

August 8, 2018

ELECTRONIC FILING

Mr. Daniel P. Wolf, Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
127 Seventh Place East, Suite 350
Saint Paul, MN 55101-2147

RE: In the Matter of the Application of Freeborn Wind Energy LLC for a Route Permit for the Freeborn Wind Transmission Line in Freeborn County, Minnesota (PUC Docket No. IP-6946/TL-17-322; OAH Docket No. 5-2500-35036)

Dear Mr. Wolf:

Department of Commerce Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) staff reviewed the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Recommendations (report) issued by Administrative Law Judge Jim Mortenson (ALJ) for the Freeborn Wind Transmission Project. The report provides a comprehensive analysis of the record; EERA has no exceptions to the report.

EERA concurs with the ALJ's conclusion that the route permit entered in the record and the recommended special permit conditions are appropriate for the project. Staff further agrees that the Public Utilities Commission should grant a route permit along the Orange Route combined with the Purple Parallel Route Segment.

I am available to answer any questions the Commission might have.

Sincerely,



Andrew Levi
Environmental Review Specialist

cc: John Wachtler, Energy Environmental Review and Analysis
Mike Kaluzniak, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission