Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

500 Lafayette Road • St. Paul, MN • 55155-40



July 13, 2013

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

Re: Request for a Minor Alteration for the Brookings to Hampton Transmission Line

PUC Docket Number/s: E-002, ET2/TL-08-1474

OAH Docket Number: 7-2500-20283-2

DNR ERDB Number: 20090424

Dear Burl Haar:

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has reviewed the Request for a Minor Alteration submitted for the Brookings to Hampton Transmission Line. The DNR is in agreement with the project developers that the proposed alteration reduces tree clearing near the crossing of the Vermillion River. Measures should be taken with either route to reduce wetland impacts by spanning wetlands if possible. Also, it should be noted that a License to Cross Public Waters would still be needed for the alteration and additional conditions may apply.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this Request for a Minor Alteration. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jamie Schrenzel Principal Planner

Environmental Review Unit

(651) 259-5115

C: Dan Lesher, Great River Energy

Michael Kaluzniak, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

Ray Kirsch, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources