

# HIAWATHA PROJECT NEWSLETTER

June 2012

## YOU'RE INVITED

# Hiawatha Project

### CONSTRUCTION OPEN HOUSE

**Thursday, June 14, 2012**  
**5 pm – 8 pm**

Plaza Verde  
1516 East Lake Street  
Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 724-5332

#### At the open house you will:

- Receive an update on the underground transmission line and the Midtown and Hiawatha substations
- Learn about the construction process and what to expect
- View the designs for Hiawatha and Midtown substations and learn about the stakeholder process used to design their aesthetics

Xcel Energy staff, along with the design team responsible for designing the substation aesthetics, will be available to discuss the Hiawatha Project and answer your questions.

**This is your opportunity to view the substation designs planned for your community.**

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED.



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# LEARN MORE

[hiawathaproject.com](http://hiawathaproject.com)

**CONTACT US**

Construction complaints should be directed to:  
[hiawathaproject.com](http://hiawathaproject.com) (click on Contact Us)  
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## CONSTRUCTION

### When Will Construction Occur?

Easement Acquisition	May 2012
Survey and Soil Borings	Spring 2012
Construction (Transmission Line)	Summer/Fall 2012 – Fall 2013
Construction (Substations)	Summer 2012 – Summer 2014
Restoration	2013-2014
In-service	June 2014

### What Can You Expect During Construction?

Xcel Energy is required to meet the following conditions during construction:

- Coordination with local road authorities on signage and traffic management (road and lane closures, etc.)
- Removal of all waste and scrap after each task; personal litter daily
- Avoidance of tree removal
- Minimization of runoff and restoration of disturbed areas
- Limiting of easements outside right of way (ROW) to special needs
- Restoration of ROW and impacted areas; compensation for damages
- Establishment of a process for handling complaints
- Landowner notification prior to entering property or conducting maintenance
- Designation of an employee(s) to oversee compliance with these conditions

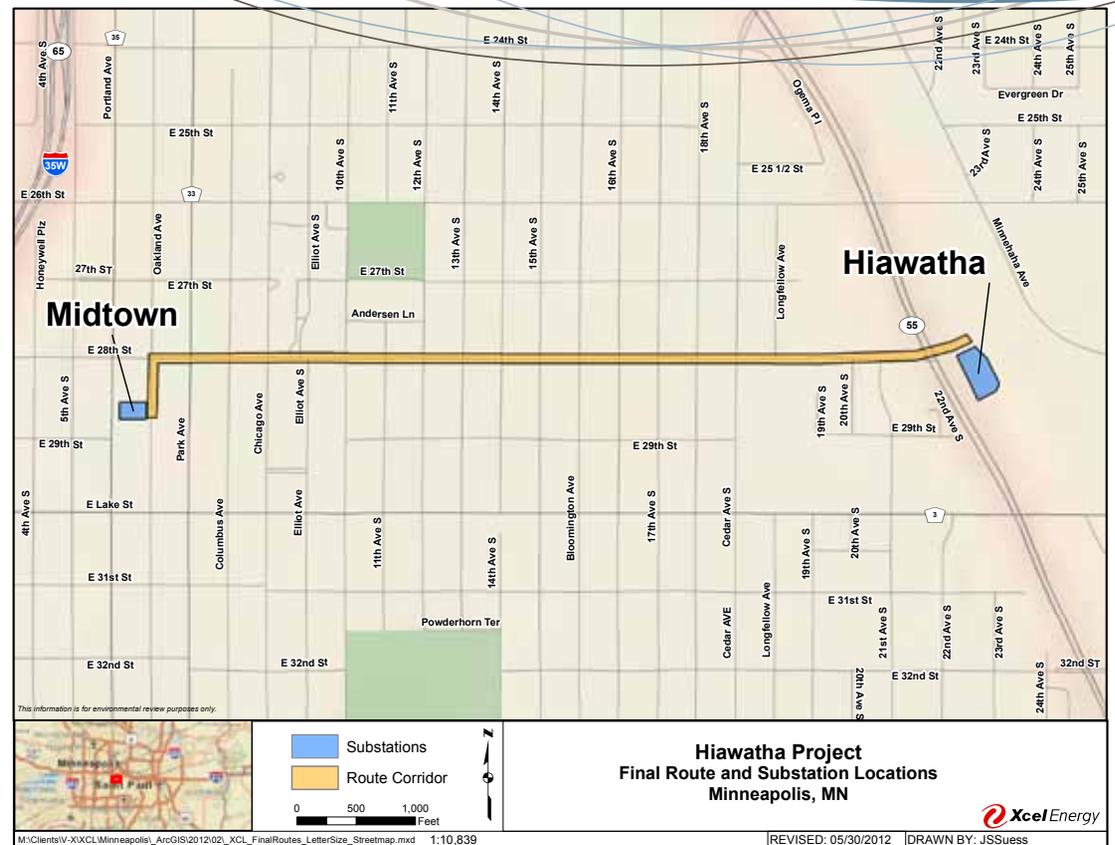
### What is the Process for Construction?

- **ROW clearing:** The ROW boundaries are marked and staked and existing utilities are verified.
- **Trenching:** The trench measuring 10' wide by 8-15' deep is saw cut and then dug using a backhoe to remove blacktop, concrete and dirt.
- **Jacking and boring:** Areas where trenching isn't feasible (Hiawatha Avenue) require jack & bore construction to install the cable.
- **Conduit assembly /cable installation:** The conduit (cable) is installed in the excavated trench and encased in concrete. The vault manhole measuring 11' wide by 25' long by 10' high is also installed and the cable is pulled and spliced.
- **Backfilling:** The trench is backfilled with granular material which also serves to dissipate the cable heat.
- **Restoration:** The ROW, in this case the roadway, is restored to its original condition by patching the pavement

More information about the construction process is available at [hiawathaproject.com](http://hiawathaproject.com) (click on Construction).

## KEEP UP-TO-DATE ON PROJECT CONSTRUCTION IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Xcel Energy will provide regular updates about construction activities and their potential impacts on the community (lane closures, reroutes, etc.) once construction begins. These updates will be available at [hiawathaproject.com](http://hiawathaproject.com). You can also request to receive regular email notifications by signing up on this website (click on Contact Us).



## SUBSTATION AESTHETICS

The Route Permit order authorizing the construction of the Midtown and Hiawatha substations directs Xcel Energy to minimize disruption to bicycle and pedestrian trails, ensure the facilities are compatible with surrounding structures, and minimize aesthetic impacts. The order also requires the company to provide stakeholders with an opportunity to give input on the substation aesthetics. To comply with this requirement, Xcel Energy convened an Advisory Work Group (AWG) of community leaders and residents who are responsible for overseeing the process to develop substation aesthetics that balance design and construction considerations such as safety and cost with the community's values, vision and ideas about aesthetics, and which meet the conditions of the Route Permit order.

The following organizations are represented on the AWG:

- City of Minneapolis (Ward 9 and Ward 6)
- East Phillips Improvement Coalition
- Hennepin County
- Lake Street Council
- Longfellow Community Council
- Metro Transit
- Midtown Community Works Partnership
- Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- Minneapolis Public Arts Administration
- Phillips West Neighborhood Organization

Other organizations were invited but have not participated.

The AWG met four times in the spring of 2012 and successfully developed the design process being utilized to develop the substation aesthetics. The AWG also selected a local design team – Architectural Alliance – to develop the design schematics for the walls that will surround the new substations. The design concepts will be presented to the public at the open house on June 14. The individuals participating on the AWG have devoted significant time

and energy to this process and are to be commended for their efforts on behalf of the community and their respective organizations.

More information about the AWG and its work is available as [hiawathaproject.com](http://hiawathaproject.com) (click on Substations).



Participants of the AWG joined in a listening session.

The AWG formulated the following principles to serve as a framework in the design of the substation enclosures:

- **Place Making:** Honesty, shaping of adjacent spaces, catalyst for future development, place history integration
- **Energy:** Playfulness, color, light, power
- **Safety and Durability**
- **Context:** Appropriate scale and materials, varied prominence of wall faces, reflect and embody motion and energy, address multiple transportation means
- **Diversity:** Communicate to everyone, don't be too literal (broad diversity in community), accessible for all
- **Green Space:** Park-like, natural, sunlight, spaciousness