



Energy Facility Permitting

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<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us>

June 24, 2009

Dear Mr. ,

Greetings. I am writing to request your assistance with an Advisory Task Force (ATF) for the proposed Nashwauk Public Utilities Commission (NPUC) Essar Steel Transmission Line. On June 1, NPUC and Minnesota Power (MP) submitted a high voltage transmission line (HVTL) Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for the proposed Essar Steel Transmission project. The application was accepted as complete on June 25, 2009.

As part of the decision accepting the Essar Steel HVTL Route Permit application as substantially complete, the Commission authorized the Office of Energy Security (OES) to establish an advisory task force.

The Advisory Task Force members will assist the OES Energy Facility Permitting (EFP) staff in developing the scope of environmental review for the EIS being prepared for the Essar Steel Transmission line project currently before the Commission (PUC Docket E280/TL-09-512).

Tasks relating to development of the scope of the environmental review will include:

1. Familiarize the membership of the ATF with the proposed project by reviewing the HVTL Route Permit application;
2. Review the Draft Scoping Document produced by the OES EFP staff;
3. Develop potential route or route segment alternatives, and
4. Determine specific impacts and issues of local concern that should be assessed in the EIS by adding detail to the Draft Scoping Document.

The ATF will meet three times, Wednesday, August 12, 2009, Wednesday, September 2, 2009, and Wednesday, September 23, 2009. The meetings will be held in the Taconite Community Center from 2:00 pm to 5:30 pm. The ATF will, through a facilitated process, discuss and make recommendations to the Director of the OES in accordance with its charge.

The ATF will expire upon completing the above charge or upon designation by the Director of the OES of Scoping Decision, whichever occurs first.

The advisory task force members will be solicited from the following:

- Arrowhead Regional Development Commission
- Itasca County
- City of Taconite
- City of Mable
- City of Calumet
- City of Nashwauk
- Trout Lake Township
- Greenway Township
- Nashwauk Township
- Lawrence Township
- Iron Range Township
- Balsam Township
- Lone Pine Township

The Task Force will be comprised of no more than 13 members.

The only qualifications for service on the ATF are that the person be an official of one of the above governmental bodies, that the person is interested and willing to serve on the ATF, and that the person is not an officer, agent or employee of Nashwauk Public Utilities or Minnesota Power.

If you or someone in your organization would like to be considered for inclusion on the ATF, please fill out the attached information form and e-mail, fax or mail your completed forms by close of business on July 10, 2009 to:

Bill Storm
Department of Commerce
Office of Energy Security
Energy Facilities Permitting
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101
bill.storm@state.mn.us; (fax) 651.297.7891

Also, if there is a more appropriate contact person within your organization, please pass on this letter along with the attached form to them.

ATF members will be selected from the list of nominations received. Members of the ATF will be contacted by July 17, 2009.

To learn more about the proposed Essar Steel Transmission Line project, visit the project webpage at:

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=24526>

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. Please contact me at 651.296.9535, with any questions.

Sincerely,

Bill Storm, Energy Facilities Permitting

	ESSAR STEEL Transmission Line Project Advisory Task Force Candidate Information Form	
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Candidate Name:

Address:

City:

Telephone:

Email:

Current Employment:

Current Job Function:

Which local units of governmental are you affiliated with, and what is your role in said group?

Describe your interest on being on the Essar Steel Transmission Project ATF:

Checking this box certifies that the candidate is not affiliated with NPUC or Minnesota Power nor are they an officer, agent or employee of said company.

Return to:
Bill Storm
bill.storm@state.mn.us; (fax): 651.297.7891
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