



Marty Kelly
Goodhue County Sheriff

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To: MN Public Utilities Commission
From: Sheriff Marty Kelly

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for the extension of the Red Wing, Mankato, and French Island Refuse-Derived Fuel (RDF) plants. These facilities play a critical role in supporting the local communities they serve, and their continued operation is vital for numerous reasons.

1. **Community and Economic Benefits**

The RDF plants are key contributors to local economies, providing stable jobs and fostering economic growth. They also play a central role in waste management, earning the support of the communities that depend on them for these essential services.

2. **Environmental Advantages**

RDF plants significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions by diverting waste from landfills, where decomposition would produce harmful methane emissions. This contribution aligns with broader efforts to mitigate climate change and improve environmental sustainability.

3. **Essential Energy Capacity**

Despite their relatively small size, RDF plants provide a crucial source of capacity that supports the energy grid. They deliver a reliable, round-the-clock baseload power supply, making them indispensable in maintaining energy stability.

4. **Unanimous Support in Initial Filings**

The RDF extension proposal was clearly outlined in the initial Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) filing, and no opposition was raised during the comment period. This consensus underscores the broad recognition of their value. Not to mention we partner with the Red Wing plant for our disposal of medication and narcotics we take in.

5. **Urgent Need for a Timely Decision**

With the plants currently slated for retirement in 2027, an immediate decision on their extension is necessary. The local communities and stakeholders require certainty to plan for their futures effectively.

I urge the decision-makers involved to act promptly in approving the extension of the Red Wing, Mankato, and French Island RDF plants. These facilities are not only a testament to innovative waste-to-energy solutions but also a critical asset for local communities, the environment, and the energy grid.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if further information or discussion is needed.

Sincerely,

Marty Kelly - Goodhue County Sheriff

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