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February 9, 1978

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Gerald Willet  
FROM: Gary Botzek *gb*  
RE: Chronology of Power Line Events

The following is a composite listing of power line events.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
1972	Cooperative Power Association (CPA) and United Power Association (UPA) begin discussion of construction of a jointly owned generation and transmission project.
November 2, 1972	Power coops authorize Burns and McDonnell, an engineering consulting firm, to prepare a feasibility study for the project.
March, 1973	Commonwealth Associates, Inc. of Jackson, Michigan, retained by power coops as consulting engineers for environment and design.
May 19, 1973	Minnesota Environmental Quality Council (EQC) created by <u>Laws 1973, Chapter 342</u> (effective August 1, 1973). See Exhibit No. 1.
May 19, 1973	Minnesota Environmental Policy Act enacted by <u>Laws 1973, Chapter 412</u> (effective August 1, 1973). See Exhibit No. 2.
May 23, 1973	Minnesota Power Plant Siting Act enacted by <u>Laws 1973, Chapter 591</u> (effective the day following enactment). See Exhibit Nos. 3 & 4.
July 15, 1973	Burns and McDonnell deliver "Feasibility Study for a North Dakota Power Supply Project" to power coops.
July 31, 1973	Burns and McDonnell deliver "Environmental Analysis Report of North Dakota Power Supply Project" to power coops.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
September, 1973	Commonwealth delivers "Environmental Report: CU Project" to power coops.
October 3, 1973	Draft federal Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) made available to EQC and the public.
March 28, 1974	Minnesota Energy Agency created by Laws 1974, Ch. 307 (effective the day following enactment). See Exhibit No. 5.
August 6, 1974	Final federal EIS made available to EQC and the public.
April 8, 1975	Power coops apply to the EQC for corridor designation for a +400 kV dc HVTL and a 345 kV ac double circuit HVTL (CU-TC-1). EQC authorized appointment of a 47 member corridor evaluation committee. See Exhibit Nos. 6 & 7.
May, 1975	EQC, by resolution, excluded all municipalities from the corridor except the five large incorporated municipalities in the western metro area.
June 10, 1975	EQC added two additional corridors for study, in addition to the two corridors proposed by power coops. EQC also specified the end points of the corridors which in effect defined the entry point of the line into Minnesota.

Public Information Meetings on Corridor

Length of Meeting

June 16, 1975 - Olivia, Renville County	3.5 hours
June 17, 1975 - Benson, Swift County	3.0 hours
June 18, 1975 - Glenwood, Pope County	4.0 hours
June 19, 1975 - Buffalo, Wright County	2.5 hours
June 23, 1975 - Paynesville, Stearns County	4.5 hours
June 24, 1975 - Long Prairie, Todd County	1.5 hours
June 25, 1975 - Elbow Lake, Grant County	4.0 hours
June 26, 1975 - Osseo, Hennepin County	2.0 hours
June 30, 1975 - Glencoe, McLeod County	3.0 hours

Public Hearings on Corridor

Length of Meeting

July 21, 1975 - Olivia, Renville County	5.0 hours
July 22, 1975 - Benson, Swift County	5.0 hours
July 23, 1975 - Paynesville, Stearns County	5.4 hours
July 24, 1975 - Glencoe, McLeod County	3.0 hours
July 28, 1975 - Glenwood, Pope County	7.2 hours
July 29, 1975 - Long Prairie, Todd County	5.2 hours
July 30, 1975 - Elbow Lake, Grant County	7.6 hours
July 31, 1975 - Buffalo, Wright County	6.8 hours
Aug. 4, 1975 - Osseo, Hennepin County	7.5 hours
Aug. 26, 1975 - St. Paul, Ramsey County	8.0 hours
Aug. 29, 1975 - St. Paul, Ramsey County	9.5 hours

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
September, 1975	Corridor Evaluation Committee Report published recommending a corridor consisting of the northern portion of the study area.
October 3, 1975	EQC adopts Hearing Officer's Recommended Corridor as the Designated Corridor and issues a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility (CU-TC-1). See Exhibit Nos. 8, 9, 10 & 11.
October 6, 1975	Power coops file Application for Certificate of Need with Energy Agency. See Exhibit No. 12.
November 10, 1975	Power coops file Application for a second Corridor Designation; a 345 kV ac single circuit HVTL from Delano to Mankato (CU-TC-2). See Exhibit No. 13.
November 12, 1975	Counties United for Rural Environment (CURE) file suit in Pope County District Court over corridor selection.
December 2, 1975	Save Our Countryside (SOC), No Power Line (NPL), and Preserve Grant County (PGC), file suit in Grant County District Court over corridor selection.
December 9, 1975	Power coops file Application for Route Designation and a Construction Permit (CU-TR-1). See Exhibit Nos. 14 & 15.
January 23, 1976	EQC authorized the appointment of a Route Evaluation Committee made up of 49 persons most of whom live within the corridor area. EQC authorized staff and the Route Evaluation Committee to propose additional routes for study (80 route segments accepted for study). See Exhibit No. 16.

Public Information Meetings on Route

Length of Meeting

February 17, 1976	- Morris, Swift County	2.5 hours
February 17, 1976	- Wheaton, Traverse County	3.5 hours
February 18, 1976	- Elbow Lake, Grant County	3.0 hours
February 19, 1976	- Glenwood, Pope County	3.5 hours
February 23, 1976	- Long Prairie, Todd County	1.5 hours
February 23, 1976	- Alexandria, Douglas County	3.0 hours
March 1, 1976	- Buffalo, Wright County	3.0 hours
March 2, 1976	- Anoka, Anoka County	1.0 hours
March 2, 1976	- Osseo, Hennepin County	2.0 hours
March 3, 1976	- Paynesville, Stearns County	4.0 hours
March 4, 1976	- Willmar, Kandiyohi County	1.5 hours
March 4, 1976	- Litchfield, Meeker County	3.0 hours

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
March 10, 1976	Grant County District Court dismisses anti power-line group appeal over corridor selection.

<u>Public Hearings on Route</u>	<u>Length of Meeting</u>
March 22, 1976 - Anoka, Anoka County	7.0 hours
March 23, 1976 - Buffalo, Wright County	5.0 hours
March 24, 1976 - Brooklyn Center, Hennepin County	4.5 hours
March 29, 1976 - Wheaton, Traverse County	4.5 hours
March 30, 1976 - Morris, Stevens County	2.5 hours
March 31, 1976 - Elbow Lake, Grant County	5.25 hours

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
April 2, 1976	Certificate of Need issued by Director of Energy Agency. See Exhibit No. 17.

<u>Public Hearings on Route</u>	<u>Length of Meeting</u>
April 5, 1976 - Alexandria, Douglas County	4.5 hours
April 6, 1976 - Long Prairie, Todd County	1.5 hours

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
April 7, 1976	Anti power line group appeals to Supreme Court over corridor selection.

<u>Public Hearings on Route</u>	<u>Length of Meeting</u>
April 7, 1976 - Glenwood, Pope County	6.0 hours
April 12, 1976 - Willmar, Kandiyohi County	6.5 hours
April 13, 1976 - Paynesville, Stearns County	6.5 hours
April 14, 1976 - Litchfield, Meeker County	7.0 hours

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
April 15, 1976	Pope County District Court dismisses anti power line group appeal over corridor selection.
May 3, 1976	Anti power line group appeals issuance of Certificate of Need in Ramsey County District Court.
May 7, 1976	EQC grants Certificate of Corridor Compatibility for second corridor (CU-TC-2). See Exhibit No. 18.
June 3, 1976	EQC finds Environmental Impact Statement to be adequate, designates route and grants Construction Permit (CU-TR-1). See Exhibit Nos. 19,20,21 & 22.
July 13, 1976	Anti power line groups file Petition for Judicial Review on route (CU-TR-1) in Stearns County District Court.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
July 28, 1976	Anti power line groups appeal EQC decision on route selection (CU-TR-1) in Grant County District Court.
August 13, 1976	Supreme Court returns anti power line group appeal over corridor to district court for a combined trial with same group's Route Appeal.
August 25, 1976	Anti power line group appeals EQC decision on route selection (CU-TR-1) in Traverse County District Court.
October 4, 1976	Anti power line groups commence action against EQC, <u>et al.</u> , seeking to have route (CU-TR-1) Construction Permit declared null and void in Meeker County District Court.
October 21, 1976	Judge Lindstrom issues Temporary Injunction against anti power line groups prohibiting interference with work on the line.
October 27, 1976	Anti power line group files action in U.S. District Court against the State of Minnesota, <u>et al.</u> over due process.
November 8, 1976	Civil case mentioned above dismissed by Judge Larson.
November 19, 1976	Anti power line groups appeal Judge Lindstrom's October 21, 1976 order to Minnesota Supreme Court, but fail to file required bond.
November 23, 1976	Anti power line group files petition for Writ of Prohibition attempting to stop construction.
December 27, 1976	Anti power line group files Summons and Complaint in Ramsey County over Certificate of Need.
January 4, 1977	Notice of Supplement to the final EIS (Minnesota) published in Federal Register, Vol. 42, No. 2.
January 5, 1977	Governor Perpich, announces that joint legislative hearings on the power line issue would begin soon with Lt. Governor Alec Olson representing the Governor.
January 9 & 10, 1977	Governor meets with protesting Pope and Grant County farmers in their homes and local meeting places.
January 14, 1977	Notice of Supplement to the Final EIS (Minnesota) published in Federal Register, Vol. 42, No. 10.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
January 18, 1977	Governor Perpich and Lt. Governor Olson meet with power line opponents and power cooperative officials in the Governor's Office. Both sides agreed to a series of small informational meetings to be held along the proposed route of the line.
January 25, 1977	Legislative hearings begin in St. Paul.
January 26, 1977	A delegation of power line opponents and the general managers of the power cooperatives meet in Glenwood.
February 3, 1977	Governor Perpich and Lt. Governor Olson meet with the legislative leadership. The group decides to call in an outside mediator to help the opposing sides resolve the dispute.
February 4, 1977	Governor urges the power cooperatives to postpone any activities along the proposed power line route pending the outcome of mediation; the cooperatives agree.
Week of Feb. 7, 1977	American Arbitration Association Vice President Joseph (Josh) Stulberg's first exploratory visit to Minnesota.
March 1, 1977	Minnesota Supreme Court consolidates seven power line court cases into one to be heard in Glenwood by a panel of three district court judges.
March 15, 1977	Governor Perpich meets with power line opponents and urges them to take part in the Stulberg mediation sessions.
March 16, 1977	Stulberg holds his first mediation session with a delegation of power line opponents and power cooperative officials in St. Cloud.
March 18, 1977	Governor Perpich meets with power line opponents and mentions the possibility of a National Science Foundation grant to establish a "science court".
March 21, 1977	Condemnation filed for +400 kV dc HVTL.
March 22, 1977	Three-judge district court panel established by the Minnesota Supreme Court meet in Glenwood, Pope County, to hear consolidated power line cases. Panel orders a halt to all surveying and construction activities on the CU project in Minnesota.
April 11, 1977	EQC finds State EIS to be adequate, designate route and grants construction permit for second route. (CU-TR-2)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
April 11, 1977	First holes for CU project poles dug in LaMoure County, North Dakota.
April 13, 1977	Rally at the Capitol protesting the delay in power line construction (sponsored by the Minnesota Association of Electric Cooperatives).
May 21, 1977	Conference committee report on power line bill (S.F. 896) passes both houses.
June 2, 1977	Governor Perpich signs S.F. 896 (Chapter 439, Laws of 1977). See Exhibit Nos. 23, 24 & 25.
June 14, 1977	Three-judge district court panel meeting in Glenwood hears oral arguments in the consolidated power line cases.
June 27, 1977	Energy Agency announces the appointment of a 27-member power siting and routing advisory committee.
July 7, 1977	Governor Perpich says that the Ford Foundation has agreed to provide the initial funds needed for a "science court" (\$5,440). Anti power line groups and the power cooperatives asked to participate in the science court effort.
July 14, 1977	Three-judge district court panel unanimously rules in favor of the power cooperatives in the consolidated power line appeals. The decisions of the Energy Agency and the Environmental Quality Board are affirmed by this decision. See Exhibit No. 26.
July 21, 1977	Anti power line groups appeal to Minnesota Supreme Court.
August 25, 1977	Oral arguments on the consolidated power line cases before the Minnesota Supreme Court heard.
September 30, 1977	Minnesota Supreme Court unanimously upholds the decision of the three-judge district court panel. See Exhibit No. 27.
October 17, 1977	Power cooperatives resume work on the power line, beginning in Traverse County at the North Dakota border.
October 24, 1977	Power line opponents block construction crews in Traverse County.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
October 25, 1977	Restraining order issued barring interference with power line construction in six counties. Power coops file a damage suit for \$500,000 against protestors.
November 3, 1977	Power line opponents block a survey crew in Stearns County.
November 7, 1977	Restraining order issued covering Stearns County. Power coops file a second \$500,000 damage suit against protestors.
November 8, 1977	Minnesota Department of Health releases its study of public health and safety effects of high voltage lines. See Exhibit No. 28.
November 19, 1977	Governor meets with representatives of groups opposing the power line. They agree to support the science court without insisting on a moratorium on construction activities.
November, December, January (1977-78)	Arrests made of anti power line protestors.
November 23, 1977	Power line opponents file a \$5 million damage suit in U.S. District Court in St. Paul against the power cooperatives, various state agencies in Minnesota and North Dakota, and various officials.
November 30, 1977	Governor Perpich meets with representatives of the two power cooperatives. They reject the science court and suggest that the EQB appoint a "scientific advisory committee" as authorized by the power line act passed during the 1977 legislative session.
December 6, 1977	North Dakota and Minnesota power line opponents file suit in U.S. District Court in Minneapolis, seeking a temporary restraining order halting further construction contending that the project failed to follow federal environmental regulations ( <u>Woida v. United States of America</u> ).
December 15, 1977	Power line opponents meeting in Lowry agree to demand that Governor Perpich set up a science court by January 1, 1978.
December 15, 1977	Stearns County District Court Judge Paul Hoffman appoints eight commissioners to hear power line condemnation cases; first meeting scheduled for January 4.



<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
December 19, 1977	Governor announces that the power cooperatives agree to participate in a science court.
December 20, 1977	Power line opponents meeting in Lowry decide not to support a science court unless a construction moratorium is included.
December 28, 1977	Governor meets with a group of power line opponents in St. Cloud, urges them to take part in a science court, and tells them he has no power to impose a construction moratorium while a science court is in operation.
January 3, 1978	Pope County Sheriff Emmons, assisted by ten state troopers, arrest one person for obstructing legal process and resisting arrest and cites nine others for obstructing legal process during confrontations near Lowry. Sheriff Emmons had requested state assistance on December 30.
January 4, 1978	Power line opponents scuffle in the snow with Pope County Sheriff's deputies, Glenwood police, and a dozen state troopers near Glenwood.
January 5, 1978	Power line opponents disassemble a tower near Lowry.
January 5, 1978	Pope County Attorney C. David Nelson meets with Attorney General Warren Spannaus to discuss state assistance to Pope County if large numbers of arrests or citations are made.
January 5, 1978	At the request of Pope County Sheriff Emmons, Governor Perpich authorizes sending up to 175 state troopers to Pope County.
January 9, 1978	U.S. District Judge Donald Alsop denies power line opponents' request for a temporary restraining order halting construction.
January 9, 1978	U.S. District Judge Edward Devitt grants motions dismissing all defendants except the utilities and the sheriffs from the power line opponents damage suit.
January 13, 1978	U.S. District Judge Edward J. Devitt denies power line opponents' request for a temporary injunction against the sheriffs and utilities.
January 16, 1978	Pope County Attorney Nelson resigns over power line issue.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
January 17, 1978	Governor's Office holds a meeting at the offices of the American Arbitration Association, Minneapolis, to take the initial steps toward selection of science court case managers. The power line opponents who had earlier agreed to participate in a science court without a construction moratorium and power cooperative officials were invited to attend, but fail to appear.
January 23, 1978	Power line opponents hold a rally at the State Capitol and met with state legislators and a representative of the Governor.
January 24, 1978	Governor Perpich delivers his second State of the State message. Re-emphasizes the science court approach.
January 25, 1978	Speaker Sabo and other legislators meet with a small delegation of power line opponents and the CPA and UPA presidents and general managers. The power cooperatives reiterate their own commitment (and the requirements of their construction permit and the Supreme Court decision) to do whatever is necessary to correct any problems or hazards that are found, even if that means reducing the voltage on the line or dismantling the line. The power line opponents accept the power cooperatives' offer to fly seven or eight people to the Pacific coast and seven or eight people to Canada to talk with people living near high voltage lines identical or similar to the CPA/UPA line. Representative Willard Munger schedules power line hearings before his House Environment and Natural Resources Committee beginning on February 7.
February 7 & 9, 1978	Power line hearings on H.A.B. 60 before House Environment and Natural Resources Committee.