

Langan, Matthew (COMM)

From: boats500@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2011 5:02 AM
To: Langan, Matthew (COMM)
Subject: DEIS Letter

April 26, 2011
 58 Shorewood Ln NE
 Rochester, MN 55906-2619
 Sheldon F. King

Matthew Langan
 State Permit Manager
 MN Office of Energy Security
 Energy Facility Permitting
 85 7th Place East, Suite 500
 St. Paul MN, 55101

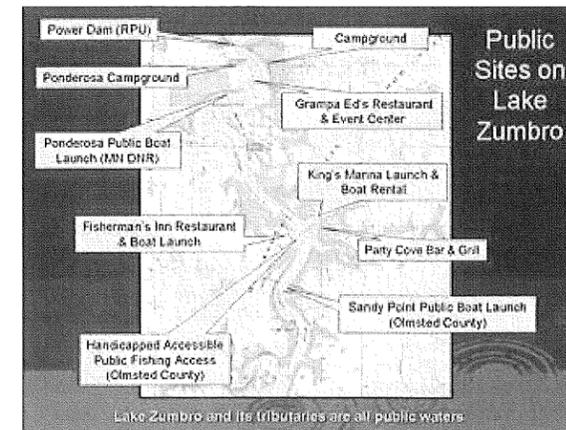
Dear Mr. Langan,

I am writing in response to the request for comments regarding the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) for the CapX2020 project. As the president of the Lake Zumbro improvement association (LZIA), I do not feel that the value of or the impact on Lake Zumbro is adequately reflected in the DEIS.

Lake Zumbro is an important recreational lake in Southeastern Minnesota. The Lake has the highest population relative to lake area in all of greater Minnesota. Communities within 15 miles of Lake Zumbro that rely on the Lake for lake recreation include Oronoco, Pine Island, Byron, Rochester, Mantorville, Kasson, Plainview, Millville, Hammond, Mazeppa, Zumbro Falls, Goodhue, and Zumbrota. While much of Minnesota is blessed with a plethora of lakes, aside from Lake Pepin, Lake Zumbro is *the* recreational lake in Southeastern Minnesota. Below is an aerial picture of the lake.



During the summer months as many as 1500 people will use the lake each day. In addition to the value of the lake as a public access lake for personal use, there are a number of businesses that rely on the Lake Zumbro for their livelihood. A map containing these businesses is below.



The Lake Zumbro Improvement Association is dedicated to the restoration and preservation of the beauty, environmental character and recreational quality of Lake Zumbro for those now living around it, those using it, and for the generations to follow. There are over 300 properties that surround the lake and we have just implemented a lake improvement district to assure the viability of the lake for the future.

104B The proposed routes of 3P, 3P-Zumbro North, and 3P-Zumbro South include in their descriptions (DEIS 8.3-10.0) "crossing the Zumbro river" and do not designate this, in reality, as crossing Lake Zumbro. Lake Zumbro is not just a river crossing. The 3-P Zumbro North route crosses the lake at the dam, the 3-P Zumbro North route crosses at Rusch's bay, and the 3P route crosses the lake at Sandy point. In other words the 3P-009 to 3P route crosses the lake twice.

104C The descriptions of 'Figure 8.3.4.4-1 Land cover types along each route alternative - Segment 3' "aquatic" doesn't do justice to Lake Zumbro versus other stream crossings. Similarly as stated in '8.3.4.8 Water Resources', "The main watercourses that run through this segment include the Zumbro River..." this again recognizes the river, but not Lake Zumbro. Later it is stated "Lake crossings would be avoided to the extent possible;" and further "The primary means of mitigating impacts to recreational resources is to avoid these resources through prudent routing." Considering that Lake Zumbro is on the 3P preferred route (and both the Zumbro North and South alternatives) and that it is the only lake in Southeastern MN; prudent routing does not appear to be in the 'preferred plan'.

Please consider revising the DEIS to reflect the impact on the Lake Zumbro, not just the Zumbro river, and to reflect the value of Lake Zumbro as a recreational, business, and residential resource to Southeastern MN.

Sincerely yours,

Sheldon F. King

President
 Lake Zumbro Improvement Association

104A.

The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

104B.

The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

104C.

The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

FEIS ID #105

To: Matthew Langan

Re: Cap X 2020-proposed route through Holden Township, Kenyon, MN

From: Doug and Mary Kleese

We live on a 3rd generation farm in Holden Township, Sec. 23 Kenyon MN. In the summer of 2009, it was brought to our attention via our local newspaper that the newest revised route for one of the Cap X2020 proposed power lines is just south of our property, in direct view and vicinity of our home and livelihood. This was the first that we were made aware of this. We never received any correspondence regarding informational meetings or proposed lines that potentially would be placed so close to where we live. Though it would not directly go through our property, due to the position of our home and land, we are in constant direct view and exposure of the proposed towers. Our strong concerns regarding these proposed lines are threefold; 1) from a safety standpoint, 2) maintaining the rural integrity of the area, and 3) an aesthetics viewpoint.

105A Firstly, along with farming our own acres, we rent the acreage that the proposed lines would actually go through. Our children pick rocks from these fields twice yearly so our farm equipment is not damaged. We literally would be picking rocks under these towers. We are concerned about being able to run our machinery around and under these lines. We have read about EMF emissions and it appears that not enough studies have been done regarding 345kv transmission lines at this time. It is a real concern!

105B Secondly, as residents and farmers in Holden Township, we are proud of our agricultural heritage. Our township ordinances reflect this continuing goal to maintain our agricultural area and to provide area farmers the opportunity to continue farming and preserving the agricultural integrity of Holden township. Furthermore, the way the line is proposed, it would run directly down the section, causing a great disruption of the acreage and the farming practices. The number of rural acreage in Minnesota is limited. Farmland is not a renewable resource. It is difficult to understand the reasoning of disrupting and changing this rural area when other rights of way have already been developed. Transmission lines, such as the one's proposed by the Cap X2020 project, would forever disrupt and destroy our rural landscape, and arguably some of the best farm acreage in Minnesota.

Thirdly, we love our home and farm. We are surrounded by fields of corn and soybeans, oak groves, ninety-foot pines and a rolling landscape. We cannot adequately describe how much we appreciate the nature and landscape that surrounds us. The Zumbro River runs close to the fields we farm, wooded acres provide a natural habitat for deer, birds and many other animals. We hike through the woods, walk the fields and play outdoors. Nerstrand-Big Woods State Park-is only 8 miles from us. We invite you out to our property to see for yourself what a disruption such a transmission line would be to the aesthetics, rural integrity and way of life for the farmers and residents of Holden Township.

105C In conclusion, we find it ironic that there is even a proposal to increase transmission lines especially so close to where we live. We, personally, have used less electricity the past few years due to our concerted effort of conservation. Our government agencies have spent a great deal of time and money

advocating conservation, and its working. More and more Minnesotans are seeing the need for conservation of energy and the last 2 years of consumption have decreased.

105B We would like to add this for consideration; why is the disruption to all of these prime farmland acres, (the acreage of which is already shrinking in this state) our agricultural heritage and way of life even being considered when agriculture hasn't created the suggested need for more power?

Respectfully submitted,

Doug and Mary Kleese

Holden Township

4667 Co. 30 Blvd

Kenyon, MN 55946

507-789-6313

105A.

Your comment is noted and will be forwarded to the administrative law judge, however, the comment is indefinite and does not provide tangible feedback that can be interpreted and translated into an explicit revision, update, or correction to the EIS.

105B.

See Section 7.3.1 of the EIS.

105C.

The need for this transmission line has been previously determined by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Docket No. CN-06-1115). Questions of need for this project cannot be addressed in this document, Minn. Stat. 216E.02, Subp. 2.

105D.

See Section 7.5.1 of the EIS.

Langan, Matthew (COMM)

From: Dalinklinger@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2011 6:33 PM
To: Langan, Matthew (COMM)
Subject: PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448

Name: Linda K. Klingsporn
Address: 51350 230th Ave
Pine Island, MN 55963

Representing: David and Linda Klingsporn

Comments:

106A
106B

The information on the maps (DEIS) correctly shows our property locations. We own the property located at 23025 510th Street and 51350 230th Avenue in Pine Island Township. However, we are a dairy operation and cattle are more sensitive to electricity than people. The Preferred Route would go across our pasture area, (located on T109-R15-Sec25) increasing the risk of our cattle being affected by magnetic fields and stray voltage. Also, if we are to expand our dairy operation in the future, the only direction we can go is North. This would put our buildings and animals even closer to the 345v power line that you want to put in. Our dairy operation includes my husband, myself and our two sons. We are fourth and fifth generations to farm this land, and our sons plan to continue farming. We have been doing our best to take care of our land and increase our production to sustain our future and provide for an expanding population. The American Farm Bureau reported that in 2009 the average U.S. farmer fed 155 people. They estimate that by 2050 global food production will have to increase by 70 percent. If the 345v power line goes across our land, we will lose some of our tillable acres to huge poles and access roads. We cannot afford to lose any of our tillable acres or risk exposing our cattle to side effects from a 345v line. We want to be able to remain productive today and have the opportunity to increase our production in the future.

106C

Thank you for taking the time to consider all our comments.

Linda K. Klingsporn

106A.

See Sections 7.1 and 7.5.1 of the EIS.

106B.

See Section 7.1 of the EIS.

106C.

See Section 7.5.1 of the EIS.



85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
main: 651.296.4026 tty: 651.296.2860 fax: 651.297.7891
www.commerce.state.mn.us



PUBLIC COMMENT SHEET

CapX Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project

PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448

Name: David Klingborn Representing: Klingborn Farms

Address: 51350-230th Ave Pine Island, MN 55963 Email:

Comments: In regards to the EIS and power-line selection routes. Our Dairy Farm is located on the preferred route.

My major concern with these power lines is the exposure of stray voltage and the many other very negative health issues that commonly occur to livestock.

While I understand the need for power is important, do it worth exposing these animals to such a tragic risk?

Many millions of dollars are spent trying to cure and compensate the damages of stray voltage

Please submit comments by **4:30pm, April 29, 2011** to:

Matthew Langan Email: matthew.langan@state.mn.us
Minnesota Dept. of Commerce Phone: 651-296-2096
85 7th Place East Fax: 651-297-7891
Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

107A

of which Excel Energy has been part of in many cases.

The preferred power line route goes just north of our building site, the only way for us to continue dairy farming with expected expansions is to the north of our present sight which would put us right up to the power lines.

With increasing costs the need to expand is inevitable, and with the power lines there, our future business plan for our dairy farm could not be completed.

We work closely with county and state feedlot representatives and their guidelines to ensure proper care for our livestock and property, these power lines would be disastrous to our dairy farm.

There are also 2 other dairy farms in the area which would also be at risk of such danger. That would be putting at risk a very large number of cattle in a disastrous situation.

107B

107B



107A.
See Section 7.1 of the EIS.

107B.
See Section 7.5.1 of the EIS.

Duane A. & DeLores I Koenig
 PO Box 239
 Oronoco, MN 55960

April 13th, 2011

Mr. Matthew Langan,
 State Permit Manager
 Office of Energy Security
 Minnesota Department of Commerce
 85 7th Place East, Suite 500
 St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
 Fax 651 297-7891
 Email: matthew.langan@state.mn.us

Re: CapX2020, Public Meeting/Pine Island, MN

Dear Mr. Langan and CapX2020 Representatives:

We are landowners in Goodhue County, adjacent to, and north of, 500th Street where the preferred 161kV CapX2020 transmission line is routed. Our property abuts the south side 500th Street and the west side of Goodhue County 55 Boulevard.

We submitted comments to Environmental Protection Specialists, on December 3, 2010, and we are attaching those comments to this letter.

We ask that the decision makers and the representatives of CapX2020 take into consideration that this is a Century Farm that has been owned by family members since 1896. If the planned 161kV transmission line ultimately takes the preferred route designated, it is our hope that it be on the south side of 500th Street, as currently depicted in Project Route maps.

Highway 52, south of Oronoco, is no longer a preferred route. However, if that route were to be reconsidered for any portion of the CapX2020 transmission lines, we own the property abutting Olmsted County Road 12/112, to the south and abutting Highway 52 on the east and the west side of that interchange. This too is a Century Farm, owned by family members since 1893. In order to avoid the most disruption to this farming operation, we would hope that any reconsidered route, involving this property, be on the east side of Highway 52 beginning at the County 12/112 interchange.

Attached to this letter are the copies of the Century Farm applications for both farms.

We can be reached at (507) 367-4578 should there be questions, or concerns.

Sincerely,

DeLores Koenig
 Duane A. Koenig and DeLores Koenig
Duane A. Koenig

108A

108B

FEIS ID #108

Duane A. Koenig and
DeLores I Koenig
PO Box 239
9747 Highway 52 North
Oronoco, MN 55960

December 3, 2010

Ms. Stephanie A. Strength
Environmental Protection Specialist
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Rural Utilities Service
1400 Independent Avenue SW
Mail Stop 1571, Room 2242
Washington, DC 20250

Also sent via email to stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov

Re: Hampton-Rochester-LaCrosse CapX2010 Transmission System Improvement Project

Dear Ms. Strength:

We are writing you because we are land owners affected by the Hampton-Rochester-LaCrosse 345 kV Transmission System Improvement Project.

The 161kV preferred route in Goodhue County is planned to abut on the south side of 500th Street. We own land in Goodhue County which abuts on the north side of 500th Street and abuts on the west side Goodhue County 55 Boulevard, where the Preferred 161kV Route is planned.

Our property is a Century Farm. That property is described as: SE ¼ sec 21 109 15 and @ ½ of NW ¼ Sec 22 109 15. Someone in our family has owned this property since 1896. The homestead for that farm was built in approximately 1866 and our daughter and son-in-law own that homestead whose address is 49685 County 55 Blvd., Pine Island, MN 55963. You can view the Century Farm Application at: <http://www.fbmh.org/safe/mnfarms/app/run.html> by typing into the Name Search Field the Name Degener.

Assuming that this preferred route is used, we prefer that it continue to remain on the south side of 500th Street, where it is depicted in all maps we have received.

We are also landowners in Olmsted County where, from time to time, the alternative route for the CapX2020 project has been depicted.

In the past, we have received notices that show one of the alternate routes would be placed on the west side of Highway 52, south of Oronoco at the intersection of Highway 52 and Olmsted County Road 12/112. This farm is a Century Farm and the application for the Century Award can be viewed at: <http://www.fbmh.org/safe/mnfarms/app/run.html> by typing Koenig in the Name Search Field and tabbing down to Koenig, Duane A. and Delores for Century Farms. The Olmsted County Property Identification Number (PIN) for this farm is #84.20.32.079240.

If the power line were to be placed on the west side of 52, at the above intersection it would carve up this Century Farm even more devastatingly than the taking for Highway 52. Considering the 150 foot right of way it would take our new well, and would encroach on the foundation of our home. It would make the entry into our home unusable, including our driveway that was reconfigured for the taking for Highway 52. It would make our outbuildings unusable. One of those buildings includes a practically brand new structure that we had to construct following the taking for Highway 52.

Although we've been informed that this alternative route is no longer in consideration we would like to comment that if it is reconsidered and if it is planned to follow Highway 52 and involve our property we would strongly request that it be considered for the route to be changed to the east side of highway 52 on the north side of the intersection of Olmsted County Highway #12/112 and Highway 52. We own the property on the east side of 52 and the south side of Olmsted County Hwy #12/112, also. However, it wouldn't take our well, our driveways nor render our home and outbuildings useless.

We can be reached at (507) 367-4578 if there are questions.

We are submitting these comments via email and we are mailing you a hard copy.

Sincerely,

Duane A. Koenig and DeLores I. Koenig

FEIS ID #108

MINNESOTA STATE FAIR
CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

DEADLINE: July 1

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

PRESENT OWNER OF FARM Delores Koenig

NAME AS YOU WISH IT TO APPEAR ON CERTIFICATE Degener Farm

ADDRESS 9747 Hwy 52 N Oronoco Mn 55960
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

PHONE NUMBER area code (507) 367-4578

ADDRESS OF FARM IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE 49685 Cty 55 Blvd Pine Island Mn

SECTION 21 TOWNSHIP Pine Island COUNTY Goodhue

NUMBER OF ACRES IN THE FARM AT PRESENT 240

DATE OF ORIGINAL PURCHASE BY A MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY 1896

HAS FARM BEEN PREVIOUSLY REGISTERED AS A CENTURY FARM? No IF SO, WHEN?

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF THE LAND (from deed, abstract, tax statement, etc.) SE 1/4 Sec 21 109 15 and W 1/2 of NW 1/4 Sec 22 109 15

PROOF OF 100 YEARS OWNERSHIP

Name	Years of Ownership From - To	Relationship to next owner
First Owner <u>Henry & Ernestine Degener</u>	<u>1896 - 1902</u>	<u>Parents</u>
Next Owner <u>Carl Degener</u>	<u>1902 - 1945</u>	<u>Father</u>
Next Owner <u>Arnold Degener</u>	<u>1945 - 1986</u>	<u>Father</u>
Next Owner <u>Delores Koenig & Laurel Cornish</u>	<u>1986 - Present</u>	
Next Owner		

The above evidence of continuous family ownership is taken from one or more of the following records.

Check those that apply:

- Abstract of Title
- Land Patent
- Original Deed
- Court File in Registration Proceedings
- County land Record
- Other: _____

I hereby certify that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Delores Koenig

(signature of present owner)

April 28, 2001

(date)

OVER

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Any information you can add to this form will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are only a guide. Feel free to add other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it. *This is not a requirement for Century Farm certification.*

FROM WHOM WAS THE FARM PURCHASED? Parents

HOW MANY ACRES WERE IN THE ORIGINAL PARCEL? 160, Additional 80A purchase in 1928

WHAT WAS THE COST OF LAND PER ACRE? unknown

WHERE WAS THE FIRST FAMILY OWNER BORN? Hanover, Germany (Heinrich) + Brandenburg, Deutchland (Ernestine)

DID HE/SHE ENGAGE IN ANY TRADES OR OCCUPATIONS OTHER THAN FARMING? unknown IF SO, PLEASE LIST _____

WAS THIS A HOMESTEAD? ?

IS THE ORIGINAL HOME, OR ANY PORTION OF IT, OR OTHER ORIGINAL BUILDING STILL STANDING OR IN USE? Yes

WHEN WAS THE PRESENT HOME BUILT? Approx. 1866

WHAT WERE THE FARM'S MAJOR CROPS OR PRODUCTS? Diversified early as all

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: small farms were, Now corn and beans.

Owner before the Degener's had intended to build a plantation type farmstead with separate outbuildings - kitchen, smokehouse etc. - from the main house. (Or so we were told) The original brick house is still a residence. The smokehouse was dismantled in 1950. There is still a brick front walk to be found under the sod, and remnants of a croquet court.

Mail Application To: Century Farms, Minnesota State Fair, 1265 Snelling Ave N., St. Paul MN 55108-3099

FEIS ID #108

Minnesota State Fair
CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

DEADLINE: July 1

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

PRESENT OWNER OF FARM Duane A. and DeLores Koenig

NAME AS YOU WISH IT TO APPEAR ON CERTIFICATE Koenig - Ihrke Farm

ADDRESS 9747 Hwy 52N Oranoco Mn. 55960
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

PHONE NUMBER area code (507) 367 4578

ADDRESS OF FARM IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE

SECTION 20 TOWNSHIP Oranoco COUNTY Olmsted

NUMBER OF ACRES IN THE FARM AT PRESENT 252.53

DATE OF ORIGINAL PURCHASE BY A MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY 1893

HAS FARM BEEN PREVIOUSLY REGISTERED AS A CENTURY FARM? No IF SO, WHEN?

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF THE LAND (from deed, abstract, tax statement, etc.) sect. 30, Twp 108, Range 14
5 1/2 SE 1/4 SE 1/4 & W 1/4 S 1/2 Sec less Corn at SE COR Sec TH W 1/4 8474 to Cen TH No
52 for Plat beg TH 307.2744 TH NW 179.55 FT TH NE 29639 FT TO CENT. H. No
52 TH SE ALSD CEN
PROOF OF 100 YEARS OWNERSHIP

Name	Years of Ownership From - To	Relationship to next owner
First Owner <u>Charley Ihrke</u>	<u>1893 - 1938</u>	<u>Father</u>
Next Owner <u>Frieda Koenig</u>	<u>1938 - 1966</u>	<u>Mother</u>
Next Owner <u>Duane Koenig</u>	<u>1966 - Present</u>	<u>Son / Owner</u>
Next Owner		
Next Owner		

The above evidence of continuous family ownership is taken from one or more of the following records.

Check those that apply:

- Abstract of Title
- Land Patent
- Original Deed
- Court File in Registration Proceedings
- County Land Record
- Other: _____

I hereby certify that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Duane Koenig DeLores Koenig April 30 2001
(signature of present owner) (date)

OVER

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Any information you can add to this form will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are only a guide. Feel free to add other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and the area around it. *This is not a requirement for Century Farm certification.*

FROM WHOM WAS THE FARM PURCHASED? Parents

HOW MANY ACRES WERE IN THE ORIGINAL PARCEL? 258.57

WHAT WAS THE COST OF LAND PER ACRE? unknown

WHERE WAS THE FIRST FAMILY OWNER BORN? In U.S.A. - place of birth unknown.

DID HE/SHE ENGAGE IN ANY TRADES OR OCCUPATIONS OTHER THAN FARMING? unknown
IF SO, PLEASE LIST _____

WAS THIS A HOMESTEAD? ? Exactly what do you mean by homestead

IS THE ORIGINAL HOME, OR ANY PORTION OF IT, OR OTHER ORIGINAL BUILDING STILL STANDING OR IN USE? No

WHEN WAS THE PRESENT HOME BUILT? 1958

WHAT WERE THE FARM'S MAJOR CROPS OR PRODUCTS? diversified = small grain, corn,

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: Milk cows, Hogs, Chickens etc until the 1970's - now
Corn & Soy

Original Land Office Records from 1856 show this
was three parcels.

Several Highway takings are recorded

Mail Application To: Century Farms, Minnesota State Fair, 1265 Snelling Ave N., St. Paul MN 55108-3099

108A.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

108B.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

Kirsch, Raymond (COMM)

From: Kolbes [kolbes@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 10:31 AM
To: Kirsch, Raymond (COMM)
Cc: kolbes@charter.net
Subject: 2P-002 for NW power lines

Dear Mr. Kirsch,

I am writing to oppose the proposed route on 65th street NW (alternative 2P-002) for the energy lines planned for NW Rochester. This route will affect many people in this residential area with many children being exposed to the potentially devastating effects from the magnetic fields generated by the power lines. Three studies published in the last year alone have shown potential links between these effects and hematologic malignancies (please see references below). While the results were not statistically significant in all of the studies, this demonstrates that the question has not been fully answered and until it has, avoiding residential areas whenever feasible seems like the prudent thing to do.

Sincerely,
 Amy Kolbe, MD

Childhood cancer and magnetic fields from high-voltage power lines in England and Wales: a case-control study.

Kroll ME, Swanson J, Vincent TJ, Draper GJ.
 Br J Cancer. 2010 Sep 28;103(7):1122-7.

Living near overhead high voltage transmission power lines as a risk factor for childhood acute lymphoblastic leukemia: a case-control study.

Sohrabi MR, Tarjoman T, Abadi A, Yavari P.
 Asian Pac J Cancer Prev. 2010;11(2):423-7.

Risk of hematological malignancies associated with magnetic fields exposure from power lines: a case-control study in two municipalities of northern Italy.

Malagoli C, Fabbi S, Teggi S, Calzari M, Poli M, Ballotti E, Notari B, Bruni M, Palazzi G, Paolucci P, Vinceti M.
 Environ Health. 2010 Mar 30;9:16.

109A.

Your comment and provided study are part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and PUC for consideration.

109A

Langan, Matthew (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 8:33 AM
To: Langan, Matthew (COMM)
Subject: Kolbe Tue Apr 26 08:32:57 2011 E002/TL-09-1448

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

You are receiving it because you are listed as the contact for this project.

Project Name: Hampton to Rochester to La Crosse 345kV and 161kV Transmission Line

Docket number: E002/TL-09-1448

User Name: Justin Kolbe

County: Olmsted County

City: Rochester

Email: justink@begquistcompany.com

Phone: 6515034055

110A

Impact: I am concerned about the proposed high voltage power line (CAPX2020) alternate number 2P-002 traveling along 65th st NW in Rochester, MN. Given the nature of high power transmission lines and the open questions regarding their safety (both while in standard operation or an accident where a line is knocked down) it seems like running the lines through a circuitous route or through more populated areas as proposed in alternate route 2P-002 is of questionable judgement. Furthermore, a longer route has more cost than a more direct route.

110B

110C

Mitigation: One of the many other route proposals seems to make much more sense than the proposed alternate route 2P-002, due to lower population densities and shorter cable lengths, which pose lower risk and lower cost.

Submission date: Tue Apr 26 08:32:57 2011

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

110A.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

110B.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.1 of the EIS.

110C.

The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

Langan, Matthew (COMM)

From: Jerome & Kottke [jerokott@pitel.net]
Sent: Sunday, April 24, 2011 9:07 PM
To: Langan, Matthew (COMM)
Subject: PUC Docket No. TL-09-1448

Dear Mr. Matthew Langan,

111A This email is in regards to PUC Docket No. TL-09-1448, and my cases against the route labeled segment 2 of 2C3-002, 2C3-003, 2C3-004 and 2C3-007. This segment includes property within the western city limits of Oronoco.

My cases against this proposed route include the following:

- 111B • Segment 2 of these routes does not follow an existing corridor, such as existing power lines or roadways. Since the route does not follow any existing corridor, it seems strange to have it located within 500 feet of many homes on the western edge of the city of Oronoco. The route is very close to several homes with small children. The proposed route would place the power lines **approximately 100 feet from our home**. Since studies on the health affects of overhead transmission lines are to date inconclusive and there are many other routes which present lower risk exposure, they seem to be a better choice rather than exposing so many families to potential adverse health risks.
- 111C • **This is a residential area.** Most people moved here because the 2-3 acre lots provide privacy and a large area to raise families and for other outdoor activities such as gardening. Almost all of the homes are well above the average home price value, and almost all are located on cul-de sacs, designed for low traffic. The proposed power line will not only have a negative impact on the aesthetics for current residents, but locating a power line in a housing development of this type will have a large percentage negative financial affect on the property values of homes. For example, our property has a 230 ft western property line. This means we would be **forfeiting approximately 20% of our two-acre property** to the power line right of way. The proposed power line route right of way would also include our septic and drain field.
- 111D • Locating the power lines on the western sides of these homes may also affect the safety of the residents in other ways. This is an area that has historically been prone to very high winds. The prevailing west and northwest winter winds may blow dangerous ice buildup off these lines onto structures or residents. The construction of the power line route will result in the destruction of the current windbreak landscaping along the western edge of the properties. The removal of the windbreak increases the potential of property damage from strong winds. The 75 ft right of way would come within 20 feet of our house, making the planting of a new effective windbreak impossible.
- 111E • This proposed route will make two river crossings. One of these crossings will be over a large area where the river channel flows north and south. Crossing these river channels will have a significant negative impact on these wetland areas and will cause additional soil erosion in an already sensitive watershed area.
- 111F • Since the proposed route makes two river crossings near Shady Lake, the migratory waterfowl population will also be adversely affected. The daily flight path of many water fowl follows the river

channels west from Shady Lake. The Oronoco region is a temporary resting area for many migratory waterfowl during the spring and fall.

111B We understand that no one wants a power line near their home. We also realize this was a citizen proposed route and was not in the proposed or alternative plan, but locating a power line on this proposed route does not make any sense to us. We believe a power line of this magnitude should be located either on an existing major corridor or should be located in a less residential area.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,

Tim Kottke and Diane Jerome
 201 13th Lane S.W.
 Oronoco, MN
 55960
 email: jerokott@pitel.net

111A.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

111B.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

111C.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.1 of the EIS for information on human health risk.

111D.

See Section 7.4 of the EIS.

111E.

See Section 7.2 of the EIS.

111F.

See Section 7.3.5 of the EIS. Your concern is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

111G.

See Section 7.8 of the EIS.

111H.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.7 of the EIS.

April 29, 2011

Mr. Matthew Langan
MN Dept of Commerce
85 7th Place East Suite 500
St Paul, MN 55101-2198

Public Comment Sheet – DEIS
CapX Hampton-LaCrosse Transmission Line Project
PUC Docket Number E002/TL-09-1448

Dennis and Laura Kreofsky
58691 185th Ave
Kellogg MN 55945

rsrbison@hbc.com

Dear Mr. Langan:

This comment sheet is being written with the concerns of Dennis and Laura Kreofsky, owners of Rattlesnake Ridge Bison, and of our children and grandchildren.

After reviewing the Draft Environmental Impact Statement we feel the following concerns need to be addressed and clarified.

- 1) Although not specifically addressed, route alternatives should be within the scope of the DEIS. Alignment alternates by definition lie within the requested route width and therefore should be covered in the DEIS. Please add clarifying statements to the final report.
- 2) Alignment alternatives 1-12 as shown on figures 13 and 14 carry no descriptive information specifically starting and ending points, length of run, deviation from requested route center line, and changes of directions. Please add this descriptive information to the final EIS.

In the DEIS under Issues outside of the scope of the EIS on page 30, we would like a further explanation of Item 6 paragraph three. Where exactly is this route alternative located? Please provide transcript and other documentations demonstrating how and why more resources are impacted.

Thank you for your time.

Dennis Kreofsky
Laura Kreofsky
Dennis and Laura Kreofsky
Rattlesnake Ridge Bison

112A.

The route data analyses in the EIS were completed for a single presumed alignment within each route. The EIS figures, however, do show other specific alignments within the route that were suggested during the scoping process. The final alignment within the Commission-selected route will be determined during final design, which the applicant will coordinate with nearby residents and other affected landowners.

112B.

As stated in the Scoping Decision Document, route alternatives were rejected as they either did not meet the stated need of the project, had more impacts relative to the criteria used by the Commission in route permit decisions, or were incomplete in their description and/or depiction. In most cases these rejected route alternatives either had constructability issues due to proximity to structure/infrastructure or had significantly more houses with 500 feet. Specific reasons are provided in the Scoping Decision Document.

112A

112B

Langan, Matthew (COMM)

From: Curtis Kuecker [curtkuecker@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2011 12:37 PM
To: Langan, Matthew (COMM)
Subject: DEIS Comments for PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448

April 12, 2011

2213 White Bridge Rd NE
 Rochester, MN 55906

To: Matthew Langan
 State Permit Manager
 Minnesota Office of Energy Security – Energy Facility Permitting
 85 7th Place East, Suite 500 | St. Paul, Minnesota, 55101

Dear Mr. Langan

In reference to **PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448**.

I have property along the preferred route at 2213 White Bridge Rd NE, Rochester, MN 55906 consisting of 67 acres in Farmington Township (R83.07.33.032950, Section 07, Twp 108 Range 013) and along the alternate route consisting of 168 acres in Zumbro-Hyde Park Township (R17.00043.00 Section 19 Twp 109 Range 013).

Referencing PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448 and specifically “Minnesota OES Issues Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse project on March 21, 2011” HRL_DEIS_Appendix_A_Part2

Specifically related to the area where the 3P line crosses the Zumbro River and to the point that 3P, 3P-006, 3P-007, and 3P-0011 join back together, I would like to make the following comments. (Reference Sheet MR11)

113A Preferred route 3P is the route I would recommend. In this section there are 3 homes within the 1000 foot corridor and none are within 75 feet of the line. This route primarily follows property lines through this area. The line in this location will have less visual impact to the area since it is setback from Co road 12 and most residences.

113B

113C

I would discourage use of the 3P-011. Although this will only affect 2 homes within the 1000 foot corridor it will require an easement through the middle of several properties. This will restrict land use for future development as it will create a no development zone through the middle of personal property that will be in addition to the normal setback required from property lines. For me personally this will take away the option of a future building site for a home. One of my siting preferences would be off the back of my grove and would be within the 3P-011 right-of-way. This line will also cross a wet land. This is located along my west property line directly under the proposed power line route. This area generally has standing water in spots and can seldom be crossed with equipment. This route will also have negative visual impacts compared to the 3P route.

113D

113E

I would also recommend against route 3P-006. Although this follows the current right-of-way along County Road 12, it will have 13 homes within the 1000 foot corridor. Although less disruptive to property, there is increased exposure to EMF and noise for those living along this route. It also has a negative impact to visual aesthetics to those living and traveling along CO 12 compared to using the 3P route.

113G

Route 3P-007 does not directly impact my property as compared to the other three routes mentioned but it will impact the visual aesthetics more than the 3P route. This route will affect 3 homes within the 1000 foot corridor. This route will also cross prime farmland. This route will follow along high geographical points in the township. That will make the line visible for many miles and will impact the visual aesthetics much more than the less prominent land along the 3P route.

113H

In aggregate, considering land use, the affect on people’s homes, not crossing a wetland, less visual impact, and the advantage of following current property lines, I would recommend using the 3P route.

113I

Referencing “Minnesota OES Issues Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse project on March 21, 2011” HRL_DEIS_Appendix_A_Part2

113J

Specifically related to the 3A route and the alternative 3A-003 and 3A-004 routes (Reference Sheet MR30). If this alternative route is selected, my preference would be for the 3A-004 route, and then the 3A-003 route. Either of these will be less disruptive to a wildlife corridor along my south property line. If the the 3A route is followed through this area, a large section of wildlife habitat will be destroyed. Following the 3A route in this area will also inhibit my ability to generate income from woodland and sale of forestry products. The 3A-003 route has the advantage of following an existing property line.

For these reasons, I would recommend using the 3A-003 or my preferred 3A-004 route through this section of the 3A alternate route.

Sincerely,

Curtis Kuecker

Tele (507) 753-2977

FEIS ID #113

113A.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

113B.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.3.1 of the EIS.

113C.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.2 of the EIS.

113D.

See Section 7.8.6. Wetlands were identified using the USFWS National Wetlands Inventory and there are some inaccuracies with these data. During the permitting phase, the wetlands in the route will be delineated and avoided as possible.

113E.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

113F.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.3.1 of the EIS.

113G.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.3.1 of the EIS.

113H.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

113I.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.7 of the EIS.

113J.

Map 8.3-34 and Section 8.3.4.5 of the EIS have been updated to include this information.

Langan, Matthew (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2011 1:00 PM
To: Langan, Matthew (COMM)
Subject: Kuecker Tue Apr 12 13:00:04 2011 E002/TL-09-1448

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

You are receiving it because you are listed as the contact for this project.

Project Name: Hampton to Rochester to La Crosse 345kV and 161kV Transmission Line

Docket number: E002/TL-09-1448

User Name: Curtis Kuecker

County: Olmsted County

City: Rochester

Email: curtkuecker@hotmail.com

Phone: (507) 753-2977

Impact: In reference to PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448. I have property along the preferred route at 2213 White Bridge Rd NE, Rochester, MN 55906 consisting of 67 acres in Farmington Township (R83.07.33.032950, Section 07, Twp 108 Range 013) and along the alternate route consisting of 168 acres in Zumbro-Hyde Park Township (R17.00043.00 Section 19 Twp 109 Range 013). Referencing PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448 and specifically "Minnesota OES Issues Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse project on March 21, 2011" HRL_DEIS_Appendix_A_Part2 Specifically related to the area where the 3P line crosses the Zumbro River and to the point that 3P, 3P-006, 3P-007, and 3P-0011 join back together, I would like to make the following comments. (Reference Sheet MR11) Preferred route 3P is the route I would recommend. In this section there a 3 homes within the 1000 foot corridor and none are within 75 feet of the line. This route primarily follows property lines through this area. The line in this location will have less visual impact to the area since it is setback from Co road 12 and most residences. I would discourage use of the 3P-011. Although this will only affect 2 homes within the 1000 foot corridor it will require an easement through the middle of several properties. This will restrict land use for future development as it will create a no development zone through the middle of personal property that will be in addition to the normal setback required from property lines. For me personally this will take away the option of a future building site for a home. One of my siting preferences would be off the back of my grove and would be within the 3P-011 right-of-way. This line will also cross a wet land. This is located along my west property line directly under the proposed power line route. This area generally has standing water in spots and can seldom be crossed with equipment. This route will also have negative visual impacts compared to the 3P route. I would also recommend against route 3P-006. Although this follows the current right-of-way along County Road 12, it will have 13 homes within the 1000 foot corridor. Although less disruptive to property, there is increased exposure to EMF and noise for those living along this route. It also has a negative impact to visual aesthetics to those living and traveling along CO 12 compared to using the 3P route. Route 3P-007 does not directly impact my property as compared to the other three routes mentioned but it will impact the visual aesthetics more than the 3P route. This route will affect 3 homes within

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114G

114G
(cont)

114H

114I

114J

the 1000 foot corridor. This route will also cross prime farmland. This route will follow along high geographical points in the township. That will make the line visible for many miles and will impact the visual aesthetics much more than the less prominent land along the 3P route. In aggregate, considering land use, the affect on people's homes, not crossing a wetland, less visual impact, and the advantage of following current property lines, I would recommend using the 3P route. Referencing "Minnesota OES Issues Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse project on March 21, 2011" HRL_DEIS_Appendix_A_Part2 Specifically related to the 3A route and the alternative 3A-003 and 3A-004 routes (Reference Sheet MR30). If this alternative route is selected, my preference would be for the 3A-004 route, and then the 3A-003 route. Either of these will be less disruptive to a wildlife corridor along my south property line. If the the 3A route is followed through this area, a large section of wildlife habitat will be destroyed. Following the 3A route in this area will also inhibit my ability to generate income from woodland and sale of forestry products. The 3A-003 route has the advantage of following an existing property line. For these reasons, I would recommend using the 3A-003 or my preferred 3A-004 route through this section of the 3A alternate route.

Mitigation: In reference to the 3P route above, in aggregate, considering land use, the affect on people's homes, not crossing a wetland, less visual impact, and the advantage of following current property lines, I would recommend using the 3P route verses the 3P-011, 3P-007, and 3P-006 routes. In reference to the 3A route above, to not impact a wildlife corridor and forestry, I would recommend using the 3A-003 or my preferred 3A-004 route through this section of the 3A alternate route.

Submission date: Tue Apr 12 13:00:04 2011

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

FEIS ID #114

114A.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

114B.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.3.1 of the EIS.

114C.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.2 of the EIS.

114D.

See Section 7.8.6. Wetlands were identified using the USFWS National Wetlands Inventory and there are some inaccuracies with these data. During the permitting phase, the wetlands in the route will be delineated and avoided as possible.

114E.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.1 of the EIS for information on EMF.

114F.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.3.1 of the EIS.

114G.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.3.1 of the EIS.

114H.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

114I.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.7 of the EIS.

114J.

Map 8.3-34 and Section 8.3.4.5 of the EIS have been updated to include this information.

April 12, 2011

2213 White Bridge Rd NE
Rochester, MN 55906

To: Matthew Langan
State Permit Manager
Minnesota Office of Energy Security – Energy Facility Permitting
85 7th Place East, Suite 500 | St. Paul, Minnesota, 55101

Dear Mr. Langan

In reference to **PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448**.

I have property along the preferred route at 2213 White Bridge Rd NE, Rochester, MN 55906 consisting of 67 acres in Farmington Township (R83.07.33.032950, Section 07, Twp 108 Range 013) and along the alternate route consisting of 168 acres in Zumbro-Hyde Park Township (R17.00043.00 Section 19 Twp 109 Range 013).

Referencing **PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448** and specifically “Minnesota OES Issues Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse project on March 21, 2011” HRL_DEIS_Appendix_A_Part2

Specifically related to the area where the 3P line crosses the Zumbro River and to the point that 3P, 3P-006, 3P-007, and 3P-0011 join back together, I would like to make the following comments. (Reference Sheet MR11)

Preferred route 3P is the route I would recommend. In this section there a 3 homes within the 1000 foot corridor and none are within 75 feet of the line. This route primarily follows property lines through this area. The line in this location will have less visual impact to the area since it is setback from Co road 12 and most residences.

I would discourage use of the 3P-011. Although this will only affect 2 homes within the 1000 foot corridor it will require an easement through the middle of several properties. This will restrict land use for future development as it will create a no development zone through the middle of personal property that will be in addition to the normal setback required from property lines. For me personally this will take away the option of a future building site for a home. One of my siting preferences would be off the back of my grove and would be within the 3P-011 right-of-way. This line will also cross a wet land. This is located along my west property line directly under the proposed power line route. This area generally has standing water in spots and can seldom be crossed with equipment. This route will also have negative visual impacts compared to the 3P route.

I would also recommend against route 3P-006. Although this follows the current right-of-way along County Road 12, it will have 13 homes within the 1000 foot corridor. Although less disruptive to property, there is increased exposure to EMF and noise for

115F

those living along this route. It also has a negative impact to visual aesthetics to those living and traveling along CO 12 compared to using the 3P route.

115G

Route 3P-007 does not directly impact my property as compared to the other three routes mentioned but it will impact the visual aesthetics more than the 3P route. This route will affect 3 homes within the 1000 foot corridor. This route will also cross prime farmland. This route will follow along high geographical points in the township. That will make the line visible for many miles and will impact the visual aesthetics much more than the less prominent land along the 3P route.

115H

In aggregate, considering land use, the affect on people’s homes, not crossing a wetland, less visual impact, and the advantage of following current property lines, I would recommend using the 3P route.

Referencing “Minnesota OES Issues Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse project on March 21, 2011”
HRL_DEIS_Appendix_A_Part2

115I

Specifically related to the 3A route and the alternative 3A-003 and 3A-004 routes (Reference Sheet MR30). If this alternative route is selected, my preference would be for the 3A-004 route, and then the 3A-003 route. Either of these will be less disruptive to a wildlife corridor along my south property line. If the the 3A route is followed through this area, a large section of wildlife habitat will be destroyed. Following the 3A route in this area will also inhibit my ability to generate income from woodland and sale of forestry products. The 3A-003 route has the advantage of following an existing property line.

115J

For these reasons, I would recommend using the 3A-003 or my preferred 3A-004 route through this section of the 3A alternate route.

Sincerely,



Curtis Kuecker

Tele (507) 753-2977

115A

115B

115C

115D

115E



Appendix A - Sheet MR11
Detail Map
Segment 3,
North Rochester Substation to Mississippi River

2028 FSA Aerial Photo
Refer to Appendix B for information on data sources

0 500 1,000 Feet
0 500 1,000 Meters

Original Alignments
 P Route
 A Route
 Additional Alternative Routes
 Variation on P Route
 Variation on A Route
 Variation on Both
 Parallel Alignment
 150-foot ROW
 200-foot ROW
 1,000-foot Route Width

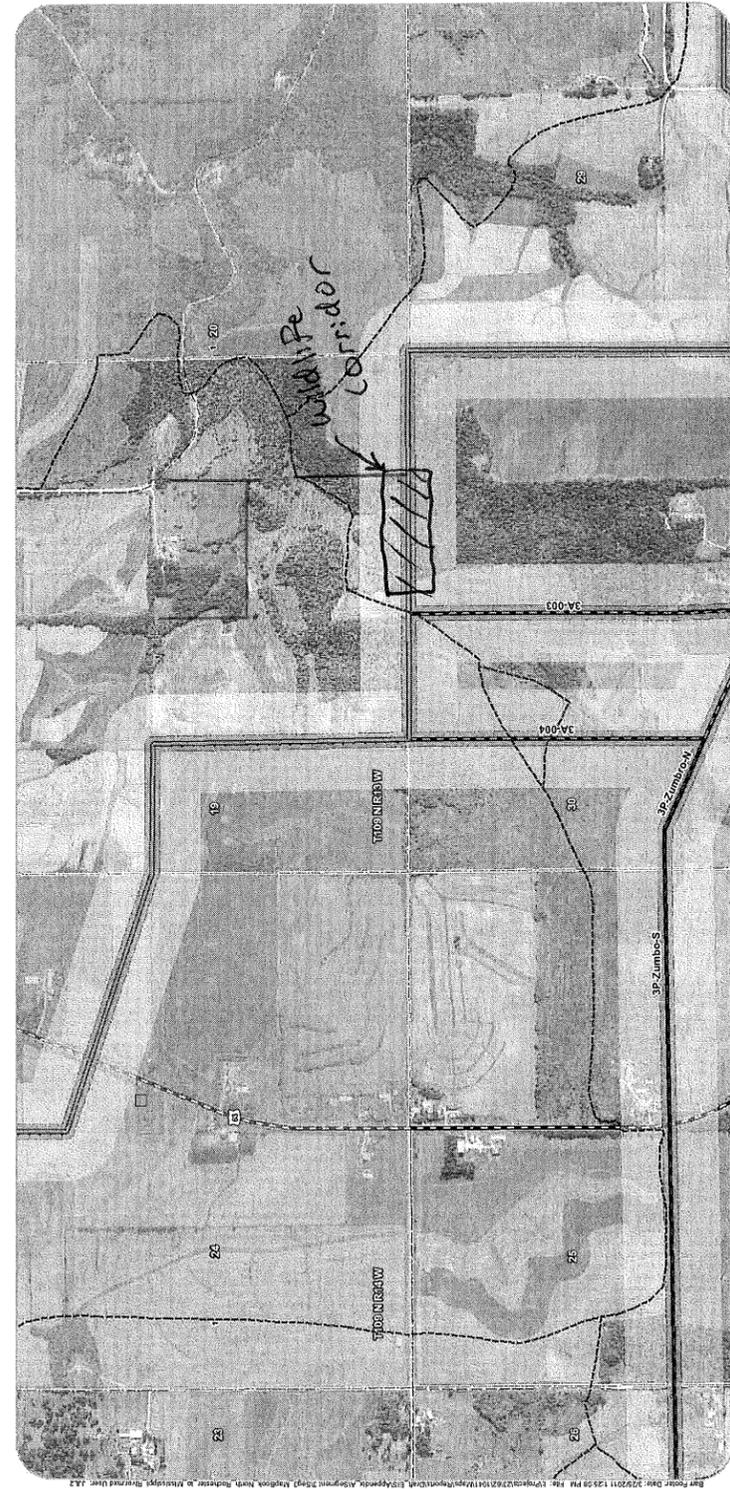
Project Substations
 Residences within 75 Feet of Alternatives
 Residences within 500 Feet of Alternatives
 Churches
 Cemeteries
 Schools
 Nursing Homes
 Hospitals
 Pinch Points
 Airport
 State Designated Railroad Prairie
 MN DNR Natural Heritage
 Botanical
 Ecological
 Zoological

Botanical
 Ecological
 Zoological
 Snowmobile Trail
 State Existing Trail
 Fish Technology Center
 Fishery Research Station
 National Fish Hatchery
 National Wildlife Refuge
 National Production Area
 MCBs Biodiversity Significance
 Moderate Significance
 High Significance
 Outstanding Significance
 Wildlife Management Area
 Scientific and Natural Area

State Park
 State Forest
 Tribal Lands
 Trout Streams
 O3 FEMA Floodplain
 Recreational
 Scenic
 Wild
 Designated Wildlife Lakes
 Impaired Lakes
 Impaired Streams
 Public Water Inventory Basins
 (includes lakes and wetlands)
 Public Water Inventory Watercourse
 NWI Wetlands
 Wetland Crossings > 1,000 Feet

Wetland Area (acres)
 within 150-foot ROW
 0.0 - 0.5
 0.6 - 1.0
 1.1 - 2.0
 2.1 - 3.0
 3.1 - 6.1
 Archaeological Sites
 1 - 2
 3 - 4
 5 - 6
 Historical Sites
 1 - 5
 6 - 20
 21 - 164

Goodhue County
 Dodge County
 Olmsted County
 Winona County



Appendix A - Sheet MR30
Detail Map
Segment 3,
North Rochester Substation to Mississippi River

2028 FSA Aerial Photo
Refer to Appendix B for information on data sources

0 500 1,000 Feet
0 500 1,000 Meters

Original Alignments
 P Route
 A Route
 Additional Alternative Routes
 Variation on P Route
 Variation on A Route
 Variation on Both
 Parallel Alignment
 150-foot ROW
 200-foot ROW
 1,000-foot Route Width

Project Substations
 Residences within 75 Feet of Alternatives
 Residences within 500 Feet of Alternatives
 Churches
 Cemeteries
 Schools
 Nursing Homes
 Hospitals
 Pinch Points
 Airport
 State Designated Railroad Prairie
 MN DNR Natural Heritage
 Botanical
 Ecological
 Zoological

Botanical
 Ecological
 Zoological
 Snowmobile Trail
 State Existing Trail
 Fish Technology Center
 Fishery Research Station
 National Fish Hatchery
 National Wildlife Refuge
 National Production Area
 MCBs Biodiversity Significance
 Moderate Significance
 High Significance
 Outstanding Significance
 Wildlife Management Area
 Scientific and Natural Area

State Park
 State Forest
 Tribal Lands
 Trout Streams
 O3 FEMA Floodplain
 Recreational
 Scenic
 Wild
 Designated Wildlife Lakes
 Impaired Lakes
 Impaired Streams
 Public Water Inventory Basins
 (includes lakes and wetlands)
 Public Water Inventory Watercourse
 NWI Wetlands
 Wetland Crossings > 1,000 Feet

Wetland Area (acres)
 within 150-foot ROW
 0.0 - 0.5
 0.6 - 1.0
 1.1 - 2.0
 2.1 - 3.0
 3.1 - 6.1
 Archaeological Sites
 1 - 2
 3 - 4
 5 - 6
 Historical Sites
 1 - 5
 6 - 20
 21 - 164

Goodhue County
 Dodge County
 Olmsted County
 Winona County

115A.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

115B.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.3.1 of the EIS.

115C.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.2 of the EIS.

115D.

See Section 7.8.6. Wetlands were identified using the USFWS National Wetlands Inventory and there are some inaccuracies with these data. During the permitting phase, the wetlands in the route will be delineated and avoided as possible.

115E.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.1 of the EIS.

115F.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.3.1 of the EIS.

115G.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.3.1 of the EIS.

115H.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

115I.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.7 of the EIS.

115J.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.7 of the EIS.

Langan, Matthew (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2011 2:45 PM
To: Langan, Matthew (COMM)
Subject: Kukson Wed Apr 20 14:44:39 2011 E002/TL-09-1448

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

You are receiving it because you are listed as the contact for this project.

Project Name: Hampton to Rochester to La Crosse 345kV and 161kV Transmission Line

Docket number: E002/TL-09-1448

User Name: Brenda Kukson

County: Olmsted County

City: Pine Island

Email: kukson.brenda@mayo.edu

Phone: 507-356-8703

Impact: My parents Barb and Roger Poole 510th street Pine Island are right in the path of the power lines. The line would be on 2 sides of their property. This is their retirement home and the power lines would be in direct view of their home in 2 directions. This would greatly reduce their property value and the enjoyment of their property. This land is RIM (reinvest in Minnesota)land. My father and my sons have planted trees on this property and built a trail system. They have also restored native prairie grass all with the DNRs help and partial funding. This makes for some beautiful property. If the line comes through their trees that they have planted would have to be cut down in order for the power line clearance. This would greatly diminish their property value!

116A

116B

116B

116C

Mitigation: The Northern route is the answer! This effects less people which would make the most sense. The segment planned near 510th st Roger Poole property should be avoided. Planning it on either side of his retirement investment home is a absurd burden! Thank -you for your consideration. NORTHERN ROUTE!!!!

Submission date: Wed Apr 20 14:44:39 2011

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

116A.

See Section 7.3.1 of the EIS.

116B.

See Section 7.2 of the EIS.

116C.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.



85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
 main: 651.296.4026 tty: 651.296.2860 fax: 651.297.7891
 www.commerce.state.mn.us

PUBLIC COMMENT SHEET

CapX Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project

PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448

Name: CRISTAL LACANNE Representing: _____

Address: 14929 Showood trail - Zumbrota, mn 55992 Email: _____

117A

Comments: 1P004 - 1P005 go past too many homes & would require acquiring new right of way etc.

117B

Should stay along Hwy 52 less house to already have right of way!

117C

this would have negative effect on wildlife!

Please submit comments by **4:30pm, April 29, 2011** to:

Matthew Langan Email: matthew.langan@state.mn.us
 Minnesota Dept. of Commerce Phone: 651-296-2096
 85 7th Place East Fax: 651-297-7891
 Suite 500
 St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

117A.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

117B.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

117C.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.7 of the EIS.



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PUBLIC COMMENT SHEET

CapX Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project

PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448

Name: CRISTAL LACANNE Representing: _____

Address: 14929 SHERWOOD TRAIL ZUMBROTA, MN 55992 Email: _____

Comments:
I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY CONCERNS OF THE PROPOSED ROUTE OF THE POWER LINES WHICH WOULD RUN VERY CLOSE TO MY HOUSE I HAVE 2 CHILDREN WHO I LOVE DEARLY AND HAVE HEARD THAT PEOPLE WHO EVEN STAND UNDER THESE LINES CAN FEEL ELECTRICITY GOING THRU THEIR BODIES ALSO I DO NOT WANT MY KIDS HEALTH PUT IN JEOPARDY AS WELL AS MY OWN WHICH I ALREADY HAVE A BAD HEART. PLEASE CONSIDER JUST RUNNING IT ALONG HWY 52 WHICH MAKES MORE SENSE. THANK YOU!
Cristal Lacanne

Please submit comments by **4:30pm, April 29, 2011** to:

Matthew Langan
Minnesota Dept. of Commerce
85 7th Place East
Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
Email: matthew.langan@state.mn.us
Phone: 651-296-2096
Fax: 651-297-7891

118A.

See Section 7.1 of the EIS.

118B.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

118A

118B



Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

The Nature Conservancy in Minnesota
North Dakota & South Dakota
1101 West River Parkway, Suite 200
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Tel (612) 331-0700
Fax (612) 331-0770

nature.org

April 28, 2011

Matthew Langan, State Permit Manager
Minnesota Office of Energy Security
Energy Facility Permitting
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Re: TL09-1448 - In the Matter of the Application by Xcel Energy for a Route Permit for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV and 161 kV Transmission Line Project

Dear Mr. Langan,

The Nature Conservancy has reviewed the draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Hampton to Rochester to La Crosse 345 kV and 161 kV Transmission Lines Project. I am writing this letter to provide a few general comments about potential impacts to valuable natural resources that occur on the Minnesota side of the above listed proposed project.

The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. In southeast Minnesota, The Nature Conservancy has identified the confluence of the Zumbro and Mississippi Rivers and the sand delta that formed behind it as a high priority conservation area for its characteristic sand dunes, dry sand prairie and many rare species that occur there. The Conservancy refers to this area as the Weaver Dunes-Zumbro Delta conservation area, a place where we currently own and manage approximately 820 acres in Minneiska Township, Wabasha County.

A top concern about the final ROW alignment for the 345 kV line is that it will further and permanently fragment remaining blocks of forests, prairie, grassland and wetland that may intersect or fall within the full length of its alignment, leading to reduction in area and an increase in edge effect (refer to pg. 45- 46 of draft EIS for summary of edge effect). We strongly recommend the final alignment avoid such habitat and be co-located within the rights of way of existing highways, roadways, railroads and/or utility easements, other than where federal-listed or state-listed threatened or endangered species, state-designated railroad prairies, Sites of Biodiversity Significance or any other rare and unique natural resources occur within those rights of way.

One exception to the above recommendation is that the final ROW alignment should not be located within the existing ROW that cuts across McCarthy Lake Wildlife Management Area. We would prefer that it be diverted around this protected area to avoid creating new temporary and permanent impacts to the habitat of one of the largest Blanding's turtle population in Minnesota that inhabits this important wetland complex.

The spatial impacts of and the disturbance associated with the installation and maintenance of transmission lines and structures often extend beyond the actual infrastructure and can cause the

119A

119B

119C

119D

119D
(cont)

119E

introduction and spread of invasive species into native habitats. During the construction and installation stages of this project, we encourage Xcel Energy and its regional partners to adopt the best management practices outlined in Section V of Operational Order 113 developed by the Ecological Resources Division of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to avoid the unintended introduction and spread of invasive species caused by the movement of materials and equipment during construction or maintenance of these transmission lines.

Lastly, the Conservancy is also concerned that an additional high voltage transmission line crossing the Mississippi River will lead to an increase in avian mortality as this is a major migratory bird flyway. We are pleased that the applicants are working in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to design structures that will minimize the heights of structures and numbers of horizontal planes crossing the river to help reduce this hazard to migratory birds.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Margaret Ladner
State Director
The Nature Conservancy
Minnesota/North Dakota/South Dakota Chapter

FEIS ID #119

119A.

See Section 7.7 of the EIS.

119B.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.6 of the EIS.

119C.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration. See Section 7.6 of the EIS.

119D.

See Section 7.7 of the EIS.

119E.

See Section 7.7 of the EIS.



April 20, 2011

PUC DOCKET NO. TL-09-1448

Matthew Langan
 State Permit Manager
 Minnesota Office of Energy
 Security – Energy Facility Permitting
 85 7th Place East, Suite 500

Dear Mr. Langan,

After raising my children, my husband and I decided that we would retreat to the countryside in the Kenyon area. My husband is from this area, has lived here all his life, and has strong ties to it. I am not originally from the area but I enjoy its history which my husband conveys to me. Those histories are so rich in tradition and make up so much of what my husband is that I couldn't imagine living anywhere else. My husband and I searched for 15 years for a place that met our criteria. We wanted acreage. We wanted quiet. We wanted natural beauty. We wanted to be near Kenyon. When we finally found our spot we couldn't get the purchase locked in fast enough. Our spot has a creek, a beautiful valley, and century old oaks. It has 131 acres of marginally tiled or un-tiled farm ground, which drains into nearly 25 acres of wetland and 60 acres of old pasture ground. Our property has 3 building sites with nearly 25 farm buildings on them. After we purchased we decided that since we had the means, we wanted to restore all the buildings on the property in order to preserve the story they tell. Our farm buildings are representative of farm life from the late 1800's through the 1950's and the story they tell of our history is worth preserving. We set about restoring the 1890's farmhouse first. That is the project we were working on when we heard that Xcel Energy was planning on running a high-voltage transmission line east to west across the middle of our 263 acres and then north to south directly over the roof of our house.

120A

My husband is still working on the house. Whenever they are available, he buys his construction materials from the hardware store in Kenyon (or the lumber yard when that was there) even though those materials are more expensive. He employs locally whenever he needs someone and this all contributes to our local economy in a time of depressed conditions and helps to keep our small community vital. He plants between 75 to 150 trees a year in order to maintain habitat for wildlife and to maintain a healthy natural environment. I am planting 50 trees this year for syrup and hardwood. I employ local youth to help with the day-to-day work. I tutor math in the elementary school. I conscientiously buy my groceries and gas in town even though I can buy more cheaply elsewhere. I eat out locally. My husband and I donate to local charities.

When we moved here we brought our values with us. These values include the aesthetic preservation, not only of our land, but of our surroundings. We are committed to enhancing the well being of our farm, our neighbors, and our community. If this transmission line goes here, we have decided to have Xcel "Buy the Farm". We will take with us the advantages this community gets from us. And even though we love our land, our surroundings, and our community, we will start over elsewhere.

We respectfully request that you preserve the rural landscape by keeping the transmission lines on the Highway 52 corridor where the aesthetic benefits of nature and rural farm life have already been significantly impacted by the intrusion of industry.

Sincerely,
 Mary Lazaretti
 44755 50th Avenue
 Kenyon, MN 55946



85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
 main: 651.296.4026 tty: 651.296.2869 fax: 651.297.7891
 www.commerce.state.mn.us

PUBLIC COMMENT SHEET

CapX Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project

PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448

Name: *Mary Lazaretti*

Representing:

Address: *44 755 - 50th Avenue
 Kenyon, MN 55946*

Contiguous Property
4624 County 30 Blvd.
 Email:
4687 - 450th Avenue

Comments:

DEAR MR. LANGAN, After raising my children, my husband and I decided that we would retreat to the countryside in the Kenyon area. My husband is from the area, has lived here all his life, and has strong ties to it. I am not originally from the area but I enjoy its history which my husband conveys to me. Those histories are so rich in tradition and make up so much of what my husband is that I couldn't imagine living anywhere else. My husband and I searched for 15 years for a place that met our criteria. We wanted acreage. We wanted quiet. We wanted natural beauty. We wanted to be near Kenyon. When we finally found our spot we couldn't get the purchase locked in yet enough. Our spot has a creek, a beautiful valley, and century old oaks. It has 131 acres of marginally tilled or untilled farm ground, which drains into nearly 25 acres of wetland and 60 acres of old pasture ground. Our property has 3

Please submit comments by **4:30pm, April 29, 2011** to:

Matthew Langan
 Minnesota Dept. of Commerce
 85 7th Place East
 Suite 500
 St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Email: matthew.langan@state.mn.us
 Phone: 651-296-2096
 Fax: 651-297-7891

building sites with nearly 25 farm buildings on them. After we purchased we decided that since we had the means, we wanted to restore all the buildings on the property in order to preserve the story they tell. Our farm buildings are representative of farm life from the late 1800's through the 1950's and the story they tell of our history is worth preserving. We set about restoring the 1890's farmhouse first. That is the project we were working on when we heard that Xcel Energy was planning on running a high-voltage transmission line east to west across the middle of our 263 acres and then north to south over the roof of our house.

My husband is still working on the house. Whenever they are available, he buys his construction materials from the hardware store in Kenyon (or the lumber yard when that was there) even though those materials are more expensive. I employ locally whenever possible and this all contributes to our local economy in a time of depressed conditions and helps to keep our small community vital. He plants between 75 and 150 trees a year in order to maintain habitat for wildlife and to maintain a healthy natural environment. I am planting 50 trees this year for syrup and hardwood. I employ local youth to help with the day-to-day work. I tutor math in the elementary school. I conscientiously buy my groceries and gas in town even though I can buy more cheaply elsewhere. I eat out locally. My husband and I donate substantially to

local charities.

When we moved here we brought our values with us. These values include the aesthetic preservation, not only of our land, but of our surroundings. We are committed to enhancing the well being of our farm, our neighbors, and our community. If this Transmission Line goes here, we have decided to have Xcel "Buy the Farm", We will take with us the advantages this community gets from us. And even though we love our land, our surrounding, and our community, we will start over elsewhere.

We respectfully request that you preserve the rural landscape by keeping the transmission lines on the Highway 52 corridor where the aesthetic benefits of nature and rural farm life have already been significantly impacted by the intrusion of industry.

Sincerely,
 Mary Kay
 44755 - 50th Avenue
 Kenyon, Mn. 55946

120A.

See Section 7.3.1 of the EIS. Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. Your comment is now part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in this EIS, and will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and Commission for consideration.

Langan, Matthew (COMM)

From: leedham.denise@att.net
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2011 9:19 PM
To: Langan, Matthew (COMM)
Subject: CAPX 2020 comments

I am submitting a landowner's comments on the link southward from 3P-009 to 3P-005 starting on County 21 in Wabasha County through the finishing stretch past Postier's Drive to 18th Avenue in Olmsted County:

121A

1. This route was on the list because it would follow an existing power line right-of-way owned by Rochester Public Utilities, not because of any other valid reason. The past right-of-way is not a 150 foot easement as the new structure would require.

121B

2. Most landowners along this section had no idea that the proposal through this area had even been discussed or was on the table. The earlier maps did not have any suggested power line on this route so landowners did not realize they should have been to meetings to find out that the new 345 kv line might be in their front yard.

121C

3. This suggested route goes through a wetland by the name of Rousch's Bay on the southwest corner of Lake Zumbro. This bay is on many migrating birds' routes. Pelicans stop in the bay annually, as do loons, different duck species, geese and swans. It is home to some of the waterfowl that do stay for the summer. On the verbal directions of this route, the instructions say "cross-country to "; it never mentions that it is a bay or wetland that is being traversed by the power line route. Many of the migration paths seem to have increased over Lake Zumbro since Lake Shady is no longer.

121D

121E

4. This section of the proposed routes for the power line is approximately 3 miles long, but has 6 residences that are within 75 feet of the proposed centerline, and 38 residences that would be affected by the line. This count is higher than any other of the proposed routes.

5. Many of the residences have school aged children that will be continually under those power lines during a normal day - either just playing in the front yard, waiting for the school bus directly under the lines, or just living in their own house that is under the lines.

121F

6. There are dwarf trout lilies and wood turtles living in the vicinity of the proposed power line near Rousch's Bay. These are both on the endangered species list.

121G

7. Lake Zumbro is a recreation area for Southeast Minnesota. There is a local water ski team that practices and shows on the lake throughout the summer as well as fishing, pleasure boating, bird-watching, and just enjoying nature. Winter brings out ice-fishing, snowmobiling, skiing, and other pursuits. This is the only lake in the area and should not be damaged by the power lines crossing it over Rousch's Bay or elsewhere.

IN GENERAL:

121H

The DEIS is concerned about routes that the power line should use, it does not clearly define the amount of voltage that is found within different distances of the line. It does not clearly or unclearly state how the stray voltage affects the plants and animals that live near or under a 345kv power line. It does not clearly state what the need for the power line has for going where it is proposed. It does not state why it cannot use current public right-of-ways (such as the highway/interstate corridors). It is copied verbatim from other DEIS from other parts of the country and says very little that specifically pertains to us in Southeast Minnesota. Anything of this

121I

121J

magnitude should be put in a referendum to the people that it affects and not just signed over by a group of non-elected officials that do not have the voice of the people. It has been pushed upon many others throughout the United States and will also just be pushed upon us regardless of the input of the people. I am not saying that we do not use more and more power each year and this may be absolutely vital to put it through, but those arguments are never given so that we could accept this need for a high voltage power line - it just feels that it is being pushed upon us because a company wants it and not because we need it.

Jim and Denise Leedham
 56448 County Road 21
 Mazeppa, MN 55956

121A.

The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

121B.

This route was suggested late in the EIS scoping process; landowners should have been identified and notified at that time.

121C.

See Section 7.7 of the EIS.

121D.

See Section 7.8 of the EIS.

121E.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

121F.

See Section 7.6 of the EIS.

121G.

Your objection/preference of the specified route is noted. The comment is part of the record in this matter by its inclusion in the EIS, and will be submitted to the OAH and Commission for consideration.

121H.

Voltages along the line are discussed throughout the EIS. Impacts of stray voltage are discussed in Section 7.1.2 of the EIS. The information included in the EIS targeted a level of detail relevant to a reasoned choice among alternatives. See Minn. Rule 4410.2300, Subpart. H.

121I.

The routes were proposed, selected and reasons for selection described in the scoping decision document for this Project, available on the Project web site.

121J.

The need for this transmission line has been previously determined by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Docket No. CN-06-1115). Questions of need for this project cannot be addressed in this document, Minn. Stat. 216E.02, Subp. 2.

Langan, Matthew (COMM)

From: Leedham, James E. Jr. [leedham@mayo.edu]
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2011 4:27 PM
To: Langan, Matthew (COMM)
Subject: DEIS 3P-009

Mr. Langan

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the DEIS. My area of interest is the 3P-009 alternate route. This route appears to have been added as an 11th hour after thought. As a result those of us impacted by this alternative have had little to digest and evaluate the situation. While the document generally reflects the conditions along the route, some of the impact considerations are not fully documented. The EIS does reflect a higher than typical number of homes along this route but a few neighbors have suggested that some newly constructed homes are not represented. This route also parallels lake Zumbro for its entire length and crosses it near the confluence of Dry Run Creek, a shallow marshy area used by migratory ducks and pelicans, and is also highly visible from the relatively high use recreational area around Ryan's bay.

122A

122B

In reviewing the potential impact section I found the impacts to be significantly understated. I idea that property values in this setting would be minimally effected or potentially fetch a premium is unfathomable. The studies cited related to significantly smaller (69kv-161kv) distribution lines and may not be relevant in this case.

122C

James Leedham
 56448 County Road 21
 Mazeppa, MN 55956

122A.

Your comment is noted and will be forwarded to the administrative law judge.

122B.

See Section 7.7 of the EIS.

122C.

The most recent literature review on the subject (Jackson and Pitts 2010) reviewed a range of studies, including ones assessing the impact of higher voltage lines like the one proposed here. While it does seem intuitive that larger, higher voltage lines would have a larger impact on property values, it is difficult to find statistical verification of this assumption, in part because so many variables affect property values.



85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
main: 651.296.4026 tty: 651.296.2860 fax: 651.297.7891
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PUBLIC COMMENT SHEET

CapX Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project

PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448

Name: Denise Leedham Representing: _____

Address: 56448 Cty Rd 21 Mayeppa Email: leedham.denise@att.net

Comments:
Why can not the power line run
down the major highways? Those
are already public domain!
 Hwy 52 and 90.

Please submit comments by 4:30pm, April 29, 2011 to:

Matthew Langan Email: matthew.langan@state.mn.us
Minnesota Dept. of Commerce Phone: 651-296-2096
85 7th Place East Fax: 651-297-7891
Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

123A.

See Section 7.11 of the EIS.

123A