

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission,
Commissioner Tuma
Scott Ek

Reconsideration Request, MNEC Project, Dockets 22-131 and 22-132

Dear Public Utilities Commission:

We are requesting the following change:

1. Move tower #256 to the southeast corner of our Christmas tree field.
This location would only destroy two of our current Christmas trees. Moving the tower any further to the west of the southeast corner will start destroying more of our Christmas trees.
2. Move tower #257 slightly so the deciduous trees located along the upper 1/3 of the power line between towers #256 and #257 are not destroyed.
This may only requiring moving tower #257 a few feet to the east. I measured the current distance between our fence line and the base of the starting point of the deciduous trees at 68 feet.
Using the aerial map sent to us from Xcel Energy the power line already appears to be on the east side of our fence line at the starting point of our deciduous trees. I assume Xcel will only destroy trees 75 feet from the center of the power line.

Our customers drive through this wooded area when they going to the Christmas tree field to select their tree. This is an important part of our customers' Christmas tree buying outing/experience. They actually are driving over a creek and through the woods to the Christmas tree field.
3. It appears from the aerial map sent to us from Xcel that tower #255 is located several hundred feet from our south fence/property line. If tower #255 remains at this location none of our highest quality Christmas trees along the south Christmas tree fence line will be destroyed. We strongly recommend that tower #255 remain at its current proposed location.

It takes at least 8-12 years for a Christmas tree seedling to grow to a 6-8 foot marketable height.

We began our Christmas tree farm in 2003 and have been nurturing, shaping and pruning our trees ever since. We want to continue using the entire field as a Christmas tree farm.

We find it difficult to believe that Xcel initially proposed to install a tower and lines across the heart of our field that would have destroyed our Christmas tree farm.

Sincerely,

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