

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

In the Matter of the Application for a
Route Permit for the CapX2020
Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse High
Voltage Transmission Lines

**NOTICE OF
PREHEARING CONFERENCE
AUGUST 10, 2010**

This matter was referred to the Office of Administrative Hearings for a contested case proceeding, by Notice and Order for Hearing issued by the Public Utilities Commission on March 9, 2010. The Public Utilities Commission has jurisdiction over applications for route permits for large energy facilities, including this transmission line project, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216E.02, subd. 2.

At the time that the Commission's Order was issued, the only party to this proceeding was the Applicant, Northern States Power Company, d/b/a Xcel Energy. The Department of Commerce, Office of Energy Security, Energy Facility Permitting Staff, has given notice of its intent to participate pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216E.03. In addition, NO CAPX 2020 and United Citizens Action Network (U-CAN) petitioned for intervention as a party on February 23, 2010; no objection was made to the petition, and it must be considered granted pursuant to Minn. R. 7829.0800, subp. 5. Those entities have party status.

To date, no other petitions to intervene have been filed with the Administrative Law Judge. Persons who have filed a Notice of Appearance without filing a petition to intervene must file the petition, as set forth in the Order below, in order to obtain party status; however, **any person may appear at the hearings and offer testimony and exhibits without the necessity of intervening as a formal party to the proceedings.** The Administrative Law Judge may allow any person to ask questions of other witnesses.

Any person may view and print all documents filed in this proceeding, with the exception of trade secret information, through the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission website, by clicking on "search edockets," and entering the year (09) and number (1448) for this proceeding.

Advice concerning the procedures to be followed in this proceeding is available from staff attorneys at the Office of Administrative Hearings. In addition, the Office of Energy Security Facilities Permitting staff has been

authorized to name a public advisor. Pursuant to Minn. R. 7849.5250, the public advisor is available to answer questions from the public about the permitting process.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. A prehearing conference will be held on **August 10, 2010, at 1:30 p.m.** at the Public Utilities Commission, 121 Seventh Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul, MN.

2. Any person who desires to intervene in this contested case as a party shall file a written petition to intervene with the Administrative Law Judge and shall serve the petition upon all existing parties, as set forth in Minn. R. 1400.6200.

3. Any party may object to the petition for intervention by filing a written notice of objection with the Administrative Law Judge within seven days of service of the petition, stating the party's reasons of objection, and shall serve a copy of the notice of objection on all other parties and the person seeking intervention.

4. The deadline to petition for intervention will be set at the prehearing conference.

5. Any person who needs an accommodation for a disability or appointment of an interpreter to participate in the Prehearing Conference shall notify the Office of Administrative Hearings by **August 3, 2010.**

6. This Order is being sent to all persons on the Public Utilities Commission service list for this proceeding. **Any subsequent service in this contested case proceeding will be limited to parties to this proceeding.**

Dated: July 16, 2010

s/Kathleen D. Sheehy

KATHLEEN D. SHEEHY
Administrative Law Judge