



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty

130 State Capitol • 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard • Saint Paul, MN 55155

March 11, 2010

The Honorable Wayne Stenehjem
North Dakota Attorney General
State Capitol
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Department 125
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505

Dear Attorney General Stenehjem:

Thank you for your recent visit and discussion regarding energy issues important to our states. Your meetings with Minnesota legislators and members of my administration are important steps in addressing concerns related to Minnesota's 2007 Next Generation Energy Act.

While we haven't reached a conclusion about the merits of North Dakota's legal claims, we do want to work with you to address your concerns regarding Minnesota law.

I agree with you that the language in Minnesota law limiting Minnesota's options to import electricity from new fossil-fuel power sources is problematic and unwise. In 2007, I repeatedly objected when Minnesota legislative leadership included that language in the Next Generation Energy Act. I said at the time and continue to believe that prohibition threatens Minnesota's energy reliability and cost-competitiveness.

As you know, bipartisan legislation has been introduced this year in the Minnesota Legislature to repeal this provision. The Minnesota Office of Energy Security has put forward a similar bill which will be introduced in the coming days. I support these legislative efforts and hope the Legislature will pass this measure.

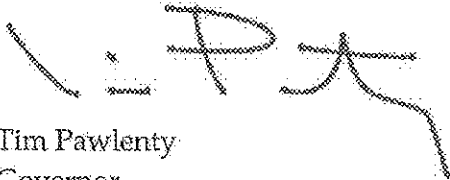
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I look forward to working with your state to develop mutually beneficial energy projects. We share a common vision of environmental improvement, economic development, and energy security for the Upper Midwest. As this discussion continues, please continue to work with Minnesota Department of Commerce Commissioner Glenn Wilson.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Pawlenty". The signature is stylized with a large "T" and "P".

Tim Pawlenty
Governor