



STATE OF MINNESOTA  
Office of Energy Security



January 27, 2010

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF  
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**In the Matter of the Route Permit Application for a 345 kV Transmission Line from  
Brookings County, South Dakota to Hampton, Minnesota**

**PUC Docket Number: ET2/TL-08-1474**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Office of Energy Security (OES) announces the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the proposed Brookings to Hampton 345 kV transmission line project.

Electronic versions of the FEIS are available for viewing and downloading on the Commission's website at: <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19860>, and on the Department of Commerce's eDockets website: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (enter year "08" and docket number "1474").

A copy of the FEIS will also be available at the public libraries in the cities listed below after January 29, 2010.

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|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| ▪ Brookings, South Dakota | ▪ Redwood Falls | ▪ New Ulm       |
| ▪ Bird Island             | ▪ Chaska        | ▪ Henderson     |
| ▪ Montevideo              | ▪ Shakopee      | ▪ Granite Falls |
| ▪ Northfield              | ▪ Montgomery    | ▪ Lakeville     |
| ▪ Ivanhoe                 | ▪ Farmington    | ▪ Marshall      |
| ▪ Belle Plaine            | ▪ Le Sueur      | ▪ New Prague    |
| ▪ Hutchinson              | ▪ Saint Peter   |                 |

**Project Description.** Great River Energy and Xcel Energy propose to construct and operate a 345 kV transmission line, between approximately 230 and 270 miles long, beginning at the state's western border near Hendricks, Minnesota, and ending south of the Twin Cities metro area near Hampton, Minnesota. The applicants have proposed two possible routes for the transmission line, a preferred and alternate route. In addition, 51 alternative route segments and 21 alignment alternatives suggested during scoping were evaluated. These routes cross portions of the following counties: Lincoln, Lyon, Yellow Medicine, Chippewa, Redwood, Brown, Renville, Sibley, Le Sueur, Scott, Rice, and Dakota.

Comments to the administrative record for this project will be accepted by the Administrative Law Judge until 4:30 P.M., February 8, 2010. His address and contact information is: Richard C. Luis, Office of Administrative Hearings, P.O. Box 64620, 600 North Robert Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0620, phone: (651) 361-7900, fax: (651) 361-7936, email: [capx.oah@state.mn.us](mailto:capx.oah@state.mn.us).

**Project Contacts.** If you have questions or if you would like further information about this project please contact: Scott Ek, Office of Energy Security, 85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101-2198, Phone (651) 296-8813, Fax (651) 297-7891, [scott.ek@state.mn.us](mailto:scott.ek@state.mn.us).