

Elizabeth Olauson

White, SD 57276

10/08/26

RECEIVED

OCT 19 2026

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
Re: Proposed 765-kV Transmission Line Project

Subject: Require Clear Answers about the Need for This Project

Dear Public Utilities Commissioners,

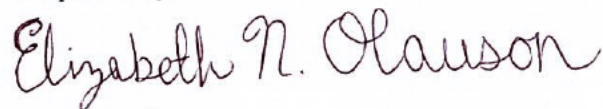
Let me start by saying I am completely against this project of the 765 transmission line and associated substation are approved, I believe the public deserves a clear and complete explanation and honest answers on the its impacts.

I have serious questions about the need for the proposed substation in our area. I would like the applicants to explain its specific purpose, why it is sitting in the heaviest populated area instead Brookings County, besides actual town. Xcel has not once answered this question. My personal feeling is one of my local neighbors is trying to get "Richer". This substation is another falsely advertized piece of the system. At first we were told we had to have not way around it but no real reasons. But after further research, I see its value to Xcel because they want to sent power to where I believe will be for a data center somewhere in the counties directly below Brookings County.

I also ask that the Commission require the applicants to provide detailed maps of the proposed transmission route, the exact location and dimensions of the substation, and drawings or visual representations showing what the completed facilities would look like from nearby homes and roads. I fear they do not want to put those cards on the table because they know they are doing things against the majority of Brookings County voters.

The public should not be expected to make informed comments about a project of this size without access to understandable information about what is being proposed. Why do we the citizens of South Dakota need to prove the WHY and Xcel just gets to say because.

Respectfully,



Elizabeth Olauson

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET EL26-026 — POWERON MIDWEST PROJECT

Landowner/Farm Family: Olanson

Township: Alton

County: Brookings

Approximate acres owned: 100

Approximate acres farmed: 100 Rented

Owner-operated / rented / both: _____

Years family has owned or farmed this property: 58 yrs