission.

Sincerely,

Scott E. Ek  
EFP State Permit Manager

Attachments:  
Comments and Recommendations the OES EFP Staff  
Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order  
Route Permit (Route Maps to be delivered separately)