

**September 19, 2005**

**MPUC Docket No. E109, ET2/MC-05-1464**

**Notice of Application by Great River Energy (GRE) for Approval of a Minor Alteration to Relocate and Rebuild the Nokay Substation Owned by Crow Wing Power and Construction of Approximately 180 feet of 115 kV Transmission Line to be Owned by GRE Near Brainerd, Minnesota**

On September 12, 2005, GRE submitted an application on behalf of Crow Wing Power to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) for a Minor Alteration to relocate and rebuild the Nokay Substation, under the recently constructed GRE owned Central Lakes 115 kV transmission line located in section 6 of Long Lake Township in Crow Wing County, Minnesota. See Accompanying Map. The Nokay Substation will be owned by Crow Wing Power, one of GRE's member cooperatives. As a part of the Nokay Substation project, GRE will need to build and own a short tap (approximately 180 feet) of 115 kV transmission line between the proposed high side structure in the substation and the existing switch structure outside of the substation.

The proposed Nokay Substation will be enclosed in a fenced area (116' by 116' or approximately 1/3 acre), situated inside a two-acre parcel acquired for the project. A seven-foot high chain link fence will be installed. The substation design incorporates a basic distribution substation with high-side protection, a step-down transformer (115/12.5 kV) and five circuits. The existing Nokay Substation is not capable of supporting the increased growth in the area, therefore GRE and Crow Wing Power are proposing to rebuild the substation and connect it to the GRE 115 kV transmission system.

GRE maintains that the project as proposed constitutes a Minor Alteration. A Minor Alteration is a change in an existing transmission line, which includes substations, that does not result in significant changes in the human or environmental impact of the facility. In accordance with Minnesota Rules, part 4400.3820, the DOC is providing notice to the public that GRE has applied for approval of this project. The MPUC will decide after close of the public comment period whether to authorize the Minor Alteration, or determine that the alteration is not minor and requires a full permitting decision.

**COMMENT PERIOD**

The public has until 4:30 p.m. on October 3, 2005, to submit written or fax (651-297-1959) comments on this request for a minor alternation. Please include the following docket number (**E109, ET2/MC-05-1464**). Comments should be directed to: Sharon Ferguson, Department of Commerce, 85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101-2198 or by e-mail to: [sharon.fergusone@state.mn.us](mailto:sharon.fergusone@state.mn.us)

To ask questions or seek further information about this proposed project, please contact Larry Hartman at (651) 296-5089) or [larry.hartman@state.mn.us](mailto:larry.hartman@state.mn.us). See eDockets at: <http://www.edockets.state.mn.us/> for electronic access to all public documents in PUC proceedings.