



May 24, 2021

Senator Amy Klobuchar
United States Senate
1200 Washington Avenue South, Room 250
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Dear Senator Klobuchar:

We are writing in support of the significant electric transmission investments proposed in the American Jobs Plan. Federal resources will go a long way towards addressing financial and cost issues that hinder important electric transmission infrastructure. The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) applauds the Administration for proposing these important resources to enable more transmission for our country and this region.

Over the last decade through Commission Orders and participation and leadership in organizations like the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), the Organization of MISO States (OMS), and the Midwestern Governors Association (MGA), the Commission has been at the forefront of the transmission buildout in Minnesota and throughout the Midwest. This infrastructure has enabled Minnesota to develop more than five thousand megawatts of new wind and solar projects; reduced costs for ratepayers; made our electric system more reliable; and reduced our power sector emissions by more than thirty percent.

Over the next decade tens of thousands of megawatts of older generation will be retired and replaced with new cleaner and advanced technologies. These new resources and technologies will decarbonize our power sector and enable consumers and businesses to participate and interact in electric markets in new ways. This means new transmission projects are more essential than ever. Significant upfront federal financial resources, especially if dedicated to specific portfolios of critical projects, will go a long way to addressing the upfront financial and cost allocation issues that always delay critical transmission projects.

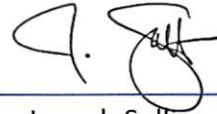
MISO has developed proposed plans for transmission infrastructure that when completed will enable up to 80% power sector carbon emissions reductions for its fifteen states and the Province of Manitoba. Dedicated federal resources for the proposed projects developed out of the existing regional planning efforts in MISO will significantly speed up the process of moving from plans to construction.

We would like to discuss this issue with you further and will be reaching out to schedule a follow up meeting. If you have any questions please contact the Commission's Executive Secretary, Will Seuffert at 651-201-2217 or will.seuffert@state.mn.us.

Sincerely,



Katie Sieben
Chair



Joseph Sullivan
Vice Chair



Valerie Means
Commissioner



Matthew Schuerger
Commissioner



John Tuma
Commissioner

CC President Joseph R. Biden
Minnesota Governor Tim Walz
Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm, U.S. Department of Energy
Chairman Richard Glick, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
John Bear, Chief Executive Officer, Midcontinent Independent System Operator

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