


**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF) PROOF OF PUBLICATION
GREAT RIVER ENERGY AND NORTHERN)
STATES POWER COMPANY D/B/A XCEL)
ENERGY FOR A PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT A)
10.6 MILE, 345 KV TRANSMISSION LINE)
(CAPX2020) IN BROOKINGS COUNTY NEAR)
WHITE, SOUTH DAKOTA) EL 10-016

Attorney Brett Koenecke states:

A true copy of the affidavit of publication from the Brookings Register is attached as Exhibit A.

Dated this 19 day of January, 2011.

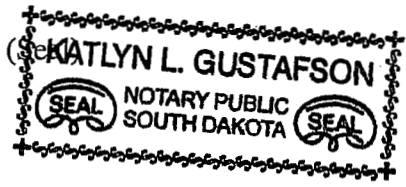


 Brett Koenecke

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 18 day of January, 2011.



 NOTARY PUBLIC - SOUTH DAKOTA
 Notary Print Name:
 My commission expires:



Katlyn L. Gustafson
 My Commission Expires
 May 13, 2016

Affidavit of Publication

State of South Dakota

Exhibit "A"

ss

County of Brookings

Laura Johnson of said county, first duly sworn, on oath, says: That she is the office clerk of THE BROOKINGS REGISTER, a daily newspaper, printed and published in the City of Brookings, in said County of Brookings, and State of South Dakota; that she has full and personal knowledge of the facts herein stated; that said newspaper is a legal newspaper and has a bona fide circulation of at least two hundred copies of each issue daily; that said newspaper has been published within the said County of Brookings and State of South Dakota, for more than one year prior to the first publication of Exhibit "A," hereto attached and herein mentioned, and was and is printed that the

Leg #516 CapX2020

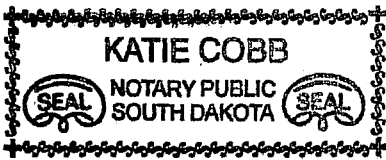
same was published, is hereto attached marked Exhibit said newspaper for 1 times, to-wit:

December 3, 2010

December 10, 2010

said Exhibit "A" inures to the sole benefit for the publishers of said newspaper; that no agreement or understanding for the division thereof has been made with any other person, and that no part thereof has been agreed to be paid to any person whomsoever; that the fees charged for the publication thereof are:

Nine hundred and forty-five dollars \$945.00



Laura Johnson

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

13th day of

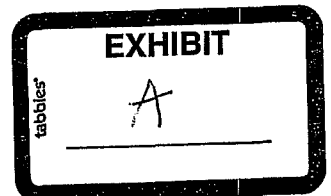
December

2010

Katie Cobb

Notary Public in and for the County of Brookings, South Dakota.

My Commission expires July 14, 2015



Public hearing scheduled for CapX2020 Brookings County-Hampton 345 kV transmission line project

On behalf of the CapX2020 partners, notice is hereby given of an upcoming public meeting convened by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (SD PUC) on the Facility Permit application filed for the proposed Brookings County-Hampton 345 kV transmission line project.

Pursuant to law, the SD PUC will hold a public meeting to take comments from the public. The meeting will be held :

**Thursday, January 6, 2011
6:30 p.m.
Swiftel Center
824 32nd Avenue
Brookings, SD 57006**

CapX2020 will give a short presentation designed to give context to the comments of the public regarding the proposal. Most of the meeting will be reserved for accepting public comments on the proposal. Learn more about the proposal by accessing a copy of the Facility Permit application online at the SD PUC website:

<http://www.puc.sd.gov/Dockets/Electric/2010/el10-016.aspx>

The application is also posted at www.CapX2020.com.

Under state law, (SDCL 49-41B) CapX2020 must have a permit from the SD PUC prior to beginning construction. Accordingly, the SD PUC will hold further formal proceedings concerning the application. If you wish, you may have the right to become a formal party.

The formal hearing will be unlike the public meeting listed above, and instead is considered by the SD PUC to be an "advisory proceeding," at which the rules of evidence will be applied. Any formal party has the right to be present and to be represented by a lawyer. Any formal party could appeal from an adverse decision of the SD PUC, to Circuit Court and the state Supreme Court. Those rights would be forfeited if not exercised.

The date and place for that formal hearing has not yet been set. At that hearing, witnesses will provide sworn testimony and be examined by lawyers for the parties. Additionally, there will be intermediate steps taken prior to that hearing for the parties to prepare, including discovery in the form of written interrogatories and depositions.

The SD PUC has a professional staff of lawyers and analysts and engineers to review the application, engage in discovery and take evidence. The SD PUC staff may also contract with a number of outside expert witnesses. Those people will help staff review the application and will provide evidence to commissioners, on behalf of the public. The cost of the staff's time and their expert witnesses is paid for by CapX2020, as required by law.

CapX2020 filed copies of the Facility Permit application with the Brookings County Auditor; it can also be viewed there.

CapX2020

Delivering electricity you can rely on

CapX 2020 participating utilities include: Central Minnesota Municipal Power Agency, Dairyland Power Cooperative, Great River Energy, Minnesota Power, Minnkota Power Cooperative, Missouri River Energy Services, Otter Tail Power Company, Rochester Public Utilities, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency, WPPI Energy and Xcel Energy.

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