

Minnesota leads the country in the number of stray voltage cases landing in courts. Minnesota has seen an increasing number of questionable cases brought to court due to the increase in consultants looking to benefit financially from a lawsuit. How do you believe these issues should be addressed in Minnesota? What qualifications should people who testify on stray voltage cases have?

Kanne: As a dairy farmer I've found stray voltage issues to be very real and an ongoing problem that we deal with on our dairy. What led to the court case issue was a series of denials by those involved that it was an issue at all. That it is now considered real is good in that we can now routinely check for stray voltage, trace and fix the problem without resorting to going to trial over it. I feel this is now a healthy atmosphere to work out the problem. If on the other hand the utility denies existence of the problem and ends up in court and then faces in some cases questionable testimony on the part of a plaintiff it is then their responsibility to prove with evidence based testimony their case.