

STATE OF MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Notice of Decision: In the Matter of the Application of Minnesota Power for a Route Permit for the Great Northern 500 kV Transmission Line Project in Roseau, Lake of the Woods, Koochiching and Itasca Counties

Docket Number: E-015/TL-14-21

On April 8, 2016, the Public Utilities Commission published an *ORDER ISSUING ROUTE PERMIT* (Order) to Minnesota Power for the Great Northern 500 kV Transmission Line Project. In the Order the Commission concluded that Minnesota Power has satisfied the applicable legal requirements and, accordingly, issued a Route Permit for the Project. The Commission adopted, with modifications, the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, as well as the draft route permit recommended by the Administrative Law Judge. The Commission found that the environmental impact statement for the project and the record as a whole addressed the issues identified in the scoping decision on environmental review. The Commission concluded that the applicant's proposed Blue Route, in combination with the Effie and Trout Lake Variations, addressed the Route Permit factors better than any of the alternatives analyzed and therefore selected it as the designated route for the project.

The ORDER, Permit, route maps and other information on the Project can be found on-line at: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (enter the year "14" and docket number "21").

Under Minn. Rules 7829.3000 a party or a person aggrieved and directly affected by a commission decision or order may file a petition for rehearing, amendment, vacation, reconsideration, or re-argument (reconsideration) within 20 days from the date the decision or order is served by the executive secretary. A petition reconsideration must specifically set forth the grounds relied upon or errors claimed. A request for amendment must set forth the specific amendments desired and the reasons for the amendments.

If you would like a printed copy of the Order or Route Permit, please contact Mr. David Moeller of Minnesota Power at 218-355-3963. If you have any questions about the project itself or would like more information please contact Commission staff person: Michael Kaluzniak (mike.kaluzniak@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2257. These documents can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio) by calling 651-296-0406 (voice). Persons with hearing or speech disabilities may call us through their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service.

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