

**Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
1720 Big Lake Road
Cloquet, Minnesota 55720**

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

Project: Great River Energy ROW Project

Location: Six parcels along U.S. Highway 2 on the Fond du Lac Reservation in St. Louis County, Minnesota.

Based upon the attached Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Great River Energy ROW Project involving the continued operation and maintenance of a 69-kV Transmission Power Line, including the installation of additional grounding rods, all on the above described property on the Fond du Lac Reservation, I have determined that by implementation of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa proposed action and environmental mitigation measures as specified in the EA, the proposed Great River Energy ROW Project will have no significant impact on the quality of the human environment. In accordance with Section 705(a) of the Fond du Lac Tribal Environmental Policy Ordinance (TEPO) (Ordinance #05/10, adopted by Resolution #1343/10 of the Fond du Lac Reservation Business Committee on September 21, 2010), an Environmental Impact Statement will not be required for this proposed project.

This determination is supported by the following findings:

1. Agency and FdL staff consultation and coordination was conducted and environmental issues related to development of the Great River Energy ROW Project were identified. Alternative courses of action and mitigation measures were developed in response to environmental concerns and issues.
2. Section 4 of the Environmental Assessment discloses the environmental consequences of the proposed action and two potentially viable alternatives were considered, including the “no action” alternative.
3. The proposed action is planned to not jeopardize any federally or state listed threatened or endangered species. A Key to the Northern Long-Eared Bat 4(d) Rule for Non-Federal Activities was prepared, which determined an “Incidental Take” finding for the selected alternative. No notification to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is necessary.

4. The Fond du Lac Tribal Historic Preservation Office was consulted on this project and provided a letter describing the steps necessary for the grounding rod installation activities to proceed.



Reginald DeFoe, Director
Resource Management Division
Fond du Lac Reservation

Date