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

Print Form

*This form is **only** for persons who wish to be an active party in this docket. You do NOT need to be a party to submit comments.*

**In the Matter of the Application of Xcel Energy and Otter Tail Power Company for an Energy Facility Permit to Construct the PowerOn Midwest Project Consisting of a 765-kV Transmission Line, a 345-kV Transmission Line, and Associated Facilities**

## APPLICATION FOR PARTY STATUS

**EL26-026**

Douglas Kampmann, petitions the Public Utilities Commission to be granted party status in this proceeding.
(Name of Applicant. This will be the person or entity named as a party.)

Place a check mark next to each item below that applies to you, adding a mileage number where requested.

☑ I am a person or organization that received official notification of the project via U.S. mail from the siting permit applicant.

☑ I reside within 1/4 miles of the proposed project.

Residential address if different from your mailing address:
21229 483 Ave Elkton, SD 57026

☑ I own land within 1/4 miles of the proposed project.

Legal description: T-110-N Section 26 NE 1/4 R-48-W

☐ I officially represent a municipal, city, township, county or other affected governmental agency within _____ miles of the proposed project.

☐ *I represent a utility company with facilities within _____ miles of the proposed project.*

Explain your interest in applying for party status below.

Affected landowner.

**Deadline:This application must be filed with the Public Utilities Commission on or before 5:00 p.m. CT, Nov. 3, 2026, File this completed form electronically at puc.sd.gov/EFilingOptions.aspx**

This section is to be completed by the person requesting party status. **All fields are required.**

Douglas Kampmann
Applicant's Printed/Typed Name

Douglas Kampmann Nov 1/26
Signature of Applicant Date Signed

Name of Applicant's Organization (if Applicable)

21229 483 AVE Elkton SD 57026
Applicant's Address (PO Box/St/Ave/Road)

Elkton SD 57026
Applicant's Address (City, State, ZIP Code)

690-6129
Applicant's Phone Number or, if represented, Applicant's Attorney's Phone Number

Kampd800@gmail.com
Applicant's E-mail Address* or, if represented, Applicant's Attorney's E-mail Address*

**The section below is to be completed by the Applicant's attorney, if represented. All fields are required.**

Attorney's Printed/Typed Name

Signature of Attorney Date Signed

Attorney's Address (PO Box/St/Ave/Road)

Attorney's Address (City, State, ZIP Code)

*The Commission processes its dockets electronically for time and cost efficiencies. Communication on the docket will be done via email to parties to this docket. Failure to provide an email address may result in documents being served upon the county auditor rather than sent directly to the party, pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17.1.

**If your submitted form is incomplete, you risk not being granted party status.**

For renewal party status applications must meet the requirements of SDCL 49-41B-17

Douglas Kampman

21229 483 Ave

Elkton, SD 57026

605.6906122

**Dear PUC Commissioners,**

**I would like to an Intervener because I saw first-hand damage from a smaller line.**

**Electrical Arcing, Static Electricity, and Fire Risks**

A serious concern is the potential for electrical hazards when farm equipment operates beneath or near 765-kV transmission lines. There have been reports of farm equipment, including combines, experiencing electrical buildup while operating underneath high-voltage lines.

I personally watch a combine on a haze day while combining near the 325-power line that crosses Highway 14, approximately ½ mile from my home. I watched a combine as it was harvesting directly beneath high-voltage wires. The equipment was not grounded. Static electrical buildup resulted in a fire on the combine's feeder house. There were no wires or other electrical connections physically touching the equipment. I feel if this small line can cause this kind of fire a 765 has a greater amount. Are our rescue crew ready for these types of incidents? Remember in South Dakota, our 1st responders are also working fun time jobs, and many are farmers.

This raises important questions:

- What grounding requirements will Xcel establish for farm equipment operating beneath these lines? And who must pay for it.
- Who is responsible for preventing and responding to electrical fires? We were told them shut themselves down if there is a surge. We need this in writing and verified.
- What safety procedures will protect farmers during planting and harvesting? Xcel says we can farm under them, but who is liable if there is arcing. What happens if it causes a fire on a nearby property. Who is responsible we need written assurances and policy on how they will be made accountable.
- Will Xcel guarantee compensation for equipment damage, fires, or personal injury associated with electrical hazards?

**Farmers should not have to risk their equipment, livelihoods, or lives simply to work their own land.**

I would also ask that the PUC require Xcel to address this specific type of incident with documented safety procedures before construction begins.

The noise is another huge concern of mine. How much constant noise can a person take? I sit a ¼ mile from the line; will I be able to stand a constant 70dBa-100+ day and night. They say they are not harmful, but they can cause permeant hearing loss, tinnitus, or stress that can lead to high blood, pressure, increased heart rate, disruptive sleep and fatigue. We should have assurance that sounds will be checked on farms and if this gets put up afterwards and sometime of fix for our homes, so we do not live under these conditions. What assurances and Xcel give us for the quality of life we have now, we did not sigh up for this when we bought our homes.

PUT THEM UNDERGROUND IS THE SOLUTION!