Greenwood
City on the Lake

August 1, 2012

David Birkholz, State Permit Manager
Minnesota Office of Energy Security
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, Minnesota, 55101-2198
david.birkholz@state.mn.us

Dear Mr. Birkholz:

In Greenwood's resolution 14-12 dated June 6, 2012 regarding Xcel Energy's Westgate 115kV transmission line route permit application on Docket 11-948, we requested that the Public Utilities Commission require Xcel Energy to provide cost and reliability information for burying the 115kV transmission line along the LRT trail in Greenwood. At the scoping meeting on July 18 you indicated that Xcel would probably not be asked to provide the cost for a buried line option because there had not been a request for burying the line at a specific location.

I would accordingly like to reaffirm the city of Greenwood's request that Xcel be required to provide the cost of burying the proposed transmission line starting at Linwood Circle at the east end of Greenwood and continuing to just short of the St Alban's Bay bridge at the west end of Greenwood. It would seem that the LRT trail would be a relatively cost-effective place to install buried cable because it is a linear crushed rock trail with limited grade crossings and potentially lower than normal underground utility conflicts. Without site-specific cost information it is not possible to properly evaluate the buried cable option along this local and regional resource.

The city of Greenwood appreciates your efforts on this project as you try to balance multiple interests.

Sincerely,

Debra J. Kind
Mayor, City of Greenwood

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