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VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Dr. Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: In the Matter of Minnesota Power's Application for a Gas Pipeline Routing Permit
for the Laskin Energy Center Natural Gas Pipeline Project
Docket No. E-015/GP-13-978

Dear Dr. Haar:

Minnesota Power has reviewed the Department of Commerce Energy Environment Review and Analysis Staff's ("Department") February 28, 2014 Comments in the above-referenced Docket and agrees with the Department's recommendations. In addition, Minnesota Power has reviewed the draft route pipeline route permit and, if issued by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, Minnesota Power will fully comply with the permit requirements.

Minnesota Power does request a modification to the pipeline route permit – that before all references to the 10.75-inch pipeline diameter, or size that the phrase “**up to**” be inserted to provide Minnesota Power flexibility in procuring the appropriately sized pipeline. Minnesota Power has been in discussions with pipeline vendors and may be able to procure a smaller, less expensive pipeline that will provide the same specifications described in the November 13, 2013 Application and the draft pipeline route permit. Adding the phrase “up to” allows Minnesota Power to consider these options without having to obtain a permit amendment. Please contact me at the number above if you have any questions regarding these comments.

Yours truly,

David R. Moeller

c: Larry Hartman – Minnesota Department of Commerce



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