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June 14, 2011

Lisa M. Agrimonti (612) 977-8656 LAgrimonti@Briggs.com

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Kathleen Sheehy Administrative Law Judge Office of Administrative Hearings PO Box 64620 St. Paul, MN 55164-0620

Re: In the Matter of the Application for a Route Permit for the CapX2020 Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse High Voltage Transmission Lines MPUC Docket No. E-022/TL-09-1448 OAH Docket No. 7-2500-20283-2

Dear Judge Sheehy:

Enclosed is the Affidavit of Mailing of the Notice of Another Potential Alignment at the Highway 19 Interchange and for a Public Hearing to be held on behalf of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in the above-captioned matter.

Please call me with any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Lisa M. Agrimonti

Lisa M. Agrimonti

LMA

Enclosures cc: Service List

AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

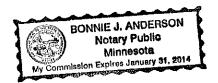
I, Erin Klegstad, hereby certify that on June 13, 2011, I deposited in the U.S. mail at Minneapolis, a copy of the following mailing notice (copy attached) addressed to all persons on the attached service lists.

NOTICE OF ANOTHER POTENTIAL ALIGNMENT AT THE HIGHWAY 19 INTERCHANGE AND FOR A PUBLIC HEARING THAT WILL BE HELD ON BEHALF OF THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION ON THE XCEL ENERGY ROUTE PERMIT APPLICATION FOR THE CAPX2020 HAMPTON-ROCHESTER-LA CROSSE 345 KV AND 161 KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT (PUC DOCKET NO. E002/TL-09-1448).

Dated this 14th day of June, 2011.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 14th day of June, 2011.

Notary Public





Delivering electricity you can rely on www.capx2020.com

June 13, 2011

Roland R. Spillman 5771 Highway 19 Cannon Falls, MN 55009

Subject: CapX2020 New Potential Alignment at Highway 19 Interchange

Dear Mr. Spillman,

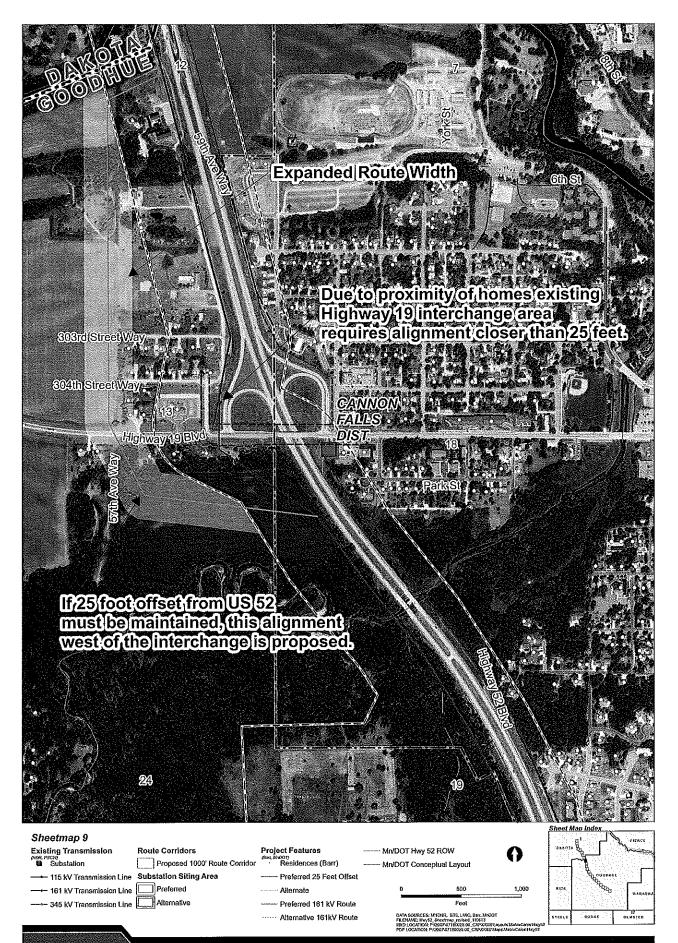
This is a follow-up letter to our phone conversation or the message I left on your answering machine. As I indicated, we have recently introduced another potential alignment for our CapX 2020 project. This new alignment would be adjacent to your property.

The new alignment is shown on the attached map. If you would like to comment on this alignment, please attend one of the meetings scheduled for this week. You can also submit comments by mail as described on the attached hearing notice.

Please feel free to contact me at <u>thomas.g.hillstrom@xcelenergy.com</u> or (612) 330-6538 if you have questions or comments.

Thank you,

Tom Hillstrom Xcel Energy Supervisor, Siting and Permitting



CapX2020 Hampton · Rochester · La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project



STATE OF MINNESOTA Department of Commerce



Issued: May 24, 2011

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In the Matter of the Application by Xcel Energy for a Route Permit for the CapX2020 Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV and 161 kV Transmission Line Project

PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448; OAH Docket No. 3-2500-21181-2

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held on behalf of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) on the Xcel Energy Route Permit application for the CapX2020 Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV and 161 kV transmission line project. The public hearing will be held at the times and locations noted below. Ending times reflect the latest a public hearing will run. Hearings may conclude earlier where all attendees have had the opportunity to comment and all other business has been concluded.

PUBLIC HEARING DATES AND LOCATIONS

Hearings will be held from 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. at each venue. Each hearing will offer the same information and opportunity to comment, so interested persons need attend only one of the hearings.

June 14, 2011	June 15, 2011	June 16, 2011
Plainview	Pine Island	Cannon Falls
American Legion	American Legion	High School Auditorium
215 3rd Street SW	108 1st Avenue SE	820 E Minnesota Street

The evidentiary hearing will convene on June 20, 2011, at the Public Utilities Commission in Saint Paul and will continue through June 24, 2011, as necessary to complete the hearing.

Public Hearing. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive comments from members of the public and to compile the record for the Commission to consider in making a final decision on the transmission line Route Permit request. The administrative law judge will write a report and make a recommendation to the Commission on which route to authorize and on any appropriate permit conditions. The Commission will make a final decision on the Route Permit at a subsequent Commission meeting.

Administrative Law Judge. Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Kathleen D. Sheehy will preside at the hearings. Her address and contact information is: Office of Administrative Hearings, P.O. Box 64620, 600 North Robert Street, Saint Paul, MN 55164-0620, phone: (651) 361-7848, fax: (651) 361-7936.

Written Comments. Written comments regarding the Route Permit should be submitted directly to Judge Sheehy. Comments may be submitted by U.S. Mail, fax or email. Comments will be accepted through June 30, 2011, and should include the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) Docket Number 3-2500-21181-2. Mailed comments must be postmarked by that date. Emails should be sent to routecomments.oah@state.mn.us</u>. Faxed, emailed and delivered comments must be received by 4:30 p.m. on that date.

Office of Administrative Hearing Rules. The ALJ will conduct the contested case hearings in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 14, and the Office of Administrative Hearings procedural rules for the Commission's energy facility permitting process (Minnesota Rules, Chapter 1405). The applicable statutes and rules are available on the Office of the Revisor of Statutes website at: <u>https://www.revisor.mn.gov</u>. Statutes and rules may also be purchased at Minnesota's Bookstore, 660 Olive Street, Saint Paul, MN 55155, or phone, (651) 297-3000.

Conduct of Hearing. At the start of each hearing session, the ALJ will explain the procedural rules for the hearing, including the sequence for providing testimony and questioning witnesses. Members of the public may participate without the necessity of intervening as a party. Representation by legal counsel is permitted but not required. Participation includes: a) offering direct testimony; b) offering testimony or other material in written form at or following the hearing; and c) questioning witnesses.

Any person who wishes to question a witness, but does not want to ask the questions, may submit questions in writing to the ALJ, who will then question the witness. Questions may be submitted during the hearing or may be sent to the ALJ in advance of the hearing. Upon completion of the hearings, a transcript of the proceedings will be available at local libraries.

Continuation of Hearing. The ALJ may elect to recess the hearing and set additional days for hearing, if necessary.

Request for Accommodation. Any person who needs an accommodation for a disability in order to participate in the hearing, and any person who requires an interpreter, including a foreign language interpreter, should promptly notify the Office of Administrative Hearings, P.O. Box 64620, 600 North Robert Street, Saint Paul, MN 55164-0620, phone, (651) 361-7900 (voice) or (651) 361-7878 (TDD).

Route Permit. Under the Power Plant Siting Act (Minn. Statute 216E.03, subd. 2), a Route Permit from the Commission is required to build a high-voltage transmission line. A high-voltage transmission line is a conductor of electric energy and associated facilities designed for and capable of operation at a nominal voltage of 100 kilovolts (kV) or more and is greater than 1,500 feet in length. A Route Permit application for the proposed 345 kV and 161 kV transmission line project was filed by the applicant on January 19, 2010, and was accepted as complete by the Commission on March 9, 2010. Department of Commerce, Energy Facility Permitting (EFP) staff prepared a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the proposed project. The draft EIS discusses potential impacts of the project, evaluates alternatives and suggests mitigation.

Electronic versions of the Route Permit application, draft EIS and other documents relevant to this matter are available for viewing or download at the Commission website at: http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=25731 or eDockets at: https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp ("09" year and "1448" number).

Project Description. Xcel Energy, on behalf of itself and regional utilities that are part of the CapX2020 initiative, is proposing to construct and operate a new 345 kV high voltage transmission line (HVTL), approximately 90 miles long in Minnesota, connecting an existing substation near Hampton, Minn., to a proposed North Rochester Substation between Zumbrota and Pine Island, Minn., and continuing eastward to cross the Mississippi River near Kellogg, Minn. The line would continue in Wisconsin an additional 50 miles to a new substation in the La Crosse, Wis., area. In addition, the project includes a new 161 kV line, approximately 15 miles long, between the proposed North Rochester Substation and the existing Northern Hills Substation in northwest Rochester.

The proposed 345 kV transmission line would be constructed primarily with single-pole steel structures, ranging in height from 130 to 175 feet, with an average span of 1,000 feet between poles. The structures would be "double circuit capable," meaning that a second 345 kV circuit could be placed on the structures in the future if warranted. The typical right-of-way (ROW) for the 345 kV transmission line would be 150 feet.

The proposed 161 kV transmission line would be constructed primarily with single-pole steel structures, ranging in height from 70 to 105 feet, with an average span of 400 to 700 feet between poles. The typical ROW for the 161 kV transmission line would be 80 feet.

The proposed project includes construction of a new substation, in an area between Zumbrota and Pine Island, Minn., and modifications at two existing substations. The new North Rochester Substation would require the acquisition and development of 40 acres for substation infrastructure. Project construction is expected to begin in the second quarter of 2012 and be completed and in service by the fourth quarter of 2015.

Identified Parties. The parties to this proceeding identified on the date of this notice are as follows:

<u>Applicants</u>

Xcel Energy, Thomas Hillstrom, 414 Nicollet Mall, MP4, Minneapolis, MN 55401, 1-800-238-7968, lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com.

Intervenors

By the intervention deadline of May 2, 2011, the following parties had intervened in the proceeding and now have party status:

Oronoco Township, Philip R. Krauss, Rachel R. Myers and Timothy J. Keane, Malkerson Gunn Martin LLP, 1900 U. S. Bank Plaza South Tower, 220 South Sixth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55402.

American Transmission Company, LLC, and ATC Management, Inc., Brian M. Meloy, Leonard Street and Dienard, 150 South Fifth Street, Suite 2300, Minneapolis, MN 55402.

NoCapX 2020, United Citizens Action Network (U-CAN), and the North Route Group, Carol A. Overland, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 176, Red Wing, MN 55066.

Project Contacts. If you have questions or would like further information about this project please contact Department of Commerce staff. Matthew Langan (matthew.langan@state.mn.us, (651) 296-2096) is the state permit manager, and Ray Kirsch (raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us, (651) 296-7588) is the public advisor. The public advisor is available to answer questions about the permitting procedures and how to effectively participate in the process, but does not provide legal advice. The address for staff is: Minnesota Department of Commerce, Energy Facilities Permitting, 85 7th Place East, Suite 500, Saint Paul, MN 55101-2198.

Minnesota Department of Commerce Legal Counsel. Karen Finstad Hammel, Minnesota Attorney General's Office, 1400 Bremer Tower, 445 Minnesota Street, Saint Paul, MN 55101-2127, phone, (651) 757-1248, fax (651) 297-1138, karen.hammel@state.mn.us.

This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio) by calling (651) 296-0391 (voice). Persons with hearing or speech disabilities may call us through Minnesota Relay at 1-800-627-3529 or by dialing 711.

ZIP	55075	55009	55009	55009	55009	55009	55009	55009	55009	55009	55033	55009	55009	55009
STATE	MN	MN	MN	MN	MN	MN	MN	MN	MN	MN	MN	MN	MN	NΜ
CITY	SO ST PAUL	CANNON FALLS	CANNON FALLS	CANNON FALLS	CANNON FALLS	CANNON FALLS	CANNON FALLS	CANNON FALLS	CANNON FALLS	CANNON FALLS	HASTINGS	CANNON FALLS	CANNON FALLS	CANNON FALLS
STYP	AVE	ST	WAY	WAY	WAY	WAY	WAY	BLVD	WAY	WAY	ST	BLVD	WAY	WAY
STREET	18TH	303RD	59TH AVENUE	59TH AVENUE	59TH AVENUE	319TH STREET	59TH AVENUE	HIGHWAY 19	304TH STREET	304TH STREET	CANNON	HIGHWAY 19	57TH AVENUE	57TH AVENUE
HOUSE	137	5768	30127	30149	30149	6758	30289	5771	5772	5769	3300	5802	30514	30510
NAME	FREDERICH E SCHMIDT	STEPHEN R MALONE	ANDREW R SANDSTROM REV TRUST	RYAN K ROUNDS	RYAN K ROUNDS	GEORGE R CONZEMIUS	ST PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN	ROLAND R SPILLMAN	CURTIS H BURDICK	GLEN A EMERY	PATRICIA A DOFFING TRUST ETAL	TIMOTHY M LANGDON	CHRISTOPHER STRICKLAND	LARRY L STRAIN

In the Matter of the Application for a Route Permit for the CapX2020 Hampton-Rochester-LaCrosse High Voltage Transmission Lines

Diane Bailey-Andersen certifies that on the 14th day of June 2011, she filed true and correct copies of a **Northern States Power Company Letter** by posting it on <u>www.edockets.state.mn.us</u>. Said document was also served via U.S. Mail and e-mail as designated on the Official Service List on file with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in the above-referenced docket.

<u>/s/ Díane Baíley-Andersen'</u>

Diane Bailey-Andersen

Service List Member Information

Electronic Service Member(s)

Last Name	First Name	Email	Company Name	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret
Agrimonti	Lisa	lagrimonti@briggs.com	Briggs And Morgan, P.A.	Electronic Service	No
Anderson	Julia	Julia.Anderson@state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	Electronic Service	Yes
DeBleeckere	Patricia	tricia.debleeckere@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	Electronic Service	Yes
Ferguson	Sharon	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	Electronic Service	Yes
Haar	Burl W.	burl.haar@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	Electronic Service	Yes
Hammel	Karen Finstad	Karen.Hammel@state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	Electronic Service	Yes
Herring	Valerie	vherring@briggs.com	Briggs and Morgan, P.A.	Electronic Service	No
Keane	Timothy	tjk@mgmllp.com	Malkerson Gunn Martin LLP	Electronic Service	No
Krass	Phillip	prk@mgmllp.com	Malkerson Gunn Martin LLP	Electronic Service	No
Langan	Matthew	matthew.langan@state.mn.us	Office of Energy Security	Electronic Service	Yes
Lindell	John	agorud.ecf@state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	Electronic Service	Yes
Meloy	Brian	brian.meloy@leonard.com	Leonard, Street & Deinard	Electronic Service	No
Myers	Rachel	rrm@mgmllp.com	Malkerson Gunn Martin LLP	Electronic Service	No
Rohlfing	Suzanne	caraway57@aol.com	North Route Group	Electronic Service	No
Schlatter	Laura	Laura.Schlatter@state.mn.us	Office of Administrative Hearings	Electronic Service	Yes
Seykora	David	dave.seykora@state.mn.us	MN Department of Transportation	Electronic Service	Yes
Shaddix Elling	Janet	jshaddix@janetshaddix.com	Shaddix And Associates	Electronic Service	Yes
Thompson	SaGonna	Regulatory.Records@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy	Electronic Service	No

Paper Service Member(s)

Last Name	First Name	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret
Hackman	Stephen	North Route Group	59919 430th Avenue, Mazeppa, MN-55956	Paper Service	No
Hillstrom	Tom	Xcel Energy	7th Floor, 414 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN-554011993	Paper Service	No
Overland	Carol	Legalectric, Inc.	P.O. Box 176, Red Wing, MN-55066	Paper Service	No
Sheehy	Kathleen D.	Office of Administrative Hearings	PO Box 64620, St. Paul, MN-551640620	Paper Service	Yes