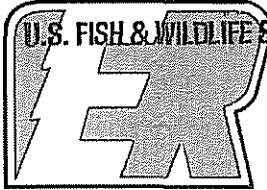


RECEIVED

NOV 08 2007



# EAST RIVER

**ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE**

121 Southeast First St.  
Madison, SD 57042

P.O. Box 227  
Telephone (605) 256-4536

RECEIVED  
NOV 08 2007  
PIERRE, SD

November 6, 2007

Mr. Peter Gober  
Field Supervisor, Environment  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
420 South Garfield, Suite 400  
Pierre, SD 57501

This constitutes a report of the Department of  
the Interior prepared in accordance with the  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Conservation Act (16 U.S.C.  
562) (a) (5) (A) (i) and (ii) and have  
NO OBJECTION to this proposed project.

11-15-07 P. Gober  
Date Supervisor

RE: Chancellor 115 KV Transmission Line

Dear Mr. Gober:

Enclosed you will find maps and supportive information concerning the proposed Chancellor 115 KV transmission line to be constructed by East River Electric Power Cooperative, Inc.

The proposed project is located in the southeastern region of South Dakota, near Chancellor, South Dakota. The elevation in which the proposed transmission line will be constructed is approximately 1350 feet to 1440 feet.

The proposed Chancellor 115 KV transmission line would be located along existing roads on private property and public right of way. The transmission line will initiate at the Virgil Fodness high voltage substation located in the southwest corner of the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section Two (2), Township Ninety-nine (99) North, Range Fifty-one (51) West of the 5th P.M. in Lincoln County. The line will be built above ground along the township and county roads. Some tree trimming or removal will need to be done to meet National Electrical Code. The typical structure used for this line will be a single wood pole with stand off insulators. The average height of the poles will be 65' and set into the ground 8.5'.

The line will terminate at the location of the Chancellor Substation located in the northeast corner of the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4) of Section Twenty-six (26), Township Ninety-nine (99) North, Range Fifty-one (51) West of the 5th P.M. in Turner County, South Dakota.

The proposed Chancellor 115 KV transmission line is required by our member, Southeastern Electric, to meet the demands of new electrical loads being added in this area.

EXHIBIT 18

Mr. Peter Gober

-2-

November 6, 2007

Wildlife in the area include, but are not limited to, deer, rabbit, coyote, badger, skunk, raccoon, mink, fox, gopher, and many species of birds.

I would appreciate receiving your environmental comments concerning wetlands and endangered species on the proposed project within thirty (30) days of the date of this letter.

If any additional information is required, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Kurt Donelan  
Land Agent

KD/jc

Enc.