



STATE OF MINNESOTA  
Office of Energy Security



Issued: September 2, 2010

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**In the Matter of the Application for a Route Permit for the  
Bemidji-Grand Rapids 230kV Transmission Project**

**PUC Docket Number: E017, E015, ET6/TL-07-1327**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Minnesota Department of Commerce Office of Energy Security (OES) announces the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the proposed Bemidji-Grand Rapids 230kV transmission line project. The FEIS has been prepared jointly with the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service.

Copies of the FEIS can be obtained through the OES State Permit Manager and may be viewed at the Public Utilities Commission website:

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19344;>

and on the Department of Commerce's eDockets website:

<https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (enter year "07" and docket number "1327").

Copies will also be available for viewing at public libraries in the cities listed below after September 7, 2010:

- Bemidji
- Blackduck
- Bovey
- Cass Lake
- Coleraine
- Grand Rapids
- Longville
- Walker

**Project Description.** Otter Tail Power Company, Minnesota Power, and Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc. (Applicants) propose to construct and operate a 230 kV transmission line between the Wilton substation just west of Bemidji, Minnesota, and the Boswell Substation in Cohasset, west of Grand Rapids, Minnesota. The FEIS discusses the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project and evaluates four (4) route alternatives and 20 segment alternatives. The proposed routes for the transmission line primarily follow existing rights-of-way and cross portions of Beltrami, Hubbard, Cass and Itasca counties. The Project would include improvements to the Wilton and Boswell substations. Depending upon the route selected, the Project may also include modifications to the existing Cass Lake Substation, construction of a new substation in the Cass Lake area, and construction of a new 115 kV breaker station near Nary, Minnesota.

**Project Documents.**

Electronic versions of the permit application and other documents relevant to this matter are available for viewing and downloading on the Commission's website:

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19344>, and on the Department of Commerce's eDockets website: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (enter year "07" and docket number "1327").

**Project Contacts.** If you have questions or if you would like further information about this project please contact:

Suzanne Steinhauer  
State Permit Manager  
Energy Facility Permitting  
Minnesota Office of Energy Security  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198  
(651) 296-2888  
[suzanne.steinhauer@state.mn.us](mailto:suzanne.steinhauer@state.mn.us)

This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio tape) by calling 651-201-2202 (Voice) or 1-800-627-3529 (TTY relay service).