



**STATE OF MINNESOTA  
Office of Energy Security**



**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A PIPELINE ROUTING PERMIT  
AND  
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING**

**Issued: July 1, 2008**

**In the Matter of the Application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for a  
Pipeline Routing Permit and Partial Exemption from Pipeline Route Selection Procedures  
for the Boswell Energy Center Pipeline Project**

**PUC Docket Number: E015/GP-08-586**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Minnesota Office of Energy Security, Energy Facility Permitting will hold a public meeting on behalf of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC or the Commission) on Minnesota Power's application for a pipeline routing permit and partial exemption from pipeline route selection procedures for the proposed Boswell Energy Center pipeline project. The application was accepted by the Commission on June 30, 2007.

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**PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING  
6:00 p.m. – Wednesday, July 16, 2008**

**The Sawmill Inn  
Blandin Room  
2301 South Highway 169 (Pokegama Avenue South)  
Grand Rapids, Minnesota 55744**

**An Open House will begin at 6:00; the Public Information Meeting will begin at 6:30**

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The public information meeting will follow an open-house format until 6:30 p.m. when Energy Facility Permitting staff will give a presentation about the state's pipeline permitting process, the proposed project, and how the public may be involved.

**Project Description.** Minnesota Power is proposing to install a 6,900 foot, 10.75 inch outside diameter high pressure natural gas pipeline. The proposed pipeline route originates at the existing Great Lakes Cohasset Meter Station and terminates at the Boswell Energy Center Gas Delivery Station. The proposed pipeline project is located in the city of Cohasset in Itasca County, Minnesota (See attached Map).

A detailed description of the proposed pipeline route is provided in Minnesota Power's application as follows:

“The pipeline along Minnesota Power's preferred route will originate at Great Lakes' existing meter station facility located north of Cohasset and travel approximately 1,300 feet in a northwesterly direction adjacent to the Great Lakes existing pipelines. The proposed pipeline will then turn in a southerly direction and travel approximately 1,400 feet across U.S. Highway 2 and Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad to the south side of Minnesota Power's existing high voltage electric transmission lines. The pipeline will travel westerly along the south side of the high voltage electric transmission lines for approximately 3,050 feet and then travel south for approximately 1,150 feet to the proposed terminus of the pipeline at the BEC plant site.”

A total of 16.47 acres of land will be required for the proposed pipeline alignment. The proposed alignment parallels existing natural gas pipeline and high voltage transmission line rights-of-way for approximately 63 percent of land crossed. The project calls for a 75-foot construction right-of-way consisting of a 25-foot temporary right-of-way and a 50-foot permanent right-of-way. The applicant intends on using existing roads to access construction rights-of-way. The depth of the proposed pipeline trench will typically be four feet below existing ground surface.

**Regulatory Review Process.** The PUC is reviewing this project pursuant to the requirements of the pipeline routing rules (Minnesota Rules, Chapter 7852). These rules contain two different types of review procedures for a pipeline routing permit. Minnesota Power is seeking review under the shorter of the two review processes, referred to as a partial exemption from pipeline route selection procedures. Both review procedures require the applicant to submit the same information; however, the shorter process does not require the applicant to identify an alternative route and does not require a contested case hearing.

The Energy Facility Permitting staff holds a public information meeting to provide information on the permitting process and to compile information to assist the Commission in determining whether to grant or deny the partial exemption application. In deciding whether to grant or deny the partial exemption, the Commission will consider comments that are filed with the PUC, the record of the public information meetings, and the information contained in the application relevant to the criteria for a partial exemption. Any person may file comments with the PUC stating reasons why the PUC should grant or deny the partial exemption. If the PUC grants the partial exemption application, it will also issue a pipeline routing permit. If the partial exemption is denied, the applicant may request that the PUC continue processing its application under full pipeline route selection procedures.

**Project Documents.** A more detailed explanation of the proposed project is contained in the application for a pipeline routing permit and partial exemption from pipeline route selection procedures filed with the PUC.

Copies of the application, a chart depicting the partial exemption from pipeline route selection procedures, and comment forms will be available at the public information meeting. Electronic versions of documents relevant to this matter are available on the PUC website or eDockets at:

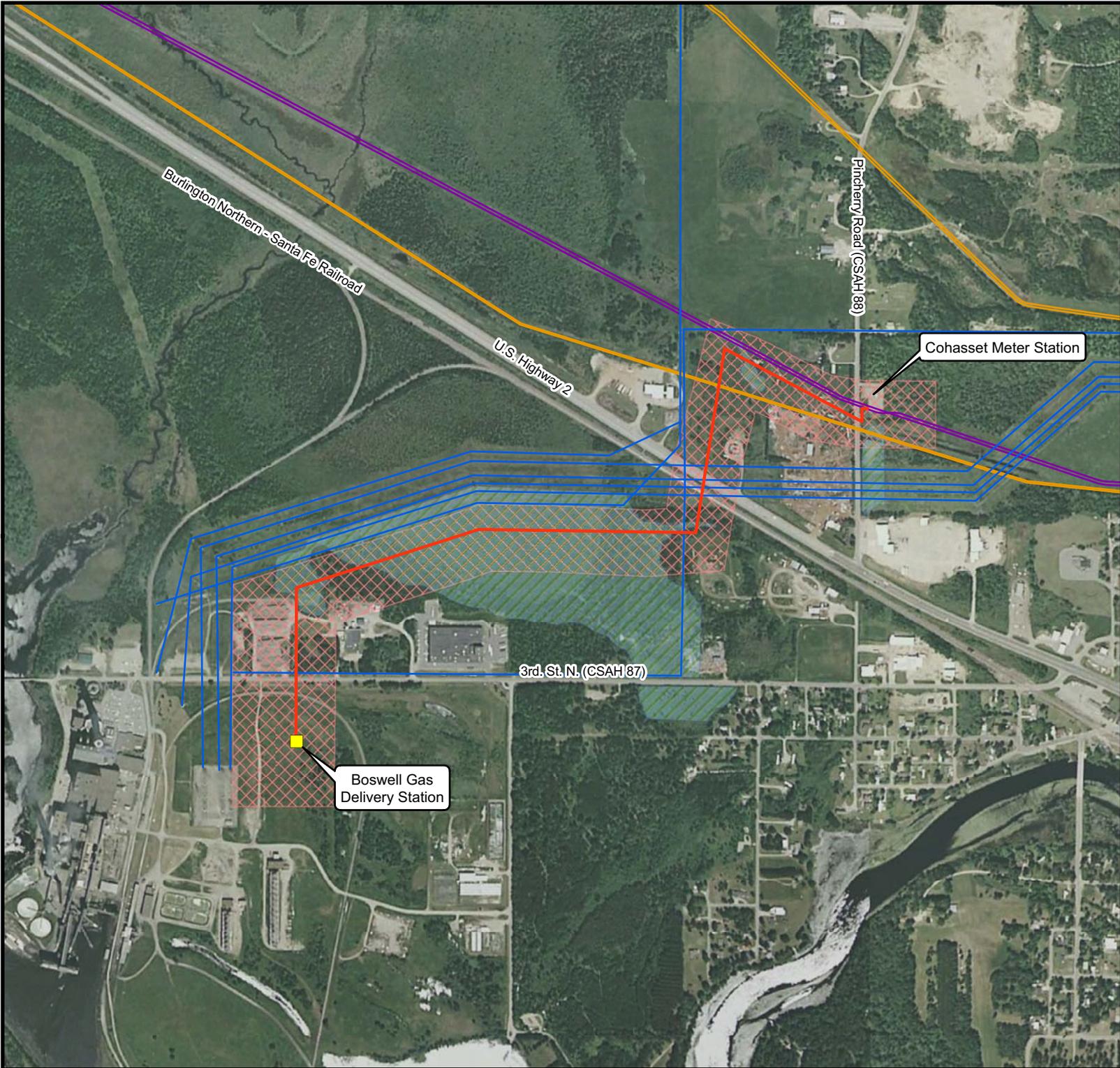
<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19634>  
<https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (Docket Number 08-586).

If you would like to have your name added to the mailing list for this project you may register online at the project website listed above or contact staff.

**Public Comments.** Comments on this project will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. on July 31, 2008. Please include the following docket number (E015/GP-08-586) on your comments. To submit comments, ask questions, or seek further information about this project please contact:

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Energy Facility Permitting  
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Phone: 651-296-8813  
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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).



# Project Location Map

## Minnesota Power

Boswell Energy Center  
Natural Gas Pipeline Project

### LEGEND

- Proposed Pipeline Alignment
- Existing Electric Lines
- Existing Great Lakes Pipelines
- Existing Enbridge Pipelines
- ▨ Wetland Boundaries
- ▨ Preferred Route

### LOCATION

Sections 3, 4, 9, & 10  
T55N, R26W  
Itasca County, Minnesota

Map 3

