

**BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN**

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Joint Application of Dairyland Power Cooperative,  
Northern States Power Company-Wisconsin, and Wisconsin  
Public Power, Inc., for Authority to Construct and Place  
In Service 345 kV Electric Transmission Lines and  
Electric Substation Facilities for the CapX Twin Cities-  
Rochester-LaCrosse Project, Located in Buffalo, Trempealeau,  
And LaCrosse Counties, Wisconsin

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Docket No. 5-CE-136

Clean Wisconsin appreciates this opportunity to comment on Commission staff's Briefing Memorandum and Decision Matrix in the above-captioned proceeding. Clean Wisconsin suggests only limited clarification of certain points listed in the Briefing Memo, as follows:

1. Pages 24-26 (discussion of the process used to identify a Mississippi River crossing route): Staff accurately describes Clean Wisconsin's position that alternatives to the Alma crossing should have been analyzed in the context of the CPCN contested case process, rather than presented as a *fait accompli* before that process began. However, the Memo then goes on to state "considering that the Mississippi River crossing choice has been made....." which implies that the preordained "choice" was a legal and viable one. It was not. Moreover, the two alternatives presented for the Commission's consideration here are inaccurate; it incorrectly combines the question of whether the process for choosing a river crossing route was correct with the unrelated question of whether the river crossing should be undergrounded. These are two very separate and distinct alternatives, and the undergrounding alternative should be presented as its own alternative.

Clean Wisconsin appreciates the Commission's consideration of these comments.

Dated this 30<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ Katie Nekola*

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