

Jan. 29, 2025

Re: Support for the proposed fee adjustments for the Construction Codes and Licensing Division

Dear Labor Committee members,

On behalf of the Board of Electricity, I am writing to express the Minnesota Board of Electricity's strong support for the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry's proposal to increase permit, inspection, plan review and certain registration fees within the Construction Codes and Licensing Division (CCLD).

Given that CCLD operates on a fee-for-service basis, it is essential that the fees charged align with the actual costs of the services provided. It is evident that the current fees, last adjusted in 2007, are no longer adequate to cover the increasing costs due to inflation and other economic factors.

The proposed electrical fees adjustments, such as the new \$25 permit application fee, increased minimum inspection fee from \$35 to \$55, circuit fee increase from \$6 to \$12, and the introduction of a new \$10 remote virtual inspection fee, are prudent measures that reflect the current economic landscape and the costs associated with providing these critical services. Additionally, integrating class 4 electrical systems into the Minnesota Electrical Act is a forward-thinking approach to keep up with emerging low-voltage electrical technologies.

Ensuring that these fees are adequately aligned with the program costs will help maintain the high standards and efficiency of the services provided by CCLD. This is crucial for the safety and compliance of construction projects within Minnesota. The board firmly believes that these adjustments will enhance the division's ability to effectively serve the community and uphold the integrity of our state's construction standards.

Thank you for your consideration of this important proposal. The Board of Electricity fully supports the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry's efforts to align fees with the true costs of services and ensure the continued excellence of the Construction Codes and Licensing Division.

Sincerely,



Duane Hendricks

Chair, Minnesota Board of Electricity

CC: Senator McEwen: sen.jennifer.mcewen@mnsenate.gov

Senator Dornink: sen.gene.dornink@mnsenate.gov

Representative Baker: rep.dave.baker@house.mn.gov

Representative Pinto: rep.dave.pinto@house.mn.gov