



Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Fond du Lac Tribal Utility Corporation

June 25, 2025

Mr. Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utility Commission (MPCA)
121 7th Place East Suite 350
St Paul, MN 55101

RE: Docket No. E123/C-25-219, response comments on the formal complaint by the Upper Sioux Tribal Community vs Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative

Dear Will Seuffert,

Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative (MVEC) has no jurisdiction on Tribal land and should not be interfering with the installation of an Upper Sioux Tribal Community (USTC) Solar Project. MVEC is a distribution utility that is required to meet Minnesota Renewable Energy Standards. MVEC is blocking USTC from installing a behind the meter solar project with battery backup on a switchgear.

The Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (FDL) Black Bear Casino Resort (BBCR) has two backup two-megawatt diesel generators on switchgear that provide power to BBCR every time there is a bad storm or an emergency power outage. FDL BBCR also has a one megawatt solar array that is interconnected with the local utility.

MVEC has given the USTC no choice but to appeal to the MPUC. The Tribal Advocacy Council on Energy (TACE) was established as a Tribal Nations advocacy council. Before the MPUC has an administrative hearing, I suggest Tribal consultation should be the first avenue of approach. As a board member of TACE, consider this a formal request to work with the MPUC to resolve this dilemma. Thank you.

Bruno A. Zagar

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