COMMERCE DEPARTMENT

April 12, 2024

ELECTRONIC FILING

Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary Public Utilities Commission 127 Seventh Place East, Suite 350 Saint Paul, MN 55101-2147

RE: **EERA Comments on the Administrative Law Judge Report** Cedar Lake Reroute Project HVTL Route Permit Application Scott and Rice Counties, Minnesota

OAH Docket No. 5-2500-39476 Docket No. ET2/TL-23-170

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

Department of Commerce Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) staff reviewed the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Recommendations (Report) issued by Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Jim Mortenson for the Cedar Lake Reroute Project dockets identified above. The ALJ's Report provides a thorough analysis of the record, and EERA does not have any exceptions to provide at this time.

EERA Staff concurs with the recommendation of the ALJ for the issuance of a Route Permit to Great River Energy to construct and operate the Cedar Lake Reroute Project, including associated facilities, in Scott and Rice Counties, and that the issued Route Permit contain the conditions as set forth in the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

EERA staff is available to answer any questions the Commission may have.

Sincerely,

hich D.

Richard Davis Environmental Review Manager

cc: Mike Kaluzniak, Public Utilities Commission