

STATE OF MINNESOTA
BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

LeRoy Koppendrayer	Chair
Marshall Johnson	Commissioner
Kenneth Nickolai	Commissioner
Thomas Pugh	Commissioner
Phyllis Reha	Commissioner

In the Matter of the Joint Petition to Transfer
Portion of Route Permit for the Empire Lake
Transmission Line from Great River Energy to
Xcel Energy

MPUC Docket No.

JOINT PETITION FOR TRANSFER OF ROUTE PERMIT

Pursuant to Minn. Rules pt. 4400.3850, Great River Energy (“GRE”) and Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy (“Xcel Energy”) jointly petition the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) for permission to transfer a portion of the route permit granted in EQB Docket No. 04-81-TR-Air Lake-Empire¹ (“Permit”) from GRE to Xcel Energy. Specifically, GRE and Xcel Energy seek to transfer the authority to construct the one-third mile segment from the Vermillion River Substation directly east to Akin Road from GRE to Xcel Energy. The Permit transfer is requested to reflect actual ownership of the facilities. This request does not involve any material change in the location, conditions or specifications associated with the Permit.

The one-third mile segment from the substation to Akin Road is a 69 kV line owned by Xcel Energy that will be rebuilt to a 69/115 kV double circuit. Because Xcel Energy owns the easement rights for this segment, Xcel Energy will own and operate the double circuit line. GRE and Xcel Energy request this transfer so that Xcel Energy is authorized to construct the line.

¹ *In the Matter of the Application by Great River Energy and Xcel Energy for a Route Permit to Construct a 115 kV Overhead High Voltage Transmission Line and a New Vermillion River Substation in Farmington, all in Dakota County, Route Permit for Construction of a Substation and a High Voltage Transmission Line (Permit), issued by the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board on February 22, 2005.*

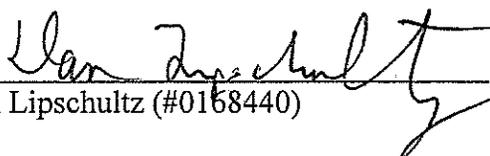
GRE and Xcel Energy further request that the date of the transfer be made effective upon the Commission's approval.

Finally, both GRE and Xcel Energy reconfirm their commitment to comply with all Permit conditions.

Based on the foregoing, GRE and Xcel Energy request that the Commission grant their request to transfer a portion of the Permit from GRE to Xcel Energy.

Dated: May 16, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Dan Lipschultz (#0168440)

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Attorneys on Behalf of Great River Energy

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AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
)ss.
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN)

In the Matter of the Joint Petition to Transfer Portion of
Route Permit for the Empire Lake Transmission Line
from Great River Energy to Xcel Energy

MPUC Docket No.:

Melodee Carlson Chang, being first duly sworn, deposes and states that on the 30th day of May, 2006, copies of Great River Energy's and Xcel Energy's Joint Petition for Transfer of Route Permit in the above-entitled matter were hand delivered and/or mailed by United States first class mail, postage prepaid thereon, to the following:

Dr. Burl W. Haar (original and 15 copies)
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
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Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

David Birkholz
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 Seventh Place East
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Dale Aukee
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Lisa M. Agrimonti
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2200 IDS Center
80 South 8th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Melodee Carlson Chang
Melodee Carlson Chang

SWORN TO BEFORE ME this
30th day of May, 2006.

Karen E. Berg
NOTARY PUBLIC

