



April 16, 2024

Suzanne Steinhauer
Department of Commerce
85 Seventh Place East, Suite 280
Saint Pual, MN 55101

RE: Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and Minnesota Department of Commerce – Environmental Report (ER) – Brookings – Hampton 2nd Circuit Transmission Project
Metropolitan Council Review No. 22961-1
Metropolitan Council District No. 4, 12, 16

Dear Suzanne Steinhauer:

The Metropolitan Council received the Environmental Report (ER) for the Brookings – Hampton 2nd Circuit Transmission Project on April 2, 2024. Within the 7-County Metro Area, the project proposes installing a second 345 kV circuit on double-circuit capable structures on the Helena to Hampton Minnesota segment of the Brookings – Hampton 345 kV Transmission Line. This segment comprises approximately 39 miles in Scott and Dakota counties and will involve constructing two new dead-end structures on the south side of the Chub Lake Substation in New Market Township in Scott County. This change will require a separate set of structures spanning approximately 1,700 feet and will require new right of way. The project will also be adding eight new low-profile structures within the existing right of way along a 1.5-mile segment near the Airlake Airport in Farmington. Finally, the project will add one new 345 kV breaker to the Helena Substation and 4 new 345 kV breakers to the Hampton substation.

The staff review finds that the ER is complete and accurate with respect to regional concerns and does not raise major issues of consistency with Council policies. An EIS is not necessary for regional purposes.

We offer the following comments for your consideration.

Item 4.1.7.3 – (Water and Wastewater) (Roger Janzig, 651-602-1119)

The transmission line project may have an impact on multiple Metropolitan Council Interceptors in various locations, including a Forcemain Interceptor. To fully assess the potential impacts to our interceptor system, prior to initiating this project, preliminary plans need to be sent to Tim Wedin, Interceptor Engineering Assistant Manager (651-602-4571) at the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services.



This concludes the Council's review of the ER. The Council will not take formal action on the ER. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact MacKenzie Young-Walters, Principal Reviewer, at 651-602-1373 or via email at MacKenzie.Young-Walters@metc.state.mn.us.

Sincerely,



Angela R. Torres, AICP, Senior Manager
Local Planning Assistance

CC: Tod Sherman, Development Reviews Coordinator, MnDOT - Metro Division
 Deb Barber, Metropolitan Council District 4
 Susan Vento, Metropolitan Council District 12
 Wendy Wulff, Metropolitan Council District 16
 MacKenzie Young-Walters, Sector Representative/Principal Reviewer
 Reviews Coordinator

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