Birkholz, David (COMM)

From: Curt Gohmann [cugohmann@parkindustries.com]
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2010 6:42 AM
To: Birkholz, David (COMM); darrin.f.lahr@excelenergy.com
Cc: northca@yahoo.com
Subject: TL-09-1056

Importance: High

Curt and Mary Pat Gohmann
35123 County Road # 2
St. Joseph , Minnesota 56374

Dr.Mr. Birkholz and Mr.Lahr,

In March of 2008 we were approached by a friend to see if we were interested in purchasing their home. For a good many years we had planned on building our dream home on the current piece of property that we owned. This house and land were extremely beautiful!! I had admired it for a very long time. The house , the shed, and the view are fantastic!! Everyone that we talked to about this venture said to be very careful in these uncertain times. My place of employment had been steadily downsizing and it was hard to know what the future held. The more Mary Pat and I talked the more we wanted to have our new home. Our then 4 year-old son Ethan and our 2 year old daughter Allayna would love to have a place that was safe from cars and they could run and play and be a lot closer to both sets of grandparents. When we did decide to go for it one of the determining factors was the fact I would have my own area to archery hunt. We spent a lot of time planting over 400 trees purchased from the DNR and planting a food plot for the wildlife to enjoy. This last October I was able to take Ethan hunting with me for the first time. This time we share together is priceless to me. I hope to be able to take Allayna too.

We are deeply disturbed to think that this power line will totally wipe out part of the reason we bought this property. The time and money we spent on it and the memories that will no longer be able to be made there sadden us. We do have a small line that does run along our western line that this new line will run next to. This line is not very tall and can hardly be seen from our home. We can also see the place where my dad grew up out western view. We really have no desire to watch the sunset through ugly large of poles and wires. The financial loss after only one year there is NOT what we are looking for. Mary Pat and myself along with all of our neighbors are very much opposed of the Alternate Route "A". We all share similar concerns about destroying the rolling farm land and the trees that in the fall are outstanding with vibrant colors. The safety hazards of the stray voltage have us and our friends with small children very concerned. We strongly recommend that you go with the idea of the I-94 corridor. We have know we have friend there and their land is very important also. We are not saying that their land is any less beautiful, but it would be a better rout e than up here. Please strongly consider the idea of putting the line along I-94 and putting it underground where it would help everyone's land. At the meeting at the El Paso in St.Joseph I think all are okay with a little extra cost to keep our area looking the way we want it to.

I greatly appreciate the time you took to read this and hope if you have any questions to please call us.

Thank you,

Curt and Mary Pat Gohmann
1-320-203-8638