

## Rice, Robin (PUC)

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**From:** Philip Klingbeil <klingbeilp@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 11, 2012 10:29 PM  
**To:** #PUC\_Public Comments  
**Subject:** MPUC Docket No. ET-2/TL-08-1474

July 11, 2012

Dr. Burl W. Haar  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
121 Seventh Place East  
Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101

**Re: In the Matter of the Route Permit Application by Great River Energy and Xcel Energy for a 345 kV Transmission Line from Brookings County, South Dakota To Hampton, Minnesota Request for Minor Alteration – New Structure Type and Conductor MPUC Docket No. ET-2/TL-08-1474**

**As submitted by: Dan Leshar, Routing Lead, GREAT RIVER ENERGY, June 18, 2012**

Dear Dr. Haar,

I am asking that you deny this Route Permit Application for route alteration as submitted and described by Dan Leshar of GREAT RIVER ENERGY **MPUC Docket No. ET-2/TL-08-1474**.

First I would like to explain that I fully understand the need for this new power line and can appreciate the time, effort and all the obstacles that are involved with a project of this magnitude. I don't want you to think that I am against this change because I am against the project. I honestly believe this route change request should be denied for the following reasons:

- 1) There was over a year of open communication with CAPX about the project that allowed ample time for the people involved to respond and openly discuss any concerns. **The final planned route was agreed to by everyone involved.**
- 2) The 'MINOR' change isn't minor. The request is to move the power line route from a fairly low lying area going across open farmland to a residential area on a hill. Easily 50 feet higher elevation making the structure much more intrusive to the surrounding area than the planned route. Combine that with the extra height of the 'quadruple circuit structure' and these power lines will be visible for many miles.
- 3) There are 24 landowners directly involved in the 2 mile stretch in question. Since the request is to move the line to the very edge of the route zone, there are at least 50 more home/landowners in the immediate vicinity that will be affected but not in the official zone and have no say in the request or even been notified.
- 4) Needless to say our property values will be negatively by affected by this change all during a difficult time in the economy. We have taken a big enough hit in property value without putting the power line directly in front of our homes. The power line would have no affect on the farmland value on the currently planned route.

If this is indeed considered a minor change, then by deductive reasoning, it should be considered 'minor' to keep the power line route as planned and agreed to by everyone involved.

Sincerely,

Philip Klingbeil  
10506 Southern Oaks Dr.

Lakeville, MN 55044  
(952) 985-0932

**Rice, Robin (PUC)**

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**From:** Caryn Klingbeil <klingbeilc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 11, 2012 10:19 PM  
**To:** #PUC\_Public Comments  
**Subject:** MPUC Docket No. ET-2/TL-08-1474

July 11, 2012

Dr. Burl W. Haar  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
121 Seventh Place East  
Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101

**Re: In the Matter of the Route Permit Application by Great River Energy and Xcel Energy for a 345 kV Transmission Line from Brookings County, South Dakota To Hampton, Minnesota Request for Minor Alteration – New Structure Type and Conductor MPUC Docket No. ET-2/TL-08-1474**

**As submitted by: Dan Leshar, Routing Lead, GREAT RIVER ENERGY, June 18, 2012**

Dear Dr. Haar,

I am asking that you deny this Route Permit Application as submitted and described by Dan Leshar of GREAT RIVER ENERGY **MPUC Docket No. ET-2/TL-08-1474**.

I honestly believe this route change request should be denied for the following reasons:

- 1) The massive power line structures would be a dominate focal in the landscape, not only for the homeowners involved, but for every motorist, walker, biker, and runner that uses this road for recreation.
- 2) Rerouting the power lines will bring the power line structures closer to many more homeowners than the original route. The effect the power line will have on these homeowners property values should not be considered "Minimal". The values of farmland would not be affected nearly as much as the residential property.
- 3) This is clear cut bait and switch. The power line was approved through a long and painful process and now at the last minute they want to switch the route. If a route change is absolutely necessary, keep the route straight from New Prague over to 35W and then up 35W where no one will have to look at it.
- 4) Another option would be to compensate each property owner for the reduced value of their property.

As you can see this is not a MINOR change, and hope you understand that this will have a large impact not only on the people involved but to the environment as well. I strongly encourage you to keep the planned route unchanged.

Sincerely,

Caryn Klingbeil  
10506 Southern Oaks Dr.  
Lakeville, MN 55044  
(952) 985-0932

## Rice, Robin (PUC)

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**From:** Jo Knutson <jknutson@perfpapers.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 11, 2012 2:25 PM  
**To:** #PUC\_Public Comments  
**Subject:** FW: CAPX2020 COMMENTS TL-08-1474

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**From:** Jo Knutson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 11, 2012 2:17 PM  
**To:** 'PUC@state.mn.us'  
**Subject:** CAPX2020 COMMENTS TL-08-1474

I am a resident of Lakeville who lives on 245<sup>th</sup> Street East. On June 20<sup>th</sup> a letter was received regarding the "Minor Alterations" for the CAPX2020 Power line, purposing that the CAPX2020 project may be adjusted so that some of the lines will run along existing power lines on 245<sup>th</sup> Street E.

I would like to express my concerns and dissatisfaction with this "minor alteration".

It is not always easy to separate fact from fiction, but I was recently informed that one of the reasons that there is going to be a possible change in the path of the lines is because of a wetlands area. I would think CAPX2020 would be aware of this, but there is a creek and other wet areas along the 245<sup>th</sup> Street area. Is there a reason that one wetland area would prevent the running of these lines and yet another path, with wet areas and creeks, would be selected to have the lines?

The number of families, homes, land area, and property value that will be affected and demolished by this alteration is approximately 25 owners along 245<sup>th</sup>. It is my understanding that the numbers affected with the different route is less. (less than 10 (?) No individual wants to have the power line "take" their homes or be installed near them, but as the CAPX2020 project is a reality, it should affect the least number of people and property as humanly possible.

If the power line is installed along 245<sup>th</sup> Str E (or anywhere) it is going to be unsightly, but the visual aspect is not my major concern. The concern is more for Health Safety. In researching health concerns from power lines, it has been stated that no one should live within 500 feet of the lines and that this is the minimum distance. If the power lines are going to be installed so they "run along" the existing power lines, this distance will not be maintained. If the alteration does occur, the existing lines and the CAPX2020 lines need to be moved further from the road. Unfortunately, some homes will be demolished for this project but how will the homes "left standing" be affected? How is it determined that some homes must be removed from the path and which homes are a safe distance for them to remain?

Please reconsider the "Minor Alteration". The reality is that we need power for the future and that the CAPX2020 project is moving forward. No one wants to have a huge tower and lines either remove them from their homes or run in front of their properties, but the least number of homes and individuals should be affected by this project.

I do wonder why we did not receive information/letter/ call of the possible Minor Alteration sooner than the letter received June 20<sup>th</sup>, since the change may be effective so soon.

Thank you for your consideration regarding this important matter. Please forward this message to those who require it. I know that the "deadline" for comments is ending soon.

Joanne Knutson

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This email has been scanned by MessageLabs

## Rice, Robin (PUC)

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**From:** Jim <JBombardo@ShopSabre.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 11, 2012 1:42 PM  
**To:** #PUC\_Public Comments  
**Subject:** Request for rejection of Minor Alteration request. Mpuc Docket number ET-2/TL-08-1474

Dr. Burl W. Haar  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
350 Metro Square Building  
121 Seventh Place East  
St. Paul Mn 55101

Dear Dr. Haar,

I am writing to request that you deny then Minor Alteration Request noted on Docket ET-2/TL-08-1474 which moves the 345KV line along 245th street East in New Market Mn in Scott County. This is by no means is a minor alteration and should not be allowed. This is nothing more than getting the easy approval first then when no one is looking let's get the hard stuff approved by a MINOR ALTERATION REQUEST, thus eliminating the time and costly process of hearings. The fact that this has been a plan in place for a long time can be proved out by the purchase of the property on the corner of 245th st and Pillsbury. They knew months ago and possibly up to a year before requesting the alteration. They knew that was where the sub station would be located.

This change directly effects over 20 families and in fact increases the impact by over 75%. The current approved path effects less families in a less costly way. I does not impact or at least minimizes the the impact on land values simply by the fact that the massive poles are less conspicuous and won't ruin the aesthetics being in the the open fields. Keep in mind these people have already endured hardship due to the economy. We should not also have to endure additional hardship from electrical companies just because they may save a few feet of wire.

On a personal note. I have been in negotiations to sell my property based on disclosing the existing plan. If this is approved I will be obligated to disclose the additional impact the my land. If I should loose this sale or be forced to take a greatly reduced value as you can imagine I will be angered and very disappointed. Even though we don't want this project anywhere on anybody's land everyone has already accepted the current plan. Now in the eleventh hour we are expected to re-adjust. This could cost \$300,000-\$500,000 just in my case. I only own 15 acres along this path. Now add the 14 additional families and you see the scope and depth of this MINOR ADJUSTMENT.

I beg of you to use common sense and compassion in your decision. We are talking about real people who really only get by most of the time VS multibillion dollar utilities. The cost of a few extra feet of wire will not even be noticed on their balance sheets, but there will be several people who's whole lives will be impacted severely by the loss of profits from their homes and property.

Respectfully,

Jim Bombardo  
24400 Logan Ave  
Lakeville Mn 55020  
952-461-4570



## Rice, Robin (PUC)

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**From:** lvanderwerf@frontiernet.net  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 11, 2012 12:33 PM  
**To:** #PUC\_Public Comments  
**Subject:** Public comments MPUC docket # ET-2/TL-08-1474 Minor Alteration request

Dr. Haar,

Regarding the Minor Alteration Request submitted on June 18, 2012 by Dan Leshner, 345kV Transmission Line from Brookings, SD to Hampton, MN (MPUC Docket No. ET-2/TL-08-1474):

I am sending this email to ask you to deny the minor alteration request to the alignment of the 345kV line to a new location along a two mile stretch of 245th Street E, Lakeville, MN. This request may seem minor to the those putting up the line, it is major to those of us that live on 245th St.

This alignment would run the line directly along the street and about 24 landowner's homes would be affected by the line change. It will directly affect the land value even more than the originally proposed line. I believe that only about 7 homes are affected by the original line compared with 24 homes on the new proposal.

The request also includes using a quadruple circuit structure instead of a single pole. I was just driving along a road that had the quadruple structure and it is very noticable and not something I want to look at every day. This will lower our property values even more than the original proposal.

The route that is currently approved in section 16 and 17 to the west and section 13 to the east avoids the more densely populated roads similar to 245th Street. It would be nice if the route maintained consistency for those of us in section 14 and 15.

I have been against this route from the beginning but it seems like the homeowners have no voice in this matter. I thought the entire line should have been put in along Interstate 90 in southern MN. The development in this area has slowed drastically in the last few years and I'm not convinced that this line is even necessary.

I am hoping that you will consider denying this request to make this modification. Too many homeowners will be affected by this change.

Thank you for your time.

Leslie Vanderwerf  
10901 245th St E  
Lakeville, MN 55044  
612-910-8875



July 11, 2012

Dr. Burl W. Haar  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
121 Seventh Place East  
Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101

**Re: In the Matter of the Route Permit Application by Great River Energy and Xcel Energy for a 345 kV Transmission Line from Brookings County, South Dakota To Hampton, Minnesota Request for Minor Alteration – New Structure Type and Conductor MPUC Docket No. ET-2/TL-08-1474**

**As submitted by: Dan Leshar, Routing Lead, GREAT RIVER ENERGY, June 18, 2012**

Dear Dr. Haar,

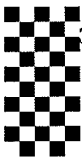
I am asking that you deny this Route Permit Application as submitted and described by Dan Leshar of GREAT RIVER ENERGY MPUC Docket No. ET-2/TL-08-1474.

I honestly believe this route change request should be denied for the following reasons:

- 1) The massive power line structures would be a dominate focal in the landscape, not only for the homeowners involved, but for every motorist, walker, biker, and runner that uses this road for recreation.
- 2) Rerouting the power lines will bring the power line structures closer to many more homeowners than the original route. The effect the power line will have on these homeowners property values should not be considered "Minimal". The values of farmland would not be affected nearly as much as the residential property.
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- 4) Another option would be to compensate each property owner for the reduced value of their property.

As you can see this is not a MINOR change, and hope you understand that this will have a large impact not only on the people involved but to the environment as well. I strongly encourage you to keep the planned route unchanged.

Sincerely,  
*Caryn Klingbell*  
Caryn Klingbell  
10506 Southern Oaks Dr.  
Lakeville, MN 55044  
(952) 985-0932



July 11, 2012

Dr. Burl W. Haar  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
121 Seventh Place East  
Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101



**Re: In the Matter of the Route Permit Application by Great River Energy and Xcel Energy for a 345 kV Transmission Line from Brookings County, South Dakota To Hampton, Minnesota Request for Minor Alteration - New Structure Type and Conductor MPUC Docket No. ET-2/TL-08-1474**

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First I would like to explain that I fully understand the need for this new power line and can appreciate the time, effort and all the obstacles that are involved with a project of this magnitude. I don't want you to think that I am against this change because I am against the project. I honestly believe this route change request should be denied for the following reasons:

- 1) There was over a year of open communication with CAPX about the project that allowed ample time for the people involved to respond and openly discuss any concerns. The final planned route was agreed to by everyone involved.
- 2) The 'MINOR' change isn't minor. The request is to move the power line route from a fairly low lying area going across open farmland to a residential area on a hill. Easily 50 feet higher elevation making the structure much more intrusive to the surrounding area than the planned route. Combine that with the extra height of the 'quadruple circuit structure' and these power lines will be visible for many miles.
- 3) There are 24 landowners directly involved in the 2 mile stretch in question. Since the request is to move the line to the very edge of the route zone, there are at least 50 more home/landowners in the immediate vicinity that will be affected but not in the official zone and have no say in the request or even been notified.
- 4) Needless to say our property values will be negatively affected by this change all during a difficult time in the economy. We have taken a big enough hit in property value without putting the power line directly in front of our homes. The power line would have no affect on the farmland value on the currently planned route.

If this is indeed considered a minor change, then by deductive reasoning, it should be considered 'minor' to keep the power line route as planned and agreed to by everyone involved.

Sincerely,

Philip Klingbeil  
10506 Southern Oaks Dr.  
Lakeville, MN 55044  
(952) 985-0932



### FAX COVER SHEET

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**To:** From: Fax-Main <Fax-Main@regencybeauty.com>  
**Company:** Date: 07/11/12 04:54:03 PM  
**Fax Number:** 16512977073 **Pages (Including cover):** 2  
**Re:** TL-08-1474

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**Notes:**

The attached letter was sent by US mail to the MN PUC on July 5. Since it has not been posted as a public record as of July 11, I'm now delivering via fax to ensure its receipt and posting.



July 5, 2012

Dr. Burl W. Haar  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
350 Metro Square Building  
121 Seventh Place East  
St. Paul, MN 55101

**Re: In the matter of the Route Permit Application by Great River Energy and Xcel Energy for a 345kV Transmission Line from Brookings, South Dakota to Hampton, Minnesota.  
Request for rejection of the Minor Alteration Request (MPUC Docket No. ET-2/TL-08-1474) submitted on June 18, 2012 by Dan Leshner, Great River Energy Routing Lead.**

Dear Dr. Haar,

I am writing to request that you deny the Minor Alteration Request to change the alignment of the 345kV line to a new location along a two mile segment of 245<sup>th</sup> Street East in Lakeville, Scott County, Minnesota. Although the request, as submitted by the Permittee, may be considered minor as defined by the Power Plant Siting Act, in my opinion this is a significant change for the following reasons:

- 1) The new alignment would place the line out the front door of 24 landowner's homes along 245<sup>th</sup> street, whereas the current alignment places the line through a reasonably accessible pathway of fields with less public aesthetic impact and direct private land value diminution given that only 7 residences are in close proximity to the line in that location. Furthermore, the number of homes within the 500' boundary increases by 14 (87%) with the new alignment based on my measurement.
- 2) The relocation request introduces the intended use of a quadruple circuit structure which would be the largest and most obtrusive single pole structure in the entire ~250 mile project. Imposing this design for only this particular 2 mile project segment seems unjustified from an engineering perspective and unjust given the current and potential future residential population along 245<sup>th</sup> street.
- 3) The approved route and alignment through sections 16 and 17 to the west and through section 13 to the east avoids the more densely populated roads similar to 245<sup>th</sup> street and existing 69kv lines. Let's maintain consistency for the residents of sections 14 and 15 and follow the current planned alignment.
- 4) The current alignment is as much as 50 feet lower and at similar elevation to the Lake Marion Sub Station in final approach as compared to the elevation of 245<sup>th</sup> street. The lower elevation of the current alignment reduces structure visibility within route-surrounding vantage points.
- 5) Consolidating the 69kv line onto 345kv structures can reduce span between structures resulting in more poles per mile further, impacting area aesthetics and human settlement.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Doug McKibben  
10632 Southern Oaks Drive  
Lakeville, MN 55044  
952-818-6258

08-1474

**Rice, Robin (PUC)**

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**From:** shenry600@integra.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2012 7:03 PM  
**To:** #PUC\_Public Comments  
**Subject:** capx2020

Dear Mr. Haar

I am sending this to state my opposition to this "minor" alteration. The line I believe should stay were it was initially layed out,there would be fewer families affected by the original route. I understand there may be \$ savings to the energy companies but is that worth the upheaval of families from the original plan. I don't believe so.

Sincerly Scott Henry

**Rice, Robin (PUC)**

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**From:** josmen@frontiernet.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2012 4:57 PM  
**To:** #PUC\_Public Comments  
**Subject:** Fw: CapX 2020 Comment

TL-08-1474

Public Comment TL-08-1474

Attn Burl Haar:

We live on 245 St E where the minor alteration for the CapX 2020 proposes to run in front of our home. This seems more than a minor alteration to those of us affected and especially so for the homeowners that would be displaced.

My wife and I object for a number of reasons.

Health concerns living close to a high voltage powerline. The concern of the EMF from a powerline right out our front door.

Number of children that are picked up and dropped for school on 245 ST /Cty 62 with the same concerns of the EMF with regard to young children.

Many more homes affected and displaced as opposed to the previously proposed route. I believe there are 24 homes affected with "minor alteration" vs the previous route which affected 7 homes .

Would it not be more cost effective and less disruptive to homeowners to move the 69 kV lines to the new poles on the previously planned route .

Sincerely,

Mark and Jo Knutson  
10211 245 St E  
Lakeville,Mn

## Rice, Robin (PUC)

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**From:** Jerry Henry <croslie@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2012 1:22 PM  
**Cc:** #PUC\_Public Comments

Docket Number TL-08-1474



Burl Haar,

I am asking that you say "NO" to the minor alteration that would let the Great River Energy project run the power lines along county road 62, this is a busy road and it would put many people and children in danger. Children must walk under these power lines to wait for the school buses and we don't yet know about the long term health hazards connected with these power lines. I don't understand why they would want to run the power line along side county road 62, when they could run it through open fields doing much less damage to property owners in this area.

Please you must say " NO" to Great River Energy and run the power line where it has already been approved for, not on Co. 62. This is not a minor alteration, it is a great hardship!

Sylvia Henry

9520 245th St.

Lakeville, MN.



## Rice, Robin (PUC)

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**From:** Susan Ratzlaff <sjr29@frontiernet.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 09, 2012 11:11 PM  
**To:** #PUC\_Public Comments  
**Subject:** Docket Number ( ET-2/TL-08-1474)

July 9, 2012

Dr. Burl W. Haar,  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
350 Metro Square Building  
121 Seventh Place East  
St Paul, MN 55101

Re: In the matter of the Route Permit Application by Great River Energy and Xcel Energy for a 345kV Transmission Line from Brookings, South Dakota to Hampton, Minnesota. Request for rejection of the Minor Alteration Request (MPUC Docket No. ET-2/TL-08-1474) submitted on June 18, 2012 by Dan Leshner, Great River Energy Routing Lead.

Dear Dr. Haar,

I am writing to request that you deny the Minor Alteration Request to change the alignment of the 345kV line to a new location along a two mile segment of 245<sup>th</sup> Street East in Lakeville, Scott County, Minnesota. Although the request, as submitted by the Permittee, may be considered minor as defined by the Power Plant Sitting Act, in my opinion this is a significant change for the following reasons:

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- 2) The relocation request introduces the intended use of the quadruple circuit structure which would be the largest and most obtrusive single pole structure in the entire 250 mile project. Imposing this design for only this particular 2 mile project segment seems unjustified from an engineering perspective and unjust given the current and potential future residential population along 245<sup>th</sup> street.
- 3) The approved route and alignment through sections 16 and 17 to the west and through section 13 to the east avoids the more densely populated roads similar to 245<sup>th</sup> street and existing 69kv lines. Let's maintain consistency for the residents of section 14 and 15 and follow the current planned alignment.
- 4) The current alignment is as much as 50 feet lower and at similar elevation to the Lake Marion Sub Station in final approach as compared to the elevation of 245<sup>th</sup> street. The lower elevation of the current alignment reduces structure visibility within route-surrounding vantage points.
- 5) Consolidating the 69kv line onto 345kv structures can reduce span between structures resulting in more poles per mile further, impacting area aesthetics and human settlement.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Bill and Sue Ratzlaff  
9755 245<sup>th</sup> Street East  
Lakeville, MN 55044

This letter is also being sent via US Postal service to ensure delivery.

## Rice, Robin (PUC)

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**From:** ferr4j1a@frontiernet.net  
**Sent:** Monday, July 09, 2012 8:49 PM  
**To:** #PUC\_Public Comments  
**Subject:** Minor alteration Request MPUCDocketNo.ET-2/TL-08-1474

Attention: Dr. Burl W. Haar

I am e-mailing in response to the request of CapEx2020 minor alteration of power line along 245th Street east in Lakeville. I live along 245th at 24515 Xerxes Ave. I think moving the power line to run along 245th with such high poles will cause hardship for about 24 family homes that are located off of 245th Street East. Going thru farmland about 1000 ft. north of 245th Street will cause some hardship for about 7 family home. While there is no good path for power lines to run, it would be less disturbing to the neighborhood with only 7 families having to move.

I have one question, why did the power company not disclose their plans of putting in such large power line poles and running the power line poles next to 245th street when initially filing for the permit? Was it the intent from the beginning that once the permit was approved the power company would ask for a so called minor alteration? In my mind, moving the power line poles 1000 ft. and installing poles that could be 170 -180 ft tall (about 50 ft taller than the rest of the entire 250 mile powerline that was approved) does not fall into the category of a minor alteration.

What is the power company's reasoning for installing such large poles in only a 2 mile segment of the project from Scott Cty 91 along 245th/Cty 62 to the Lake Marion Substation?

I oppose the minor alteration request. Hopefully you understand my position. I know we all use electrical power and nobody wants a power line near their house. I currently live on the south side of 245th street, so power line poles about 50 -60 ft. tall on the north side of 245th exist, which I rarely notice. If 170 -180 ft poles are installed on the north side of 245th it will be impossible to not notice them.

Thank You  
James Ferris  
952-469-2920

**Rice, Robin (PUC)**

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**From:** josmen@frontiernet.net  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 05, 2012 7:04 PM  
**To:** #PUC\_Public Comments  
**Subject:** CapX 2020 Comment

TL-08-1474

Attn Burl Haar:

We live on 245 St E where the minor alteration for the CapX 2020 proposes to run in front of our home. This seems more than a minor alteration to those of us affected and especially so for the homeowners that would be displaced.

My wife and I object for a number of reasons.

Health concerns living close to a high voltage powerline.

Number of children that are picked up for school on 245 ST /Cty 62

Many more homes affected and displaced as opposed to the previously proposed route

Sincerely,

Mark and Jo Knutson  
10211 245 St E  
Lakeville,Mn

DB-1474

**Rice, Robin (PUC)**

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**From:** renhen29@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 03, 2012 6:05 PM  
**To:** #PUC\_Public Comments  
**Subject:** Route permit by Great River Energy.

Dear Mr Burl Haar,

My husband and I feel this change is no minor alteration. You are considering going right through our front yard. Our family has a farming history that goes way back on this land. We live right next door to our aging parents which my father in law is paralyzed. He has lived in his house for over 50 years and it was built special for his disability. We purposely built on the family farm to help in the care of our parents. I don't feel it is fair to come down a busy street and cause many families with a long history of living here to be displaced. I do not want to see this line come down 245th Street in Lakeville, there are too many families affected by this so called MINOR Alteration, it is not minor at all.

Renee Henry  
9666 245th St E  
Lakeville, MN

PC 08-1474



July 5, 2012

Dr. Burl W. Haar  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
350 Metro Square Building  
121 Seventh Place East  
St. Paul, MN 55101


**Re: In the matter of the Route Permit Application by Great River Energy and Xcel Energy for a 345kV Transmission Line from Brookings, South Dakota to Hampton, Minnesota. Request for rejection of the Minor Alteration Request (MPUC Docket No. ET-2/TL-08-1474) submitted on June 18, 2012 by Dan Leshner, Great River Energy Routing Lead.**

Dear Dr. Haar,

I am writing to request that you deny the Minor Alteration Request to change the alignment of the 345kV line to a new location along a two mile segment of 245<sup>th</sup> Street East in Lakeville, Scott County, Minnesota. Although the request, as submitted by the Permittee, may be considered minor as defined by the Power Plant Siting Act, in my opinion this is a significant change for the following reasons:

- 1) The new alignment would place the line out the front door of 24 landowner's homes along 245<sup>th</sup> street, whereas the current alignment places the line through a reasonably accessible pathway of fields with less public aesthetic impact and direct private land value diminution given that only 7 residences are in close proximity to the line in that location. Furthermore, the number of homes within the 500' boundary increases by 14 (87%) with the new alignment based on my measurement.
- 2) The relocation request introduces the intended use of a quadruple circuit structure which would be the largest and most obtrusive single pole structure in the entire ~250 mile project. Imposing this design for only this particular 2 mile project segment seems unjustified from an engineering perspective and unjust given the current and potential future residential population along 245<sup>th</sup> street.
- 3) The approved route and alignment through sections 16 and 17 to the west and through section 13 to the east avoids the more densely populated roads similar to 245<sup>th</sup> street and existing 69kv lines. Let's maintain consistency for the residents of sections 14 and 15 and follow the current planned alignment.
- 4) The current alignment is as much as 50 feet lower and at similar elevation to the Lake Marion Sub Station in final approach as compared to the elevation of 245<sup>th</sup> street. The lower elevation of the current alignment reduces structure visibility within route-surrounding vantage points.
- 5) Consolidating the 69kv line onto 345kv structures can reduce span between structures resulting in more poles per mile further, impacting area aesthetics and human settlement.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully  
  
Doug McKibben  
10632 Southern Oaks Drive  
Lakeville, MN 55044  
952-818-6258

**Rice, Robin (PUC)**

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**From:** kris mckibben <kris\_mckibben@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 12, 2012 9:58 AM  
**To:** #PUC\_Public Comments  
**Subject:** TL-08-1474

TL-08-1474

Dr. Burl Haar  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
121 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St Paul, MN 55101

Dear Dr. Haar,

Please deny the minor alteration request for a specialty, quadruple circuit structure for use along 245<sup>th</sup> Street East in Lakeville, MN. Approving the use of the structure seems to effectively facilitate the realignment of the line along 245<sup>th</sup> Street verses having the line follow the current alignment to the north. The realignment is the major concern as it will significantly increase the number of residences in close proximity to the line and effectively block any future development along this stretch of roadway.

Great River Energy's statement about "little access for construction equipment" and "potential for additional impacts due to the use of construction equipment through the environmental features" is off-the-shelf, canned justification for the realignment and seems pretty weak given the potential increase in affected property owners.

The current alignment path is reasonably accessible, impacts fewer homes, results in less private land value diminution, has less public/surrounding aesthetics impact and would not put a cease to future development along 245<sup>th</sup> street.

Sincerely,

Kris McKibben  
Lakeville, MN