Minnesota River Crossings to New Prague Advisory Task Force

First Meeting - Thursday, March 26, 2009

DRAFT MEETING NOTES

Welcome and Introductions

The facilitator for the task force, Georgie Petersen, State of Minnesota Management Analysis & Development, welcomed task force members and all present. She asked task force members to, in "around the table" fashion, introduce themselves and to relate one expectation that they had for the work of the advisory task force. Expectations included:

- Relay the comprehensive land use plan of New Prague to the task force.
- Represent Landsburgh Township and share a resolution.
- Understand why one route has been deemed viable.
- Question how the river crossing affects the Henderson Scenic Byway and natural areas.
- Hear various viewpoints and get an update on the project status.
- Learn how the route was designated and why tract homes are impacted.
- Determine an alternate route away from homes.
- Question why the route is through homes, dense population areas, and a bird migration area. Also, to share watershed concerns.
- Question the affects on buried power lines, cattle, wildlife, and pacemakers.
- Address health, farming and wildlife issues and to understand the process.
- Advocate for choosing the right spot across the river.
- Understand criteria for routes and how the criteria impacts decisions and to carry that information back to the community and then to share their concerns.
- Have a chance to share environmental data about impacts to the river crossing route.
- Speak about land use plan impacts (zoning issues related to ordnance revisions) and specifically conflicts with land use, agriculture, and the river crossing site on the preferred route.
- Make this run as smooth as possible.
- Advocate for an alternate route: right-of-way suggestion.

Why We Are Here

Georgie reviewed with the task force, the charge of the task force and a draft plan for accomplishing the charge over the course of three task force meetings (see Handouts, Appendix A). Georgie described her role as a facilitator and documenter of the task force's work. She described the summary of work which will be the product of the task force's work and how it will be developed. Georgie also provided ground rules for meeting logistics. Questions by task force members were discussed and addressed.

State Route Permitting Process

Scott Ek, Office of Energy Security, discussed the state permitting process. He reviewed the criteria used by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in making a route permitting decision and issues typically covered in an environmental impact statement (EIS) (see Handouts, Appendix A). Questions by task force members were discussed and addressed.

Project Overview

Craig Poorker, Great River Energy, provided an overview of the proposed transmission line project and the process used by Great River Energy to develop the two proposed routes. Questions by task force members were discussed and addressed.

Identification of Impacts and Issues

Georgie led the task force through a small group discussion exercise to identify and categorize impacts and issues that should be considered in the EIS for evaluation of proposed routes and substation locations. The task force identified seven distinct impacts and issue areas to be evaluated in the EIS. These issue areas and specific comments are included in the table below.

Task force members also identified impacts and issues through a second means – completion of a worksheet, which was "homework" for the first meeting of the task force. These impacts and issues are included in appendices B and C.

Identification of impacts and issues *What impacts and issues need to be considered in the evaluation of proposed transmission line routes and/or sub-station locations?*			
All Topics As Listed on the Green Handout	**Economic Impact**	**Ground Water**	**Biological Resources**
* " Factors Considered in PUC's Route Permitting Decision" and "Issues Typically Covered in an EIS"	* Tourism- The aesthetic impact of the line on our scenic areas and public concerns about safety * Organic farming- the issue of possible organic certification loss (livelihood) and the loss of an educational resource for the community	* The condition of Le Sueur sewer pond's puddling clay	* River valley eco-system- changes may occur that impact the entire system (ongoing) * Environmental issues as they relate to the LeSueur Crossing * Waterfowl migration – concern about birds flying into lines * Wetlands- The relationship to the larger watershed district * Youth education at this site is a part of environmental awareness for children. The line would run on the edge of the lake now used with young people. * Impact on parks and recreation areas unknown.

Identification of impacts and issues

What impacts and issues need to be considered in the evaluation of proposed transmission line routes and/or sub-station locations?

Recreation Areas	**Comprehensive Plans**	**EMF/Human Health and Safety (Stray Voltage)**	**Socioeconomics**
* Avoid parks and recreation areas (Safety and aesthetics)	* The impacts of transportation and growth on existing plans at the county, city and township level * Willingness to share the City of LeSueur transmission line right-of-way * Use existing right-of-way * Do not go thru fields and yards in Lanesburgh Township * Use existing 345 line to go north near Union Hill *Avoid municipal growth boundaries *Avoid conflicts with county long-term transportation plans (future right-of-way needs) * Consider peripheral impacts of all kinds	* Effect of stray voltage on human & livestock health * Animal health: effect on reproduction and fertility of cattle * Avoid organic farms (human and animal safety) * Hazard to apiary (human and animal safety) * Consider health effects of people with pacemakers * Electromagnetic field causes leukemia and other cancers * 2 ½ miles of power line underground in Tyrone Township *Fireworks issue (fire hazard) * Electric fence hazards: farm equipment running near lines (shocks and fueling issues)	* Avoid populated areas * Many homes close to primary route in Tyrone and Henderson Townships * Decreased property values link to the line site * Infringement on people's livelihood (daycare and farm) * Avoid cutting through "Century Farms" *Maintain agricultural regions—this impacts "Century Farms" * Decreased property values for homes and farms

Public Comments to Advisory Task Force

A period of time at the end of the meeting was set aside for public comment. Key points of those that citizens that addressed that task force are listed below (points made by an individual are grouped together.)

Speaker I

- Consider the process. Look at the methodology. Look closer at the red dots (all dots).
- How did applicants measure? How did they decide what to measure? What point are they measuring from?
- This morning children were waiting for the school bus in a space that will be directly under the proposed line.

Speaker II

- I own a certified organic farm, almost a "century farm."
  There is now a pipeline through the property.
- Why is the route being talked about before the "need" has been approved?
- What is the direction of the power in a north/south line?

Speaker III

- Like other owners of small farms, "century farms," I am a keeper of the family property and wonder if farms are becoming an endangered species.
- One line is though sections – not following the right-of-way and not following county plans. It impacts the entire farm.
- I also think it would hamper a DNR wetland project.

Speaker IV

- There are flyways across my farm and I have a concern for migratory birds and fear trouble ahead.

Speaker V.

- I am concerned that the plan does not allow for future open space development within a housing development Phase II. Posts will be closer to homes and walking paths than is acceptable.
- Plans for Phase III development of the land will also have lines across the space designated for other purposes in the master plan.

Speaker VI.

- Are these binders word-for-word the same as the last set distributed to the public? (Yes.)
- MnDOT opposed some choices and there were changes. Why should MnDOT be favored? (May be federal funds attached to previous plans.)

Speaker VII.

- The advisory board is only here because the "You Can" group fought to get this advisory board.

- The state is only here to help the applicant.
- There is no one reading petitions or other messages.
- Option #2 in Scott County is not good.

Speaker VIII.

- I own a pyrotechnics manufacturing facility. The “fireworks” red line.
- I currently have a legal process in place to challenge the economic impact to myself and the people who work for me.
- I may be a resource to the advisory committee.
- I suggest that the presenters “…back things with fact not just motions.”

Next Steps

Georgie reminded task force members that their homework for the next meeting was to review the route permit application and come prepared to begin discussing route alternatives that might address the impacts and issues identified in this first meeting. The next meeting date is April 16, 1:00 – 5:00 PM.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
Energy Facility Permitting

Attendance Sheet
Proposed Brookings County - Hampton 345 kV Transmission Project
Minnesota River Crossing to New Prague Advisory Task Force
March 26, 2009

PLEASE FILL IN ANY BLANKS, MAKE SURE INFORMATION IS CORRECT, AND CHECK BOX TO INDICATE ATTENDANCE

Last	First	Title	Local Government Unit	Address 1	Address 2	City	State	Zip	Phone	Email		
Brockway	Kathy	Planning and Zoning Director	Le Sueur County	88 South Park Ave.		Le Center	MN	56057	507-357-8209	kbrockway@co.le-sueur.mn.us	☑	In Attendance
Hagen	Dolores			PO Box 68	212 North 6th St.	Henderson	MN	56044	507-248-3824	dhagen@closingthegap.com	☑	In Attendance
Holicky	Howard	Township Supervisor	Tyrone Township	30970 281st Ave.		Henderson	MN	56044	HOLICKY HOWARD P @ HUGHES.NET		☒	In Attendance
Lambrecht	Joe	Township Supervisor	Lanesburg Township	436 Maplewood Circle SW		New Prague	MN	56071	612-747-1515	jvl12345@aol.com	☑	In Attendance
Logue	Kelly			1800 East 260th St.		New Prague	MN	56071	952-758-9597	klogue@bevcomm.net	☐	In Attendance
Maas	Terry	Township Supervisor	Helena Township	26121 Aberdeen Ave.		New Prague	MN	56071	952-200-5809	tamaas@bevcomm.net	☒	In Attendance
Minar	Dave			25816 Drexel Ave.		New Prague	MN	56071	952-212-9506	daveandflo@cedarsummit.com	☒	In Attendance
Ondich	Kenneth	Planning Director	City of New Prague	118 Central Ave. N		New Prague	MN	56071	952-758-1136	kondich@ci.new-prague.mn.us	☒	In Attendance
Prchal	Jodi			32155 Sanborn Dr.		Montgomery	MN	56069	952-758-4213	mrsprchal@aol.com	☒	In Attendance
Rucks	Maynard	Township ~~Supervisor~~ Clerk	Jessenland Township	35493 226th St.		Henderson	MN	56044	507-964-2733 Cell 507-317-9158	king70@frontiernet.net	☒	In Attendance
Ruhland	Theresa			8375 W. 280th St.		New Prague	MN	56071	952-873-6105	trruhl@hotmail.com	☒	In Attendance
Schmidt	Brian	Township Supervisor	Blakeley Township	17501 W. 250th St.		Belle Plaine	MN	56011	952-873-4402		☒	In Attendance
Slack	Kevin	Township Supervisor	Belle Plaine Township	7982 228th St. W		Belle Plaine	MN	56011	952-492-2081	kevin142@aol.com	☒	In Attendance

office of energy security
Minnesota Department of Commerce

STATE OF MINNESOTA
Energy Facility Permitting

Attendance Sheet
Proposed Brookings County - Hampton 345 kV Transmission Project
Minnesota River Crossing to New Prague Advisory Task Force
March 26, 2009

PLEASE FILL IN ANY BLANKS, MAKE SURE INFORMATION IS CORRECT, AND CHECK BOX TO INDICATE ATTENDANCE

Last	First	Title	Local Government Unit	Address 1	Address 2	City	State	Zip	Phone	Email		
Swenson	Keith	Mayor	City of Henderson	PO Box 431	208 N. 5th St.	Henderson	MN	56044	612-532-4483	keithswenson@mchsl.com	☐	In Attendance
Wagner	Joe	County Commissioner	Scott County	18020 Xanadu Ave.		Jordan	MN	55352	612-270-2660		☒	In Attendance
Wicks	Darvin	City Councilman	City of Le Sueur	101 North Morningside		Le Sueur	MN	56058	507-665-3919	lsdiner@hotmail.com	☒	In Attendance
Georgie Petersen											☒	In Attendance
Scott Ek											☒	In Attendance
Ray Kirsch											☒	In Attendance
Craig Poorker											☒	In Attendance
LINDA RIST			HENDERSON TWP								☒	In Attendance
Mike Kaluzniak			PVC								☒	In Attendance
Daniel Jones											☒	In Attendance
											☐	In Attendance

Appendix A

Minnesota River Crossings to New Prague Advisory Task Force

March 26, 2009

Meeting Handouts

Brookings County - Hampton
345 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project
Advisory Task Force

Minnesota River Crossing to New Prague Advisory Task Force

First Meeting – Thursday, March 26, 2009
1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Old Courthouse Building
600 Main Street, Henderson, MN

AGENDA

	Activity	Time
1.	Welcome and agenda review	1:00
2.	Introductions	1:10
3.	Why we are here ▪ *Charge* ▪ *Plan of action* ▪ *Result of work*	1:30
4.	State route permitting process ▪ *Role of the ATF in permitting process* ▪ *PUC decision criteria*	1:45
5.	Project overview ▪ *Routes and sub-station options* ▪ *Questions and responses*	2:00
	Break	2:30
6.	Identification of impacts and issues ▪ *What impacts and issues need to be considered in the evaluation of proposed transmission line routes and/or sub-station locations?*	2:45
7.	Public comment to Advisory Task Force	4:15
8.	Next steps ▪ *Future ATF meetings – April 16 & April 30, 2009* ▪ *Homework*	4:45
	Adjourn	5:00

Thank you

Minnesota River Crossing to New Prague Advisory Task Force

Task Force Charge:

1) The ATF members will assist the OES in identifying impacts and issues in the area of concern that should be evaluated in the EIS.

2) ATF members will assist the OES in identifying alternative transmission line routes or substation locations in Le Sueur, Scott and Sibley counties that may maximize positive impacts and minimize or avoid negative impacts of the project in the area of concern.

Plan of Action

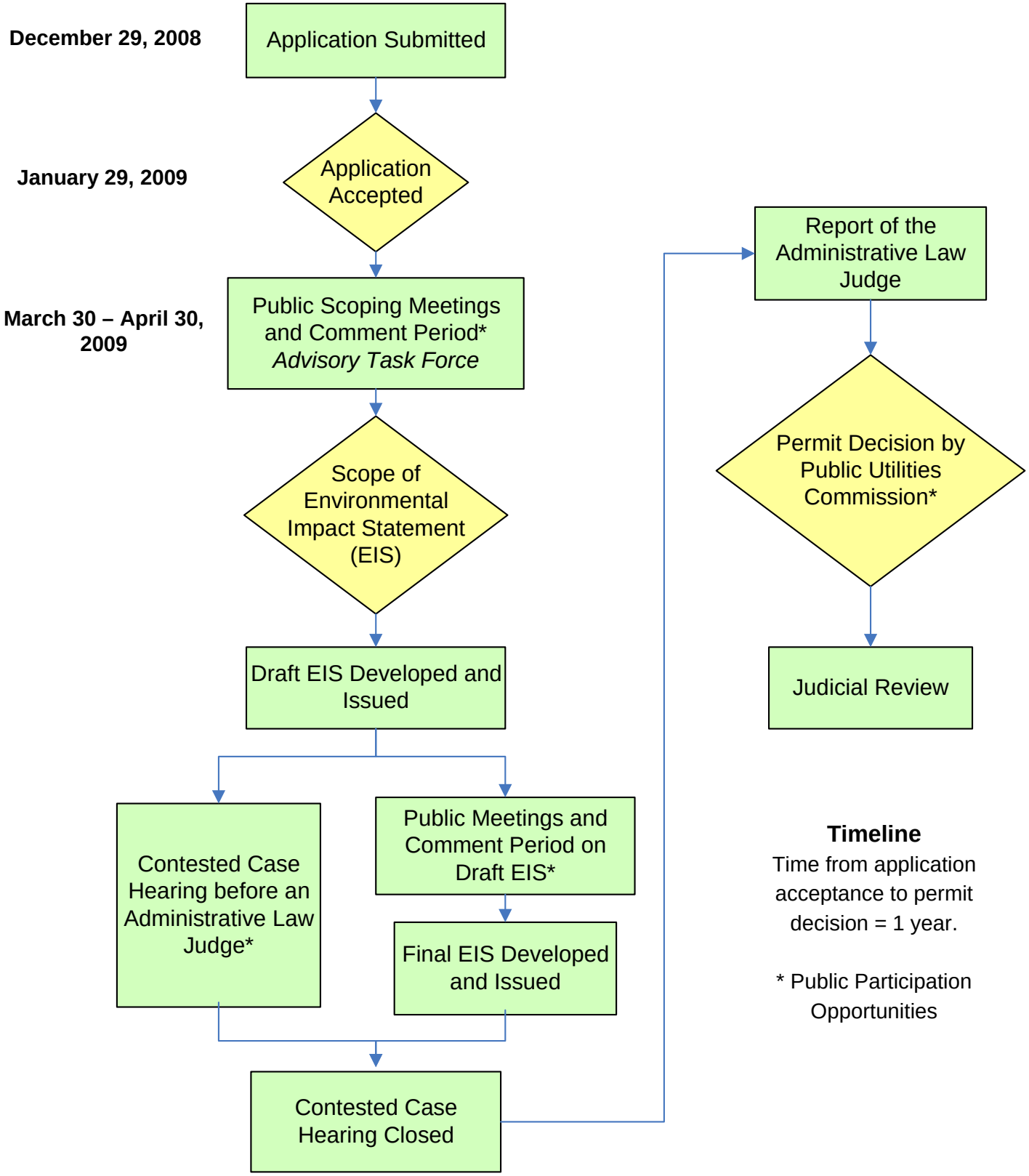
Meeting 1 – March 26, 2009: Review Project and Process, identify issues and impacts to be considered in EIS (Charge 1)

Meeting 2 – April 16, 2009: Discuss issues and impacts (Charge 1), review the two proposed routes and begin discussing alternative routes and route segments based on identified criteria (Charge 2)

Meeting 3 – April 30, 2009: Discuss alternative routes and/or route segments (Charge 2), wrap-up

HVTL Routing and Power Plant Siting
Full Permitting Process

Minnesota Rules 7849



Timeline

Time from application acceptance to permit decision = 1 year.

* Public Participation Opportunities

Factors Considered in PUC's Route Permitting Decision

a) Effects on human settlement, including, but not limited to displacement, noise, aesthetics, cultural values, recreation and public services;
b) Effects on public health and safety;
c) Effects on land-based economics, including, but not limited to, agriculture, forestry, tourism, and mining;
d) Effects on archaeological and historic resources;
e) Effects on the natural environment, including effect on air and water quality resources and flora and fauna;
f) Effects on rare and unique natural resources;
g) Application of design options that maximize energy efficiencies, mitigate adverse environmental effects, and could accommodate expansion of transmission or generating capacity;
h) Use or paralleling of existing right-of-way, survey lines, natural division lines, and agricultural field boundaries;
i) Use of existing large electric power generating plant sites;
j) Use of existing transportation, pipeline, and electrical transmission systems or rights-of-way;
k) Electrical systems reliability;
l) Costs of constructing, operating, and maintaining the facility which are dependent on design and route;
m) Adverse human and natural environmental effects which cannot be avoided; and
n) Irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources.

Minnesota Rules 7849.5910

Issues Typically Covered in an EIS

An EIS would typically provide information on the existing resources, potential impacts from the project, and potential mitigation for these impacts. Resources evaluated typically include:

1. **Human Settlements**
   a. Aesthetics – *existing scenic resources, visual impact from project*
   b. Cultural Resources – *archaeological and historic resources, also cultural values held by people in the area*
   c. Land Use – *existing land use and zoning, future plans*
   d. Socioeconomics – *population information, workforce, economic justice issues, displacement, economic development*
   e. Community Services – *fire, police, EMT, healthcare*
   f. Utility Systems – *electric, gas, oil, water, telephone infrastructure*
   g. Traffic and Transportation – *existing and planned roads, airports, railroads*
   h. Safety and Health – *safety and health during construction and operation, electromagnetic fields (EMF)*
   i. Noise – *noise during construction and operation, noise-sensitive areas*

2. **Natural Environment**
   a. Air Quality and Climate – *visibility, air pollution, local weather conditions (average temperature, rain, snowfall)*
   b. Geology and Soils – *geology, topography, soil classifications, erosion*
   c. Water Resources – *water quality, lakes, rivers, groundwater, floodplains, dewatering*
   d. Wetlands – *wetlands by type, wetland function*
   e. Biological Resources – *vegetation, fish and wildlife, threatened and endangered species, special natural communities, noxious weeds*

3. **Economic Resources**
   a. Agriculture – *prime farmland, crops, livestock, orchards, wild rice areas*
   b. Forestry – *land managed for forestry (impacts to trees typically covered under 2.e – Biological Resources)*
   c. Mining – *gravel, sand, quarries, underground mines*
   d. Recreation and Tourism – *attractions, resorts, parks, hunting, fishing, trails*

Appendix B

Minnesota River Crossings to New Prague Advisory Task Force

March 26, 2009

Route Issues and Impacts Homework

√

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

1. I have No Major issues. New transmission Lines are Required to Keep us with Realiable, Cheap. Electricity.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

2. I would Like to see a third option to share a portion of the Line with the City of LeSueur.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

3.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

4.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

5.

DARVIN WICKS City of LeSueur

✓

1.

What is the Issue? Stray Voltage
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) Effect on Cows, Employees
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?) Cedar Summit Farm
Organic dairy Farm & Creamery Sec 23 Helena twsp Scott Co
any Organic dairy is unequally impacted
Water lines in allow Pastures - Cows will not drink - lower Production

2.

What is the Issue? aesthetics
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) Impact our Customers during tour etc
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?) Organic dairy Farm and Creamery (Cedar Summit Farm)
Making the food and Farm connection
we have a lot invested in the farm & Creamery

3.

What is the Issue? too close to buildings
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) lower Property Values
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?) all along the route in our area
People don't want to live under Power lines - neighbors Want to move

4.

What is the Issue? Population density
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) drive down Property Values
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

5.

What is the Issue? Human Health
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) Impact of Power lines on human health
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?) Jeff Reisgraf - Pacemakers
this has not been sufficiently researched!

Dave Minar
952-212-9506

Howard P. Holicky, Tyrone

1. **ISSUE: The route runs to close to the homes in Tyrone Township.**
   - **2 Homes in FH449**
   - **_Mary Michels in Section 20**
   - **Gary Witt in Section 21**
   - **Home in Section 20 & 21**
   - **Lind in Section 29**
   - **Straub in Section 29**
   2. **May in Section 28**
   - **Anderson in Section 28**
   - **Reinhardt in Section 27**
   - **May in Section 27**
   - **Kotasek in Section 27**
   - **Meyer in Section 27**
   - **Plonske in Section 27**
   - **Bardon in Section 25 & 26**
   - **Home in Section 24**
   - **Loewe in Section 25**
   - **Burns in Section 24**

   IMPACT:

   The power lines are at an unacceptable distance for health (2 People on the route have pacemakers), safety, negative visual impact and decreased property values.

---

2. **ISSUE: Landowners in Sections 20, 27, 29 and 30 expressed concerns over livestock.**

   IMPACT:

   The impact would result in negative reproduction and loss of fertility causing undo financial loss.

---

3. **ISSUE: Invasion of County designated Conservancy and Special Protection Districts located in Sections 27 and 28**

   IMPACT:

   These areas are to be protected from environmental disturbances or altarations due to the sensitive nature of the area.

---

4. **<u>ISSUE</u>: In Section 29 & 30 there is a major migratory waterfowl and swan flyway of over 2,500 waterfowl crossing from Bucks Lake and the MN River.**

   <u>IMPACT</u>:
   The impact would be the loss of waterfowl from hitting the power lines resulting in vehicular hazards on County Rd 28 and Hwy 169. Wetlands are also involved in these sections.

---

5. **<u>ISSUE</u>: New power line is located less than ½ mile from existing 345 power line.**

   <u>IMPACT</u>:
   There are two major power lines within close proximity of each other and result in major issues in regard to the health and welfare of those located in Section 25 of Tyrone Township and beyond.

✓ Jodi Prchal

Task Force Concerns (H-M alternate route locations):

Issue: High voltage power lines come very close to daycares.

Location: 30408 151st Ave New Prague MN Lanesburgh Township. Tammy Kajer

Impact: Due to unknown facts regarding EMF's parents would not want to have their children this close to a possible danger, thereby removing them from the above business (licensed daycare).

Issue: High Voltage power lines affect electric fences.

Location: 30901 State Hwy 13 New Prague, Lanesburgh Twnship Sections 15/16 and others in the area, including Carmon Malecha 30492 151st Ave New Prague and others.

Impact: For organic gardening purposes these fences are used throughout the summer months near the proposed route. If shocks are given by the fence even when not plugged in this poses a serious health threat to not only the adults who work in the gardens but the children as well. Many others in the area use these fences for a wide variety of animals they raise for human consumption including chickens, pheasants, rabbits, geese, and cattle.

Issue: High Voltage lines can affect cattle,elk and buffalo used for human consumption.

Location: Farmers who have expressed concern are Ed Smisek, Doug Ziskovsky, Hilary Scheffler, Carl Miller , Dennis Johnson, Gordy Hinderscheit. There are certainly others that we have not yet heard from as well.

Impact: Many of these farmers raise the animals for their own consumption, as well as have sizeable herds as a business. Many use machinery near the lines and also have electric fence, all which require maintenance. Jolts from machinery can affect people as well.

Issue: Train tracks must be crossed .

Location: 2.5 miles south of New Prague

Impact: Trains run several times a day most of the year. There was information that there may be impact to the tracks/train.

Issue: The Big Woods is located in Rice and Le Sueur Counties.

Location: Throughout the counties.

Impact: Trees would need to be cut that were once part of the Big Woods.

√ ~~[illegible]~~
MTG. 1 PARTICIPANT HOMEWORK

Minnesota River Crossings to New Prague
Advisory Task Force – Issues and Impacts (Homework)

Submitted by: Kelly Logue

Issue 1: **Landowner Impact**
Where: HM3, HM4, HM5 of routing map for Preferred Route (including Helena Twp)
What Impact:

- Number of homes within the 500 ft ROW exceeds that of alternate routes (published and non-published alternatives.
- Applicant specifically heard this feedback from public input during the routing process, yet the undue burden for citizens and landowners of New Prague and Scott County is apparent.
- Many of these same landowners have already been unduly burdened by the installation of the crude oil pipeline in 2008. Placement of high voltage power lines will further erode landowner's aesthetics of their property and property values.
    - We cannot disproportionately burden landowners in New Prague and Scott County for the good of others and this proposal places unfair burden on a single segment of citizens.
- Significant personal financial impact by landowners due to decreased property values and inability to sell property.

Issue 2: **Environmental Impact**
Where: HM3, HM4, HM5 of routing map for Preferred Route (including Helena Twp)
What Impact:

- Area is home to several private wetlands areas. High voltage lines will disrupt the aesthetics of these areas, particularly in the areas between State Hwy 13 and Jonquil Avenue along Cty 2.
    - Further, these wetland areas (of course) are constantly damp, therefore the noise levels will always be prominent in these regions. ?
- Several organic farms and dairies exist along this corridor as well. Construction and subsequent maintenance will disrupt crops and key grazing areas.
- Impact to Cedar Lake Farms Park area. While the application indicates little impact anticipated, the visual impact will be a significant detraction from visitors and future growth of this area.
- Noise impact and line placement will cause harm to migrating birds and detract other wildlife from the area.

Issue 3: **Economic Impact**
Where: HM3, HM4, HM5 of routing map for Preferred Route (including Helena Twp)
What Impact:

- Property values decreasing in areas where there is higher socioeconomic presence. Thus decreasing the tax base for the community.
    - Decreased funding for public schools.
    - Decreased funding for county infrastructures.

- Long term inability to attract single families to the area impacted due to the fact no one with children will buy homes within 500 Feet of high voltage lines.
- Tourism impact to New Prague and planned regional parks. Many friends in the cities have commented on how they enjoy the scenic drive to New Prague. The aesthetics of the power lines will decrease tourism and visitors.
- Impact to the city of New Prague on annexation plans. (?)

Issue 4: **Public Health Impact**
Where: Entire section: Minnesota River Crossing to New Prague
What Impact:

- Several long-standing family daycare centers are located along the preferred route, particularly along the County Rd 2 segment in Scott County (including my own daycare). While impacts on health are deemed safe in the application, there are several contrary studies, leaving the overall impact to public health and children's health in question.
- Several miles of school bus routes are also affected by the preferred route and concerns have been expressed about child safety within 0-50 feet of the lines.

Issue 5: **Traffic Impact**
Where: HM3, HM4, HM5 of routing map for Preferred Route (including Helena Twp)
What Impact:

- County Road 2 is a major artery to I-35 and experiences significant traffic on a daily basis. Construction will cause for dangerous lane closures as well as delays.
- Post construction, my larger concern is for the overall safety of the Road with significant power structures in the ROW. Currently, road conditions become poor and motorists end up in the ditches frequently. I feel we will have an increase in serious Motor Vehicle Injury and Death with cement and steel structures every 1000 feet.
- Another impact is DNR snowmobile trails in the area, which again will cause a safety concern in the ditches leading to the trails and on the trails themselves.
- Finally, Scott County has weighed in on plans to expand the lane capacity of County Road 2. A combination of power lines and lane expansion will be an untenable situation for landowners already unduly impacted.

Recommendation:
I respectfully request the State to require the applicant to use Alternate Routing options for the Helena to Lake Marion substation sections of the CapX2020 project.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback in lieu of attending the first meeting. I am available for the next two dates in April and look forward to participating fully.

Sincerely,

Kelly Logue
1800 East 260th Street
New Prague, MN 56071
952-758-9597

√

Ken Ondich – City of New Prague – Route Issues and Impacts

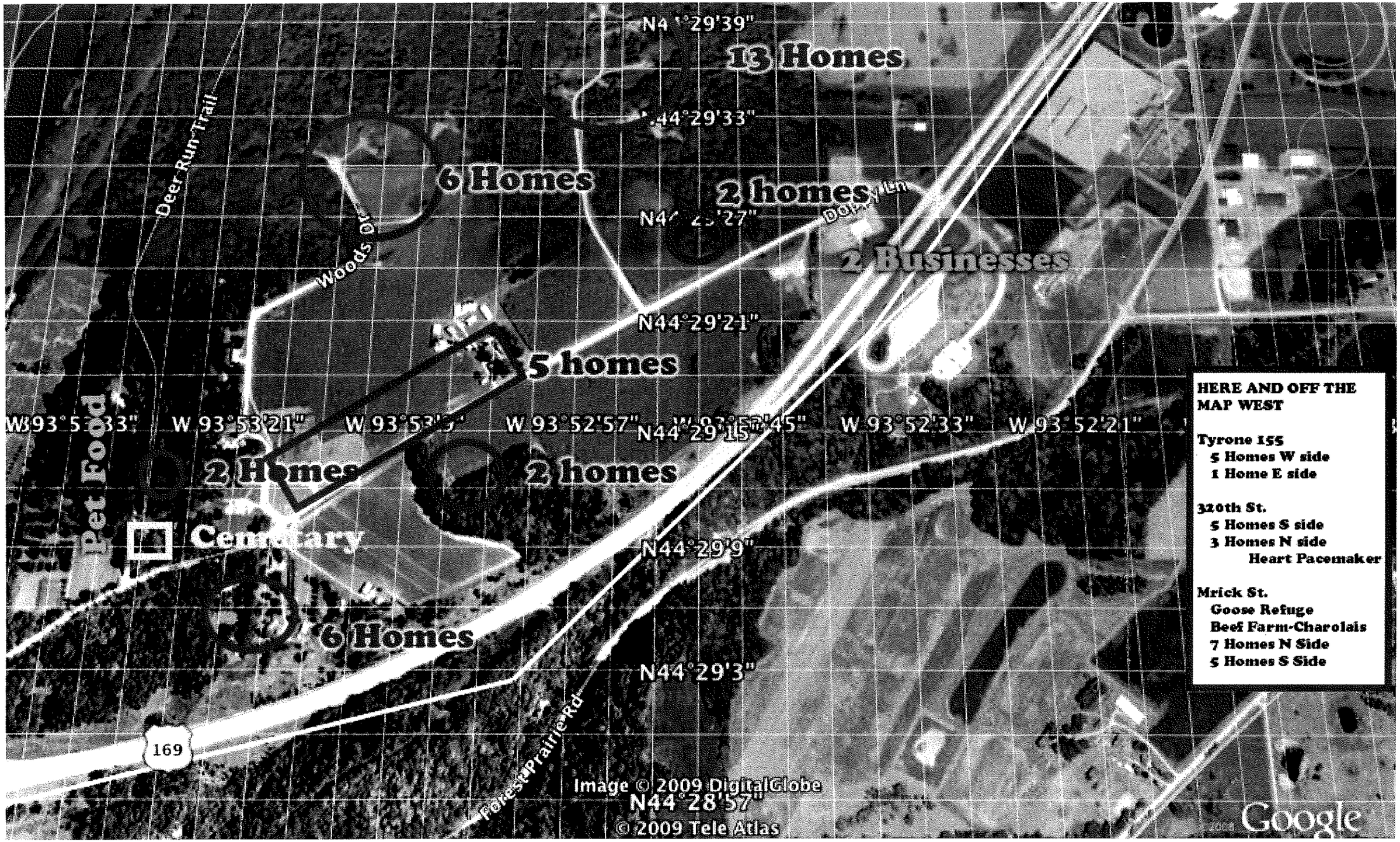
1. **Issue:** Proposed Route along CR 2 abuts City of New Prague 2030 Growth Boundary (Residential Area)
   Impact: Location of the Transmission Line will likely impede the City's orderly growth and annexation along the north Growth Boundary Line. The City has planned Low Density Residential along this area in addition to a bike trail along CR 2. The sighting criteria for the route noted that "keeping the line as far away from homes as possible" was required. Clearly the existing homes along this route and the future City growth for low density residential (70' wide lots of about 9,000 sq. ft) would have significant current and future impacts. The City's growth is pulled to the north/north east towards the Metro Area. This route also crosses Sand Creek which is a Metro Wildlife Corridor Focus Area.
   Where located: Along County Road 2 in Scott County, Helena Township, MN.

2. **Issue:** Proposed Route along CR 2 could impact future transportation needs of the City and County.
   Impact: The City's Comprehensive Plan has identified CR 2 as a B Minor Arterial Road West of TH21 and an A Minor Arterial Road East of TH 21. As noted in Issue 1, the City also has planned an associated bike trail along CR 2 for an alternative mode of transportation in the area. The significant ROW needs for both the road and trail could be compromised by this transmission line.
   Where located: Along County Road 2, Scott County, Helena Township.

3. **Issue:** Wetland Complex in Vicinity to Proposed Route along CR 2 would be physically or visually impacted.
   Impact: Large Wetland Complex on South side of County Road 2 could be impacted through construction or though adjacent activities. The City of New Prague also has identified an area in this vicinity as a future park service area. The visual impact of this transmission line through this area would be detrimental to the future park.
   Where located: County Road 2, Helena Township, Scott County.

4. **Issue:** Impact on Existing Homes
   Impact: The preferred route contains a large number of impacted homes. The alternate route contains less homes, but still a significant amount which could possibly be further avoided.
   Where located: Preferred Route - County Road 2, Helena Township, Scott County and Alternate Route, Lanesburgh Township, LeSueur County.

5. **Issue:** Metropolitan Council Area
   Impact: The preferred Route along CR 2 in Scott County north of New Prague lies within the Metropolitan Council jurisdiction area (Metro). Might be advantageous from a review and comment standpoint to avoid this area.
   Where located: Preferred Route - County Road 2, Helena Township, Scott County.



HERE AND OFF THE MAP WEST

Tyrone 155
- **5 Homes W side**
- **1 Home E side**

320th St.
- **5 Homes S side**
- **3 Homes N side**
  - **Heart Pacemaker**

Mrick St.
- **Goose Refuge**
- **Beef Farm-Charolais**
- **7 Homes N Side**
- **5 Homes S Side**

1.Issue and location: Shirley Gassman, Jodi Prchal and Brenda Fromm, owners, location Alternate route south of New Prague Sections 15 and 16, Lanesburgh Township.

What is the impact? The entire farm is impacted. The line would run along the entire North line of property in section 16. This is the most productive and desirable piece of property we own for agricultural production and potential for future development as the communities of New Prague and Montgomery grow closer together. It is the highest, best drained and largest field out of a total farm acres of 97 acres. Additionally it is the longest field and the powerline would run the entire length of this field. It is also the best place to provide access to the highway. It will leave us with only low land, slough and ditch, all of which would present access and drainage issues. It would also leave us 5 acres of highly erodible acres . The area for line placement would prevent me from ever building or adding on to the existing building site since all the remaining property on the west side of Highway 13 is not suitable for building and access would be extremely limited.
As the line would cross Hwy. 13 into section 15, it would cross (there is no dividing field line) my largest best drained property on the east side of the highway, leaving me with the less desirable ends of this field (low land) and an additional 10 acre parcel separated by ditch. Again, the best portions of my entire 97 acre farm are severely impacted.

2.Issue and Location: Book outlining Route Process-- Volume 1-Description of preferred and alternate route, Page 5-11 Section 5.2.5, Helena to Lake Marion, Quote: "The route then cuts across agriculture fields for approximatley one mile to co. rd. 143/171 st Ave., where it continues east along field lines for three miles, crossing HT 13 to County Road 146".

Impact: This is not a true statement. In many areas crossing through the middle of three sections goes THROUGH fields, not field lines. It also comes very close to several homes in this route.

3. Issue and location: Gassman, Fromm, Prchal farm located in Sections 15 and 16 south of New Prague. Potential for safety issue.
Impact: On the very north boundary of our building site, north of farm house, are located grain bins, grain dryer, 1000 gallon LP tank and several fuel barrels for farm use. This is in close proximity to the power line.

4. Issue: If the preferred route is chosen west of Heidelberg and the alternate route south of New Prague were chosen as the final route choices, it makes no sense to come down County Road 28 from Le Sueur, go North and around Heidelberg and then proceed for more than 3 miles through the middle of prime farm land to drop south and again resume the line on Co. Road 28 east toward Lonsdale. The preferred route north of New Prague makes the most sense in that it impacts less land; however if an "all south route were chosen", it is much shorter to take a straight route on Co. Road 28, again as a very last option. As we discussed in earlier meetings with Dan Lesher, in clustered housing areas on that continuous route along Co. Road 28, underground lines for short segments could be considered at less expense than adding many miles of line as noted above.

5. Issue and location: Gassman, Fromm, Prchal farm located in Sections 15 and 16 south of New Prague.
Impact: There is a large wildlife, slough area which includes part of our farm and extends to adjoining land and includes about 40 acres total. In the past 2 to 3 years, we have been in contact with the DNR to propose wetland preservation efforts.

Other: many of us in our area are farmers with relatively small acreage. The impact of this line crossing our property are extremely great. The devaluation to our property and the impacts are much greater since a higher percentage of our entire farms are permanently affected than for example, a farmer or landowner with several hundred acres.

Le Sueur County is experiencing growth and one of the highest potential areas of future growth will be along Hwy 13 between New Prague and Montgomery. As these communities "grow together", I feel a power line will severely diminish our land value for future generations to develop this land if they chose to do so. As for now, we have a century farm that has been in our family for over 100 years. This land is designated to pass on to our children and grandchildren. Much of the land owned by neighbors in section 15 and 14 that the line would cross has also and continues to be handed down through generations. Current land owners wish to maintain the rural integrity of our area. We feel choosing another shorter route following the criteria of utilizing existing right of way is in the best interest of both us as land owners and the PUC.

Question: what impact does the location of a substation have on final selection of the preferred or alternate route.

United States Department of the Interior

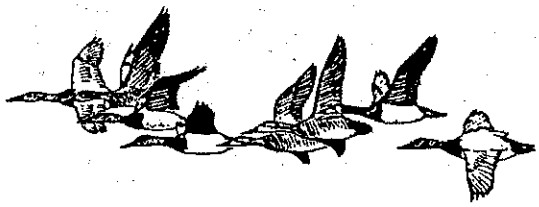
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge
3815 East 80th Street
Bloomington, Minnesota 55425-1600

August 17, 2004

Dear Landowner:

While surveying a wetland of your neighbors recently, I noticed a large, degraded wetland off to the west. The 40 acre, partially-drained, basin (shown on the enclosed map) on your property would qualify for our Partners for Wildlife Program. Utilizing this program, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service restores wetlands and native prairie on private lands at no cost to the landowner. Your wetland would provide excellent habitat for ducks, geese, and many other wildlife species while helping to reduce downstream flooding, purify the water, and decrease soil erosion. This restored natural resource will be a valuable and beautiful asset to your property. Please note that participants keep all rights to their land including the control of hunting and trespass. The literature I've included with this letter explains the specifics of the program.

Please contact me at 952.858.0711 to express your interest in this proposed restoration. I'll answer any questions you have and, at your convenience, would be willing to meet in person to discuss this project in more detail.



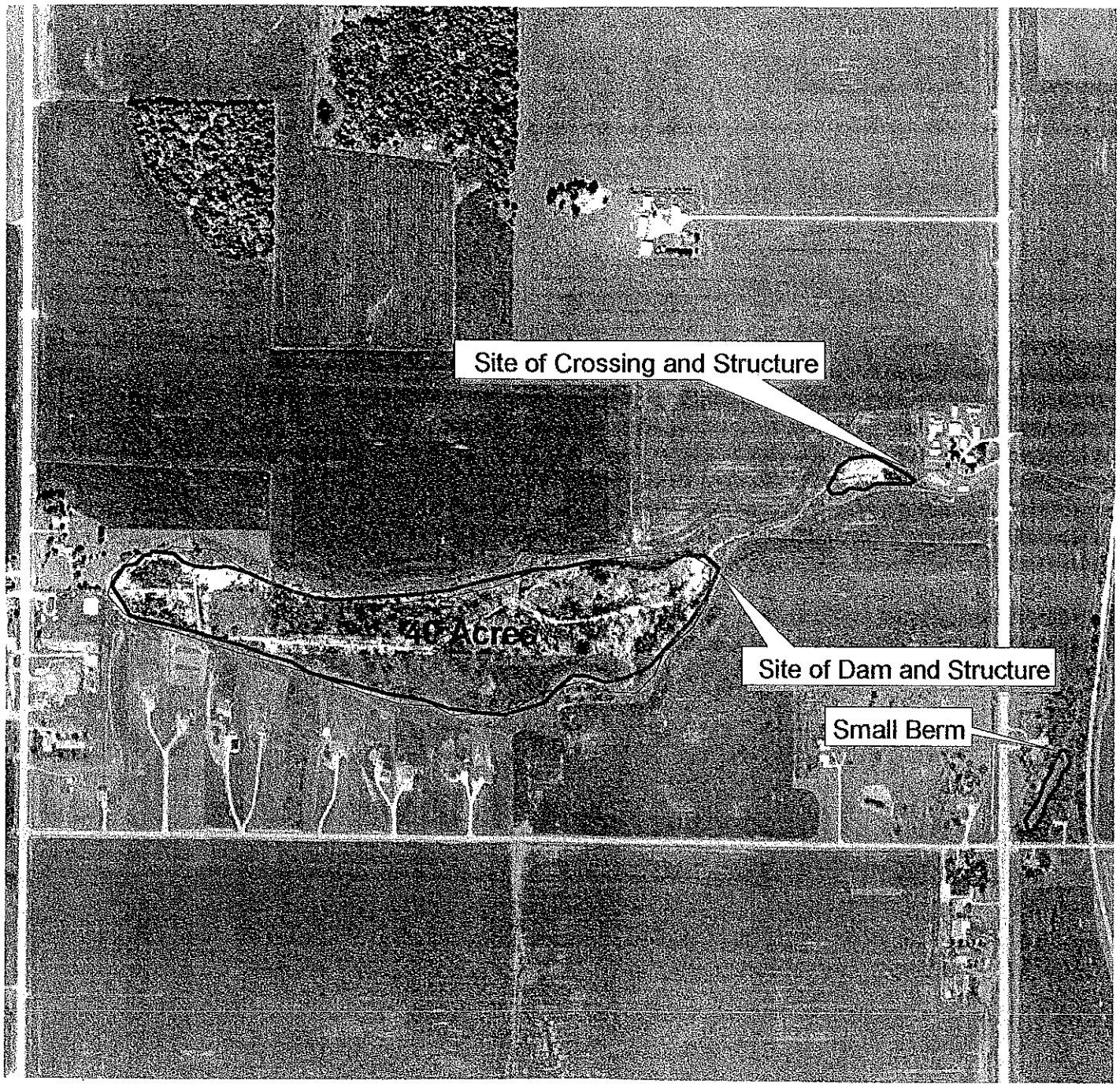
Sincerely,

Ron Knopik

Ron Knopik
Biological Science Technician

37. 766 3444

Lanesburgh Township Project

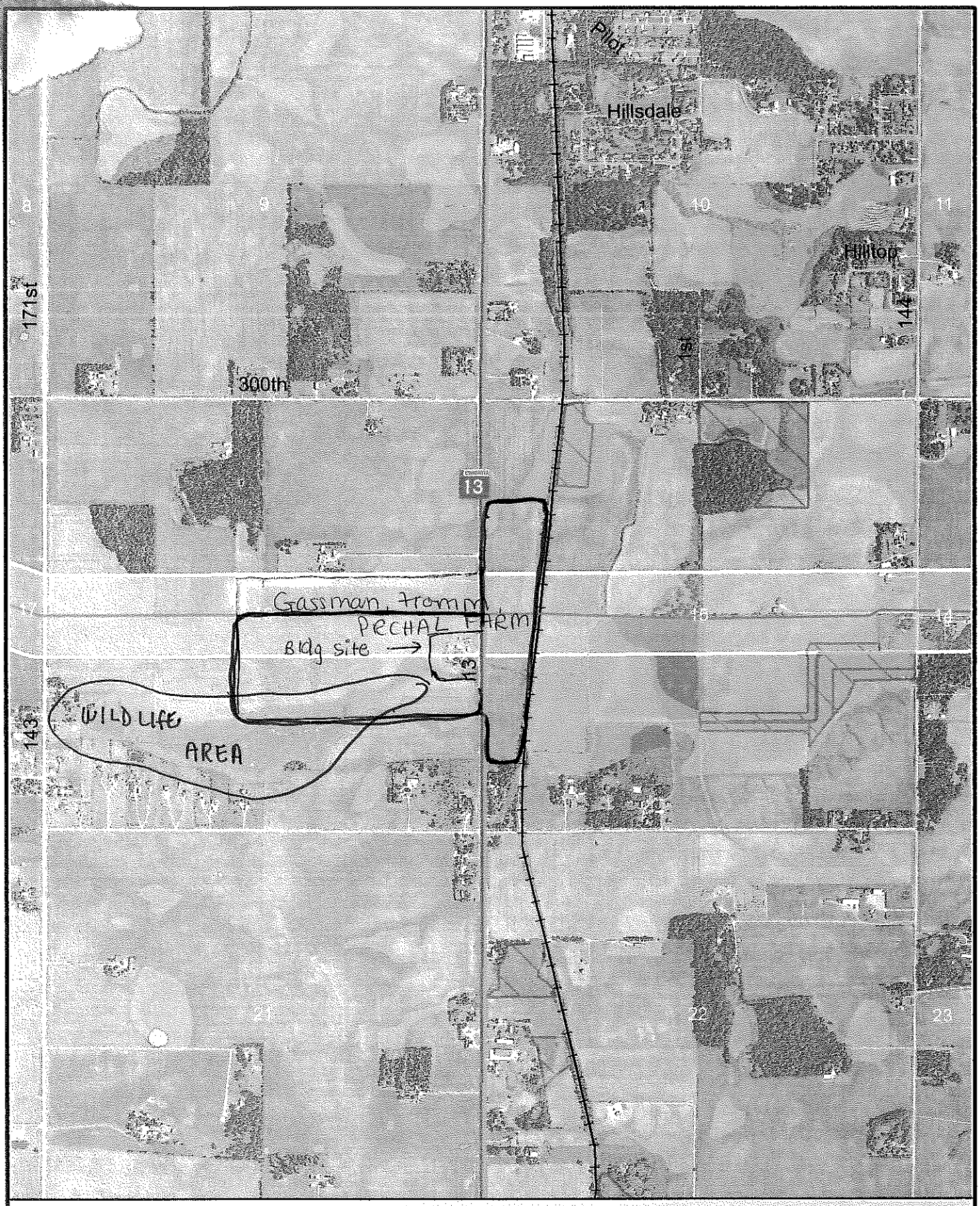


Wetland Boundary

N

LeSueur County
Lanesburgh Township
Sections 16

U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR



Brookings to Twin Cities
345 kV Transmission Line

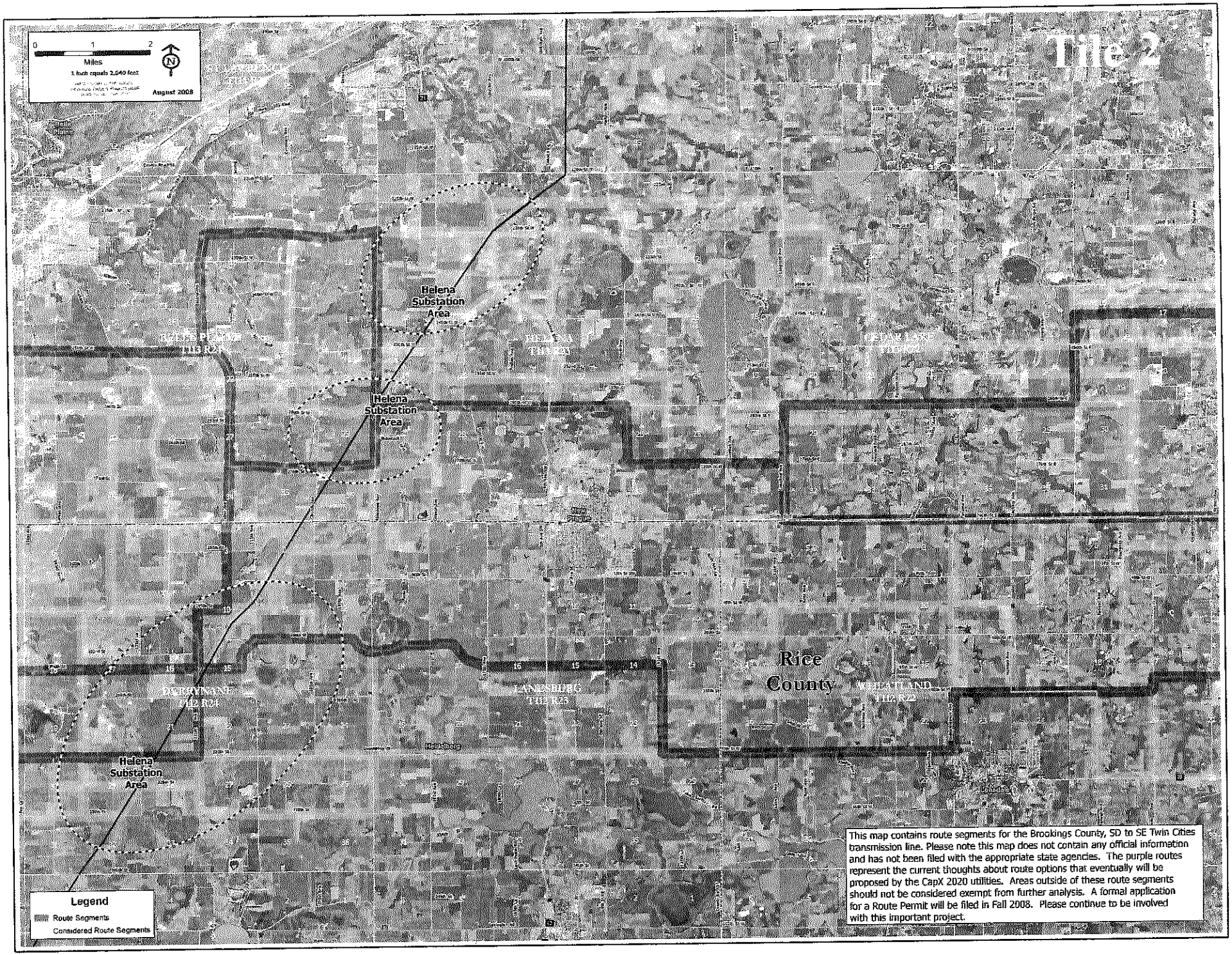
CapX2020

Miles
0 0.1 0.2 0.4

Data shown on map was collected from various sources should be used for illustrative purposes only. Proposed routes are subject to change.

DRAFT

Lanesburg Township
New Prague Open House
August 26, 2008


Tile 2
0 1 2
Miles
1 inch equals 2,640 feet
August 2008
Helena Substation Area
Helena Substation Area
Helena Substation Area
Rice County
Legend
Route Segments
Considered Route Segments
This map contains route segments for the Brookings County, SD to SE Twin Cities transmission line. Please note this map does not contain any official information and has not been filed with the appropriate state agencies. The purple routes represent the current thoughts about route options that eventually will be proposed by the CapX 2020 utilities. Areas outside of these route segments should not be considered exempt from further analysis. A formal application for a Route Permit will be filed in Fall 2008. Please continue to be involved with this important project.

My name is Tammy Kajer; we live in section 15 of Lanesburgh Township, right on county road 144. We are the 5th and 6th Kajer generation on the farm that was settled by my husband's ancestors.

New Prague was first settled by 4 families according to the land records. We are the 5th family on record, to settle in New Prague. According to history, research and stories pasted down through the generations, the Kajer family settled a year before, when they purchased the land from the railroad, but the papers were not filed till the following year (September 1856), making us the fifth on record, but possibly the first settlers off record. Lanesburgh Township was surveyed by the U.S government in 1855. Lanesberg township's original settlers found land around what is now the Montgomery area. The next area of Lanesberg Township that was settled was the area around New Prague.

I understand that we are the alternate route for the project. If we become the preferred route, you not only affect 2 Kajer families that still live on the original land settled 154 years ago, you affect one of the founding families of New Prague. You also affect our dairy cattle still raised on this land, and my home daycare that I started 5 ½ years ago.

I would love to be able to pass this land onto my kids someday, so please keep this project off and away from our century farm.

Sincerely,
Paul, Tammy, Kendra, Mitchel and Marcus Kajer

√

office of energy security
Minnesota Department of Commerce

Brookings County - Hampton
345 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project
Advisory Task Force

Minnesota River Crossings to New Prague Advisory Task Force

Specific Route Issues and Impacts
(Homework)

1) With the knowledge that you currently have about the proposed routes for the Brookings County – Hampton transmission line in your community, what specific route and/or sub-station issues and impacts need to be evaluated in the environmental impact statement for this project? If the issues are specific to a particular portion of one of the proposed routes, please identify the location.

2) Please identify your top five issues below and bring this document to the first meeting of the Advisory Task Force (use an additional sheet if necessary). We will use and collect the information at that meeting.

3) Your name: (optional) Theresa Ruhland

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

Examples

Example A:
Issue: Wetlands
Impact: Destruction of wetlands during construction and future maintenance.
Where located: Section 16 & 15, T145N, R32W (Farden Twp.)

Example B:
Waterfowl flyways. Birds hitting lines or avoiding areas on Route 1: Locations are the north end of Moss Lake to just south of Pike Bay in section 3 of Wilkinson Twp. and between Twin Lake and Camp Lake in section 2 of Wilkinson Twp.

Example C:
Issue: Line is too close to houses in our area
Impact: Aesthetics - we don't want to look at transmission lines
Where located: South of Sucker Lake in Cass County, near and around the boat access.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

1.

CapX power line proposed to come within 500 feet of our house while bisecting our farm fields. As propsed we would have a 345 or larger power line surrounding our home on all four sides within 500 ft to 1 mile. My father died of leukemia and my mother and sister died of breast cancer so we live as close to nature as possible growing and freezing as much of our food as possible, avoiding pesticides and preservatives, etc. This proximity to 345 or 690kV power lines would be a great health threat.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

2.

Farming is our way of life, we operate the same farm George's grandfather founded over 100 years ago and live in the house use the barn he built in 1904. You are proposing to break up our fields and make it extremely difficult to farm and make a living. We have cattle and sheep on our farm and are concerned of electromagnetic radiation. Proximity of power line would limit future expansions and devalue property Le Sueur Co. Derrynane twp sec 3 twp112 r24 W 1/2 NE 1/4 8375 W 280 St N.P.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

3.

Power line too close to feedlot and apiary, Belle Plaine twp sec 34 twp 113 SE 1/4 Scott Co. Cattle facilities and pasture within 150 feet of proposed line. Stray voltage, radiation, magnetic field all are great concerns and risk to cattle health and production as well as the people's. Orchard and apiary are an integral part of the farming operation, high voltage power lines have been proven factor in decline of bee populations and productivity.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

4.

Power lines too close to dairy farms Scott Co Belle Plaine Twp sec 35 dairy with 225 cattle has pasture abutting 270th street they are very concerned about health and productivity of cows-had planned to expand herd. Woman living here has a pacemaker and it reacts every time she is close to existing 345kV lines very concerned living this close to new line. 1 mi. east on 270th St. power line would bisect another dairy operation, house is on N side of road barn immediately So of road.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

5.

Exel Energy is the largest projected owner of the CapX project and has an existing 345kV line and easements in the immediate area. Following Excel line would reduce miles of new line needing to be constructed and impact fewer people's livelihood. From So cross Excel line on Le Sueur Co. 28, propose going N on Co.32 and in 1.3 mi cross Excel line, few miles later go N from 122 st. you are within 500 ft of line. In Scott Co cross it again on 270 St and again at Aberdeen Ave.and 260th St.

1.

What is the Issue? Why along County Road 2 in Scott
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) Close to many homes
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

2.

What is the Issue? Cover of Aberdeen + 260th Close to old 345 mg Line
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

3.

What is the Issue? Cuts thru possible Cedar Lake Park
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

4.

What is the Issue? Why in right away not thru Fields
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

5.

What is the Issue? Long term effect of Living by Power Line
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

Issue: Loss of Daycare Business ran from my home.
Impact: Parents will be concerned with closeness of power lines and the danger the may pose towards their children. The parents will pull their children from my business, and I will lose everything.
Where it's located: 19875 300th Street New Prague, MN; 144 Derrynane Township; LeSueur County

Issue: Line is too close to our home, property value will drop.
Impact: Industrial sized power lines will run directly in front of my house, no one wants to look at that every day.
Where it's located: 19875 300th Street New Prague, MN; 144 Derrynane Township; LeSueur County

Issue: Line is too close to home.
Impact: Aesthetics, We do NOT want to look at these lines every day. Our country living will disappear.
Where it's located: 19875 300th Street New Prague, MN; 144 Derrynane Township; LeSueur County

Issue: Health Hazards
Impact: Electric and Magnetic fields, stray voltage and Electric fields between poles and barns and milk parlors, both of which we have! We do not want to get shocks everyday when we go into the buildings. These occurrences will never lessen, they will only grow as more power is passed through the lines. How will this prolonged exposure affect young children? Who wants to take the chance and find out
Where it's located: 19875 300th Street New Prague, MN; 144 Derrynane Township;

1.

What is the Issue? Crossing River at 169
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) City Park + water Bird
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)
North of ~~169~~ LeSueur East Sibley Co + East Henderson Twp

2.

What is the Issue? Crossing River at Sewage Pond
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) Limited access
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)
North of 169 East Sibley Co East Henderson Twp

3.

What is the Issue? Crossing River south Henderson
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) NO Row
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)
1 mile So of Henderson East Sibley Co E Henderson Twp

4.

What is the Issue? Crossing of River North Henderson
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) N/O Ross
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)
South of Leesburg + North Henderson Twp line East Sibley Co

5.

What is the Issue? ~~Cross~~ Cross River at Pipeline crossing
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) N/O above Ground infrastructure
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)
South of East Texas Twp East Sibley Co.

√

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

1. Future Comp Plan Projections
Designated Area For Urban Development
Primary Route - Sect. 34,35,36 BP Tsp

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

2. Need to Use Northerly Route (Scott County) over Alternative Southern Route Beginning In Sect 10 Derrynane Tsp. Scott County Planned For urban Development, LeSueur to Remain Agricultural

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

3. CRQ is Designated For Development As a Major East/west Arterial with 150' ROW For Scott Cty Hwy 169 → I35
Ability To Be Built For Capacity Needed
Southern Belle Plaine Township Eastward

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

4. Financial Compensation - Real Damages
Total Financial Impact to Individual Property Owners Should Be Beared By All Benefiting

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

5. Future Growth - Residential, Commercial, Industrial
Ability To Build Facilities & Infrastrure
Whatever Line is Built

JVL1234@AOL.COM

LANESBORO TOWNSHIP.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

1.

SEE ATTACHED LANESBORO TOWNSHIP CAP 2020 RESOLUTION

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

2.

WILL E-MAIL TO YOU. PLEASE ADD AS AN ATTACHMENT

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

3.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

4.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

5.

A RESOLUTION REGARDING POWER LINE CORRIDOR PLACEMENT INVOLVING THE CAPX2020 PROJECT AND FUTURE UTILITIES PLACEMENT

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute § 365.10 Subd. 17 provides that the town board has the authority to promote the health, safety, order, convenience, and the general welfare of the township.

WHEREAS, the Lanesburgh Town Board has adopted the Lanesburgh Township Comprehensive Plan, hereinafter "Comprehensive Plan" for land use in the township, as provided for by Minnesota Statute.

WHEREAS, the Lanesburgh Town Board has reviewed such plans for placement of this specific power line, CAPX2020, and has found it to be inconsistent with intent, purpose, and application of the Comprehensive Plan for Lanesburgh Township (Township) in that its placement does not consider the following:

• The Natural Environment issues unique to Lanesburgh Township having its rural character founded in the balance of commercial, agricultural, open space, low density land use including but not limited to hobby farms, alternative and conventional agricultural uses and the general flavor of the countryside; and,

• The principal land use in the township is Agricultural and needs to receive special attention in preservation and the maintenance of the township economic viability. Development of such land needs a balance between natural environment and foster continued agricultural activities by use of buffers and open spaces.

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan is aimed at promoting complete and expanded use of the existing industrial area or utilizing other existing road right-of-ways. Industrial development within the Plan focuses upon economic utility and service delivery consistent with development quality and expectation standards of industrial activities being located in the Township.

In any event, special consideration in placement of this specific line, CAPX2020, should follow the shortest route, and most northerly route possible preferably through Scott County, a metropolitan county.

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan describes its land use goals as follows:

• A cohesive land use pattern, which ensures compatibility and functional relationships among activities, is to be formulated and implemented.

• Protect and preserve productive agricultural land and the economic viability of farming operation, including alternative cash crop or livestock operations. Placement of lines through productive farm land without existing road easements should be prohibitive.

• Ensure efficient utilization and conservation of land.

• Land uses and environmental quality are to be compatible with features of the natural environment and are to be accommodated without destroying environmental features and natural amenities.

• Prevent improper land use development, defined as development that is not accompanied by a sufficient level of supportive services and facilities (utilities, parking, access, etc.)

• Create the opportunity for a range of industrial development within the community and segregate it into harmonious and compatible use types.

WHEREAS, developments that follow planned public improvement corridors or constitute an infilling of development are deemed consistent with the Township growth strategies as outlined in the Comprehensive Plan.

WHEREAS, unless there is threat to public health or safety, agricultural activities in Lanesburgh Township are not to be limited or curtailed due to impacts on non-agricultural uses, which have or are proposing to encroach into rural areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lanesburgh Township Board on behalf of its residents and business community hereby declares the best placement of such CAPX2020 power line is the shortest, and most northerly direct route currently proposed in Scott County, or in and along the existing industrial corridor following road right-of-way, or other road right-of-way or existing lines of similar utilities so as to be consistent with the Lanesburgh Township Comprehensive Plan.

This would be the most cost effective for both the citizens and customers of the CapX2020 Project.

This Resolution applies not only to CAPX2020 placement of lines, but also consistent planning in placement of all future infrastructures of utility above- and below ground in Lanesburgh Township.

Yes No Other
Supervisor Tony Kubes X _____
Supervisor Leonard Pexa X _____
Supervisor Joe Lambrecht X _____

Adopted this 10th day of November, 2008.

Attest: _____ _____
/s/ Tony Kubes, Town Chair /s/ Lila Korbel, Town Clerk

Original document is on file at the Township Hall.

1. **What is the Issue?**
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

Issue: Birds use Minnesota River Flyway, Bucks' Lake Migration Feeding area
Impact: Power line interruption of flyway
Location: Full length of the Le Sueur/Henderson Recovery Zone (approx. 2 M So. of Le Sueur to 6 miles North of Henderson-Scenic Byway)

---

2. **What is the Issue?**
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

Issue: Five Eagle Nests
Impact: Disruption of Eagle nests by construction, existence of and maintenance.
Location: Within the Le Sueur/Henderson Recovery Zone (approx 2 mile South of LeSueur to 6 miles North of Henderson

---

3. **What is the Issue?**
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

Issue: Wetlands
Impact:Destruction of wetlands during construction, future maintenance and existence of (electromagnetic fields (EMFs impact on bird, plant and animal species)
Located: Le Sueur/Henderson Recovery Zone (approx 2 mile South of LeSueur to 6 miles North of Henderson

---

4. **What is the Issue?**
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

Issue: Economic
Impact: Bucks' Lake - Main Tourism Attraction on MN Hwy #93 Scenic Byway for Henderson Feathers and the Le Sueur/Henderson Recovery Zone
Location: The Le Sueur/Henderson Recovery Zone

---

5. **What is the Issue?**
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

Issue: Youth Education
Impact: Bucks' Lake - Le Sueur/Henderson Recovery Zone – Nature Neighbors Education programs would be lost...no use under high voltage lines
Location: The Le Sueur/Henderson Recovery Zone

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

6. Issue: Blue Heron Rookery
Impact: Lose of 19 Blue Heron Nests – Only Rookery in this entire section of the Minnesota River Valley.
Location: South end of Bucks' Lake – right on the proposed Le Sueur Crossing Route

---

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

7. Issue: Potential punctures Le Sueur Sewer Ponds – Puddle Clay lining/construction and future maintenance of power line.
Impact: Ground water contamination
Location: Le Sueur Sewer Ponds

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

8. Issue: Pasque Flower (Anemone patens)
Impact: Destruction of the only patch of this flower in the valley (viewed by natives since settlement of the area began)
Location: Sand Prairie (approx. 44' 29'02.06" N 93" 54' 58.07" W)

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

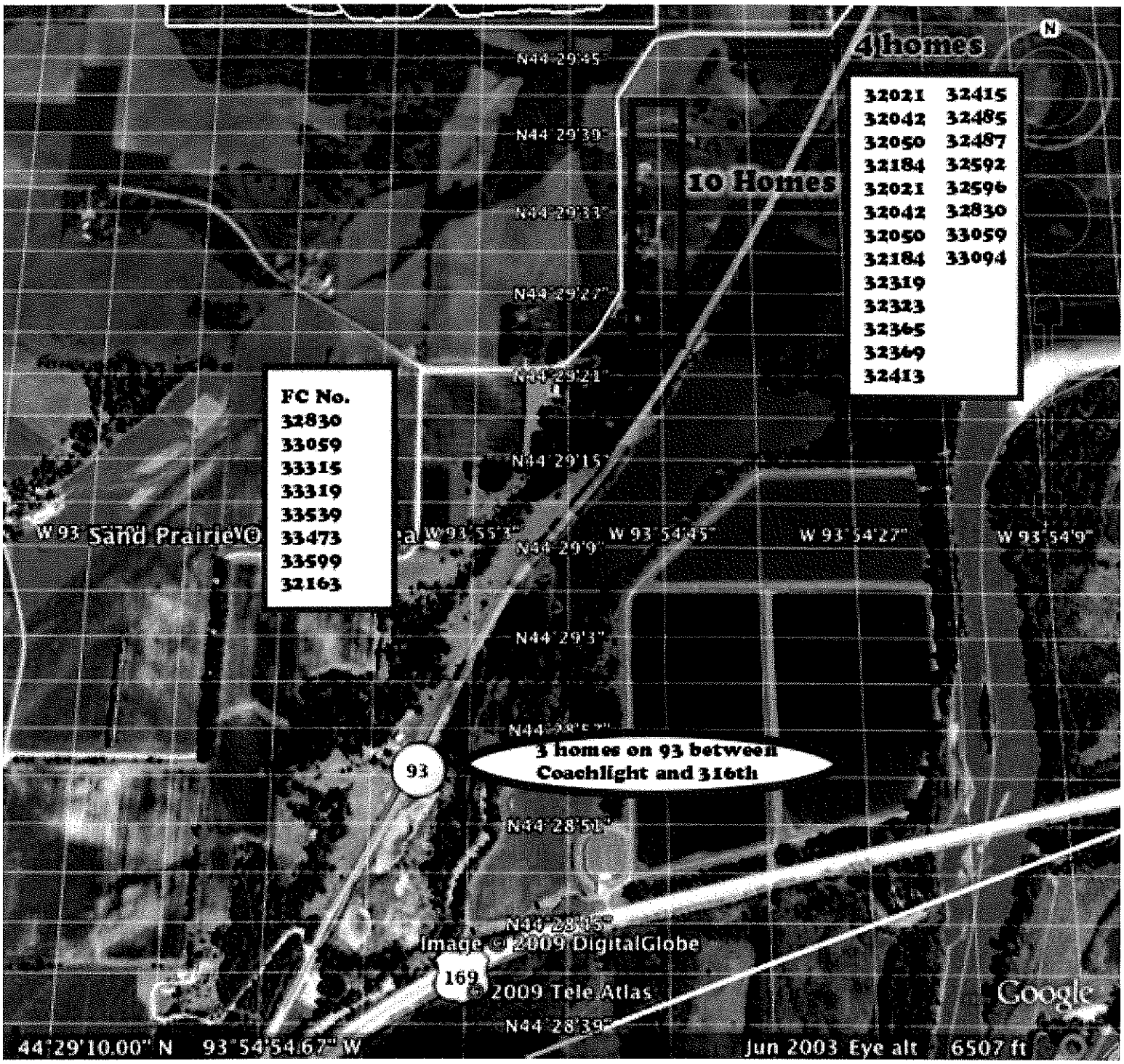
9. Issue: Birds on DNR "Greatest Conservation Need" and Audubon "Minnesota Birds At Risk."
Impact: 22 birds species located in the Le Sueur/Henderson Recovery Zone wetlands are on these lists and would be put in jeopardy by the construction and continued existence of the power line at the Le Sueur Crossing. List is attached.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

10. Issue: Human Habitat issues
Impact: Invisible electromagnetic fields (EMFs) can cause frightening array of cancers and other serious health problems in children and adults.
Location: Residential housing areas within Le Sueur city limits and Sand Prairie. Approx areas are attached as google maps showing each area.

Bird species on the DNR Greatest Conservation Need and Audubon Minnesota Birds at Risk.

Eagle
Common Loon
White Pelican
American Bittern
Black-crowned night Heron
Franklin Gull
Forester Gull
Common Gull
Canvasback
Lesser Scaup
Northern Pintail
Tundra Swan
Trumpeter Swan
Western Grebe
Lesser Yellowleg
Virginia Rail
American woodcock
Great Gray Owl
Redheaded Woodpecker
Yellow-billed Sapsucker
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
White-throated Sparrow


4homes
32021 32415
32042 32485
32050 32487
32184 32592
32021 32596
32042 32830
32050 33059
32184 33094
32319
32323
32365
32369
32413
10 Homes
FC No.
32830
33059
33315
33319
33539
33473
33599
32163
3 homes on 93 between
Coachlight and 316th
93
169
N44°29'45"
N44°29'39"
N44°29'33"
N44°29'27"
N44°29'21"
N44°29'15"
N44°29'9"
N44°29'3"
N44°28'51"
N44°28'45"
N44°28'39"
W 93°54'45"
W 93°54'27"
W 93°54'9"
Image © 2009 DigitalGlobe
© 2009 Tele Atlas
Google
44°29'10.00" N 93°54'54.67" W
Jun 2003 Eye alt 6507 ft

1. **What is the Issue?** Old Le Sueur Lagoons
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) aquafer - environmental
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?) Edge of Section 24 Henderson twp Sibley Co
Lagoons system is from 1962. What will happen when the crust is broken? Will this affect the drinking water?

2. **What is the Issue?** Bird Migration
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?) Section 23 & 24 Henderson, Township - Sibley Co
Buck Lake is a migration area. Gulls, pelicans, waterfowl, and eagles feed in this area in large numbers. Eagles as many as 25 to 30 in one sighting.

3. **What is the Issue?** Rookery
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?) Section 24 Henderson Twp. - Sibley Co.
Will this affect the nesting of the egrets?

4. **What is the Issue?** Why is this the preffered route? (asked by 4 people in section 23 twp)
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) population - environmental
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?) Section 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, Henderson twp Sibley Co
17 families in Section 23 - Heavy populated
16 families in Section 27 - Heavy populated
11 families in Section 22
52 families
8 families in Section 21

5. **What is the Issue?**
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

3/26/09

1.
What is the Issue? wetlands and ecosystem ~~entire~~
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) Destruction during construction and maintenance
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?) River valley

2.
What is the Issue? wild life HABITAT
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) Birds Hitting lines
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?) River valley

3.
What is the Issue? Line too close to ~~[illegible]~~ Homes
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) Health issues for people and effects on property values
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?) Through out area (STRAY VOLTAGE)

4.
What is the Issue? Line too close to FARMS
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) AFFECTS FARMERS & there FARMING ~~[illegible]~~ practices
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?) Throughout Area (STRAY voltage)

5.
What is the Issue? citizens FEELING LIKE A DUMPING ground AREA IS
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?) PEOPLE leave AREA - lower property values
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?) Throughout Area

CITIZEN SUBMISSION

STEVE AND CAMILLE COMAN

March 25, 2009

To whom this may concern:

We provide to you our list of issues/concerns for the CapX2020 project, however, our issues are not easily summarized in a paragraph. We have included a copy of correspondence sent by our attorney to the primary contacts for the project. We have not to date received a reply.

The property of concern is located at our mailing address of: 21595 286th Street, Belle Plaine, MN 56011.

The property is also noted as: Sect-03 Twp-112 Range -024.

Sincerely,

Steve and Camille Coman

//enclosure

21595 286TH STREET • BELLE PLAINE MINNESOTA • 56011

CITIZEN SUBMISSION

1.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

Issue: Safety (residents, neighbors, employees, utility employees, general public). Impact: Lines/ substation construction & existence would be too close to explosives storage & manufacturing facility, possibly with catastrophic results if power lines or tower were to fail. Stray voltage & static from these lines is also a threat.

2.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

Issue: National Security. Impact: The business occupying the property is regulated by the Department of Homeland Security, as well as BATF, USDOT, OSHA & LeSueur County. Anyone on the property would be subject to background checks, any & all construction workers would need to be monitored & would need to sign in & out of the property. There are mandatory restrictions as to age, nationality, medical or mental health history & criminal history requirements

---

3.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

Issue: Construction & existence of power lines poses a threat to storage buildings & home occupying property (wooded acreage & wetlands too). Impact: Right of way & construction work space currently removes one explosives magazine, one storage building & possibly the residence on property (power lines would be as close as 50 feet). These buildings cannot be relocated on the property due to

---

4.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

Issue: Right of Way. Impact: If the BATF concludes that the "right of way" is a "highway", to be used by the utility companies for access and maintenance, the business would be forbidden to have ANY of its explosives magazines on the property, destroying the the business operations & their existence. The business cannot be easily relocated & would have to do so at great expense & loss.

5.

What is the Issue?
What is the Impact? (Why is there an issue?)
Where, specifically, is it located? (What part of your township, city, or county? What part of a proposed route?)

Issue: Existing utility easement & right of way. Impact: With an existing utility easement & right of way just to the east of this property, it would make sense to move the lines to this location with virtually no impact to this business & no additional impact to this location already being used for electric lines for CapX2020. At the least these lines should be no less than 1000 feet away from this business.

Appendix C

Minnesota River Crossings to New Prague Advisory Task Force Homework
March 26, 2009

Route Issues and Impacts Sorted by Issue Areas

Comprehensive Plans

Issue: Future Comp Plan projections
Impact: Designated area for urban development
Location: Primary route – Sections 34, 35, 36, BP Twp

Issue: [Conflicts with existing planning]
Impact: Scott County planned for urban development, Le Sueur to remain agricultural
Location: Need to use northerly route (Scott County) over alternative southern route, beginning in Section 10, Derrynane Twp.

Issue: [Conflicts with existing planning]
Impact: CR 2 is designated for development as a major east/west arterial with ISO Row for Scott County Hwy 169 to I35.
Location: Southern Belle Plaine Township eastward

Issue: Invasion of County-designated Conservancy and Special Protection Districts
Impact: These areas are to be protected from environmental disturbances or alterations due to the sensitive nature of the area.
Location: Located in Sections 27 and 28

Issue: Book outlining Route Process – Volume 1 – Description of preferred and alternate route, Pages 5 – 11, Section 5.2.5, Helena to Lake Marion. Quote: "The route then cuts across agriculture fields for approximately one mile to Co. Rd. 143/171st Ave., where it continues east <u>along field lines for three miles</u>, crossing HT 13 to County Road 146."
Impact: This is not a true statement. In many areas, crossing through the middle of three sections goes THROUGH fields, not field lines. It also comes very close to several homes in this route.
Location: See Issue

Issue: If the preferred route is chosen west of Heidelberg, and the alternate route south of New Prague were chosen as the final route choices, it makes no sense to come down County Road 28 from Le Sueur, go north and around Heidelberg and then proceed for more than three miles through the middle of prime farmland to drop south and again resume the line on Co. Road 28 east toward Lonsdale. The preferred route north of New Prague makes the most sense in that it impacts less land; however, if an "all-south route were chosen," it is much shorter to take a

straight route on Co. Road 28, again as a very last option. As we discussed in earlier meetings with Dan Lesher, in clustered housing areas on that continuous route along Co. Road 28, underground lines for short segments could be considered at less expense than adding many miles of line as noted above.

Issue: Proposed Route along CR 2 abuts City of New Prague 2030 growth Boundary (Residential Area)

Impact: Location of the transmission Line will likely impede the city's orderly growth and annexation along the north Growth Boundary Line. The city has planned Low Density Residential along this area in addition to a bike trail along CR2. The sighting criteria for the route noted that "keeping the line as far away from homes as possible" was required. Clearly the existing homes along this route and the future city growth for low density residential (70 ft. wide lots of about 9, 000 sq. ft.) would have significant current and future impacts. The city's growth is pulled to the north/northeast toward the Metro Area. This route also crosses Sand Creek which is a Metro Wildlife Corridor Focus Area. (See also "Biological Resources")

Location: Along County Road 2 in Scott County, Helena Township, MN.

Issue: Proposed route along CR 2 could impact future transportation needs of the city and county

Impact: The city's Comprehensive Plan has identified CR 2 as a B Minor Arterial Road West of TH 21 and an A Minor Arterial Road East of TH 21. As noted in Issue 1 [above], the city also has planned an associated bike trail along CR 2 for an alternative mode of transportation in the area. The significant ROW needs for both the road and trail could be compromised by this transmission line.

Location: Along County Road 2, Scott County, Helena Township

Issue: Wetland Complex in vicinity to Proposed Route along CR 2 would be physically or visually impacted.

Impact: Large wetland complex on south side of County Road 2 could be impacted through construction or through adjacent activities. The City of New Prague also has identified an area in this vicinity as a future park service area. The visual impact of this transmission line through this area would be detrimental to the future park.

Location: County Road 2, Helena Township, Scott County

Issue: Metropolitan Council Area

Impact: The Preferred Route along CR 2 in Scott County north of New Prague lies within the Metropolitan Council jurisdiction area (Metro). Might be advantageous from a review and comment standpoint to avoid this area.

Location: Preferred Route – County Road 2, Helena Township, Scott County.

Biological Resources

Issue: Environmental impact

Impact:

- Area is home to several private wetlands areas. High voltage lines will disrupt the aesthetics of these areas, particularly in the areas between State Hwy 13 and Jonquil Avenue along Cty 2.
  - Further, these wetland areas (of course) are constantly damp; therefore the noise levels will always be prominent in these regions.
- Several organic farms and dairies exist along this corridor as well. Construction and subsequent maintenance will disrupt crops and key grazing areas.
- Impact to Cedar Lake Farms Park area. While the application indicates little impact anticipated, the visual impact will be a significant detraction from visitors and future growth of this area.
- Noise impact and line placement will cause harm to migrating birds and detract other wildlife from the area.

Location: HM3, HM4, HM5 of routing map for Preferred Route (including Helena Twp)

Issue: Bird migration
Impact: Buck Lake is a migration area. Gulls, pelicans, waterfowl, and eagles feed in this area in large numbers. Eagles, as many as 25 to 30 in one sighting.
Location: Sections 23 and 24, Henderson Township, Sibley County.

Issue: Rookery
Impact: Will this affect the nesting of the egrets?
Location: Section 24, Henderson Twp, Sibley County.

Issue (2)**:** Invasion of County-designated Conservancy and Special Protection Districts
Impact: These areas are to be protected from environmental disturbances or alterations due to the sensitive nature of the area.
Location: Located in Sections 27 and 28.

Issue: There is a major migratory waterfowl and swan flyway of over 2,500 waterfowl crossing from Bucks Lake and the Minnesota River.
Impact: The impact would be the loss of waterfowl from hitting the power lines resulting in vehicular hazards on County Rd 28 and Hwy 169. Wetlands are also involved in these sections.
Location: County Rd 28 and Hwy 169.

Issue: Wetlands and entire ecosystem.
Impact: Destruction during construction and maintenance.
Location: River valley.

Issue: Wildlife habitat.
Impact: Birds hitting lines.
Location: River valley.

Issue: Birds use Minnesota River Flyway, Bucks' Lake Migration Feeding area.
Impact: Power line interruption of flyway.
Location: Full length of the Le Sueur/Henderson Recovery Zone (approximately two miles south of Le Sueur to 6).

Issue: Five eagle nests.
Impact: Disruption of eagle nests by construction, existence of and maintenance.
Location: Within the Le Sueur/Henderson Recovery Zone (approximately two miles south of Le Sueur to six miles north of Henderson.

Issue: Blue heron rookery.
Impact: Loss of 19 blue heron nests – only rookery in this entire section of the Minnesota River Valley.
Location: South end of Bucks' Lake – right on the proposed Le Sueur Crossing Route.

Issue: Pasque flower (Anemone patens).
Impact: Destruction of the only patch of this flower in the valley (viewed by natives since settlement of the area began).
Location: Sand Prairie (approximately 44' 29' 02.06" N 93' 54' 58.07" W).

Issue: Birds on DNR "Greatest Conservation Need" and Audubon "Minnesota Birds at Risk."
Impact: Twenty-two bird species located in the Le Sueur/Henderson Recovery Zone wetlands are on these lists and would be put in jeopardy by the construction and continued existence of the power line at the Le Sueur Crossing. List is as follows: Eagle, Common Loon, White Pelican, American Bittern, Black-crowned Night Heron, Franklin Gull, Forester Gull, Common Gull, Canvasback, Lesser Scaup, Northern Pintail, Tundra Swan, Trumpeter Swan, Western Grebe, Lesser Yellowleg, Virginia Rail, American Woodcock, Great Gray Owl, Redheaded Woodpecker, Yellow-billed Sapsucker, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, White-throated Sparrow.
Location: Le Sueur Crossing.

Issue: Wetlands.
Impact Destruction of wetlands during construction, future maintenance and existence of (electromagnetic fields, EMF's impact on bird, plant and animal species).
Location: Le Sueur/Henderson Recovery Zone (approximately two miles south of Le Sueur to six miles north of Henderson.

Issue: Wetlands.
Impact: There is a large wildlife slough area which includes part of our farm and extends to adjoining land and includes about 40 acres total. In the past two to three years, we have been in contact with the DNR to propose wetland preservation efforts.
Location: Gassman, Fromm, Prchal farm located in Sections 15 and 16 south of New Prague.

Issue: The Big Woods is located in Rice and Le Sueur Counties.
Impact: Trees would need to be cut that were once part of the Big Woods.
Location: Throughout the counties.

Issue: Proposed Route along CR 2 abuts City of New Prague 2030 growth Boundary (Residential Area).
Impact: This route also crosses Sand Creek which is a Metro Wildlife Corridor Focus Area.
Location: Along County Road 2 in Scott County, Helena Township, MN.

Issue (2): Wetland Complex in vicinity to Proposed Route along CR 2 would be physically or visually impacted.
Impact: Large wetland complex on south side of County Road 2 could be impacted through construction or through adjacent activities. The City of New Prague also has identified an area in this vicinity as a future park service area. The visual impact of this transmission line through this area would be detrimental to the future park.
Location: County Road 2, Helena Township, Scott County.

Recreation Areas

Issue: Recreation area.
Impact: Impact to Cedar Lake Farms Park area. While the application indicates little impact anticipated, the visual impact will be a significant detraction from visitors and future growth of this area.
Location:

Issue: Cuts through possible Cedar Lake Park.

Issue (3): Wetland Complex in vicinity to Proposed Route along CR 2 would be physically or visually impacted.
Impact: Large wetland complex on south side of County Road 2 could be impacted through construction or through adjacent activities. The City of New Prague also has identified an area in this vicinity as a future park service area. The visual impact of this transmission line through this area would be detrimental to the future park.
Location: County Road 2, Helena Township, Scott County.

Economic Impact

Issue: Economic.
Impact:

- Property values decreasing in areas where there is higher socioeconomic presence. Thus decreasing the tax base for the community.
  - Decreased funding for public schools.
  - Decreased funding for county infrastructures.
- Long-term inability to attract single families to the area impacted due to the fact no one with children will buy homes within 500 feet of high voltage lines.
- Impact to the city of New Prague on annexation plans.

Location: HM3, HM4, HM5 of routing map for Preferred Route (including Helena Twp).

Issue: Future growth – residential, commercial, industrial.
Impact: Ability to build facilities and infrastructure, whatever line is built.

Issue: Economic.
Impact: Bucks' Lake – main tourism attraction on Minnesota Hwy #93 Scenic Byway for Henderson Feathers and the Le Sueur/Henderson Recovery Zone.
Location: The Le Sueur/Henderson Recovery Zone.

Ground Water

Issue: Old Le Sueur lagoons.
Impact: Aquifer – environmental. Lagoons system is from 1962. What will happen when the crust is broken? Will this affect the drinking water?
Location: Edge of Section 24, Henderson Twp, Sibley County.

Issue (2)**:** Wetlands and entire ecosystem.
Impact: Destruction during construction and maintenance.
Location: River valley.

Issue: Potential punctures, Le Sueur sewer ponds – Puddle Clay lining/construction and future maintenance of power line.
Impact: Ground water contamination.
Location: Le Sueur sewer ponds.

EMF/Human Health and Safety (Stray Voltage)

Issue: Public Health.
Impact:

- Several long-standing family daycare centers are located along the preferred route, particularly along the County Rd 2 segment in Scott County (including my own daycare). While impacts on health are deemed safe in the application, there are several contrary studies, leaving the overall impact to public health and children's health in question.
- Several miles of school bus routes are also affected by the preferred route and concerns have been expressed about child safety within 0 – 50 feet of the lines.

Location: Entire section: Minnesota River Crossing to New Prague.

Issue: Stray voltage.
Impact: Effect on cows, employees. Any organic dairy is unequally impacted. Waterlines in all our pastures – cows will not drink – lower production.
Location: Cedar Summit Farm, organic dairy farm and creamery, section 23, Helena Twp, Scott County.

Issue: Human health.
Impact: Impact of power lines on human health. This has not been sufficiently researched!

Issue: Health.
Impact: Long-term effect of living by power line.

Issue: The route runs too close to the homes in Tyrone Township.
Impact: The power lines are at an unacceptable distance for health (two people on the route have pacemakers), safety, negative visual impact, and decreased property values.
Location: Tyrone Township: two homes in FH449, Mary Michels in Section 20, Gary Witt in Section 21, Home in Section 20 and 21, Lind in Section 29, Straub in Section 29, May in Section 28, Anderson in Section 28, Reinhardt in Section 27, May in Section 27, Kotasek in Section 27, Meyer in Section 27, Plonske in Section 27, Bardon in Sections 25 and 26, home in Section 24, Loewe in Section 25, Burns in Section 24

Issue: Livestock health.
Impact: The impact would result in negative reproduction and loss of fertility, causing undo financial loss.
Location: Landowners in Sections 20, 27, 29, and 30 expressed concerns over livestock.

Issue: New power line is located less than one-half mile from existing 345 power line.
Impact: There are two major power lines within close proximity of each other, and [they] result in major issues in regard to the health and welfare of those located in Section 25 of Tyrone Township and beyond.
Location: Section 25 of Tyrone township and beyond.

Issue: Line too close to homes.
Impact: Health issues for people and effects on property values (stray voltage).
Location: Throughout area.

Issue: Line too close to farms.
Impact: Affects farmers and their farming practices (stray voltage).
Location: Throughout area.

Issue: Human habitat issues.
Impact: Invisible electromagnetic fields (EMFs) can cause frightening array of cancers and other serious health problems in children and adults.
Location: Residential housing areas within Le Sueur city limits and sand Prairie. Approximate areas are attached as Google maps showing each area.

Issue: Potential for safety issue.
Impact: On the very north boundary of our building site, north of farmhouse, are located grain bins, grain dryer, 100 gallon LP tank and several fuel barrels for farm use. This is in close proximity to the power line.
Location: Gassman, Fromm, Prchal farm located in Sections 15 and 16 south of New Prague.

Issue: High voltage power lines come very close to daycares.
Impact: Due to unknown facts regarding EMFs, parents would not want to have their children this close to a possible danger, thereby removing them from the above business (licensed daycare).
Location: 30408 151 Ave New Prague, MN, Lanesburgh Township.

Issue: High voltage power lines affect electric fences.
Impact: For organic gardening purposes these fences are used throughout the summer months near the proposed route. If shocks are given by the fence even when not plugged in, this poses a serious health threat to not only the adults who work in the gardens but the children as well. Many others in the area use these fences for a wide variety of animals they raise for human consumption, including chickens, pheasants, rabbits, geese, and cattle.
Location: 30901 State Hwy 13, New Prague, Lanesburgh Township, Sections 15/16 and others in the area, including Carmon Malecha 30492 151 Ave., New Prague and others.

Issue: High voltage lines can affect cattle, elk and buffalo used for human consumption.
Impact: Many of these farmers raise the animals for their own consumption, as well as have sizeable herds as a business. Many use machinery near the lines and also have electric fence, all of which require maintenance. Jolts from machinery can affect people as well.
Location: Farmers who have expressed concern are Ed Smisek, Doug Ziskovsky, Hilary Scheffler, Carl Miller, Dennis Johnson, Gordy Hinderscheit. There are certainly others that we have not yet heard from as well.

Issue: Train tracks must be crossed.
Impact: Trains run several times a day most of the year. There was information that there may be impact to the tracks/train.
Location: 2.5 miles south of New Prague.

Issue: Health hazards.
Impact: Electric and magnetic fields, stray voltage and electric fields between poles and barns and milk parlors, both of which we have! We do not want to get shocks every day when we go into the buildings. These occurrences will never lesson; they will only grow as more power is passed through the lines. How will this prolonged exposure affect young children? Who wants to take the chance and find out?
Location: 19875 300th Street, New Prague, MN; 144 Derrynane Township; Le Sueur County.

Socioeconomics

Issue: Landowner impact.
Impact:

- Number of homes within the 500 foot ROW exceeds that of alternate routes (published and non-published alternatives).
- Applicant specifically heard this feedback from public input during the routing process, yet the undue burden for citizens and landowners of New Prague and Scott County is apparent.
- Many of these same landowners have already been unduly burdened by the installation of the crude oil pipeline in 2008. Placement of high voltage power lines will further erode landowner's aesthetics of their property and property values.
  - We cannot disproportionately burden landowners in New Prague and Scott County for the good of others, and this proposal places unfair burden on a single segment of citizens.
- Significant personal financial impact by landowners due to decreased property values and inability to sell property.

Location: HM3, HM4, HM5 of routing map for Preferred Route (including Helena Twp)

Issue: Traffic.
Impact:

- County Road 2 is a major artery to I-35 and experiences significant traffic on a daily basis. Construction will cause dangerous lane closures as well as delays.
- Post construction, my larger concern is for the overall safety of the Road with significant poser structures in the ROW. Currently, road conditions become poor, and motorists end up in the ditches frequently. I feel we will have an increase in serious Motor Vehicle Injury and Death with cement and steel structures every 1000 feet.
- Another impact is DNR snowmobile trails in the area, which again will cause a safety concern in the ditches leading to the trails and on the trails themselves.
- Finally, Scott County has weighed in on plans to expand the lane capacity of County Road 2. A combination of power lines and lane expansion will be an untenable situation for landowners already unduly impacted.

Location: HM3, HM4, HM5 of routing map for Preferred Route (including Helena Twp).

Issue: Aesthetics.
Impact: Impacts our customers during tours, etc., making the food and farm connection. We have a lot invested in the farm and creamery.
Location: Organic dairy farm and creamery (Cedar Summit Farm).

Issue: Too close to buildings.
Impact: Lowers property values all along the route in our area. People don't want to live under power lines. Neighbors want to move.

Issue: Population density.
Impact: Drive down property values.

Issue: Close to many homes.
Location: Why along County Road 2 in Scott?

Issue: Location
Location: Corner of Aberdeen and 260th. Close to old 345 Mg Line

Issue: Location
Impact: Why is right away not through fields?

Issue: Financial compensation.
Impact: Real damages. Total financial impact to individual property owners should be borne by all benefitting.

Issue (2): The route runs too close to the homes in Tyrone Township.
Impact: The power lines are at an unacceptable distance for health (two people on the route have pacemakers), safety, negative visual impact, and decreased property values.
Location: Tyrone Township: two homes in FH449, Mary Michels in Section 20, Gary Witt in Section 21, Home in Section 20 and 21, Lind in Section 29, Straub in Section 29, May in Section 28, Anderson in Section 28, Reinhardt in Section 27, May in Section 27, Kotasek in Section 27, Meyer in Section 27, Plonske in Section 27, Bardon in Sections 25 and 26, home in Section 24, Loewe in Section 25, Burns in Section 24

Issue: Why is this the preferred route? (asked by four people in Section 23 Twp.)
Impact: 17 families in Section 23 – heavily populated, 16 families in Section 27 – heavily populated, 11 families in Section 22, eight families in Section 21 (52 families).
Location: Sections 21, 22, 23, 27, and 28, Henderson Twp, Sibley County.

Issue (2)**:** Line too close to homes.
Impact: Health issues for people and effects on property values (stray voltage).
Location: Throughout area.

Issue: Citizens feeling like area is a dumping ground.
Impact: People leave area – lower property values.
Location: Throughout area.

Issue: Youth education.
Impact: Bucks' Lake – Le Sueur/Henderson Recovery Zone – Nature Neighbors Education programs would be lost . . . no use under high voltage lines.
Location: The Le Sueur/Henderson Recovery Zone.

Issue: Farm, Shirley Gassman, Jodi Prchal and Brenda Fromm, owners.
Impact: The entire farm is impacted. The line would run along the entire north line of property in section 16. this is the most productive and desirable piece of property we own for agricultural production and potential for future development as the communities of New Prague and Montgomery grow closer together. It is the highest, best drained and largest field out of a total farm acreage of 97 acres. Additionally it is the longest field, and the power line would run the entire length of this field. It is also the best place to provide access to the highway. It will leave us with only low land, slough and ditch, all of which would present access and drainage issues. It would also leave us five acres of highly erodible acres. The area for line placement would prevent me from ever building or adding onto the existing building site since all the remaining property on the west side of Highway 13 is not suitable for building, and access would be extremely limited.

As the line would cross Hwy. 13 into section 15, it **would** cross (there is no dividing field line) my largest, best-drained property on the east side of the highway, leaving me with the less desirable ends of this field (low land) and an

additional 10-acre parcel separated by ditch. Again, the best portions of my entire 97 acre farm are severely impacted.

Location: Alternate route south of New Prague Sections 15 and 16, Lanesburgh Township.

Issue: Farmers.

Impact: Many of us in our area are farmers with relatively small acreage. The impact of this line crossing our property is extremely great. The devaluation to our property and the impacts are much greater since a higher percentage of our entire farms are permanently affected than, for example, a farmer or landowner with several hundred acres.

Location: Gassman, Fromm, Prchal farm, Sections 15 and 16 south of New Prague and others in the area.

Issue: Land value and rural integrity.

Impact: Le Sueur County is experiencing growth, and one of the highest potential areas of future growth will be along Hwy 13 between New Prague and Montgomery. As these communities "grow together," I feel a power line will severely diminish our land value for future generations to develop this land if they choose to do so. As for now, we have a century farm that has been in our family for over 100 years. This land is designated to pass on to our children and grandchildren. Much of the land owned by neighbors in Sections 15 and 14 that the line would cross has also and continues to be handed down through generations. Current landowners wish to maintain the rural integrity of our area. We feel choosing another shorter route following the criteria of utilizing existing right of way is in the best interest of both us as landowners and the PUC.

Location: Area along Hwy 13 between New Prague and Montgomery, Sections 15 and 14.

Issues: Century-old farm, dairy cattle, and daycare.

Impact: My name is Tammy Kajer; we live in Section 15 of Lanesburgh Township, right on county road 144. We are the 5th and 6th Kajer generation on the farm that was settled by my husband's ancestors.

New Prague was first settled by four families according to the land records. We are the fifth family on record, to settle in New Prague. According to history, research and stories passed down through the generations, the Kajer family settled a year before, when they purchased the land from the railroad, but the papers were not filed till the following year (September 1856), making us the fifth on record, but possibly the first settlers off record. Lanesburgh Township was surveyed by the U.S. government in 1855. Lanesbergh township's original settlers found land around what is now the Montgomery area. The next area of Lanesbergh Township that was settled was the area around New Prague.

I understand that we are the alternate route for the project. If we become the preferred route, you not only affect two Kajer families that still live on the original land settled 154 years ago, you affect one of the founding families of new Prague. You also affect our dairy cattle still raised on this land, and my home daycare that I started five one-half years ago.

I would love to be able to pass this land onto my kids someday, so please keep this project off and away from our century farm.

Sincerely,
Paul, Tammy, Kendra, Mitchel and Marcus Kajer

Location: Section 15 of Lanesburgh Township, right on county road 144.

Issue: High voltage power lines come very close to daycares.
Impact: Due to unknown facts regarding EMFs, parents would not want to have their children this close to a possible danger, thereby removing them from the above business (licensed daycare).
Location: 30408 151 Ave New Prague, MN, Lanesburgh Township.

Issue: Impact on existing homes
Impact: The preferred route contains a large number of impacted homes. The alternate route contains fewer homes, but still a significant amount which could possibly be further avoided.
Location: Preferred Route – County Road 2, Helena Township, Scott County and Alternate Route, Lanesburgh Township, Le Sueur County.

Issue: Loss of daycare business run from my home.
Impact: Parents will be concerned with closeness of power lines and the danger they may pose toward their children. The parents will pull their children from my business, and I will lose everything.
Location: 19875 300th Street, New Prague, MN; 144 Derrynane Township; Le Sueur County

Issue: Line is too close to our home; property value will drop.
Impact: Industrial-sized power lines will run directly in front of my house; no one wants to look at that every day.
Location: 19875 300th Street, New Prague, MN; 144 Derrynane Township; Le Sueur County.

Other

Comment: I respectfully request the state to require the applicant to use Alternate Routing options for the Helena to Lake Marion substation sections of the CapX2020 project.

Question: What impact does the location of a substation have on final selection of the preferred or alternate route?

Comment: I have no major issues. New transmission lines are required to keep us with reliable, cheap electricity.

Comment: I would like to see a third option to share a portion of the line with the City of Le Sueur.

Township Board Resolution:

A RESOLUTION REGARDING
POWER LINE CORRIDOR PLACEMENT
INVOLVING THE CAPX2020 PROJECT
AND FUTURE UTILITIES PLACEMENT

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute § 365.10 Subd. 17 provides that the town board has the authority to promote the health, safety, order, convenience, and the general welfare of the township.

WHEREAS, the Lanesburgh Town Board has adopted the Lanesburgh Township Comprehensive Plan, hereinafter "Comprehensive Plan" for land use in the township, as provided for by Minnesota Statute.

WHEREAS, the Lanesburgh Town Board has reviewed such plans for placement of this specific power line, CAPX2020, and has found it to be inconsistent with intent, purpose, and application of the Comprehensive Plan for Lanesburgh Township (Township) in that its placement does not consider the following:

• The Natural Environment issues unique to Lanesburgh Township having its rural character founded in the balance of commercial, agricultural, open space, low density land use including but not limited to hobby farms, alternative and conventional agricultural uses and the general flavor of the countryside; and,

• The principal land use in the township is Agricultural and needs to receive special attention in preservation and the maintenance of the township economic viability. Development of such land needs a balance between natural environment and foster continued agricultural activities by use of buffers and open spaces.

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan is aimed at promoting complete and expanded use of the existing industrial area or utilizing other existing road right-of-ways. Industrial development within the Plan focuses upon economic utility and service delivery consistent with development quality and expectation standards of industrial activities being located in the Township.

In any event, special consideration in placement of this specific line, CAPX2020, should follow the shortest route, and most northerly route possible preferably through Scott County, a metropolitan county.

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan describes its land use goals as follows:

• A cohesive land use pattern, which ensures compatibility and functional relationships among activities, is to be formulated and implemented.

• Protect and preserve productive agricultural land and the economic viability of farming operation, including alternative cash crop or livestock operations. Placement of lines through productive farm land without existing road easements should be prohibitive.

• Ensure efficient utilization and conservation of land.

• Land uses and environmental quality are to be compatible with features of the natural environment and are to be accommodated without destroying environmental features and natural amenities.

• Prevent improper land use development, defined as development that is not accompanied by a sufficient level of supportive services and facilities (utilities, parking, access, etc.)

• Create the opportunity for a range of industrial development within the community and segregate it into harmonious and compatible use types.

WHEREAS, developments that follow planned public improvement corridors or constitute an infilling of development are deemed consistent with the Township growth strategies as outlined in the Comprehensive Plan.

WHEREAS, unless there is threat to public health or safety, agricultural activities in Lanesburgh Township are not to be limited or curtailed due to impacts on non-agricultural uses, which have or are proposing to encroach into rural areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lanesburgh Township Board on behalf of its residents and business community hereby declares the best placement of such CAPX2020 power line is the shortest, and most northerly direct route currently proposed in Scott County, or in and along the existing industrial corridor following road right-of-way, or other road right-of-way or existing lines of similar utilities so as to be consistent with the Lanesburgh Township Comprehensive Plan.

This would be the most cost effective for both the citizens and customers of the CapX2020

Project.

This Resolution applies not only to CAPX2020 placement of lines, but also consistent planning in placement of all future infrastructures of utility above- and below ground in Lanesburgh Township.

Yes No Other
Supervisor Tony Kubes X _____
Supervisor Leonard Pexa X _____
Supervisor Joe Lambrecht X _____

Adopted this 10th day of November, 2008.

Attest: _____ _____
/s/ Tony Kubes, Town Chair /s/ Lila Korbel, Town Clerk

Original document is on file at the Township Hall.