

**CITY OF DEER CREEK**  
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March 15, 2017

Daniel P. Wolf  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
121 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 350  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

IN RE: Greater Minnesota Transmission, LLC's Petition for Approval of a  
Transportation Agreement with Lake Region Energy Services, Inc.  
Docket No. PL6580/M-16-936

Lake Region Energy Services, Inc.'s Petition for Exemption for  
Small Gas Utility  
Docket No. G6977/M-17-186

Dear Mr. Wolf:

The City of Deer Creek ("City") has granted a non-exclusive franchise to Lake Region Energy Services, Inc. ("LRES") for natural gas service to the City and the surrounding areas. Our community now relies upon fuel oil, propane, and electricity to heat its homes, businesses, schools and municipal facilities. These resources are generally more expensive than natural gas, and tend to be financial burdens to our populations, especially those elderly living on fixed incomes. In approving the LRES franchise, the City strongly supports the opportunity for natural gas as a lower cost energy resource.

We understand that LRES is partnering with Greater Minnesota Transmission, LLC ("GMT") for the transportation and delivery of natural gas, which other communities have used as a model for cost-effective extension of natural gas. The City supports both the LRES Petition and also the GMT Petition, as filed with the Commission.

The City respectfully requests an expedited review and approval from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission on both the Petitions of GMT and LRES. We ask the Commission to move those dockets forward as efficiently and promptly as possible, in order for the project timelines to be met, which will result in project cost savings and meeting a completion date which permits service to be connected early Fall, 2017.

On behalf of our City Council and our residents, I thank you for your time and consideration in considering expedited review in both of these matters.

Sincerely,



Tom Svarvari  
Mayor of Deer Creek

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