BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

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EL13-028

AFFIDAVIT OF MONICA PETERSON DATED AUGUST 28, 2015

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
	:SS
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN)

Monica Peterson, being first duly sworn on oath, deposes and states as follows:

- 1. My name is Monica Peterson. I am an environmental scientist for HDR Engineering ("HDR"). Attached as Exhibit C is a true and accurate copy of my resume.
- 2. HDR is providing environmental consulting services to the Big Stone South to Ellendale Project ("the Project"). As part of those services, I assisted the Project in coordinating the soybean cyst nematode ("SCN") testing. I also am aware of the communications provided by the Project to landowners to notify them that SCN testing will be occurring on their property.
- 3. I began working on the Project in July 2012. In the summer of 2014, I was assigned to work with South Dakota State University ("SDSU") to develop a plan to test for SCN in the Project. In the fall of 2014, our plan had been developed, and I coordinated the mobilization of field crews for the first round of soil sampling and coordinated the communication and supply and data exchange with SDSU for the SCN testing of those soil samples. In the winter and spring of 2015, I coordinated three non-consecutive weeks of monitoring of the soil boring contractor and their compliance with the Project's protocols for mitigating the spread of SCN during that work. I continued to lead the coordination of data

communication for two more mobilizations of SCN testing. As part of my work with the Project, I worked with, among others, Gerald Bermel, who is a field manager for the Project.

- 4. As part of the Project's SCN sampling process, along with its generalized outreach to landowners, the Project sent mailings to landowners regarding SCN and the Project's testing for SCN in September 2014, January 2015 and April 2015. Additionally, the Project had ongoing direct phone calls with landowners about permission to sample landowner's property for SCN in October 2014 and throughout the months of May and June 2015. In addition, Project's additional information related to the SCN testing was placed on the Project's website in June 2015.
- 5. In addition to the general discussion about SCN and continued outreach, the Project provided each landowner the actual test results from SDSU for the sampling performed by the Project on the landowner's property. Attached as Exhibit D is the form of the letter provided to the landowner containing their test results. Attached as Exhibit E is the form which actually transmits the test results to the landowner.
- 6. On June 29, 2015, the Project mailed SCN sampling test results to each landowner that was sampled.
- 7. On August 27, 2015, I personally contacted SDSU to confirm whether or not any landowners had requested additional information following receipt of their test results or further testing. To date, no landowners have contacted SDSU. Additionally, other than two landowners contacting the Project regarding administrative matters making sure the landowners received copies their SCN test results, none of the 238 landowners who received SCN testing results have contacted the Project regarding SCN.

Dated this 20 day of August, 2015.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this Aday of August, 2015.

Notary Public
My Commission Expires: 01/31/209

SARAH MARGUERITE MIKRUT Notary Public Minnesota My Comm. Expires Jan 31, 2019