

Appendix A

AGENCY AND PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE

GREAT RIVER
ENERGY®

A Truist Energy Corporation

12300 Elm Creek Boulevard • Maple Grove, Minnesota 55369-4718 • 763-445-5000 • 763-445-5050

18 June 2008

Dr. Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: Notice of Intent by Great River Energy and Minnesota Power to Submit a Route Permit Application under the Alternative Permitting Process

Dear Dr. Haar:

Pursuant to Minnesota Rules Chapter 7849.5500 subpt.2, this letter, filed via e-Filing, serves as notice that Great River Energy and Minnesota Power intend to submit a Route Permit Application for the Southdale to Sceauxville 115 kV Transmission Line and Breaker Station Project in Cass and Crow Wing Counties, Minnesota under the Alternative Permitting processes of Minnesota Rules Chapters 7849.5500 to 7849.5700.

It is anticipated that the application will be submitted to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission mid-summer 2008.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

Kodi Jean Church
Transmission Permitting Analyst

c: Richard Heuring, Great River Energy
Gene Kotz, Great River Energy
Bob Lindholm, Minnesota Power

S:\Member Services\Environmental\Transmission\Projects\3247 Southdale to Sceauxville\Permitting Process\CW-SS PUC Notice Letter.doc



17845 East Highway 10 • P.O. Box 800 • Elk River, Minnesota 55330-0800 • 763-441-3121 • Fax 763-241-2366

9 April 2007

Ms. Britta L. Bloomberg
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Minnesota Historical Society
345 Kellogg Blvd. West
St. Paul, MN 55102-1906

RE: Baxter to Pine Beach 115 kV Transmission Project
Approximately 8.5 miles
Cass and Crow Wing Counties

WO# 3247

Dear Ms. Bloomberg:

Great River Energy, power supplier to Crow Wing Power, is proposing to build approximately 8.5 miles of transmission line in Cass and Crow Wing counties. The project is needed to meet growing electrical demands in the area.

The proposed 115 kV transmission project will be located in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23 and 24, T133N, R29W. Great River Energy will overtake 3.25 miles of Minnesota Power's existing 34.5 kV distribution line located in Sections 21, 22, 23 and 24, T133N, R29W (the existing Minnesota Power line will be underbuilt on Great River Energy's new structures). The remainder of the construction will occur in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 16, 17, 18, 21 and 22, T133N, R29W. From Minnesota Power's 34.5 kV distribution line the project will then continue north 1.5 miles along Cass County Road 36 before extending west half a mile across undeveloped land (currently owned by Minnesota Power) to Little Pine Road. The alignment then extends north to the south side of the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway corridor and continues west one mile along the corridor. The final leg of the project will overtake an existing Minnesota Power 3-phase distribution line extending north along Cass County Road 18. The project will connect with Minnesota Power's existing "24" 115 kV line between Section 5 and 6, T134N, R29W.

Great River Energy is conducting an environmental review for this project and requests information of the proposed project on historic properties in the project area. A project description/site map is enclosed for your information.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your office by Friday, 4 May 2007. If you have any questions about this proposed project, please contact me at (763) 241-5666. If you wish to respond by e-mail, my address is kchurch@GREnergy.com.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

Kadi Jean Church
Environmental Transmission Coordinator

Enclosure

S:\Legal\Environmental\Transmission\Projects\3247-Baxter to Pine Beach\CW-SP-MHS.doc
www.GreatRiverEnergy.com

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Proposed Baxter to Pine Beach 115 kV Transmission Line



GREAT RIVER ENERGY
17845 East Hwy 10 P.O. Box 800
Elk River, MN 55330-0800
1-800-442-3013
www.greatriverenergy.com



MINNESOTA POWER
30 West Superior Street
Duluth, MN 55802
1-800-228-4966
www.mnpower.com



CROW WING POWER
17330 Highway 371 North PO Box 507
Brainerd, MN 56401
1-800-648-9401
www.cwpower.com

Need

Crow Wing Power (CWP) and Minnesota Power (MP) are the retail providers to the entire electric service area in and around Baxter and Brainerd. Both utilities have experienced unprecedented load growth and expansion in both the residential and commercial sectors. Presently, the existing transmission systems operated by MP and Great River Energy (GRE) in the Baxter/Brainerd service area have the potential to experience a total failure due to overloaded conductors during transmission failure events east of Brainerd. Construction of a 115 kilovolt (kV) connection between two existing transmission systems on the north and south sides of the Baxter/Brainerd area is critical and will provide a much needed transmission system interconnection. This transmission link will provide a critical backup source and bolster the entire Baxter/Brainerd electrical grid by providing adequate voltage support and power flow, thereby improving electric reliability and service in the area.

Line

GRE, as wholesale electric supplier to CWP, proposes to build a nine-mile long 115 kV transmission line to provide a critical connection between its existing CW-BS 115 kV line located in southern Baxter and MP's existing "24" 115 kV transmission line that extends along the northerly segment of East Sylvan Township (see map on back). The proposed GRE transmission line will be constructed using primarily single wood poles that will be 60-75 feet in height. Where MP distribution lines are currently located, the distribution conductors will be reattached to the new GRE transmission poles as underbuild (see typical structure at left).



*Typical 115 kV Pole
With Distribution Underbuild*

Route

The southeasterly point of connection of the proposed transmission line will tap GRE's existing CW-BS 115 kV transmission line located in Section 24 in the City of Baxter. The first leg of the proposed GRE 115 kV transmission line will overtake approximately 3.25 miles of the existing MP "504" 34.5 kV distribution line that extends from Jasperwood Drive near Trunk Highway 371 to Cass County Road 36 in East Sylvan Township. From that point, the proposed line extends north approximately 1.5 miles along the west side of County Road 36 to a point one-quarter mile south of the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) corridor. At that point the route extends west across undeveloped land for a distance of one-half mile to Little Pine Road. The route then extends north approximately one-fifth mile along the east side of Little Pine Road to the south side of the BNSF corridor. The route then continues westerly one mile along the south side of the BNSF corridor. The final leg of the route (which will overtake an existing MP 3-phase distribution line that will be reattached to the new GRE transmission line poles as underbuild) then extends north approximately two miles along the east and west sides of Cass County Road 18 to the proposed connection with MP's existing "24" 115 kV line. This connection is located near the common line between Sections 5/6 of East Sylvan Township. See complete route map on back.

Schedule

The project will be permitted through the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. The transmission line route permitting process will occur during the summer and fall of 2007. Upon receiving route approval, easement acquisition will take place during the winter and spring of 2008. Transmission line construction will occur during the summer and fall of 2008, with energization scheduled to occur in the late fall of 2008.

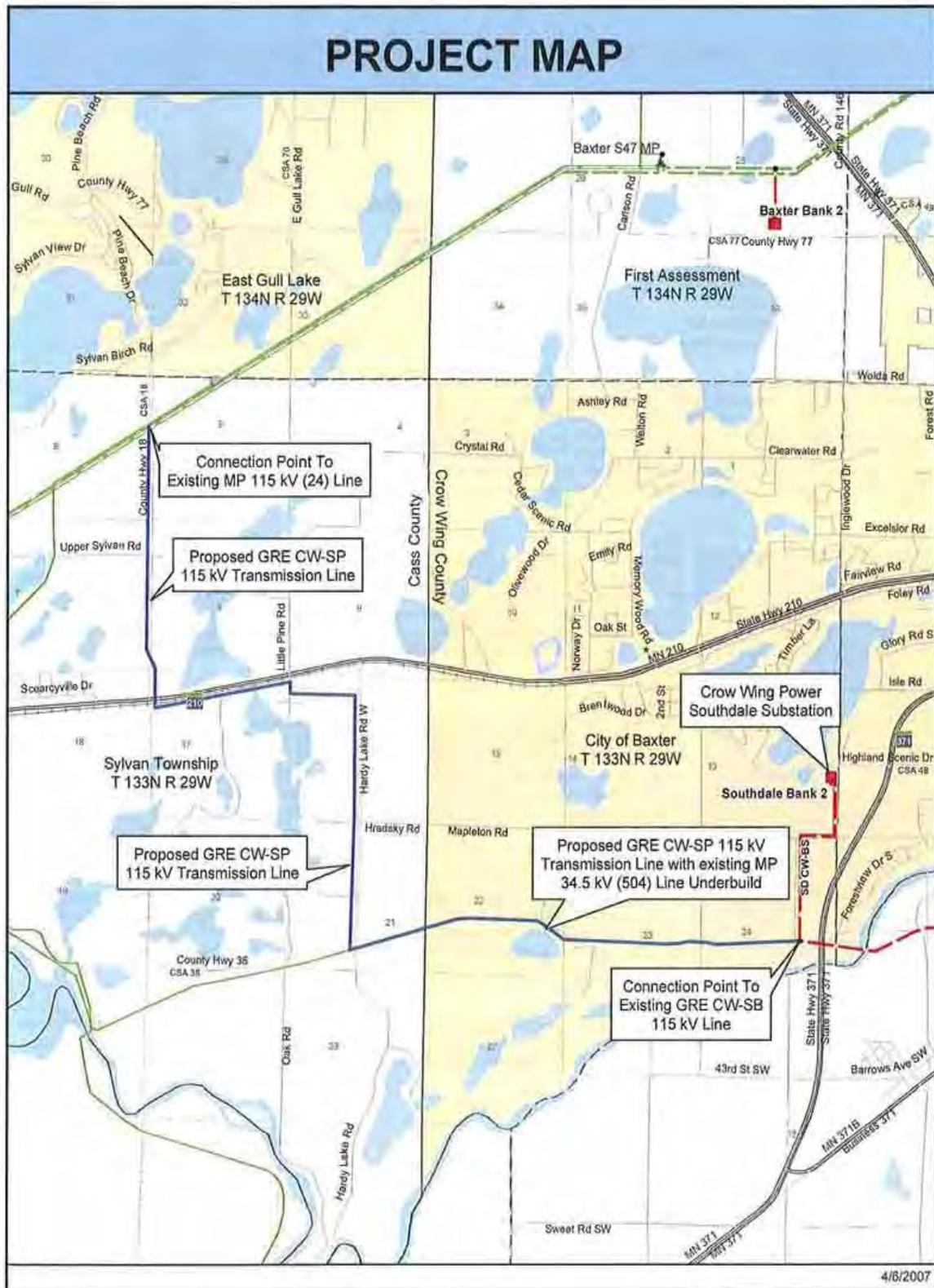
Contacts

Questions or concerns should be directed to one of the following:

Rick Heuring
Great River Energy
PO BOX 800
Elk River, MN 55330
1-800-442-3013, #2337
rheuring@greenergy.com

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Crow Wing Power Electric Cooperative
17330 Highway 371 North
Brainerd, MN 56401
218-825-2827
moser@cwpower.com

4/6/2007





MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

RECEIVED MAY 23 2007

May 18, 2007

Ms. Kodi Jean Church
Great River Energy
PO Box 800
Elk River, MN 55330-0800

RE: Baxter to Pine Beach 115 kV Transmission Project
Cass and Crow Wing Counties
SHPO Number: 2007-1670

Dear Ms. Church:

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the above project. It has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the State Historic Preservation Officer by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and the Procedures of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (36CFR800).

We believe that there is a good probability that unreported archaeological properties might be present in the project area. Therefore, we recommend that a survey of the area be completed. The survey must meet the requirements of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Identification and Evaluation, and should include an evaluation of National Register eligibility for any properties that are identified. For your information, we have enclosed a list of consultants who have expressed an interest in undertaking such surveys.

If the project area can be documented as previously disturbed or previously surveyed, we will re-evaluate the need for survey. Previously disturbed areas are those where the naturally occurring post-glacial soils and sediments have been recently removed. Any previous survey work must meet contemporary standards.

If you have any questions on our review of this project, please contact me at (651) 259-3456.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Gimmestad'.

Dennis A. Gimmestad
Government Programs and Compliance Officer

Enclosure: List of Consultants

Phase Ia Cultural Resources Survey and
Preliminary Project Area Field Visit

Southdale to Scarcyville 115 kV Transmission Line

Crow Wing and Cass Counties, Minnesota
June 24, 2008



Prepared for:



Great River Energy
12300 Elm Creek Boulevard
Maple Grove, Minnesota 55369-4718
(763) 445-5211



**Phase Ia Cultural Resources Survey and
Preliminary Project Area Field Visit
Southdale to Scarcyville 115 kV Transmission Line**
Crow Wing and Cass Counties, Minnesota

Prepared for:

Great River Energy
12300 Elm Creek Boulevard
Maple Grove, Minnesota 55369-4718
(763) 445-5211

Prepared by:

Dean T. Sather, MA, RPA
Steven J. Blondo

Westwood Professional Services
7699 Anagram Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55344
(952) 937-5150

Project Number: 20071072.00

June 24, 2008

Phase Ia Cultural Resources Survey and Preliminary Field Visit Report

June 2008

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) was contracted by Great River Energy (GRE) to conduct a Phase Ia Cultural Resources Survey for the proposed Southdale to Scearcyville 115 kV Transmission Line located in Crow Wing and Cass Counties, Minnesota. This investigation was initiated in order to inventory previously recorded historic properties within the boundaries of the proposed project area and assess the potential for previously unidentified historic properties both within and in proximity to the proposed project area.

The Phase Ia Cultural Resources Survey included a review of various archival collections regarding local, regional, and statewide historic resources. The investigations considered the immediate area of potential effect (APE) for the proposed project as well as the surrounding tier of square-mile sections surrounding the project area. A total of twenty-one previously recorded historic properties were identified during the research. Of these properties nineteen are archaeological sites and two are historic age structures.

A preliminary project area field visit was conducted in conjunction to the records review prompted by historic document reference to potential burial sites located in close proximity to the proposed project area. Limited field investigations of the reported location of the possible burials was conducted. No intact materials which could be positively associated with intact cultural deposits or previous burial episodes were recovered.

Phase Ia Cultural Resources Survey and Preliminary Field Visit Report

June 2008

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Phase Ia Cultural Resources Survey and Preliminary Field Visit Report

June 2008

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Westwood Professional Services, Inc. was retained by Great River Energy (GRE) of Maple Grove, Minnesota to conduct a Phase Ia Cultural Resources Survey for the proposed Southdale to Scearcyville 115 kV Transmission Line located in Sylvan Township in Cass County, Minnesota and the City of Baxter in Crow Wing County, Minnesota (Exhibit I). Ms. Laura Kennedy, MA, RPA, served as Principal Investigator during the initial phase of this project. Mr. Dean T. Sather, MA, RPA completed the research project and prepared the final report. Both Ms. Kennedy and Mr. Sather meet the Secretary of the Interior's standards in archaeology as outlined in 36CFR800.

A catalog of previously identified and recorded cultural resources for the area was compiled from the records maintained at the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) in St. Paul, Minnesota. The data collected from these two sources includes the state archaeological site files, historic property files, the Minnesota National Register inventory, and archival collections of published and unpublished reports of previous cultural resource investigations. Westwood staff also consulted historic documents such as the 19th century Public Land Survey (PLS) maps in order to identify potential cultural features relating to the proto-historic to early historic periods that may exist in the project area. Within the project boundaries a total of 23 recorded archaeological sites were identified either along the proposed project corridor or within the one-mile buffer surrounding the project area. A total of 2 recorded historic properties were identified within the project or buffer. Description of site typology will follow.

2.0 SCOPE OF WORK

The Phase Ia Cultural Resource Investigation was conducted to provide an inventory of the recorded archaeological sites and historic properties within the proposed project area. The area of consideration also included a one-mile buffer surrounding the entire project area in order to ascertain if any recorded properties located immediately adjacent to the project area might be impacted by the proposed work either physically or visually. Table 2.1 provides a list of the sections included in both the project area and buffer. They are organized by township and range rather than by county.

Table 2.1:
Sections Included in Project Area and One Mile Buffer

County	Township	Range	Project Sections	Buffer Sections
CA	133N	29W	5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18, 21	19, 20, 28, 29
CA	134N	29W		31, 32
CW	133N	29W	22, 23, 24	10, 13, 14, 15, 25, 26, 27
CW	44N	31W		4, 7, 8, 9

(Key: County = project area county of interest [CA=Cass County, CW=Crow Wing County]; Township = north/south coordinate of township; Range = east/west coordinate of township; Project Sections = sections within the township included in the defined project area; Buffer Sections = sections included in the one-mile buffer surrounding the defined project boundaries.)

3.0 METHODOLOGY

In May of 2007 Laura Kennedy of Westwood conducted background research and literature review at the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO), the Minnesota Historical Society (MHS) and the Minnesota Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA). During this research Westwood examined the state archaeological and historic site files, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) inventory, the state historic architecture inventory, county histories, historic maps (including plat maps, county maps, the Trygg map collection, and the 1874 Andreas Atlas), and county soil surveys. Further investigations were conducted specifically at the OSA to determine the potential presence or absence of burial mounds and unplatted cemeteries. This review was updated in June 2008 by Dean T. Sather and Steven J. Blondo, Westwood Sr. Cultural Resource Specialists.

Preliminary project area field visits were conducted in May and June of 2007 by Westwood staff archaeologists. Laura Kennedy served as Field Supervisor. The project field crew consisted of Mario Uribe, and Alissa Bergan.

The purposes of these site visits was to perform limited subsurface testing and provide preliminary investigations into an area identified during the literature search as the location of diphtheria epidemic graves within the Village of Gull River.

Shovel testing consists of a hand dug excavation unit between 30 and 40 centimeters in diameter at 15 meter intervals along linear transects where feasible. The depth of the excavated shovel test varies depending the depth of the subsurface deposits and the presence or absence of intact

cultural material. Shovel tests are generally excavated to a depth where intact subsoil horizons are exposed. In locations where subsurface deposits extend beyond the capabilities of hand excavated shovel tests deep testing may be applied. All materials excavated from a shovel tests or deep tests are screened through ¼" hardware mesh. Detailed field notes are recorded during field investigations for both positive and negative results.

4.0 RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION

4.1 Environmental Background

4.1.1 Landscape and Vegetation

The project area is within Pine Moraines and Outwash Plains subsection of the Northern Minnesota Drift and Lake Plains Section of the Laurentian Mixed Forest Province according to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Ecological Classification System. Broad areas of conifer forest, mixed hardwood and conifer forests and conifer bogs characterize the province. "The landscape ranges from rugged lake-dotted terrain with thin glacial deposits over bedrock, to hummocky or undulating plains with deep glacial drift, to large, flat, poorly drained peatlands" (Minnesota DNR 2007). In pre-settlement times, Jack pine, in a mix with northern pin oak, was the most common species on excessively drained portions of broad outwash plains. Most of the area has a deposit of drift from 200 to 600 feet deposited during the Wisconsin glaciation (Minnesota DNR 2007).

The project area is also located in the Brainerd-Automba Drumlin Area (Wright 1972), which is characterized by rolling till plains and drumlin fields. The Mississippi and Gull rivers run through this area and many lakes, including White Sand, Red Sand, and Perch lakes, are located near the project area. The terrain is level to gently rolling, with sections of higher ground between low, wet areas.

4.1.2 Soils

Soils are made up of sandy loam and thick layers of sand and gravel deposited by meltwater streams during the Wisconsin glaciation. Soil data shows two primarily well-drained loamy soils in the region. Other soils found in the region consist of calcareous loamy soils. (Minnesota DNR 2007).

4.1.3 Wildlife

White-tailed deer, beaver, moose and black bears were the species in the region through the pre-settlement period and until the mid-Nineteenth Century. Aquatic and semi-aquatic mammals were present in wetlands, shallow lakes and riverine areas. Such species include muskrats, mink, otters and raccoons. Waterfowl species included mallard, blue-winged teal, gadwalls, shovelers, redheads, canvas backs, scaups, ruddy ducks, Canada geese, snow geese and swans.

4.2 Cultural History

Minnesota SHPO has developed archaeological contexts for Minnesota and the Upper Midwest. These contexts based on years of prehistoric and historic research in the region, in order to examine Minnesota's historic (Contact and Post-Contact) and prehistoric (pre-contact) past. They are a general description and interpretation of the history of Minnesota. They give basic observations of current theories relating to prehistoric and historic people from different locations throughout the history of Minnesota.

The Pre-Contact period is focused solely on Native American peoples before the arrival of Euro-Americans. This period is divided into four traditions: Paleoindian, Archaic, Woodland and Plains Village and Mississippian/Oncota. These traditions are defined, and sub defined by changes in technology and food sources they exploited.

The cultural histories focused solely on the interaction of American Indians and Euro-Americans are divided into the Contact and Post-Contact periods. These contexts range from the first contact between Europeans and American Indians during European exploration in the region (Contact), through Euro-American settlement of traditionally American Indian lands (Post-contact).

4.2.1 Pre-Contact History

Paleoindian Tradition (12,000 to 8,000 Before Present [B.P.])

The first people to arrive in North America, the Paleoindians, crossed the Bering land bridge from Siberia to Alaska. When they arrived, approximately half of North America was covered by a glacial ice sheet. As the glaciers melted, the people moved south and eventually spread throughout the entirety of the Americas (Dobbs 1990). Pleistocene megafauna, such as mammoth and mastodon, roamed the land.

Paleoindian sites are relatively uncommon and difficult to locate by archaeologists due to buried deposits. The lack of stratified sites and the small number of artifacts from sites, suggests that Paleoindian people lived in small, nomadic groups (Frison 1998).

Glacial Meltwater created glacial lakes, including Lake Agassiz, Lake Superior, and many other smaller glacial lakes. As these lakes drained, the water began to cut river valleys. Modern vegetation began to grow. The changing environment and possibly human overkill, led to the extinction of several species of megafauna.

Paleoindians were small groups known best for hunting large megafauna including mammoth, mastodon, and *Bison antiquus* - an extinct bison up to one-third larger than modern bison (Frison 1998). By 11,000 years B.P. mammoth, and other megafauna, were extinct and the Paleoindians shifted

their hunting focus to bison, the next largest mammal (Frison 1998). Evidence also suggests that these people not only hunted megafauna and large mammals, but exploited other food sources such as fish, berries, nuts, and small mammals (Tankersley 1998).

The earliest Paleoindian spearpoints are easily identified by a distinctive flute down both sides. During the middle of the Paleoindian period lanceolate, nonfluted points began to emerge. During the late Paleoindian periods we see a shift from fluted and lanceolate to exclusively lanceolate points.

The earliest of the fluted point style is known as the Clovis point, dating from 12,000 – 11,000 years B.P. (Justice 1987). The original Clovis point was recovered from the Blackwater Draw site and named after the nearby town of Clovis, New Mexico. The spearpoints from Blackwater Draw were found in direct association with late Pleistocene fauna including Columbian mammoth, horse, camel, bison, and saber-tooth cat (Dobbs 1990).

Following the Clovis point is the Folsom point, differentiated from Clovis by a decrease in length and an increase in the length of the flute. Dates of the Folsom Complex last from approximately 11,000 – 10,200 years B.P. (Hofman 1995). The Folsom point, and type site, is named after the city of Folsom, New Mexico, where a Folsom projectile point was recovered with the ribcage of the now extinct species of bison, *Bison antiquus* (Dobbs 1990).

The Late Paleoindian period generally begins toward the end of the Folsom Complex and lasts to the beginning of the Archaic Period. Late Paleoindian technology is marked by a change from the distinctive Folsom style. Lanceolate points vary greatly in style, but share the features of being nonfluted, unnotched, and finely flaked. They arrive in the archaeological record during the Folsom Complex, and continue to the end of the Paleoindian Tradition (Dobbs 1990).

Archaic Tradition (8,000 to 2,800 B.P.)

Shifts in diet and settlement patterns define the transition to the Archaic Tradition. During this period, it seems that native people were adapting to environmental changes by using more diverse plant and animal resources, and creating and using a broader range of tools including new projectile point forms, copper tools, and ground and pecked stone tools. Although some research suggests that community size increased during the Archaic period, some archaeological evidence counters that assumption, suggesting that community sizes remained small, and that day-to-day activities took place at a series of seasonal camps (Anfinson 1987 and 1997). The hunting of bison remained an integral part of life for Archaic people.

During this period, Archaic people began developing regional differences within their material culture. In Minnesota this variation appears to have been tied to the natural environment, specifically the plant communities. These variations focused on the "Plains Archaic" in the western prairies, "Eastern Archaic" in the deciduous forest, "Lake-Forest Archaic" in the transitional zone between the deciduous and boreal forest areas, and the "Shield Archaic" in the boreal forest areas of the northeast. As with Paleoindian sites, Archaic sites are relatively small and ephemeral.

Woodland Tradition (2,800 B.P. to European Contact)

Throughout the Midwest, the Woodland Tradition is generally divided into three periods: Early, Middle, and Late; however, Anfinson (1987) has suggested that a division into Initial and Terminal periods may be more appropriate in Minnesota. The transition to the Woodland Tradition occurred when American Indians began manufacturing ceramic vessels, using bows and arrows, constructing earthen burial mounds, cultivating various plant species, and harvesting select plant species. The adoption of ceramics by the Woodland American Indians might have caused significant changes in many aspects of this culture, the foremost being subsistence strategies (Bozhardt et al. 1986:258). Archaeological research, however, indicates that, in many ways, life for communities during the Woodland Tradition remained similar to that of the Archaic period, with a dependence upon a diverse, seasonal resource base of plants and animals (Anfinson 1987:222).

Despite some similarities between Initial Woodland and Archaic period community size, populations began to grow during the Late or Terminal Woodland period. One possible reason is that American Indians became increasingly efficient in how they acquired food toward the end of the Woodland period. Site types assigned to the Woodland Tradition throughout the region range from cemeteries and small limited-use sites to extensive village and habitation sites. Woodland period communities were situated in locations that ranged from focusing on a specific resource to general environments capable of sustaining a large community for a long time.

Plains Village & Mississippian/Oneota Traditions (1,100 B.P. to European Contact)

Significant changes in subsistence and settlement patterns characterize Terminal Woodland cultures in Minnesota. Ceramic vessels differ from previous types in form as well as decoration, and settlement patterns shift to larger, more permanent villages typically located in riverine settings. The subsistence strategies of these populations appear to incorporate hunting and gathering with limited agriculture focusing on specific plants. Archaeologists usually attribute sites that exhibit these cultural markers to two major traditions: Plains Village and Mississippian/Oneota. Evidence indicates that

both the Plains Village and Mississippian complexes relied heavily on bison hunting and intensive corn horticulture.

Although the Plains Village complexes seem to have developed out of an indigenous Late Woodland base, archaeologists are unsure how the Oneota complexes developed. One possibility is that the Oneota complex came about through people from other areas migrating to the Upper Midwest, bringing with them new ceramics, traditions, and life-ways. Another possibility is that people already living in the area began to adopt distinct cultural ideas, different from the other groups around them (Anfinson 1987:215). By about A.D. 1300, the Middle Missouri complexes declined and moved westward. This was followed by the appearance of a variety of Oneota Complexes in southern Minnesota and Northern Iowa, lasting into the Contact and Post-Contact period.

The site types assigned to the Plains Village and Oneota complexes are similar to the Woodland Tradition and the archaeological remains of these complexes range from cemeteries to small, limited-use sites to extensive habitation sites. Site location is also consistent with the previous period, and depends on numerous factors including the location of specific resources the people were using or the presence of a particular desirable environment.

4.2.2 Contact/Post-Contact Period (1630 to Present)

This period generally refers to the span of time extending from the first European explorations until intensive Euro-American settlement of the region. Minnesota's historical period began in 1673 when French explorers Marquette and Joliet discovered the upper portion of the Mississippi River. Ten years later, Catholic Missionary Father Louis Hennepin returned to France to write the first book about Minnesota, *Description de la Louisiane*, telling his story of exploring Minnesota and being held captive by the Dakota Indians.

The territory containing modern-day Minnesota was claimed by Spain, France, Great Britain, and eventually the United States. Lieutenant Zebulon Montgomery Pike led the first United States expedition through Minnesota in 1805. Fort St. Anthony (later Ft. Snelling) was completed between 1819 and 1824, and in 1836 the Wisconsin Territory including a portion of Minnesota, was formed. Minnesota became a territory in 1849 and achieved statehood on May 11, 1858. The fur trade drove much of the European exploration and settlement in Minnesota through the mid-1800s.

While the fur trade impacted the American Indian communities throughout all of Minnesota, European settlement in the area exploded after the 1860s. At that time, intensive settlement and agriculture dramatically transformed the landscape, displacing a large number of American Indians. In 1862 tensions between white settlers and American Indians exploded resulting in the Dakota Conflict. Ultimately,

this war left 462 whites and “an unknown but substantial number” of American Indians dead. This conflict concluded with the hanging of 38 Dakota Indians in Mankato and the deportation of many others to Santee, Nebraska.

As white settlers made Minnesota their home, farming became the predominant industry. Wheat was the cash crop, and mills spring up along major waterways across the state, notably in Minneapolis. Minnesota dominated the world in wheat processing until the 1930s.

In addition to milling, Minnesota was also a leader in lumbering and iron mining. Lumbering played a significant role in the development of northern Minnesota, with the industry peaking between 1899 and 1905, and iron mining began affecting the state's economy in 1884, when the Soudan Mine began shipping ore. The development of the Soudan Mine opened the Vermilion Iron Range, Minnesota's first of three iron ranges, and over the next two decades mines sprang up across the northern and central portions of the state. The Mesabi, Cuyuna, and Vermilion Iron Ranges employed thousands of people and brought millions of dollars into Minnesota's economy.

In Southern Minnesota this period is marked by an agricultural economy. Railroads build lines across the region to transport goods to and from major markets like Minneapolis/St. Paul, Chicago and Sioux City.

Possible archaeological site types associated with this period are generally consistent with those of earlier periods, but the influence of European and Euro-American traders, missionaries, settlers, and industries affected the locations of these sites. This period also includes the settlement patterns, subsistence activities, and economic strategies employed by Euro-American immigrants beginning in the mid 19th century. Associated archaeological and historic site types categorized in the Contact/Post-Contact period include standing structures as well as archaeological sites.

5.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

The proposed construction project is located in a region where recorded archaeological properties are not numerous, though this may be because of a lack of formal survey. Archaeological properties related to American Indian occupation and activities are usually found along lakes and streams, or by former large permanent bodies of water on prominent topographic features (i.e. uplands or terraces). The project area is located in the Central Coniferous Lake Archaeological Region of Minnesota (Anfinson 1990).

Westwood staff inventoried previously executed cultural resource investigations for the townships included in the project area (Table 2.1). The following table (Table 5.1) lists the

project reports submitted to and maintained at the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office and the Minnesota Office of the State Archaeologist. The inventory identified 17 previously submitted reports documenting cultural resource investigations which included all or parts of the proposed project boundaries. All of the 17 listed reference investigations involving recorded archaeological sites. A majority of the identified reports relate the findings from location specific investigations involving limited or small land parcels. Often these small projects involve individual private home-sites or limited private and public construction project sites.

Table 5.1:
Previous Cultural Resources Reports

Year	Co.	Title	Author(s)	Sites
1971	CA	A Preliminary Report on the Chippewa Agency, Cass County, Minnesota.	Birk, D. A.	21CA0055
1982	Mlt	The Minnesota Trunk Highway Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey, 1981 Annual Report.	Peterson, L. D.	21CA0196
1986	Mlt	Report on Cultural Resources Survey of Proposed Wastewater Collection and Treatment System, Gull Lake, Minnesota	Harrison, C.	21CA0159
1986	CA	Report on Cultural Resources Survey of Proposed Wastewater Collection System, Gull Lake, Minnesota (Parts 1 & 2)	Harrison, C.	21CA0159
1990	CA	Report on Cultural Resources Survey of Proposed Wastewater Collection System, Gull Lake, Minnesota (Addendum to Vol. 1)	Harrison, C.	21CA0159
1991	CW	Report on Cultural Resource Investigations along Six Alternate Routes Proposed for the Brainerd Bypass of TH 371, Crow Wing County, Minnesota	Harrison, C.	21CW0193 21CW0206
1991	CA	DNR Trails & Waterways Unit Water Access Program Cultural Resource Review: Preliminary Report of Crow Wing River/Fisherman's Bridge Public Water Access Facilities	Emerson, P.	21CA0055
1991	CA	DNR Water Recreation Program Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey, 1990 Annual Report.	Emerson, P. M.	21CA0055
1991	CA	A Place of Mingling Waters: A Literature Review of Archaeological Properties at the Sylvan Hydro Reservoir, Cass and Morrison Counties, Minnesota (Draft Copy)	Birk, D. A.	21CA0190 21CA0196 21CA0199
1992	CA	Stage II and III Investigations of Archaeological Properties at the Sylvan Hydro Reservoir, Cass, Crow Wing, and Morrison Counties, Minnesota (Draft Copy)	Breaky, K. C. Othoudt, J.	21CA0055 21CA0190 21CA0192 21CA0199 21CA0200 21CA0230 21CA0231
1992	CA	Report on Phase III Archaeological Data Recovery at Three Sites Within the City of East Gull Lake, Cass County, Minnesota	Harrison, C.	21CA0159 21CA0213
1993	CW	Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance of Five Lake Shores, Pine River Reservoir, Crow Wing County, Minnesota	Jalbert, A.	21CW0215
1993	CA	DNR Water Recreation Program Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey, 1992 Annual Report	Emerson, P.	21CA0202
1993	CA	Cultural Resource Survey and Site Evaluation for Proposed MNDOT SP1103-19 and Proposed Data Recovery Research Design for the Roosevelt Lake Narrows Site, 91-3-1	Justin, M. A.	21CA0202
1996	CW	A Report on Phase II Cultural Resources Investigation of Alternative Route 1-1A for the Proposed Brainerd Bypass of the TH 371, SP 1809, Crow Wing County, Minnesota	Beck, M. Keaveny, B.	21CW0215
1998	CA	A Phase I Archaeological Survey of CSAH 36 from the Northern Junction with the Pacific Railroad Tracks Southeast to the Gull River (SAP 11-636-04), Cass County, Minnesota	Kluth, R. Kluth, D.	21CA0055 21CA0504
1999	Mlt	Revised Addendum to Report on Supplementary Cultural Resource Survey Conducted with the Proposed Cragun's Golf Course, East Gull Lake, Cass County and Adjacent Portion of Crow Wing County, Minnesota	Harrison, C.	

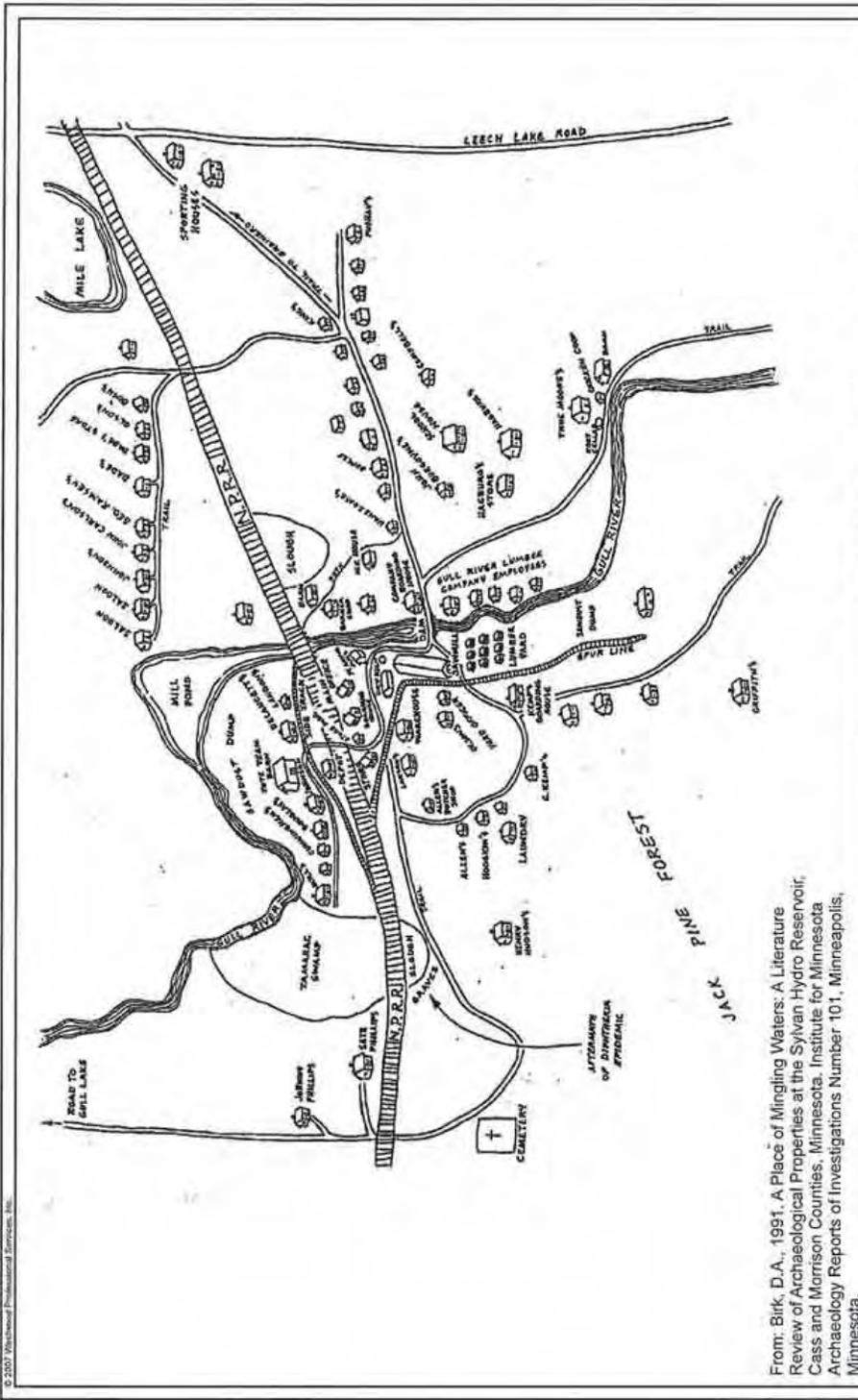
(Key: Year = year of report publication or submission; Co. = project area county of interest [BK-Becker, CY-Clay, MH-Mahnomen, NR-Norman, mlt-multiple county]; Title = Project Report Title; Author(s) = principle author of report; Sites = archaeological sites referenced in report [if blank, the referenced report provides information regarding cultural resource survey executed within the listed county].)

Twenty-three previously identified archaeological sites and two historic period structures have been previously recorded within one mile of the project area (Tables 5-2 and 5-3). The archaeological sites consist of lithic scatters, artifact scatters and a multiple component site. The historic properties identified include a public school building; the Wilson School, and segments of the Brainerd Branch of the Sauk Rapids to Brainerd Railroad. Also of note, the Chippewa Agency National Register Historic District is located less than two miles from the project area, although outside the immediate project APE they are included here as examples of the scope of resources identified within the greater region. The results of the investigation of previously reported archaeological sites is summarized in Table 5-2.

One previously identified archaeological site (21CA0196) is located within the proposed project area. This site consists of an historic village complex associated with the railroad and lumber industries. Platted in 1879, the Village of Gull River was established by the Gull River Lumber Company. The peak population of the town was approximately 300 people, but several hundred more men were likely headquartered in the town while spending winters in the Company's lumber camps. At its peak, the town contained a school, post office, railroad depot, and a cemetery established by the Gull River Lumber Company in 1887 (Exhibit 2).

An historic map redrawn by Doug Birk during an Institute for Minnesota Archaeology investigation of the historic village of Gull River identifies the possible burial location of victims of a diphtheria epidemic. The map was based on individual recollections of the village. The original is property of the Cass County Historical Society. This map is presently the only known source to indicate possible burials in this area. Cass County histories, newspapers, cemetery records, and files at the Minnesota Historical Society and Cass County Historical Society were consulted, and none of these sources contained information on specific diphtheria epidemics in Cass County, or burial sites for victims of any such epidemics.

Limited underwater explorations of the portions of the Village of Gull River town site located on the Gull River were conducted in 1964, 1966, and 1981 (Peterson 1981:61-63, 86). In 1991, a literature search and site visit was conducted for the Sylvan Hydro Reservoir project (Birk 1991). The final report for that survey recommended further investigation of the village site.



GRE Southdale to Searcyville Proposed Transmission Line

Cass and Crow Wing Counties, Minnesota
Bird's-eye View of Gull River (21CA196)

EXHIBIT 2

File No. 2008-01-00017075 (p.002) (1/17/2008 06:46 AM)
4/17/2008 - 11:57:18 AM
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From: Birk, D.A., 1991. A Place of Mingling Waters: A Literature Review of Archaeological Properties at the Sylvan Hydro Reservoir, Cass and Morrison Counties, Minnesota. Institute for Minnesota Archaeology Reports of Investigations Number 101, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

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Not To Scale

**Table 5-2:
Previously Identified Archaeological Resources**

Site Number	Site Type	Site Name	Cultural Period	Location	NRHP Status	Project Area / Buffer
21CA0055	Agency	Chippewa Agency	Prehistoric/Historic	T133N, R29W, Sec. 19	Listed	Buffer
21CA0159	Artifact Scatter	Dade Lake North	Precontact-Woodland	T134N, R29W, Sec. 32	Unevaluated	Buffer
21CA0190		Gull River (Chapman) Sawmill, Kumard and Fishing Bridge	Prehistoric/Historic	T133N, R29W, Sec. 19	Considered Eligible	Buffer
21CA0192	Lithic Scatter	Narrows East	Prehistoric/Historic	T133N, R29W, Sec. 19	Considered Eligible	Buffer
21CA0193	Artifact Scatter	Narrows West	Prehistoric	T133N, R29W, Sec. 19	Considered Eligible	Buffer
21CA0195	Artifact Scatter	River Bend Site	Prehistoric	T133N, R29W, Sec. 4	Considered Eligible	Buffer
21CA0196	Artifact Scatter	Village of Gull River	Prehistoric/Historic	T133N, R29W, Sec. 17	Considered Eligible	Project Area
21CA0199	Artifact Scatter	Woods Trail Crossing, North Ford and Anderson Findspot	Prehistoric/Historic	T133N, R29W, Sec. 19	Considered Eligible	Buffer
21CA0200	Lithic Scatter	Arndt Site	Prehistoric	T133N, R29W, Sec. 19	Considered Eligible	Buffer
21CA0202	Artifact Scatter	Crumpler Site	Prehistoric	T133N, R29W, Sec. 20	Considered Eligible	Buffer
21CA0213	Artifact Scatter	Dade Lake South	Prehistoric	T134N, R29W, Sec. 31	Considered Eligible	Buffer
21CA0230	Lithic Scatter	Fox Lake Outlet Site	Prehistoric	T133N, R29W, Sec. 20	Unevaluated	Buffer
21CA0231	Lithic Scatter	Lot 7 Site	Prehistoric	T133N, R29W, Sec. 19	Unevaluated	Buffer
21CA0504	Artifact Scatter	Gull River Confluence	Prehistoric/Historic	T133N, R29W, Sec. 19	Unevaluated	Buffer
21CA0507	Artifact Scatter	Vogt	Prehistoric	T133N, R29W, Sec. 19	Unevaluated	Buffer
21CW0193	Artifact Scatter	(Unnamed)	Prehistoric	T133N, R29W, Sec. 24	Unevaluated	Buffer
21CW0206	Artifact Scatter	(Unnamed)	Prehistoric	T44N, R31W, Sec. 4	Unevaluated	Buffer
21CW0215	Artifact Scatter	TH 371 South Bank	Prehistoric/Historic	T44N, R31W, Sec. 9	Unevaluated	Buffer
21CW0249	Artifact Scatter	Jasper Heights East	Prehistoric	T133N, R29W, Sec. 14	Unevaluated	Buffer
21CW0250	Lithic Scatter	Jasper Heights West	Prehistoric	T133N, R29W, Sec. 14	Unevaluated	Buffer
21CW0265	Artifact Scatter and Structural Rem	Baxter #1	Prehistoric/Historic	T133N, R28W, Sec. 25 and 26	Unevaluated	Buffer
21CW0266	Artifact Scatter	Baxter Site #2	Prehistoric	T133N, R28W, Sec. 25	Unevaluated	Buffer
21CW0267	Lithic Scatter	Upper Whipple Lake 1	Prehistoric	T133N, R29W, Sec. 10	Unevaluated	Buffer

(Key: Site Number = site designation applied by OSA; Site Type = defined site use type; Cultural Period = reported culture historic period affiliation; Location = amended legal description of recorded property; NRHP Status = status of structure as either "Listed" on the NRHP, "Considered Eligible" by SHPO staff, or as of yet "Unevaluated"; Project Area / Buffer = denotes if listed site is within the defined project area or within the one-mile buffer.)

Westwood reviewed the History/Architecture Inventory Files at SHPO to identify historic properties recorded within the project area and the proscribed one-mile buffer (Table 5-2). Previous architectural surveys of the area identified 2 properties. Of these properties identified all are located within the buffer zone surrounding the defined project APE. While none of the historic properties within the buffer are listed on the NRHP their eligibility for nomination has yet to be determined.

**Table 5-3:
Previously Recorded Architectural Resources**

Site Number	Description	Location	NRHP Status	Project Area / Buffer
CW-CWT-003	Wilson School	T44N, R31W, Sec. 9	Unevaluated	Buffer
CW-CWT-004	Brainerd Branch: Sauk Rapids to Brainerd Railroad	T44N, R31W, Sec. 9	Unevaluated	Buffer

(Key: Site Number = reference number for recorded property; Description = name of historic structure or description of type of structure; Location = amended legal description of recorded property; NRHP Status = status of structure as either "Listed" on the NRHP or as of yet "Unevaluated"; Project Area / Buffer = denotes if listed site is within the defined project area or within the one-mile buffer.)

6.0 PRELIMINARY PROJECT AREA FIELD VISIT

Based on results of the literature review which suggested the potential for previously unreported burials possibly located within the defined project APE Westwood Principal Investigator, Laura Kennedy and Field Technician Austin Jenkins, made a preliminary visit to the site on May 17, 2007 to determine if the possible burial site could be located.

The possible burial location of the diphtheria victims was determined after consulting with the Cass County Historical Society (CCHS) in Walker, Minnesota and examining the hand-drawn map of the Village of Gull River on file at the CCHS. A field visit was made to private property that corresponded with the location of the possible burials as indicated on the map. A portion of this property is within the project area. The map of the Village of Gull River indicates that the possible burial spot was located on the south side of the Northern Pacific Railroad tracks on the edge of a slough immediately northeast of the existing Gull River Cemetery. An area containing five large ground depressions was identified adjacent to a slough and near the existing Gull River Cemetery (Exhibit 2). The depressions are not located within the current boundary of the cemetery. Depressions can occur when the ground settles in areas that have been excavated for burials.

In an internal Westwood draft report dated May 18, 2007, Laura Kennedy recommended that if the depressions are located within the proposed construction area and Area of Potential Effects (the construction area plus 50 meters on either side of that area), the Minnesota State Archaeologist must be notified prior to any archaeological survey or construction work. If the depressions are located outside the APE, but in close proximity (< 25 meters) to the APE, subsurface testing should be conducted near proposed pole locations and other areas where

ground disturbance may occur during construction or maintenance of the transmission line. If human remains were encountered, survey should stop and the State Archaeologist must be notified.

On May 24, 2007, Laura Kennedy and Field Technicians Mario Uribe and Alissa Bergan conducted a second site visit to the area containing the depressions. The purpose of this visit was to map the depressions, gather location information using a Geo-XT GPS unit, and determine if any of the depressions are located within the project APE. Based on the information gathered during this visit, it was determined that one depression and two possible depressions are located within the 129 meter APE south of the tracks.

On May 31, 2007, Kodi Church of GRE gave Laura Kennedy permission to shovel test in the depression and possible depression areas that are located within the project APE. On June 4, 2007 Laura Kennedy contacted Minnesota State Archaeologist Dr. Scott Anfinson regarding testing methods for this area. Dr. Anfinson indicated that since there was no evidence, other than the hand-drawn map of the Village of Gull River, to indicate these depressions are burials, it would be acceptable to conduct subsurface (shovel) testing in the depressions to determine if any physical or cultural material was present. If remains or other indications of burials were encountered, work should stop and Anfinson should be contacted immediately.

The obvious depression and one of the possible depressions are located on the property of Carol Peterson. On May 31, 2007, the landowner was contacted by GRE and she gave permission for Laura Kennedy to conduct testing on her property. On June 5, 2007, Laura Kennedy and Field Technician Mario Uribe conducted subsurface testing in the obvious depression and one possible depression that are located within the project APE. A second possible depression is located closer to the railroad tracks and between two fence lines. This piece of property is not owned by Ms. Peterson and was not tested as landowner permission had not been obtained. However, this possible depression is located at a considerable distance from the other depressions, so it is not likely to be related. A random shovel test was excavated between the area of definite depressions and the possible depression outside the Peterson property. No cultural material was observed in this test.

A total of four subsurface tests were excavated during this visit (Exhibit I) (Table 1). Tests were excavated to 1 meter below ground surface (mbgs). Bone was encountered in Depression 1, but was recovered from immediately below ground surface (0-15 cmbs.) and was identified in the field as the remains of a small animal. The remains were not removed from the site, but were photographed and reburied. These photos were subsequently shown to Minnesota State Archaeologist Scott Anfinson, who agreed they were not human remains. On January 7, 2008, Scott Anfinson again examined the photos and confirmed his original assessment that the remains were not human, but those of an immature animal such as a pig. A second subsurface test was excavated within the same depression, but no physical remains or cultural materials were recovered from this second shovel test. No other physical or cultural material was recovered from any of the subsurface tests.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Field investigations of depressions in the APE of the transmission line revealed no human remains or other evidence of burials. Westwood recommends that construction may proceed in this location, but that monitoring of ground disturbing activities in the area of the depressions be conducted by a professional archaeologist.

Because most of project area has not previously been surveyed, is located near the Mississippi and Gull rivers and several larger lakes and that the project area is in close proximity to other previously reported archaeological sites, this project area is considered to be of medium to high potential for cultural resources. Therefore Westwood recommends a Phase I survey of the project area be conducted prior to the commencement of construction. Special consideration should be given to the area containing the previously recorded archaeological site 21CA0196 (the Village of Gull River). Further, if construction plans for the defined project are determined to have the potential of disturbing the location of the potential burials monitoring of the location by qualified personnel would be warranted.

Areas where cultural resources were not identified are not guaranteed to be free of cultural resources. If archaeological materials are encountered during construction please notify the cultural resource specialists. If human remains are encountered during construction activities, all ground disturbing activity *must* cease and local law enforcement *must* be notified. Minnesota Statute 307.08, the Private Cemeteries Act, prohibits the intentional disturbance of human burials.

8.0 REFERENCES CITED

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GREAT RIVER
ENERGY

17845 East Highway 10 • P.O. Box 800 • Elk River, Minnesota 55330-0800 • 763-441-3121 • Fax 763-241-2366
9 April 2007

Mr. Robert Maroney
US Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: OP-R
190 Fifth Street East, Suite 401
Saint Paul, MN 55101-1638

RE: Baxter to Pine Beach 115 kV Transmission Project
Approximately 8.5 miles
Cass and Crow Wing Counties

WO# 3247

Dear Mr. Maroney:

Great River Energy, power supplier to Crow Wing Power, is proposing to build approximately 8.5 miles of transmission line in Cass and Crow Wing counties. The project is needed to meet growing electrical demands in the area.

The proposed 115 kV transmission project will be located in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23 and 24, T133N, R29W. Great River Energy will overtake 3.25 miles of Minnesota Power's existing 34.5 kV distribution line located in Sections 21, 22, 23 and 24, T133N, R29W (the existing Minnesota Power line will be underbuilt on Great River Energy's new structures). The remainder of the construction will occur in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 16, 17, 18, 21 and 22, T133N, R29W. From Minnesota Power's 34.5 kV distribution line the project will then continue north 1.5 miles along Cass County Road 36 before extending west half a mile across undeveloped land (currently owned by Minnesota Power) to Little Pine Road. The alignment then extends north to the south side of the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway corridor and continues west one mile along the corridor. The final leg of the project will overtake an existing Minnesota Power 3-phase distribution line extending north along Cass County Road 18. The project will connect with Minnesota Power's existing "24" 115 kV line between Section 5 and 6, T134N, R29W.

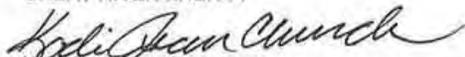
The National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) map indicates that Great River Energy's preferred project route will cross inventoried wetlands, including the Gull River. Great River Energy will submit a Route Permit Application to the Public Utilities Commission. The preferred route is shown on the enclosed project map. Your input on the possible effects of the proposed project on floodplains, wetlands and other important natural resources that occur in the project area will assist Great River Energy and the Commission in their review of the project.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your office by Friday, 4 May 2007. If you have any questions about this proposed project, please contact me at (763) 241-5666. If you wish to respond by e-mail, my address is kchurch@grenergy.com.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY


Kadi Jean Church
Environmental Transmission Coordinator
Enclosures

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9 April 2007

Mr. Paul Burke, Habitat Conservation Biologist
United States Department of the Interior
Twin Cities Field Office
4101 East 80th Street
Bloomington, MN 55425-1665

RE: Baxter to Pine Beach 115 kV Transmission Project
Approximately 8.5 miles
Cass and Crow Wing Counties

WO# 3247

Dear Mr. Burke:

Great River Energy, power supplier to Crow Wing Power, is proposing to build approximately 8.5 miles of transmission line in Cass and Crow Wing counties. The project is needed to meet growing electrical demands in the area.

The proposed 115 kV transmission project will be located in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23 and 24, T133N, R29W. Great River Energy will overtake 3.25 miles of Minnesota Power's existing 34.5 kV distribution line located in Sections 21, 22, 23 and 24, T133N, R29W (the existing Minnesota Power line will be underbuilt on Great River Energy's new structures). The remainder of the construction will occur in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 16, 17, 18, 21 and 22, T133N, R29W. From Minnesota Power's 34.5 kV distribution line the project will then continue north 1.5 miles along Cass County Road 36 before extending west half a mile across undeveloped land (currently owned by Minnesota Power) to Little Pine Road. The alignment then extends north to the south side of the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway corridor and continues west one mile along the corridor. The final leg of the project will overtake an existing Minnesota Power 3-phase distribution line extending north along Cass County Road 18. The project will connect with Minnesota Power's existing "24" 115 kV line between Section 5 and 6, T134N, R29W.

Great River Energy is requesting information on the possible effects of the proposed project on any listed or proposed threatened or endangered species and designated or proposed critical habitat that may be present in the project area. A project description/site map is enclosed for your information.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your office by Friday, 4 May 2007. If you have any questions about this proposed project, please contact me at (763) 241-5666. If you wish to respond by e-mail, my address is kchurch@GREnergy.com. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

Kodi Jean Church
Environmental Transmission Coordinator

Enclosure

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From: Paul_Burke@fws.gov
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2007 9:22 AM
To: Church, Kodi GRE/ER
Subject: Re: Great River Energy Proposed Pine Beach 115 kV Transmission Line

Ms. Church:
We have reviewed the information provided with your messages, and we concur with your determinations, that the proposed actions will have no effect on federally-listed threatened and endangered species, or listed critical habitats. Thank you. Paul J. Burke Wildlife Biologist USFWS -- Twin Cities, MN

"Church, Kodi
GRE/ER"
<kchurch@GREnergy.com> To
<Paul_Burke@fws.gov> cc
05/29/2007 09:12 AM Subject
Proposed Pine Beach 115 kV Transmission Line

Mr. Burke,

Great River Energy believes that the proposed Baxter to Pine Beach 115 kV Transmission Line will have no effect on federally-listed threatened and endangered species and is requesting a concurrence from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 763.241.5666 or by email at kchurch@GREnergy.com.

Thank you,

Kodi Jean Church

Kodi Jean Church, EIT | Environmental Transmission Coordinator
Great River Energy
17845 East Highway 10 | Elk River, MN 55330
P: 763.241.5666 | F: 763.241.6203 | C: 612.803.2760
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9 April 2007

Ms. Lisa Joyal
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Baxter to Pine Beach 115 kV Transmission Project
Approximately 8.5 miles
Cass and Crow Wing Counties

WO# 3247

Dear Ms. Joyal:

Great River Energy, power supplier to Crow Wing Power, is proposing to build approximately 8.5 miles of transmission line in Cass and Crow Wing counties. The project is needed to meet growing electrical demands in the area.

The proposed 115 kV transmission project will be located in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23 and 24, T133N, R29W. Great River Energy will overtake 3.25 miles of Minnesota Power's existing 34.5 kV distribution line located in Sections 21, 22, 23 and 24, T133N, R29W (the existing Minnesota Power line will be underbuilt on Great River Energy's new structures). The remainder of the construction will occur in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 16, 17, 18, 21 and 22, T133N, R29W. From Minnesota Power's 34.5 kV distribution line the project will then continue north 1.5 miles along Cass County Road 36 before extending west half a mile across undeveloped land (currently owned by Minnesota Power) to Little Pine Road. The alignment then extends north to the south side of the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway corridor and continues west one mile along the corridor. The final leg of the project will overtake an existing Minnesota Power 3-phase distribution line extending north along Cass County Road 18. The project will connect with Minnesota Power's existing "24" 115 kV line between Section 5 and 6, T134N, R29W.

According to the Rare Features Map, there are Blanding's Turtles (*emydoidea blandingii*) in the vicinity of the project. To avoid unnecessary disturbance of surrounding areas, Great River Energy's construction crews will rarely deviate from the project right of way. Silt fencing or other erosion control measures will be used near waterways to prevent sedimentation. The rare features will be added to Great River Energy's restriction list and construction crews will be made aware of their presence in the vicinity of the project at the pre-construction meeting. A project description/site map and rare features map are enclosed for your information.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your office by Friday, 4 May 2007. If you have any questions about this proposed project, please contact me at (763) 241-5666. If you wish to respond by e-mail, my address is kchurch@GREnergy.com.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

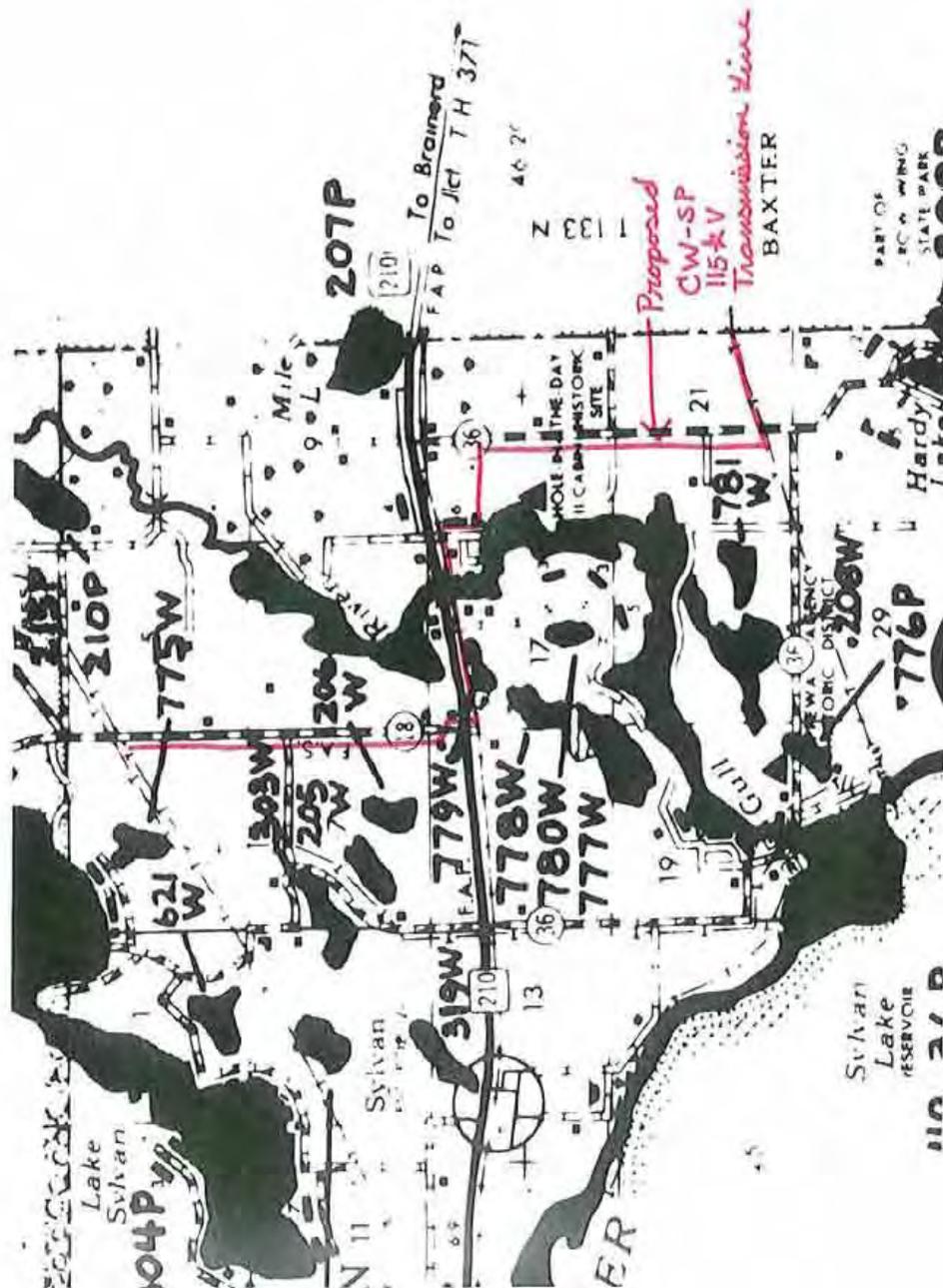
GREAT RIVER ENERGY

Kodi Jean Church
Environmental Transmission Coordinator

Enclosures

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Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program, Box 25

500 Lafayette Road

St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4025

Phone: (651) 259-5109 Fax: (651) 296-1811 E-mail: lisa.joyal@dnr.state.mn.us

FILE COPY

May 3, 2007

Ms. Kodi Jean Church
Great River Energy
PO Box 800
Elk River, MN 55330-0800

Re: Request for Natural Heritage information for vicinity of the proposed Baxter to Pine Beach 115 kV Transmission Project, Cass and Crow Wing Counties
NHNRP Contact #: ERDB 20070732

Dear Ms. Church,

I received your letter dated 9 April 2007 regarding the project listed above. I concur with your assessment, and believe that your procedures will provide adequate protection for Blanding's Turtles. Please be aware that review by the Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program focuses only on *rare natural features*. It does not constitute review or approval by the Department of Natural Resources as a whole. If you require further information on the environmental review process for other natural resource-related issues, you may contact your Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist, Dave Holmbeck, at (218) 327-4317. Thank you for consulting us on this matter, and for your interest in preserving Minnesota's rare natural resources.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Lisa Joyal in cursive script.

Lisa Joyal
Endangered Species Environmental Review Coordinator

DNR Information: 651-296-6157

• 1-888-646-6367

• TTY: 651-296-5484

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9 April 2007

Mr. Richard Schossow, Soil Conservation Technician
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Walker Service Center
300 Minnesota Avenue
Walker, MN 56484

RE: Baxter to Pine Beach 115 kV Transmission Project
Approximately 8.5 miles
Cass and Crow Wing Counties

WO# 3247

Dear Mr. Schossow:

Great River Energy, power supplier to Crow Wing Power, is proposing to build approximately 8.5 miles of transmission line in Cass and Crow Wing counties. The project is needed to meet growing electrical demands in the area.

The proposed 115 kV transmission project will be located in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23 and 24, T133N, R29W. Great River Energy will overtake 3.25 miles of Minnesota Power's existing 34.5 kV distribution line located in Sections 21, 22, 23 and 24, T133N, R29W (the existing Minnesota Power line will be underbuilt on Great River Energy's new structures). The remainder of the construction will occur in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 16, 17, 18, 21 and 22, T133N, R29W. From Minnesota Power's 34.5 kV distribution line the project will then continue north 1.5 miles along Cass County Road 36 before extending west half a mile across undeveloped land (currently owned by Minnesota Power) to Little Pine Road. The alignment then extends north to the south side of the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway corridor and continues west one mile along the corridor. The final leg of the project will overtake an existing Minnesota Power 3-phase distribution line extending north along Cass County Road 18. The project will connect with Minnesota Power's existing "24" 115 kV line between Section 5 and 6, T134N, R29W.

Great River Energy is conducting an environmental review for this project and information on the possible effects of the proposed project on important or prime farmlands in the project area. A project description/site map is enclosed for your information.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your office by Friday, 4 May 2007. If you have any questions about this proposed project, please contact me at (763) 241-5666. If you wish to respond by e-mail, my address is kchurch@GREnergy.com.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

Kodi Jean Church
Environmental Transmission Coordinator

Enclosure

S:\Legal\Environmental\Transmission\Projects\3247 Baxter to Pine Beach\CW-SP NRCS Cass.doc
www.GreatRiverEnergy.com

A Touchstone Energy[®] Cooperative



17845 East Highway 10 • P.O. Box 800 • Elk River, Minnesota 55330-0800 • 763-441-3121 • Fax 763-241-2366

9 April 2007

Ms. Mary Reetz, District Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Brainerd Service Center
7118 Clearwater Road
Baxter, MN 56425

RE: Baxter to Pine Beach 115 kV Transmission Project
Approximately 8.5 miles
Cass and Crow Wing Counties

WO# 3247

Dear Ms. Reetz:

Great River Energy, power supplier to Crow Wing Power, is proposing to build approximately 8.5 miles of transmission line in Cass and Crow Wing counties. The project is needed to meet growing electrical demands in the area.

The proposed 115 kV transmission project will be located in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23 and 24, T133N, R29W. Great River Energy will overtake 3.25 miles of Minnesota Power's existing 34.5 kV distribution line located in Sections 21, 22, 23 and 24, T133N, R29W (the existing Minnesota Power line will be underbuilt on Great River Energy's new structures). The remainder of the construction will occur in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 16, 17, 18, 21 and 22, T133N, R29W. From Minnesota Power's 34.5 kV distribution line the project will then continue north 1.5 miles along Cass County Road 36 before extending west half a mile across undeveloped land (currently owned by Minnesota Power) to Little Pine Road. The alignment then extends north to the south side of the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway corridor and continues west one mile along the corridor. The final leg of the project will overtake an existing Minnesota Power 3-phase distribution line extending north along Cass County Road 18. The project will connect with Minnesota Power's existing "24" 115 kV line between Section 5 and 6, T134N, R29W.

Great River Energy is conducting an environmental review for this project and information on the possible effects of the proposed project on important or prime farmlands in the project area. A project description/site map is enclosed for your information.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your office by Friday, 4 May 2007. If you have any questions about this proposed project, please contact me at (763) 241-5666. If you wish to respond by e-mail, my address is kchurch@GREnergy.com.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

Kodi Jean Church
Environmental Transmission Coordinator

Enclosure

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www.GreatRiverEnergy.com

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

United States Department of Agriculture

 NRCS Natural Resources
Conservation Service

2038 State Hwy 1 NE, Thief River Falls, MN 56701

Phone: 218-681-6600 Fax: 218-681-5598

April 24, 2007

Kodi Jean Church,
Environmental Transmission Coordinator
Great River Energy
17845 East Hwy 10, PO Box 800
Elk River, MN 55330-0800

Re: Baxter to Pine Beach 115kV Transmission Line

Dear Ms. Church:

This is our (NRCS) review and assessment of the proposed construction of approximately 8.5 miles of transmission line in Cass and Crow Wing counties. As stated in the project proposal, the construction of transmission lines is to be overhead. Some of the area is within the corporate limits of the City of Baxter. Proposed projects within the corporate limits of a village or city and right-of-way limits of a corridor (street or avenue) are considered as previously converted. In the area, outside of Baxter city limits, there may be prime and statewide important farmland and hydric soils present within the proposed project area. But, the placement of overhead or underground facilities are not considered as a conversion of farmland or hydric soils and are not subject to Public Law 97-98, the Farmland Protection and Policy Act of 1981, and other USDA farm programs.

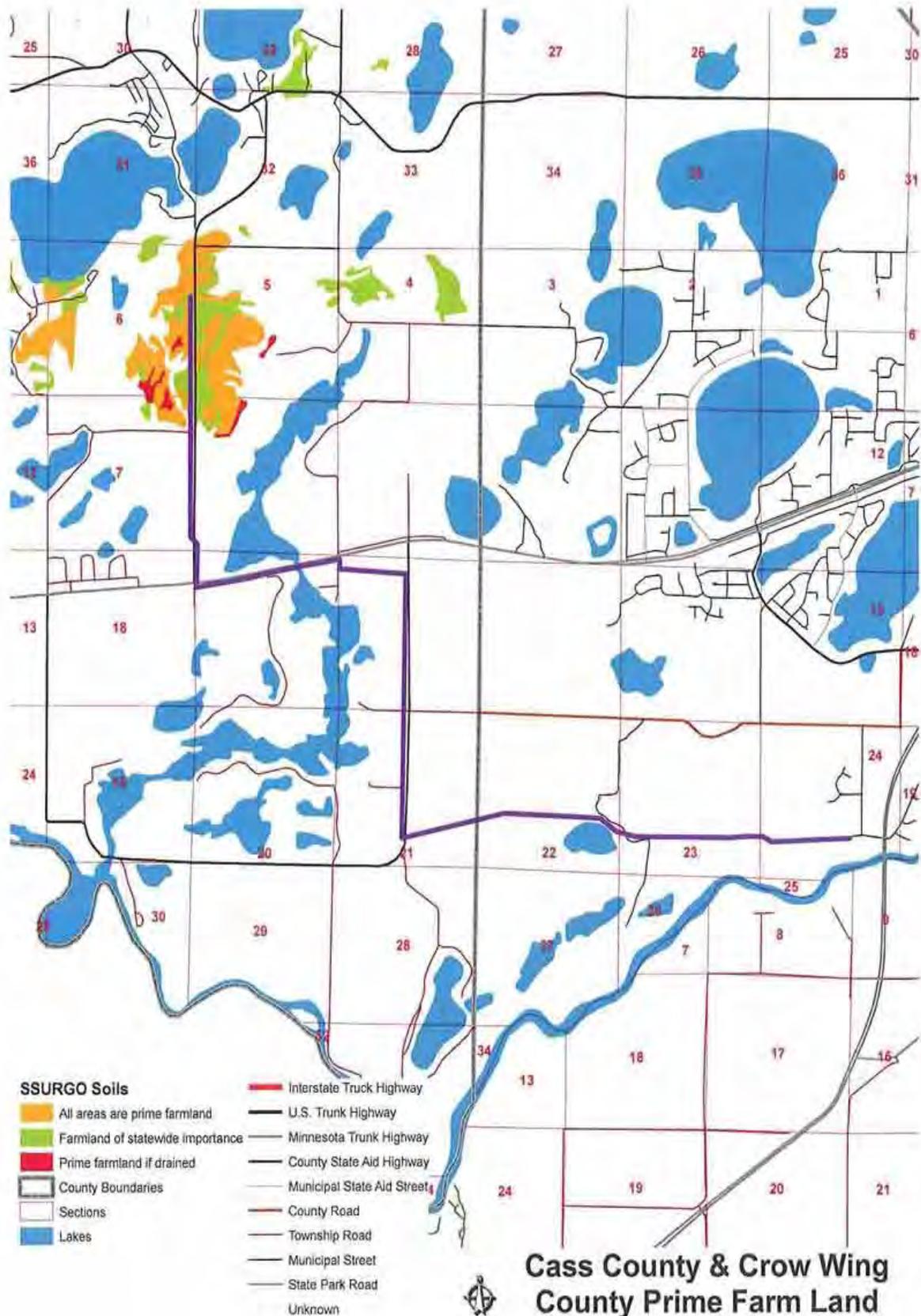
We (NRCS) cannot make or suggest any alternatives to this project as it is not subject to PL 97-98, the Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981 and has no affect on USDA farm programs within the corporate limits of the city of Baxter, MN. And the construction of overhead and/or underground utilities is not considered as farmland conversion or hydric soil conversion for USDA farm programs.

Other laws and regulations that involve other federal and state agencies would be of concern as far as the wetlands and flood plain assessments. Some of these agencies are the Corp of Engineers, Board of Water and Soil Resources, Soil and Water Conservation District, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to name a few. Please contact them for appropriate environmental assessments.

If you have any questions and concerns, please feel free to call me at 218 681-6600 ext. 107.

Respectfully,

Rodney B. Heschke
Area Resource Soil Scientist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
2038 State Hwy 1 NE
Thief River Falls, MN 56701



GREAT RIVER
ENERGY

17845 East Highway 10 • P.O. Box 800 • Elk River, Minnesota 55330-0800 • 763-441-3121 • Fax 763-241-2366

5 April 2007

Ms. Tracy Schmidt
Office of Aeronautics
Minnesota Department of Transportation
222 E. Plato Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55107-1618

RE: Baxter to Pine Beach 115 kV Transmission Project
Approximately 8.5 miles
Cass and Crow Wing Counties

WO# 3247

Dear Ms. Schmidt:

Great River Energy, power supplier to Crow Wing Power, is proposing to build approximately 8.5 miles of transmission line in Cass and Crow Wing counties. The project is needed to meet growing electrical demands in the area.

The proposed 115 kV transmission project will be located in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23 and 24, T133N, R29W. Great River Energy will overtake 3.25 miles of Minnesota Power's existing 34.5 kV distribution line located in Sections 21, 22, 23 and 24, T133N, R29W (the existing Minnesota Power line will be underbuilt on GRE's new structures). The remainder of the construction will occur in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 16, 17, 18, 21 and 22, T133N, R29W. From Minnesota Power's 34.5 kV distribution line the project will then continue north 1.5 miles along Cass County Road 36 before extending west half a mile across undeveloped land (currently owned by Minnesota Power) to Little Pine Road. The alignment then extends north to the south side of the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway corridor and continues west one mile along the corridor. The final leg of the project will overtake an existing Minnesota Power 3-phase distribution line extending north along Cass Country Road 18. The project will connect with Minnesota Power's existing "24" 115 kV line between Section 5 and 6, T134N, R29W.

The tallest proposed structure is approximately 70 feet above the ground. GRE is requesting information on the possible effects of the proposed project on airports or airstrips in the project area. A project description/site map is enclosed for your information.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your office by Friday, 4 May 2007. If you have any questions about this proposed project, please contact me at (763) 241-5666. If you wish to respond by e-mail, my address is kchurch@GREnergy.com.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

Kodi Jean Church
Environmental Transmission Coordinator

Enclosure

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17845 East Highway 10 • P.O. Box 800 • Elk River, Minnesota 55330-0800 • 763-441-3121 • Fax: 763-241-2366

20 July 2007

Ms. Tracy Schmidt
Office of Aeronautics
Minnesota Department of Transportation
222 E. Plato Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55107-1618

RE: Baxter to Pine Beach 115 kV Transmission Project
Approximately 8.5 miles
Cass and Crow Wing Counties

WO# 3247

Dear Ms. Schmidt:

Great River Energy, power supplier to Crow Wing Power, is proposing to build approximately 8.5 miles of transmission line in Cass and Crow Wing counties. The project is needed to meet growing electrical demands in the area.

The proposed 115 kV transmission project will be located in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23 and 24, T133N, R29W. Great River Energy will overtake 3.25 miles of Minnesota Power's existing 34.5 kV distribution line located in Sections 21, 22, 23 and 24, T133N, R29W (the existing Minnesota Power line will be underbuilt on Great River Energy's new structures). The remainder of the construction will occur in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 16, 17, 18, 21 and 22, T133N, R29W. From Minnesota Power's 34.5 kV distribution line the project will then continue north 1.5 miles along Cass County Road 36 before extending west half a mile across undeveloped land (currently owned by Minnesota Power) to Little Pine Road. The alignment then extends north to the south side of the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway corridor and continues west one mile along the corridor. The final leg of the project will overtake an existing Minnesota Power 3-phase distribution line extending north along Cass County Road 18. The project will connect with Minnesota Power's existing "24" 115 kV line between Section 5 and 6, T134N, R29W.

Great River Energy is conducting an environmental review for this project and requests information of the proposed project on historic properties in the project area. A project description/site map is enclosed for your information.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your office by Friday, 10 August 2007. If you have any questions about this proposed project, please contact me at (763) 241-5666. If you wish to respond by e-mail, my address is kchurch@GREnergy.com.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

Kodi Jean Church
Environmental Transmission Coordinator

Enclosure

S:\Member Services\Environmental\Transmission\Projects\3247 Baxter to Pine Beach\CW-SP MNDOT.doc
www.GreatRiverEnergy.com

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Church, Kodi GRE/MG

From: Michael Ferry [Michael.Ferry@dot.state.mn.us]
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2008 5:41 PM
To: Church, Kodi GRE/MG
Subject: Re: Great River Energy Southdale to Searcyville 115 kV Transmission Line and Breaker Station Project

Kodi;

Appears clear of both airports.

Michael Ferry, P.E.
Regional Airport Engineer

Minnesota Dept. of Transportation
Office of Aeronautics
222 E. Plato Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55107

Office - (651) 234-7243
Fax - (651) 234-7261

>>> "Church, Kodi GRE/MG" <kchurch@greenergy.com> 6/19/2008 11:02:00 AM

>>> >>>

Mr. Ferry,

Thank you for returning my phone call.

Attached please find my correspondence to Ms. Schmidt in 2007 regarding the above-referenced project; formerly known as the Baxter to Pine Beach 115 kV Transmission Project. I have included the description of the project as well as the project map I sent Ms. Schmidt last year.

The Brainerd Regional Airport and the East Gull Lake Municipal Airport are in the vicinity of the Project. I do not have a response from Ms. Schmidt in my files and am hoping you can provide me with a determination regarding the Project.

I would appreciate receiving your comments by June 25, 2008, if possible. If you have any questions about the Project, please contact me at 763.445.5211.

Thank you,
Kodi Jean Church
<<2007 MNDOT Correspondence.pdf>>

As of 7 April 2008, my new contact information is:

Kodi Jean Church, EIT | Transmission Permitting Analyst
Great River Energy
12300 Elm Creek Boulevard | Maple Grove, MN 55369-4718

P: 763.445.5211 | F: 763.445.5242 | C: 612.803.2760
E: kchurch@greenergy.com | www.greatriverenergy.com
<file:///C:/Documents%20and%20Settings/kchurch/Application%20Data/Micros
oft/Signatures/www.greatriverenergy.com>

Affidavit of Publication

State of Minnesota)

County of Crow Wing) ^{ss.}

Angela Hart, being duly sworn, on oath says that he/she is the publisher or authorized agent and employee of the publisher of the newspaper known as the Brainerd Dispatch, and has full knowledge of the facts which are stated below:

(A) The newspaper has complied with all of the requirements constituting qualification as a qualified newspaper, as provided by Minnesota Statute 331A.02, 331A.07, and other applicable laws, as amended.

(B) The printed Notice which is attached was cut from the columns of said newspaper, and was printed and published once each week, for 2 successive weeks; it was first published on Tuesday the 22nd day of May, 2007, and was thereafter printed and published on every Tuesday to and including Tuesday the 29th day of May, 2007; and printed below is a copy of the lower case alphabet from A to Z, both inclusive, which is hereby acknowledged as being the size and kind of type used in the composition and publication of the notice.

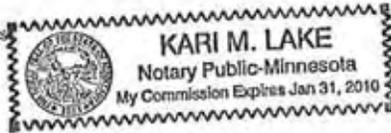
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

By: Angela Hart
Title: Agent

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 29th day of May, 2007
Kari Lake
Notary Public, Minnesota

(Notarial Seal)

My Commission Expires
Publication Fee \$229.50



RATE INFORMATION

- (1) Lowest classified rate paid by commercial users for comparable space \$13.50 /column inch
- (2) Maximum rate allowed by law for the above matter \$13.50 /column inch
- (3) Rate actually charged for the above matter \$13.50 /column inch

(Published in the Brainerd Dispatch, May 22, 29, 2007. 21.)
Great River Energy schedules open house to review a proposed 115 kilovolt (115 kV) transmission line in City of Baxter and Sylvan Township

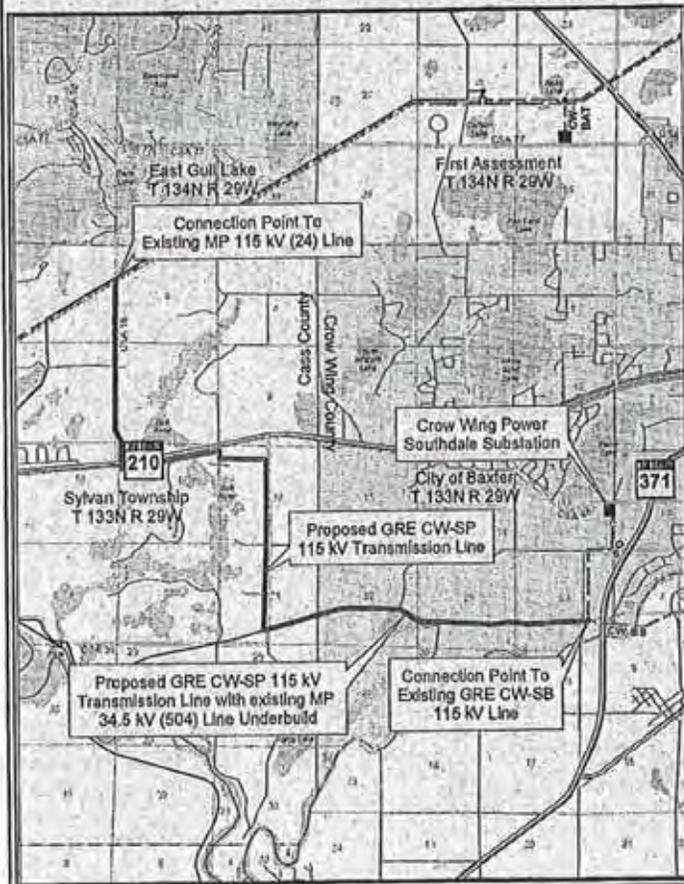
What:
 A public open house to discuss a proposed nine-mile long 115 kV transmission line located in the southern part of City of Baxter and the eastern part of Sylvan Township. The transmission line is proposed to be constructed in 2008 by Great River Energy (GRE). GRE is the wholesale electric provider to Crow Wing Power. The final transmission line route requires approval by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC). The PUC process of evaluating and approving a final route will require local public meetings and hearings conducted during the second half of 2007. No formal presentation is planned for the open house; attendees are encouraged to come any time during the hours shown below to ask questions and receive information.

When:
 Thursday, May 31, 2007; 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Where:
 Baxter City Hall; 13190 Memorywood Drive; Baxter, MN. The facility is handicap accessible. For special accommodation needs or to request auxiliary aid, please contact the representative indicated below.

Who:
 The open house is sponsored by Great River Energy, Crow Wing Power, and Minnesota Power.

More Information:
 If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:
 Rick Heuring, Field Representative, Great River Energy,
 at 763.241.2337, toll free at 1.800.442.3013, extension 2337,
 or via e-mail at rheuring@greenergy.com.
 You can also visit the project website at:
<http://www.greatriverenergy.com/projectsandstudies/powerlines/southdaletopinebeach>



GREAT RIVER
ENERGY®17845 East Highway 10 • P.O. Box 800 • Elk River, Minnesota 55330-0800 • 763-441-3121 • Fax 763-241-2366 • www.GreatRiverEnergy.com

May 18, 2007

W.O. #32471
GRE'S CW-SP Line**SUBJECT: GREAT RIVER ENERGY'S (GRE) PROPOSED 115 kV TRANSMISSION LINE**

The purpose of this notice is to inform you of a 115 kilovolt (115 kV) transmission line project being proposed by Great River Energy (GRE) of Elk River, MN. GRE is the wholesale electric provider to Crow Wing Power and 27 other distribution cooperatives throughout Minnesota. The project being proposed by GRE consists of a nine-mile long transmission line that will provide a critical connection between two existing 115 kV transmission lines owned by GRE and Minnesota Power. You are being notified of this proposed project because you have interest in property located within 500 feet of the proposed transmission line route.

Enclosed with this notice please find a project fact sheet that provides specific information regarding the need of this project as well as the anticipated schedule for permitting, easement acquisition and construction activities. GRE, along with Crow Wing Power and Minnesota Power, invite you to attend an open house meeting to review project details and obtain more information. Representatives of GRE and Crow Wing Power will be in attendance to answer questions and solicit your feedback. The open house meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 31, 2007 at Baxter City Hall, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Baxter City Hall is located at 13190 Memorywood Drive (north side of T.H. 210 approximately 2.5 miles west of T.H. 371). The facility is handicap accessible. For special accommodation needs or to request auxiliary aid, please contact the representative indicated below. No formal presentation is planned for the open house; attendees are encouraged to come any time during the hours indicated.

Current state law provides opportunities for the public to be heard during the process of approving the final route for the transmission line. The final transmission line route requires approval by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC). The PUC process for considering and approving a final route will include several local public meetings and hearings to be conducted during the second half of 2007.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rick Heuring of Great River Energy at 763.241.2337, or toll free at 1.800.442.3013, ext. 2337, or e-mail at rheuring@greenergy.com. You can also visit the project website at <http://www.greatriverenergy.com>.

Direct Dial (763) 241-2337

E-Mail rheuring@greenergy.com

FAX (763) 241-6011

Church, Kodi GRE/MG

From: Sue Maske [Sue.Maske@co.crow-wing.mn.us]
Sent: Friday, June 20, 2008 7:47 AM
To: Church, Kodi GRE/MG
Subject: RE: Southdale to Searcyville 115 kV Transmission Line

Kodi

The County Comprehensive Plan only covers the Unincorporated areas of Crow Wing County.

>>> "Church, Kodi GRE/MG" <kchurch@GREnergy.com> 6/19/2008 10:54 AM >>>
Sue,

Thank you for the response. Does this mean that the Crow Wing County Comprehensive Plan is superseded by any City of Baxter zoning plans?

Thank you,
Kodi

As of 7 April 2008, my new contact information is:

Kodi Jean Church, EIT | Transmission Permitting Analyst
Great River Energy
12300 Elm Creek Boulevard | Maple Grove, MN 55369-4718

P: 763.445.5211 | F: 763.445.5242 | C: 612.803.2760
E: kchurch@greenergy.com | www.greatriverenergy.com

-----Original Message-----

From: Planning&Zoning [mailto:Planning&Zoning@co.crow-wing.mn.us]
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2008 8:45 AM
To: Church, Kodi GRE/MG
Subject: Re: Southdale to Searcyville 115 kV Transmission Line

To Whom it May Concern:

It appears to your map that the transmission line is located in the City limits of Baxter, Cass County and Morrison County and not in Crow Wing County.
Sue

>>> "Church, Kodi GRE/MG" <kchurch@GREnergy.com> 6/16/2008 11:48 AM >>>
To Whom It May Concern:

Attached is the Proposed Route Map for the Great River Energy/Minnesota Power, Southdale to Searcyville project. It appears from the zoning map contained in the Comprehensive Plan adopted in April 2004, that the area for the Route is zoned "Green Space."

Please confirm that the area is zoned as indicated, and that the construction of a 115 kV transmission line is a compatible use.

Thank you,
Kodi Jean Church

<<CW-SS-PermitMapDNR-ENV_Aerial.jpg>>
As of 7 April 2008, my new contact information is:

Kodi Jean Church, EIT | Transmission Permitting Analyst

Great River Energy
12300 Elm Creek Boulevard | Maple Grove, MN 55369-4718

P: 763.445.5211 | F: 763.445.5242 | C: 612.803.2760

E: kchurch@reenergy.com | www.greatriverenergy.com

<file:///C:/Documents%20and%20Settings/kchurch/Application%20Data/Micros
oft/Signatures/www.greatriverenergy.com>

Appendix B

NAMES OF PROPERTY OWNERS ALONG THE PROPOSED ROUTE

**NAMES OF PROPERTY OWNERS ALONG THE PROPOSED “CW-SS”
115 kV TRANSMISSION LINE AND SCEARCYVILLE 115 kV BREAKER
STATION PROJECT, ORGANIZED BY LAST NAME**

AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK OF MINNESOTA
AMSDEN, CHRISTOPHER J
ANDERSON, DOUGLAS D
BANKS, TRAVIS E & TRACY L
BARRETT, DANIEL R & MARCELLA M
BRAUCH, MARY ELLEN
BRITTON, OWEN W & DANNI E
BURLINGTON NORTHERN RAILROAD
CARDER, STEVEN R & KAREN K
CASS COUNTY ADMINISTERED LAND
CITY OF BAXTER
CLARK, BRADLEY D & CATHERINE
COVENTRY, PAUL W
DISTERHAUPT, CLYDE E & BRENDA M
DOUCETTE, CHRISTINA
DUY, RONALD F, SR & RITA L
ENCA, LLC
ENGHOLM, JASON L & AMY P
EQUITY TRUST COMPANY CUSTODIAN
ESTREM, PHILLIP H & ROSANNE
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN GOOD SAMARITAN
FORSBERG, ERIC & LAURA
FOY, LELAND G & JUDITH
FRANK, JEREMY J & JULIE B
FURSTENBERG, DONALD L & BETTY L
GRABA, SYLVIA G & JOSEPH P
GREENWALT, ROGER & WENDY
HALL, ALLEN V
HANSEN, LLOYD & NANCY F
HERNESMAN, JENNIFER L
HILDEBRANDT, ROBERT P & BARBARA J
HILLER, JAMES R, SR
HOFFMAN, STEPHEN G & JONI L
HOPE, LELAND A
HRADSKY, WAYNE M
HUNTER, SHERRIE
JARES, JAMES E & BARBARA E
JENDRO, ERIC F & MARTHA C
KETTLEWELL, VICTORIA S &
KETTLEWELL-SCOTT, BARBARA, TRUSTEE
KODIAK, JOHN W & LORIE L
KOSTKA, CRAIG S & SHELLY A
KRAMER, BRENT D & SHERRY L
KVISTAD, DENVER J & TAMMY L
LANGE, MARK A & CARLENE J

LAPKA, CAROL D, TRUSTEE
LAPKA, LLOYD L
LORD OF LIFE, LUTHERAN CHURCH
LUNDBLAD, LARRY A & KAREN A
LUNNEBORG, KEITH A & CARIN
MANECKE, PAUL R & NICOLE T
MANNIE, DANIEL & PATTY
MARLOW, ROY & LISA M
MAROHN, JAMES & CANDACE
MARTIN, CHARLES J & JOANN V
MATTSON PROPERTIES, LLC
MELBY, STEVEN L & TANIA M
MILLER, DALE & MARY
MILLER, ROBERT J & LAURA J
MINN POWER & LIGHT CO
MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REG SYSTEMS INC
MUSEL, GERALYN A
NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT, LLC
NAVILLUS LAND COMPANY
NELSON, WILLIAM L & BERDEEN
NUESSE, RICHARD R & LAURA L
OATES, SHAREN EIDE & GRABA, SYLVIA
OBERMILLER, JOHN M & MELISSA
PARK REGION LIMITED PARTNERSHIP LLP
PETERSON, DONALD ROGER
PETERSON, JOAN M
POTLATCH FOREST PRODUCTS CORP
POTLATCH FOREST PRODUCTS CORP
POTTER, JOHN D & MICHELLE N
PRIEBE, HOWARD E & DOROTHY A
PULAK, DARRELL D & VINDY R
RASK, PETER B,II & LYNDA E
REDDING, DAVID & ROSEMARIE
RENNEKE, DEAN G & TAMARA L
RUDBECK, ARLENE M & JAMES
SCEARCYVILLE PARTNERSHIP
SCHMIDT, JEFFREY P
SCHMIDT, RICHARD R & JANE C
SCHWARZE, ROGER A & KATHLEEN
SEIBERT, JONATHAN R & SAMANTHA A
SHIPMAN, LAURA J & DANIEL C
SMITH, BRIAN R & SIMONE E
SMITH, CORLISS A
STEFFEN, DANIEL R
STORM, MIKE
SUNTRUST MORTGAGE, INC
TERWILLIGER, JOHN R &
TURPIN, LINDA M
URBANSKI PROPERTIES, LLC
URBANSKI, JOSEPH A & MELISSA A

VOPATEK, DANIEL R
WALKOWIAK, WM JR & CHARLOTTE
WANGERIN, ROBERT R & AMY R
WHITLOCK, STEPHEN E
WICKHAM, RONALD & SHARON A
WILCOX, BRIAN J & MERJEM A
WILT, RICHARD & JOYCE & DAVID
ZETAH, DONALD J & JANE E

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