

From: [Jaci Christenson](#)
To: [Kahlert, Kate \(PUC\)](#)
Subject: COMMENTS ON Proposed Amendment to Rules Governing Certificates of Need and Site and Route Permits for Large Electric Power Plants and High-Voltage Transmission Lines, Minnesota Rules Chapters 7849 and 7850 and Governing Notice Plan Filing Requirements, ...
Date: Monday, November 15, 2021 9:30:38 PM

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Greetings staff of the Public Utilities Commission,

I am writing to request a hearing in the rulemaking you are conducting on Certificates of Need, Powerplant Siting, and Route Permits for High-Voltage Transmission Lines. I oppose the proposed amendments in their entirety.

Given that we are in the grips of a global climate crisis it is entirely inappropriate for the Commission to update its rules without including any mechanisms for incorporating climate change mitigation or adaptation into its decision-making processes. The fact that these rules do nothing to protect Indigenous rights and environmental justice communities is further proof that the Commission's entire rulemaking process has been industry-captured and does not serve the public interest. Without a true stakeholder process that centers the perspectives of Tribal Nations, environmental justice communities, low-income communities, health professionals, scientists, and young people fighting for their futures, this rulemaking proposes to cement utility control over the process and cut out any meaningful public participation. The Commission must not finalize these rules as proposed.

The Commission's duty is to protect Minnesotans and ratepayers from foreseeable risk, and these rules do nothing to protect us from the harms that menace us the most.

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