Robert and Patricia Light
24123 Hazelwood Drive
Park Rapids, MN 56470

May 13, 2010

Office of Energy Security
Scott Ek, State Permit Manager
85 – 7th Place East, Suite500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Re: Docket TL-10-86

Dear Mr. Ek:

We are in favor of locating Great River Energy's 115 kV transmission line along the northern alternative route located west of Emmaville from CSAH 4 to U. S. Highway 71. If the substation were also to be located in this vicinity it would be a preferred site for future growth needs.

This route is primarily made up of county and state land, affecting as few private properties as possible while preserving the aesthetics of our lake-sensitive region and tourism industry.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Light
Patricia Light

Robert and Patricia Light

RECEIVED
MAY 17
MAIL ROOM

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Rich Lorenz [george@hutchtel.net]
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2010 4:54 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Potato Lake Transmission Line--Docket # ET2/TL-10-86

Sir:

COMMENTS ON PROPOSED POTATO LAKE TRANSMISSION LINE:

My wife and I own Hubbard Co. Parcel # 16.19.00700---with an address of 15873 County Road #40. The property is officially in the name of my wife's trust---the Rosann L. Lorenz Revocable Trust.

This property abuts Hubbard County Road #40, butting up to the planned transmission line route.
It is of some interest to my wife and I whether the transmission line is planned to be run on the north side of County # 40, or on the south side. The small route map sketch with the mailing we received does not make this clear.
If the line runs on the south side, it will traverse our property---which isn't the end of the world, but not something we would opt for, given a choice in the matter.

We know this Potato Lake area geographically quite well, and it appears to us that higher, drier ground exists on the north side of County #40 (at least in our land area) than on the south side.
Also, if the transmission line were to run on the north side of #40, it would place the line that much further away from Potato Lake itself, which would seem to us to be a good thing both esthetically and environmentally.
Both are reasons to keep the line on the north side of County #40.

Obviously, these are just our two cents worth of comments. But, we hereby put in our formal request to you that the transmission line be run on the north side of Hubbard County #40, and not the south side of #40.

If, by chance, the decision has already been made as to which side of County #40 the line will traverse, will you please let us know ?

Thanks for reading and listening.

Richard and Rosann Lorenz
Ph #320-593-2037

PS---The parcel referenced above is not currently occupied by us, but planned by us as a retirement location.
Our current permanent residence is in Litchfield, MN.

(Your name) Bonnie Miller
(Your address) 19059 Grouse Road, Park Rapids, MN 56470

(Date) May 2, 2010

Office of Energy Security
Scott Ek, State Permit Manager
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Re: Docket TL-10-86

Dear Mr. Ek:

I am in favor of locating Great River Energy's 115 kV transmission line along the northern alternative route located west of Emmaville from CSAH 4 to Highway 71. If the substation were to also be located at this vicinity, it would be a preferred site for future growth needs.

This route is made up of primarily county and state land, affecting as few private properties as possible while preserving the aesthetics of our lake sensitive region and tourism industry.

Thank you for your consideration.

(Name/signature)

Bonnie Miller

BONNIE MILLER

(Your name) Sheila Moe
(Your address) 22344 County 80
Nevis, MN 56467
(Date) May 12, 2010

Office of Energy Security
Scott Ek, State Permit Manager
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Re: Docket TL-10-86

Dear Mr. Ek:

I am in favor of locating Great River Energy's 115 kV transmission line along the northern alternative route located west of Emmaville from CSAH 4 to Highway 71. If the substation were to also be located at this vicinity, it would be a preferred site for future growth needs.

This route is made up of primarily county and state land, affecting as few private properties as possible while preserving the aesthetics of our lake sensitive region and tourism industry.

Thank you for your consideration.

(Name/signature)

Sheila Moe

Tay Odor
15694 Explorer Circle
Park Rapids, MN 56470

March 15, 2010

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: PUC Docket TL-10-86, proposed transmission line by Great River Energy, CSAH 18, Park Rapids

Dear Public Utilities Board,

I am writing on behalf of my parents, M.L. and B.J. Schield, in reference to the Potato Lake 115 KV Substation and Transmission Line that Great River Energy is proposing along County Road 18 in Hubbard County. They live on County Road 18 and the proposed power lines will have a significant impact on their property value and the beauty of their property. They have worked hard their whole lives in underground construction, raised 8 children and live a simple, non-extravagant life. The river home they live in on County Road 18 is the last home they will own and when the time comes for them to move into assisted living or a nursing home, the monetary value they gain from their home will, in large part, determine the level of care they can afford.

The proposed power lines could take between 60 to 100 feet of an easement on their property. The easement will greatly impact the value of their property since it will strip a good portion of the trees reducing the beauty of their property. They had potential plans of a second lot where one of their children could build and live close at hand so they can stay in their home as long as possible. The easement will take too much of the second lot preventing them from using it for that purpose. Beyond those issues, the reduced tree coverage will expose their home to the elements likely causing higher fuel bills to heat and cool their home. The financial burden for our parents alone will be more than what can be asked for the common good. But they aren't the only ones that will be adversely affected by the proposed route.

The entire neighborhood stands to lose significant property value. One of the reasons these people have chosen to live here is because of the beautiful north woods. The power lines would strip the whole of County 18 of its beauty replacing it with high voltage power lines and barren land. All of which will cause the residents to lose property value and own land which is useless to them.

Residents have asked them to consider underground lines, going through the woods rather than along their road and considering another route to the north of Potato Lake which is shorter. Great River is reluctant to consider these options because they believe those routes are more cost prohibitive. My

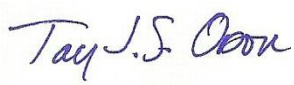
question is cost prohibitive to whom? Please do not allow this company to build their profit off the backs of honest working folks, many of whom do not have the time in life to recoup the kind of loss they will incur by this.

Great River has indicated the installation of this power line is for the common good. However, the current residents do not stand to gain anything by this power line and the current need for this power line is questionable. Great Rivers and Itasca-Mantrap Electric stand to gain greatly by adding this power line as it will position them to be the electric company available for any growth into the area north of Park Rapids.

I ask that you investigate whether this power line is truly needed and if so, I ask that another route with less impact to the residents and the environment be considered. Please hold Great River Energy to the highest standard when dealing with land owners and do not allow them to gain their profits off the back of honest, law-abiding elderly citizens.

Thank you for your time and your consideration.

Sincerely,



Tay Odor
218-237-3605
tayandlarry@unitelc.com

Tay Odor
15694 Explorer Circle
Park Rapids, MN 56470

5/8/10

Office of Energy Security
Scott Ek, State Permit Manager
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Re: Docket TL-10-86

Dear Mr. Ek:

I am in favor of locating Great River Energy's 115 kV transmission line along the northern alternative route located west of Emmaville from CSAH 4 to Highway 71. If the substation were to also be located at this vicinity, it would be a preferred site for future growth needs.

This route is made up of primarily county and state land, affecting as few private properties as possible while preserving the aesthetics of our lake sensitive region and tourism industry.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tay J.S. Odor

Tay Odor
Park Rapids Resident

Josiah Odor (and Tay Odor)
15694 Explorer Circle
Park Rapids, MN 56470

March 23, 2010

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place E. Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: PUC Docket TL-10-86, proposed transmission line, Park Rapids

Dear Commissioners:

Josiah Odor is the seven year old grandson of Merwin and Berneva Schield who live on CSAH 18 in Park Rapids, MN. Josiah and his brother, Jordan (4 yrs old), have the rare opportunity to grow up enjoying and playing in the beauty and wonder of nature in the woods at Grandma and Grandpa's house. It is there that they enjoy running through the leaves and the trees without care. It is there that they have watched the reaction of the ducks to the sudden appearance of a mink along the shore. It is there they have heard the slap of a beaver's tail against the water. It is there that they have witnessed more than 35 Trumpeter Swans floating and interacting in the river at one time. It is there that they have learned the beauty and the fragility of creation. And it is there that they have their "fort" in the woods where their imaginations run wild as their hearts run free.

Author, child advocate and columnist, Richard Louv, in his ground-breaking work, "Last Child in the Woods," directly links the absence of nature in the lives of today's wired generation to some of the most disturbing childhood trends including the rise of obesity, attention disorders and depression. Luckily, for Josiah and Jordan, because they have Grandparents who have chosen to live in God's great outdoors, they have not known those kinds of deficits due to a lack of interaction with nature.

Both Josiah and Jordan have expressed heartfelt concern over the power lines that could strip some of their woods away and potentially hurt the wildlife they love. Today Josiah asked if he could write a letter to you to help you understand his concerns. That letter is attached. Thank you for your consideration.

On Josiah, Jordan and Merwin and Berneva Schield's behalf,

Tay Odor

To the P.U.C.,

Please find a different route so my font isnt ruined.

Josiah Odon

(7 yrs. old)

Tay Odor
15694 Explorer Circle
Park Rapids, MN 56470

March 20, 2010

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place E. Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: PUC Docket TL-10-86, proposed transmission line, Park Rapids

Dear Commissioners:

As a concerned citizen of Park Rapids, I request a Citizen Advisory Task Force for the TL10-86 proposed transmission line project. This project has a significant potential impact on County Road 18 property owners, their families, their investments, the wildlife and the environment. It also has the potential to significantly impact the beauty of our area. I kindly ask you to assign a Citizen Advisory Task Force so we have the opportunity to participate in the conversations about this project.

I also ask for the opportunity to address the PUC at the March 25th meeting at 9:30 a.m. on behalf of the property owners along CSAH 18.

Sincerely,

Tay Odor
218-237-3605

Dave and Cindy Peckat
9940 260th St.
Park Rapids, MN 56470

May 11, 2010
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place E. Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147
Docket TL-10-86

Attention Commission Members:

We are writing to you in regards of Docket #TL-10-86. It has been brought to our attention that Great River Energy wants to run a High Voltage Transmission Line down county rd 18. This proposed line will run past our daughter and son in-laws home (Jamie and Holly Krautkremer). It will destroy the value of their property, also the beauty and privacy of their home as well. As concerned parents not only are we concerned about the hardship finically this will place upon them we are also concerned about what health effects this will also have upon them. If this line is run by their home, these treated poles will be within 40 feet of their drinking well. The treatments used on these poles can and have caused cancer and other health issues. We plead with the commission members to please find an alternative route that will not harm and affect less people.

Thank you for your time and help in regards to this matter.

Concerned Parents of Jamie and Holly Krautkremer,
Dave and Cindy Peckat

(Your name) Jerry Pederson
(Your address) 14279 Hummingbird Dr.
Park Rapids, MN, 56470

(Date) 4/15/10

Office of Energy Security
Scott Ek, State Permit Manager
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Re: Docket TL-10-86

Dear Mr. Ek:

I am in favor of locating Great River Energy's 115 kV transmission line along the northern alternative route located west of Emmaville from CSAH 4 to Highway 71. If the substation were to also be located at this vicinity, it would be a preferred site for future growth needs.

This route is made up of primarily county and state land, affecting as few private properties as possible while preserving the aesthetics of our lake sensitive region and tourism industry.

Thank you for your consideration.

(Name/signature) Jerry Pederson
Margaret Pederson

RECEIVED
17
MAIL ROOM

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Chad Peterson [chady100@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2010 8:18 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Help Save our Property from TL-10-86

To whom it may concern,

I have just learned of "TL-10-86," the proposed power line rout that will absolutely **decimate** the property value/natural beauty of many of the Lake homes in Hubbard County MN. As a Minnesota tax payer and a person who stands to inherit my parents lake home on Potato Lake (county Rd. 18) I strongly urge you to help change the rout of these lines that will leave a scar through individuals private property thus dropping property value.

There is an alternative rout that will affect **NO ONE**, #4 to Hwy 71 going west from Emmaville, MN. This path takes the lines out of the lakes and lake homes area altogether. Please help stand up for interests of the citizens of MN in Hubbard County whose lives will be affected by these power lines (TL-10-86). Thank you.

Chad Peterson

15610 County Road 18
Park Rapids MN

The New Busy is not the too busy. Combine all your e-mail accounts with Hotmail. Get busy.

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Tom Peterson [tdpete75@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 10, 2010 9:25 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Comments Regarding TL-10-86

Dear Scott--

First of all, I would like to be included on the OES emailing list to receive information regarding TL-10-86.

I do have some comments regarding the proposed routing of the high power line in TL-10-86. I'm having trouble comprehending the decision to adversly affect so many people and the property values along the proposed route of the high voltage power line along Hwy 40 and Hwy 18. Any lake property, especially along Potato Lake on the south side, has significant property value which will be greatly decreased should this power line pass over the top of them. For some of the older folks who have lived on Hwy 18 near Potato Lake almost all of their adult lives, this is the only valuable asset they have. The other property owners have put in considerable resources and work to enhance their property and ensure the its market value remains high. Our property at 15610 County Rd 18 on Potato Lake is no exception. It appears to be a very callous, lowest cost regardless of the consequences solution.

This is particularly troubling when there is an alternative route which will have extremely low impact on personal property. This route, although slightly longer, is across undeveloped land from #4 to Hwy 71 going west from Emmaville, MN. Most of the land is county or state owned as I understand it. To disturb the pristine landscape of Hwy 18 would be unacceptable and extremely un-Minnesotan.

The small additional cost would be covered by all the users, only for a few more months than originally planned--just as we property owners have helped finance other projects for other users.

For myself and my family, this proposed route along Hwy 40 and Hwy 18 is absolutely unacceptable. The negative impact on us is immense. This is especially true since there is a viable alternative route. My serious question is this (and I doubt I would get an honest answer) -- For those voters on the board, if they owned property on the lake or anywhere along this proposed route, would they vote the same way to intentionally diminish the value of their own property?

Please enter this email into any official file regarding TL-10-86.

Sincerely,

Tom Peterson

The New Busy is not the too busy. Combine all your e-mail accounts with Hotmail. Get busy.

Dorothy P. Platz
15576 County 18
Park Rapids, MN 56470

March 23, 2010

CASE # 53884-TS
DOCKET # TL-10-86

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121-7th Place E. Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Dear Commission Members:

My husband, Tony, and I will not be able to attend your meeting with Great River Energy on March 25. However, we want to stress the importance of how decisions regarding the proposed Potato Lake transmission line route will affect our neighborhood and Park Rapids at large.

Park Rapids with its many lakes has been a popular tourist area for many years and the reason many of us have chosen it for our home. The proposed route for this transmission line will greatly change the beautiful area surrounding Potato Lake…the change in foliage along County 18, wildlife in our wooded area, fowl in the river/lake.

We feel there must be alternate ways to solve the need for additional transmission lines and ask that an Advisory Task Force be established to address the situation.

Thank you for listening to our concern.

Dorothy Platz
Property owner
218-252-8029
218-732-8029
tdplatz@wcta.net

10-86

RECEIVED
MAR 04 2010
MINNESOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place E. Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Commissioner

This letter is to comment on PUC Docket # TL-10-86 (Great River proposed line, Park Rapids, MN). Let me go on record opposed the County Road 18 proposed site for a high-voltage transmission line. It will ruin the natural beauty of this country road. It will also affect many cabin owners on the south shores of Potato Lake, Hubbard County. Other less intrusive routes on the north end of the lake are available to the utility company. Actually and better route would be a direct line through the woods from the new transfer station on US Highway 71 North of Park Rapids, MN.

Their proposed route will affect at least 11 of my neighbors who own shoreline along this route. Several of us already are faced with nonconforming lake lots and now will have more land taken from us through easements forced upon us. Once again undesirable development along Minnesota lake shore will be permitted if Great River is given permission to proceed. This is all in the name of big business and what best suites them verses the little person like me. It is my homesteaded piece of property that I have invested over $500,000 in. This transmission line easement on my property will only decrease its value. When home prices are already falling I don't need this added financial burden placed upon me and my family. I am retired and on a fixed income as a senior citizen.

It was interesting that Great River waited until many of us had left our lake homes for the season then notified us through the mail that this line was being proposed and a meeting would be held to address our concerns. Some of us live in Florida, Iowa, Nebraska, and other far away places off season making it impossible to attend this informational meeting. I for one did not receive the letter until after the meeting had already been held. Naturally I was invited to comment after the fact when I would rather have been there in person to question and voice my thoughts.

There are other routes that can be taken that would be less destructive to the beauty of the land and would cause less devastation to property owners. Great River admitted to me in a telephone conversation they were interested in only the County Road 18 route because it was less costly—not the shortest. Great River and Itasca Mantrap Electric Cooperative need to come up with a better plan. Only your commission can make that happen!

Thank you,

Anthony L & Dorothy R Platz

Anthony and Dorothy Platz
(Signed 3/01/2010)

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Dorothy Platz [tdplatz@wcta.net]

Sent: Monday, May 10, 2010 9:42 PM

To: Ek, Scott (COMM)

Subject: TL-10-86

Mr. Ek Please note that I attended the task force hearing held in Park Rapids, MN, last Tuesday. Concerning the Potato Lake substation and proposed Great River Energy 115 kV transmission line. I favor locating the line along the northern alternative route located west of Emmaville from CSAH 4 to US highway 71. Because the line is to provide for future growth in that area it makes sense to locate it there. Thank you. Tony Platz (lake lot/homeowner county road 18)

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: sarah platz [sarah-lynn-platz@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 13, 2010 9:35 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Docket TL-10-86

Sarah Platz
15576 County 18
Park Rapids, MN 56470

05-13-10

Office of Energy Security
Scott Ek, State Permit Manager
85 7th Place East Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Re: Docket TL-10-86

Dear Mr. Ek:

I am in favor of locating Great River Energy's 115 kV transmission line along the northern alternative route located west of Emmaville from CSAH 4 to Highway 71. If the substation were to also be located at this vicinity, it would be a preferred site for future growth needs.

This route is made up of primarily county and state land, affecting as few private properties as possible while preserving the aesthetics of our lake sensitive area and tourism industry.

Thank you for your time.

Sarah Lynn Platz

The New Busy is not the old busy. Search, chat and e-mail from your inbox. Get started.

Rapid River Logging Camp
Kenneth Pritchett
21305 Fox Haven Trl.
Park Rapids, MN 56470

RECEIVED
MAY 13 2010
MINNESOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

May 11, 2010

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7Th Place E. Suite 350
ST Paul, MM 55101-2147

Re: Docket TL-10-86

Dear Commissioners:

The Rapid River Logging Camp has been a restaurant for 56 years. What we have to sell is the natural beauty of the area. It would be very detrimental to the business to destroy this theme. Therefore I am very much opposed to this power line crossing the Rapid River Logging Camp property. Some of the trees that would have to be removed are older then a hundred years. We would then look like any other restaurant. We would like the commission to consider an alternate route.

Sincerely.

Kenneth Pritchett

Fact Sheet on Chemically Treated Wood Utility Poles

- Wood preservatives used to chemically treat wood utility poles contain dangerous chemicals, including dioxins, which harm human health and the environment. The last legal remaining use of pentachlorophenol (penta) is as a wood preservative in utility poles.

- There are approximately 135 million chemically treated wood utility poles in the U.S. Three percent of these poles are replaced annually.

- Wood preservatives account for nearly one-third of the 2.4 billion pounds of pesticides annually used in the U.S. Nearly 600 million cubic feet of wood poles (approx. four million poles) are treated with these chemicals each year.

- The three major chemical wood preservatives are pentachlorophenol (penta), creosote, and arsenicals (copper chromium arsenate, or CCA). A fourth, copper naphthenate, is considered an alternative.

- Chemical treating of wood poles is one of the last remaining uses of penta and creosote – 43% of all poles are treated with penta; 42% of all poles are treated with arsenic; and 13% are still treated with creosote.

- The use of penta is prohibited in 26 countries around the world, but not in the United States.

- Penta and its contaminants, dioxin, furans, and hexochlorobenzene are considered the United Nations Environmental Program to be persistent organic pollutants (POPs). These contaminants are restricted under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants signed by the United States in 2001.

- Wood preservatives are ranked among the most potent cancer agents. They are also promoters of birth defects, reproductive problems and nervous system toxicants. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) assigned a cancer risk 3.4 million times higher than acceptable for people that apply penta to poles in the field, according to EPA's draft science chapter on penta that was released in 1999.

- There are at least 795 wood preserving plants in the U.S. whose operations and waste products are not adequately regulated.

- In 1984, EPA issued a standard to limit dioxin contamination in penta to 1 part per million (ppm). In 1986, under pressure from the chemical industry, lead by the sole producer of penta in the U.S., Vulcan Chemical Co., EPA agreed to raise the dioxin levels by 4 times to 4 ppm. in some cases. This issue has not been revisited since 1986.

- The wood preserving industries strive to deny and avoid the cost and potential liability of the disposal of treated poles. A Beyond Pesticides/NCAMP study found that more than 60% of utilities regularly give away poles taken out of service. Given EPA's concern for residential exposure this practice may have to stop.

- Poles made of alternative materials, such as recycled steel, concrete, composite, or the burying of lines, are all alternatives to wood poles that currently are used. The salvage value of steel poles contrasts sharply with the disposal costs of treated wood utility poles.

- In 2001, the European Union severely restricted the sales and use of creosote after an EU scientific committee concluded from a recent study that creosote has a greater potential to cause cancer than previously thought.

- In February 2002, EPA released for comment a preliminary agreement with the three major manufactures of CCA to end manufacturing of wood preserved with CCA for residential use by the end of December 2003. As of February 2003 the final agreement had not been released.

- January 2003, the European Union announced a ban on all but a restricted number of industrial uses of CCA.

- In February 2003, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission announced that it found that that some children may face an increased risk of developing lung or bladder cancer over their lifetime from playing on playground equipment made from CCA pressure-treated wood. This risk is in addition to the risk of getting cancer due to other factors over one's lifetime.

Beyond Pesticides/National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides
701 E Street, SE, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20003
www.beyondpesticides.org

4-22-2010

ATT SCOTT EK
STATE PERMIT MANAGER

I AM STATING OUR OPPOSITION, AGAINST USEING COUNTY ROAD 40, FOR THE CORRIDOOR, OF THE NEW TRANSMISSION LINE, WE BELIEVE COUNTY ROAD 18, WOULD HAVE LESS OF A ENVIROMENTAL IMPACT!

PLEASE KEEP ME INFORMED OF ANY CHANGES.

THANK YOU

Jerry L Rapp
11418 MINNESOURI RD
ALEX MN 56308

RECEIVED
APR 26 2010
MAILROOM

May 14, 2010

RECEIVED
MAY 17 2010
MINNESOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

To: Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

From: Eunice K. Rothermel
22170 Green Day Drive
Park Rapids, MN 56470

Re: ET2/TL-10-86

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing in regard to the proposed 115kV Transmission line project, TH-10-86, Potato Lake. I own property along County Road 18 as well as on the Potato River and Potato Lake.

At the May 4, 2010 Task Force Hearing, a northern route was proposed by the members of the task force. This route was proposed as an alternative to the route originally proposed by Great River Energy. I would like to encourage the Public Utilities Commission to consider this route also.

This proposed route crosses land that is less than 10% developed. Most of this land is state and county owned land. It does not go near residences, lakes or wetlands.

Safety is a major concern of mine in regards to the transmission lines. While I understand there are still many unanswered questions regarding the effects of electromagnetic fields on people who live under/around transmission lines, I have concerns about health issues that may be a result of this proximity. The recent cases dealing with cell phone usage, the Toyota problems, and my own experience as an oncology nurse where we dealt with "unexplained" clusters of leukemia in children and teens who lived adjacent to these kinds of transmission lines, as well as those of lesser magnitude than these, raise many questions and fears for me. While I understand the jury is still out on this issue, it is an area of concern for me. It only seems logical to me that Great River Energy would attempt to place these huge lines in uninhabited areas whenever possible.

Safety of our lakes and rivers is also a concern. The GRE proposed route would go through, near and over wetlands, a river, and one of the premiere lakes in our county. The poles that would hold the transmission lines are treated with toxic chemicals that would leech into the wetlands, river, lake, and the water table. The effects of which would be harmful to both humans and the animals that live or pass through these sensitive areas. This area is home to many species of wild life.

Location was one of the primary reasons for our family purchasing property in Northern Hubbard County. The many trees, the North Country appearance, the home of wildlife such as deer, swans, eagles, egrets that line the area around County 18 influenced our decision. These same considerations also influenced the price of our real estate on one of the premiere lakes in the area, Potato Lake. The cutting down of trees, the

placement of these huge poles and guy wires on our property will negatively affect our property value, forever. It just seems reasonable that Great River Energy would attempt to put these lines in areas where the devaluation would be the least amount, for example on state and county lands that are uninhabited.

As property owners in Hubbard County, we are influenced as to what we can do with and on our property by the standards invoked by the Shoreland Ordinance, a means of protecting the lake and watershed resources for the greater good. I feel that Great River Energy should be held to these standards, also for the greater good. I think that they should choose a route that would adversely affect the lesser amount of people and environs even if it means a route which might be a little longer.

Thank you for establishing the Task Force regarding this matter and for your consideration of the people's concerns.

Sincerely,

Eunice K. Rothermel

Eunice K. Rothermel
Property Owner and Concerned Citizen
218-732-8824

Berneva J. Schield
15338 County Rd 18
Park Rapids, MN 56470

5/11/10

Office of Energy Security
Scott Ek, State Permit Manager
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Re: Docket TL-10-86

Dear Mr. Ek:

I am in favor of locating Great River Energy's 115 kV transmission line along the northern alternative route located west of Emmaville from CSAH 4 to Highway 71. If the substation were to also be located at this vicinity, it would be a preferred site for future growth needs.

This route is made up of primarily county and state land, affecting as few private properties as possible while preserving the aesthetics of our lake sensitive region and tourism industry.

Thank you for your consideration.

Berneva J. Schield

Merwin L. Schield
15338 County Rd 18
Park Rapids, MN 56470

5/11/10

Office of Energy Security
Scott Ek, State Permit Manager
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Re: Docket TL-10-86

Dear Mr. Ek:

I am in favor of locating Great River Energy's 115 kV transmission line along the northern alternative route located west of Emmaville from CSAH 4 to Highway 71. If the substation were to also be located at this vicinity, it would be a preferred site for future growth needs.

This route is made up of primarily county and state land, affecting as few private properties as possible while preserving the aesthetics of our lake sensitive region and tourism industry.

Thank you for your consideration.

Merwin L. Schield

M.L. and B.J. Schield
15338 County Rd 18
Park Rapids, MN 56470

March 20, 2010

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place E. Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: PUC Docket TL-10-86, proposed transmission line, Park Rapids

Dear Commissioners:

We are writing to request a Citizen Advisory Task Force for the proposed transmission line project noted above. Many land owners are very concerned about the environmental, financial, aesthetic and potential health impact of this project. We need the opportunity to understand more fully and express our concerns about the impact of this project to our property and our community.

Several land owners are away from Park Rapids for the winter and have not had the opportunity to participate in the discussions regarding this project. Please assign a Citizen Advisory Task Force so all those impacted by this project can have a voice in the process.

Sincerely,
M.L. and B.J. Schield
218-732-3356

ML and BJ Schield
15338 County 18
Park Rapids, MN 56470

3/3/2010

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: PUC Docket TL-10-86, proposed transmission line by Great River Energy, CSAH 18, Park Rapids

Dear Commission Members:

We are writing in reference to the Potato Lake 115 KV Substation and Transmission Line that Great River Energy is proposing along County Road 18 in Hubbard County. We live on County 18 just to the east of the bridge and on the north side of the road. This is our retirement home. After working hard in the underground construction business for 44 years, this is our last stand.

My husband is now 84 years old and I am 78. We want to spend our last years here and we don't want to look at, drive under and walk beside ugly poles and lines. Most of our retirement is wrapped up in this property. The proposed line will not only ruin the beauty of our property, but also place a significant easement on our land. Both of which will adversely affect our property value which, in turn, will directly affect our financial picture when considering assisted living or nursing home options later on. This has the potential of placing a significant financial burden upon us.

This line will ruin one of the most beautiful roads in the county. We drove all around the county last fall looking at the beautiful colors of the trees. When we turned west on 18 from County 4 we realized that the most beautiful stretch of road was from County 4 to our home. The proposed power line will rip many of those trees out and simply ruin the beauty of our neighborhood.

We are not the only ones who will be affected adversely. The proposed line will devastate our neighbor's property as well. While we do not want the line on our property, we also do not want this hardship to fall to any of our neighbors. Many stand to lose significant property value.

Many folks and children from the area fish off the bridge right at the edge of our property and County 18. Children float down the river from the lake on their rafts and tubes, go back to their cabins or the resort and soon down they go again. People fish the river and fish down at the dam. So many people enjoy the beauty of this spot.

Besides the local folks, the wildlife enjoy it as well. Trumpeter Swans, Eagles, Mallards, Wood Ducks, Loons and Canada Geese all fly up and down the river from Fish Hook Lake to Potato Lake. We can have as many as 35 Trumpeter Swans here at one time in the winter. The local DNR has made our property a stop at times to count the wildlife present here. The proposed lines could cause interference with the flight patterns of the wildlife bringing harm to them and reducing their presence here.

Last Sunday we drove North on County 4 to 270th Street. We drove 270th as far as we could go. It's almost wide open from Highway 4 to where we had to stop. I'm sure Great River can find a way from Highway 4 to Highway 71 by using 270th street or a road farther north. From the substation on highway 4, their proposed starting point, over to highway 71 they will have to go south, west, north, west and northwest to get to their ending point. They could take a northern route on 270th street with some zigzagging to get to Highway 71, then come south to their ending point. Highway 40 could also be a better option as it is much more open and most lake property is protected by trees and long drive ways down to the lake.

There are other options than the one being proposed with less adverse affect to the land, the environment, and the wildlife. In addition, the financial hardship to the landowners could be less as well.

Please, keep looking for a better way to go. I wonder how many would like to have this line in their front yard or, as in our case, over their drive way and front yard where their grandchildren play. Please consider another route.

Sincerely,

Muggs and Neva Schield
mlsbjs@q.com
218-732-3356

cc. Rep. Brita Sailer

PC 10-86

Elizabeth I. Shaw
15410 County 18
Park Rapids, MN 56470

February 6, 2010

CASE # 53884-TS
DOCKET # TL-10-86

RECEIVED
FEB 12 2010
MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121-7th Place E. Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Dear Commission Members:

I am writing to let you know that we oppose Great River Energy's propose route for transmission lines on County 18 (Potato Lake) in Hubbard County. "Eminent domain" and "greater good" are fair and honorable words when getting products to consumers, but it appears large business seems to increasingly abuse this power and take advantage of property owners. (I understand that this topic will be coming up in this year's legislative session. Our neighborhood group has been asked to give input for what we are going through.)

Great River Energy proposes to run high-voltage transmission lines from CSAH 4 near Park Rapids to a new substation. This proposed route, if passed, will cause tremendous hardship for our family and neighbors. There are several unique situations on this route.

The intent of this letter is:

1) To ask Great River to find another route which has less impact on the many homes and people living along the proposed route. **County Road 40 is a clear option for them. It is a shorter route with fewer curves for them to have to make,** and there is more land space to buffer impact directly on homes, or

2) **To ask that the proposed route be kept to the south side of County 18 and therefore impact as few homes as possible, or**

3) To ask that Great River's alternative proposed line be used and continued. (See attachment.)

4) To ask that consideration be written into the permit for homes that are significantly impacted be treated with fairness and that extra measures be taken to have as little impact on their property as possible.

   Ex. Efforts take to run route to the back of their property instead of their front lawns, fewer trees taken down to preserve property value, stagger poles so that they don't directly impact homes, or FAIR buyouts if that is their desire. This situation should NOT pit neighbor against neighbor.

An agency such as yours is the last hope for the common man and for others like us.

Please hear us. This is of great concern to my family and our neighborhood as well. Thank you in advance for giving us due process. There are several points to raise.

We built our home in 1992 once Hubbard County Zoning approved plans. We were not allowed take down one single tree within 1,000 feet of lakeshore or we would have been fined or jailed in extreme instances. So my question is this: Why can a company such as Great River come through and clear cut a corridor? I thought the Shoreland Ordinance (quite a restrictive one at that) would protect the property for which we are stewards. No? This shouldn't be allowed. Environmental damage should be limited if the proposed line were approved. It would be of great help to us if you could curb the damage that would be done to an already sensitive area. Please limit tree cutting if the proposed route is to come through. No swaths. No clear cuts.

By touching Potato Lake (and within the limits of Hubbard's Shoreland Ordinance), the proposed line would affect prime lakeshore properties on the north side of the road; thus turning lifetime investments into unsellable properties. Among them is our home. **We consider Great River to be our Bernie Madoff, only in this instance cloaked as big energy.** We would be devastated by this action, as would others. There is a resort, summer homes, cabins, and million dollar properties along the north side of this proposed route. Ours is modest compared others, but in this instance "progress" and "greater good" comes at our expense. Do you think Great River will give "fair market value" to property owners? If so, why do you think we've been told we'll need to get lawyers?

We stand to lose hundreds of thousands of dollars. The impact will affect how we live in the future and the future of our childrens' lives as well. A percentage of "fair market value" will in no way begin to compensate us for our loss and future losses. Please keep the lines on the south side of the road if the proposed line were to come through.

Their easement request puts them in the middle of our garage and in our front lawn, about seven strides from our front door. The kids' treehouse? Toast, but that is the least of our worries. The EPA states the impact of EMF radiation to be inconclusive. Great River can't say that transmission lines are safe. Not conclusively, they can't. If that's the case, shouldn't we err on the side of caution? Can they really walk right over us? Most importantly (and I am speaking as a mom here) what about our children and families? Our children will be playing right under those lines. They tell us to stand back from our microwaves when in use, what about high-voltage lines? It's questionable. Studies are inconclusive in regard to health hazards. Animals live here, wildlife live here. Also, what about the health risk perception that would run through the minds of potential homebuyers? Who is even going to want to look at our place and those of our neighbors?

Great River won't consider running the lines underground. Too complex and cost-prohibitive, they say. I understand there are newer technologies. Perhaps they could be persuaded to invest in this technology. In the long run it could save them money and ease burdens for property owners. Plus, it's the right thing to do.

We know this is not Great River's only option, but probably the cheapest and most

convenient one for them. **County 40 practically gives them a straight shot from substation to substation.** They can do better than what they are proposing. They have the means. County 18 for now is the path of least resistance. They can rethink the route, but we need some help to get them to work on other options that don't impact lakes or quite as many homeowners.

We would like to fight this action based on the following principals:

*The property devaluation will NO WAY be compensated by Great River's "fair market value" percentage. Not now. Especially not now when the economy is struggling.

* The visual impact of the lines would be devastating to the lakes region. Great River says you prefer they construct their lines along road routes. I've seen many lines run through forests and swamps. If what they say is true, please consider this route an exception. Please route the lines on former lines with space already created and utilize back roads.

With lines of this height, please have them leave what trees they can. Otherwise everyone loses.

* Lake property valuations will be hardest hit by this move. It would be most economical for Great River to keep the lines south and give FAIR buyouts for the fewer homes on that side of the road.

Many homeowners will face hardship as a result of the energy company's action. Several homes may be unsellable; worthless or worth much less. Please have them utilize former line routes.

* The Shoreland Ordinance should protect properties located within 1,000 feet of lakeshore. But will it? Please choose to say yes.

* Physical impact is yet to be determined. The effects of EMFs are inconclusive according to the EPA. Effects on people, children, livestock, and wildlife may be harmful. Keep the lines away from homes. Please choose former line routes wherever possible.

* There is some suspicion as to the timing of this, when many lake property owners have headed south.

Please call or write any time if you have questions, thoughts, or ideas. Thank you for your time.

Elizabeth J. Shaw

Liz Shaw
Property owner
218-732-9835 (H)

*Attached you will find an additional alternative route to the one GRE proposes. This line uses a former line route in combination with back roads.

* Attached you will find a sample of Great River Entergy's handiwork in Park Rapids. While I don't know the specifics as to how this homeowner was treated, this photo gives visual impact from a property owner's perspective. It's one thing to see it on paper, quite another to see the lines in reality. This is wrong.

Google maps

To see all the details that are visible on the screen,use the "Print" link next to the map.

— Portion of Proposed Project # 53884-TS Docket TL-10-86

— Alternative GRE route

- - - We suggest GRE continue the alternate route using fromer line route and back roads.