

April 15, 2026

VIA E-FILING

Sasha Bergman
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: In the Matter of the Application of Midwater BESS, LLC for a Site Permit and Route Permit for the up to 150 MW Midwater Energy Storage Project and Associated 161 kV Transmission Line in Freeborn County, Minnesota

MPUC Docket Nos. IP-7138/ESS-24-294; TL-24-295
CAH Docket Number: 25-2500-40799

Dear Ms. Bergman:

On April 8, 2026, Midwater BESS, LLC's (Midwater) cultural resource consultant provided the completed final cultural resources report, attached as Appendix F to the Site Permit Application (eDockets No. [202411-212161-08](#)), summarizing the desktop and field cultural resource surveys completed for the Project to Mr. Leonard Wabasha with the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. The report found that no archaeological resources were found within the area of potential effect (APE) or will otherwise be impacted by the Project. Mr. Wabasha responded on April 8 indicating that "[a]s long as there are no significant cultural archaeological sites in the project APE [he has] no concerns." The April 8, 2026 correspondence with Mr. Wabasha is attached to this letter as Attachment A, and has been electronically filed today through www.edockets.state.mn.us.

A copy of this filing is also being served upon the persons on the Official Service Lists of record.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.

/s/ Jeremy P. Duehr

Jeremy P. Duehr
Direct Dial: 612.492.7413
Email: jduehr@fredlaw.com

From: Leonard Wabasha (TO) <leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org>
Sent: Wednesday, April 8, 2026 12:14 PM
To: Ryan Grohnke
Cc: David Weetman; Mary Matze; Amber Zuhlke
Subject: RE: Midwater BESS Archaeological Review

As long as there are no significant cultural archaeological sites in the project APE I have no concerns...
Thanks and Have a Great Day!!



LEONARD WABASHA

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer • Hocokata Ti
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
d: 952.496.6120
shakopeedakota.org [shakopeedakota.org]
Leonard.Wabasha@shakopeedakota.org

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community is a federally recognized, sovereign Indian tribe located southwest of Minneapolis/St. Paul. With a focus on being a good neighbor, good steward of the earth, and good employer, the SMSC is committed to charitable donations, community partnerships, a healthy environment, and a strong economy.

From: Ryan Grohnke <Ryan.Grohnke@westwoodps.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 8, 2026 9:23 AM
To: Leonard Wabasha (TO) <leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org>
Cc: David Weetman <David.Weetman@westwoodps.com>; mmatze@spearmintenergy.com; Amber Zuhlke <azuhlke@spearmintenergy.com>
Subject: Midwater BESS Archaeological Review

You don't often get email from ryan.grohnke@westwoodps.com. [Learn why this is important \[aka.ms\]](#)

This message came from **outside the organization**. Do Not click on links, open attachments or respond unless you know the content is safe.

Mr. Wabasha,

I'm contacting you in response to email correspondence between you and my, now-retired, colleague, Eric Hansen in April 2024 regarding the proposed Midwater Battery Energy Storage System in Freeborn County, MN. At that time, Eric communicated to you that Westwood completed a desktop review of the site but had not yet completed a report summarizing the results. He let you know that the initial desktop survey revealed that no previously recorded archaeological resources have been inventoried within the APE.

Based on the literature review, one recorded archaeological site was documented in the one-mile buffer. Site 21FE0126 is a sparse lithic scatter consisting of four pieces of lithic debitage located approximately one-half mile to the east of the Project Area. Two historic/architectural resources associated with TH 65, XX-ROD-00178 (TH 65) and FE-SHE-0008 (a TH 65 bridge) are located along the western edge of the site.

Between June 6 and 11, and June 25 and 26, 2024, Westwood conducted a field survey of the APE on a 15-meter grid overlay. The field survey did not identify any cultural resources within the APE. The final report

Attachment A

summarizing the desktop review and field surveys was attached to the site permit application filed to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and is attached to this email for your review,

Please let me know if you would like any other information.

Thank you,
Ryan

Ryan Grohnke
Cultural Resources Manager
ryan.grohnke@westwoodps.com

direct (952) 906-7403
main (952) 937-5150
cell (612) 209-3352

Westwood
12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300
Minnetonka, MN 55343

westwoodps.com [westwoodps.com]
(888) 937-5150

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**In the Matter of the Application of Midwater
BESS, LLC for a Site Permit and Route
Permit for the up to 150 MW Midwater
Energy Storage Project and Associated 161 kV
Transmission Line in Freeborn County,
Minnesota**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

**MPUC Docket Nos. IP-7138/ESS-24-294;
TL-24-295
CAH Docket Number: 25-2500-40799**

Breann L. Jurek certifies that on the 15th day of April, 2026, she e-filed on behalf of Midwater BESS, LLC, a true and correct copy of the Project Update Letter, with Attachment A with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission via eDockets (www.edockets.state.mn.us). Said document was also served as designated on the Official Service Lists on file with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and as attached hereto.

Executed on: April 15, 2026

Signed: /s/ Breann L. Jurek

Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
60 South Sixth Street
Suite 1500
Minneapolis, MN 55402

#	First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Agency	Address	Delivery Method	Alternate Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
1	Sasha	Bergman	sasha.bergman@state.mn.us		Public Utilities Commission	121 7th Pl E Ste 350 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	24-295Official CC Service List
2	Tom	Brett	tbrett@fredlaw.com		Fredrikson and Byron, P.A.	60 South 6th St #1500 Minneapolis MN, 55108 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-295Official CC Service List
3	Mike	Bull	mike.bull@state.mn.us		Public Utilities Commission	121 7th Place East, Suite 350 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	24-295Official CC Service List
4	Generic	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us		Office of the Attorney General - Department of Commerce	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	24-295Official CC Service List
5	MP Regulatory	Compliance	mpregulatorycompliance@mnpower.com	Minnesota Power		30 W Superior St. Duluth MN, 55802 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-295Official CC Service List
6	Martin	Donovan	martin.donovan@state.mn.us		Department of Natural Resources	500 Lafayette Road St Paul MN, 55155 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-295Official CC Service List
7	Jeremy	Duehr	jduehr@fredlaw.com		Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.	60 S Sixth St Ste 1500 Minneapolis MN, 55402-4400 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-295Official CC Service List
8	Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us		Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 280 Saint Paul MN, 55101-2198 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-295Official CC Service List
9	Richard	Kolodziejski	rkolodziejski@ncsrcc.org		North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters	700 Olive St St. Paul MN, 55130 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-295Official CC Service List
10	Stacy	Kotch Egstad	stacy.kotch@state.mn.us		MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	395 John Ireland Blvd. St. Paul MN, 55155 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-295Official CC Service List
11	Discovery	Manager	discoverymanager@mnpower.com	Minnesota Power		30 W Superior St Duluth MN, 55802 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-295Official CC Service List

#	First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Agency	Address	Delivery Method	Alternate Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
12	Mary	Matze	mmatze@spearmintenergy.com	Spearmint Energy		2916 N. Miami Ave., Suite 830 Miami FL, 33127 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-295Official CC Service List
13	Megan	McKenzie	megan.mckenzie@state.mn.us		Office of Administrative Hearings	PO Box 64620 St Paul MN, 55164 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	24-295Official CC Service List
14	Marcus	Raines	mraines@ncsrcc.org	Millwrights Local 548		730 Olive St St. Paul MN, 55130 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-295Official CC Service List
15	Generic Notice	Residential Utilities Division	residential.utilities@ag.state.mn.us		Office of the Attorney General - Residential Utilities Division	1400 BRM Tower 445 Minnesota St St. Paul MN, 55101-2131 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	24-295Official CC Service List
16	Nathaniel	Runke	nrunke@local49.org			611 28th St. NW Rochester MN, 55901 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-295Official CC Service List
17	Janet	Shaddix Elling	jshaddix@janetshaddix.com	Shaddix And Associates		7400 Lyndale Ave S Ste 190 Richfield MN, 55423 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	24-295Official CC Service List
18	Claire	Vatalaro	cvatalaro@allete.com	Allete		30 W Superior St Duluth MN, 55802 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-295Official CC Service List

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2	Thomas	Brett	tbrett@fredlaw.com		Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.	60 South Sixth Street, Suite 1500 Minneapolis MN, 55402 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-294Official CC Service List
3	Mike	Bull	mike.bull@state.mn.us		Public Utilities Commission	121 7th Place East, Suite 350 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	24-294Official CC Service List
4	Generic	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us		Office of the Attorney General - Department of Commerce	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	24-294Official CC Service List
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6	Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us		Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 280 Saint Paul MN, 55101-2198 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-294Official CC Service List
7	Eric	Hansen	eric.hansen@westwoodps.com		Westwood Professional Services	7699 Anagram Drive Eden Prairie MN, 55344 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-294Official CC Service List
8	Breann	Jurek	bjurek@fredlaw.com		Fredrikson & Byron PA	60 S Sixth St Ste 1500 Minneapolis MN, 55402 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-294Official CC Service List
9	Richard	Kolodziejcki	rkolodziejcki@ncsrcc.org		North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters	700 Olive St St. Paul MN, 55130 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-294Official CC Service List
10	Stacy	Kotch Egstad	stacy.kotch@state.mn.us		MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	395 John Ireland Blvd. St. Paul MN, 55155 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-294Official CC Service List

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11	Molly	Leisen	mleisen@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson & Byron P.A.		60 South Sixth Street Suite 1500 Minneapolis MN, 55402 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-294Official CC Service List
12	Mary	Matze	mmatze@spearmintenergy.com	Spearmint Energy		2916 N. Miami Ave., Suite 830 Miami FL, 33127 United States	Electronic Service		No	24-294Official CC Service List
13	Megan	McKenzie	megan.mckenzie@state.mn.us		Office of Administrative Hearings	PO Box 64620 St Paul MN, 55164 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	24-294Official CC Service List
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