

January 8, 2019

Via Electronic Filing

Mr. Daniel Wolf
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 Seventh Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: *In the Matter of the Application of Great Plains Natural Gas Co. for a Pipeline Routing Permit for the Fergus Falls Pipeline Replacement Project in Otter Tail County, Minnesota, Docket No.: G-004/GP-16-685*

Reply Comments of Great Plains Natural Gas Co.

Dear Mr. Wolf:

Pursuant to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's ("Commission") December 21, 2018 Notice of Comment Period, Great Plains Natural Gas Co. ("Great Plains"), a Division of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., respectfully files its Reply Comments in response to the Minnesota Department of Commerce's January 4, 2019 Initial Comments. In its Comments, the Department highlights comments received by Minnesota Department of Natural Resources ("DNR") and ultimately recommends that the Commission accept Great Plains' Certificate of Completion of the Fergus Falls Pipeline Replacement Project ("Project") upon Great Plains providing confirmation that "landowners affected by Project construction activities have signed releases indicating that the right-of-way on their property has been restored to the conditions that existed before construction."

Great Plains hereby confirms that it has received such releases from private landowners affected by the Project (primarily related to crop damage and de-compaction). In addition to the private landowners, Great Plains confirms that it has restored all road rights-of-way (e.g., Deerfield Drive maintenance and re-gravel Weyren Road) impacted by the Project.

Finally, a substantial portion of the Project route runs through the Fergus Falls Wildlife Management Area ("WMA"), which is owned and managed by the DNR. As the Department notes in its Comments, DNR has indicated that "the Commission should accepted the certificate of completion, but it should be acknowledged that there is minimal fence work yet to be completed." Great Plains agrees with DNR. As DNR notes, the fencing work was suspended due to weather constraints in the fall. Great Plains will work with DNR to ensure the fencing is complete as soon as possible this spring.

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Great Plains appreciates the work of the Commission, Department and DNR on this important Project. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Brian M. Meloy

Brian M. Meloy

Attorney for Great Plains Natural Gas Co.

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
BEFORE THE
MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

<i>In the Matter of Great Plains Natural Gas Co.'s Application for a Gas Pipeline Routing Permit for the Fergus Falls Pipeline Replacement Project</i>)))))))	MPUC Docket No. G004/GP-16-685 CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
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The undersigned hereby certifies that true and correct copies of the **Reply Comments of Great Plains Natural Gas Co.** has been served on this day by e-filing/e-serving to the following:

NAME	EMAIL	SERVICE
Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorney@ag.state.mn.us	Electronic
Ian Dobson	residential.utilities@ag.state.mn.us	Electronic
Sharon Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us	Electronic
Larry Hartman	larry.hartman@state.mn.us	Electronic
Linda Jensen	linda.s.jensen@ag.state.mn.us	Electronic
Patrice Jensen	Patrice.jensen@state.mn.us	Electronic
Stacy Kotch	stacy.kotch@state.mn.us	Electronic
Duane Mahlum	duane.mahlum@gpng.com	Electronic
Brian Meloy	brian.meloy@stinson.com	Electronic
Jesse Volk, P.E.	jesse.volk@gpng.com	Electronic
Daniel P. Wolf	dan.wolf@state.mn.us	Electronic

Dated this 8th day of January, 2019

/s/ Dylan M. Stanek
Dylan M. Stanek