



## STATE OF MINNESOTA Energy Facility Permitting



Issued: September 28, 2011

### NOTICE OF PERMIT AMENDMENT REQUEST

*In the Matter of the Xcel Energy and Great River Energy Application for a High Voltage Transmission Line Route Permit for the Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Project (PUC Docket Number: E002, ET2/TL-09-1056)*

On September 21, 2011, Xcel Energy and Great River Energy (Permittees) applied for a Permit Amendment to make twelve (12) alignment adjustments outside the route designated in their Route Permit to construct the Fargo to Saint Cloud transmission project.

In an Order issued June 24, 2010, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) issued a High Voltage Transmission Line Route Permit to Northern States Power (dba Xcel Energy) and Great River Energy for the Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Project, authorizing the Permittees to construct a new, approximately 180 mile 345 kV high voltage transmission line:

- From the North Dakota border south of Fargo to Alexandria, following the Modified Preferred Route, using Option 2B;
- From Alexandria to Sauk Center, following the Modified Preferred Route to Option 6 and then following Route A to the point where it rejoins the Modified Preferred Route;
- From Sauk Center to Saint Joseph, following route G, including Option 11 and the E-5 segment of Option 12; and
- Including the modifications to the Alexandria Substation, and updates required to connect to the Quarry Substation described in the Route Permit Application.

According to Minn. Rule 7850.4900 subp. 1, the Commission may amend any of the conditions in a route permit for a high voltage transmission line.

According to Minn. Rule 7850.4900 subp. 2, interested persons may submit comments on the Permit Amendments. **A comment period will be open through October 14, 2011.** Comments need to be emailed, faxed or mailed to David Birkholz (see address below) by 4:30 on that date. Comments may also be submitted at <http://www.energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/#comment>.

Please refer to docket number "09-1056" in all correspondence and clarify which of the 12 adjustments you are addressing. Following the comment period, the request will go before the Commission for a decision.

The alignment adjustments requested by the Permittees are discussed in their Permit Amendment application, which includes maps of the areas in question, discussion of the reasons for the requests and tables comparing relative impacts of the permitted route as opposed to the requested adjustments. The application can be viewed at the Commission website:

<http://www.energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/resource.html?Id=32271>

or by entering “Year” as “09” and “Number” as “1056” at eDockets:

<https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp>

For further information, please contact:

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