



Energy Facility Permitting

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Issued: May 29, 2009

NOTICE OF SOLICITATION OF ADVISORY TASK FORCE MEMBERS

To Whom it May Concern:

This notice requests assistance with nominations for an Advisory Task Force (ATF) for the proposed Monticello to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Project (Project). On April 8, 2009, Xcel Energy and Great River Energy submitted a High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for the Project. The application was accepted as complete on May 13, 2009.

In its May 13, 2009 Order, the Commission authorized the establishment of an advisory task force.

The Minnesota Office of Energy Security (OES) Energy Facility Permitting (EFP) unit is establishing the ATF. The charge is a requirement of ATF members to:

1. Become familiar with the proposed Project by reviewing the HVTL Route Permit application;
2. Assist in determining specific impacts and issues of local concern that should be assessed in the EIS by adding detail to the draft Scoping Document;
3. Assist in determining potential route alternatives that should be assessed in the EIS.

The ATF will expire upon designation of the Scoping Decision by the OES Director.

The structure of the advisory task force will be pursuant to Minn. Stat. 216E.08, subdivision 1. Members of the AFT will be solicited from the following:

Local Government Unit (LGU), Nongovernmental Organization (NGO), Other	Type	Name
LGU	County	Stearns
LGU	County	Wright
LGU	City	Clearwater
LGU	City	Monticello
LGU	City	Rockville
LGU	City	St. Augusta
LGU	City	St. Cloud
LGU	City	Waite Park
LGU	Township	Clearwater
LGU	Township	Lynden
LGU	Township	Monticello
LGU	Township	Silver Creek
LGU	Township	St. Joseph
Other	Federal Government	FHWA
Other	State Government	MnDOT
NGO		
NGO		
NGO		

ATF members will be selected from the list of nominations received. The ATF will consist of no more than 16 persons.

The final structure will comprise one representative from each county (2), one representative from each city (6), representatives from the five townships (2-5), one representative of the Federal Highway Administration (1), one representative of the MN Department of Transportation (1), and one representative each from up to three citizens' organizations (0-3).

Please provide the name of a person(s) who may well represent their agency or organization in regard to this endeavor. The qualifications for serving on the task force are (1) that the person be an employee or representative of the above entities; (2) that the person be willing, interested, and available to serve on the task force; (3) preferably that the person be knowledgeable about local planning and environmental issues; and (4) that the person not be an officer, agent, or employee of Great River Energy or Xcel Energy. If you or someone in your organization would like to be considered for inclusion on the ATF, please fill out the attached candidate information form and **e-mail, fax or mail the form to be received by 4:30 p.m. on June 9, 2009** to:

David Birkholz, Project Manager
Office of Energy Security
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

david.birkholz@state.mn.us

ph. 651.296.2878, fax 651.297.7891

Members of the ATF will be contacted by June 16, 2009. The ATF will meet once in each of the following weeks: June 22-26, July 13-17 and August 3-7, 2009. The meetings will be held from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. within the project area.

If you imagine an appropriate contact person within your organization, please pass on this letter along with the enclosed form to them. Also, please pass on this letter along with the enclosed form to any other groups you think might be interested, notably nongovernmental environmental or civic organizations.

To learn more about the application, visit the project webpage at:

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19957>

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Birkholz", written in a cursive style.

David Birkholz, Project Manager

enc: candidate form

	<p>Monticello to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project Advisory Task Force Candidate Information Form</p>	
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Candidate Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No(s): _____

Email: _____

Current Employer: _____

Current Job Function: _____

With which LGU or NGO is the candidate affiliated, and what is their role within it:

Describe the candidate's interest(s) in the Monticello-St. Cloud Project:

Checking this box certifies that the candidate is not affiliated with Xcel Energy or Great River Energy; nor are they an officer, agent or employee of said organizations.

Return to: David Birkholz, Project Manager
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