

June 26, 2008

Dear Judge Jones Heydinger,

We are a family of four who live in Eureka Township and are members of the Citizen Energy Task Force. Our family makes it a point to live conservatively and responsibly, consuming thoughtfully and within reason. We work hard to preserve our beautiful, rural setting.

The proposed CapX2020 project has gotten our attention. Why? -because the project doesn't appear to take into consideration, living conservatively and responsibly. Building 345kV powerlines from coal plants in another state to serve the supposed growing electrical needs of big cities in other states without study of alternatives such as conservation and locally sourced power is not responsible.

Since we as ratepayers will be paying for this project, we need to know that it is one, truly needed, and two, what the cost of local, renewable distributed alternatives are. We need to consider not only the cost of building the lines, but also the cost in quality of life and environment. We need the judge and PUC to account for these things that the market doesn't .We acknowledge the power company says it is source neutral, but it seems from the MISO queue that it is designed to serve the coal generating companies rather than the citizens, environment, and economy of Minnesota. The PUC needs to make this decision on a cost benefit basis with solid data from other sources than CapX2020. The power companies are well represented. We are counting on you to represent us.

Sincerely,

Jill Olstad
8000 257th St.
Farmington, Minnesota