

**NEW/REVISED DECISION OPTION**  
**Proposed by Commissioner Tuma**  
**January 15, 2026**

**DOCKET NUMBER**                    **24-425; 24-426**

**ANALYST**                            **Scott Ek**

**DATE/TIME SUBMITTED**        **01/13/26**            **1:45 PM**

**TITLE**                                **Tuma Revised 5.d/New 5.o Decision Options”**

**ATTACHMENT**                    **No**

**SUBJECT**                            In the Matter of the Joint Application of Minnesota Power for a Site and Route Permit for the 85-megawatt Boswell Solar Project and Associated 2.45-mile, 230-kilovolt Transmission Line in Itasca County, Minnesota.

**Tuma Revised 5.d.** The Permittee shall consult with local Native American tribes, including the in particular the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe and their TERO, in order to provide meaningful Tribal involvement and economic and workforce development opportunities in the Project. This consultation shall include the Permittee creating a meaningful coordination with the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe TERO and their contractors and unions to create and enhance existing contracting, training and employment opportunities for regional tribal members. The Permittee must document engagement with Tribal members, including any hiring of Tribal members and the utilization of Tribal businesses for the Project in its labor statistics reporting required under Section 8.5 of its Site Permit during the construction phase of the Project.

**Tuma New 5.o.** Tree Replacement. Both the site and route permit should include the following condition related to tree replacement:

The Permittee in coordination with the DNR, the Itasca County Soil and Water Conservation District, the Mississippi Headwaters Board, and the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe’s Division of Resource Management shall develop a plan to replace any trees that are removed for construction of the project by planting new trees in Itasca County and the Leech Lake Indian Reservation as near the project area as practical, and file the plan with the Commission at least 14 days before the pre-construction meeting. Trees planted for site screening, as well as any incremental or supplemental plantings beyond prior obligations or commitments, including the commitment to donate approximately 150,000 seedlings to Itasca County over the next two years, may be used to satisfy this tree replacement requirement. It is understood that any incremental prudent and reasonable costs for tree replacement not covered in prior project budgets may be recovered in future proceedings, including the Renewable Resources Rider, related to this project subject to the Commission’s review.