APPENDIX F
LANDOWNER LIST AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION*

*Addresses have been redacted from comment forms due to privacy concerns

LANDOWNER LIST

Name	Company
ALVIN R & PATRICIA A OLTHOFF	
ANDREW & LISA MILLS	
	ARKLA INC
ARLEY S & BETTY L WATNE	
BETTY A PFEIFER	
BRADLEY F HOHL	
CARL W ROETEMEYER	
	CINNABAR PROPERTIES
	CITY OF BUFFALO
	COTTAGE BLUFFS ASSOCIATION
DANE E ANDERSEN	
DANIEL J & DEBRA A BARTER	
DANIEL T & LIESELOTTE REED	
DAVID J & DORRAINE M LINDBERG	
DAVID W & ROBIN ANDERSON	
DAWN R JOHNSON	
DENIELLE R MCMANUS	
DENNIS J & KIMBERLY L GLEASON	
DOMINIC J DESMARAIS	
DONALD L & GERALDINE HUSTON	
DUANE H LEMKE	
DUWAYNE E & JEANNE M MATTSON	
ELMER D & CAROLE A ABBAS	
EURETTA L & CAROL F SORENSON	
FRANCIS H & SHARON C SCHMIDT	
FRANKLIN W&C E HOHL REV TRUST	
GARY O VERGIN	
GORDON E & MAXINE A JENSEN	
HELEN R MAINQUIST	
JOLIE J HOLLAND	
	IND SCHOOL DIST 877
JAMES E & RUTH A BONK	
JAMES K & GAIL E STURGES	
JAMES W DIORIO	
JODI A & LINDA M CLARK	
JOHN F & VIRGINIA KLATT	
JOHN M & CATHERINE A VIDMAR	
JUDITH A NORTON	
KENNETH J & KAREN T LANIGAN	

Name	Company
KEVIN R SCHMIDT	
	LGK, INC
LONNIE A & VICKI L RISS	
LOUIS R & EVA L ORDORFF REV TRUST	
MARJORIE E DANIELSON	
MARJORIE E & ROGER ELLETSON	
MARY A ALDRICH REV TRUST	
NANCY A CLARK	
NEIL W & JACQUELINE CARRIERE	
	NORTHERN NATURAL GAS
PATRICK G & JOANNE M BRAUN	
PETER T & PAMELA J KELLEY	
PHILLIP GLEASON	
RANDOLPH M KLATT	
	RGR INVESTMENTS LLC
RHONDA R DIORIO	
ROBERT A GILBERT 2005 REV TR	
ROBERT F & MARILYN BECK	
ROBERT L CLAIRE H LENSEGRAV	
RODNEY R & CARRIE A DAVIDSON	
ROGER E LEDIN	
ROXANNE E YURCH	
RYAN A & HARMONY S ANDERSON	
SANDRA K RYDZINSKI	
	SCHMIDT DEVELOPMENT CORP
SETH KLATT	
	SOO LINE RAILROAD CO
TANDY & SHU YI LUO CHAN	
TERRY M SCHNELLER	
THERON D PEMBERTON	
TIMOTHY A KOTILINEK	
TIMOTHY M A & NANCY M JORDAN	
TODD & ABBIE LUX	
WESLEY B JENSEN	
	WRIGHT-HENNEPIN CO-OP ELEC

Xcel Energy
NORTHERN STATES POWER

COMMENT FORM

PROPOSED MARY LAKE 115 KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT
November 14, 2007 meeting

FROM:

Name	Chuck Klaassen
Address	[redacted]
Representing	Buffalo Public Schools

Please note your property location. If you know your Town, Range, and Section number or have the number printed above your name on the mailing label from Xcel Energy you can provide it here.

8th Street at west end of proposed route.

My comments regarding this project are:

We have 2 school buildings located on the proposed route, one of which (Tatanka Elementary School) would have its access impacted during construction of the line. It would be important to us for the construction timeline to accommodate the need for cars and school buses to get in and out of the school property. Could construction of this portion of the line be done during non-school times? Summer (June 15 - Aug. 15) would be best.

Please feel free to contact me.

Please return your comments to Darrin Lahr, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to darrin.f.lahr@xcelenergy.com.

Appendix F.2

APPENDIX F.3

The following is a detailed summary of the public meetings held for the project and the route selection process.

F.3.1 First Public Meeting

Xcel Energy held its first public meeting on July 31, 2007, at the Buffalo Public Library to inform landowners in the area of the Project and to gather input early in the route selection process. The maps presented at the first public meeting showed the general project area, existing transmission line facilities and substation locations. Approximately 14 landowners and interested persons identified areas of concern in the project area during the public meeting. Preferences identified included minimizing impacts to homes, avoiding daycares located near County Road 134 (Calder Avenue), avoiding the Buffalo Municipal Airport, and using the railroad corridor.

After the first public meeting, Xcel Energy consulted with the local, state, and federal agencies associated with the Project. Agency letters were sent to request information, feedback and their comments on the Project. Agencies generally responded with requests to be updated on further Project developments and informed Xcel Energy of required permits for the Project. Additionally, Xcel Energy and MnDOT, District 3B, held a meeting to discuss potential constraints in the Project Area associated with plans to expand TH 55. MnDOT's plans to expand TH 55 between just east of County Road 14 South / Dague Avenue SE and just west of the intersection of TH 55 and SE 10th Street / Deegan Drive SE. MnDOT expressed concerns about maintaining "clear zones" – the distance from the edge of the travel lane which should be free of any non-traversable hazard such as steep slopes or fixed objects.

MnDOT District 3B also raised the issue of potential conflicts with the Buffalo Municipal Airport. In developing the Preliminary Route, planning and engineers selected locations that avoided the safety zones for the airport. *See* safety zone maps for the Buffalo Municipal Airport in Appendix C.13. In response to District 3B's suggestion, Xcel Energy contacted Peter Buchen, MnDOT Manager, Airport Development Section, to discuss the Project and safety regulations regarding the Buffalo Airport. No comments were received from Mr. Buchen.

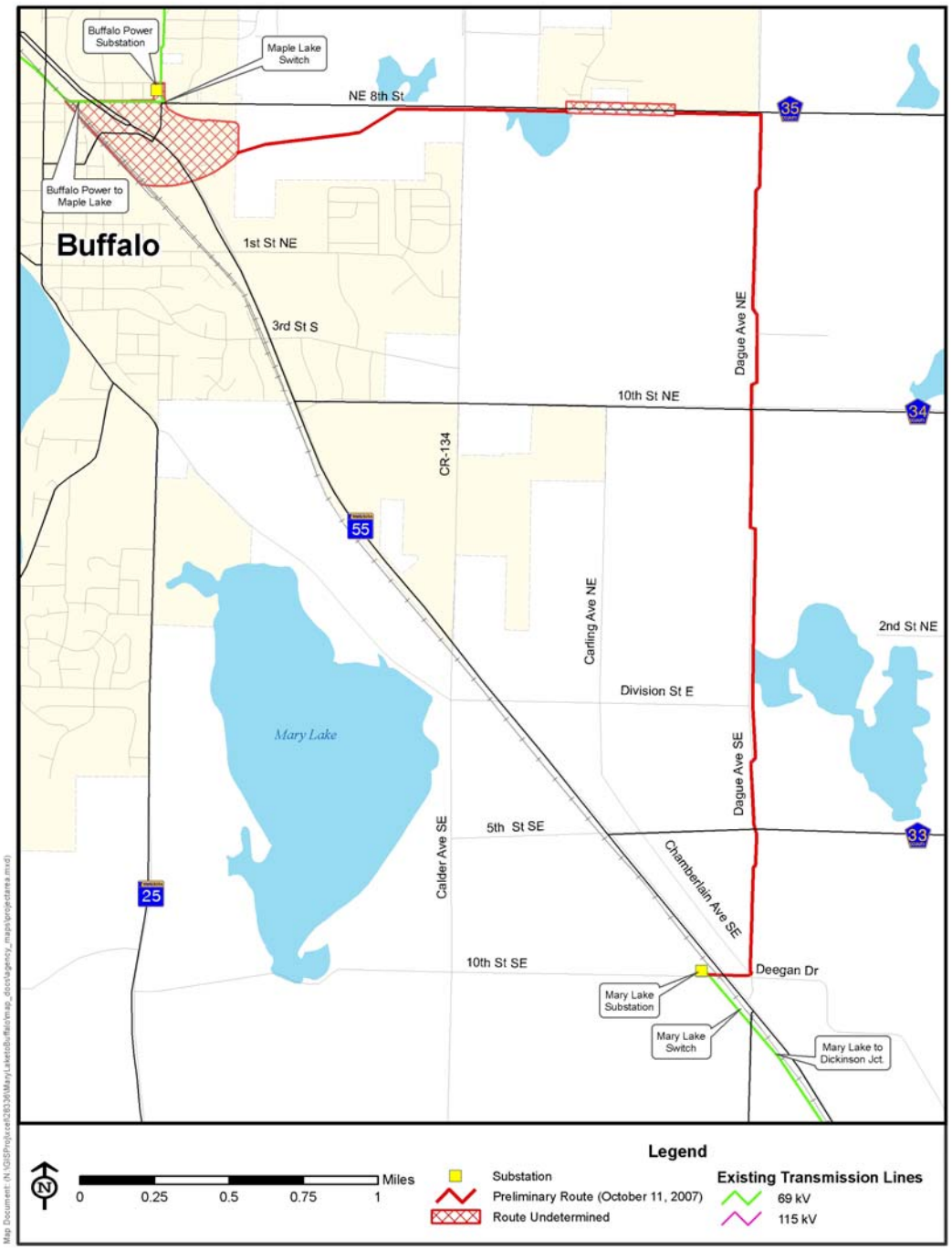
To identify areas where impacts to environmental resources should be avoided or minimized, Xcel Energy studied the Project Area using a computer mapping program (Geographic Information Systems) to analyze the public and agency comments, aerial photographs, electronic data, city and county planning documents, locations of homes and topographic maps.

Based on the information gathered, a Preliminary Route was developed based on opportunities to:

- Minimize land use impacts
- Minimize impacts to residences and daycares
- Parallel roads, railroads and existing transmission lines, to help decrease the amount of right-of-way required
- Avoid impacts to the Buffalo Airport safety zones
- Minimize the length of the transmission line to reduce the impact area and costs for the Project

The Proposed Centerline developed after the first meeting, ("Preliminary Route") is shown in Figure F-1.

FIGURE F-1
PRELIMINARY ROUTE



The Preliminary Route did not identify a specific location for the Buffalo Power - Maple Lake Tap location. Rather, recognizing that the area near the Buffalo Power Substation was more urban and congested than other parts of the Project Area, Xcel Energy identified a broader route area on the north end to elicit additional public comment on this segment.

F.3.2. Second Public Meeting

After identifying the Preliminary Route, the Company conducted a second public meeting held October 11, 2007. The Company also sent out follow up letters to agencies to respond to questions received, address concerns related to the Project, and to inform the agencies of the Preliminary Route. No concerns were raised by the agencies. Section 7.1 identifies agency responses to the follow up letters.

In response to the meeting notice, the City of Buffalo contacted the Company to discuss concerns about development plans along a segment of the Preliminary Route along CSAH 35 to the Buffalo Power Substation. Joe Steffel, Buffalo Utilities Director and Stephen Grittman, of Northwest Associated Consultants, Inc., Principal City Planner stated they believed the CSAH 35 route segment would not be compatible with the City's plans for a "Lifestyle Commercial" development planned for the area west of the intersection of CSAH 35 and 8th Street NE, generally following the south side of 8th Street NE (Appendix C.9). Mr. Steffel and Mr. Grittman, speaking on behalf of the City of Buffalo, recommended that the route follow 8th Street NE to the Buffalo Substation Tap to better meet the City's growth plans. Company representatives had an on-site meeting with Mr. Steffel and Kim Smith, Utility Administrative Assistant, on the afternoon of October 11, 2007, prior to the public meeting, to gather additional information about the city's concerns and explore routing the line along 8th Street NE.

On the evening of October 11, 2007, the Company held its second public meeting on the project at the Discovery Center in Buffalo. Individuals provided comments and concerns regarding the Preliminary Route. A summary of those issues raised follows:

- Visual appearance of the structures, including material and height.
- Potential electric and magnetic field ("EMF") impacts near residences.
- Compatibility of the line with existing land uses on the southern end of the Preliminary Route. Robert Gilbert and Gary Vergin, owners of the parcels bordering County Road 33 SE (10th Street), stated they had few concerns if the line were placed along the tree line or if the trees were removed along their property boundary. Pat Braun, who lives on Deegan Drive, recommended that the line be placed so the right-of-way abuts the tree line on the west side of his property to avoid impacting his garage. Carrie and Rodney Davidson, who own property on the corner of TH 55, and Deegan suggested the new line be consolidated with the existing Wright-

Hennepin distribution line which crosses at the southwest corner of Deegan Drive SE and Chamberlain Avenue SE.

- Compatibility with land use near the City of Buffalo and potential impacts on property values. Jim Di'Orio, who owns the commercial property at the corner of 8th Street NE and 6th Avenue NE, commented the Preliminary Route would conflict with the planned commercial land use south of 8th Street NE and he believed it was not consistent with the city's overall plans for the area. Mr. Di'Orio was also concerned the transmission line route would decrease his property's value. Don Huston and Ken Huston, who own property east of Mr. Di'Orio's property south of 8th Street NE, had concerns similar to those expressed by Mr. Di'Orio.

After the second public meeting, Xcel Energy received comments from Mr. Mike North, MnDNR Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist ("REAE"), in a letter dated October 29, 2007 (Appendix E.1). The letter stated that Xcel Energy would be required to obtain a License to Cross Public Waters from the MnDNR Division of Lands and Minerals and requested that the Project avoid loss or fragmentation of the wooded lot located west of Dague Ave SE due to a known Red-Shouldered Hawk nesting location. Xcel Energy will minimize impacts to the wooded lot and will localize the tree removal to the far eastern portion of the wooded lot near the road.

Xcel Energy also received comments from the State Historic Preservation Office ("SHPO") in a letter dated October 26, 2007, located in Appendix E.2, stating they recommend an archeological survey conducted for the Project. Xcel Energy will work with SHPO to conduct surveys in areas required prior to construction.

Additionally, Mr. Salkowski, Wright County, requested written confirmation from the Company that the County would be preempted from regulating construction of this Project. In a letter dated October 19, 2007, Xcel Energy stated that the Company would be seeking a route permit from the Commission and that this route permit would have preemptive effect referencing Minnesota Statutes Section 216E.03, subd. 2 (providing that "such permit shall supersede and preempt all zoning, building, or land use rules, regulations, or ordinances promulgated by regional, county, local and special purpose government therefore local authorities").

F.3.3. Third Public Meeting

After the second public meeting, Xcel Energy further refined the proposal and developed the Proposed Route and Proposed Centerline. On November 14, 2007, Xcel Energy held a third public meeting to provide information to the public about the Proposed Route before filing this Application. Approximately 14 landowners and interested persons attended the

meeting held at the Buffalo American Legion. A summary of the comments attendees made follows:

- Mr. Roger Ledin, who owns property along the west side of Dague Ave SE along the Proposed Route, stated he would like the transmission line to be located on the east side of the road off of his property. Mr. Ledin stated he did not have a concern with the line crossing over to avoid the house and the woods. Mr. Ledin also stated he has no concerns if the transmission line were located on the west side of the road next to his property if it were located in the road ditch.
- Mr. Chuck Klassen, representing the Buffalo Public Schools, expressed concerns about construction near the entrance of Tatanka Elementary on the north side of 8th Street NE while school is in session Mr. Klassen requested that construction take place during summer break from June 15 to August 15 to reduce complications.
- Ms. Joanne Braun, located on Deegan Drive, who also attended the second public meeting, asked about any changes to the Proposed Route adjacent to her property. Ms. Braun remained concerned the trees along their west property line would be removed. Xcel Energy confirmed that the right-of-way for the Proposed Route would be adjacent to the trees and that the trees would not be removed.
- Gary Vergin and Robert Gilbert, owners of adjacent properties in Segment D, who also attended the second public meeting, also wanted information on any changes related to the Proposed Route near their properties. Mr. Vergin stated he would prefer that the line placement near the grove of trees about a half mile from County Road 134, be along the property and section line be spanned. He also stated he would prefer that there be one pole placed on either side of the grove of trees, to minimize impacts. Xcel Energy explained that the specific locations of poles will be determined after the Proposed Route is selected and in consultation with the landowners.
- Mr. and Mrs. Davidson, who own the property on the corner of TH 55, Chamberlain Ave SE and Deegan Drive, reiterated their preference for the new transmission line to be consolidated with the existing Wright-Hennepin facilities across their property.
- Jim Di'Orio and Larry Huston and Mr. Gregory Mills stated they had no concerns regarding the Proposed Route.

Other attendees generally sought to get an understanding of the Proposed Route and information about what changes had been made from the Preliminary Route. Please refer to Appendix F for written comments from the meeting.

Based on the information received from the public and agencies, the Company developed the Proposed Route in this Application. A list of factors that the Company believes support the Proposed Route follows:

- The Proposed Route parallels existing road rights-of-way for approximately 4.5 miles (90 percent) of the route.
- The Proposed Route will consolidate utility facilities for approximately 1.3 miles (26 percent) of the route.
- The Proposed Route avoids conflicts associated with the City of Buffalo Municipal Airport.
- The Proposed Route does not conflict with future land use plans south along CSAH 35.
- The Proposed Route will not interfere with the TH 55 expansion plans. The Proposed Route would intersect with TH 55 in only one location, on the southeast end of the Project Area. Xcel Energy will coordinate with MnDOT to ensure that the poles are placed outside of the clear zone at the crossing. It is estimated that roadside clear zone for the portion of TH 55 where the Proposed Route will intersect is between 40 feet and 93 feet from the traveled lane depending on the slope of the road right-of-way.