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May 18, 2015

Daniel Wolf
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

RE: Menahga Area 115 kV Transmission Line Project
Docket No. ET2, E015/TL-14-797

Dear Mr. Wolf,

In response to Commission staff's briefing paper filed on May 13, 2015, Department of Commerce, Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) staff is providing the Commission with supplemental comments concerning possible hearing processes for the above-noted project.

EERA staff has enclosed hearing process timelines that may be helpful in the Commission's decision on the hearing process for the project. Consistent with past practice for projects which have had routing alternatives, staff believes it would be appropriate for the applicants to submit their proposed findings of facts and conclusions after the close of the public hearing comment period, as shown in timelines number two and three.

Staff is available to answer any questions the Commission may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ray Kirsch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ray Kirsch
EERA Staff

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Hearing Process Timelines for Alternative Review Route Permit Dockets

Minnesota Department of Commerce – Energy Environmental Review and Analysis

Day	① No Route or Site Alternatives – Summary Report	② Route and/or Site Alternatives – Summary Report	③ Route and/or Site Alternatives – Summary Proceeding
0	Public Hearing	Public Hearing	Public Hearing
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close of Hearing Comment Period • Applicant Files Proposed Findings and Conclusions 	Close of Hearing Comment Period	Close of Hearing Comment Period
17	Hearing Transcript and Comments from Hearing Filed in eDockets	Hearing Transcript and Comments from Hearing Filed in eDockets	Hearing Transcript and Comments from Hearing Filed in eDockets
24		Applicant Files Proposed Findings and Conclusions	Applicant Files Proposed Findings and Conclusions
31	EERA Responses to Comments on EA; Technical Analysis; Replies to Applicant Proposed Findings		
38		EERA Responses to Comments on EA; Technical Analysis; Replies to Applicant Proposed Findings	EERA Responses to Comments on EA; Technical Analysis; Replies to Applicant Proposed Findings
40	ALJ Summary Report	ALJ Summary Report	
68			ALJ Report with Findings, Conclusions, and Recommendations
83			Exceptions
Total Days	40¹	40¹	83

¹ Fewer if ALJ Summary Report requires less than 30 days.