

Appendix A

**Notification of intent to submit a Route Permit Application under
the alternative review process**



GREAT RIVER
ENERGYSM

12300 Elm Creek Blvd • Maple Grove, Minnesota 55369-4718 • 763-445-5000 • Fax 763-445-5050

May 4, 2015

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

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

**RE: Notice of Intent by Great River Energy to Submit a Route Permit Application under the Alternative Permitting Process
Palisade 115 kV Project**

Dear Mr. Wolf:

In accordance with Minnesota Rules 7850.2800 subp. 2, Great River Energy submits this notice of its intent to submit a Route Permit Application under the Alternative Permitting Process for the approximately 13-mile long Palisade 115 kilovolt (kV) Project (“Project”). Further, because the Project is proposed primarily to distribute electricity to serve the demand of a single customer (Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership) at a single location (Palisade Pump Station), it meets the criteria under Minn. Statute 216B.243 Subd.8 (2) that exempts such a project from requiring a certificate of need. The route permit application will be filed in summer 2015.

On April 24, 2015, Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership (“Enbridge”) filed its Certificate of Need and Route Permit Application (Docket No. CN-14-916) for the Line 3 Replacement Project (“L3R”), which is a maintenance and integrity driven pipeline project designed to replace the Enbridge’s existing Line 3 pipeline in Minnesota. The replacement pipeline will follow the Enbridge Mainline System from the North Dakota/Minnesota border in Kittson County to Enbridge’s expanded Clearbrook Station in Clearwater County. The proposed replacement pipeline will then turn south and east to follow existing third-party pipelines, utilities and transportation corridors from Clearbrook to Wrenshall, Minnesota. From that point, the replacement project rejoins the Enbridge Mainline corridor to follow its Mainline System to the Wisconsin/Minnesota border in Carlton County. As part of the L3R Project, eight pump stations will be built. Four of the eight pump stations will be located west of Clearbrook at existing pump station sites, which Enbridge plans to expand to accommodate the installation of these facilities. The remaining four pump stations will be located east of Clearbrook at greenfield station sites.

Enbridge has requested that Great River Energy, in partnership with its member retail distribution cooperatives, provide electric service to four pump stations associated with the L3R Project east of Clearbrook, including the Palisade Pump Station near Palisade, Minnesota, which is the subject of this letter.



Mr. Daniel Wolf
May 4, 2015
Page 2

Please feel free to give me a call at 763-445-5214 if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Respectfully Submitted,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

Carole L. Schmidt

Carole L. Schmidt
Supervisor, Transmission Permitting and Compliance

s:\transmission\ capital projects\203611- Palisade\LR-ENV\Environmental\Palisade Notice of Intent to File under Alternative Permitting Process
5-4-15.docx