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May 8, 2009

Richard C. Luis
Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings
P.O. Box 64620
St. Paul, MN 55164-0620

RE: Application of the Route Permit Application by Great River Energy and Xcel Energy for a 345kV Transmission Line from Brookings County, South Dakota to Hampton, Minnesota
PUC Docket No.: ET-2/TL-08-1474, OAH Docket No.: 7-2500-20283-2

Dear Judge Luis:

Attached, please find a copy of the Proposed Schedule (Revised) submitted on behalf of Robert and Patricia Johnson. The dates and events that are not in italic form represent our agreement with the tentative schedule proposed by the Applicants and the Office of Energy Security (OES). The italicized portions of the schedule reflect our understanding of the best way to accommodate issues and concerns raised in your Prehearing Conference yesterday.

We understand that you would prefer that surrebuttal by expert witnesses be provided in brief oral form at the hearings and that you are open to the idea of reserving a day or two in St. Paul at the end of the contested case hearing process. We understand that requesting the Applicants to begin the post-hearing briefing schedule with their proposed findings may assist both the OES and parties in focusing on areas of disagreement. Timing for intervention and completion of the Final EIS were discussed yesterday. The only issue raised by the attached Proposed Schedule that was not discussed yesterday is our suggestion that Applicants file their Direct Testimony after the EIS Scoping decision, but before the release of the Draft EIS. We anticipate that their familiarity with routing and GIS information would permit this timing.

We would appreciate if the first Prehearing Order would accept the Johnsons' intervention, to which no objection has been made and permit all filings to be completed by eFiling and email service to the parties, with the paper original also mailed to the Administrative Law Judge. Although we have not proposed a date for the second prehearing conference in this matter, we would request that it not be set from August 10 to August 20, when I will be out of town.

A copy of this letter and Proposed Schedule (Revised) is being served on the parties and OES electronically and posted through eFiling.

Thank you for your consideration in these matters.

Sincerely,

Paula G. Maccabee

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
FOR THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

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

PROPOSED SCHEDULE (REVISED)

6/22/2009	EIS Scoping Document
<i>TBD</i>	<i>Second Prehearing Conference</i>
9/17/09	<i>Direct Testimony Filed - Applicant</i>
10/1/09	Draft EIS available
10/16/09	<i>Intervention Deadline</i>
10/23/09	<i>Direct Testimony Filed – Other Parties</i>
10/30/09	<i>Rebuttal Testimony Filed – All Parties</i>
10/26 – 11/2	Draft EIS Public Meetings
11/16/09	Draft EIS Written Comment Period Deadline
11/30 – 12/17	Contested Case Hearings (<i>days evidentiary/evenings public, throughout state on routing issues, oral surrebuttal</i>)
12/18/09	<i>Final EIS available</i>
12/21-12/22	<i>Contested Case Hearings in St. Paul (evidentiary/public as needed)</i>
1/8/10	Deadline for Written Comments to ALJ
1/22/10	Initial Briefs/ <i>Proposed Findings</i> - Applicants
2/12/10	Response Briefs/ <i>Proposed Findings</i> – OES, Other Parties
2/26/10	Reply Briefs – All Parties
3/26/10	ALJ Report and Recommendation to PUC
TBD	Exceptions deadline
TBD	Commission Meeting/Final PUC decision