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Provide the docket's number. 26-135

Leave a comment on the docket. *

In Chapter 6 on p.79 of the route permit in the environmental review it says "Contours shall be graded, as required, so that all surfaces provide for proper drainage, blend with the natural terrain, and are left in a condition that will facilitate re-vegetation and prevent erosion. All areas disturbed during construction shall be returned to pre-construction conditions." Considering that you have already specified that the project is taking place essentially entirely on prime farmland your appendix G is quite lacking in actual long-term, enforceable commitments what true restoration would actually entail, such as conservation easements or long term planning for restoration. Under "Excess Soils and Rocks" it just says Xcel will be make "Good Faith Efforts" but doesn't define what that means. What protections are in place to ensure Xcel doesn't make one phone call or just send one letter and call that good enough to count? Under "Construction Debris" it just says Xcel will pay for "Reasonable costs of repairs to landowners equipment"--reasonable to who? There's a very good chance that Xcel will write off repairs that are meaningful and have an impact on residents left behind in Xcel's wake because Xcel considers them to be "unreasonable" or makes the resident jump through so many hoops to prove that the cost is reasonable that the resident gives up and then Xcel doesn't have to pay, which leaves the resident in further distress all around. There should be soil testing for heavy metals and other contaminants pre and post for example. Enlisting other agencies beyond MDA for additional guidance and eyes on is also needed--the Land Stewardship Project, Extension for example for additional testing or other land restoration/preservation/testing/monitoring.