



Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Phil Montgomery, Chairperson
Eric Callisto, Commissioner

610 North Whitney Way
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Madison, WI 53707-7854

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
RECEIVED: 06/09/11, 9:45:57 AM

June 9, 2011

Mr. Thomas Hillstrom
414 Nicollet Mall, MP8A
Minneapolis, MN 55410

Re: 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-La Crosse Project, Located in Buffalo, Trempealeau, and La Crosse Counties, Wisconsin 5-CE-136

Dear Mr. Hillstrom:

On January 3, 2011, Northern States Power Company-Wisconsin, Dairyland Power Cooperative, and Wisconsin Public Power Inc. (together, applicants) filed an application with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC or Commission) for authority to construct and place into operation electric transmission facilities serving the La Crosse area. The proposed project would cross the Mississippi River from Minnesota to Alma, Wisconsin, pass through Buffalo and Trempealeau Counties, and terminate at a substation near Holman, Wisconsin in La Crosse County.

The Commission and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reviewed the application to construct the facilities described above. On February 1, 2011, the Commission, under Wis. Stat. § 196.491(3)(a)2. and Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 111.53, found the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity application to be incomplete. A list of questions was attached to that incompleteness determination. The applicants' final responses to those questions were received on May 10, 2011. PSC and DNR staff have reviewed these supplemental filings.

Based on these reviews, I have determined that the application is complete and, by this letter, notify you of this determination as required by Wis. Stat. § 196.491(3)(a)2.

Please be aware that application information that is considered adequate now may require further development later in the PSC's review process. This additional information would be required to complete the record from which the Commission will make its decision on whether to approve the application under Wis. Stat § 196.491(3b). Such additional information may relate to engineering, environmental, financial, and other issues. When such issues arise, PSC staff will promptly issue a data request for the specific information needed. Your immediate response to data requests will avoid delaying the PSC's review of this project. Further, we understand that the applicants are continuing to work with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT)

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to map the overlay of the Q1-WIS 35 route with DOT's scenic easements along the Great River Road. We expect the applicants to work with DOT to resolve any easement or permit issues that may arise. Should the application be modified in any way that requires additional analyses and review for completeness, the PSC would require a supplemental filing by the applicants and subsequent completeness review by the PSC and DNR.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact the docket coordinator William Fannucchi by telephone at (608) 267-3594, or by e-mail at william.fannucchi@wisconsin.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/ Robert Norcross

Robert Norcross
Administrator
Gas and Energy Division

RDN:WAF:jlt:L:\Letter\Norcross\2011\5-CE-136 Completeness Letter 6-9-2011