From: Leslie A. Everett
To: Storm, Bill (COMM);
Subject: Comment Draft EIS Xcel Energy Hiawatha HVTL Project
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 11:58:11 AM

William Storm,

Here are my comments on the Draft EIS, Xcel Energy Hiawatha HVTL Project, PUC Docket No. E002/TL-09-38

Comment:
The Draft EIS is unacceptably vague and understated regarding the most critical aspect of the proposal to put an overhead power line through the Midtown Greenway Corridor:
On page 270, last paragraph it states: "The overhead lines would pose an aesthetic impact to recreation in the Greenway."
On page 271: "The presence of transmission line structures may have a negative effect on the overall experience, perception and sentiment associated with using the Greenway."

That is the equivalent of stating that the presence of high voltage transmission lines and structures on Minnehaha Parkway or around Lake Calhoun "may have a negative effect on the overall experience, perception and sentiment associated with using" the Parkway or Lake. That level of analysis would be rejected out of hand for the Parkway and the Lake and should be rejected for the Greenway.

The Greenway is both a commuter and recreational corridor, essentially a linear park or parkway like Minnehaha Parkway and needs to be treated as such. That was the intent in securing the funds to form the Greenway and that intent must be respected.

Leslie A. Everett
1988 Brewster St. Apt. 109
St. Paul, MN 55108
651-641-1880