



**STATE OF MINNESOTA**  
**Minnesota Department of Commerce**  
Issued: February 15, 2008



**Notice of Public Information Meeting**

**In the Matter of the Application for a Route Permit for the Lake Yankton – Southwest  
Marshall 115 kilovolt (kV) High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL)**

**Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Docket Number: E002/TL-07-1407**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Minnesota Department of Commerce (DOC) will conduct a public information and environmental assessment scoping meeting at the location listed below on an application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) for a route permit by Xcel Energy to construct a new high voltage electric transmission line in Lyon County, Minnesota. The purpose of the meeting is to provide information to the public about the proposed transmission line project and to identify issues and route alternatives to study in an Environmental Assessment (EA) to be prepared by the Department evaluating the proposal.

**Tuesday, March 4, 2008**  
**Lyon County Government Center (Court House)**  
**607 West Main Street, Second Floor, Marshall, MN**  
**6:30 p.m.**

The public information meeting will follow an open-house format until 7:00 p.m. when the DOC staff will give a presentation about the permitting process and the proposed project. The public is invited to review the application and proposed route, learn more about the PUC route permitting process and ask questions. The public may propose additional routes to be considered for the new transmission line and propose issues to be addressed in the EA. The DOC will accept written comments on the scope of the EA until **March 14, 2008**. Comments should be mailed or emailed to:

Sharon Ferguson, Docket Manager  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
Saint Paul, MN, 55101-2198  
sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us

***Project Description***

Xcel Energy proposes to build an approximately 15.7 mile, 115,000 volt high voltage transmission line (HVTL) between its existing Lake Yankton Substation near Balaton to the existing Marshall Southwest Substation in Marshall. The proposed route runs parallel to road rights of way for nearly its entire length between these existing substations and is shown on the attached map.

### ***PUC Review Process***

On January 14, 2008, Xcel Energy filed an application for a route permit for the proposed project with the PUC. On February 7, 2008, the PUC accepted the route permit application as complete. DOC is responsible for conducting public meetings and environmental review of the proposed transmission line under the alternative review process found in Minnesota Rules 7849.5500 to 7849.5720.

The DOC will prepare an EA prior to the PUC's consideration of a specific route for the transmission line. The EA will address issues related to routing, such as construction impacts, environmental features, use of existing rights-of-way, impacts on homes and businesses, and consideration of public comments proposing additional routes and issues to be addressed in the EA.

After completion of the EA, a public hearing will be held. Notice of the hearing will be published in local newspapers and mailed to persons who register their names on the project mailing list with the Department. **Persons interested in adding their names to this mailing list should contact the DOC project manager, public advisor, or register online at: [http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Users/user\\_registration.htm](http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Users/user_registration.htm).**

If issued a route permit by the PUC, and in accordance with their authority under state law, Xcel Energy may exercise the power of eminent domain in this matter.

### ***Project Contacts and Information***

For more information about the project, process, and/or to place your name on the project mailing list contact the following:

Adam Sokolski, Project Manager  
Energy Facility Permitting  
Minnesota Department of Commerce  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198  
(651) 296-2096  
[adam.sokolski@state.mn.us](mailto:adam.sokolski@state.mn.us)

Scott Ek, Public Advisor  
Energy Facility Permitting  
Minnesota Department of Commerce  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198  
(651) 296-8813  
[scott.ek@state.mn.us](mailto:scott.ek@state.mn.us)

Additional contact information includes: toll-free number 1-800-657-3794, fax number: (651) 297-7891, or TTY Minnesota Relay Service: 1-800-627-3529 (ask for the DOC).

Copies of the application and other relevant documents, including Minnesota Statutes and Rules governing the process are available on the following websites:

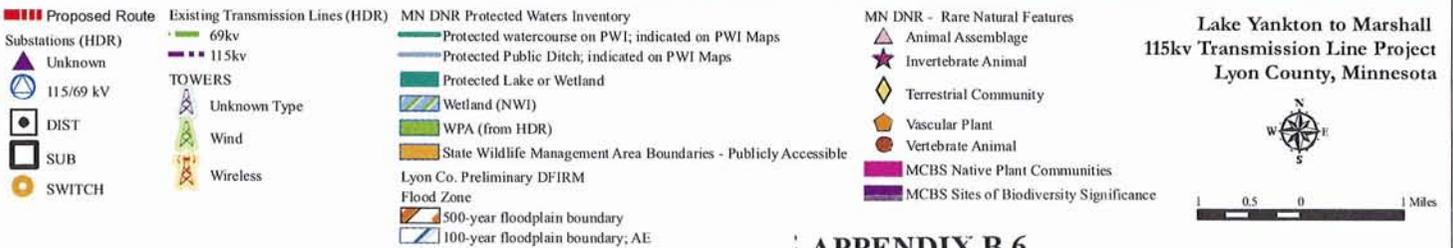
<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/TransmissionLines.html>

or

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19448>



Data Sources: HEI, Lyon County, HDR, and US Fish & Wildlife. Rare Natural Features from MN DNR Natural Heritage Program. Base Map Data from MN DNR Data Del.



APPENDIX B.6  
B.6 Proposed Route