



DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENT and NATURAL RESOURCES

PMB 2020
JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 EAST CAPITOL
PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA 57501-3182
www.state.sd.us/denr

Stamp: EAST RIVER, RECEIVED MADISON, SD

December 19, 2007

Kurt Donelan
East River Electric Power Cooperative
121 Southeast First St.
Madison, SD 57042

Re: EREPC PS-20 115 KV Transmission Line South of Groton, Brown County

Dear Mr. Donelan:

The Ground Water Quality Program of the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources has reviewed the above-referenced project location for potential impacts to ground water quality. Based on the information submitted in your letter dated December 4, 2007, to Sheldon Hamann, the department does not anticipate adverse impacts to ground water quality by this project.

There have been accidental petroleum and other chemical releases throughout the state. Other than an incident involving over application of herbicides (sterilant) at the Groton substation, there are no release cases on record in the vicinity of this project. However, the location information provided to us regarding releases is sometimes inaccurate or incomplete. Therefore, we have not conclusively ruled out the possibility that this project may encounter contaminated material. If you would like to do more research, information on accidental releases reported in South Dakota may be obtained at the following website:

http://www.state.sd.us/denr/DES/ground/dataspil.htm. If contamination is encountered during construction activities, the East River Electric Power Cooperative or its designated representative must report the contamination to the department at (605) 773-3296. Any contaminated soil encountered must be temporarily stockpiled and sampled to determine disposal requirements, and the materials of construction through the contaminated area should be evaluated for chemical compatibility and adjusted accordingly.

If you have any questions regarding the information provided, please contact this office at (605) 773-3296. Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment on this project.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of John Foster

John Foster, Hydrologist
Ground Water Quality Program

EXHIBIT 24