



## Minnesota Department of Transportation

### Office of Land Management

395 John Ireland Boulevard  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Mailstop 678

Phone: 651-366-4635

Fax: 651-366-3450

[stacy.kotch@state.mn.us](mailto:stacy.kotch@state.mn.us)

July 12, 2016

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

RE: In the Matter of the Minor Alteration for the ITC Midwest, LLC Route Permit for the Minnesota – Iowa 345kV Transmission Line Project in Jackson, Martin and Faribault Counties  
PUC Docket No. ET-6675/TL-12-1337

On June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016 the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Comment Period on Minor Alteration Application regarding the Minnesota – Iowa 345kV Transmission Line Project in Jackson, Martin and Faribault Counties. The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) has reviewed the application and submits the following comments in response to the Notice.

MnDOT appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Minor Alteration Application. As stated in our Scoping Comment letter submitted on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013, highway crossings by utilities, such as this proposed crossing of US 169, do not pose insurmountable difficulties in issuing a permit. These permits usually have conditions associated with them, such as ensuring that the wires are high enough that they will not pose a hazard to highway users or maintenance employees. Highway crossings should occur as close to right angles as possible with pole placement located an adequate distance from the highway right of way.

Should this alteration be approved, coordination and permitting efforts for this portion of the project should be done through MnDOT's District 7A Engineering Specialist, Steve Schoeb. Steve can be reached at 507-304-6180 or [Steve.Schoeb@state.mn.us](mailto:Steve.Schoeb@state.mn.us).

Sincerely,

Stacy Kotch

Utility Transmission Route Coordinator

Minnesota Department of Transportation

An Equal Opportunity Employer

