

Appendix A

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Notice



GREAT RIVER ENERGY®

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



February 14, 2011

Dr. Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 Seventh Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: Notification of Intent by Xcel Energy and Great River Energy to File a Route Permit Application Under the Alternative Permitting Process for the Proposed Hollydale Project

Dear Dr. Haar:

In accordance with Minnesota Rule 7850.2800, Subpart 2, this letter serves as notice to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) that Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation (Xcel Energy), and Great River Energy, a not-for-profit cooperative, intend to file a Route Permit Application for the Hollydale Project (Project) in the cities of Medina and Plymouth, Hennepin County, Minnesota, pursuant to the alternative permitting procedures in Minnesota Rules 7850.2800 to 7850.3900.

The proposed Project includes rebuilding an existing, approximate 8-mile long 69 kilovolt (kV) to 155 kV, constructing a new substation (to be called Pomerleau Lake Substation), constructing a new 115 kV transmission line to connect the new Pomerleau Lake Substation to the rebuild transmission line, and modifying related existing substation facilities to accommodate the proposed Project.

Xcel Energy and Great River Energy plan to file the application in March 2011 and will work with Commission and Department of Commerce staff to address any questions and/or comments in order to expedite application acceptance and completion of the environmental assessment.

If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact either of the undersigned.

Sincerely,

XCEL ENERGY

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GREAT RIVER ENERGY

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cc: Deborah Pile, Office of Energy Security
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Paul J. Lehman, Xcel Energy
Christopher B. Clark, Xcel Energy