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3/21/2022

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

Re: Docket No: U999/CI-22-89 In the Matter of an Investigation of the Implementation of Minnesota Statutes, Section Minn. Stat. § 237.045 Regarding Railroad Rights-of-Way Crossing, or Paralleling by Utilities

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

The Minnesota Telecom Alliance (MTA) respectfully submits this letter in response to the request for comments from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) issued by the Commission in the above-referenced docket.

The Minnesota Telecom Alliance ("MTA") is a trade association comprised of more than 70 telecommunications companies across Minnesota. MTA members range from family-owned companies and local cooperatives to companies with multi-state operations. MTA's members provide voice, video, and high-speed internet services to Minnesotans in every area of the state.

The MTA concurs with and joins the recommendations of the Minnesota Rural Electric Association submitted in response to this Docket.

The MTA with member Garden Valley Technologies is presently participating a Minn. Stat. Section 237.04 contested case proceeding against BNSF (OAH Docket No. 21-1000-37844; Commerce Docket No. PT 5817, P409/RW-21-670). This proceeding is focused on a broad range of unreasonable rail crossing demands and conduct by the railroad. A full accounting of this proceeding should help inform the Commission's investigation for purposes of related proceedings under Minn. Stat. Section 237.045.

The MTA appreciates the opportunity to submit these comments in this matter.

Sincerely,

President/CEO