

STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
FOR THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application of Northern
States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy for
Certificates of Need for Four Large High
Voltage Transmission Line Projects in
Southwestern Minnesota

FOURTH PREHEARING ORDER

Laura A. and John C. Reinhardt filed a Motion to Compel Discovery Responses on April 15, 2002, requesting an order compelling the Public Intervenors Network to respond to the Reinhardts' discovery request. Responses to the Reinhardts' discovery, dated April 19, 2002, were received by the Office of Administrative Hearings on April 23, 2002.

No objections were filed to intervention by the Rural Minnesota Energy Task Force by April 19, 2002, the deadline for objections to be filed.

Michael Noble, Executive Director, filed a Petition to Intervene on behalf of Minnesotans for an Energy-Efficient Economy. The Petition was received by the Office of Administrative Hearings on April 23, 2002.

Deborah A. Amberg filed a Petition to Intervene on behalf of Minnesota Power. The Petition was received by the Office of Administrative Hearings on April 24, 2002.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. The Reinhardts' Motion to Compel Discovery Responses is denied because it is moot.
2. The Motion of the Rural Minnesota Energy Task Force to intervene as a party is granted, and the Master Service List is amended accordingly.
3. Any party objecting to intervention by Minnesotans for an Energy-Efficient Economy or Minnesota Power shall file its objection prior to the prehearing conference scheduled for May 1, 2002. A copy of each prehearing order previously entered in this matter shall be forwarded to the Minnesotans for an Energy Efficient Economy and Minnesota Power with this prehearing order.

Dated this 25th day of April, 2002.

BEVERLY JONES HEYDINGER
Administrative Law Judge