

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

FOR THE

PROPOSED WORTHINGTON PUBLIC UTILITIES

115 KV TRANSMISSION LINE

BY

NOBLES COUNTY, MINNESOTA

May 2011

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

WORTHINGTON MUNICIPAL UTILITIES (WPU) PROPOSED 115 KV ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINE

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1.0 PROPOSED PROJECT DETAILS

1.1 Project Owner

Worthington Public Utilities (WPU) owns and operates a municipal electric system that provides service to the community of Worthington, Minnesota, which has a population of 12,764 (2010 Census). WPU is governed by a five-member Commission appointed by the City Council. Each Commissioner may serve a maximum of three, three-year terms.

1.2 Project Need

WPU is planning to add a new 115 kV (115,000 volts) electric transmission line to tie their existing substations together. In addition, the project will include rebuilding their existing West transmission line. This project is needed to increase system reliability for WPU and the area transmission system, as well as provide additional capacity on the system.

1.3 Project Description

WPU's transmission line project will consist of the construction of approximately 2.7 miles of new overhead 115 kV transmission line, and rebuilding approximately 1.0 miles of existing 69 kV transmission line to 115 kV standards. To lessen impact to agricultural and residential property use along the line route, WPU is proposing a route that will follow along road right-of-ways or utility-easement corridors.

The 115 kV transmission line will consist of narrow profile construction, utilizing horizontal post insulators. A typical structure is shown on Figure 3 in the Appendix. Poles will primarily be wood or steel single-pole structures. Custom-designed laminated and/or steel poles will be used where the line route changes direction. Guy wires and anchors may be required in areas, but will be minimized to the extent possible to lessen the impact to landowners. The transmission lines will carry four wires (three electrical and one for lightning protection/communication) except for a short double-circuit line section located from Substation No. 1, along the old railroad ROW to a point south of I-90 in the old railroad right-of-way in which the transmission lines will carry seven wires (six electrical and one for lightning protection/communication).

1.4 Project Location

The proposed route of the new tie line would begin at WPU's Substation No. 1 near the intersection of Fredrick Ave and Stower Drive, follow the old railroad ROW to the south side of I-90, continue east along the south side of I-90 to a point behind the Fairgrounds, then north across the interstate, turn east along the north side of I-90 to a point just before the on-ramp for the west-bound lane of I-90 at Hwy 60, continue south to the edge of Hwy 60 ROW, cross Hwy 60 and the Union Pacific railroad, and then into WPU's Substation No. 2. The proposed route for the existing line that will be re-built would also begin at WPU's Substation No. 1, then continue along the old railroad ROW and cross I-90, turn west along Paul Ave, follow the curve of Paul Ave, and continue north to connect with the existing ITC transmission line. Figures 1 and 2 in the Appendix show the location and line routing, respectively.

1.5 Construction Details

Construction of the proposed transmission Project is planned to begin in late summer of 2011, depending on when required permitting approvals are obtained and easement acquisition is completed. The proposed 115 kV transmission line would be constructed at grade elevations; therefore, no structure locations would require grading unless it is necessary to provide a level area for construction access and activities. Construction would comply with the latest industry standards regarding clearance to ground, clearance to crossing utilities, clearance to buildings, ROW widths, erecting power poles, and stringing of transmission line conductors.

The excavation for a typical structure would require disturbing a soil area that is 3 to 4 feet in diameter and 9 to 12 feet deep. Structures located in wet environments or angle-type structures may require additional foundation support, typically consisting of a concrete foundation or placement of the structure base inside a vertical, galvanized steel culvert. BMPs will be used to provide erosion control to minimize runoff during construction all phases of construction. A Contractor procured by WPU would perform transmission line construction in compliance with local, state, National Electrical Safety Code, and industry standards.

Poles would be delivered to either the staked location or a project storage yard. Insulators and other hardware would typically be attached while the pole was on the ground. The pole would then be lifted, placed and secured in or on the foundation by a bucket truck or crane.

Once the structures have been erected, conductors would be installed by establishing stringing setup areas. The stringing setup areas would usually be established every two miles or at locations where the line route changed direction along the project route. Conductor stringing operations also require brief access to each structure to secure the conductor wire to the insulators or to install shield wire clamps once final sag is established. Temporary guard or clearance poles would be installed, as needed, over existing distribution or communication lines, streets, roads, highways, railways or other obstructions after any necessary notifications were made or permits obtained. This ensures that conductors would not obstruct traffic or contact existing energized conductors or other cables. In addition, the conductors would be protected from damage.

WPU would periodically use the transmission line ROW to perform inspections, maintain equipment, and repair any damage. WPU would also conduct regular route maintenance for removal of undesired vegetation that would interfere with the operation of the proposed transmission line.

During construction, limited ground disturbance at the structure sites may occur. Disturbed areas would be restored to their original condition to the maximum extent practicable as negotiated with the landowner. Post-construction reclamation activities include:

- Removing and disposing of debris,
- Removing all temporary facilities (including staging and laydown areas),
- Employing appropriate erosion control measures,
- Reseeding and mulching areas disturbed by construction activities with vegetation similar to that which was removed and,
- Restoring the areas to their original condition to the extent possible.

In cases where soil compaction has occurred, the construction crews or site restoration contractor would use various methods to alleviate the compaction as negotiated with landowners.

2.0 REGULATORY DETAILS

2.1 Permit Requirement

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is responsible for permitting power plants, transmission lines, pipelines and wind turbine siting. Under the Power Plant Siting Act, a permit from the PUC is required for transmission line projects over 100 kV (Minn. Stat. § 216E). However on eligible projects, local review and permitting is possible. For such projects, a utility may apply to a local unit of government (named the responsible governmental unit or RGU) instead of the PUC for a permit to build the project. The project is proposed to traverse the Nobles County and City of Worthington jurisdictions. After discussing the project with these entities, Nobles County agreed to act as the lead RGU.

Per Minn. Stat. § 216E.05, subd. 3 and Minn. Rules 7849.6200 Subp.3, WPU provided notice to the PUC a route permit had been applied for through the local review process and that Nobles County agreed to be the RGU (see letter in the Appendix). A letter was received from the Department of Commerce, Office of Energy Security (OES) to Nobles County and WPU confirming the proposed Project was eligible for local review (see letter in Appendix). Notice of the project was also sent to those persons on the Power Plant Siting General Notification list as required under Minn. Rules 7850.5300, Subp. 3 (see notice in Appendix).

2.2 Environmental Assessment Requirements

In accordance with Minn. Rules 7849.6200 Subp.5, the RGU over the project must prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA contains information on the human and environmental impacts of the proposed project and addresses methods to mitigate such impacts.

A copy of the EA must be provided to the PUC by Nobles County, and a notice must be published in the Minnesota Department of Administration, Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Monitor stating that the EA is available for public review, how a copy of the document may be reviewed, that the public may comment on the document, and the procedure for submitting comments to Nobles County. A final decision (i.e. conditional use permit) on the proposed Project cannot be made by Nobles County until at least 10 days after the notice appears in the EQB Monitor.

2.3 EA Public Input

Prior to completion of the EA, Minn. Rule 7850.5300 requires that the public have an opportunity to participate in developing the scope of the EA. Therefore, Nobles County sent out a survey requesting comments and input on the project and EA from affected landowners along the project route. The County followed their notice rules to select affected landowners along with receiving a list of names from the City of Worthington for those affected landowners within the City limits. The Nobles County Planning and Zoning Commission also held a public hearing at a Commission meeting on April 27, 2011 to provide another option for the public to provide input on the development of the EA. Twenty-one persons (five of which were area landowners) appeared at the Public Hearing and received information on the project. No individual had an issue with the project.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 Air Quality

Since electric transmission lines do not produce air emissions, there will be no environmental impacts to air quality. An insignificant amount of emissions will occur during construction due to normal construction vehicles and equipment.

3.2 Water Resources

The only water resource that the transmission line will affect is a crossing of Okabena Creek. The Nobles County personnel that were contacted stated that a permit was not required and that the project would be fine as long as poles were located away from the edge of the ditch, so equipment operators could work along the creek if necessary.

3.3 Wildlife and Vegetation

The US Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), the DNR's Regional Assessment Ecologist, and the DNR's Endangered Species Environmental Review Coordinator were contacted regarding potential wildlife and vegetation resources in the vicinity of the project. In addition, a search of the Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program database was conducted for the project area.

The FWS noted the presence of three threatened or endangered species within Nobles County. They are the Western Prairie Fringed Orchid, Topeka Shiner, and Prairie Bush Clover. The FWS stated (see email dated 5/10/11) that their records do not indicate any findings of the above three mentioned species within or adjacent to the proposed line location. FWS also stated that all construction practices should be in compliance with Federal regulations regarding migratory birds.

The MN DNR's regional assessment ecologist (see emails dated 5/3/11) indicated that they see no environmental impacts associated with the project.

It was noted from the Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program database that there is one known occurrence of a rare species within the

searched area of a one mile radius. This was the Topeka Shiner (*Notropis topeka*), located in Lake Okabena. As stated in the return letter from the DNR Endangered Species Environmental Review Coordinator and also shown on the project location map in the Appendix, the project will not be near Lake Okabena; therefore, it was concluded that the project will not negatively affect any known occurrences of rare features.

3.4 Noise

Standard levels of noise associated with heavy construction equipment operation will occur during construction. These impacts are expected to be minimal, and would be similar in nature or less than the noise levels produced by trains passing by or the normal traffic along the City's streets.

The high voltage transmission line will be operated within the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Noise Pollution Control Rules, Chapter 7030.

3.5 Archaeological and Historic Resources

The Minnesota Historical Society State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) was contacted concerning the presence of historic properties in the project vicinity. SHPO concluded that there are no properties listed on the National or State registers of Historic Places, and no known or suspected archaeological properties in the area that will be affected by this project (see letter dated 4/14/11 in the Appendix). The Nobles County Historical Society was also contacted concerning the presence of historic properties in the project vicinity. They (see email dated 3/28/11 in the Appendix) indicated that no areas of historical significance will be affected by this project.

3.6 Soils and Geology

The project area is located within and near the City of Worthington in Nobles County. According to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR) Ecological Classification System (ECS), the project area is located within the Coteau Moraines Subsection of the North Central Glaciated Plains section of the Prairie Parkland Province (MnDNR 2011). The Coteau Moraines Subsection consists of a landscape of rolling

moraine ridges of late-Wisconsin drift mantles with loess 1 to 3 feet thick (DNR 2011).

Since the proposed 115 kV transmission line would be constructed at grade elevations, no pole locations would require grading unless it is necessary to provide a level area for construction access and activities.

3.7 Aesthetics and Visual Impacts

For the double circuit coming out of the west substation, the proposed transmission line will generally be installed in the same location as the existing overhead 69 kV transmission line. A single pole design will replace the existing H-frame two pole design resulting in a narrower profile. Therefore, the aesthetic and visual impacts of the line for this portion of the route will be minimal, since an existing overhead line is being replaced with another overhead line.

The rebuild portion of the route north of I-90 will be in an area that is not commercially or residentially developed and is used primarily for agricultural purposes. Therefore, the aesthetic and visual impacts of the line in this area will also be minimal.

The portions of transmission line running along I-90 and then south to WPU's Substation No.2 will also consist of narrow profile construction to help minimize the visual impacts to the commercial and multi-use residential properties in this area.

3.8 Human Settlement

The proposed transmission line is to be located within either the old railroad right-of way, in the public road right-of-way, or on property easements acquired from private landowners. Therefore, human settlement will not be impacted in these areas. The easements that will be requested from landowners will have transmission line poles or an overhang of the wires and apparatus on their property. The easement will provide for such things as construction and maintenance access, vegetation control and structure limitations in the easement area. The majority of the easement area will still be allowed for use by the landowner for such things as farming activities, drainage systems, underground utilities and access drives.

3.9 Public Health and Safety

All transmission line will be constructed in accordance with the National Electric Safety Code (NESC) and other relevant industry standards, to insure that adequate safety clearances and provisions are provided. Safety measures including fencing, warning signs, and equipment grounding will be provided per code requirements. All construction personnel will be required to follow Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations throughout project construction.

Questions about Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF) sometimes arise concerning electrical power lines. The following paragraphs include information provided by the Minnesota State Interagency Working Group (MSIWG). Work Group members included representatives from the Department of Commerce, the Department of Health, the Pollution Control Agency, the Commission, and the Environmental Quality Board (MSIWG, 2002). In September of 2002 the MSIWG published “A White Paper on Electric and Magnetic Field (EMF) Policy and Mitigation Options.” (This paper is located at the following weblink – <http://www.capx2020.com/Images/EMFWhitePaper2002.pdf>). The following excerpts are from the summary of the afore mentioned document:

Over the last two decades concern about the health effects of electric and magnetic fields (EMF) has increased. Early scientific studies reported a weak association between increased rates of cancer and closeness to certain kinds of power lines that can cause strong electric and magnetic fields. As more electric facilities are built to meet growing demands for electricity, policy makers will increasingly be faced with questions regarding the potential health impacts of EMF. This report is the result of an interagency work group that was formed to examine these issues and provide useful, science-based information to policy makers in Minnesota.

Electric and magnetic fields are a basic force of nature generated by electricity from both natural and human sources. Exposure to EMF comes from high voltage transmission lines and distribution lines, wiring in buildings, and electric appliances. Electric fields are easily shielded

by common objects such as trees, fences, and walls. Magnetic fields are difficult to shield; this is why magnetic fields produced by power lines can extend into people's homes.

Research on the health effects of EMF has been carried out since the 1970s. Epidemiological studies have mixed results – some have shown no statistically significant association between exposure to EMF and health effects, and some have shown a weak association. More recently, laboratory studies have failed to show such an association, or to establish a biological mechanism for how magnetic fields may cause cancer. A number of scientific panels convened by national and international health agencies and the U.S. Congress have reviewed the research carried out to date. Most concluded that there is insufficient evidence to prove an association between EMF and health effects; however, many of them also concluded that there is insufficient evidence to prove that EMF exposure is safe.

3.10 Transportation

Construction of the project will be performed so as to minimize any impacts to highway and road traffic. The appropriate traffic control devices will be utilized during construction, as dictated by the applicable highway authorities (MnDOT, Nobles County, etc.)

The proposed line will lie under an approach surface of the Worthington Municipal Airport and is subject to the restrictions of the local Airport Zoning Ordinance. The project will comply with all federal, state, and local regulations pertaining to air transportation safety and airport protection.

4.0 PROJECT PERMITS AND APPROVALS

4.1 Permits and Approvals

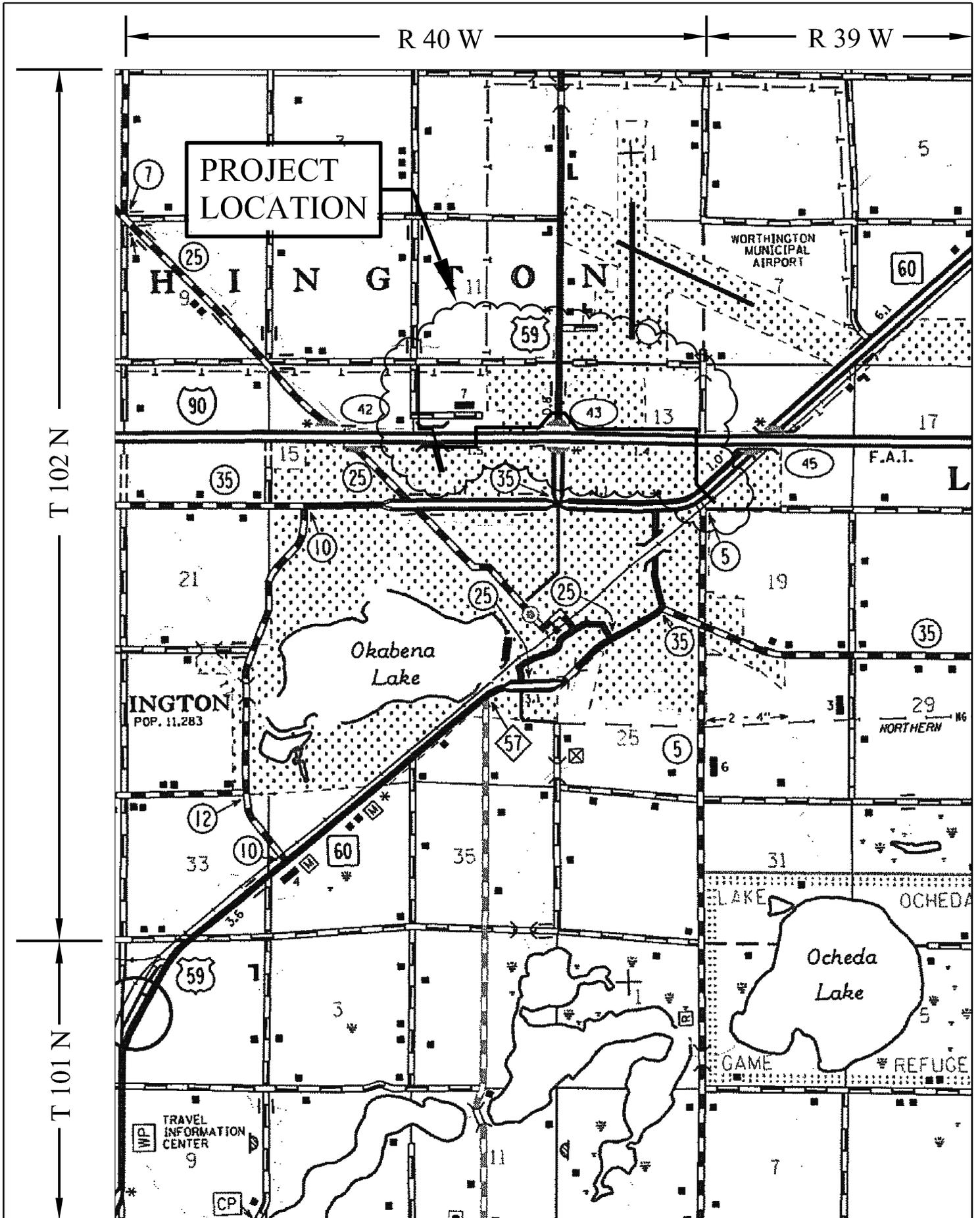
Following is a list of permits and approvals associated with the project, and their current status:

Agency	Permit or Approval	Regulated Activity	Status
County of Nobles	Local Review - Conditional Use Permit	Construction of 115 kV Transmission Line	In process
County of Nobles	Utility Accommodation Permit	Permit to install structure in County ROW and/or overhang	Permits will be obtained prior to construction.
MN Dept. of Natural Resources (MN DNR)	Environmental Review – Threatened and Endangered Species, Wetlands, Other Resources	Review of Project Impacts	No foreseen environmental impacts – email dated 5/3/11
MN Dept. of Natural Resources (MN DNR)	Minnesota Natural Heritage Database Review	Review of Project Impacts	One known occurrence of rare features (none affected by project) – letter dated 5/3/11
Nobles County Drainage Authority	Review of Okabena Creek crossing	Review of Project Impacts	Final approval of the project will be given after final design is complete.
Minnesota Historical Society	Review of Historic Places	Historic Preservation	No historic properties affected by project – letter dated 4/14/2011.
Nobles County Historical Society	Review of Historic Places	Historic Preservation	No historic properties affected by project – email dated 3/28/2011.

Agency	Permit or Approval	Regulated Activity	Status
US Dept. of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service	Environmental Review – Threatened and Endangered Species	Review of Project Impacts	Construction recommendations given. No foreseen environmental impacts – email dated 5/10/11
Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT)	Highway Crossing Permits	Permits to cross Hwy’s 59 and 60, along with I-90	Permits will be obtained prior to construction.
FAA	Form 7460-1 Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration	Notification of structures that lie within the regulated air space.	Permits will be obtained prior to construction.
City of Worthington	Worthington Municipal Airport Impact Review	Review of Project Impacts	Final approval of the project will be given after final design is complete.

APPENDIX

- Figure 1: Project Location Map
- Figure 2: Proposed Transmission Line Routing
- Figure 3: Typical Tangent Structure
- Agency Correspondence:
 - Worthington Public Utilities Local Review Request Letter (2 pages)
 - Minnesota Department of Commerce / Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Energy Facilities Permitting Letter Acknowledgment (2 pages)
 - Worthington Public Utilities Notice of Project to General Notification List (7 pages)
 - Notice of Public Hearing for Public Input on EA (1 page)
 - Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) Regional Ecologist and Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program (6 pages)
 - Minnesota Historical Society State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) (2 pages)
 - Nobles County Historical Society (2 pages)
 - US Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service (2 pages)
- Sample EA Input Comment Form
- Comment Form Responses from Landowners



REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DWG		NO	

	Date:	3-11	WORTHINGTON PUBLIC UTILITIES WORTHINGTON, MINNESOTA	PROJECT LOCATION MAP 115 KV TRANSMISSION LINE	DWG NO
	Designed By:	TWM			
	Project Manager:	CAR			
	Project Number:	417814			

P: 04 178 14 DWG FIG.LDWG

Fig. 1



LEGEND

- Proposed Overhead Route, Tie line (2.7 miles)
- Proposed Overhead Route, Sub #1 T-line Upgrade Option (1.0 mile)
- Existing Overhead 69 KV
- Existing Substation

PRELIMINARY
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION



I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN, SPECIFICATION OR REPORT WAS PREPARED BY ME, OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION, AND THAT I AM A DULY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

BY Troy W. Metzger, P.E.
 LICENSE NO. 46371 DATE: _____

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION

DCR DeWitt Grant Rockert & Assoc. Co.
 Consulting Engineers
 Rock Rapids, Iowa

Date: 5-11
 Designed by: TWM
 Project Manager: CAR
 Project Number: 417814

WORTHINGTON PUBLIC UTILITIES
WORTHINGTON, MINNESOTA

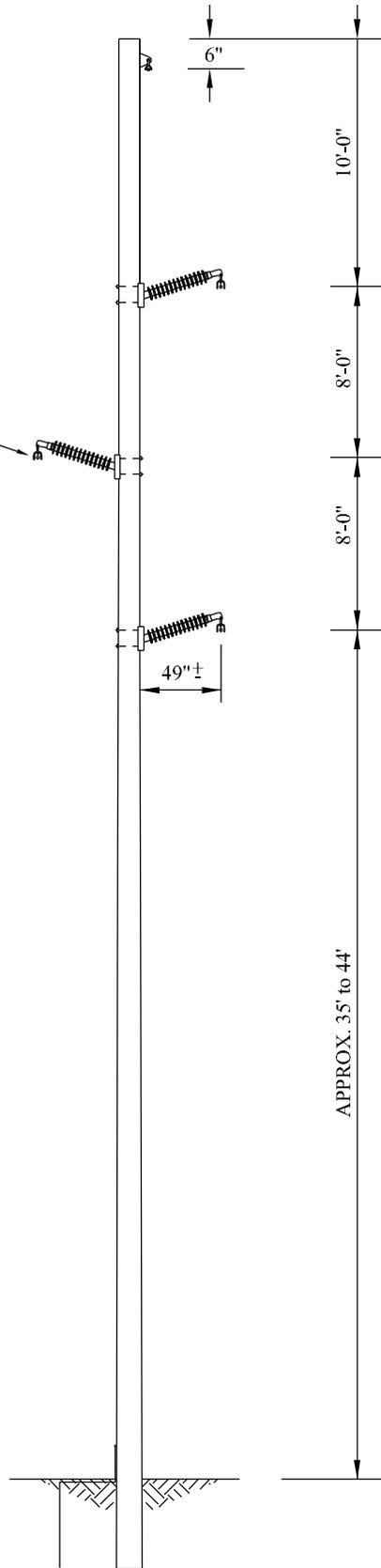
PROPOSED TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTING

D
 W
 G
 N
 O

Fig. 2

PLAN 2014-05-08 09:54:00 AM

115 KV
TRANSMISSION
CONDUCTORS



APPROX. 35' to 44'

REV	DATE	APP	DESCRIPTION



Date: 4-11
 Designed By: TWM
 Project Manager: TWM
 Project Number: 417814

WORTHINGTON PUBLIC UTILITIES
 WORTHINGTON, MINNESOTA

TYPICAL TANGENT STRUCTURE - PROPOSED 115 KV TRANSMISSION LINE

DWG
NO

Fig. 3

Worthington **PUBLIC UTILITIES**

318 Ninth Street
P. O. Box 458
Worthington, MN 56187-0458
Phone 507-372-8680
Fax 507-372-8688
www.worthingtonutilities.com

March 15, 2011

Dr. Burl W Haar
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: Worthington Public Utilities: Nobles County 115 kV Transmission Project

Dear Dr. Haar:

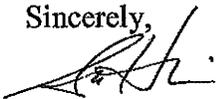
In accordance with the Power Plant Siting Act, Minnesota Statutes Section 216E.05, subd. 3, this letter is to provide official notice to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission that Worthington Public Utilities (WPU) has elected to seek local approval for the construction of a new 115 kV transmission line in Worthington, Minnesota.

The transmission line project includes constructing a new 2.7 mile long line and rebuilding an existing 1.0 mile 69 kV line to 115 kV standards. The lines are located entirely within the limits of Nobles County, Minnesota, with a majority of the line located within the city limits of Worthington. The new line will serve to connect the two existing WPU electric substations, thereby looping the transmission system through WPU's electric facilities. The existing line is being rebuilt to upgrade to 115 kV design. WPU will own both transmission lines. The new facilities are being constructed to improve the reliability of our system. Enclosed is a drawing which shows the planned route of the new line.

After visiting with Ray Kirsch, it is our understanding that the City of Worthington or Nobles County could be the responsible governmental unit (RGU) for this project. The City and County have discussed the project and have agreed that Nobles County will take the lead as the RGU. Therefore, WPU will permit the project through the Nobles County's conditional use permit process.

Questions regarding the conditional use permit or conditional use permit process should be directed to Wayne Smith, Environmental Services Director, Nobles County, at 507-295-5322 and questions regarding the project should be directed to me at 507-372-8687 or shain@worthingtonutilities.com.

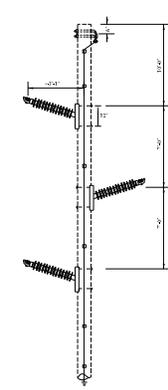
Sincerely,



Scott Hain,
General Manager

Enclosure

cc: Wayne Smith, Environmental Services Director, Nobles County
Brad Chapulis, Director of Community/Economic Development, City of Worthington



115 KV TRANSMISSION LINE TANGENT STR. W/HP

DATE	PROJECT	SCALE	FIG. NO.	TP-115



LEGEND

- Proposed Overhead Route, Tie line (2.7 miles)
- Proposed Overhead Route, Sub #1 T-line Upgrade Option (1.0 mile)
- Existing Overhead 69 KV
- Existing Substation



I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN, SPECIFICATION OR REPORT WAS PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION, AND THAT I AM A FULLY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

BY Troy W. Metzger, P.E.
 LICENSE NO. 46371 DATE: _____

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION



DeWitt, Gross, Reckert & Assoc. Co.
 Consulting Engineers
 Rock Rapids, Iowa

Date: 12-09
 Designed by: TWM
 Project Manager: CAR
 Project Number: 417814

WORTHINGTON PUBLIC UTILITIES
 WORTHINGTON, MINNESOTA

PROPOSED TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTING

D
W
G
S
O

Fig. 2

PLAN: 115KVTP115(1)2.DWG



Energy Facility Permitting
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2198
ph 651.296.4026 | fx 651.297.7891
www.energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us

April 28, 2011

Scott Hain
Worthington Public Utilities
318 Ninth St.
PO Box 458
Worthington, MN 56187

Wayne Smith
Nobles County Environmental Services
960 Diagonal Rd.
PO Box 187
Worthington, MN 56187

Brad Chapulis
City of Worthington
303 Ninth St.
PO Box 279
Worthington, MN 56187

**Re: Local Review of Worthington Public Utilities 115 kV Transmission Line Project
Commission Docket Number: E332/LR-11-308**

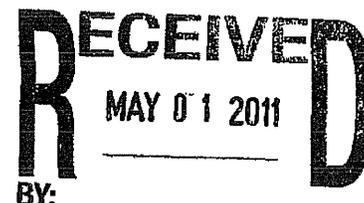
Dear Mr. Hain, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Chapulis,

Greetings. This letter confirms that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) has received notification that Worthington Public Utilities (WPU) intends to seek local review to construct a new 2.7-mile long 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line and to rebuild an existing one-mile long 69 kV line to 115 kV standards. The transmission lines would be located in Nobles County and in the city of Worthington, Minn.

Under the Power Plant Siting Act, a permit from the Commission is required for transmission line projects over 100 kV (Minn. Stat. § 216E). However, local review and permitting is possible for eligible projects (Minn. Stat. § 216E.05). For such projects, a utility may apply to a local unit of government instead of the Commission for a permit to build the project. This letter confirms that WPU's proposed project is eligible for local review.

Based on the proposed location of the project, Nobles County and the city of Worthington are the local units of government with jurisdiction to permit the project. WPU has indicated that it will be seeking a conditional use permit from Nobles County for that portion of the project in the county. A local unit of government may relinquish its permitting jurisdiction by requesting that the Commission assume jurisdiction within 60 days of the filing of an application with the local unit of government (Minn. Rules 7850.5300, Subp. 4).

An environmental review process, including the development of an environmental assessment (EA), must be conducted by a local unit of government with jurisdiction over the project (Minn. Rules



7850.5300). WPU has indicated that Nobles County and the city of Worthington are in agreement that Nobles County will be responsible for the environmental review process for WPU's proposed project.

Specific requirements with regard to the environmental review process include (Minn. Rules 7850.5300, Subp. 5):

- (1) Providing an opportunity for the public to participate in the development of the scope of the environmental assessment before it is prepared,
- (2) Publishing notice in the EQB Monitor when the assessment is available for review and the procedure for commenting on the assessment, and
- (3) Withholding a final decision on the project until at least ten days after the notice appears in the EQB Monitor.

Nobles County must also provide a copy of the environmental assessment to the Commission when it is completed (Minn. Rules 7850.5300, Subp. 5). Electronic filing (eFiling) of the environmental assessment is encouraged (<https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling>).

This letter confirms that WPU has sent the required notice to those persons on the Commission's general notification list that a permit has been applied for from a local unit of government (Minn. Rules 7850.5300, Subp. 3).

Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,



Ray Kirsch
Minnesota Department of Commerce
Energy Facility Permitting
raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us
651-296-7588

cc: Burl Haar, Commission
Bob Cupit, Commission
Troy Metzger, DeWild Grant Eckert & Associates

NOTICE OF WORTHINGTON PUBLIC UTILITIES PROJECT
115 kV TRANSMISSION LINE IN NOBLES COUNTY

Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 216E.05 and Rule 7850.5300, Worthington Public Utilities (WPU) has submitted notification to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission that they are seeking local approval for the construction of a new 115 kV (115,000 volts) transmission line.

Project Need

WPU is planning to add a new 115 kV electric transmission line to tie their two existing electric substations together. In addition, the project will include rebuilding their existing West transmission line. This project is needed to increase system reliability for WPU and the area transmission system, as well as to provide additional capacity on the system.

Planned Project

WPU's transmission line project will consist of the construction of approximately 2.7 miles of new overhead 115 kV transmission line, and rebuilding approximately 1.0 miles of existing 69 kV transmission line to 115 kV standards. To lessen impact to agricultural and residential property use along the line route, WPU is proposing a route that will follow along road right-of-ways or utility-easement corridors. Enclosed is a map of the proposed line route.

Poles will primarily be wood or steel single-pole structures. Custom-designed laminated and/or steel poles will be used where the line route changes direction. Guy wires and anchors may be required in areas, but will be minimized to the extent possible to lessen the impact to landowners. The transmission lines will carry four wires (three electrical and one for lightning protection/communication).

For more information about this project please contact:

Mr. Scott Hain
Worthington Public Utilities
General Manager
P.O. Box 458
Worthington, MN 56187
(507) 372-8680

Mr. Wayne Smith
Nobles County
Environmental Services Director
Public Works Facility
960 Diagonal Road, PO Box 187
Worthington, MN 56187

Sincerely,

Scott Hain, General Manager

LEGEND

- Proposed Overhead Route, New Tie line (2.7 miles)
- . . . Proposed Overhead Route, Sub #1 T-line Rebuild (1.0 mile)
- - - Existing 69 kV line
- City Limits
- ☒ Existing Substation



Worthington
Municipal
Airport

T102N R40W
10/11
15/14

EXISTING
ITC LINE

PROPOSED
OVERHEAD
T-LINE REBUILD

EXISTING
WPU
LINE

PROPOSED
OVERHEAD
TIE LINE

29th ST. N.
ROSE
AVE.
27th ST. N.

DR.
BIOSCIENCE DR.
BIOTECH
PRAIRIE DR.
RESEARCH L.A.

Okabena

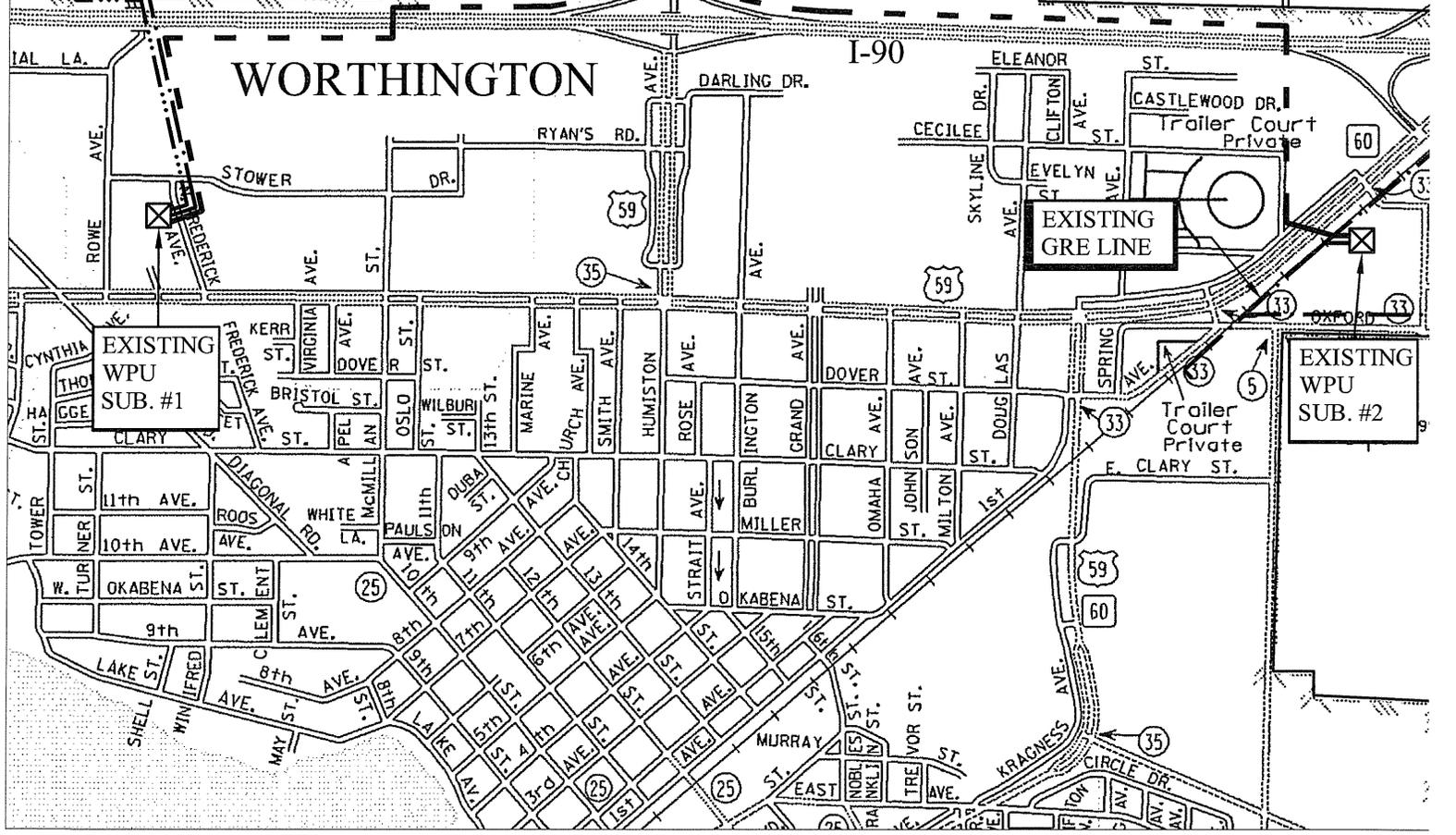
WORTHINGTON

I-90

EXISTING
GRE LINE

EXISTING
WPU
SUB. #1

EXISTING
WPU
SUB. #2



Mailing List for: PUC Power plants and transmission lines

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Filename: List7801-TueMar1515:05:422011.csv

NameLast	NameFirst	Title	Address	Address2	City	State	Zip	Organization	PhoneHome	PhoneWork	PhoneCell	Fax	Email	Timestamp
Meyer	Beatrice		3284 Clairmont N NE	Atlanta	GA	30329		404-245-5033	404-634-030	balm38@yahoo	2009-09-30 10 19 15			
Abrams	Lonnie		280 Zandale Drive	Lexington	KY	40503		--	859-519-894	lonabrams@yaf	2009-04-08 12 46 30			
Porter	Timothy		6360 Huntley Road	Columbus	OH	43229	Reynolds I	614 339-0095	--	TPORTER@REYN	2009-02-18 11 50 10			
VanHaren	John		9428 Talladay Road	Willis	MI	48191	National Pr	--	734-461-284	john@nationalp	2011-02-08 15 13 14			
Thayer	Jayne		5540 Glenwood Hills Pkwy S	Grand Rapids	MI	49512		--	--	jthayer@rockfo	2010-10-06 14 34 44			
Porter	Jay		PO Box 47	Waukesha	WI	53187	American T	262-363-4955	262-506-693	jporter@atcllc.c	2009-03-03 14 12 17			
Tadych	Todd		2 Fen Oak Court	Madison	WI	53718	American T	--	608-877-761	ttadych@atcllc.c	2009-03-23 14 04 19			
Hanson	Linda		W 1806 Wilson Rd	Hawkins	WI	54530					2009-02-18 10 09 46			
Wolf	Guy		N3421 Mohawk Valley Roac	Stoddard	WI	54658	Board Mer	608-788-7293			2009-02-18 13 00 37			
King	Bruce		1903 Keith St Suite 3	Eau Claire	WI	54701	Realtors A	715-835-0923	--	bruce@ranww.c	2009-03-17 09 17 23			
Scriven	Terri		1060 Breezew Suite 102	Neenah	WI	54956	River Valle	--	920-886-144	tscriven@rvtcor	2010-06-09 11 46 10			
Bodeker	Ricky and Connie		6842 338th Street Way	Cannon Falls	MN	55009		--	507-263-544	bbfai@frontierr	2010-03-10 10 59 28			
Stark	Deborah		30715 Woodhaven Trail	Cannon Falls	MN	55009	Cannon Fa	--	507-263-850	cftownship@frc	2010-09-27 19 59 36			
Scherping	Rick		37995 Hwy 56 Blvd	Dennison	MN	55018		--	507-789-693	rickscherping@l	2010-09-25 11 12 00			
Adelmann	Audrey		4752 220th St. W.	Farmington	MN	55024		651-460-6107	--	peteadelmann@	2009-09-22 17 46 32			
Cardozo	Jeffrey		21044 Chippendale Ct	Farmington	MN	55024	Mobile Mii	--	651-464-462	jcardozo@mobi	2009-12-22 17 25 21			
Marshman	Joan		PO Box 62	Frontenac	MN	55026					2007-08-02 15 32 31			
Eide-Tollefson	Kristen		PO Box 130	Frontenac	MN	55026		651 345-5488			2009-03-05 07 29 31			
Marshman	Joan		30129 Co 2 Bl PO Box 62	Frontenac	MN	55026	Florence T	--	651-388-152	marshman1@h	2009-02-18 10 47 27			
Kennedy	Beau		PO Box 132	Goodhue	MN	55027		--	--	beaukennedy@	2010-03-10 11 10 12			
Passe	Daniel		23611 Belmont Street	Hampton	MN	55031		--	651-480-336	dbpasse@emba	2009-05-12 08 08 25			
Nicolai	Leo		23449 Lewiston Blvd.	Hampton	MN	55031		--	--	nicolairepair@e	2009-04-13 09 26 59			
Radford	Sam		23305 Hampton Blvd.	Hampton	MN	55031		--	--	be682@msn.co	2009-09-29 12 30 55			
Etedy	Robert		23076 Lewiston Blvd	Hampton	MN	55031		--	612-327-711	renedy@msn.cc	2010-01-21 09 22 59			
Anderson	Sigurd		PO Box 278	Lake City	MN	55041	CURE	--	651-345-451	mariner@eldinc	2009-09-08 11 02 34			
Crocker	George		PO Box 174	Lake Elmo	MN	55042	North Ame	- 0-	--	NA	2009-02-18 08 57 58			
Koen	Charles		8115 173rd St W	Lakeville	MN	55044		--	952-239-226	charles_koen@i	2010-10-06 14 23 06			
Erickson	Mike		8231 214th St. W.	Lakeville	MN	55044	Scruples Pr	--	952-985-702	mike@scruplesl	2010-10-06 14 23 06			
Palmquist	Mark		24831 Natchez Avenue	Lakeville	MN	55044		--	--	misp@sei.cmu.e	2010-10-06 14 23 06			
Fredrickson	Dale		12406 347th St.	Lindstrom	MN	55045		651-257-1279			2009-02-18 09 05 47			
Miller	Dianne		8652 60th Street West	Lonsdale	MN	55046		--	507-744-527	dimiller55@me	2009-02-18 10 51 42			
Zimanske	Betty		5710 Halstad Avenue	Lonsdale	MN	55046		--	507-744-289	bettyz@means.	2009-09-24 18 07 03			
Henry	Kris		28441 Garrett Avenue	Northfield	MN	55057		--	--	kris.henry@nori	2009-10-15 15 07 36			
Vorwerk	Larry		29322 Danbury Ave.	Northfield	MN	55057		--	507-663-610	lvorwerk@yahc	2009-09-21 10 49 38			
Collins	Andy		4688 290th Street West	Northfield	MN	55057		--	612-812-411	ru4longboardin	2010-04-09 07 44 47			
Edwards	Patrick		10006 305th Street West	Northfield	MN	55057		--	507-645-586	kared@myclear	2009-10-21 10 52 37			
Rowan	Tony and Shelley		30800 Iran Path	Northfield	MN	55057		--	612-366-289	o_hogwash@ya	2009-09-27 19 58 10			
Patrick	Bonnie		30875 MN Ave	Lindstrom	MN	55065		0			2009-02-18 11 45 14			
Dick	Barbara		29155 Harry Ave	Randolph	MN	55065		--	--	barbara@powe	2010-11-16 09 15 02			
Overland	Carol		P.O. Box 176	Red Wing	MN	55066	Overland L	--	612-227-863	overland@legal	2010-10-06 14 30 15			
Lindquist	Kim		2875 145th Street W	Rosemount	MN	55068	City of Ros	651-322-2006	--	NA	2008-05-20 09 49 56			
Crum	Lisa		P.O. Box 129	Scandia	MN	55073	Lisa A. Crui	--	612-246-764	LCrum@lisacrur	2010-12-07 15 30 58			

Rieck	Christian	6037 Candace Ave	Inver Grove H	MN	55076	--	612-741-560	christian@christ	2009-02-18 11 55 08	
Simon	Cyril and Natalie	2646 260th St. East	Webster	MN	55088	952-758-3072	612-363-833	cynat@bevcomi	2009-04-30 07 01 09	
Hahn	Heidi	4778 Chester Avenue	Webster	MN	55088	--	952-652-101	jnhzoo@aol.cc	2009-09-22 14 42 33	
Geibe	Jayne	4925 elmore Ave	Webster	MN	55088	--	--	ninjette@msn.c	2010-10-30 20 53 54	
O Gary	Eric	21532 Willamette Street NE	Wyoming	MN	55092	--	--	org49ero@yahoo	2010-12-10 12 51 29	
Hammel	Karen	1400 Bremer	445 Minnesot	St. Paul	MN	55101	Attorney C 651.297.1852	--	karen.hammel@	2011-01-10 14 16 27
DeBleeckere	Tricia	121 7th Place Suite 350	St. Paul	MN	55101	MN Public	--	--	tricia.debleecke	2010-12-07 11 12 40
Smith	Phil	85 7Th Place I Suite 500	St. Paul	MN	55101	MN DOC	--	651-296-798	phil.smith@stat	2010-10-06 13 17 36
Danos	Christopher	85 7th Place E Suite 500	Saint Paul	MN	55101	Minnesota	--	651-297-401	christopher.dan	2010-10-06 14 21 01
O Connell	Kate	85 7th Place E Suite 500	St. Paul	MN	55101	--	--	kate.oconnell@	2010-11-05 11 10 19	
Swanson	Eric	225 South Six Suite 3500	Minneapolis	MN	55102	Winthrop	612-604-6447	--	NA	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Ruccolo	Erin Stojan-	408 St. Peter : Suite 220	St. Paul	MN	55102	Fresh Ener	--	651-726-756	ruccolo@fresh-r	2010-10-06 13 17 36
Nyhus	Steven	525 Park St Suite 470	St. Paul	MN	55103	Flaherty ar	--	651-225-884	swnyhus@flahe	2010-10-06 13 17 36
Garletz	Annalee	125 Charles Avenue	St. Paul	MN	55103	Associati	6512243344	--	garletz@mncou	2010-10-06 13 17 36
Macabee	Paula	1961 Selby EMAIL ONLY	St. Paul	MN	55104	Just Chang	--	651-646-889	pmaccabec@vis	2011-02-08 14 58 36
Dufour	Michael	1330 Conway Suite 110	St. Paul	MN	55106	IBEW 110	651-776-4239x70	--	mdufour@ibew	2010-10-06 13 17 36
Doperalski	Melissa	1200 Warner Road	St. Paul	MN	55106	DNR	--	651-259-573	melissa.doperal	2010-12-22 08 41 35
Mitchell	Brian	1633 Eustis Street	St. Paul	MN	55108	Corval Gro	--	651-642-551	bmitchell@corv	2010-10-06 14 27 27
Kaufman	Todd	1625 Energy I Suite 100	St. Paul	MN	55108	Wellington	--	651-292-984	tkaufman@well	2010-11-02 13 48 50
Finn	Huck	1100 Old Hwy 8 N.W.	New Brighton	MN	55112	API Constr	651-604-2710	--	NA	2009-02-18 09 07 42
Sherman	Todd	Waters Edge 1500 W. Co. F	Roseville	MN	55113	Dept. of Tr	- 0-	--	NA	2010-10-06 14 28 10
Coates	Becky	2401 Pilot Knr Suite 138	Mendota Hei	MN	55120	Profession	--	651-646-814	becky.coates@f	2010-05-20 09 38 07
Kinney	George	14955 Galaxie	Apple Valley	MN	55124	Dakota Coi	--	952-891-754	george.kinney@	2010-10-06 14 25 15
Koebrick	Andrew	658 Cedar 300 COB	St. Paul	MN	55155	Minnesota	--	651-201-246	andrew.koebrid	2010-11-16 14 50 47
Germundsen	Travis	520 Lafayette Road	St. Paul	MN	55155	Board of M	--	651-297-290	travis.germunds	2011-01-14 11 34 36
Kotch	Stacy	395 John Irela Mailstop 678	St. Paul	MN	55155	Minnesota	--	651-366-463	stacy.kotch@st	2011-01-10 15 34 53
		Pressroom B1 State Capitol	St. Paul	MN	55155	Forum Cor	--	--	NA	2010-10-06 13 17 36
Doucette	Elise	520 Lafayette Road North	St. Paul	MN	55155	Minnesota	--	651-757-231	elise.doucette@	2010-10-06 13 17 36
Schrenzel	Jamie	500 Lafayette Box 25	St. Paul	MN	55155	MN DNR	--	651-259-511	jamie.schrenzel	2011-03-15 10 50 17
Heaney	Bill	P. O. Box 65397	St. Paul	MN	55165	IBEW Mn. State Council	612-781-201	billheaney@bill	2010-10-06 13 17 36	
Hartman	Larry	2236 Sherwood Court	Minnetonka	MN	55305	--	--	651-296-508	hartman.larry@	2009-03-11 13 50 36
DeSalle	Pam	P.O. Box 142	Becker	MN	55308	--	--	--	pjholman@fron	2010-04-12 09 37 35
Bubb	Steven	261 School A\ Suite 200	Excelsior	MN	55331	Energy Pur	--	612-810-623	stevebubb@gm	2011-01-26 14 47 56
Black	Chris	49630 660th Ave	Fairfax	MN	55332	--	--	507-276-088	cjbljb@gmail.co	2009-04-06 16 24 40
Henry	Robert	2925 12th Street East	Glencoe	MN	55336	--	--	--	rhenry@tcwr.ne	2009-10-21 10 56 04
Hunstad	Tim	4165 Shorewood Trail	Medina	MN	55340	HMG LLC	--	--	timhunstad@hc	2010-10-06 14 35 05
Brandt	Derek	PO Box 46425	Eden Prairie	MN	55344	Hartford G	--	--	dbrandt@hartfc	2010-10-06 14 40 18
Beckmann	Dale	7699 Anagram Dr.	Eden Prairie	MN	55344	Westwood	--	952-906-747	dale.beckmann(2010-10-06 14 40 18
Richardson	David	14525 Hwy 7 Ste 104	Minneapolis	MN	55345	AMEC	--	952-935-101	david.richardso	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Heim	Kevin	9169 Larkspur Lane	Eden Prairie	MN	55347	--	--	--	kevsuealex@aol	2010-10-06 14 40 18
Pelstring	Patrick	3033 Excelsio 525	Minneapolis	MN	55364	National M	--	612-746-662	ppelstring@nati	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Allison	Chuck	317 East Elm Street	Norwood Yo	MN	55368	--	--	612-719-258	callis2@embarq	2009-04-16 12 07 44
Ambrose	Robert	12300 Elm Creek Blvd	Maple Grove	MN	55369	Great Rive	763-241-2297	--	bambrose@grei	2010-10-06 14 29 48
Strohufus	Mark	12300 Elm Creek Blvd.	Maple Grove	MN	55369	Great Rive	763-241-2491	--	MStrohufus@GRI	2010-10-06 14 29 48
Steckelberg	Michael	12300 Elm Creek Blvd.	Maple Grove	MN	55369	Great Rive	763-241-2425	--	msteckelberg@;	2010-10-06 14 29 48
Schultz	Bart	6901 East Fis\ Suite 140	Maple Grove	MN	55369	Houston E	763-493-4522	--	bschultz@houst	2010-10-06 14 29 48
Hansen	Eric	11541 95th Avenue North	Maple Grove	MN	55369	Pinnacle E	--	763-315-450	NA	2010-10-06 14 29 48

Skarbakka	Glen	12300 Elm Creek Blvd	Maple Grove	MN	55369	Great Rive --	763-445-612	gskarbakka@gr	2010-10-06 14 29 48
Dufault	Cal	3409 Glynwater Trl NW	Prior Lake	MN	55372		952-440-3182	Dufault@mchsi.	2009-02-18 08 59 53
Zachman	Alise	2265 Iffert Avenue N.E.	St. Michaels	MN	55376	--	763-497-132	alise.zachman@	2009-03-05 08 11 21
Duehr	Jeremy	924 Vista Ridge Lane	Shakopee	MN	55379	Malcolm P --	952-496-249	jduehr@pirnie.c	2010-02-10 14 31 57
Thompson	SaGonna	414 Nicollet 15th Floor	Minneapolis	MN	55401	Xcel Energ 612 330 6732 --	NA		2010-10-06 13 18 05
Zelenak	Brian	414 Nicollet 17th Floor	Minneapolis	MN	55401	Xcel Energ --	612-330-564	brian.r.zelenak@	2010-10-06 13 18 05
MacLaury	Kyle	212 3rd Avenue Suite 560	Minneapolis	MN	55401	Minnesota --	612-335-586	kmaclaury@mn	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Dalager	Emily	400 First Ave Suite 535	Minneapolis	MN	55401	--	612-767-624	emily.dalager@	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Riveslp	Stoei	33 South 6th Suite 4200	Minneapolis	MN	55402		612-371-3221 --	NA	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Brown	Andrew	50 South Sixth Suite 1500	Minneapolis	MN	55402	Dorsey anc --	--	brown.andrew@	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Meloy	Brian	150 South 5th Suite 2300	Minneapolis	MN	55402	Leonard S --	612-335-145	brian.meloy@le	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Bertrand	James	150 South 5th Suite 2300	Minneapolis	MN	55402	Leonard S --	612-335-165	james.bertrand	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Drawz	John	200 South Six Suite 4000	Minneapolis	MN	55402	Fredrikson 612-492-7074 --	NA		2010-10-06 13 18 05
Herring	Valerie	2200 IDS Cent 80 South 8th	Minneapolis	MN	55402	Briggs and --	612-977-850	vherring@brigg	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Slade	Dana	200 South Six Suite 300	Minneapolis	MN	55402	Avant Ener 952-882-9724	612-259-031	dana.slade@av	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Krause	Kari	Midwest Plaza 800 Marquette	Minneapolis	MN	55402	AMEC Eart --	612-252-379	kari.krause@arr	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Heyer	Shirley	2426 13th Ave. S.	Minneapolis	MN	55404	Midtown F --	612-870-351	shirleymidtown	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Kearns	Cesia	2327 E. Frank Ste. 1	Minneapolis	MN	55406	Sierra Club 612-659-9124 --	--	cesia.kearns@si	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Sulander	Mark	2528 38th Avenue South	Minneapolis	MN	55406	--	612-310-782	tedebearmark@	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Weigel	Matthias	625 8th Ave SE	Minneapolis	MN	55412	PRC --	--	matthias@proje	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Davies	Wanda	3001 Broadw Suite 695	Minneapolis	MN	55413	Navitas En 612 370 1061 --	NA		2010-10-06 13 18 05
Swenson	Kristin	3001 Broadw Suite 695	Minneapolis	MN	55413	Navitas En --	612-370-106	kswenson@win	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Gerber	Darrell	308 E Hennepin Ave	Minneapolis	MN	55414	Clean Wat --	612-623-366	dgerber@clean	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Morris	David	1313 5th Stre Suite 303	Minneapolis	MN	55414	ILSR --	612-379-381	dmorris@ilsr.or	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Sokolski	Adam	701 4th Avenue Suite 1010	Minneapolis	MN	55415	Iberdrola F --	--	asokolski@iberc	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Intern		350 South 5th Room 307 Cit	Minneapolis	MN	55415	--	612-673-220	ward06councilo	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Bissonnette	Michelle	701 Xenia Ave Suite 600	Minneapolis	MN	55416	HDR 763 278-5911 --	NA		2010-10-06 13 18 05
Piner	Angela	701 Xenia Ave Suite 600	Minneapolis	MN	55416	HDR --	--	NA	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Moe	M.	2021 22nd Ave NE	Minneapolis	MN	55418	--	--	fignat@comcast	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Wagner	Scott	6024 Penn Ave. So.	Minneapolis	MN	55419	Wagner Pa --	612-928-696	scottw@wagne	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Markegard	Glen	Planning Divis 1800 W. Old S	Bloomington	MN	55419	City of Blo --	952-563-892	gmarkegard@ci	2009-09-14 14 35 51
Long	Brian	5201 East Riv No. 308	Minneapolis	MN	55421	Ulteig Engi 763-571-2506 --	--	brian.long@ulte	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Gale	Jeffery	5110 Main Street NE	Mpls	MN	55421	FPD Power --	612-279-665	kgale@fpdpowe	2010-06-21 08 17 51
Frost	Jenny	5201 East River Road	Minneapolis	MN	55421	Ulteig Engi --	763-277-011	jenny.frost@ult	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Olson	Elling	700 Meadow Lane North	Minneapolis	MN	55422	M A Morte --	--	cal.dufault@mo	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Sullins	Tony	4101 American Blvd. E	Bloomington	MN	55425	USFWS --	--	NA	2010-04-30 10 34 32
Bartell	Patrick	7505 Highway 7	Minneapolis	MN	55426	Volco --	952-933-663	pbartell@volco.	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Miner	Ryan	2246 Edgewood Ave.	St. Louis Park	MN	55426	Marcy Con --	952-525-730	rminer@marcyc	2010-01-14 16 35 26
Hegerle	Becky	2246 Edgewood Avenue	St. Louis Park	MN	55426	Marcy Con --	952-525-730	bhegerle@marc	2010-12-29 10 38 53
Vezina	Michael	5104 Hillsboro Avenue Nort	New Hope	MN	55428	Mueller Sa 763-531-2221 --	--	mvezina@muell	2009-02-18 12 56 35
Bird	Josh	2025 49th Ave N	Minneapolis	MN	55430	GE Energy --	651-528-730	joshua.bird@ge	2010-10-06 13 18 05
		7809 Southto Suite 109	Bloomington	MN	55431	SII Inc 612-819-3552		sindust1@msn.	2007-08-02 15 32 31
Lee	John	4700 W. 77th Street	Minneapolis	MN	55435	Barr Engin 952-832-2646		jlee@barr.com	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Smith	Patrick	7650 Edinbor Suite 725	Edina	MN	55435	Geronimo --	952-988-900	patrick@geronii	2010-12-21 16 11 31
Segroves	Louise	4700 W. 77th St	Minneapolis	MN	55435	Barr Engin --	952-832-292	lsegroves@barr	2010-10-06 13 18 05
Pickar	Justin	7650 Edinborough Way Ste	Edina	MN	55435	Geronimo --	952-988-900	justin@geronim	2011-03-14 12 51 20
Healy	Chuck	10600 Zinran Circle S	Bloomington	MN	55438	--	763-544-428	chuckh@electrc	2010-08-19 06 38 41

Dolan	Michael	6117 Scotia Drive	Edina	MN	55439	952-943-8211	952-943-8211	mjdolan@dolan	2010-10-06 14 33 02
Eskeli	Shanna	15112 N Little Sweden Rd	Nashwauk	MN	55769	--	218-885-130	shaneske@hibb	2009-09-29 12 31 36
Peterson	Kevin	846 48th Avenue NW	Rochester	MN	55901	Local Unio	--	kjp@ibew160.o	2010-10-06 14 22 39
Rohlfing	Dale and Suzann	2310 15th Ave NW	Rochester	MN	55901	507-288-2808	507-281-884	drohl24057@ac	2010-10-06 14 22 39
Logan	James	6384 Shetland Dr NW	Rochester	MN	55901	507-282-7993	--	james_9mm@y.	2011-01-28 11 16 28
Kocer	Joseph	5727 65th St. NW	Rochester	MN	55901	--	507-288-089	jmkoocer@mycl	2011-03-02 20 40 52
Bowman	M.	210 9th St SE	Rochester	MN	55904	OMC	--	507-288-344	maebowman@: 2010-10-06 14 22 39
Katzung	Chad	9 80th steet S.E	Rochester	MN	55904	IBEW Loca	--	507-251-600	chad@ibewloca 2011-03-15 10 52 54
Schulz	Jamie	2300 Silver Creek Rd NE	Rochester	MN	55906	--	--	jamie.schulz@d	2010-10-06 14 22 39
Cook	Bill	4000 East River Road NE	Rochester	MN	55906	Rochester	--	--	wcook@rpu.org 2010-10-06 14 22 39
Hessenius	Vickie	69144 270th Street	Dexter	MN	55926	--	--	vhessenius@my	2010-02-14 20 49 27
Malwitz	Jacob	10852 40 AVE NE	Elgin	MN	55932	--	--	507-358-654	jmalwitz@yahoo 2009-02-18 10 50 05
Thoe	Susan	26200 748 Street	Hayfield	MN	55940	--	--	507-365-888	niftyfarm@mycl 2010-02-02 07 53 46
Schmidt	Jay	58664 Hwy 42	Kellogg	MN	55945	--	--	507-273-326	cowguy@kmwb 2010-10-14 06 49 42
Kispert	Lorry	50669 20th Ave.	Kenyon	MN	55946	--	--	lorrykzbag@hot	2010-06-29 08 50 24
Greening	Mary	22 6 St E Dept 123	Mantorville	MN	55955	Dodge Cou	--	507-635-627	mary.greening@ 2010-04-30 12 02 47
Gau	Steve	59178 411 Ave	Mazeppa	MN	55956	--	--	sgau@sleepyey	2009-02-18 09 08 21
Scheffler	Lowell	49862 240th Ave Way	Mazeppa	MN	55956	--	--	lvscheffler@hot	2010-02-12 09 40 40
Baertlein	Cheryl	56901 County Road 21	Mazeppa	MN	55956	507-843-4217	507-284-132	baertlein.cheryl	2010-09-27 08 34 08
Lyke	Richard	P.O. Box 89 13051 18th A	Oronoco	MN	55960	Oronoco T	--	507-367-213	rtlyke@pitel.net 2010-09-25 21 33 13
Melton	Bette	325 7th ST SW	Oronoco	MN	55960	--	--	507-367-439	bsmelton@pitel 2010-09-26 09 38 13
Muller	Sharon	3078 125th St. NW	Oronoco	MN	55960	--	--	507-367-443	muller.sharon@ 2010-10-01 13 00 29
Davidson	Matt	500 W Broadway Ave	Plainview	MN	55964	ISD 2899	--	507-272-854	mdavidson@isd 2010-09-30 08 33 46
Morse	Joseph	PO Box 315	Winona	MN	55987	Bluff Land	507-452-8232	josephmorse@f	2009-02-18 11 46 47
Anderson	Patrick	900 E. 7th St. Apt. 4	Winona	MN	55987	Winona De	--	507-453-351	patrick.anderso 2010-04-19 14 59 47
Nyhus	Stephanie	600 North Rol Mail Station 3	St. Paul	MN	55992	State of M	--	651-556-610	stephanie.nyhu: 2011-03-14 09 43 58
Schumacher	Rod	1409 North Ri P.O. Box 102E	Mankato	MN	56001	I S Enginee	507.387.6651	--	rschumacher@i 2010-10-06 14 31 26
Howden	Rick	227 E Main St Suite 220	Mankato	MN	56001	Congressrr	--	507-388-317	rick.howden@n 2010-10-27 09 32 35
Schmidt	Kris	17501 West 250th Street	Belle Plaine	MN	56011	Blakeley Tr	--	952-393-751	kristines@mvec 2009-05-06 07 53 33
Frisk-Thompsc	Lori	459 S Grove Street	Blue Earth	MN	56013	CMMPA	--	507-526-219	lorift@utplus.cc 2009-02-18 09 08 11
Stindtman	Michele	415 S Grove S Suite 8	Blue Earth	MN	56013	Planning Zi	--	507-526-238	fcswcd@bevcor 2011-02-08 15 05 30
Straub	Janet	P. O. Box 43	Le Sueur	MN	56058	--	--	507-665-655	jrstraub@usfam 2009-09-24 14 36 34
Mittelstaedt	Steven	32097 Sanborn DR	montgomery	MN	56069	--	--	952-292-688	mcstopdetailers 2009-09-23 10 58 11
Hoffman	Joe and Arlene	2521 260th Street West	New Prague	MN	56071	952-758-4267	952-445-686	jahffmn@bevco	2009-04-29 14 59 34
Entinger	Paul	13821 300th St.	New Prague	MN	56071	--	--	952-758-194	bobbie97@bevc 2009-03-27 12 05 00
Schaefer	Benjamin	261 Highway 15 South	New Ulm	MN	56073	Minnesota	--	507-359-605	benjamin.schae 2009-02-13 11 45 23
Mixon	Kevin	261 HWY 15 South	New Ulm	MN	56073	DNR	--	507-359-607	kevin.mixon@di 2009-04-03 11 07 16
Haseleu	Randy and Rose	420 South Hoyt	Springfield	MN	56087	507-723-8828	--	Randy Rose	2009-03-05 07 31 51
Withers	Sarah	74576 560th Ave.	Jackson	MN	56143	--	--	slwithers@nfpir	2010-10-06 14 24 29
Swenson	Steven	115 2nd St. NE	Pipestone	MN	56164	Pipestone	--	--	sswenson@pipe 2011-02-09 07 47 42
Johnson	Patricia	23347 220th St.	Rushmore	MN	56168	--	--	507-478-455	pands@noblesv 2009-09-11 13 46 19
Davis	Thomas	1161 50th Ave.	Sherburn	MN	56171	507-764-3558	--	Thomas Davis	2008-06-20 13 30 58
Bair	Annette	2401 Broadway Ave	Slayton	MN	56172	SRDC	--	507-836-854	phydev@swrdc. 2010-07-22 07 08 59
Bouta	Michelle	323 West Schleiman Avenue	Appleton	MN	56208	Upper Min	--	320-289-198	michelle.bouta(2009-03-17 10 15 40
Stoks	Joe	1926 160th Ave	Canby	MN	56220	--	--	507-296-455	amsjoe350@yal 2010-04-09 07 44 11
Rude	Cheryl	5475 254th Ave.	Granite Falls	MN	56241	320-564-4015	507-537-911	crude@mvtvwir	2009-11-19 23 40 09
Stengel	Al	2244 520 Street	Hanley Falls	MN	56245	--	--	507-768-355	pat_stengel@hc 2009-04-22 07 02 48

Drusch	Dean	44465 260th Street	Morgan	MN	56266	--	507-249-335	ddrusch@redre	2009-03-03 15 19 28	
Schroeder	Randy	33763 327th Ave.	Morgan	MN	56266	--	507-233-479	rschroeder@fra	2009-02-18 11 56 15	
Vetsch	Jeff	112 Norwood St.	New London	MN	56273	CERTs	--	320-212-440	jeffvetsch@clea	2010-11-22 13 56 23
Rath	Julie	PO Box 481 200 S Mill Str	Redwood Fal	MN	56283	MN Valley	507-637-4004	--	julie@redwoodl	2010-12-27 09 13 02
Bellig	Peter	207 Cedar Cliff Road	Redwood Fal	MN	56283	--	507-430-520	jokremin@mch:	2010-07-19 14 24 45	
Krekelberg	Trudi	820 Hamlet Dr S	Avon	MN	56301	--	--	celtichand56@y	2010-06-17 15 23 59	
Kenning	Darren	7242 Old Hwy 52	St. Cloud	MN	56303	--	--	darrenk@kenni	2009-10-22 14 38 24	
Fassett	Jeff	5200 Birchwood Ct NW	Alexandria	MN	56308	IEM Energy	320-846-5255	--	fassettj@iemen	2010-10-06 14 37 13
Schwalbe	Steve and Lisa	16825 363rd St	Avon	MN	56310	--	320-356-7316	--	stevetisa9@aol.	2010-03-01 15 35 51
Opatz	Roger	37579 County Road 155	Avon	MN	56310	--	--	bmo2504@junc	2010-06-03 18 12 00	
Jarnot	Gabe and Julie	1020 Hamlet Drive N	Avon	MN	56310	Stratford	1-800-555-1111	--	gjjarnot@mywd	2010-07-19 14 27 09
Jewell	Sarah	33294 112th Avenue	Avon	MN	56310	--	320-251-141	sjjewell02@ham	2010-07-23 23 08 48	
Notch	Steve	28086 38th Street	Freeport	MN	56331	Millwood	1-800-555-1111	--	sjnotch@albany	2011-01-13 18 09 42
Mueller	Colleen	22186 State Hwy 4	Paynesville	MN	56362	--	--	cmueller@wildt	2010-05-25 08 24 34	
Voller	James	33038 102nd Ave	St. Joseph	MN	56374	--	--	jlvoller@clearwi	2009-05-12 08 09 20	
Kuebelbeck	James	28391 Kelp Rd	St. Joseph	MN	56374	--	320-363-814	jckueb@clearwi	2009-04-19 11 51 34	
Legatt	Lois and Dennis	10960 385th Street	St. Joseph	MN	56374	--	320-259-668	llegatt@yahoo.c	2010-02-23 10 04 36	
Gohmann	Curt and Mary P	35123 County Road 2	St. Joseph	MN	56374	--	320-203-863	candmpg@clou	2010-11-16 09 15 44	
Rothaus	Richard	1965 W. Highview Dr	Sauk Rapids	MN	56379	Trefoil Cult	--	320-251-668	rothaus@trefoil	2009-02-18 11 52 18
Slukich	Tom	18119 Hwy 371 North	Brainerd	MN	56401	National C	2188288171	--	tom@nationalci	2010-10-06 14 26 09
Hurley	Wayne	1000 Western Ave.	Fergus Falls	MN	56537	West Cent	--	218-739-223	wayne@wcif.or;	2009-02-18 10 25 39
Stradley	Kathleen and Scott	3116 Highway 9 South	Glyndon	MN	56547	--	--	katstradley@grr	2009-03-05 23 39 46	
Herzog	Natalie	10050 57th Avenue N	Glyndon	MN	56547	--	218-236-4927	218-498-226	naherzog@msn	2009-02-12 13 34 15
Morse	Todd	3521 Riverview Circle S.	Moorhead	MN	56560	Trinity Inv	--	218-233-252	toddmorse@cal	2009-05-08 16 54 32
Jovonovich-Le Jacqui		8468 140th Ave S	Sabin	MN	56580	Lesmeister	--	218-789-715	jacquijovonovic	2010-07-20 13 51 27
Wright-Knutsc	Jan	5111 Lavinia Road NE	Bemidji	MN	56601	--	--	218-209-313	jrwright@bemic	2010-07-14 09 26 23
Gebhardt	K. A.	43901 253rd Avenue	Leonard	MN	56652	--	--	218-968-231	kageb1@gvtel.c	2010-01-01 11 40 54
Nelson	Kevin	120 3rd. Ave. S	Brookings	SD	57006	Utility Shar	--	605-692-173	keevinkellyn@s	2009-03-05 07 47 02
Swartz	Sean	526 10th Stre P.O. Box 485	West Fargo	ND	58078	--	--	swwartz@brauni	2009-10-19 16 28 24	
DeLong	Skip	15317 11th Street N.E.	Mayville	ND	58257	Wind Ener	701 430-043	--	skdelong@polai	2009-02-18 09 03 10
Bates	Mike	8 3rd St. South	Great Falls	MT	59401	--	406-791-721	mbates@dadco	2011-01-28 11 07 46	
Schulz	Amy	765 Industrial Dr	Cary	IL	60013	Duraflex li	--	877-462-100	amy@duraflexir	2011-01-28 11 08 19
Fehr	Timothy	827 N. Liberty Street	Morris	IL	60450	TransCana	815-941-9009	815-941-900	timothy_fehr@i	2009-02-18 09 05 11
Trivellizzi	Marco	8501 W. Higgi Suite 400	Chicago	IL	60631	Mass. Elec	--	773-458-129	marco.trivellizzi	2010-04-09 07 41 41
Kennon	Peter	333 W Wacke Suite 1500	Chicago	IL	60657	Acciona En	--	312-673-302	pkennon@accio	2011-01-28 11 09 26
Butner	Joe	14503 Wallick Rd.	Atchison	KS	66002	The Stress	--	913-255-311	jbutner@stressc	2010-03-26 14 06 11
Guajardo	Floyd	1455 West Lo Suite 400	Houston	TX	77027	PennWell	(--	713-499-630	floydg@pennwe	2010-06-09 11 26 07
Clark	Marie	2901 28th Street	Snyder	TX	79549	--	--	325-573-532	mir-mir-z@sudc	2010-06-10 10 18 41
Galloway	Chad	8400 E. Crescent Pkwy	Greenwood \	CO	80111	Arion Ener	--	720-528-436	chad.galloway@	2011-02-16 11 44 49
Schrader	Michael	4616 East Pebble Ridge Roa	Paradise Vall	AZ	85253	Ariztar Dev	602-667-0020	602-793-330	masnd76@cox.i	2009-03-05 08 06 48
Ulmer	Emily	85 Second Str 2nd floor	San Francisc	CA	94105	Sierra Club	--	415-977-569	emily.ulmer@si	2010-04-09 07 04 04
Davis	Hadley	85 Second St.	San Francisc	CA	94105	Sierra Club	--	415-977-576	hadley.davis@si	2010-06-10 10 19 29
Carlson	Hali	89 Norman Drive	Kenora Ontario	P9N 3T6	NCC	807-468-9425	800-963-540	halicarlson@km	2010-03-12 13 57 31	

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**COUNTY OF NOBLES
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a public hearing has been called and will be convened in and for Nobles County, Minnesota, on Wednesday, the 27th day of April, 2011 to begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Nobles County Public Works Facility, 960 Diagonal Road, Worthington, MN 56187, for the purpose of providing public input on the content of an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a proposed transmission line that will be located in Section 18 of Township 102N, Range 39W (Lorain Township) and Sections 13 & 14 of Township 102N, Range 40W, (Worthington Township) of Nobles County

Nobles County is in the process of preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a 115 kV transmission line proposed by Worthington Public Utilities (WPU). The proposed transmission line project will consist of the construction of approximately 2.7 miles of new overhead 115 kV transmission line, and rebuilding approximately 1.0 miles of existing 69 kV transmission line to 115 kV standards. This project is needed to increase system reliability of WPU and the area transmission system, as well as provide additional capacity on the system.

If you know of any interested person or persons who did not receive written notification of said hearing, it would be appreciated if you inform them of said hearing. If you cannot attend said hearing, this office will receive all comments verbal and/or written. Such hearing to be conducted by the Nobles County Planning Commission.

**BY ORDER OF THE NOBLES COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION**

**Wayne Smith
Environmental Services Director**

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

PLANNING AND ZONING

Public Works Building
960 Diagonal Road * P.O. Box 187 * Worthington, Minnesota 56187-0187
Phone: 507-295-5322 * Fax: 507-372-8348



DeWild Grant Reckert and Associates Company

CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

1302 SOUTH UNION STREET
P.O. BOX 511
ROCK RAPIDS, IA 51246
(712) 472-2531
FAX: (712) 472-2710

March 24, 2011

Mr. Kevin Mixon
Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
261 Hwy 15 South
New Ulm, MN 56073

**Re: Proposed Worthington Public Utilities (WPU) 115 kV Transmission Line Project
Nobles County, Minnesota**

Dear Mr. Mixon:

Nobles County is in the process of preparing an environmental assessment for a 115 kV transmission line proposed by Worthington Public Utilities (WPU). The proposed transmission line project will be located near Worthington, Minnesota and will consist of the construction of approximately 2.7 miles of new overhead 115 kV transmission line, and rebuilding approximately 1.0 miles of existing 69 kV transmission line to 115 kV standards. This project is needed to increase system reliability for WPU and the area transmission system, as well as provide additional capacity on the system.

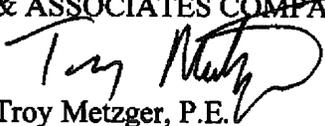
The proposed transmission line will be located in Section 18 of T102N, R39W and Sections 13 and 14 of T102N, R40W in Worthington, Minnesota. Enclosed are two figures that show the project location and the planned route of the new line.

The County is requesting your review of this project with respect to the environmental impacts in the project area.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your agency by April 22, 2011. If you have any questions or require more information about this project, please contact me at 712-472-2531 or tmetzger@dgrnet.com. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

DEWILD GRANT RECKERT
& ASSOCIATES COMPANY



Troy Metzger, P.E.
Project Engineer

Enclosures

Troy Metzger

From: Mixon, Kevin (DNR) <kevin.mixon@state.mn.us>
Sent: Tuesday, May 03, 2011 9:51 AM
To: Troy Metzger
Subject: Worthington Public Utilities Transmission Line Project

Troy:

Based on a preliminary review, the DNR does not anticipate any major issues with this project. The DNR will review the Environmental Assessment when it is available.

Thanks,

Kevin



DeWild Grant Reckert and Associates Company

CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

1302 SOUTH UNION STREET
P.O. BOX 511
ROCK RAPIDS, IA 51246
(712) 472-2531
FAX: (712) 472-2710

March 24, 2011

Ms. Lisa Joyal
Endangered Species Environmental Review Technician
Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Re: Proposed Worthington Public Utilities (WPU) 115 kV Transmission Line Project
Nobles County, Minnesota**

Dear Ms. Joyal:

Nobles County is in the process of preparing an environmental assessment for a 115 kV transmission line proposed by Worthington Public Utilities (WPU). The proposed transmission line project will be located near Worthington, Minnesota and will consist of the construction of approximately 2.7 miles of new overhead 115 kV transmission line, and rebuilding approximately 1.0 miles of existing 69 kV transmission line to 115 kV standards. This project is needed to increase system reliability for WPU and the area transmission system, as well as provide additional capacity on the system.

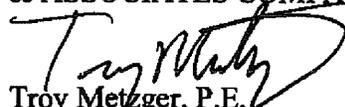
The proposed transmission line will be located in Section 18 of T102N, R39W and Sections 13 and 14 of T102N, R40W in Worthington, Minnesota. Enclosed are two figures that show the project location and the planned route of the new line.

The County is requesting your review of this project with respect to threatened and endangered species, wetlands, and other natural resources that occur in the area. We have enclosed a completed Natural Heritage Information System Data Request Form.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your agency by April 22, 2011. If you have any questions or require more information about this project, please contact me at 712-472-2531 or tmetzger@dgrnet.com. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

DEWILD GRANT RECKERT
& ASSOCIATES COMPANY


Troy Metzger, P.E.
Project Engineer

Enclosures

NO STAPLES
PLEASE



For Agency Use Only: Received _____ Due _____ RUSH Inv _____ Search Radius _____ mi. ER / All Map'd _____ NoR / NoF / NoE / Std / Sub Let _____ Log out _____	#Sec _____ Contact Rqsted? _____ #EOs _____ Survey Rqsted? _____ #Com _____ Related ERDB# _____
---	--

NATURAL HERITAGE INFORMATION SYSTEM (NHIS) DATA REQUEST FORM

Please read the instructions on page 3 before filling out the form. Thank you!

WHO IS REQUESTING THE INFORMATION?

Name and Title Troy Metzger, Project Engineer

Agency/Company DeWild Grant Reckert & Associates Co.

Mailing Address 1302 South Union St. Rock Rapids IA 51246
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

Phone 712-472-2531 e-mail tmetzger@dgrnet.com Responses will be sent via email.
 If you prefer US Mail check here:

THIS INFORMATION IS BEING REQUESTED FOR A:

- Federal EA State EAW PUC Site Application Watershed Plan
- Federal EIS State EIS Local Government Permit Research Project
- NEPA Checklist AUAR
- Other (describe) _____

INFORMATION WE NEED FROM YOU:

- 1) Enclose a map of the project boundary/area of interest (topographic maps or aerial photos are preferred).
- 2) Please provide a GIS shapefile* (NAD 83, UTM Zone 15N) of the project boundary/area of interest.
- 3) List the following locational information* (attach additional sheets if necessary):

For Agency Use: Region / MCBS Status	County	Township #	Range #	Section(s) (please list all sections)	For Agency Use TRS Confirmed <input type="checkbox"/>
	Nobles	102N	39W	18	
	Nobles	102N	40W	13,14	

- 4) Please provide the following information (attach additional sheets if necessary):

Project Name: Proposed 115 kV Transmission Line Project

Project Proposer: Worthington Public Utilities

Description of Project (including types of disturbance anticipated from the project):

WPU's transmission line project will consist of the construction of approximately 2.7 miles of new overhead 115 kV transmission line, and rebuilding approximately 1.0 miles of existing 69 kV transmission line to 115 kV standards. To lessen impact to agricultural and residential property use along the line route, WPU is proposing a route that will follow along road right-of-ways or utility-easement corridors.

The 115 kV transmission line will consist of narrow profile construction, utilizing horizontal post insulators. Poles will primarily be wood or steel single-pole structures. Custom-designed laminated and/or steel poles will be used where the line route changes direction. Guy wires and anchors may be required in areas, but will be minimized to the extent possible to lessen the impact to landowners. The transmission lines will carry four wires (three electrical and one for lightning protection/communication).

* Please see the instructions on page 3.

Describe the existing land use of the project site. What types of land cover/habitat will be impacted by the proposed project?
The transmission line will be installed on lands primarily dedicated to agricultural or commercial use.

List any waterbodies (e.g., rivers, intermittent streams, lakes, wetlands) that may be affected by the proposed project, and how they may be impacted (e.g., dewatering, discharge, riverbed disturbance).

None

To your knowledge, has the project undergone a previous Natural Heritage review? If so, please list the correspondence #: ERDB # _____. How does this request differ from the previous request (e.g., change in scope, change in boundary, project being revived, project expansion, different phase)?

No

To your knowledge, have any native plant community or rare species surveys been conducted within the site? If so, please list: No

List any DNR Permits or Licenses that you will be applying for or have already applied for as part of this project:

None

INFORMATION WE PROVIDE TO YOU:

1) The response will include a Natural Heritage letter. If applicable, the letter will discuss potential impacts to rare features.

- Check here if this information is being requested for a formal environmental review document (e.g., EAW, EIS) and your company/agency has a staff ecologist who will be making the impact determination and you do not want DNR staff to provide any interpretation of impacts.

2) The response will also include an Index Report of known aggregation sites and known occurrences of federally and state-listed plants and animals* within an approximate one-mile radius of the project boundary/area of interest.

- Check here if you would also like geologic features and rare species with no legal status included in the report.

3) If desired, a Detailed Report that contains more information on each occurrence can be obtained. Please note that the Detailed Report may contain specific location information that is protected under *Minnesota Statutes*, section 84.0872, subd. 2, and, as such, the Detailed Report may not be included in any public document (e.g., an EAW). The Index Report and Natural Heritage letter can be included in any public environmental review document.

- Check here if you would also like to receive a Detailed Report.

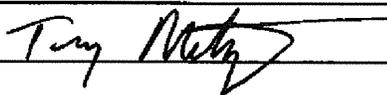
FEES / TURNAROUND TIME

There is a fee* for this service. Requests generally take 3-4 weeks from date of receipt to process, and are processed in the order received. Rush requests* are processed in 2 weeks or less if workloads allow, but are not guaranteed.

- Check here to RUSH this request. You will be charged an additional \$50.

I have read the entire form, and the information supplied above is complete and accurate. I understand that material supplied to me from the Minnesota Natural Heritage Information System is copyrighted and that I am not permitted to reproduce or publish any of this copyrighted material without prior written permission from the Minnesota DNR. Further, if permission to publish is given, I understand that I must credit the Minnesota Division of Ecological Resources, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, as the source of the material.

Signature
(required)



Note: Digital signatures representing the name of a person shall be sufficient to show that such person has signed this document.

Mail or email completed form to:

Lisa Joyal, Natural Heritage Review Coordinator
Division of Ecological Resources
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155
lisa.joyal@state.mn.us

Form is available at

http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/nhnrp/nhis_data_request.pdf

Revised July 2009



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Division of Ecological and Water Resources, Box 25

500 Lafayette Road

St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4025

Phone: (651) 259-5109 E-mail: lisa.joyal@state.mn.us

May 3, 2011

Correspondence # ERDB 20110458

Mr. Troy Metzger
DeWild Grant Reckert & Associates Co.
1302 South Union Street
Rock Rapids, IA 51246

RE: Natural Heritage Review of the proposed 115 kV Transmission Line Project;
T102N R39W Section 18 and T102N R40W Sections 13 & 14; Nobles County

Dear Mr. Metzger,

As requested, the Minnesota Natural Heritage Information System has been queried to determine if any rare species or other significant natural features are known to occur within an approximate one-mile radius of the proposed project. Based on this query, there is a historical record of the Topeka shiner (*Notropis topeka*) in Lake Okabena. Given the project details that were provided with the data request form, and the historical nature of the record, I do not believe the proposed project will negatively affect any known occurrences of rare features.

The Natural Heritage Information System (NHIS), a collection of databases that contains information about Minnesota's rare natural features, is maintained by the Division of Ecological and Water Resources, Department of Natural Resources. The NHIS is continually updated as new information becomes available, and is the most complete source of data on Minnesota's rare or otherwise significant species, native plant communities, and other natural features. However, the NHIS is not an exhaustive inventory and thus does not represent all of the occurrences of rare features within the state. Therefore, ecologically significant features for which we have no records may exist within the project area.

For environmental review purposes, the Natural Heritage letter is valid for one year; it is only valid for the project location (noted above) and the project description provided on the NHIS Data Request Form. Please contact me if project details change or if an updated review is needed.

Please note that locations of the gray wolf (*Canis lupus*), federally-listed as threatened and state-listed as special concern, and the Canada lynx (*Lynx canadensis*), federally-listed as threatened, are not currently tracked in the NHIS. As such, the Natural Heritage Review does not address these species.

Furthermore, the Natural Heritage Review does not constitute review or approval by the Department of Natural Resources as a whole. Instead, it identifies issues regarding known occurrences of rare features and potential effects to these rare features. Additional rare features for which we have no data may be present in the project area, or there may be other natural resource concerns associated with the proposed project. For these concerns, please contact your DNR Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist (contact information available at http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/ereview/erp_regioncontacts.html). Please be aware that additional site assessments or review may be required.

Thank you for consulting us on this matter, and for your interest in preserving Minnesota's rare natural resources. An invoice will be mailed to you under separate cover.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Joyal".

Lisa Joyal
Natural Heritage Review Coordinator



DeWild Grant Reckert and Associates Company

CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

1302 SOUTH UNION STREET
P.O. BOX 511
ROCK RAPIDS, IA 51246
(712) 472-2531
FAX: (712) 472-2710

March 24, 2011

Ms. Kelly Gragg-Johnson
Government Programs and Compliance Officer
Minnesota Historical Society
345 W. Kellogg Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55102-1906

**Re: Proposed Worthington Public Utilities (WPU) 115 kV Transmission Line Project
Nobles County, Minnesota**

Dear Ms. Gragg-Johnson:

Nobles County is in the process of preparing an environmental assessment for a 115 kV transmission line proposed by Worthington Public Utilities (WPU). The proposed transmission line project will be located near Worthington, Minnesota and will consist of the construction of approximately 2.7 miles of new overhead 115 kV transmission line, and rebuilding approximately 1.0 miles of existing 69 kV transmission line to 115 kV standards. This project is needed to increase system reliability for WPU and the area transmission system, as well as provide additional capacity on the system.

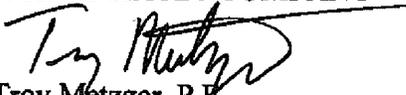
The proposed transmission line will be located in Section 18 of T102N, R39W and Sections 13 and 14 of T102N, R40W in Worthington, Minnesota. Enclosed are two figures that show the project location and the planned route of the new line.

The County is requesting your review of this project with respect to historic properties within the project area.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your agency by April 22, 2011. If you have any questions or require more information about this project, please contact me at 712-472-2531 or tmetzger@dgrmet.com. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

DEWILD GRANT RECKERT
& ASSOCIATES COMPANY


Troy Metzger, P.E.
Project Engineer

Enclosures



STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

April 14, 2011

Mr. Troy Metzger
DGR and Associates
1302 South Union Street
PO Box 511
Rock Rapids, IA 51246

RE: Worthington Public Utilities 115 kV Transmission Line Project
T102 R39 S18 & T102 R40 S13-14
Worthington, Nobles County
SHPO Number: 2011-1747

Dear Mr. Metzger:

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the above project. It has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the Minnesota Historical Society by the Minnesota Historic Sites Act and the Minnesota Field Archaeology Act.

Based on our review of the project information, we conclude that there are no properties listed on the National or State Registers of Historic Places, and no known or suspected archaeological properties in the area that will be affected by this project.

Please note that this comment letter does not address the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and 36CFR800, Procedures of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for the protection of historic properties. If this project is considered for federal assistance, or requires a federal permit or license, it should be submitted to our office with reference to the assisting federal agency.

Please contact our Compliance Section at (651) 259-3455 if you have any questions regarding our review of this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Britta L. Bloomberg'.

Britta L. Bloomberg
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer



DeWild Grant Reckert and Associates Company

CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

1302 SOUTH UNION STREET
P.O. BOX 511
ROCK RAPIDS, IA 51246
(712) 472-2531
FAX: (712) 472-2710

March 24, 2011

Ms. Roxann L. Polzine
Office Director
Nobles County Historical Society
Suite #2, 407 12th Street
Worthington, MN 56187

**Re: Proposed Worthington Public Utilities (WPU) 115 kV Transmission Line Project
Nobles County, Minnesota**

Dear Ms. Polzine:

Nobles County is in the process of preparing an environmental assessment for a 115 kV transmission line proposed by Worthington Public Utilities (WPU). The proposed transmission line project will be located near Worthington, Minnesota and will consist of the construction of approximately 2.7 miles of new overhead 115 kV transmission line, and rebuilding approximately 1.0 miles of existing 69 kV transmission line to 115 kV standards. This project is needed to increase system reliability for WPU and the area transmission system, as well as provide additional capacity on the system.

The proposed transmission line will be located in Section 18 of T102N, R39W and Sections 13 and 14 of T102N, R40W in Worthington, Minnesota. Enclosed are two figures that show the project location and the planned route of the new line.

The County is requesting your review of this project with respect to historic properties within the project area.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your agency by April 22, 2011. If you have any questions or require more information about this project, please contact me at 712-472-2531 or tmetzger@dgrnet.com. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

DEWILD GRANT RECKERT
& ASSOCIATES COMPANY


Troy Metzger, P.E.
Project Engineer

Enclosures

Troy Metzger

From: Scott Hain <shain@worthingtonutilities.com>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2011 1:21 PM
To: Troy Metzger; Wayne Smith
Cc: Patrick Demuth; Chad Rasmussen
Subject: FW: Proposed Worthington Transmission Line Project 2011

Troy & Wayne,

I received this email from the Nobles Co. Historical Society regarding the transmission project. I see it was also to be sent to you Troy but the email address was incorrect. Wayne, I thought this would be of interest to you as well.

Scott Hain
General Manager
Worthington Public Utilities
P.O. Box 458
Worthington, MN 56187-0458
Ph: 507-372-8680
Fax: 507-372-8688
Cell: 507-360-6724
shain@worthingtonutilities.com

From: Nobles County Historical Society [mailto:n.c.h.society@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2011 11:52 AM
To: tmetzger@gdrnet.com
Cc: Scott Hain
Subject: Proposed Worthington Transmission Line Project 2011

Mr. Metzger –

Our local historian and the Society's board of directors have reviewed the proposed Worthington Public Utilities 115 kV Transmission Line Project located in Section 18 of T102N, R39W and Sec 13 & 14 of T102N, R40W. We know of no cultural or historical properties that will be adversely affected by the proposed transmission line referred to in your letter of March 24, 2011.

Carolyn Soper

--

Nobles County Historical Society



DeWild Grant Reckert and Associates Company

CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

1302 SOUTH UNION STREET
P.O. BOX 511
ROCK RAPIDS, IA 51246
(712) 472-2531
FAX: (712) 472-2710

March 24, 2011

Ms. Tamara Smith
Ecological Services Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4101 East 80th Street
Bloomington, MN 55425

**Re: Proposed Worthington Public Utilities (WPU) 115 kV Transmission Line Project
Nobles County, Minnesota**

Dear Ms. Smith:

Nobles County is in the process of preparing an environmental assessment for a 115 kV transmission line proposed by Worthington Public Utilities (WPU). The proposed transmission line project will be located near Worthington, Minnesota and will consist of the construction of approximately 2.7 miles of new overhead 115 kV transmission line, and rebuilding approximately 1.0 miles of existing 69 kV transmission line to 115 kV standards. This project is needed to increase system reliability for WPU and the area transmission system, as well as provide additional capacity on the system.

The proposed transmission line will be located in Section 18 of T102N, R39W and Sections 13 and 14 of T102N, R40W in Worthington, Minnesota. Enclosed are two figures that show the project location and the planned route of the new line.

The County is requesting your review of this project with respect to threatened and endangered species that occur in the area. The proposed project does not represent a "major construction activity" as defined in 50CFR402.02.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your agency by April 22, 2011. If you have any questions or require more information about this project, please contact me at 712-472-2531 or tmetzger@dgrnet.com. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

DEWILD GRANT RECKERT
& ASSOCIATES COMPANY



Troy Metzger, P.E.
Project Engineer

Enclosures

Troy Metzger

From: Richard_Davis@fws.gov
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2011 9:40 AM
To: Troy Metzger
Subject: Proposed Worthington Public Utilities 115 kV Transmission Line Project, Nobles County, MN

Hello Mr. Metzger,

I have received your request for review of the proposed Worthington Public Utilities Project as specified in your March 24, 2011 letter. Currently, western prairie fringed orchid (Threatened), Topeka shiner (Endangered), and prairie bush clover are present within Nobles County, Minnesota. Our records do not indicate any records of western prairie fringed orchid, Topeka shiner, or prairie bush clover within or adjacent to the proposed transmission line location. At any point during project planning or construction should additional information on the western prairie fringed orchid, Topeka shiner, or prairie bush clover become available or should additional species become listed, consultation regarding these species should be reinitiated with the Twin Cities Field Office.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703-712; MBTA) implements four treaties that provide for international protection of migratory birds. The MBTA prohibits taking, killing, possession, transportation, and importation of migratory birds, their eggs, parts, and nests, except when specifically authorized by the Department of the Interior. Unlike the Endangered Species Act, neither the MBTA nor its implementing regulations at 50 CFR Part 21, provide for permitting of "incidental take" of migratory birds.

Impacts to ground nesting birds should be avoided during construction and placement of the proposed transmission line. The proposed transmission line appears to cross an open drainage ditch directly north of an on-ramp to Interstate 90. The Service recommends bird diverters be placed on the transmission line at this ditch crossing.

We appreciate the opportunity to review the proposed project. Should you have any questions, or if I can be of further assistance feel free to email or call me directly.

Thank you,
Rich Davis

Richard Davis
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Twin Cities Field Office
4101 American Blvd. E.
Bloomington, MN 55425
(612)725-3548 ext. 2214



I have no comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:



I have the following comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

Optional:
Name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____



I have no comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project.

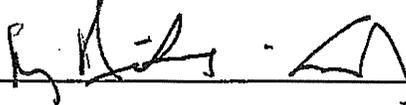


I have the following comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

RECEIVED
MAY 01 2011
BY: _____

Optional: Sungold Partners
Name: PO Box 628
Cando, ND 58324

Address: _____

Signature: 



I have no comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:



I have the following comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

RECEIVED
APR 29 2011
BY: _____

RECEIVED
APR 29 2011
BY: _____

Optional:
Name:

Linda Barajas

Address:

2341 Co. RD 33 Worthington MN 56187

Signature:

Linda Barajas

I have no comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

I have the following comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

I WANT CPU SERVICE!

RECEIVED
APR 27 2011
BY: _____

Optional:
Name: _____

DAN BOGIE

Address: _____

32469 244TH ST. WAIN.

Signature: _____

Dan Bogie



I have no comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:



I have the following comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

RECEIVED
APR 27 2011
BY: _____

Optional: Name: Sweetman Const DBA Conc. Materials

Address: 409 OXFORD STREET

Signature: Walter Ferenc - Location Manager



I have no comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

Two horizontal lines for handwritten comments.



I have the following comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

RECEIVED
APR 21 2011
BY: _____

RECEIVED
APR 21 2011

Optional:
Name:

Viking Car Credit / Edel Rental

Address:

2221 Oxford St

Signature:

[Handwritten Signature]

I have no comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

I have the following comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

RECEIVED
APR 21 2011
BY: _____

Optional: Name: MARK THIER ^{at} Tou Shine Truck Wash "

Address: _____

Signature: Mark Thier

I have no comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

I have the following comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

RECEIVED
APR 20 2011
BY: _____

Optional:
Name: CITY OF WORTHINGTON

Address: 303 NINTH ST, WGIN., MN 5687

Signature: *[Handwritten Signature]* City Administrator

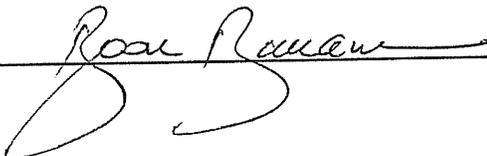
I have no comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

I have the following comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

RECEIVED
APR 20 2011
BY: _____

Optional:
Name: BOON RACCAM

Address: 2121 ELEANOR ST

Signature: 

I have no comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

I have the following comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

RECEIVED
APR 20 2011
BY: _____

Optional:
Name: Elaine Howland

Address: 1911 Eleanor St

Signature: Elaine E. Howland



I have no comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:



I have the following comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

RECEIVED
APR 20 2011
BY: _____

Optional:
Name: _____

John Paulsen

Address: _____

23459 177th Ave, New Ulm, MN 56073

Signature: _____

John W Paulsen

I have no comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

I have the following comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

RECEIVED
APR 19 2011
BY: _____

Optional: Bedford Technology LLC
Name: _____

Address: 2424 ARMOUR RD.

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]



I have no comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:



I have the following comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

Optional:
Name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____

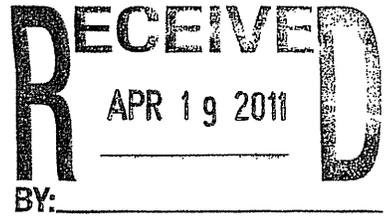
RECEIVED
APR 19 2011
BY: _____



I have no comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:



I have the following comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:



Optional:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____

I have no comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

I have the following comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

.....

RECEIVED
APR 19 2011
BY: _____

Optional:
Name: _____

Address: _____

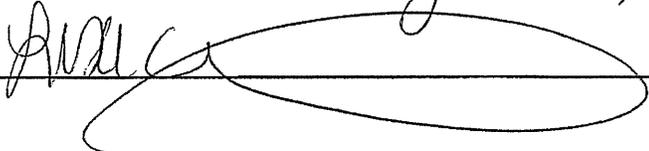
Signature: _____

I have no comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

I have the following comments on the Worthington Public Utilities transmission line project:

Please see attached sheet.

RECEIVED
APR 27 2011

Optional: Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership
Name: _____
Address: 2401 Broadway Ave, Slayton, MN 56172
Signature: 



Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership

"Putting Together the Pieces of Community Development"

April 25, 2011

Mr. Wayne Smith
Nobles County Environmental Services
RE: Worthington Public Utilities Transmission Line Project
PO Box 187
Worthington, MN 56187-0187

Dear Mr. Smith:

The Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership is in receipt of the notice of public hearing for the Worthington Public Utilities Transmission Line Project. We are unable to attend the public hearing and would like to offer written comments related to the project. Recently the SWMHP purchased land off Castlewood Drive and Cecilee Street in order to develop both multifamily housing and to create lots for single family homes. We are currently making an investment of over \$4,300,000 to construct 30 rental units. The SWMHP invested an additional \$600,000 in the land, infrastructure and associated costs of developing this site.

The proposed project runs adjacent to our development and will undeniably have an aesthetic and visual impact on our development. The project would make the single family lots in our development undesirable for households looking to build a new single family home as they would be in such close proximity to the homes.

Significant investment has been made by homeowners in that area along with developers such as the SWMHP to create quality single family homes. This project will have a negative aesthetic and visual impact on the housing in the area making the lots in our development unsellable or we will have to conduct major landscape improvements that will have a substantial cost to us in order to mitigate the visual impact. This is an added cost that we would not be able to recoup in the sale of the lots due to what the market supports in Worthington for lot sales.

Sincerely,

Lisa Graphenteen
Community Development Director

RECEIVED
APR 27 2011
BY: _____

Center for Regional Development
2401 Broadway Avenue
Slayton, MN 56172-1142

Phone: 507.836.8673
Fax: 507.836.8866

Email: swmhp@swmhp.org
Website: www.swmhp.org


CHARTERED MEMBER