



STATE OF MINNESOTA
Department of Commerce



Issued: September 2, 2011

NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD ON PROPOSED PERMIT AMENDMENT

In the Matter of the Application for a High Voltage Transmission Line Route Permit for the Essar Steel Transmission Line Project

PUC Docket Number: E280/TL-09-512

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on August 25, 2011, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a Petition from Minnesota Power (MP), to amend the route permit for the Essar Steel Transmission Line project, pursuant to Minn. Rule 7850.4900.

In an Order issued August 2, 2010, the Commission designated and issued a HVTL route permit for the Essar Steel Transmission Line Project, authorizing MP to construct four new 230 kV transmission line in Itasca County.

Minnesota Power is requesting that the HVTL route permit be amended so that the southerly five mile section (from the McCarthy Lake Substation north to County Highway 56) of Route 1 can be constructed with double-circuited towers within the approved 130 foot right-of-way. The purpose of the amendment is to allow the accommodation of a portion of the proposed Great River Energy (GRE) Shoal Lake 115 kV HVTL on the double-circuited towers; thereby eliminating the need for an additional 85 foot right-of-way adjacent to MP's permitted HVTL for the GRE line. The net effect of this amendment is a reduction of 52 acres of land being cleared and permanently encumbered by easement. The double-circuit towers would be 80 to 116 feet tall, as opposed to the permitted tower height of 60 to 80 feet.

Information on the MP's HVTL Route Permit and the requested permit amendment can be viewed at:

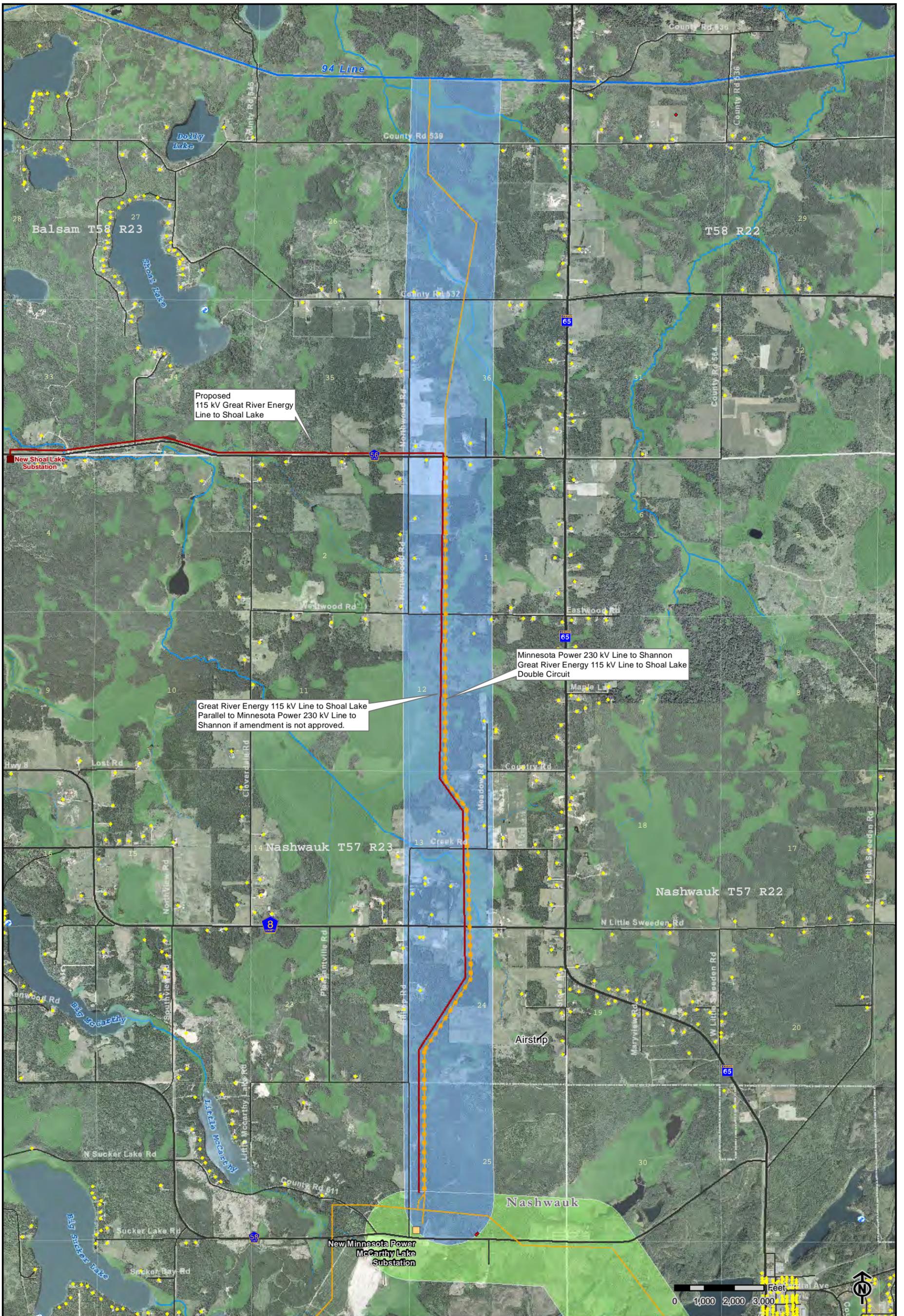
<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=24526>

The permit amendment request is scheduled to be heard at the Commission's September 28, 2011, Agenda Meeting. Interested persons wishing to file comments on this Petition shall have until **4:30 p.m. on September 15, 2011**. Please include the docket number (E280/TL-09-512) on your comments. Comments need to be mailed, faxed or emailed to Bill Storm (see below).

Bill Storm
Site Permit Manager
Department of Commerce
Energy Facility Permitting
85 7th Place E, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
651.296.9535
651.297.7891 (fax)
bill.storm@state.mn.us

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This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio) by calling 651-296-0406 (voice). Persons with hearing or speech disabilities may call us through Minnesota Relay at 1-800-627-3529 or by dialing 711.



Proposed
115 kV Great River Energy
Line to Shoal Lake

New Shoal Lake
Substation

Minnesota Power 230 kV Line to Shannon
Great River Energy 115 kV Line to Shoal Lake
Double Circuit

Great River Energy 115 kV Line to Shoal Lake
Parallel to Minnesota Power 230 kV Line to
Shannon if amendment is not approved.

New Minnesota Power
McCarthy Lake
Substation

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Route 1
Nashwauk 230 kV Route Application
Nashwauk Public Utilities Commission

