

January 8, 2014

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

**RE: Supplemental Comments of the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources**  
Docket No. ET2/CN-12-1235

Dear Dr. Haar:

On June 20, 2013, Great River Energy (GRE) filed its *Application for a Certificate of Need and Route Permit by Great River Energy Elko New Market and Cleary Lake Areas 115 kV Transmission Project* (Petition) with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission). The December 18, 2013 comments of the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources (Department) recommended that, in reply comments, GRE add the Commission's externality costs and cost of future CO<sub>2</sub> regulation values to the economic analysis of alternatives presented in the Petition.

On January 7, 2014, GRE filed reply comments that contained the requested data. The Department reviewed the additional analysis provided by GRE and concludes that GRE's analysis addresses the requirements of Minnesota Rules 7849.0120 B (3). Therefore, the Department now recommends that the Commission approve GRE's petition. The Department's team of Sachin Shah and me are available to answer any questions the Commission may have.

Sincerely,

/s/ STEVE RAKOW  
Rates Analyst

SR/lt

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Sharon Ferguson, hereby certify that I have this day, served copies of the following document on the attached list of persons by electronic filing, certified mail, e-mail, or by depositing a true and correct copy thereof properly enveloped with postage paid in the United States Mail at St. Paul, Minnesota.

**Minnesota Department of Commerce  
Supplemental Comments**

**Docket No. ET2/CN-12-1235**

Dated this **8<sup>th</sup>** day of **January 2014**

**/s/Sharon Ferguson**

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