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Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary

STATE OF MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

**NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD ON MINOR ALTERATION  
APPLICATION**

*Issued: August 21, 2013*

**In the Matter of the Application for a Route Permit for the Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV  
Transmission Line Project**

**PUC Docket Number:** E-002, E-T2/TL-09-1056

**Comment Period:** Comment period closes **Wednesday, September 4, 2013, at 4:30 p.m.**

**Topics Open for Comment:**

- Does Xcel Energy and Great River Energy's request meet the definition of a minor alteration?
- Should the Commission approve Xcel Energy and Great River Energy's minor alteration request?
- If the minor alteration is approved, should any conditions be required?

**Project Background:** On June 24, 2011, the Commission issued a route permit to Xcel Energy and Great River Energy for the construction and operation of a 213-mile 345-kilovolt high-voltage transmission line between Fargo, North Dakota and St. Cloud, Minnesota, along a specified route.

On August 19, 2013, Xcel Energy and Great River Energy applied to the Commission for a minor alteration to the approved route. The requested minor alteration is a widening of the approved route in Section 4 of Prairie View Township, Wilkin County. The minor alteration is requested to avoid a Natural Resource Conservation Service Wetlands Reserve Program easement.

A minor alteration is a change in an existing energy facility that does not result in significant changes in the human or environmental impact of the facility (Minnesota Rules, part 7850.4800).

At the close of the comment period, the Commission will decide whether to authorize a minor alteration or determine that the alteration is not minor and requires a full permitting decision.

**Submit Public Comments:** Email to [PublicComments.PUC@state.mn.us](mailto:PublicComments.PUC@state.mn.us). Persons without email access may send by U.S. mail to: Burl Haar, Executive Secretary, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul MN 55101-2147. Please include the PUC Docket Number (09-1056) in all communications.

**Filing Requirements:** Utilities, official parties, and state agencies are required to file documents using the Commission's eFiling system at <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling>.

**Full Case Record:** All documents filed in this docket are available on the Commission's website at [www.puc.state.mn.us](http://www.puc.state.mn.us), select "Search eDockets," enter the year (09) and the docket number (1056), select "Search."

**Subscribe to the Docket:** Receive notification when new documents are filed in this docket at [www.puc.state.mn.us](http://www.puc.state.mn.us), select "Subscribe to a Docket," and follow the prompts.

**Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure?** Contact Commission staff: Scott Ek at [scott.ek@state.mn.us](mailto:scott.ek@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2255.

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