

From: [Anna Donnay](#)
To: [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)
Subject: Certificate of Need COMMENTS for the Oppose Transmission line from Lyon County, MN to Sherco Plant in Becker, MN.
Date: Friday, September 6, 2024 10:48:59 AM
Attachments: [John, Chris, and Anna Donnay-Certificate of Need Comments Sept 6, 2024.docx](#)

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To whom this may concern,

Attached is a letter on behalf of my family regarding comments for the Certificate of Need.

Sincerely,
Anna Donnay

Donnay Organics
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September 6th, 2024

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East
Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

**Comment on the Merit of the Certificate of Need Application
Minnesota Energy Connection Project
Docket Nos. CN-22-131 AND TL-22-132.**

Impacted property: John and Christine Donnay at 14640 Co Rd 48 Kimball, MN.

Questions proposed:

1. Should the Commission grant a certificate of need for the proposed project?
2. If granted, what additional conditions or requirements, if any, should be included in the certificate of need?
3. Are there other issues or concerns related to this matter?

1. Should the Commission grant a certificate of need for the proposed project?

No. The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission should not grant the certificate of need for the proposed project. There are more efficient and better methods for getting energy to the Twin Cities without this project. This project has many adverse effects on our local economy. All other options should be explored before moving forward with this disruptive project.

2. If granted, what additional conditions or requirements, if any, should be included in the certificate of need?

At the very minimum, a comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment should be conducted on all the affected properties. This includes effects on ALL aspects of the environment. Also, the Department of Health, Natural Resources, and Agriculture should include a comprehensive assessment.

3. Are there other issues or concerns related to this matter?

Just understanding that every single part of our ecosystem is going to be disturbed is enough to alert the progression of this certificate. Other things to consider are

technological advancements, the value of small family farms, and the health of humans and animals.

The future of technological advancements should be considered in means of the need of traditional transmission lines. The future of traditional transmission lines may be desolate. If granted, the land value will decrease, and our health risk will increase. Small family farms are already diminishing the way it is We are a strong farming community. Therefore, farming is already a high-risk occupation, adding high-voltage to this area is detrimental to our current generation and the generations to come.

Conclusion

The certificate of need should be denied by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission because this project as proposed will not produce what is needed and will not be reliable. Wind and solar energy cannot replace coal, natural gas, or nuclear power. The impacts of this project on the environment, humans, livestock and wildlife will be detrimental to Minnesotans today and for years to come.

Sincerely,

John, Chris, and Anna Donnay

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