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State of Minnesota

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. **2946**

February 14, 2008

Authored by Hansen, Eken, Knuth, Gardner, Scalze and others

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Energy Finance and Policy Division

March 17, 2008

Committee Recommendation and Adoption of Report:

To Pass as Amended

Read Second Time

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to energy; mandating inclusion of strategic tree planting as eligible for
1.3 direct expenditures as energy conservation improvement.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. **ENERGY CONSERVATION PILOT PROJECT; STRATEGIC TREE**
1.6 **PLANTING.**

1.7 (a) From July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009, the Public Utilities Commission and
1.8 the commissioner of commerce shall treat the strategic planting of trees and shrubs on
1.9 property of a retail customer provided electric or gas service by a public utility, municipal
1.10 utility, or cooperative electric association subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 216B.241,
1.11 as promoting energy efficiency and eligible for direct expenditures and expense recovery
1.12 under that statute as an energy conservation improvement.

1.13 (b) For purposes of this section, "strategic" refers to the placement of trees and
1.14 shrubs to obtain the most advantageous impact on energy conservation for a retail
1.15 customer facility, including but not limited to shelter belt protection and heat dissipation.

1.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2008.