

ER Scoping: Open Discussion

- Human and environmental impacts of the project due to size, type, and timing of the project, system configurations, and voltage
- Information on alternatives to the project
- Mitigating measures for possible adverse impacts



Using the above slide as a guideline, please share your ideas on issues for the EQB Environmental Report. The ER will be a part of the PUC Hearing on the Tower Badoura HVTL Project's Biennial Projects Plan Certificate of Need application.

(Use back of page for additional comments.)

I HAVE a 2100 FT air STRIP
1 1/2 miles S of WHalsten corner
CAN you please INFORM
me HOW you COULD MISS THIS!

Dean Zumbann
218 780 7483

8302 Hwy 135 N
EMBASS MN 55732

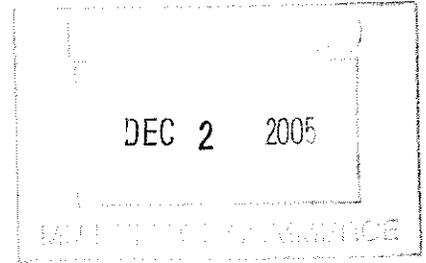
Complete and turn in tonight or mail or fax by 01/09/2006 to:

George Edwin Johnson
Minnesota Department of Commerce
Energy Facility Permitting
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
Saint Paul, MN 55101-2198

phone 651 296-2888
fax 651 297-7891
email: george.johnson@state.mn.us

PEYSENSKE LAKE ASSOCIATION

19050 178th Street
Park Rapids, Minnesota 56470
Les Hagemeyer – President
(218) 732-5541



November 29, 2005

Minnesota Power and Light
30 West Superior Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

Robert Lindholm;

Thanks for taking my phone call on 11/28/05. The purpose of this letter is to express concern about the New Badoura-Long Lake transmission line proposal and also to provide an acceptable solution.

The concerns that the residents have are located near the Long Lake Substation where it goes north-south on County Rd #20 and then goes east-west on 178th Street. This is Lake Peysenske lakeshore property and will become completely residential in the near future. The proposed large poles will be placed so that they are located between the houses and the lakeshore. This is an unacceptable situation. Also, the mature trees that buffer County Road #20 and the lakeshore would probably be cut down. Furthermore, there isn't room between County #20 and the lakeshore in some places for this type of transmission line. The view to the lake would be ugly which would greatly diminish property values. There are also health and safety issues with this type of situation.

The best solution is to change the location away from the residential lakeshore of Lake Peysenske and to connect to Highway 34 by going north-south on 209th Avenue or 219th Avenue. The distance is just over 1 ½ miles in length and there is plenty of space on the Highway 34 right of way for power poles.

We have already expressed these ideas at the Fall Backus meeting. The person wrote it down and thought that this was a good plan. We urge you to consider this to be the best plan for placement of this transmission line instead of having it interfere with our beautiful lakeshore residential area.

Thanks for your time and consideration
Les Hagemeyer, President

Cc:Deborah Pile, MN Dept. of Commerce
David Jacobson, MN PUC
George Johnson, DOC
Enclosure: Map



LAKE



Lake Reynolds

Highway 34

LAKE
59 Acres
New 115 kV - 17.25 Miles

Long Lake
Substation

Park Rapids

209th ave
219th ave
HUBBARD

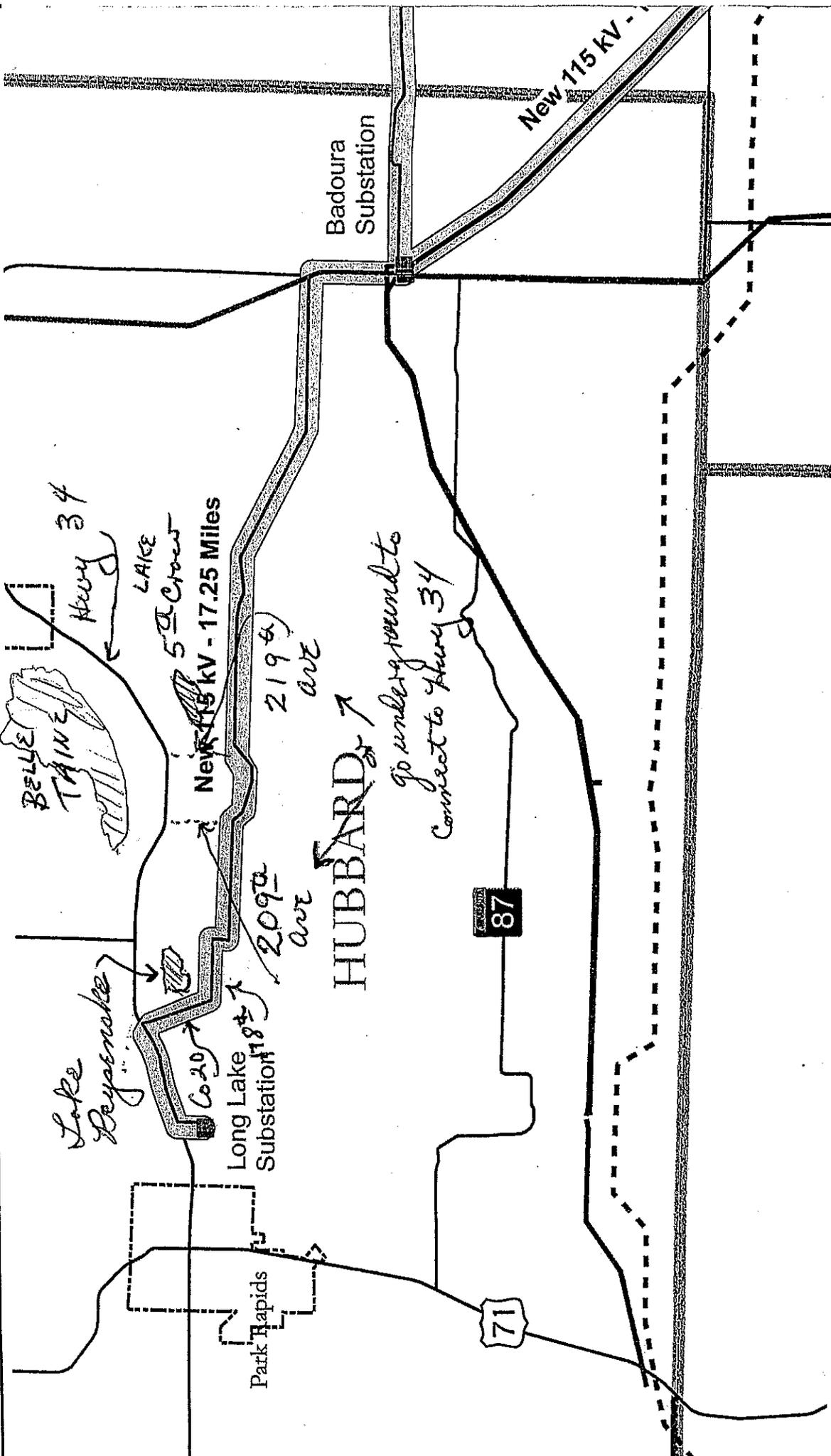
Badoura
Substation

go underground to
connect to Highway 34

87

71

New 115 kV



December 2, 2005

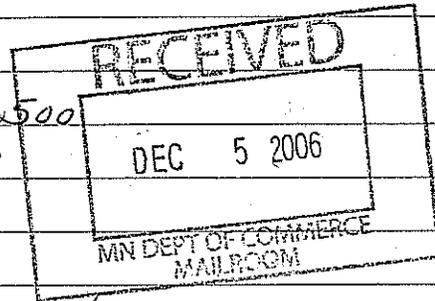
Minnesota Department of Commerce

George Johnson

DOC - EFP

85 7th Place East Suite 500

St. Paul, MN 55101-2198



Dear Sir:

Re: PUC Docket No. E015/TL-05-867

Tower / Embarrass Transmission Line

The map attached to the above document and informational letter received at the Emil Pyhala address at 5604 Petrell Road, Embarrass, MN, seems to indicate that the proposed transmission line will possibly pass through the eastern border of the Pyhala property. I am writing to inform you that there is no allowable 50 to 100 feet on the Eastern three-quarters (meaning more than half) of the three forty's running north and south on this private property. This place, as well as those bordering, are in active, daily use and are a necessity to the livelihood for members of our family.

Therefore, I trust you will take this situation into consideration when making decisions for the proposed transmission line.

Sincerely,
Anne S. Pyhala



P.S.

We wish to remain on the mailing list



LAKE



Highway 34

LAKE

5 Acres

New 115 kV - 17.25 Miles

219th ave

209th ave

HUBBARD

go underground to connect to Hwy 34

Badoura Substation

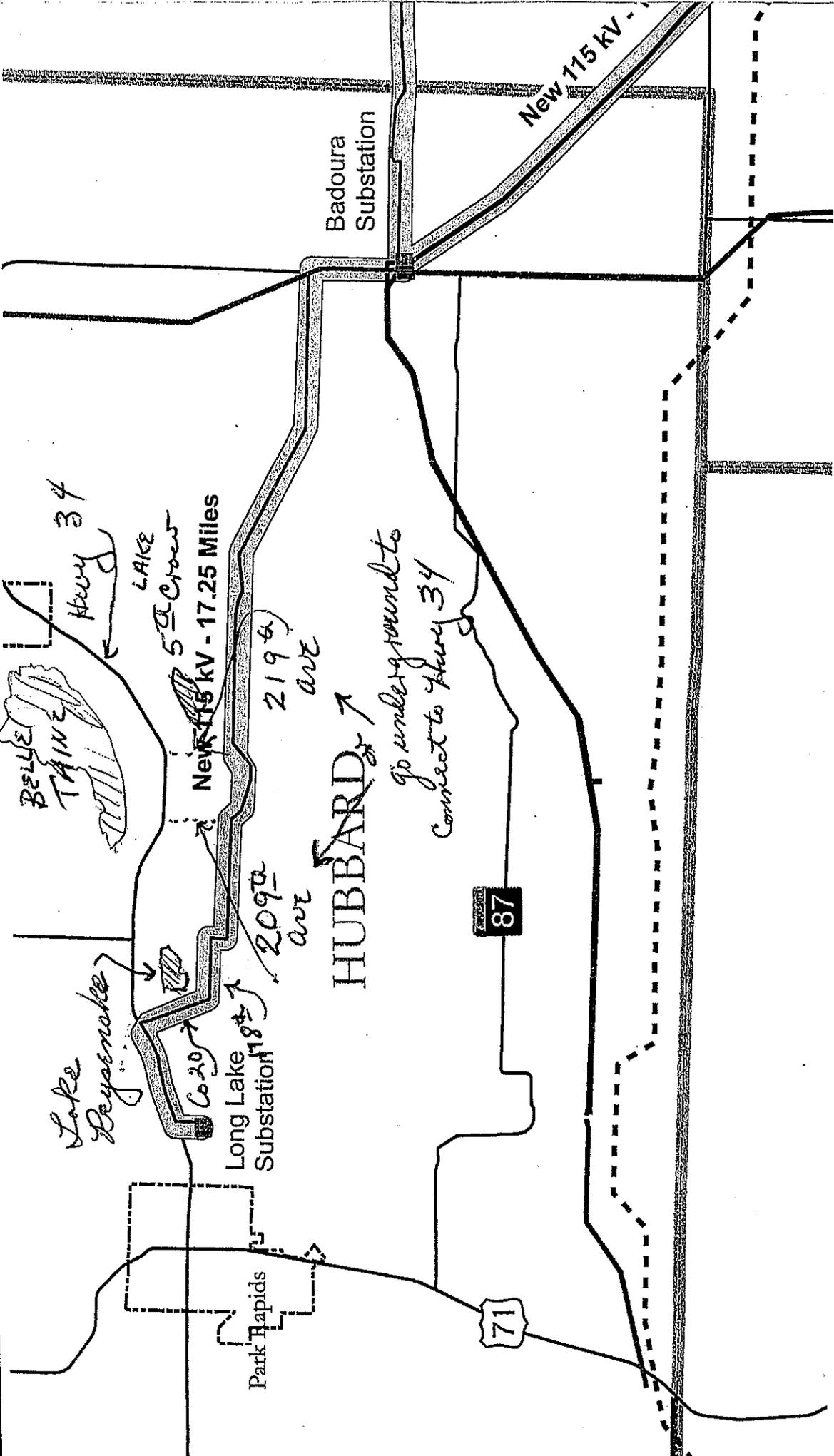
New 115 kV



Lake Reynolds

Long Lake Substation

Park Rapids



December 15, 2005

Minnesota Department of Commerce
George Edwin Johnson
DOC - EFP
85 7th Place East Suite 500
St. Paul, Mn 55101-2198

Dear Sir:

Re: PUC Docket No. E 05/TL-05-864
Tower / Embarrass Transmission Line

Although, I have originally sent you a letter
December 2, 2005, plus the "Comments page" which
you issued at the meeting held on December 8, 2005
at the Embarrass Town Hall (mailed on Dec 9th, 2005);
Public comments are allowed until January 9, 2006.
Therefore, I repeat, once more, that there is
NO allowable 50 to 100 feet along the Eastern
border into three quarters westerly (meaning
more than half East to West) of any of the
three forties that run North and South on the
private property belonging to the Emil Pyhala
families. I speak, not only for myself, but
also, for future generations since there are
others involved in this matter.

I trust you will take this into consideration
when drawing up your Environmental Report.

Thank You,
Anne S. Pyhala

P.S. Keep us posted, please!

PyHALA
5604 Parrell Rd.
Embarrass, MN 55732

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(Use back of page for additional comments.)

12/26/05

HENRY & MARY BUEKLEY
POWER LINE SEGMENT M
83034 EIDELWEISS ST. NW
ST. FRANCIS, MN 55070

MIN. DEPT. OF COMMERCE;

DEAR MR. JOHNSON,

PLEASE SEE ATTACHMENTS.

SINCERELY,

HENRY & MARY BUEKLEY

Complete and turn in tonight or mail or fax by 01/09/2006 to:

George Edwin Johnson
Minnesota Department of Commerce
Energy Facility Permitting
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
Saint Paul, MN 55101-2198

phone 651 296-2888
fax 651 297-7891
email: george.johnson@state.mn.us

12-26-05

Henry & Mary Buerkley

MN Dept. of Commerce;
Mr. G. Johnson,

- Power line segment M, between Park Rapids and Badoura.
(Please see enclosed map)
- Existing line covers a lot of low land, rivers and lakes.
- We have extensive wild / natural life habitat. Big and small game, waterfowl, plants, and river. Low / marshlands, wild rice beds, and the state flower: lady slipper that we feel would be disturbed. Some to the point of no return.
- An upgraded line would encroach more onto our buildings, which are now about 100' from center of existing line.
After the 12/7/05 meeting at Backus, MN, we learned this section has to be completely redone to accommodate this upgrade.
- We would like to suggest rerouting the line along state hwy 34 to state hwy 64 or 34 to csa 33 to 64, using existing road right-of-ways so as to not infringe more on the various habitats by creating more right-of-way.
- We believe service to the line would be more accessible, also reducing any future habitat damage.

Thank You,

Henry and Mary

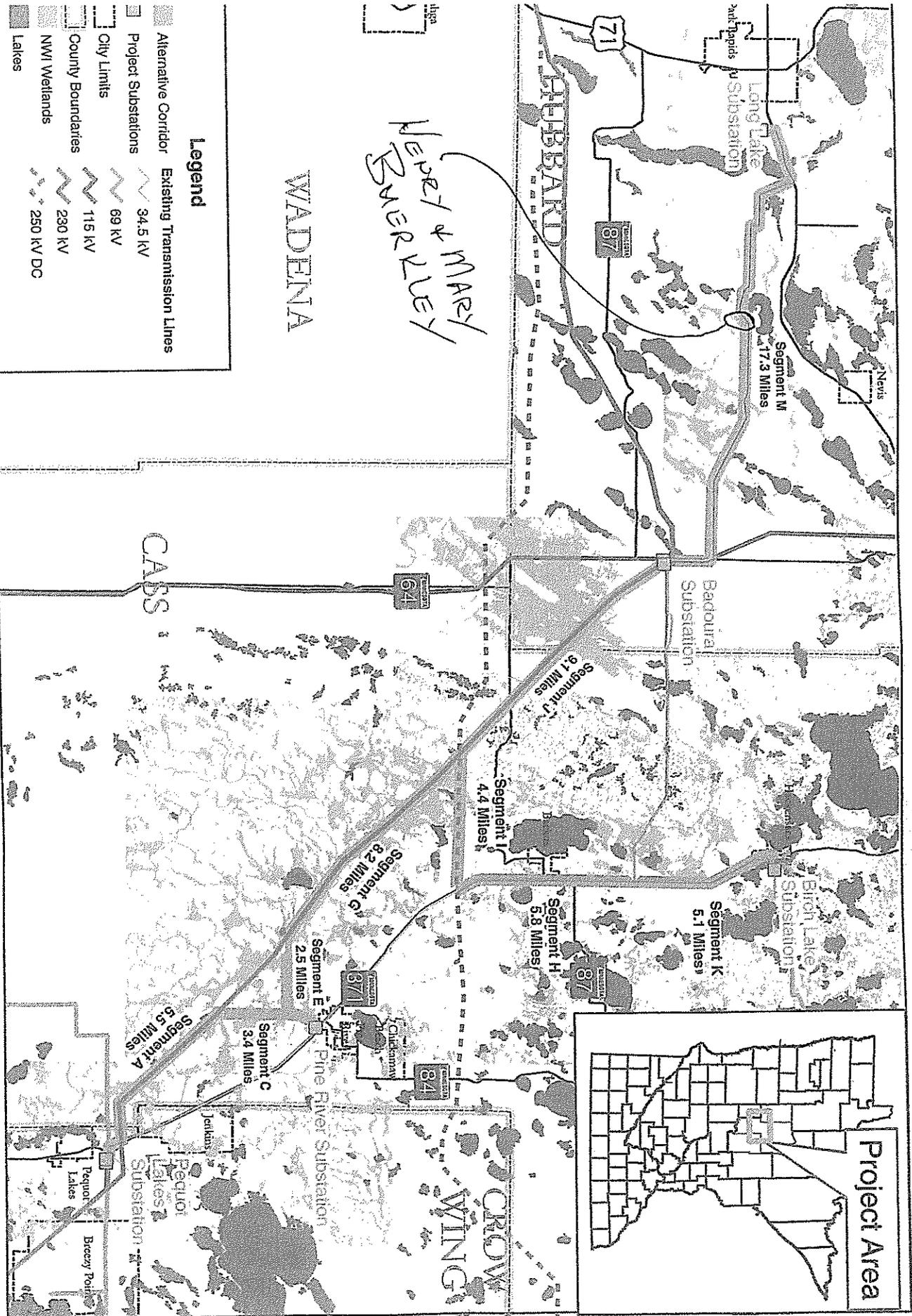
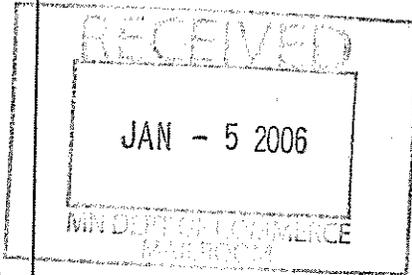


Figure 10-2 - National Wetlands Inventory Map - Alternative Corridor
 Badoura 115 kV Transmission Project
 Cass, Crow Wing, and Hubbard Counties, MN

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I HAVE PLANTED THOUSANDS OF TREES ON MY PROPERTY OVER THE YEARS AND ON DOING SO FOR YEARS TO COME. WE DON'T WANT A POWER LINE CROSSING OUR PROPERTY WHICH INCLUDES THE ABANDONED RAILROAD GRADE. IF THE POWER LINE FOLLOWS THE OLD RAILROAD GRADE IT WILL RUN PARALLEL TO AND OVER FULLER CREEK, DEGRADING THE CREEK.

THE LINES COULD BE RUN FROM COUNTY ROAD 26 TO TOWER ALMOST ENTIRELY ON PUBLIC LAND.

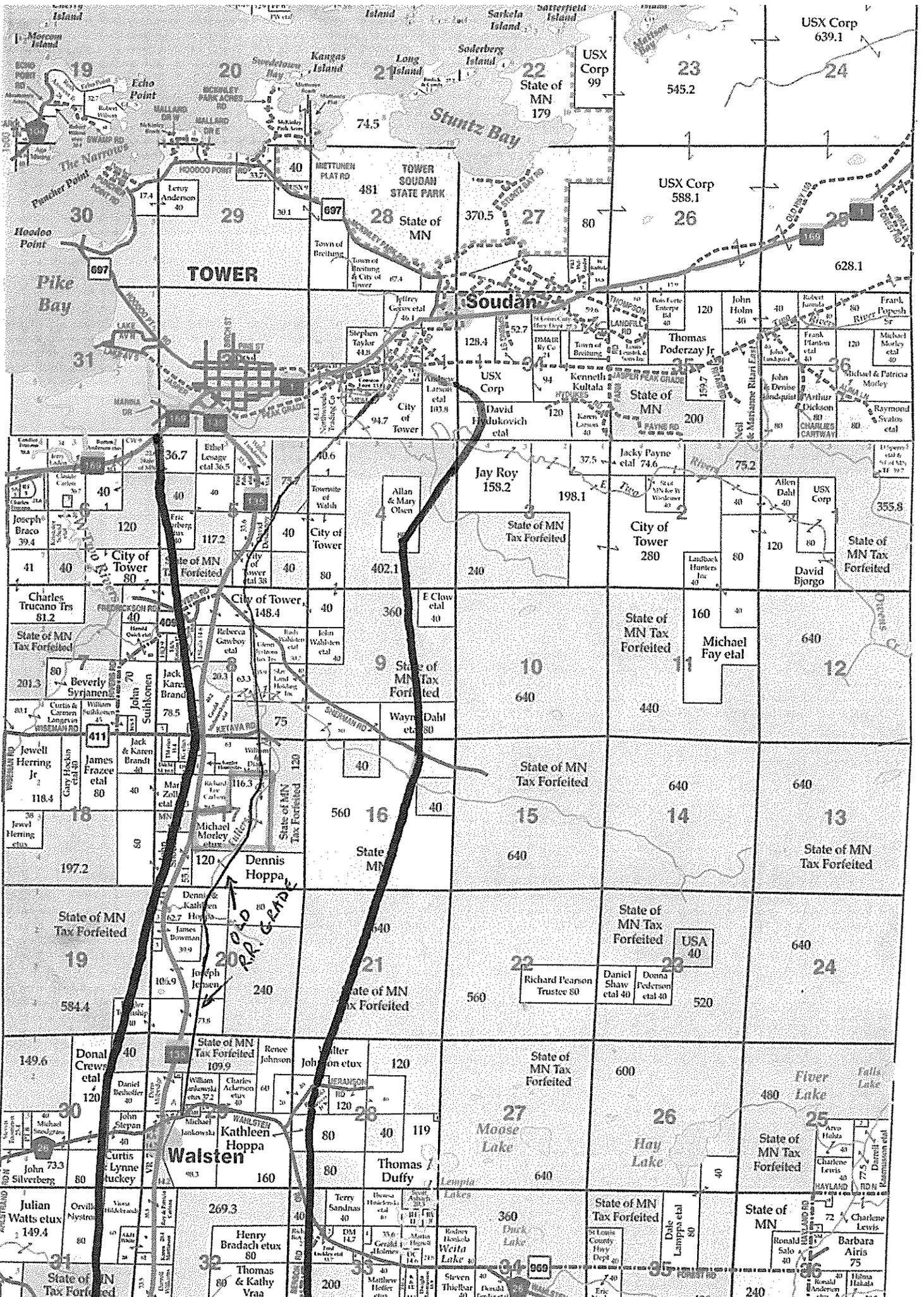
THEN AGAIN THE BEST CHOICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT WOULD BE TO FOLLOW THE EXISTING 46KV LINE INTO TOWER

MIKE MORLEY

Complete and turn in tonight or mail or fax by 01/09/2006 to:

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Minnesota Department of Commerce
Energy Facility Permitting
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
Saint Paul, MN 55101-2198

phone 651 296-2888
fax 651 297-7891
email: george.johnson@state.mn.us



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(Use back of page for additional comments.)

Mr. George Edwin Johnson: Energy Facility Permitting Saint Paul, MN 55101-2198 fax: 651 297-7891	Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East, Suite 500 phone: 651 296-2888 email: george.johnson@state.mn.us
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Gentlemen: The concern of our family, regarding the estate of our father, Emil M. Pyhala, is almost exclusively in regards to the eastern border line of the property, that portion which borders on the land which was formerly owned by the Konu family, then later on by George Waisenen, Jr., and the land currently owned by the Petrell family, which I believe is currently in the possession of a Mr. Edgar Petrell.

Although, I personally do not believe that the two power companies involved in this project have any intent of using that right of way area to access the existing 115kV transmission, a mile or so south of our property, I would indeed have great concern if that were to become the case. (The impact to our family property is indicated on "Continued on Page One") PUC Docket No. E015/TL-05-867.

Complete and turn in tonight or mail or fax by 01/09/2006 to:

George Edwin Johnson Minnesota Department of Commerce Energy Facility Permitting 85 7 th Place East, Suite 500 Saint Paul, MN 55101-2198	phone: 651 296-2888 fax: 651 297-7891 email: george.johnson@state.mn.us
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Mr. Johnson: I did not notice the period (.) between your first name and your last name, so I could not email this to you earlier. I hope that it reaches you in a timely manner despite the problems which I created for myself. Thank you for your consideration of my input. Please add me to you mailing list, and keep me informed of the status of this project.

Page one continued—Arthur Pyhala, 139 Edwards Store Road, Lyman, SC 29365-9573
Residence Phone 864 879-0644, cell phone 864 431-0380—email <artpyhala@hotmail.com>
PUC Docket No. E 015/TL-05-867 Tower/Embarrass 115kV Transmission Line Project

There would be major, and irreversible, environmental impact on the two family residences, which currently happen to straddle both sides of the eastern property line, of the estate of my father, Emil M. Pyhala. One of the properties being my father's original estate residence, and the other one, the property of his oldest daughter, who purchased, from our neighbor, a small lot, contiguous to the eastern border of my father's property, upon which to install her own family residence. Taking a right-of-way, wide enough to accommodate a massive 115 kV electric transmission line, would, for all practical purposes, ruinously destroy, completely and forever, the aesthetics of both properties with no practical advantage to the two power companies involved. This lack of advantage becomes especially apparent, when adequate consideration is taken for the problems that they would encounter in crossing the very deep swamp area, directly south of that particular right-of-way. This is an area of what is known as, I believe, the Hundred Mile Swamp, which contains only scrub tamarack trees, most of which have not attained a trunk diameter, or caliper, of no more than a few inches and a height of fifteen to twenty feet, at a maximum average, indicating a very deep and wet swamp, which has not been capable of providing adequate nutrition for proper growth of vegetation.

This is not to even delve into the problems which would be encountered one quarter mile north of my father's estate land, at what we used to refer to as Konu's Corner, which has had a considerable amount of residential development, since I have moved out of the area in 1966. I visited Embarrass in August of 2004, to attend our Pyhala family reunion, and was amazed at the number of residences which had been constructed in that area. It appears to me that it would be prudent to bypass this development, on the western side, where fewer residences would come under the impact of the project.

If it becomes necessary to cause any impact, at all, to the Emil M. Pyhala estate, it would be far more acceptable to utilize the western three quarter mile long boundary between my father's estate, and the property currently in the possession of the county of St. Louis, as tax forfeit land. The portion of the previously mentioned swamp, south of that western property, line is much more shallow, than on the eastern property line, as indicated by the caliper and height of the trees growing in that line area, making it far more advantageous for the power companies involved, not to point out that it would place their southern terminus, one quarter of a mile closer to what appears to be their final destination, westerly of the junction of the current 115kV line, on the opposite side of the Embarrass River. Maintenance problems would be reduced over utilizing the, even more westerly, right of way, across the swamp adjacent to the Wynne Lake Road, which I believe is currently referred to as Giants Ridge Road. A route which would place the line directly over land which would support growth of vegetation, which consequently would have to be destroyed, either by mechanical or chemical means, at quite regular intervals, creating a consistent, and repeatedly, on-going environmental impact for the entire route, and possibly even impacting the future of the water shed in that immediate area, and even a long way downstream from that area, if regular and frequent chemical treatment to control that vegetation becomes necessary.

I do respectfully request that you, as the one person responsible for making sure that this project is conducted in the most environmentally proper manner in which a project of this magnitude can possibly be conducted, do take my suggestions into proper consideration.

Thank you,
Sincerely,

Arthur Pyhala
139 Edwards Store Road
Lyman, SC 29365-9573
Residence 864 879-0644
Cellular 864 431-0380
email <artpyhala@hotmail.com>