

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Fossil Energy  
Washington, D.C.

FE Docket No. PP-45-2

Northern States Power Company

**Presidential Permit Amendment  
for the  
"Letellier-Drayton 230 kV Line"**

**Order No. PP-45-2**

**February 13, 1996**

# NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY

## ORDER NO. PP-45-2

### BACKGROUND

The Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy (DOE) has the responsibility for implementing Executive Order 10485, as amended by Executive Order 12038, which requires the issuance of Presidential permits for the construction, connection, operation, and maintenance of electric transmission facilities at the United States international border.

On September 19, 1969, the Federal Power Commission issued a Presidential permit in Docket E-7481 to Northern States Power Company (NSP). This document is now identified by the DOE as Presidential Permit PP-45 in FE Docket PP-45. PP-45 authorized NSP to construct a 230-kilovolt (kV) transmission line across the U.S.-Canada border connecting NSP's Letellier substation and Manitoba Hydro's Drayton substation. At NSP's request, PP-45 was amended by DOE on February 24, 1994 (Order PP-45-1), to allow the installation of reactive compensation and the replacement of two existing 230-kV transformers at NSP's Prairie substation. As a result of these enhancements, the amendment also set the maximum rate of transmission for imports over a combination of the PP-61, PP-45, and PP-63<sup>1</sup> facilities at 1900 megawatts (MW).

On September 20, 1995, NSP applied to FE to further amend PP-45. In its application, NSP requests that the 1900-MW import limit for the combination of the PP-45, PP-61, and PP-63 facilities be increased to 1950 MW for simultaneous transfers and to 2025 MW during non-simultaneous transfer conditions. In its application, NSP claims that recent analyses performed by the Mid-Continent Area Power Pool (MAPP) have demonstrated that the three interconnections with Manitoba Hydro could be operated reliably at higher transfer limits in the import mode. Accordingly, NSP requests that the import limits contained in Article 12 of PP-45 be increased consistent with the recent MAPP analyses.

Notice of the application was placed in the Federal Register on October 30, 1995, (60 FR 55757) soliciting comments, protests, or requests to intervene. No responses to that notice were received.

### FINDING

After a review of the information in the Docket, DOE has determined that the granting of the requested amendment would not adversely impact the reliability of the U.S. electric

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<sup>1</sup> PP-61 authorized Minnkota Power Cooperative to construct a 230-kV transmission tie with Manitoba Hydro. PP-63 authorized NSP to construct a 500-kV transmission tie with Manitoba Hydro. The facilities authorized by PP-45, PP-61, and PP-63 are operated in a coordinated manner for the purpose of selling and purchasing electric energy with Manitoba Hydro. Consequently, the operating limitations placed in the respective permits are based on the operation of these facilities in the aggregate.

power supply system. An analysis in support of this determination has been placed in this Docket.

On February 24, 1994, in FE Docket PP-45-1, NSP was authorized to make significant physical changes to the subject transmission facilities. During this earlier proceeding, DOE prepared an environmental assessment to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), 42 USC 4321, et seq. The environmental factors, findings and conclusions contained in that document remain unchanged. Since the present amendment requested by NSP would merely increase the allowable power transfer limits on the line and would require no changes to the physical facilities or the environment, DOE is using the environmental assessment and the subsequent Finding of No Significant Impact prepared in Docket PP-45-1 in satisfaction of its NEPA responsibilities in this proceeding.

The Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense have favorably recommended that the requested amendment be granted.

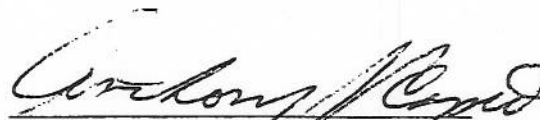
Based on the above, DOE finds that amending Presidential Permit PP-45 as requested by NSP is consistent with the public interest.

#### **ORDER**

Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order No. 10485, as amended by Executive Order 12038, and the Rules and Regulations thereunder (Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, section 205.320 et seq.), Article 12 of Presidential Permit PP-45 is amended by this Order to read as follows:

Article 12: The facilities described in Article 2 shall be designed and operated in accordance with the applicable criteria established by the Mid-Continent Area Power Pool, and consistent with those of the North American Electric Reliability Council. Furthermore, the facilities authorized herein shall be operated in such a manner so as not to cause the rate of transmission in the import mode to exceed 1950 MW in the aggregate for the facilities authorized by this permit, Presidential Permit PP-61, and Presidential Permit PP-63. This limit shall be raised to 2025 MW during non-simultaneous transfer conditions.

Issued in Washington, D.C., February 13, 1996.



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