STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

FOR THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application by Xcel Energy for a Route Permit for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345-kV Transmission Line Project

ORONOCO TOWNSHIP'S PETITION FOR INTERVENTION

Oronoco Township, a body corporate and politic (hereinafter "Oronoco"), hereby makes this Petition for Intervention as a full party, with all the rights of a party. Oronoco is a municipal body governing affected landowners and residents within and in the immediate vicinity of the Hampton-Rochester-LaCrosse transmission preferred routing option proposed for Phase I of CapX 2020.

Oronoco will be directly affected by the outcome of this proceeding if the preferred Routing Permit were to be granted. Those effects include loss of tax base and effect on Oronoco's land use plan and zoning. Participation in the Routing docket is necessary, because Oronoco wishes to protect its interest and those of its residents and develop the record through discovery, testimony, cross-examination, motions and briefing.

Pursuant to Minn. R. 1400.6200, subp. 1 and 1405.0900, subp. 1, Oronoco submits this Petition to Intervene and seeks an Order granting Oronoco permission to intervene as a full party, with all the rights of a party, in the above-captioned proceedings.

Oronoco seeks to intervene in the Hampton-Rochester-LaCrosse Routing docket to build the record regarding the routing of the line and locations of substations. In this Routing docket, landowners (through their elected officials) facing easements and condemnation must participate and be represented to prevent abuse of the siting process, allow the fullest public participation under current law, and increase awareness regarding eminent domain and the "Buy the Farm" option.

Oronoco's interests also include process issues, working to inform the Environmental Impact Statement record and iterative exchanges between the Rural Utility Service EIS and Minnesota routing process, and environmental protection of the land CapX intends to traverse.

There are no parties that could or would represent the interests of Oronoco. CapX 2020 will affect multiple landowners and impact the development plans in Oronoco. 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.

Oronoco meets 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.

Dated: April 26, 2011	MALKERSON GUNN MARTIN LLP
	/s/ Phillip R. Krass Phillip R. Krass (ID #58051) Rachel R. Myers (ID #0386915) Timothy J. Keane (ID #0165323) 1900 U.S. Bank Plaza South Tower 220 South Sixth Street Minneapolis, MN 55402 Telephone: (612) 344-1111 Attorneys for Oronoco Township

140901

In the Matter of the Application by Xcel Energy for a Route Permit for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345-kV Transmission Line Project CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE OAH 3-2500-21181-2 PUC No. E002/TL-09-1448

Tammy L. Dochniak certifies that on the 26th day of April, 2011, she filed a true and correct copy of **Oronoco Township's Petition for Intervention**, by posting said Petition on www.edockets.state.mn.us. Said Petition was also served via U.S. Mail and e-mail as designated on the Official Service List on file with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

/s/Tammy L. Dochniak
Tammy L. Dochniak

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Service List Member Information

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Overland	Carol	Legalectric, Inc.	P.O. Box 176, Red Wing, MN-55066	Paper Service	No
Sheehy	Kathleen D.	Office of Administrative Hearings	PO Box 64620, St. Paul, MN-551640620	Paper Service	Yes

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