

# LINDQUIST & VENNUM P.L.L.P.

4200 IDS CENTER  
80 SOUTH EIGHTH STREET  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-2274  
TELEPHONE: 612-371-3211  
FAX: 612-371-3207

IN DENVER:  
600 17TH STREET, SUITE 1800 SOUTH  
DENVER, CO 80202-5441  
TELEPHONE: 303-573-5900  
FAX: 303-573-1956

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

www.lindquist.com

TODD J. GUERRERO  
(612) 371-3258  
tguerrero@lindquist.com

July 27, 2006

**VIA EMAIL AND US MAIL**

***overland@redwing.net***

Carol A. Overland  
OVERLAND LAW OFFICE  
P.O. Box 176  
Red Wing, Minnesota 55066

**Re: *In the Matter of a Petition by Excelsior Energy Inc. for Approval of a Power Purchase Agreement under Minn. Stat. § 216B.1694, Determination of Least Cost Technology, and Establishment of a Clean Energy Technology Minimum Under Minn. Stat. § 216B.1693***  
**OAH Docket No. 12-2500-17260-2**  
**MPUC Docket No. E-6472\M-05-1993**

Dear Ms. Overland:

Enclosed please find Big Stone II Co-Owners' Responses to mncoalgasplant.com's First Interrogatory and Document Request to Big Stone II.

Very truly yours,

LINDQUIST & VENNUM P.L.L.P.



Todd J. Guerrero

TJG/ng  
c (w/enc.):

Service List (via U.S. Mail and e-mail)

**State of Minnesota**  
**MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**Utility Information Request**

MPUC Docket Number: E/6472/M-05-1993  
 OAH Docket: 12-2500-17260-2

Date of Request: July 12, 2006

Response Due: July 26, 2006

Requested From: Todd J. Guerrero  
 Lindquist & Vennum

Extension To: N/A

Analyst Requesting Information: Carol A. Overland

Type of Inquiry:      .....Financial                      ..... Rate of Return                      ..... Rate Design  
                                  .....Engineering                      ..... Forecasting                      ..... Conservation  
                                  .....Cost of Service                      ..... CIP                      ..... Other

*If you feel your responses are trade secret or privileged, please indicate this on your response.*

Request No.	
1.	<p>Please refer to Excelsior’s “G519 System Impact Study” prepared for MISO for interconnection of the Mesaba plant to the grid.<sup>1</sup> This study was for interconnection of Phase I, 600 MW. In Section 6, Sensitivity Stability Analysis, para. 6.1.2.1 and 6.1.2.2, the flow of generation from Big Stone II was altered.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Sensitivity Stability Analysis of the MISO G519 System Impact Study made changes to the base case, where it states that “[i]n addition to the changes described for b5a, flow on NDEX was reduced to 2080MW in the second sensitivity case (b5b) by keeping the output of Big Stone II in North Dakota.”             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Where is Big stone generation’s load to serve located? Would “keeping the output of Big Stone II in North Dakota” have costs to the Big Stone II partners?</li> <li>b. Based upon Big Stone II partners’ rates and operating and capital costs, what is the range of wholesale and retail losses (costs) for redirection and limitation of the Big Stone II flow, per G519 6.1.2.1, “keeping the output of Big Stone II in North Dakota” (sic)? Provide supporting documentation.</li> <li>c. Is Big Stone II located in North Dakota?</li> <li>d. Does Big Stone II power flow to North Dakota? Provide powerflows showing planning flow of Big Stone II power.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

<sup>1</sup> MISO’s G519 System Impact Study is available online:  
[www.midwestmarket.org/publish/Document/7be606\\_10b7aacd66e\\_-7ad90a48324a/G519\\_SIS\\_Report\\_rev.pdf?action=download&\\_property=Attachment](http://www.midwestmarket.org/publish/Document/7be606_10b7aacd66e_-7ad90a48324a/G519_SIS_Report_rev.pdf?action=download&_property=Attachment)

**RESPONSE:**

- a. Big Stone II participants serve load in the following states: North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa and Nebraska. Approximately half of the project participants load is inside the North Dakota Export Boundary.

Would “keeping the output of Big Stone II in North Dakota” have costs to the Big Stone II partners? Studies completed to date have not made the assumption that all of Big Stone II generation stays within the North Dakota Export Boundary, therefore it is unknown whether or not there would be costs.

- b. Studies assuming all of Big Stone II output remains inside the North Dakota Export boundaries have not been completed, therefore no information is available to answer the question.
- c. Big Stone II is geographically located near Big Stone City, South Dakota, and is electrically inside the North Dakota Export boundary. See attached Exhibit 1-C that illustrates the North Dakota Export boundary. Note that the North Dakota Export boundary includes the majority of northwest Minnesota, as well as northern and eastern South Dakota.
- d. Big Stone II generation will serve load in North Dakota, and as a result will change the power flows on the transmission system. Attached as Exhibit 1-D are powerflow automaps from the Big Stone Interconnection Study for the two transmission alternatives.

Response by: Tim Rogelstad

Title: Manager, Transmission Planning,  
Otter Tail Power Company

Telephone: (218) 739-8200

Reviewed By: Lindquist & Venum P.L.L.P.

List sources of information:

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## INFORMATION REQUEST RESPONSES SERVICE LIST

OAH No. 12-2500-17260-2  
MPUC No. E-6472/M-05-1993

### **Department of Commerce**

Ms. Constance F. Lawson  
Department of Commerce  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198  
(Public and Non-Public)

### **Minnesota Power**

David R. Moeller, Esq.  
Minnesota Power  
30 West Superior Street  
Duluth, MN 55802-2093

### **GNPD**

John E. Drawz, Esq.  
Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.  
200 South Sixth Street, Suite 4000  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
(Public and Non-Public)

### **Chamber of Commerce**

Mr. William A. Blazar  
Minnesota Chamber of Commerce  
400 Robert Street North, Suite 1500  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Mr. Michael A. Franklin  
Minnesota Chamber of Commerce  
400 Robert Street North, Suite 1500  
St. Paul, MN 55101

### **Xcel Industrial Intervenors**

Robert S. Lee, Esq.  
Mackall, Crouse & Moore, PLC  
1400 AT&T Tower  
90 Marquette Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Andrew P. Moratzka, Esq.  
Mackall, Crouse & Moore, PLC  
1400 AT&T Tower  
90 Marquette Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

### **Xcel Energy**

Christopher Clark, Esq.  
Xcel Energy  
414 Nicollet Mall, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
(Public and Non-Public)

SaGonna Thompson  
Xcel Energy  
414 Nicollet Mall, RS-4  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
(Public and Non-Public)

Michael C. Krikava, Esq.  
Briggs and Morgan, P.A.  
2200 IDS Center  
80 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
(Public and Non-Public)

### **Manitoba Hydro**

Eric F. Swanson, Esq.  
Winthrop & Weinstine, P.A.  
225 South Sixth Street, Suite 3500  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
(Public and Non-Public)

### **MGCP**

Carol A. Overland, Esq.  
Overland Law Office  
P.O. Box 176  
Red Wing, MN 55066  
(Public and Non-Public)

### **Via E-Mail (Public Version Only)**

[teresa.j.kowles@xcelenergy.com](mailto:teresa.j.kowles@xcelenergy.com)  
[Jennifer.sanner@xcelenergy.com](mailto:Jennifer.sanner@xcelenergy.com)  
[mkrikava@briggs.com](mailto:mkrikava@briggs.com)

