From:	jose hispanicsinenergy.com
То:	Staff, CAO (PUC)
Cc:	anita@gracemulticultural.com
Subject:	HIE Letter in support of Minnesota Power"s proposal for three new solar projects - E015/M-20-828
Date:	Monday, March 15, 2021 7:10:43 PM
Attachments:	Lt. in support of MN Power Solar Panels.pdf

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Thank you,

Jose L. Perez Hispanics In Energy 202.905.7211



March 15, 2021

Mr. Will Seuffert Executive Secretary Minnesota Public Utilities Commission 121 7<sup>th</sup> Place E, Suite 350 St Paul, MN 551501

## RE: Comments on E015/M-20-828

Dear Commissioners,

We are in support of Minnesota Power's proposed solar economic recovery projects.

Minnesota Power proposes three new solar projects spread across their service territory in Duluth, Hoyt Lakes, and Sylvan. These projects are unique. They plan to use local labor and solar panels manufactured locally in Mt. Iron.

We are impressed with the change in Minnesota Power's procurement process that addresses each of the recommendations on supplier diversity developed in your Energy Utility Diversity Group (EUDG) report. Moreover, we recognize the company's leadership within the EUDG.

The Laskin Energy Center project in Hoyt Lakes represents a reinvestment in host communities that have lost jobs and tax from the closure of coal plants. It makes sense to care for workers affected by the energy transition now taking place around the world.

We believe the cost to customers of less than \$0.50 per month is an excellent investment to help clean our environment, boost clean energy generation and help people transition from coal jobs to clean energy jobs.

For these reasons, we ask you to approve Minnesota Power's request.

Sincerely,

José L. Pérez | LinkedIn President & CEO Hispanics In Energy A Public Benefit Non-Profit 501 (c) (3)