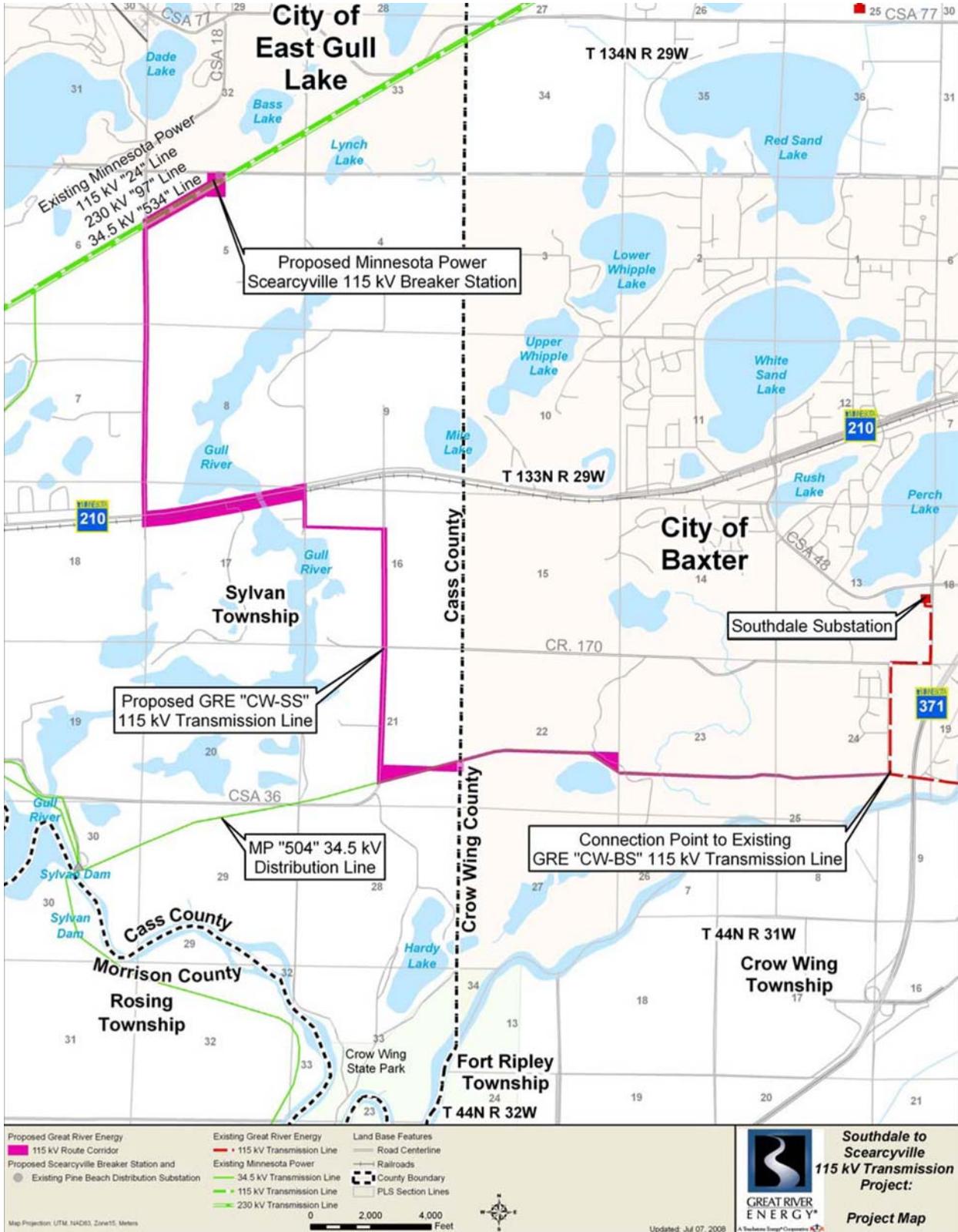


FIGURES

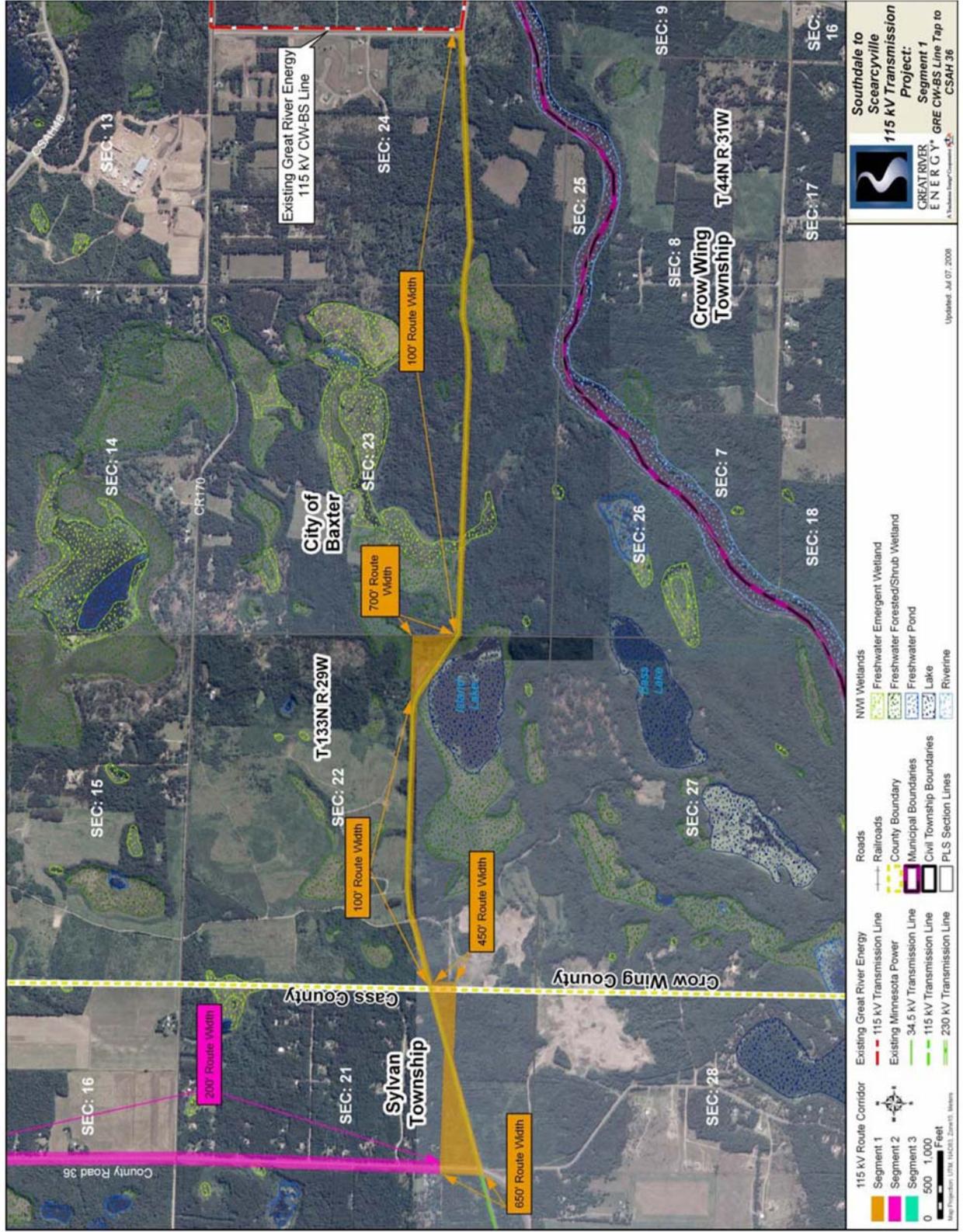
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FIGURE 1: PROPOSED ROUTE



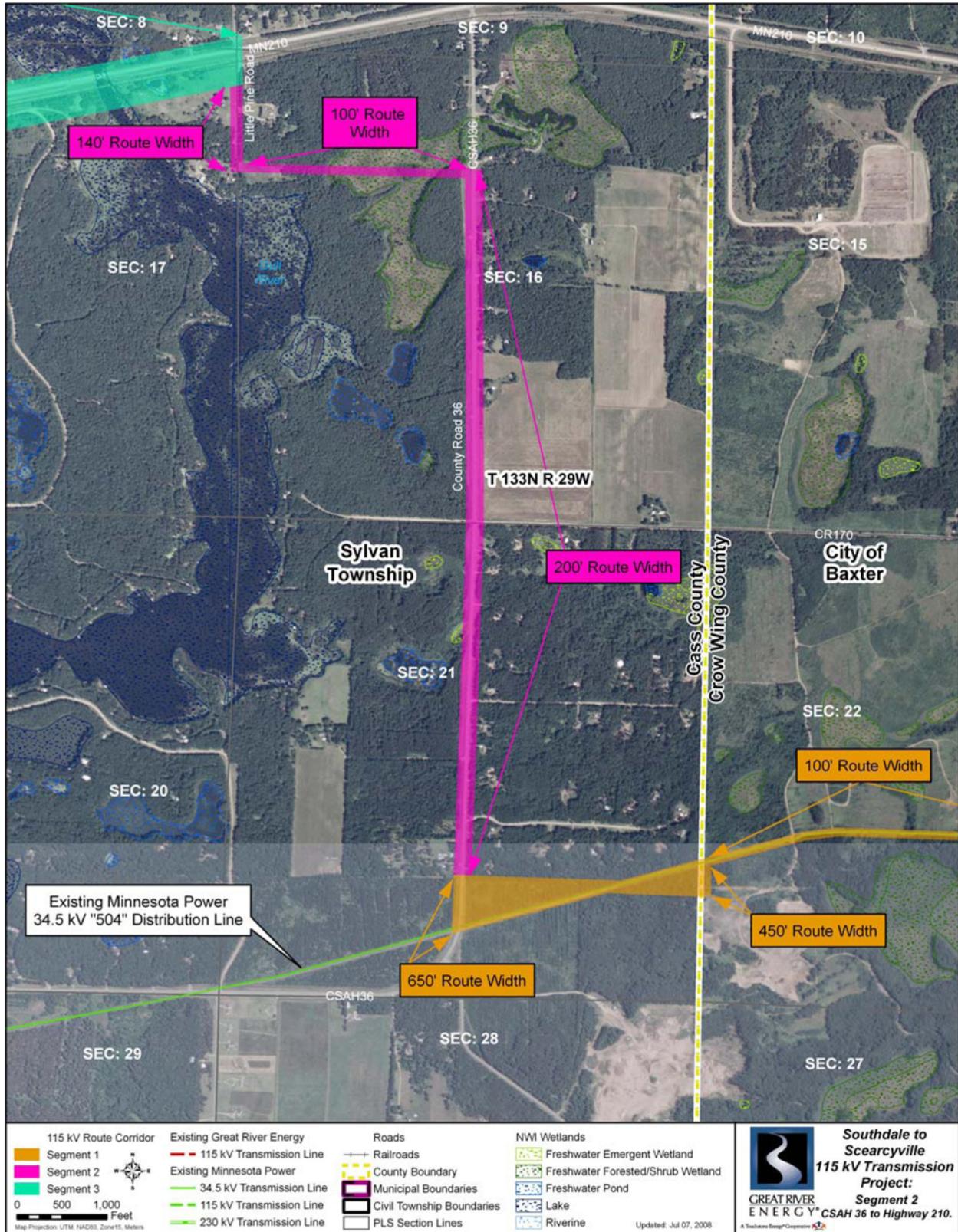
Referenced from the *Great River Energy and Minnesota Power Southdale to Scarcyville 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line and Breaker Station Route Permit Application*. July 17, 2008.

FIGURE 2: SEGMENT 1



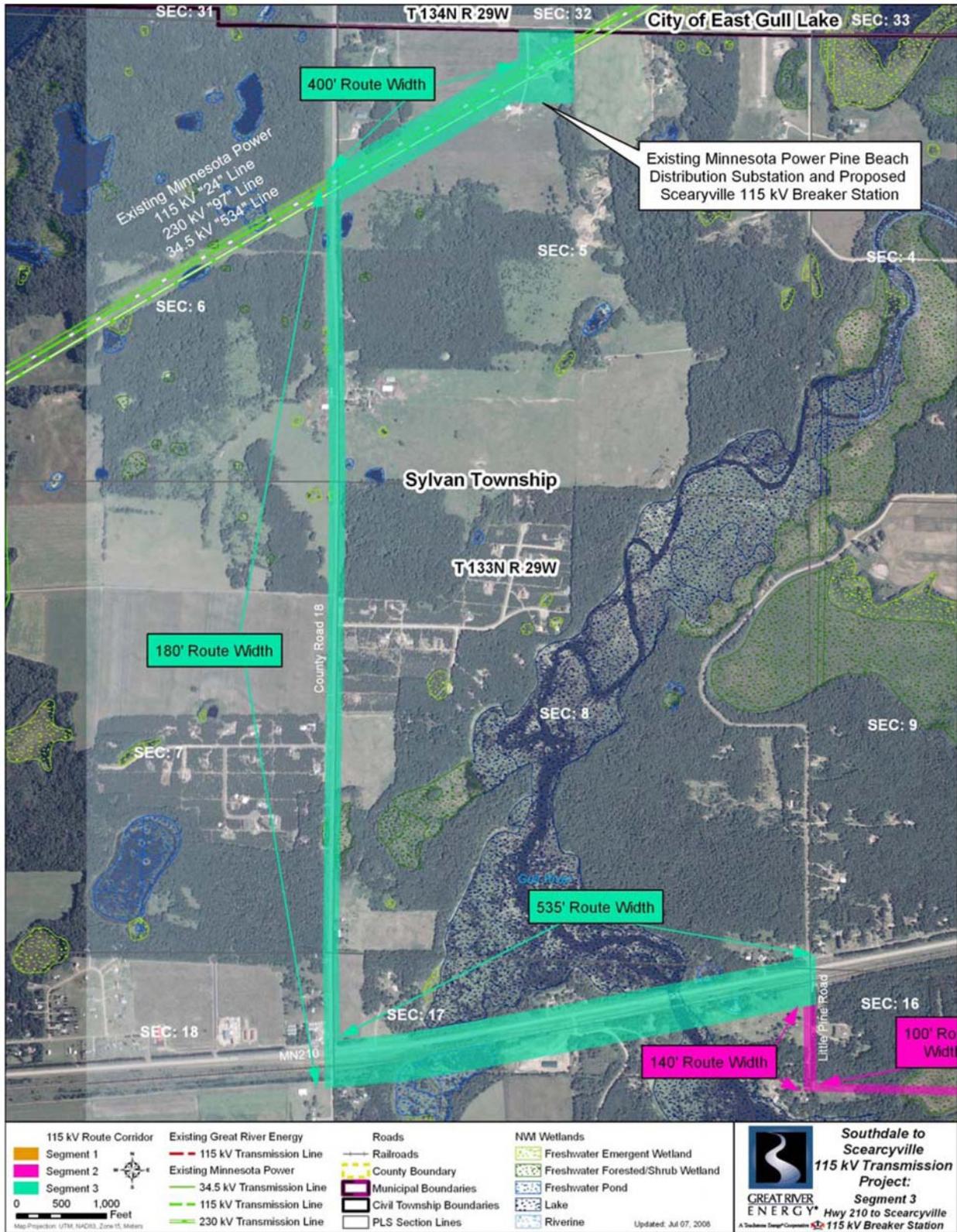
Referenced from the Great River Energy and Minnesota Power Southdale to Scaryville 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line and Breaker Station Route Permit Application. July 17, 2008.

FIGURE 3: SEGMENT 2



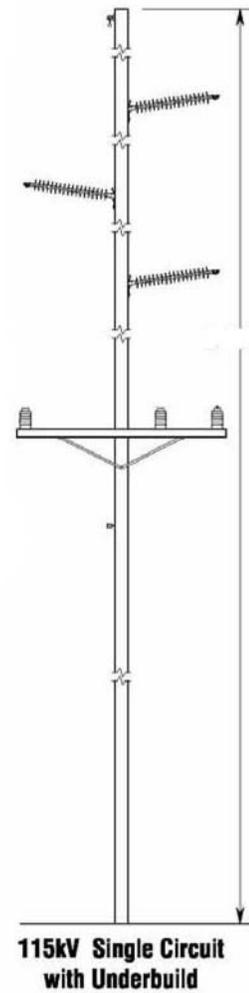
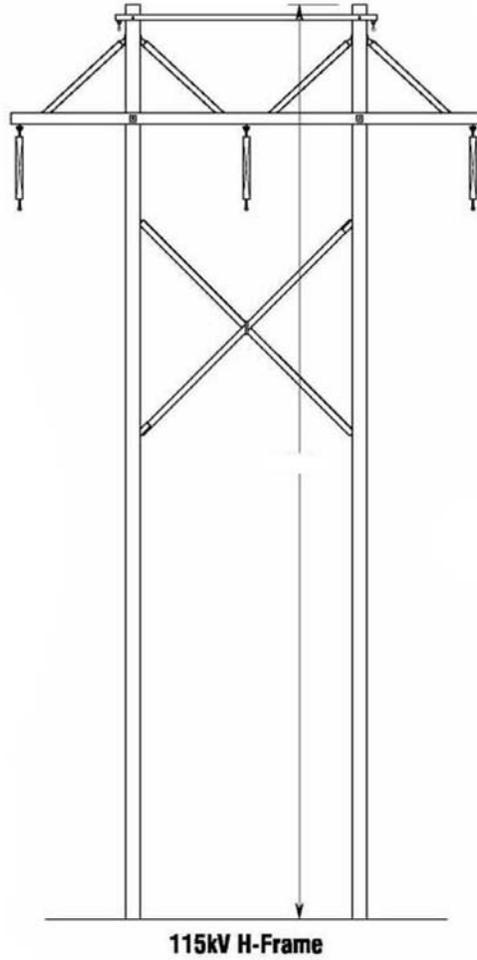
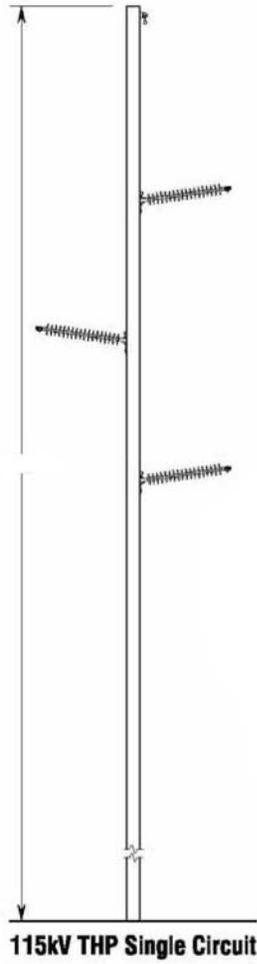
Referenced from the Great River Energy and Minnesota Power Southdale to Searcyville 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line and Breaker Station Route Permit Application. July 17, 2008.

FIGURE 4: SEGMENT 3



Referenced from the Great River Energy and Minnesota Power Southdale to Scarcyville 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line and Breaker Station Route Permit Application. July 17, 2008.

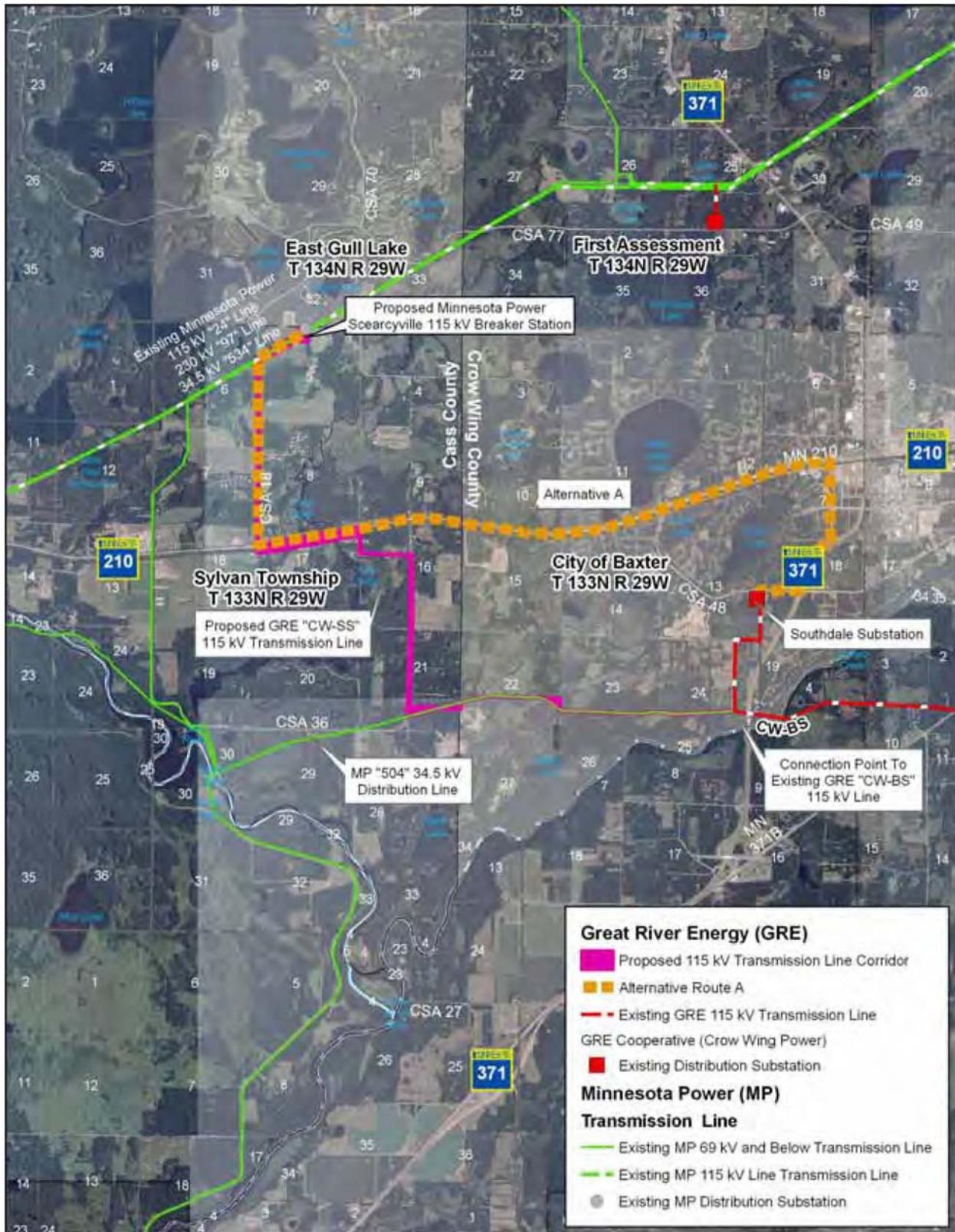
FIGURE 5: TYPICAL TRANSMISSION STRUCTURES



Typical GRE 115 kV Transmission Structures

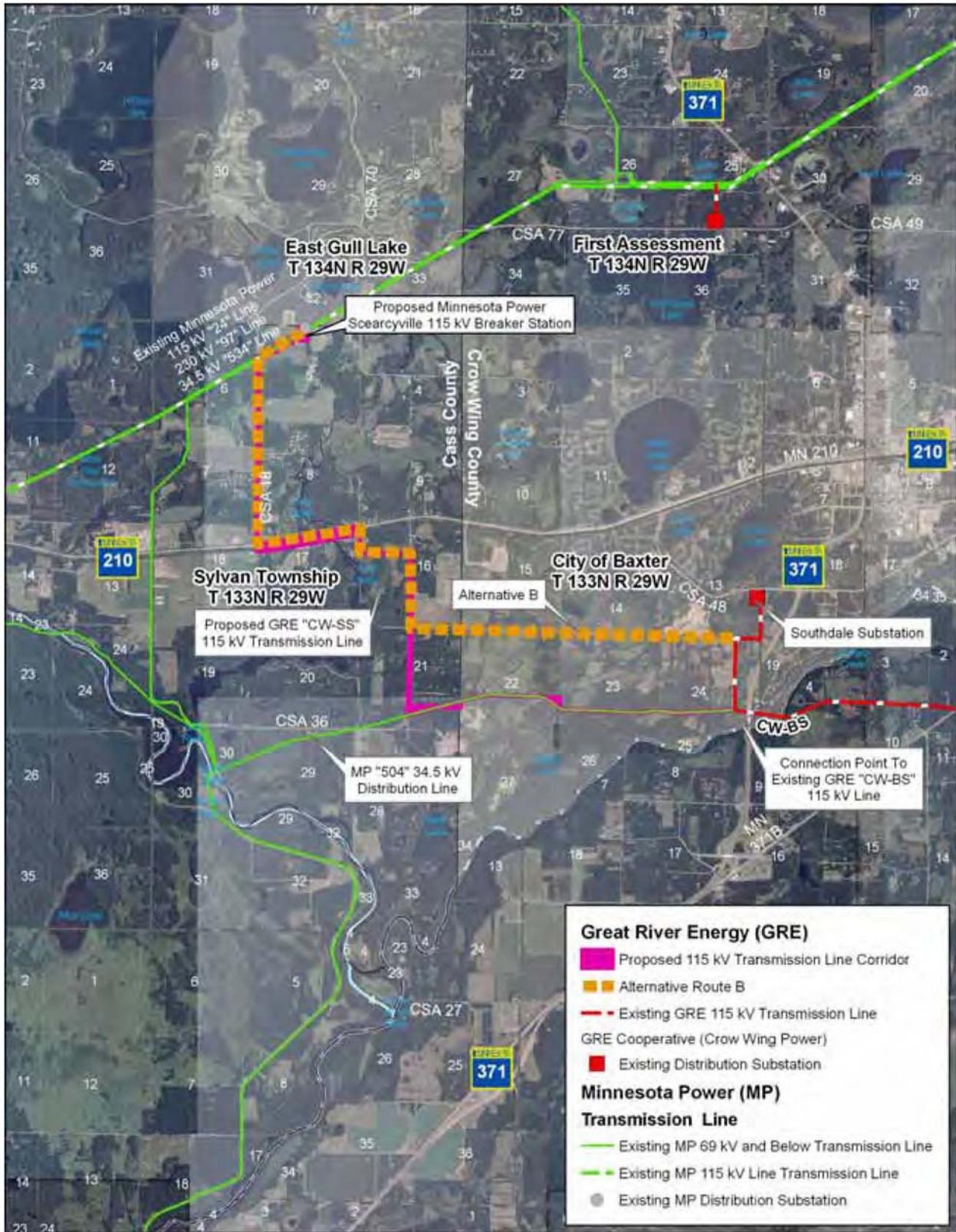
Referenced from the *Great River Energy and Minnesota Power Southdale to Scarcyville 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line and Breaker Station Route Permit Application*. July 17, 2008.

FIGURE 6: ALTERNATIVE ROUTE A



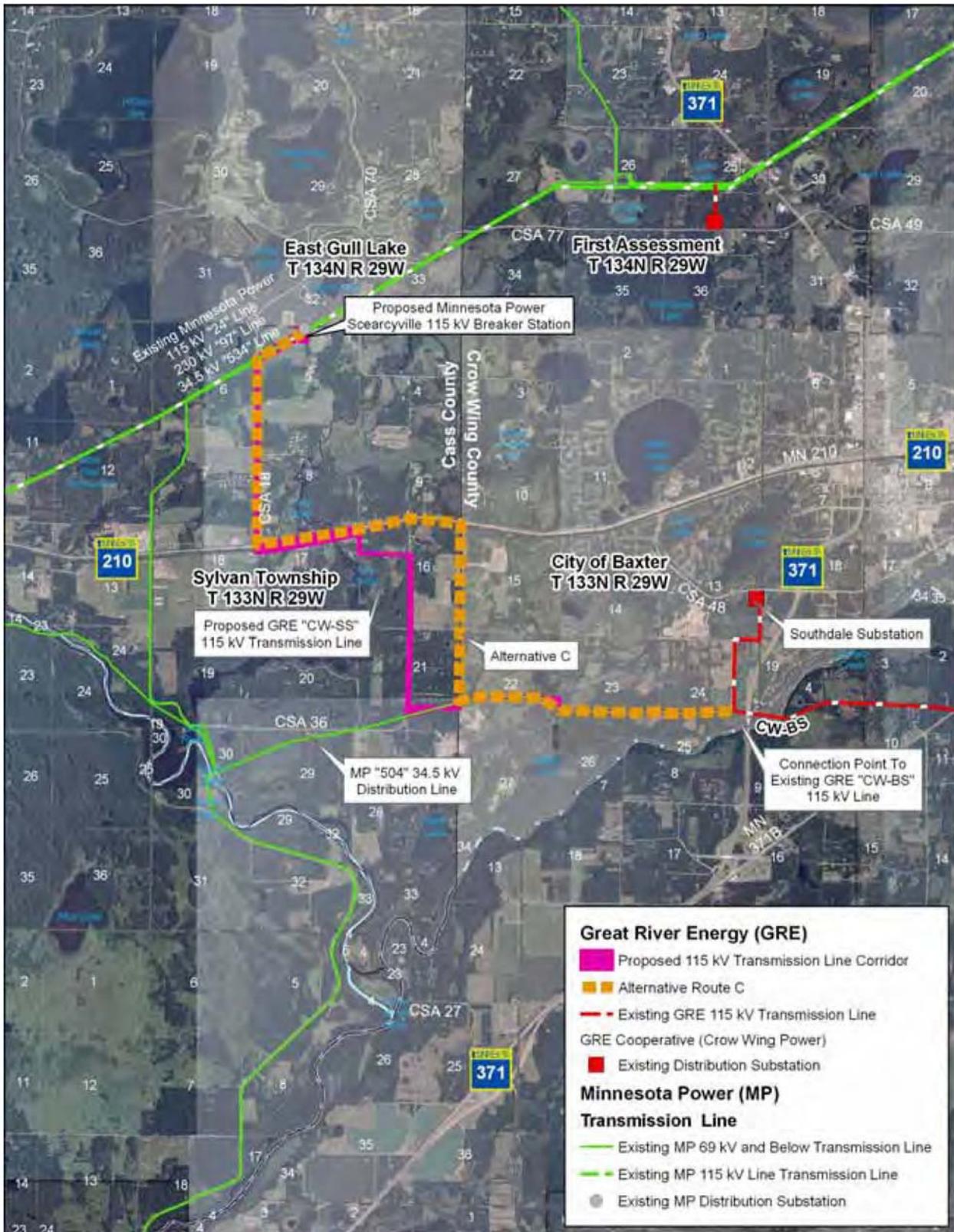
Referenced from the *Great River Energy and Minnesota Power Southdale to Scarcyville 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line and Breaker Station Route Permit Application*. July 17, 2008.

FIGURE 7: ALTERNATIVE ROUTE B



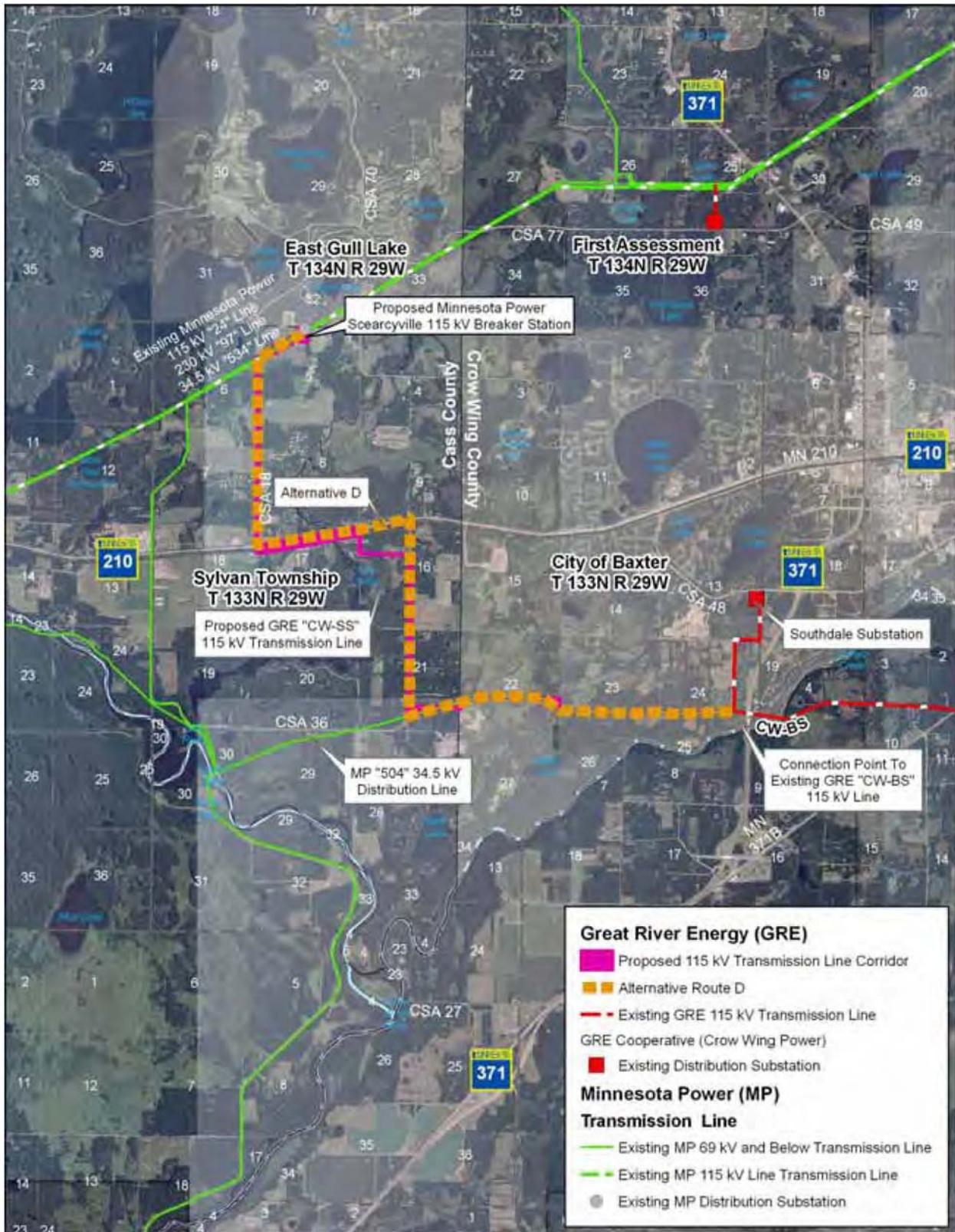
Referenced from the *Great River Energy and Minnesota Power Southdale to Scarcyville 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line and Breaker Station Route Permit Application*. July 17, 2008.

FIGURE 8: ALTERNATIVE ROUTE C



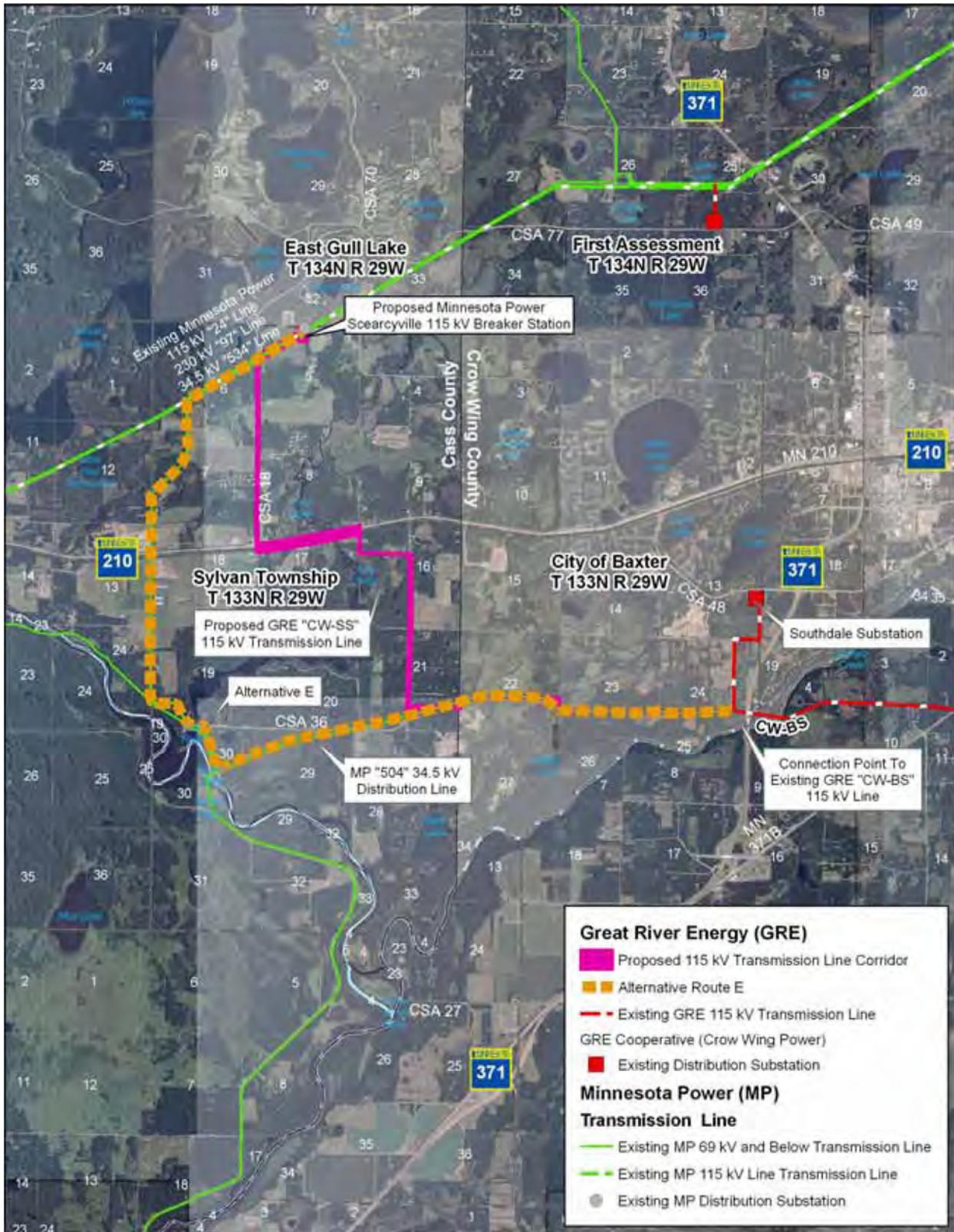
Referenced from the *Great River Energy and Minnesota Power Southdale to Scearcyville 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line and Breaker Station Route Permit Application*. July 17, 2008.

FIGURE 9: ALTERNATIVE ROUTE D



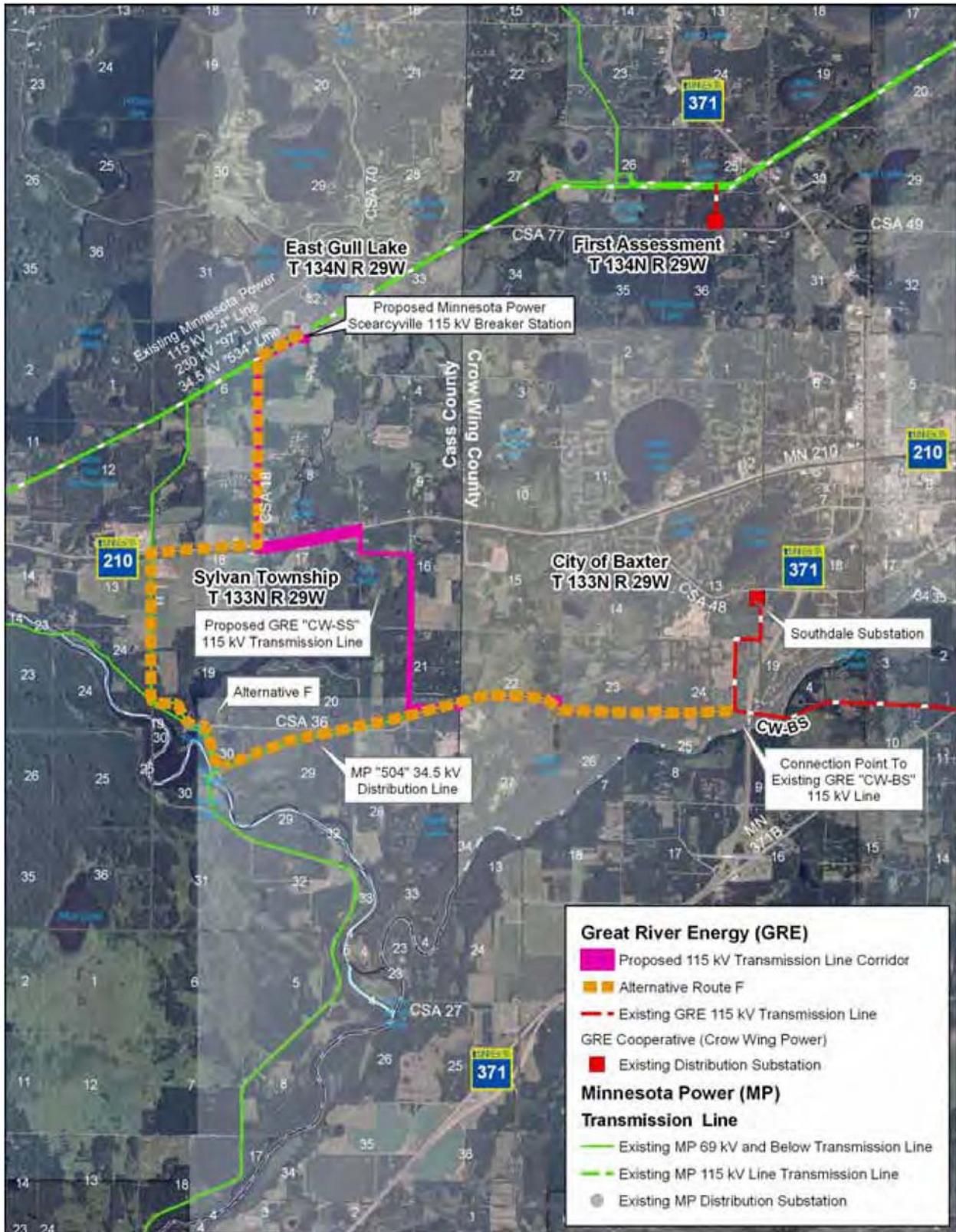
Referenced from the *Great River Energy and Minnesota Power Southdale to Searcyville 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line and Breaker Station Route Permit Application*. July 17, 2008.

FIGURE 10: ALTERNATIVE ROUTE E



Referenced from the *Great River Energy and Minnesota Power Southdale to Scarcyville 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line and Breaker Station Route Permit Application*. July 17, 2008.

FIGURE 11: ALTERNATIVE ROUTE F



Referenced from the *Great River Energy and Minnesota Power Southdale to Scearcyville 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line and Breaker Station Route Permit Application*. July 17, 2008.

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APPENDIX A
Environmental Assessment Scoping Decision

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**In the Matter of the Application for a Route
Permit for the Southdale to Scearcyville 115
Kilovolt High Voltage Transmission Line and
Breaker Station**

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
SCOPING DECISION
PUC Docket No. E-T2/TL-08-712**

The above matter has come before the Director of the Office of Energy Security for a decision on the scope of the Environmental Assessment to be prepared on the proposed Southdale to Scearcyville 115 kilovolt (kV) High Voltage Transmission Line and Breaker Station Project, a new 9.3 mile transmission line and 115 kV breaker station in the city of Baxter and Sylvan Township in Crow Wing and Cass counties, Minnesota.

Great River Energy (GRE), a not-for-profit generation and transmission cooperative based in Maple Grove, Minnesota, and Minnesota Power (MP), an investor-owned utility headquartered in Duluth, Minnesota, are proposing the project. A route permit application for the project was filed by GRE/MP on July 17, 2008 and accepted by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) on August 15, 2008.

The applicants indicate that the addition of new electrical loads and an increase in demand from existing services are causing reliability/delivery concerns in the project area and the existing electrical systems (transmission lines, substations, etc.) are approaching their maximum electrical capacity. The proposed project would add a second 115 kV source to the area; providing for a more reliable transmission system.

The Office of Energy Security (OES), Energy Facility Permitting (EFP) staff held a public information and environmental assessment scoping meeting on September 23, 2008, at the Cragun's Conference Center in Brainerd, Minnesota, to discuss the project with the public and gather public input on the scope of the Environmental Assessment to be prepared. The attendance sign-in sheet indicated approximately 45 people attended the meeting. The public was given until October 6, 2008, to submit written and/or email comments.

Due to the receipt of a significant number of comment letters regarding various issues surrounding the proposed route and the potential investigation of previously rejected routes (specifically E and F), notice of a focus group meeting was sent out and/or emailed by EFP staff to the project contact list and individuals who had already submitted comment to date and by the applicant to individuals located along previously rejected routes E and F. The focus group meeting was held on October 7, 2008, at the Country Inn & Suites in Baxter, Minnesota. The attendance sign-in sheet indicated approximately 35 people attended the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to solicit further comments and questions from the public and landowners regarding the potential alternative routes that might be included in the scope of the Environmental Assessment.

The OES EFP received a total of 81 comment letters that were reviewed and considered during preparation of the scope of the Environmental Assessment.

Having reviewed the matter, consulted with the EFP staff, and in accordance with Minnesota Rule 7849.5700, I hereby make the following Scoping Decision:

MATTERS TO BE ADDRESSED

The Environmental Assessment on the proposed Southdale to Scearcyville 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line and Breaker Station Project will address and provide information on the following matters:

A. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSAL

1. Purpose of the Transmission Line
2. Project Location and Environmental Setting
3. Engineering and Operation Design
 - a. Transmission Line and Structures
 - b. Transmission Capacity
 - c. Construction Procedures
 - d. Right-of-Way Maintenance

B. IMPACTS AND MITIGATIVE MEASURES

1. Human Settlement
2. Public Health and Safety (including electromagnetic fields [EMF], and safety codes)
3. Noise
4. Aesthetics
5. Recreation
6. Transportation
7. Soils and Geology
8. Land Use
9. Archaeological and Historic Features
10. Air Quality Resources
11. Surface Water Resources
12. Wetlands
13. Flora
14. Fauna
15. Rare and Unique Natural Resources
16. Radio, Television, and Cellular Phone Interference

C. ALTERNATIVES TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

In the route permit application, GRE and MP described several alternatives they investigated as potential routes and later rejected for various reasons. The majority of letters received by EFP staff from the public requested that the Environmental Assessment examine not only the proposed route, but several of the previously rejected alternative routes identified in the route permit application.

In addition, at a focus group meeting held in the project area on October 7, 2008, citizens in attendance were in agreement that the Environmental Assessment should at a minimum examine previously rejected route alternatives A, C, and F.

The EFP staff believe that it is reasonable to evaluate the previously rejected route alternatives to determine each alternative's impact compared to the impact of the proposed route. The Environmental Assessment will evaluate Alternatives A through F, as described by GRE and MP in the route permit application.

D. IDENTIFICATION OF PERMITS

The Environmental Assessment will include a list of permits that will be required for construction of this project.

ISSUES OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The Environmental Assessment will not consider the following:

1. The manner in which land owners are paid for transmission rights-of-way easements, as that is outside the jurisdiction of the Commission.
2. Alternatives not described specifically in this Scoping Decision.

SCHEDULE

The Environmental Assessment shall be completed and available in December 2008. A public hearing will be held in the Baxter, Minnesota, area after the Environmental Assessment has been issued and notice served.

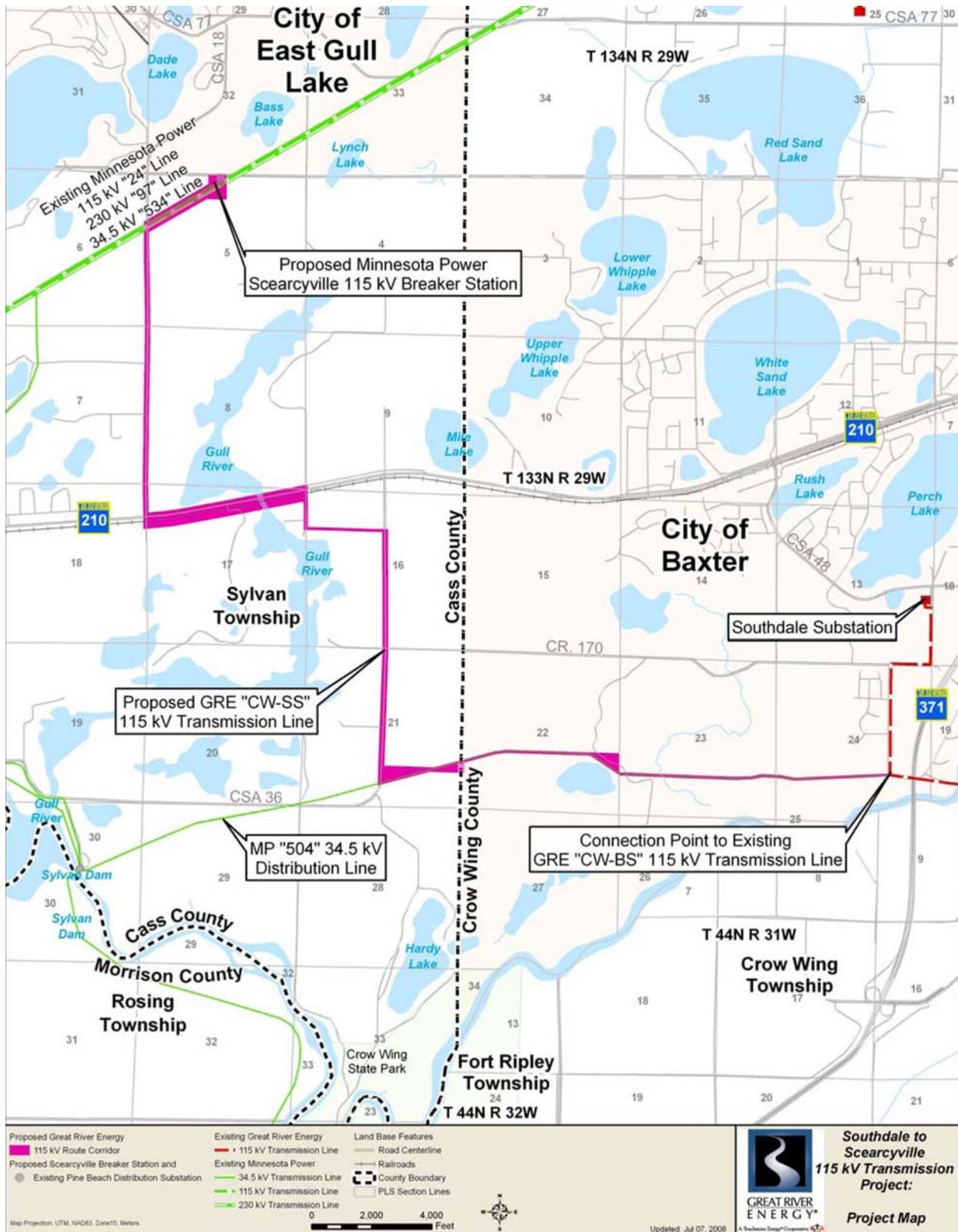
Signed this 22nd day of October, 2008

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF ENERGY SECURITY

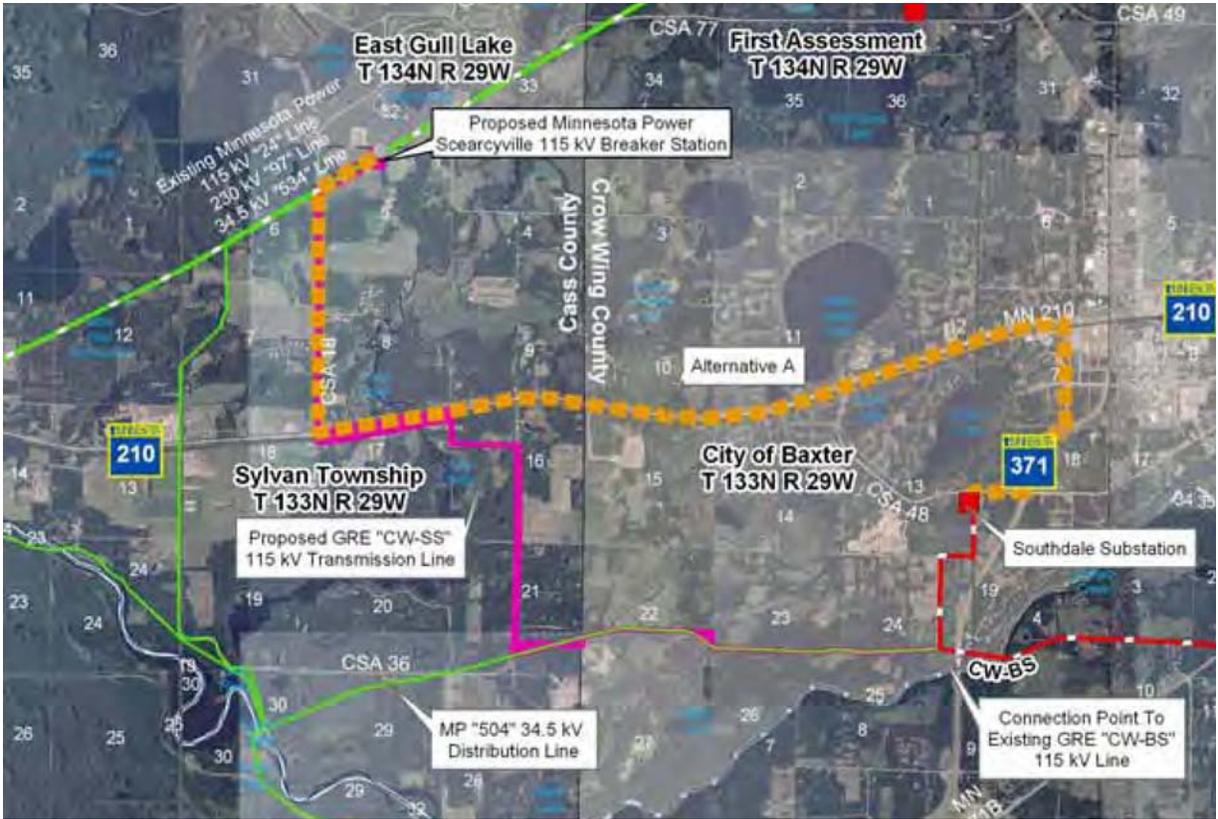


William Glahn, Director

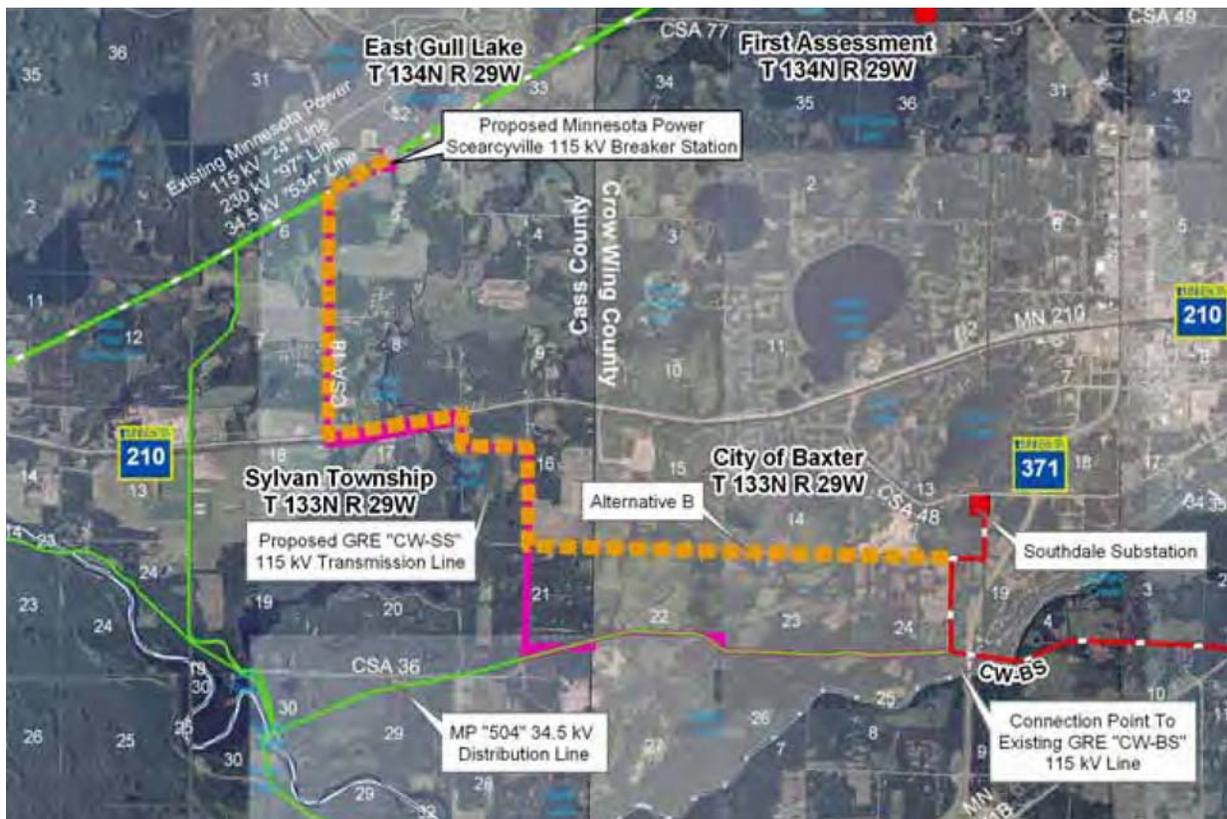
PROPOSED ROUTE



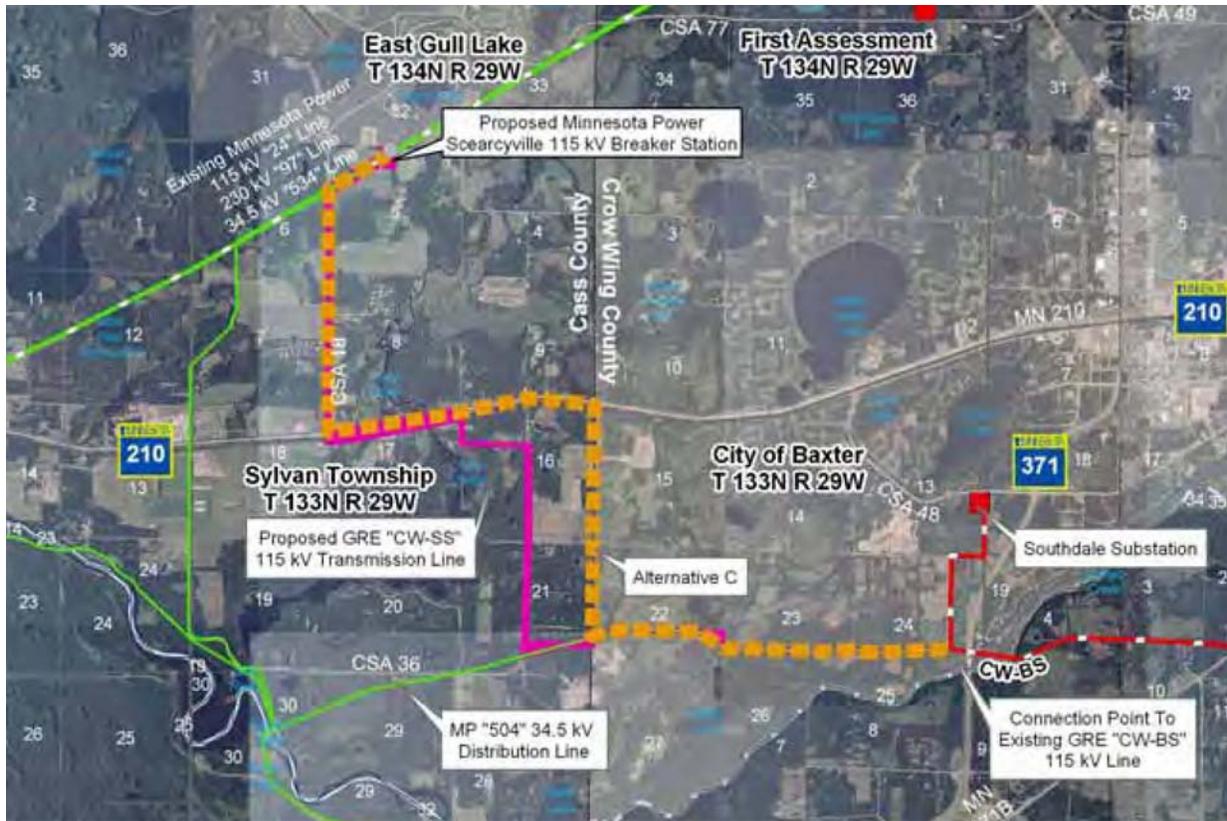
ALTERNATIVE A



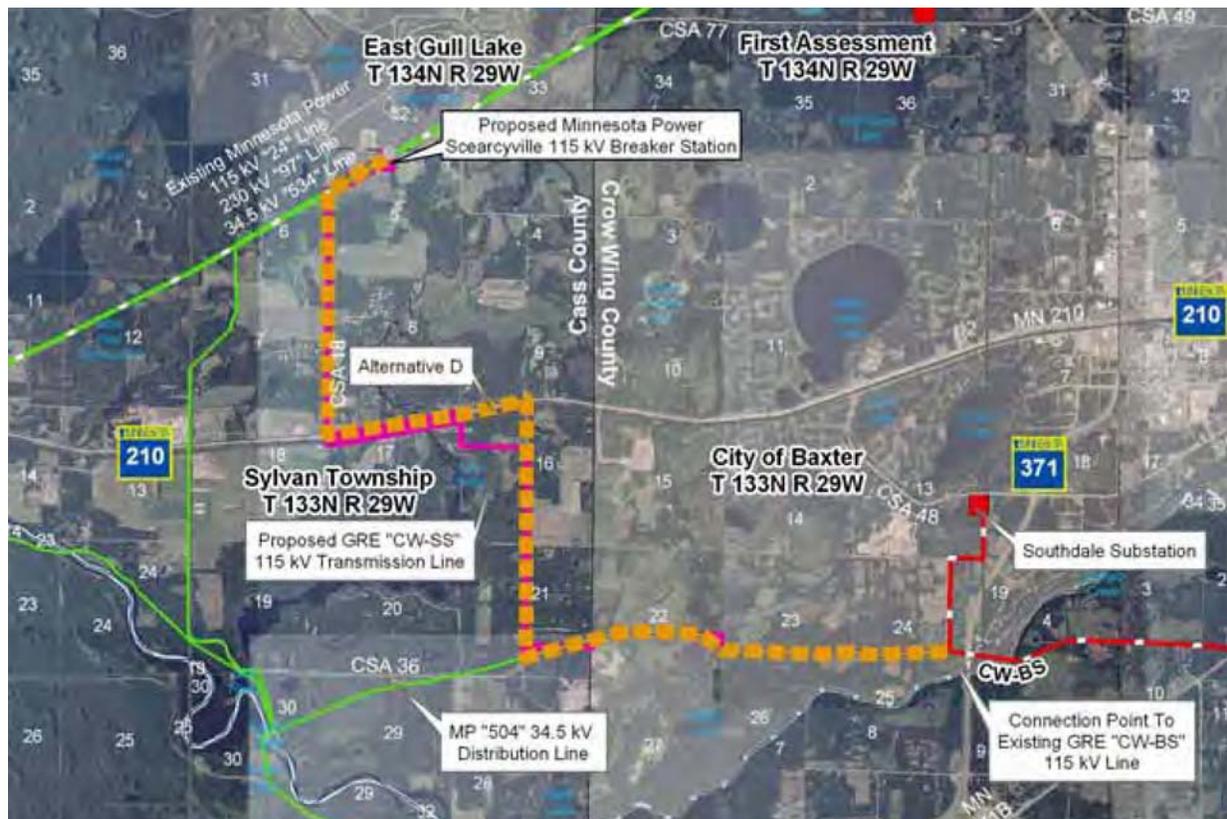
ALTERNATIVE B



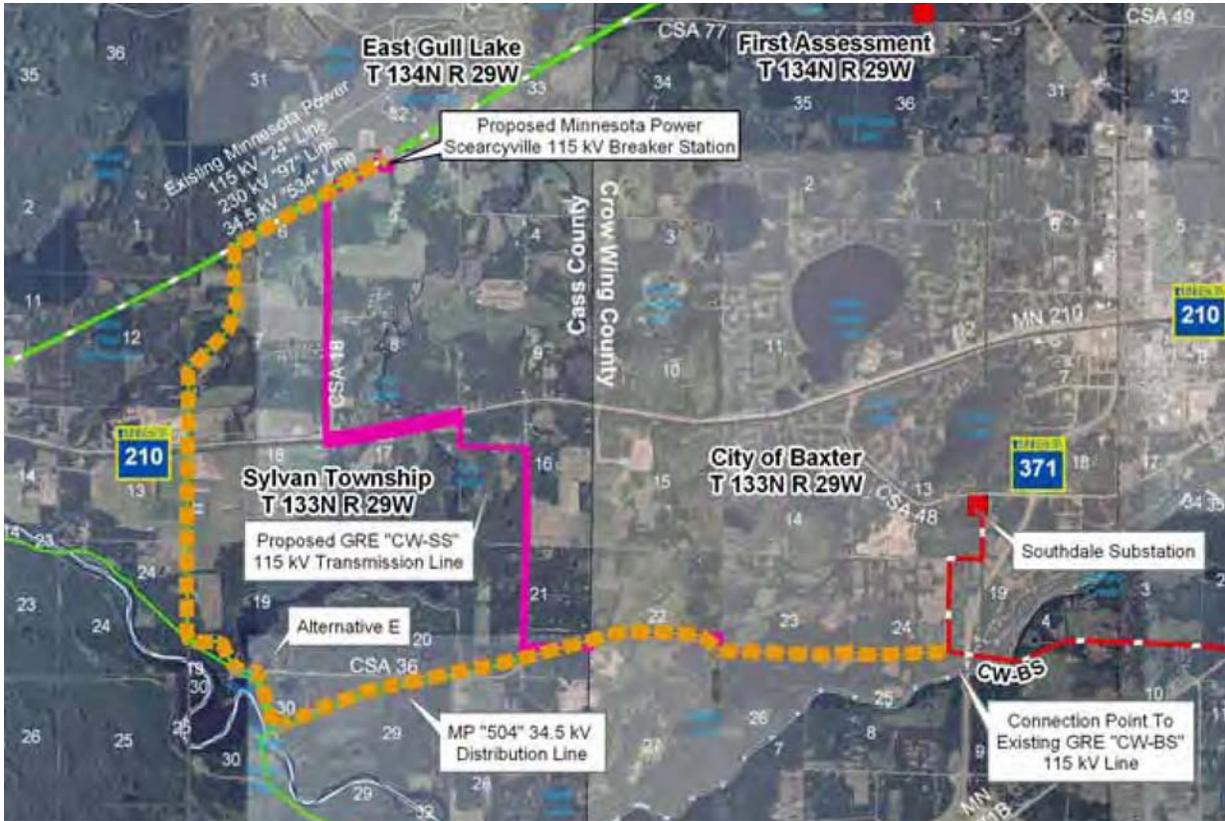
ALTERNATIVE C



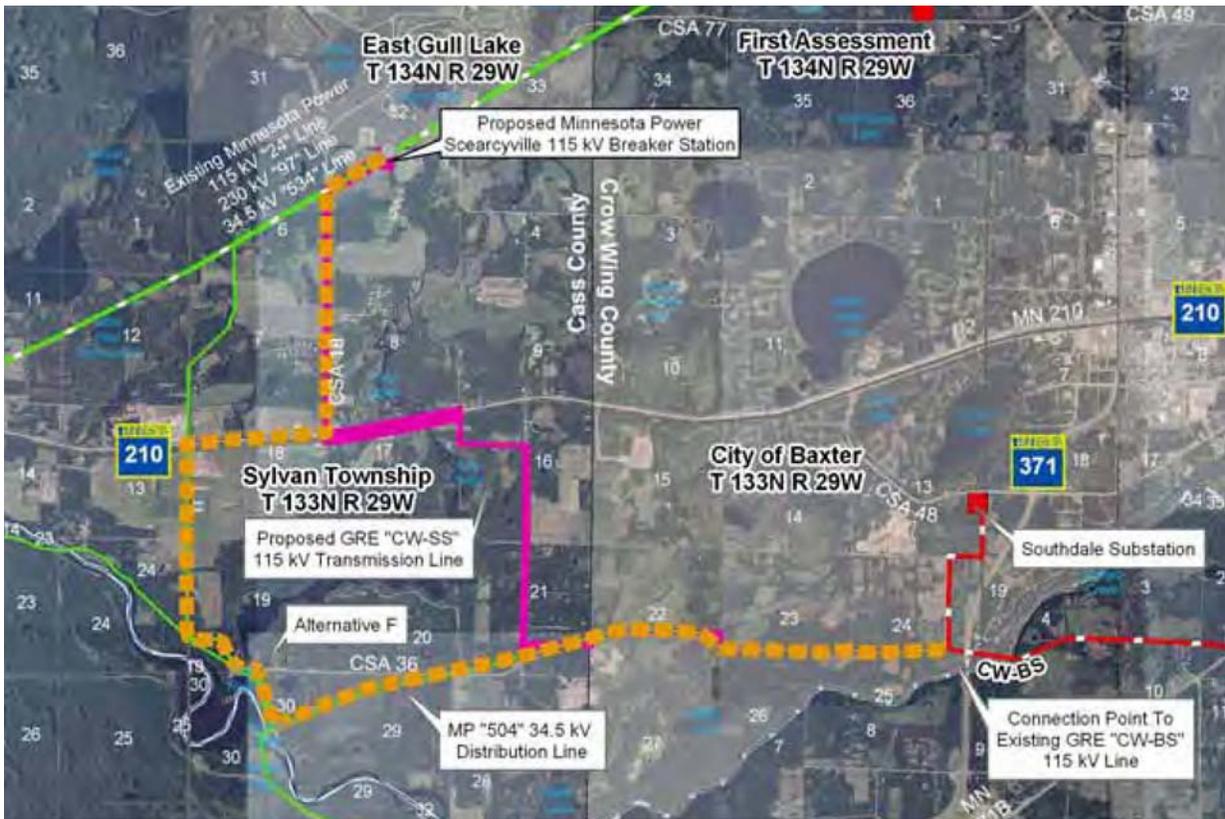
ALTERNATIVE D



ALTERNATIVE E



ALTERNATIVE F



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APPENDIX B
Sample Route Permit

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**ROUTE PERMIT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A HIGH
VOLTAGE TRANSMISSION LINE
IN**

LINCOLN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

**ISSUED TO
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY d/b/a XCEL
ENERGY**

PUC DOCKET No. E002/TL-07-1626

In accordance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 216E and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7849, this route permit is hereby issued to:

Northern States Power d/b/a Xcel Energy

Northern States Power Company, d/b/a Xcel Energy (hereinafter referred to as Xcel Energy), is authorized by this route permit to construct the six and one-half mile segment located within the State of Minnesota, of a new 115 kilovolt (kV) high voltage transmission line between the Yankee Substation in Lincoln County, Minnesota to the Brookings Substation in Brookings County, South Dakota.

The transmission line shall be built within the route identified in this permit and as portrayed on the attached official route map, and in compliance with the conditions specified in this permit.

Approved and adopted this _____ day of August, 2008
BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar,
Executive Secretary

I. ROUTE PERMIT

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC or Commission) hereby issues this route permit to Xcel Energy (Xcel Energy or permittee) pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 216E and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7849. This permit authorizes Xcel Energy to construct approximately six and one-half miles of 115 kV high voltage transmission line and associated facilities at the substations to accommodate the new transmission line.

II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Xcel Energy is authorized to build an approximately six and one-half mile segment of 115 kV transmission line located in Minnesota that will create a second connection between the Yankee Substation in Lincoln County, Minnesota and the Brookings Substation located in Brookings County, South Dakota including necessary modifications to the existing Yankee Substation.

Xcel Energy will use the same structures for the entire transmission line route. The structures will be steel, single circuit poles with three davit arms. The steel poles are to have a galvanized or weathering steel finish and will be anchored with concrete pier foundations that may vary from 6.5 to 9 feet in diameter and 12 or more feet in depth from ground surface. The poles will average 90 feet in height and approximately 42 inches in diameter for tangent poles and 65 inches in diameter for dead-end poles, with an average span of 500 feet between the structures.

The transmission line authorized by this permit will be three-phase, bundled conductor, single circuit configurations for the entirety of the project. The phases for this project will consist of bundled conductors comprised of two aluminum conductor steel supported cables or similar, made of seven steel wires in the center, surrounded by 26 aluminum strands. The separate conductors will be 795,000 circular mils or approximately 1.1 inches in diameter. There will also be shield wires strung above the phases to prevent damage from potential lightning strikes. The shield wire may include a fiber optic cable that allows for substation protection equipment to communicate with other terminals on the line.

The Yankee Substation will be modified to accommodate the switching gear, bus work and new transformers necessary to integrate the proposed 115 kV transmission line into the transmission network. The construction and new equipment will be located within the substation's existing fenced area. The new equipment includes a 115 kV dead end structure with a 115 kV, 2000A motor-operated disconnect; two empty circuit breaker bays; a 115 kV, 3000A breaker between the Main Bus #1 and the second transformer; a single-phase coupling capacitor voltage transformer on the second transformer position; and four 115 kV, 3000A group-operated disconnects.

All controls and protection for the new breaker need to be installed, in addition to all foundations, steel, conductor, trenching, and grounding for the equipment installations. No additional grading will be required at the existing substation.

III. DESIGNATED ROUTE / SITE

The route designated by the Commission in this permit comprises the six and one-half mile segment located in Minnesota and as described in detail below, as analyzed in the environmental assessment, and shown on the official route map attached to this permit.

The route width approved by this permit is 400 foot wide; 200 feet each side of the road centerline for the six and one-half mile route with the exception of one segment. A 1,200 foot route width is approved near the intersection of 180th Street and 110th Avenue to provide greater flexibility during detailed design to develop the best method for avoiding a large wetland and the existing Yankee to Brookings #1 high voltage transmission line. The approved right-of-way width is up to 75 feet.

The route that begins at the Yankee Substation located at the southeast corner of 120th Avenue and 160th Street in Lincoln County. The line will exit the substation from the west and extend approximately 600 feet to County Road 1. The line will continue north approximately 1,300 feet along County Road 1 until it reached 160th Street. The line then proceed west, following 160th Street for approximately one mile to 110th Avenue where it turns north along 110th Avenue for an estimated 1.7 miles. An approximate 500 foot segment along 110th Avenue just south of 170th Street may be located 35 to 40 feet west of an existing north/south positioned 34.5 kV PPM Energy, Inc. owned feeder line to minimize impacts to a shelterbelt for a residence located on the east side of 110th Avenue. A large wetland located to the south of the 110th Avenue and 180th Street intersection will require that the route be detoured to the west and around the wetland, thereby avoiding construction within the wetland. Following the detour around the wetland the proposed route will continue north along 110th Avenue for approximately 2.2 miles to a half-section line about one-half mile north of 200th Street. The route will then be directed northwest and then west along the half-section line towards the Minnesota/South Dakota border. The route will then proceed north along the state line for one-third mile turning west at 209th Street where it will enter South Dakota.

The proposed transmission lines and substation will be designed to meet or surpass all relevant local and state codes, and North American Electric Reliability Council and Xcel Energy standards. Appropriate standards will be met for construction and installation, and all applicable safety procedures will be followed during and after installation.

IV. PERMIT CONDITIONS

The permittee shall comply with the following conditions during construction of the transmission line and associated facilities and the life of this permit.

A. Plan and Profile. At least 14 calendar days before right-of-way preparation for construction begins, the permittee shall provide the commission with a plan and profile of the right-of-way and the specifications and drawings for right-of-way preparation, construction, cleanup, and restoration for the transmission line. The permittee may not commence construction until the 14 days has expired or until the commission has advised the permittee in writing that it has completed its review of the documents and determined that the planned construction is consistent with this permit. If the permittee intends to make any significant changes in its plan and profile or the specifications and drawings after submission to the commission, the permittee shall notify the commission at least five days before implementing the changes. No changes shall be made that would be in violation of any of the terms of this permit.

B. Construction Practices.

1. Application. The Permittee shall follow those specific construction practices and material specifications described in the Xcel Energy Application to the Public Utilities Commission for a Route Permit, dated January 18, 2008, and as described in the environmental assessment unless this permit establishes a different requirement, in which case this permit shall prevail.

2. Field Representative. At least 10 days prior to commencing construction, the permittee shall advise the commission in writing of the person or persons designated to be the field representative for the permittee with the responsibility to oversee compliance with the conditions of this permit during construction. The field representative's address, phone number, and emergency phone number shall be provided to the commission and shall be made available to affected landowners, residents, public officials and other interested persons. The permittee may change its field representative at any time upon written notice to the commission.

3. Local Governments. The Xcel Energy shall cooperate with county and city road authorities to develop appropriate signage and traffic management during construction.

4. Cleanup. All waste and scrap that is the product of construction shall be removed from the area and properly disposed of upon completion of each task. Personal litter, including bottles, cans, and paper from construction activities shall be removed on a daily basis.

- 5. Vegetation Removal in the Right-of-Way.** The permittee shall minimize the number of trees to be removed in selecting the right-of-way. As part of construction, low growing brush or tree species are allowable at the outer limits of the easement area. Taller tree species that endanger the safe and reliable operation of the transmission facility need to be removed. To the extent practical, low growing vegetation that will not pose a threat to the transmission facility or impede construction should remain in the easement area.
 - 6. Erosion Control.** The permittee shall implement reasonable measures to minimize runoff during construction and shall promptly plant or seed, erect silt fences, and/or use erosion control blankets in non-agricultural areas that were disturbed where structures are installed. All areas disturbed during construction of the facilities will be returned to their pre-construction condition.
 - 7. Temporary Work Space.** The permittee shall limit temporary easements to special construction access needs and additional staging or lay-down areas required outside of the authorized right-of-way.
 - 8. Restoration.** The permittee shall restore the right-of-way, temporary work spaces, access roads, abandoned right-of-way, and other private lands affected by construction of the transmission line. Restoration within the right-of-way must be compatible with the safe operation, maintenance, and inspection of the transmission line. Within 60 days after completion of all restoration activities, the permittee shall advise the commission in writing of the completion of such activities.
 - 9. Notice of Permit.** The permittee shall inform all employees, contractors, and other persons involved in the transmission line construction of the terms and conditions of this permit.
- C. Periodic Status Reports.** Upon request, the permittee shall report to the commission on progress regarding finalization of the route, design of structures, and construction of the transmission line. The permittee need not report more frequently than quarterly.
- D. Complaint Procedure.** Prior to the start of construction, the permittee shall submit to the commission, the procedures that will be used to receive and respond to complaints. The procedures shall be in accordance with the requirements set forth in the complaint procedures attached to this permit.
- E. Notification to Landowners.** The permittee shall provide all affected landowners with a copy of this permit at the time of the first contact with the landowners after issuance of this permit.

Xcel Energy shall contact landowners prior to entering the property or conducting maintenance along the route and avoid maintenance practices, particularly the use of fertilizer or pesticides, inconsistent with the landowner's or tenant's use of the land.

Xcel Energy shall work with landowners to locate the high voltage transmission lines to minimize the loss of agricultural land, forest, and wetlands, and to avoid homes and farmsteads.

F. Completion of Construction.

- 1. Notification to Commission.** At least three days before the line is to be placed into service, the permittee shall notify the commission of the date on which the line will be placed into service and the date on which construction was complete.
- 2. As-Builts.** Upon request of the commission, the permittee shall submit copies of all the final as-built plans and specifications developed during the project.
- 3. GPS Data.** Within 60 days after completion of construction, the permittee shall submit to the commission, in the format requested by the commission, geo-spatial information (GIS compatible maps, GPS coordinates, etc.) for all above ground structures associated with the transmission lines, each switch, and each substation connected.

G. Electrical Performance Standards.

- 1. Grounding.** The permittee shall design, construct, and operate the transmission line in a manner that the maximum induced steady-state short-circuit current shall be limited to five milliamperes, root mean square (rms) alternating current between the ground and any non-stationary object within the right-of-way, including but not limited to large motor vehicles and agricultural equipment. All fixed metallic objects on or off the right-of-way, except electric fences that parallel or cross the right-of-way, shall be grounded to the extent necessary to limit the induced short circuit current between ground and the object so as not to exceed one milliamperes rms under steady state conditions of the transmission line and to comply with the ground fault conditions specified in the National Electric Safety Code.
- 2. Electric Field.** The transmission line shall be designed, constructed, and operated in such a manner that the electric field measured one meter above ground level immediately below the transmission line shall not exceed 8.0 kV/m rms.

3. Interference with Communication Devices. If interference with radio or television, satellite or other communication devices is caused by the presence or operation of the transmission line, the permittee shall take whatever action is prudently feasible to restore or provide reception equivalent to reception levels in the immediate area just prior to the construction of the line.

H. Special Conditions

1. Archaeological and Historic Resources. Xcel Energy shall make every effort to avoid impacts to identified archaeological and historic resources when installing the high voltage transmission line on the approved route. In the event that an impact would occur, the applicants will consult with State Historic Preservation Office and invited consulting parties. Where feasible, avoidance of the resource is required. Where not feasible, mitigation for project-related impacts on National Register of Historic Properties-eligible archaeological and historic resources must include an effort to minimize project impacts on the resource.

2. Wetlands/Water Resources. Wetland impact avoidance measures that shall be implemented during design and construction of the transmission line will include spacing and placing the power poles at variable distances to span and avoid wetlands. Unavoidable wetland impacts as a result of the placement of poles shall be limited to the immediate area around the poles. To minimize impacts, construction in wetland areas shall occur in the winter. If necessary, wooden or composite mats will be used to protect wetland vegetation. All requirements of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (wetlands under federal jurisdiction), Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (Public Waters/Wetlands), and County (wetlands under the jurisdiction of the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act) shall be met.

Impacts to floodplains, in particular the placement of power pole structures, shall be avoided to the maximum extent possible by placing these structures above the floodplain contours outside of the designated floodplain, and by spanning the floodplain with the transmission line.

If construction activities will result in the disturbance of one acre or more of soils, a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System stormwater permit from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency will be required. Standard erosion control measures outlined in Minnesota Pollution Control Agency guidance and best management practices regarding sediment control practice during construction. These practices include, but are not limited to, protecting storm drain inlets, use of silt fences, protecting exposed soil, immediately stabilizing restored soil, controlling temporary soil stockpiles, and controlling vehicle tracking.

3. Avian Collision. The applicant will evaluate mitigative measures in areas of the project where the chance of avian collision or electrocution is higher. Areas will be identified by Xcel Energy in cooperation with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service where swan flight diverters could be incorporated into the transmission line design to prevent swan and other large avian collisions attributed to visibility issues.

4. Rare and Unique Resources. The unnamed wetland tributary to Medary Creek, located south of 180th Street and 110th Avenue and directly in-line with the proposed project route is designated as critical habitat for the Topeka shiner, a federally endangered and state specie of special concern. Mitigation measures for potential impacts to the Topeka shiner and its habitat will include construction techniques and sediment control measures such as following recommendations outlined in the USFWS, *Recommendations for Projects Affecting Waters Inhabited by Topeka Shiners (Notropis topeka) in Minnesota*; May 11, 2007; utilizing silt fences, practicing prompt re-seeding, and using erosion control blankets; and placing structures to either span critical watercourses or avoidance by routing around the area, as in the case of the large wetland tributary to Medary Creek.

5. Accommodation of Existing and Planned Infrastructure. Xcel Energy is required to work with the landowners, townships, cities, and counties along the route to accommodate their concerns regarding snow drifts, drain tiles, pole depth and placement in relationship to existing roads and road expansion plans. The permittee shall work with the owners of existing distribution lines identified along the route to either “underbuild” on the new structures or bury the distribution lines, if deemed feasible.

6. Alignment Alternative. Mr. Theodore Schwing suggested that the transmission line be routed along the east side of 110th Avenue through Section 19 to approximately the three quarter point (residential structure) of Section 18, the line would then cross to the west side of 100th Avenue at this point and continue north as proposed. This would avoid the residence located on the east side of 110th Avenue in the northwest quadrant of Section 18. The permittee will consult with Mr. Schwing and consider the feasibility of the suggested alternative prior to final location of structures and rights-of-way.

I. Other Requirements.

1. Applicable Codes. The permittee shall comply with applicable North American Electric Reliability Council construction standards and requirements of the National Electric Safety Code including clearances to ground, clearance to crossing utilities, clearance to buildings, right-of-way widths, erecting power poles, and stringing of transmission line conductors.

2. Other Permits. The permittee shall comply with all applicable state rules and statutes. The permittee shall obtain all required local, state and federal permits for the project and comply with the conditions of these permits. A list of the required permits is included in the permit application and the environmental assessment. The permittee shall submit a copy of such permits to the commission upon request.

3. Pre-emption. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 216E.10, subdivisions 1 and 2, this route permit shall be the sole route approval required to be obtained by the permittee and this permit shall supersede and preempt all zoning, building, or land use rules, regulations, or ordinances promulgated by regional, county, local and special purpose government.

J. Delay in Construction. If the permittee has not commenced construction or improvement of the route within four years after the date of issuance of this permit, the commission shall consider suspension of the permit in accordance with Minnesota Rule 7849.5970.

V. PERMIT AMENDMENT

The permit conditions in Section IV may be amended at any time by the commission. Any person may request an amendment of the conditions of this permit by submitting a request to the commission in writing describing the amendment sought and the reasons for the amendment. The commission will mail notice of receipt of the request to the permittee. The commission may amend the conditions after affording the permittee and interested persons such process as is required.

VI. TRANSFER OF PERMIT

The permittee may request at any time that the commission transfer this permit to another person or entity. The permittee shall provide the name and description of the person or entity to whom the permit is requested to be transferred, the reasons for the transfer, a description of the facilities affected, and the proposed effective date of the transfer. The person to whom the permit is to be transferred shall provide the commission with such information as the commission shall require to determine whether the new permittee can comply with the conditions of the permit. The commission may authorize transfer of the permit after affording the permittee, the new permittee, and interested persons such process as is required.

VII. REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF THE PERMIT

The commission may initiate action to revoke or suspend this permit at any time. The commission shall act in accordance with the requirements of Minnesota Rules part 7849.6010 to revoke or suspend the permit.

EXAMPLE ONLY

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
COMPLAINT REPORT PROCEDURES FOR
HIGH VOLTAGE TRANSMISSION LINES**

1. Purpose

To establish a uniform and timely method of reporting complaints received by the permittee concerning the permit conditions for site preparation, construction, cleanup and restoration, special conditions, other requirements, and resolution of such complaints.

2. Scope

This reporting plan encompasses complaint report procedures and frequency.

3. Applicability

The procedures shall be used for all complaints received by the permittee.

4. Definitions

Complaint – A statement presented by a person expressing dissatisfaction, resentment, or discontent as a direct result of the high voltage transmission line and associated facilities. Complaints do not include requests, inquiries, questions or general comments.

Telephone Complaint – A person presenting a complaint by telephone shall indicate whether the complaint relates to (1) a substantive routing permit matter, (2) a high voltage transmission line location matter, or (3) a compensation matter. All callers must provide the following information when presenting a complaint by telephone: (1) name; (2) date and time of call; (3) phone number; (4) email address (if available); (5) home address; (6) parcel number.

Substantial Complaint – Written complaints alleging a violation of a specific route permit condition that, if substantiated, could result in permit modification or suspension pursuant to the applicable regulations.

Person – An individual, partnership, joint venture, private or public corporation, association, firm, public service company, cooperative, political subdivision, municipal corporation, government agency, public utility district, or any other entity, public or private, however organized.

5. Responsibilities

Everyone involved with any phase of the high voltage transmission line is responsible to ensure expeditious and equitable resolution of all complaints. It is therefore necessary to establish a uniform method for documenting and handling complaints related to this high voltage transmission line project. The following procedures will satisfy this requirement:

- A. The permittee shall document all complaints by maintaining a record of all applicable information concerning the complaint, including the following:
 1. Name of the permittee and project.
 2. Name of complainant, address and phone number.
 3. Precise property description or tract numbers (where applicable).
 4. Nature of complaint.
 5. Response given.
 6. Name of person receiving complaint and date of receipt.
 7. Name of person reporting complaint to the PUC and phone number.
 8. Final disposition and date.
- B. The permittee shall assign an individual to summarize complaints for transmittal to the PUC.

6. Requirements

The permittee shall report all complaints to the PUC according to the following schedule:

Immediate Reports – All substantial complaints shall be reported to the PUC by phone or by e-mail the same day received or on the following working day for complaints received after working hours. Such reports are to be directed to high voltage transmission line permit compliance at the following:
DOC.energypermitcompliance@state.mn.us or 1-800-657-3794. Voice messages are acceptable.

Monthly Reports – By the 15th of each month, a summary of all complaints, including substantial complaints received or resolved during the preceding month. Such summaries shall be sent to Dr. Burl W. Haar, Executive Secretary, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, Metro Square Building, 121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55101-2147. A copy of each complaint shall be sent to Permit Compliance, Minnesota Department of Commerce, 85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101-2198.