

**McGRANN SHEA CARNIVAL STRAUGHN & LAMB, CHARTERED**

**ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

WILLIAM R. McGRANN  
DOUGLAS M. CARNIVAL  
KATHLEEN M. LAMB  
JOHN R. SCHULZ  
BRIAN L. SOBOL  
SCOTT B. CROSSMAN  
CARLA J. PEDERSEN

ROGER J. STELLJES  
JEFFREY C. URBAN  
KATHLEEN MICHAELA BRENNAN  
CARL S. WOSMEK  
AMY L. COURT  
CHRISTY E. LAWRIE

CURT N. TRISKO  
  
OF COUNSEL  
ROBERT O. STRAUGHN  
PETER L. COOPER  
  
ANDREW J. SHEA  
(1938-2018)

September 24, 2021

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Will Seuffert  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
350 Metro Square Building  
121 Seventh Place East  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: In the Matter of the Joint Request of Princeton Public Utilities and East  
Central Energy to Update Electric Service Territory Records  
MPUC Docket: \_\_\_\_\_  
Our File No.: 63052-0001

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

I represent Princeton Public Utilities, a Minnesota municipal utility (the "Municipal"), which is authorized, on behalf of the Municipal and East Central Energy, a rural electric cooperative utility (the "Cooperative") (collectively, the "Parties") to make this joint filing.

Summary of the Joint Request

This filing constitutes the Parties' joint request that the MPUC update the official service territory map to reflect an agreed-upon change in the Parties' electric service territory boundaries. This joint request concerns the permanent transfer of an area located within the city limits of the City of Princeton and within the electric service territory assigned to the Cooperative (the "Affected Area"), as further described below.

Legal Authorities

Under Minnesota Statutes, Section 216B.44(a), a municipal utility expands its assigned electric service territory, upon reaching agreement with the neighboring utility as to compensation: "Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 216B.38 to 216B.42, whenever a municipality which owns and operates an electric utility (1) extends its corporate boundaries through annexation or consolidation, or (2) determines to extend its

service territory within its existing corporate boundaries, the municipality shall thereafter furnish electric service to these areas unless the area is already receiving electric service from an electric utility, in which event, the municipality may purchase the facilities of the electric utility serving the area.” Minn. Stat. § 216B.44(a). In addition, “no electric utility shall render or extend electric service at retail within the assigned service area of another electric utility unless the electric utility consents thereto in writing . . . “ Minn. Stat. § 216B.40 (2018).

In the present case, the transfer occurred pursuant to Section 216B.44: the Affected Area lies within the city limits; the Parties have agreed upon appropriate compensation; and the Parties have agreed to the Municipal providing service.

Minnesota Statutes, Section 216B.39, subd. 3 addresses changes to the assigned service territory map after 1975: “the commission may on its own or at the request of an electric utility make changes in the boundaries of the assigned service areas, but only after notice and hearing . . . “ By its terms, Section 216B.44(a) excludes Section 216B.39. Minn. Stat. § 216B.44(a) (“notwithstanding the provisions of sections 216B.38 to 216B.42,”). Nonetheless, the Parties acknowledge the public policy in having an accurate and updated official service territory boundary map. Accordingly, the Parties request that the Commission update its official records as to electric service territory boundaries to reflect the Parties’ permanent change in the Affected Area.

#### Underlying Information

Attached as Exhibit A is a map that depicts the boundaries of the Affected Area in green. The Affected Area involve approximately 42 acres and no current customers.

Attached as Exhibit B is a legal description of the Affected Area.

#### Customer Notice

To avoid unnecessary duplication of facilities and to ensure a smooth transition of electric service, the Parties have agreed to the Municipal providing service to the Affected Area effective July 27, 2021. No customers are presently receiving service in the Affected Area. Should the Municipal begin service to any customers in the Affected Area, it will direct separate notice to those customers as to the pending proceeding before the Commission.

#### Contact Information

If there are any questions concerning this filing, you may contact the following representatives:

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Princeton Public Utilities:

Keith Butcher  
General Manager  
Princeton Public Utilities  
907 First Street  
PO Box 218  
Princeton, MN 55371-0218  
Phone: 763-389-2252  
kbutcher@princetonutilities.com

Kaela Brennan  
McGrann Shea Carnival  
Straughn & Lamb, Chtd.  
800 Nicollet Mall, Suite 2600  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
Phone: 612-338-2525  
kmb@mcgrannshea.com

East Central Energy:

Andy Olson  
Vice President/Chief Operating Officer  
East Central Energy  
412 Main Ave. N.  
Braham, MN 55006  
Phone: 800-254-7944 Ext. 8075  
andy.olson@ecemn.com

Request

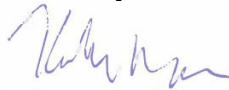
The Parties therefore petition the Commission to accept and file these documents and provide due acknowledgment thereof. The Parties further request that the Commission provide evidence of its acknowledgment of these changes of service territory boundaries, and the updating of the official service territory records.

Proposed Service List

A copy of this letter and the accompanying documents has been mailed or emailed to the persons on the enclosed proposed service list.

Please contact the representatives above if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Kathleen M. Brennan

Enclosures

cc (w/encl.): Proposed Service List

# EXHIBIT A

Map Depicting Boundaries of Affected Area (in blue)



## **EXHIBIT B**

### **Legal Description of Affected Area**

The Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, except the East 300 feet thereof, and the North 500 feet of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter, except the East 300 feet thereof, all in Section 32, Township 36, Range 26, according to the United States Government Survey thereof and situate in Mille Lacs County, Minnesota.

EXCEPT: That part of the West 150.00 feet of the East 450.00 feet of the North 500.00 feet of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter and that part of the West 150.00 feet of the East 450.00 feet of the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, both in Section 32, Township 36, Range 26, which lies South of the Westerly extension of the North line of Lot 8, Block 1, Aero Business Park First Addition, said Mille Lacs County, Minnesota.

and

That part of the West 150.00 feet of the East 450.00 feet of the North 500.00 feet of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter and that part of the West 150.00 feet of the East 450.00 feet of the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, both in Section 32, Township 36, Range 26, which lies South of the Westerly extension of the North line of Lot 8, Block 1, Aero Business Park First Addition, said Mille Lacs County, Minnesota.

and

Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, all in Block 1, Aero Business Park First Addition, according to the plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder, Mille Lacs County, Minnesota.

## PROPOSED SERVICE LIST

Re: In the Matter of the Joint Request of Princeton Public Utilities and East Central Energy to Update Electric Service Territory Records

MPUC Docket: \_\_\_\_\_

### Via Electronic Filing

Will Seuffert  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
350 Metro Square Building  
121 Seventh Place East  
St. Paul, MN 55101

### Via Electronic Filing

Ms. Sharon Ferguson  
MN Department of Commerce  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

### Via Electronic Filing

Commerce Attorneys  
Office of the Attorney General-DOC  
1800 BRM Tower  
445 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2134

### Via Electronic Filing

Residential Utilities Division  
Office of the Attorney General-RUD  
1400 BRM Tower  
445 Minnesota Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2130

### Via Electronic Mail

Andy Olson  
Vice President/Chief Operating Officer  
East Central Energy  
412 Main Ave. N.  
Braham, MN 55006  
[andy.olson@ecemn.com](mailto:andy.olson@ecemn.com)  
(*East Central Energy*)

### Via Electronic Mail

Keith Butcher  
General Manager  
Princeton Public Utilities  
907 First Street  
PO Box 218  
Princeton, MN 55371-0218  
[kbutcher@princetonutilities.com](mailto:kbutcher@princetonutilities.com)  
(*Princeton Public Utilities*)

### Courtesy Copies

Ms. Kathleen M. Brennan  
McGrann Shea Carnival Straughn  
& Lamb, Chartered  
800 Nicollet Mall  
Suite 2600  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-7035  
[kmb@mcgrannshea.com](mailto:kmb@mcgrannshea.com)  
(*Princeton Public Utilities*)