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March 31, 2020

Dear Commissioner Kelley and Chair Sieben:

Beltrami Electric Cooperative is submitting this letter in response to your March 24, 2020 memorandum regarding utility measures in response to the Covid-19 emergency.

We at Beltrami Electric Cooperative share your concern for our fellow Minnesotans during this difficult time, and we commend the Governor for his decisive action to protect the state from this unseen but deadly threat. Importantly, as a nonprofit provider of essential electric service, we will continue to put the needs and welfare of our member owners first during this emergency.

Regarding the three commitments requested in your letter, we at Beltrami Electric Cooperative intend to do all we can to continue providing uninterrupted electric service to our member owners during this emergency. Specifically and consistent with the Cold Weather Rule protections in Minnesota Statutes, Section 216B.097, Beltrami Electric Cooperative intends at a minimum to: (1) refrain from residential member disconnections, and to reconnect any previously disconnected residential members upon their request and as part of a reasonable payment plan that reflects the financial circumstances of the member and the hardships caused by the pandemic; (2) waive late fees that any residential or small business member incurs because of economic circumstances related to the coronavirus pandemic; and (3) arrange payment plans for members requesting help during this time based on the financial resources and circumstances of the member.

Beltrami Electric Cooperative will continue to monitor this emergency to assess the ever-changing circumstances and will make decisions based on the latest information and in the best interest of our entire membership.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jared Echternach", written in a cursive style.

Jared Echternach
President and CEO
Beltrami Electric Cooperative