From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
To: Storm, Bill (COMM);
Subject: West Tue Mar 9 22:58:22 2010 E002/TL-09-38
Date: Tuesday, March 09, 2010 10:59:05 PM

This public comment has been sent via the form at: www.energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/publicComments.html

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Project Name: Xcel Energy Hiawatha 115 kV Transmission Line Project

Docket number: E002/TL-09-38

User Name: Miriam West

County: Hennepin County

City: Minneapolis

Email: mwest@visi.com

Phone: 612 7217299

Impact: Hello Mr. Storm, it was good to meet you at the public meeting. I'm extremely concerned about the negative impact posed by the high voltage power lines in the Midtown neighborhood. This neighborhood already deals with arsenic drift, lead in the soil & air pollution from the DT burner. That's enough negative environmental risks for the many children in this low income neighborhood.

My child plays soccer right off the Greenway and bikes it to go to school. Our school recently started a major initiative to get children to bike/walk to school to curb childhood obesity and the Greenway has been advocated as a safe route. Putting overhead lines there with its link to childhood luekemia is the LAST thing we need. The neighborhood in question is way too densely populated. I'm also concerned that if this goes through, the route to the river & west to the lakes would be Xcel's next goal impacting hundreds more people.

Mitigation: The greenway is an important public space that took years to come

to reality. It needs to be protected. Putting high voltage lines a few blocks away as a mitigation would not help this densely populated neighborhood. The lines and substations need to be buried. While I understand this does not completely address the health impacts it would lessen them, while balancing the need for more power.

I personally think that this is a neighborhood that would be open to reducing power requirements, though Allina and the hospitals may not be able to do that very easily. Please bury the lines and substations in the current plan and require Xcel to reveal all its plans for future expansion in the area. This cost should be spread over a wide group of customers to avoid hitting this low income neighborhood disproportionately. Thank you.

Submission date: Tue Mar 9 22:58:22 2010

This information has also been entered into a centralized database for future analysis.

For questions about the database or the functioning of this tool, contact:

Andrew Koebrick
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us