

Supplemental Testimony
Gerald Chezik

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION
FOR A ROUTE PERMIT FOR THE
MONTICELLO TO ST. CLOUD 345 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

PUC DOCKET No. ET2/TL-09-246
OAH DOCKET No. 15-2500-20665-2

SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF

Gerald Chezik

On Behalf of

APPLICANTS

NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY, A MINNESOTA CORPORATION

and

GREAT RIVER ENERGY, A MINNESOTA COOPERATIVE CORPORATION

February 26, 2010

Exhibit _____

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1 I. INTRODUCTION

2 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME.

3 A. Gerald Chezik.

4 Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED DIRECT TESTIMONY IN THIS
5 PROCEEDING ON BEHALF OF APPLICANTS?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY?

8 A. I am providing supplemental testimony to supply updated cost information for
9 Route D and to update the Project schedule.

10 II. PROJECT COSTS

11 Q. IN YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY, YOU STATED THAT APPLICANTS WERE IN THE
12 PROCESS OF REVIEWING COST ESTIMATES FOR THE ROUTES. DO YOU HAVE
13 ANY SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION TO PROVIDE?

14 A. Yes. We have completed an updated estimate for Route D. This revised cost
15 estimate, along with the estimated costs for the other routes under consideration,
16 are shown in the chart below:

Project Cost Estimates

Alternative	Cost (\$Million)
Transmission Line Routes	
Applicants' Preferred Route	\$54.2
Route A	\$65.4
Route B	\$71.5
Route C	\$65.5
Route D	\$53.6
Substations	
Monticello Substation Modifications	\$7.8
Applicants' Substation	\$14.2
Substation with 115 kV Interconnect	\$15.6

Q. WHAT ARE THE UPDATED COSTS FOR ROUTE D BASED ON?

A. The Applicants prepared a preliminary assessment of structure locations along the route for the proposed alignment. Applicants sought to identify structures and spans that would minimize conflicts with irrigation. Applicants then prepared cost estimates based on this preliminary assessment.

Q. ARE THERE STILL SIGNIFICANT UNCERTAINTIES WITH RESPECT TO COSTS FOR ROUTE D?

A. Yes. For example, it is uncertain whether this alignment can be construction on the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant property or if multiple transmission line crossings of the existing transmission lines can be avoided. If the line had to be located off plant property or in another location on the property, it would be longer and overall costs would increase. Similarly, crossing or reconfiguration of existing transmission lines in the corridor could cause additional costs. The estimate does not account for any requirements that may be imposed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the Army Corps of engineers or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

1 **III. PROJECT SCHEDULE**

2 **Q. APPLICANTS HAVE STATED THAT CERTAIN WORK WILL NEED TO BE**
3 **PERFORMED AT THE MONTICELLO SUBSTATION. WILL YOU PLEASE**
4 **DESCRIBE THE WORK THAT NEEDS TO BE PERFORMED FOR THIS PROJECT?**

5 A. To accommodate the interconnection, a circuit breaker row must be added to
6 the Monticello Substation. After this equipment is in place, the new 345 kV line
7 must be interconnected at the substation.

8 **Q. ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING WHEN THIS WORK**
9 **CAN BE UNDERTAKEN?**

10 A. Yes. The physical interconnection of the new 345 kV transmission line can only
11 be made when the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant is off-line for a planned
12 outage. The next planned plant outage is scheduled for 2011. To meet the
13 Second Quarter 2012 in-service date, the 345 kV interconnection must be
14 completed during the outage period.

15 **Q. TO MEET THE 2011 TIMEFRAME TO DO INTERCONNECTION WORK, WHEN**
16 **DOES SUBSTATION WORK NEED TO BEGIN?**

17 A. Foundation construction would need to begin in June 2010. The equipment
18 installation would need to begin in September 2010. These timeframes would
19 allow Applicants to complete outage work and be ready to make the critical
20 cutovers when the plant is off-line.

1 **Q. DOES ANY OF THIS WORK AT MONTICELLO SUBSTATION YOU ARE**
2 **DESCRIBING REQUIRE ANY EXPANSION OF THE SUBSTATION?**

3 A. No. The Monticello Substation is already designed and graded for the proposed
4 circuit breaker row, so this work will not require an expansion of the Monticello
5 Substation or acquisition of additional land. There also will be no change in the
6 location of transmission lines or an increase in voltage.

7 **IV. CONCLUSION**

8 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY?**

9 A. Yes.

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