

**STATE OF MINNESOTA  
BEFORE THE  
MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**David C. Boyd  
J. Dennis O'Brien  
Thomas Pugh  
Phyhs A. Reha  
Betsy Wergin**

**Chair  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner**

**In the Matter of Application of Great River Energy  
Northern States Power Company (d/b/a Xcel Energy)  
and unknown others for Routing Permit for the Brookings  
to Hampton Corner CapX 2020 Transmission Project**

**MPUC: E002/TL-08-1474**

**NO CAPX 2020 AND U-CAN PETITION FOR INTERVENTION**

NO CAPX 2020 AND United Citizens Action Network (hereinafter U-CAN) hereby makes this Petition for Intervention as full parties, with all the rights of a party. NO CAPX 2020 AND U-CAN are organizations of affected landowners and residents within and in the immediate vicinity of the Brookings to Hampton Corners transmission preferred and alternate routing options proposed for Phase I of CapX 2020. NO CAPX 2020 and U-CAN are joining together in this intervention to effectively utilize our limited resources.

Members of NO CAPX 2020 AND U-CAN will be directly affected by the outcome of this proceeding if a Routing Permit were to be granted. Participation in the Routing docket is necessary, because NO CAPX 2020 AND U-CAN wish to protect our interests and develop the record through discovery, testimony (if funding allows), cross-examination, motions, and briefing.

Under the provisions of Minn.R. 1400.6200, subp.1, and 1405.0900, subp. 1, NO CAPX 2020 AND U-CAN make this Petition for an Order granting intervention as a full party, with all the rights of a party, in the above-captioned proceeding.

NO CAPX 2020 AND U-CAN are intervenors in the CapX 2020 Certificate of Need docket with participatory rights of a full party. NO CAPX 2020 AND U-CAN seeks to intervene in the Routing docket to build the record regarding the routing of the line and locations of substations. The position of NO CAPX 2020 AND U-CAN, as participats in the Certificate of Need docket, is that this proposed \$2

billion capital expenditure for transmission infrastructure is not a prudent investment of Minnesota ratepayer dollars because it is not needed for local load serving, for electric “reliability,” nor is it transmission for wind. One obvious purpose of CapX 2020 is to provide transmission to increase the opportunity of utilities participate in the MISO Midwest Market. There is no public purpose to trigger eminent domain. In this Routing docket, landowners facing easements and condemnation must participate and be represented to prevent abuse of siting process and the power of eminent domain and to increase awareness of the “Buy the Farm” option.

NO CAPX 2020 AND U-CAN’s interests in landowner rights and participatory process are distinct from that of parties admitted thus far. To make clear for the record, should MCEA, IWLA, Fresh Energy (ME3), and/or NAWO request intervention, because of their TRANSLink agreement with Xcel and the material terms of that agreement and their support of the 2005 Transmission Omnibus Bill<sup>1</sup>, their interests are diametrically opposed to the interests of NO CAPX 2020 AND U-CAN.<sup>2</sup>

CapX 2020 will affect more landowners than any single infrastructure project in Minnesota history – and this is just the Brookings to Hampton section of Phase I. The record of this proceeding must be broadly developed by a range of parties with a range of interests in order to be capable of supporting any decision.

NO CAPX 2020 AND U-CAN meet the criteria for intervention and respectfully requests that it be granted intervention as a full party, with all the rights of a party, in the above-captioned proceeding.



January 25, 2009

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<sup>1</sup> Chapter 97, SF 1368: [www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/laws/?id=97&doctype=Chapter&year=2005&type=0](http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/laws/?id=97&doctype=Chapter&year=2005&type=0)

<sup>2</sup> Settlement agreement available online: [www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/ShowFile.do?DocNumber=1518435](http://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/ShowFile.do?DocNumber=1518435)