

Brown County, Minnesota
Board of Commissioners

08-1474



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September 7, 2010

Dr. David C. Boyd, Chair
MN Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place E., Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

**RE: Support for Rehearing of CapX2020 Transmission Line Approved Route
Eden Township, Brown County, MN**

Dear Dr. Boyd:

At its regular meeting held on September 7, 2010, the Brown County Board of Commissioners heard an update on the CAPX2020 Transmission Line Project. Great River Energy representatives Randy Fordice and Dan Leshner presented this update. Also in attendance at the County Board meeting were a dozen concerned citizens from the Eden Township area of Brown County.

The lengthy permitting process was reviewed. While there were multiple communication attempts to affected landowners, it was clear to the Brown County Board that a number of its citizens had received limited information about the "final transmission line route" which is apparently ready for MN PUC approval.

Many issues have been brought to the attention of the County Board regarding this proposed final route. Among them are 1) a children's day care facility within a quarter mile; 2) problems with a line running along a drainage ditch; 3) proximity to residences; and 4) two residences having power lines on two sides. It was stated by some that the proposed final route is comparatively harsh on residential uses than would be the case with some alternative routes.

The Brown County Board recognizes the responsibility of the PUC in determining the best route. However, because of the permanent effect of this decision, the Brown County Board feels that all views and all concerns should be fully received and considered. Therefore, the Brown County Board of Commissioners respectfully supports any request the PUC may receive from affected landowners for a re-hearing in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 216B.27. Again, it is critical that all viewpoints be considered and that a full airing of concerns occur.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard Seeboth, Chair
Brown County Board of Commissioners

cc: Representative Paul Torkelson
Brown County Commissioners
Highway Engineer Stevens
P & Z Admin. Sletta
Mr. Randy Schroeder

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Burl Haar, Executive Secretary/Date

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