

Minnesota Commission seeks more information on Big Stone II transmission line proposal.

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, by a 3-2 vote, adopted a motion to continue its inquiry into the proposal to build transmission facilities designed to deliver power from a proposed new coal generation plant near Milbank, South Dakota. The motion, made by Commissioner Dennis O'Brien, defers the decision on the certificate of need and route permits for the transmission facilities and requires additional proceedings to obtain independent, supplemental expert opinion and information concerning various cost factors affecting the proposed facilities, including the plant in South Dakota. Commissioners Reha and Pugh voted in favor of the motion to defer the decision.