

**NEW DECISION OPTION**  
**Proposed by Commissioner Tuma**  
**Agenda meeting: July 31, 2025**

**DOCKET NUMBER** E002/CN-22-131; E002/TL-22-132

**ANALYST** Scott Ek

**DATE/TIME SUBMITTED** 7/29/25, 2:15 pm

**TITLE** Tuma New 3A & Tuma New 8A

**ATTACHMENT** No

**SUBJECT** In the Matter of the Applications of Xcel Energy for a Certificate of Need and Route Permit for the Minnesota Energy Connection Project in Sherburne, Stearns, Kandiyohi, Wright, Meeker, Chippewa, Yellow Medicine, Renville, Redwood, and Lyon counties in Minnesota.

**Tuma New 3.A.** Find that the commitment of Birch Coulee Solar, LLC in MPUC Docket 23-477 to redesign the Project Layout to enable the Minnesota Energy Connection Project (MNEC) transmission line to follow property lines on the ordered alignment adjacent to Ms. Brazil Johnson’s property resolves the issues raised in Ms. Brazil-Johnson’s petition for reconsideration, and therefore deny Ms. Brazil-Johnson’s petition for reconsideration as moot.

**Tuma New 8.A.** On its own motion the Commission amends the order to require the Permittee to develop a Vegetation Management Plan for the existing Pladsons’ Christmas tree farm in coordination with the property owner to allow for the continued growth and harvesting of Christmas trees within the right-of-way and below the transmission structures.