

From: [Joshua Houdek](#)
To: [Kahlert, Kate \(PUC\)](#)
Subject: Proposed Permanent Rules Relating to Power Plants or Lines
Date: Monday, November 15, 2021 11:35:14 AM

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Dear Ms. Kahlert and the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission,

I am writing to request a hearing in the rulemaking you are conducting on Certificates of Need, Powerplant Siting, and Route Permits for High-Voltage Transmission Lines.

I oppose the proposed amendments in their entirety.

The 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) just ended and it is abundantly clear that Minnesota, the nation, and the entire world are in the midst of a climate crisis caused by human activity.

It is critical that the Public Utility Commission rules include mechanisms for incorporating climate mitigation and adaptation into its decision making. Yet these rules fail to do so.

Environmental justice communities are disproportionately harmed both by climate change and other pollution impacts from energy generation, and it is critical that Commission rules adequately protect environmental justice communities. These rules fail to do so.

Decisions made around power plants and transmission siting have impacts for decades, and proposed rules must be crafted with input from stakeholders and members of the public and ensure a public engagement process that is accessible to all while prioritizing Tribal Nations and impacted communities. These rules fail to do so.

For these reasons and more I oppose these rules and request a public hearing before an Administrative Law Judge.

Sincerely,
Joshua Houdek
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