Birkholz, David (COMM)

From: Saupe, Stephen [SSAUPE@csbsju.edu]
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2010 3:03 PM
To: Birkholz, David (COMM)
Cc: Saupe, Stephen
Subject: TL-09-1056

22 January, 2010

David Birkholz, Project Manager
Energy Facility Permitting
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Dear Mr. Birkholz: **RE: CapX2020 St. Cloud to Fargo**

I am writing to recommend that the CapX2020 transmission line should consider going south of St. Cloud on Highway 23 to Highway 55 (or another designated energy corridor) and then west until they can head back north on a designated energy corridor to I-94. I believe that this is the best option because:

1. The I-94 corridor through the city of Avon is impractical, for the reasons stated in the meeting at the El Paso on 21 Jan;
2. The alternative proposed routes around Avon are unacceptable because they do not follow designated trunk highway routes, will disturb too many farm sites and natural areas, and are along narrow township roads;
3. It will comply with the state mandate of keeping the lines in designated energy corridors of trunk highways and other designated routes;
4. Will affect fewer people;
5. Will ultimately be less expensive when one considers the cost of property acquisition and potential legal or political battles; and
6. Would solve the major problem of transecting a city since the Highway 23 corridor has already been cleared all the way Cold Spring.

Sincerely,

Stephen G. Saupe
14493 325th St.
St. Joseph, MN 56374
(320) 356 – 2406