

08-1474

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Pat <pjok@frontiernet.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2013 6:01 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: MPUC Docket No. ET-2/TL-08-1474

Dear Dr. Burl W. Haar and Commissioners:

I am writing this note to encourage you to approve the recommended minor alterations to the power transmission line route. While it is called a minor alteration, to me it would make a huge difference in my property and its value. My husband Ed and I have lived at this location since 1979. Thirteen years ago we tore the old farmhouse down that had stood here for 100+ years and built our retirement home in its place. Our front yard is tree-filled and provides a buffer to road noise. If the original route were to be used, the trees in our front yard would have to be removed. The power pole that would be placed in our front yard would be relatively close to our home as our front door is only 300 feet from the road. Our property would be greatly impacted without the modification.

For these reasons, I recommend the committee APPROVE the request for this modification.

Sincerely,

Pat Korba
24810 Dodd Blvd.
Lakeville, MN 55044
(952) 469-4236

08-1474

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Ed <edkorba@frontiernet.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2013 1:23 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Cc: 'Pat'
Subject: MPUC Docket No. ET-2/TL-08-1474

Dr. Burl W. Haar and Commissioners.

I am writing this letter in hopes that you APPROVE the recommended minor alterations to the power transmission line route. The impact to my property and to that of Mary Boyum will be greatly reduced by the alternate route. The property of Ed and Shelby Obrien and Ray Kaufenberg will be less impacted. My neighbor to the south of my property Dwayne and Char Breid and the Pederson family to the south of Mary Boyum will not be impacted by the alternative route. The line crossing the open field is a much better choice. There will be no need to clear the wooded land south of the Boyum property and clear the stand of old trees (some in excess of 75 years old) on my property. The construction along the busy Dodd blvd will be less and should shorten the construction process. The Advance Team of Paul Storm and Matt Storm (the right of way agents for CapX2020) have spent a lot of time and energy with all the property owners involved in this change and have concluded that this is a MUCH BETTER solution, as it impacts the fewest landowners.

I Recommend that the Committee APPROVE the request for this modification.

Sincerely

Edward J Korba
24810 Dodd Blvd
Lakeville, Minnesota. 55044
(952) 469-4236



Date: 6-5-13

To: Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

From: Ray and Donia Kaufenberg
24510 Dodd Blvd, Lakeville, MN 55044

Ref: Docket ET2-TL-08-1474 (Filed 5-29-13 --- Request by Great River Energy and Xcel Energy to approve a minor alteration in the Brookings County to-Hampton 345 kV Transmission Line Project)

Dear Commissioners,

We would like to urge you to accept the requested minor alteration, identified as "**Modified Route**" on Exhibit B of the above referenced request filed by Great River Energy and Xcel Energy.

Note: our property is identified on the right side of Exhibit B as "Kaufenberg, Raymond E. and Donia L."

The requested **Modified Route** is a substantially better choice than the original "Preferred Route." It provides fewer negative impacts to our property and to our neighbors' properties to the south and west of us along Dodd Blvd: Korba, Breid, O'Brien, Boyum, and Pederson (see Exhibit B). It also falls in line with recommendations from the Lake Marion Advisory Task Force ("ATF") on which I, Ray Kaufenberg, served in April of 2009.

The ATF looked at angling from behind (west of) Boyum's house to the northeast across 245th and Dodd Blvd, similar to the currently requested **Modified Route**, as part of a larger alternative route segment analyzed by the ATF. Regarding the portion of the alternative route segment that was similar to the **Modified Route**, the members of the ATF unanimously agreed that keeping the powerline behind (to the west of) Boyum's and O'Brien's houses, and angling to the northeast across 245th Street and Dodd Blvd, would be considerably better than the Preferred Route (which goes straight east past the south side of the Boyum's house, crosses Dodd Blvd., and turns at a right-angle to the north along Dodd Blvd.).

The ATF analyzed the advantages and disadvantages of angling northeasterly, as compared to the Preferred Route, and found that angling would result in a shorter Route Length, and would negatively impact:

- less Homes,
- less Acres,
- less Prime Farmland Acres, and Percent of Prime Farmland,
- less Crop land Acres, and Percent Crop Land Acres
- less Grassland Acres, and Percent of area Grassland, and
- more Wetland Acres, and Percent of Area Wetland

The ATF concluded that the angled portion of the route (similar to the **Modified Route**) was preferable to the 90 degree right-angle Preferred Route because it had many less negative impacts, and in the one area where the negative impact was greater, wetlands, it would only impact the edge of a large area of existing wetlands (to the west and northwest of the angled route).

Therefore, I would hope that you, the Commissioners, would respect the opinion of the ATF and accept the **Modified Route**.

By accepting the **Modified Route** (instead leaving the lines on the Preferred Route), the powerline poles and lines would no longer be on my family's property or the Korba's property right near their house, and would no longer be in such close proximity and substantial impact to the homes of the O'Brien's, Boyum's, Braid's and Pederson's.

Regarding my family's property, we can tell you that approving **Modified Route** will be an enormous relief to us as we would not have to endure the detrimental effects to our family farm under the Preferred Route. The Preferred Route would have ruined all of our farm's frontage along blacktopped Dodd Blvd for future potential home sites for our 3 sons or others, and for future commercial development (we have already been approached by a school interested in the land).

Further, under the Preferred Route I would have dreaded and feared doing field work around the powerlines. Most equipment used on our farm is over 40 feet wide, and chemical sprayers have 100 foot booms. It would be very difficult to maneuver around poles out in my field, which would probably result in chemical under- or over-spray problems; and, due to EMF, would have been potentially disruptive to GPS field mapping. Also, I would not want to have to drop a chain to avoid a shock when getting off of a combine parked at the end of my field (where I typically off-load to trucks), or be at risk of shocks handling metal fencing or machinery near power lines, or have compaction issues to fields (resulting in decreased crop yields) because of powerline construction and/or maintenance.

Finally, by accepting the **Modified Route** you would move further away from us the daily reminder of the unwanted intrusion of huge poles and powerlines into our valued natural rural environment, the health and safety risks of EMF and SE to our family and farm animals, and the potential disruptions to our TV reception and other electronic devices.

So, please, approve the **Modified Route!**

Sincerely,

Ray Kaufman
Donna Kaufman