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OF COUNSEL ROBERT O. STRAUGHN

> RETIRED ANDREW J. SHEA

June 21, 2018

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Daniel P. Wolf Executive Secretary Minnesota Public Utilities Commission 350 Metro Square Building 121 Seventh Place East St. Paul, MN 55101

Dear Mr. Wolf:

I represent the City of Buffalo, which operates a municipal utility under Minnesota law (the "City") and which is authorized, on behalf of the City and Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (the "Cooperative") (collectively, the "Parties") to make this filing.

## Summary of the Joint Request

This filing constitutes the Parties' joint request under Minn. Stat. § 216B.39, subd. 3, that the MPUC modify the Parties' service territory boundaries. This joint request concerns the permanent transfer of one area located within the city limits of Buffalo and within the electric service territory assigned to the Cooperative (identified as the "Transfer Area"), as further described below.

#### Legal Authorities

By statute, "the commission may on its own or at the request of an electric utility make changes in the boundaries of the assigned service areas, but only after notice and

hearing . . . " Minn. Stat. § 216B.39, subd. 3. In addition, "no electric utility shall render or extend electric service at retail within the assigned service area of another electric utility unless the electric utility consents thereto in writing . . . " Minn. Stat. § 216B.40 (2014). In the present case, the Parties seek to adjust the service territory boundaries to permanently adjust the Transfer Area to the City's assigned service territory. The Parties have agreed upon appropriate compensation. The Parties request that the Commission update its official records as to electric service territory boundaries.

#### <u>Underlying Information</u>

Attached as <u>Exhibit A</u> is a map and legal description that depicts the boundaries of the Transfer Area, which involves approximately seven acres and zero current customers.

In the event that a customer requests service before the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission has considered this joint petition, the Parties have agreed in writing that the City may provide interim service to the Transfer Area, subject to certain conditions. If any customer does develop during this proceeding, then the Parties will provide notice to any customer about this proceeding and file the notice with the Commission.

The Parties have agreed to cooperate and communicate with any potential customers to ensure a smooth transition and to minimize any disruption to customers.

#### Contact Information

If there are any questions concerning this filing, you may contact the following representatives:

## City of Buffalo:

Merton Auger City Administrator 212 Central Avenue Buffalo, MN 55313 Phone: 763-682-1181

merton.auger@ci.buffalo.mn.us

Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association:

Tim Sullivan
President & CEO
Wright Hennepin Cooperative
Electric Association
6800 Electric Drive
P.O. Box 330
Rockford, MN 55373-0330

Phone: 763-477-3000 tsullivan@whe.org Counsel:

Kaela Brennan McGrann Shea Carnival Straughn & Lamb, Chtd. 800 Nicollet Mall, Suite 2600 Minneapolis, MN 55402 Phone: 612-338-2525

kmb@mcgrannshea.com

Counsel:

Daniel T. Carlisle Pemberton, Sorlie, Rufer & Kershner, PLLP 110 N. Mill Street Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Phone: 218-736-5493 d.carlisle@pemlaw.com

#### Request

The Parties therefore petition the Commission to accept and file these documents and provide due acknowledgment thereof. The Parties further request that the Commission provide evidence of its acknowledgment of these changes of service territory boundaries, and the updating of the official service territory records.

## **Proposed Service List**

A copy of this letter and the accompanying documents has been mailed or emailed to the persons on the enclosed proposed service list.

Please contact the representatives above if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Brennan

Enclosures

cc (w/encl.): Proposed Service List

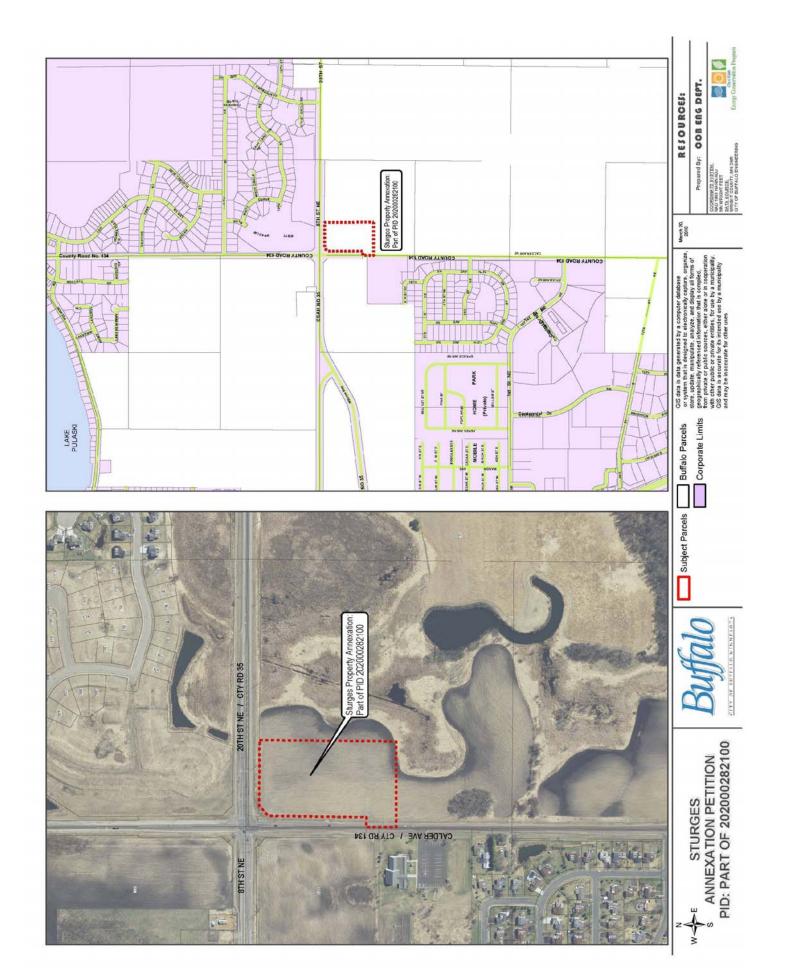
## **EXHIBIT A: MAP AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

## **Legal Description:**

The North 691.00 feet of the West 445.00 feet of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 28, Township 120 North, Range 25 West, Wright County, Minnesota.

## **EXCEPT**

Parcel No. 4, WRIGHT COUNTY HIGHWAY RIGHT OF WAY PLAT NO. 69, according to the recorded plat thereof, Wright County, Minnesota.



#### PROPOSED SERVICE LIST

Re: In the Matter of the Joint Request of the City of Buffalo and Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association to Update Electric Service Territory Records MPUC Docket:

Via Electronic Filing

Daniel P. Wolf Executive Secretary Minnesota Public Utilities Commission 350 Metro Square Building 121 Seventh Place East St. Paul, MN 55101

#### Via Electronic Filing

Ms. Sharon Ferguson
MN Department of Commerce
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

#### Via Electronic Filing

Commerce Attorneys
Office of the Attorney General-DOC
1800 BRM Tower
445 Minnesota Street
St. Paul, MN 55101-2134

#### Via Electronic Filing

Ian Dobson
Office of the Attorney General-RUD
1400 BRM Tower
445 Minnesota Street
St. Paul, MN 55101-2130

## Via Electronic Mail

Tim Sullivan
President & CEO
Wright Hennepin Cooperative
Electric Association
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tsullivan@whe.org
(Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association)

# Via Electronic Mail

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(Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric
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#### Via Electronic Mail

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(City of Buffalo)

## **Courtesy Copies**

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