

E015/TL-14-21

July 3, 2014

RE: PUC DOCKET NUMBER (14-21)

Dear Sir/Madam:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Great Northern Transmission Line Project, specifically the human environmental impacts of this project.

No one wants this power line in their back yard. There are several issues I would like to point out in regard to the western route, otherwise known as the Orange (west) route as it goes thorough Balsam Township. I believe it would have negative impacts on this small community as it would pass right through the business district. There are two medical clinics, one on each side of the line route: Bergren Family Chiropractic Clinic to the east side of the proposed route, within the corridor. Bigfork Valley Clinic, which is a satellite medical clinic of the Bigfork Hospital is located to the west of the proposed route, just outside of the corridor.

Balsam Township has a public park, the entire area of which is within the corridor of the proposed Orange (west) route. There is a driveway through the park designated on the map by road number T-2030. At the end of this driveway is a baseball field. Besides being used for ball playing, it is also a landing area for Life Flight Air Ambulance service. They have been to this landing site four time so far: the first time was a promotional visit to make known their services to the local fire department. The next two flights were training sessions with the fire department. The fourth time there was a transport of a man injured in a logging accident. This ball field, as well as the entire park, is within the corridor of the Orange (west) route through Balsam Township.

There is a church (Balsam Bible Chapel) of which most of their property is within the corridor of the Orange (west) route.

There is also a convenience store, café, Laundromat, construction company, fire department as well as about twenty-five homes either in or very near this corridor. All of the above are in section 26, township 58N R24W or the very north part of section 35, township 58N R24W or on page 49 of 94 of the map book that has been published showing the proposed routes of the power line. I would like to add neither the public park or the Church are designated as such on the map

In summary, I feel the Orange (west) route through Balsam Township would have a very negative human impact now and in to the future for this community.

Respectfully,

Mark and Coleen Lofgren (e-mail coliemark@gmail.com)

*Mark & Coleen Lofgren*