

From: [Matt Glaesman](#)
To: [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)
Subject: Great River Energy Route Permit- Stearns County 69kV to 115kV (Docket 22-235)
Date: Thursday, September 8, 2022 4:56:12 PM

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September 8, 2022

Consumer Affairs Office
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St Paul, MN 55101

To Whom It May Concern,

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on Great River Energy's route permit application to rebuild the existing 69-kv transmission line in St. Joseph Township and abutting the City of St. Cloud. We offer the following comments for your consideration.

- The City of St. Cloud supports the current design proposal for the alignment to remain west of 73rd Avenue North so as not to impact existing residential development east of the corridor within the city limits.
- The City of St. Cloud requests the alignment account for the future widening of 73rd Avenue North and its potential future extension south of Westwood Parkway. The adopted St. Cloud Comprehensive Plan designates Westwood Parkway and County Road 134 as Minor Collector roadways which should be connected by 73rd Avenue North in similar design and capacity. The City of St. Cloud's Land Development Code requires a 100 foot right of way for Minor Collector roadways. 73rd Avenue North currently exists within a 66 foot right of way. The transmission line design and alignment should account for a westerly right of way expansion from 66 feet to 100 feet so as to avoid purchase and/or condemnation of easements on existing residential parcels east of the corridor.
- The City of St. Cloud Comprehensive Plan and the recently adopted Southwest Beltline Corridor Study both consider the western extension of Westwood Parkway to connect with the future southwest beltway. While the western terminus of said corridor is uncertain, the eastern terminus will be the intersection of Westwood Parkway and 73rd Avenue North. The placement of above and below ground improvements for the transmission line should account for a 120 foot right of way to extend Westwood Parkway.

The City of St. Cloud respectfully asks that Great River Energy carefully consider these design

recommendations as the project advances. These plans should balance the need for electrical demand and distribution in our growing region and the orderly growth of the communities to meet commercial, residential, and transportation demand.

Respectfully,

Matt Glaesman
Community Development Director

Matt Glaesman
Community Development Director
Direct 320-650-3110
Main Line 320-255-7218

