

May 23, 2003

Mr. Doug M. Lee
Great Plains Natural Gas Co.
Project Manager
400 North Fourth Street
Bismarck, ND 58501

RE: Acceptance of Application of the Minnesota Soybean Processors by EQB
Chair for a Pipeline Routing Permit (EQB Docket # 03-62-PRP-MnSP)

Dear Mr. Lee:

In April, 2002, Minnesota Soybean Processors (MnSP) filed an application with the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) for its proposed 6.4 mile and 4.5-inch outside diameter natural gas pipeline in Jackson and Nobles Counties pursuant to Minn. Rules chapter 4415 for a pipeline routing permit and partial exemption from pipeline route selection procedures.

EQB staff has reviewed your revised May 2003 application and has concluded that your application is consistent with the requirements of Minn. Rules, part 4415.0115, and that the application will be reviewed pursuant to the partial exemption procedures of Minn. Rules, parts 4415.0035, 4415.0040 and 4415.0105.

Based upon the EQB staff recommendation, I accepted the Minnesota Soybean Processors application for a proposed 6.4 mile natural gas pipeline project on May 22, 2003.

Larry Hartman of the EQB staff will be the project manager for this project. Please direct any future questions to Mr. Hartman.

We look forward to working with Minnesota Soybean Processors to fully address any issues that may be raised in review of this application for a pipeline routing permit and a partial exemption from pipeline route selection procedures. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Schroeder, Chair
Environmental Quality Board