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April 10, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

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

Re: Petition for Approval of Firm Transportation Agreement
Docket No. PL6580/M-16-1026

Dear Mr. Wolf:

Greater Minnesota Transmission, LLC ("GMT") received and reviewed the Comments of the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources ("the Department") regarding Docket No. G6960/M-16-214 which were also filed in the instant docket on April 7, 2017. This letter serves as GMT's response to the Department's recommendation that the Commission issue a request for comments regarding United Natural Gas, LLC's ("UNG") request for an exemption from rate regulation as it relates to UNG's proposed service to the Lower Sioux Indian Community.

The Department indicated that its suggested request for comments also impacts this docket, namely Docket No. PL6580/M-16-1026 because this docket involves a transportation agreement between GMT and UNG that would ultimately transport natural gas to support UNG's service of the Lower Sioux Indian Community.

GMT understands the Department's interest in further building the record in Docket. No. G6960-M-16-214 regarding the basis for UNG's requested exemption. Nonetheless, GMT respectfully submits that since the Commission previously determined that questions regarding a tangentially-related exemption petition were not relevant to consideration of whether a transportation agreement met the criteria for approval, the Commission would similarly not be inclined to consider the basis for a UNG exemption regarding service to the Lower Sioux Indian Community in this docket.¹ Hence, GMT submits that Commission consideration can proceed without regard to comments on the related UNG docket.

¹ . As GMT noted in its January 11, 2017 letter, a question related to UNG's prospective exemption application was raised during the Commission's consideration of a similar transportation agreement in Docket No. PL6580/M-15-1041. The Commission ultimately indicated during its agenda meeting discussion that questions related to UNG's prospective exemption application were not relevant to the transportation agreement docket at issue therein.



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GMT submits that no additional issues require comment or discussion prior to the Commission's consideration. Therefore, GMT respectfully requests that the matter be considered by the Commission as scheduled at its April 18, 2017 Agenda Meeting.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me should there be any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

GREATER MINNESOTA TRANSMISSION, LLC

/s/

Kristine A. Anderson
Corporate Attorney

cc: Service List