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 Hampton to LaCrosse, Wisconsin

OAH DOCKET NO. 3-2500-21181-2
PUC DOCKET NO. ET002/TL-09-1448

PETITION FOR INTERVENTION

NORTH ROUTE GROUP

The North Route Group hereby makes this Petition for Intervention as full parties, with all the rights of a party. The North Route Group is an organization of potentially directly affected landowners, farmers and residents within and in the immediate vicinity of the Hampton-Rochester-LaCrosse transmission northern "Alternate Route" (3A). Landowners of the North Route Group have joined together in an association to pool their skills and resources to participate in this routing docket.

Members of the North Route Group will be directly affected by the outcome of this proceeding if a Routing Permit were to be granted. If this route would be selected, Xcel Energy would seek an easement, and where an agreement could not be reached, would initiate condemnation of our land. Participation in the Routing docket is necessary because the interests of the North Route Group are distinct from other intervenors due to the narrow focus of our interest on this northern alternate route, and members of the North Route Group wish to protect our interests and develop the record through participation in this administrative docket.

Under the provisions of Minn.R. 1400.6200, subp.1, and 1405.0900, subp. 1, the North Route Group makes this Petition for an Order granting intervention as a full party, with all the rights of a party, in the above-captioned proceeding.

Members of the North Route Group have participated as individuals in pre-application meetings held by the Applicants, in the Advisory Task Force, and have submitted Comments to MOES regarding Scoping and the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The North Route Group seeks to intervene in

the LaCrosse Routing docket to build the record regarding the routing of the line and our concerns regarding Minnesota's policy of non-proliferation of transmission corridors, and protection of the significant resources along the North Route that render it inappropriate for transmission under the siting criteria of the Power Plant Siting Act.

There are no Intervenors or parties requesting Intervention at this time that could or would represent the distinct interests of the North Route Group. The North Route Group recognizes the rights and responsibilities of intervention and will retain counsel to help us with this process.

The North Route Group 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

Suzanne Rohlfing
Co-Chair, North Route Group
2310 15th Ave NW
Rochester, MN 55901-1549
(507) 273-6269
caraway57@aol.com

Dated: April 26 2011

Steve Hackman
Co-Chair, North Route Group
59919 - 430th Avenue
Mazeppa, MN 55956-4206
(507) 843-4024