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January 11, 2008

**Invitation to Participate in**  
**ROUTING WORK GROUP MEETING 1**  
**FARGO TO MONTICELLO TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT**

**To:** Routing Work Group Meeting Invitee  
**From:** Darrin Lahr, Supervisor Siting and Permitting, Xcel Energy

**JANUARY 30, 2008**  
**11:00 AM – 1:00 PM**  
**HOLIDAY INN**  
**5637 HIGHWAY 29 SOUTH**  
**ALEXANDRIA, MN 56308**

***WHAT IS A ROUTING WORK GROUP MEETING?***

Routing Work Group meetings are a series of public meetings that allow for the participation of representatives of various stakeholder organizations such as landowners, elected officials, community leaders, agencies, environmental, and other interested parties in the routing process. Invitees to the Routing Work Group meetings are typically representative of their respective constituents, with regard to local perceptions, perspectives, or concerns.

This first meeting will focus on understanding and prioritizing the criteria that will be utilized for route development and selection for the Fargo to Monticello Project.

***WHAT IS THE FARGO TO MONTICELLO PROJECT?***

The Fargo to Monticello Project involves the development of a new 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line that will improve reliability in the region, position the system for future growth, and begin to build a foundation for transmitting renewable energy. The project is proposed to connect at substations in Fargo, Alexandria, St. Cloud, and Monticello. The project is proposed to be built in phases beginning in 2010 and completing in the 2015 timeframe. A Project Area map is included on the reverse of this invitation.

***WHAT IS CAPX 2020?***

CapX 2020 is a joint initiative of 11 transmission-owning utilities in Minnesota and the surrounding region working together to implement a strategic plan to expand the electric transmission grid to ensure continued affordable reliable service, increase local capacity in response to job and population growth, and meet renewable energy requirements. This is the first major upgrade to the regional transmission system in over 25 years.

We look forward to your input and appreciate your time. Please send no more than two representatives from your organization, including yourself, to the meeting. Lunch will be provided.

***Please RSVP by January 23rd by contacting Dawn Shultz or Teri Lavalier at 1-800-238-7968, or if you have any questions.***

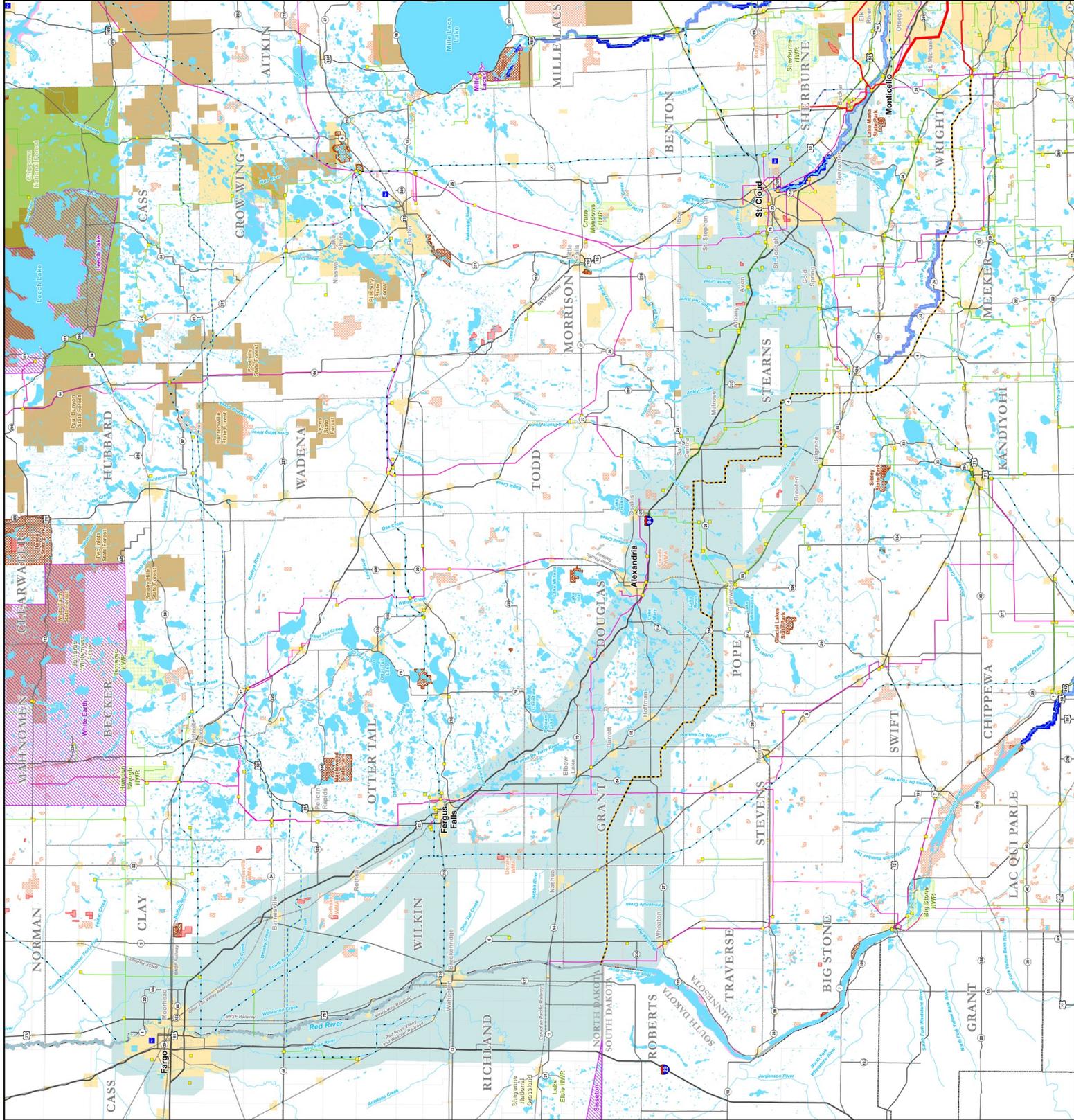


### Legend

- Airport**
- Substations**
- Power Lines**
  - Voltage (KV)
  - 400
  - 345
  - 250
  - 230
  - 115
  - 69
- Roads**
  - Interstate
  - US Highway
  - State Highway
  - County Road / Secondary Road
  - Railroad
  - River / Stream
  - Lake
- State Boundary**
- County Boundary**
- Project Corridor**
- Municipalities**
- Wild & Scenic Rivers**
- Recreational**
- Scenic**
- State Land**
  - State Park Trail
  - State Wildlife Management Area
  - State Scientific and Natural Area
  - State Park
  - State Forests
- U.S. Forest Service Land**
  - National Grassland
  - Wilderness Area
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Land**
  - National Wildlife Refuge
  - Wilderness Area
  - National Park Service
  - Department of Defense
  - Tribal Land



### BASE OVERVIEW MAP







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February 15, 2008

## Invitation to Participate in ROUTING WORK GROUP MEETING 2 FARGO TO MONTICELLO TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

**To:** Routing work group meeting invitee  
**From:** Darrin Lahr, Supervisor Siting and Permitting, Xcel Energy

<b>MARCH 4, 2008</b> <b>10:00 AM – 12:00 PM</b> <b>3333 13<sup>TH</sup> AVE SOUTH</b> <b>BEST WESTERN DOUBLEWOOD INN</b> <b>FARGO, ND 58103</b>	<b>MARCH 4, 2008</b> <b>4:00 PM – 6:00 PM</b> <b>WAHPETON EAGLES CLUB</b> <b>114 DAKOTA AVENUE</b> <b>WAHPETON, ND 58075</b>	<b>MARCH 5, 2008</b> <b>11:00 AM – 1:00 PM</b> <b>HOLIDAY INN</b> <b>5637 HIGHWAY 29 SOUTH</b> <b>ALEXANDRIA, MN 56308</b>	<b>MARCH 6, 2008</b> <b>11:00 AM – 1:00 PM</b> <b>EAGLE TRACE GOLFERS CLUB</b> <b>1100 NW MAIN STREET</b> <b>CLEARWATER, MN 55320</b>
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### **WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF ROUTING WORK GROUP 2?**

The first round of Routing Work Group meetings was held in late January and focused on identifying criteria that will be used in developing routing options for the CapX 2020 Fargo to Monticello Project. The second set of Routing Work Group meetings will focus on how the criteria have been analyzed and incorporated to refine the preliminary notice corridors. Invitees will also be engaged in an interactive routing exercise aimed at providing an understanding of how routes are generally identified and evaluated.

### **WHAT IS THE FARGO TO MONTICELLO PROJECT?**

The proposed CapX 2020 Fargo to Monticello Project involves the development of a new 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line that will improve reliability in the region, position the system for future growth and begin to build a foundation for transmitting renewable energy. The project is proposed to connect at substations in Fargo, Alexandria, St. Cloud, and Monticello. The project would be built in phases beginning in 2010 with completion around 2015. A project area map is included on the reverse of this invitation.

### **WHAT IS CAPX 2020?**

CapX 2020 is a joint initiative of 11 transmission-owning utilities in Minnesota and the surrounding region working together to implement a strategic plan to expand the electric transmission grid to ensure continued affordable reliable service, increase local capacity in response to job and population growth and to support renewable energy expansion. This is the first major upgrade to the regional transmission system in over 25 years.

We look forward to your input and appreciate your time. Please select one of the above locations to attend and send no more than two representatives from your organization. **Lunch/supper will be provided.**

**Please RSVP by February 27<sup>th</sup> by contacting Dawn Shultz or Teri Lavalier at 1-800-238-7968, or if you have any questions.**





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May 5, 2008

**Invitation to Participate in  
ROUTING WORK GROUP MEETING 3  
FARGO TO ST. CLOUD TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT  
AND  
MONTICELLO TO ST. CLOUD TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT**

**To:** Routing work group meeting invitee  
**From:** Darrin Lahr, Supervisor Siting and Permitting, Xcel Energy

**MAY 21, 2008  
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
EAGLE TRACE GOLFERS CLUB  
1100 NW MAIN STREET  
CLEARWATER, MN 55320**

**MAY 22, 2008  
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
HOLIDAY INN  
5637 HIGHWAY 29 SOUTH  
ALEXANDRIA, MN 56308**

**MAY 22, 2008  
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM  
WAHPETON EAGLES CLUB  
114 DAKOTA AVENUE  
WAHPETON, ND 58075**

***WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF ROUTING WORK GROUP 3?***

The CapX 2020 project team hosted a second round of Routing Work Group meetings in March to collect input from participants for the development of route options that will be included in the Minnesota route application. We also discussed dividing the project into two separate projects - Monticello to St. Cloud and Fargo to St. Cloud. This change will allow the project team to first meet the critical electrical needs in the St. Cloud area. These upcoming meetings provide the project team an opportunity to introduce its proposed route options for Fargo to St. Cloud and proposed route options for Monticello to St. Cloud and to discuss and collect feedback from participants. The CapX 2020 utilities are working toward filing Route Permit applications in Fall 2008. Participants are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to identify areas that require additional analysis in the development of final route options.

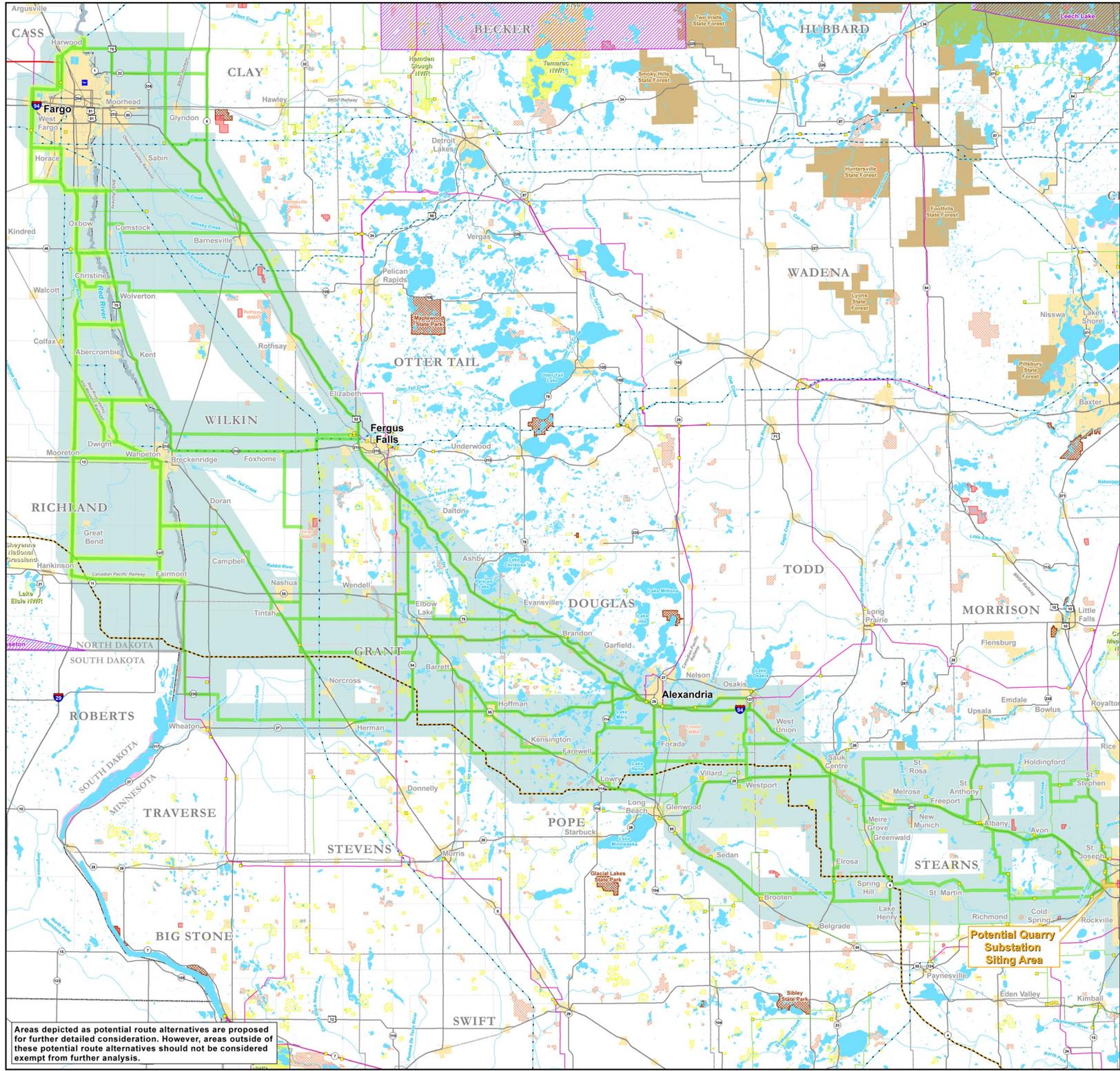
***WHAT IS CAPX 2020?***

CapX 2020 is a joint initiative of 11 transmission-owning utilities in Minnesota and the surrounding region working together to implement a strategic plan to expand the electric transmission grid to ensure continued affordable reliable service, increase local capacity in response to job and population growth, and to support renewable energy expansion. This is the first major upgrade to the regional transmission system in more than 25 years.

We look forward to receiving your input and appreciate your time. Please select one of the above locations to attend and send no more than two representatives from your organization.

**Lunch and dinner will be provided.**

**Please RSVP by May 14<sup>th</sup> by contacting Dawn Shultz or Teri Lavalier at 1-800-238-7968, or if you have any questions.**



Areas depicted as potential route alternatives are proposed for further detailed consideration. However, areas outside of these potential route alternatives should not be considered exempt from further analysis.

# CapX2020

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## Legend

- Airport
  - Substations
  - Potential Route Alternative (\*1,000 foot width)
  - North Dakota Corridor Compatibility Area (1 mile width)
  - & Potential Route Alternative (\*1,000 foot width)
- Power Lines**
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <span style="color: orange;">—</span> 400 | <span style="color: blue;">—</span> 230   |
| <span style="color: red;">—</span> 345    | <span style="color: purple;">—</span> 115 |
| <span style="color: cyan;">—</span> 250   | <span style="color: green;">—</span> 69   |
- Roads**
- Interstate
  - US Highway
  - State Highway
  - County Road / Secondary Road
  - Railroad
  - River / Stream
  - Lake
- Boundaries**
- State Boundary
  - County Boundary
  - Project Corridor
  - Municipalities
- Wild & Scenic Rivers**
- Recreational
  - Scenic
- State Land**
- State Wildlife Management Area
  - State Scientific and Natural Area
  - State Park
  - State Forests
- U.S. Forest Service Land**
- National Forest
  - National Grassland
  - Wilderness Area
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Land**
- National Wildlife Refuge
  - Wilderness Area
  - Waterfowl Production Area
- Other Federal Land**
- National Park Service
  - Department of Defense
  - Tribal Land

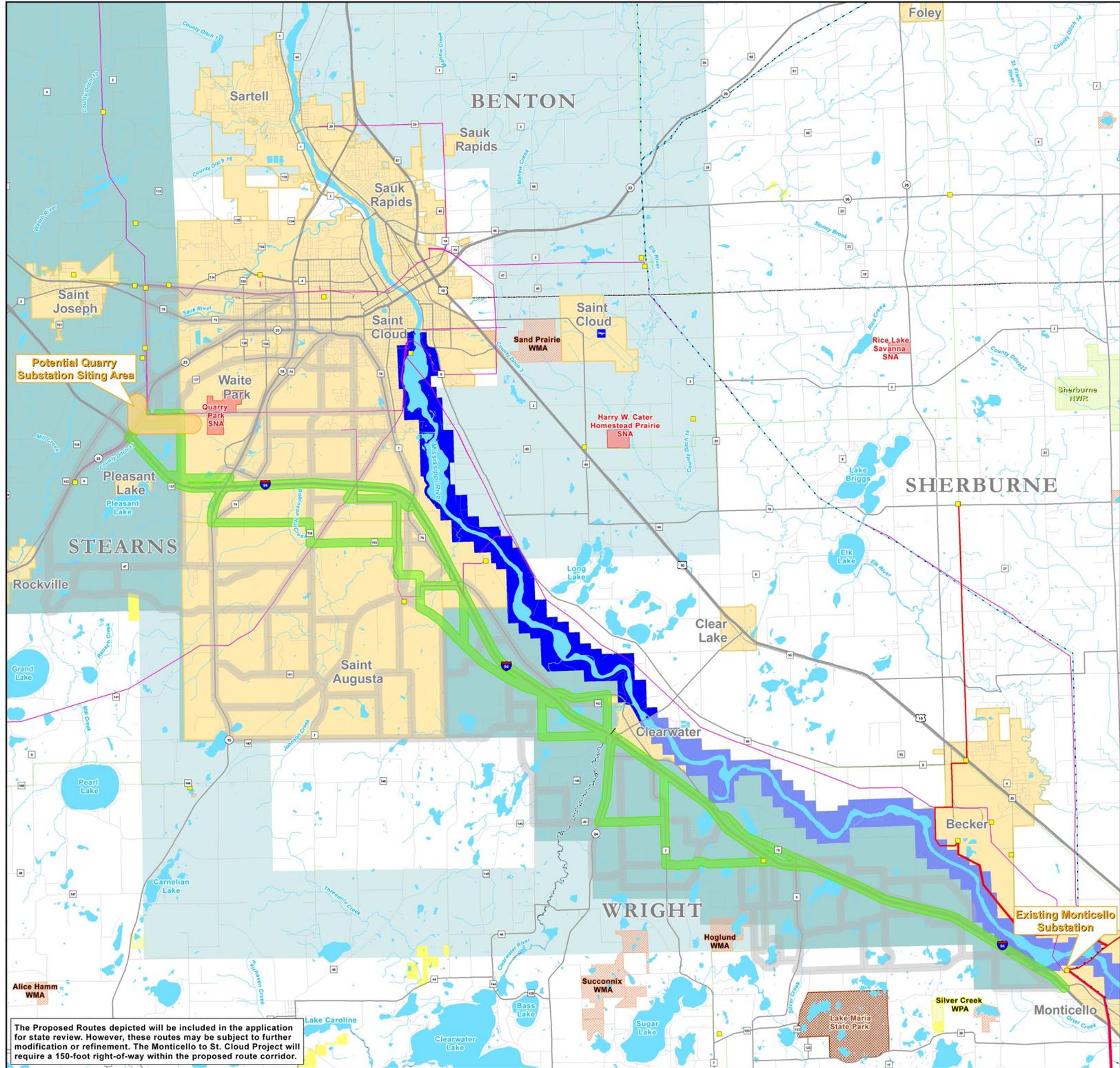


\* Potential route alternative corridors are 1000 feet in width, though the thickness of the line on the map is not intended to represent this 1000 feet.

## ST CLOUD TO FARGO POTENTIAL ROUTE ALTERNATIVES

Drawn By: M. Koch Date: 05/02/08 Sheet: 1 of 1





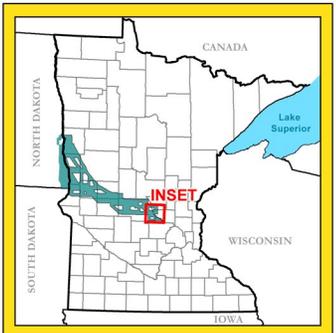
Potential Quarry Substation Siting Area

Existing Monticello Substation

The Proposed Routes depicted will be included in the application for state review. However, these routes may be subject to further modification or refinement. The Monticello to St. Cloud Project will require a 150-foot right-of-way within the proposed route corridor.

# CapX2020

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## Legend

- Substations
  - Airport
  - Proposed Routes (1,000 foot width)
  - All Opportunities Considered (1,000 foot width)
  - Potential Quarry Substation Siting Area
- Power Lines**  
Voltage (kV)
- 400
  - 345
  - 250
  - 230
  - 115
  - 69
- Roads**
- Interstate
  - US Highway
  - State Highway
  - County Road (Primary)
  - Urban or Rural Road (Secondary)
  - Railroad
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  - State Boundary
  - County Boundary
  - Notice Corridor
  - Municipalities
- Wild & Scenic River Districts**
- Recreational
  - Scenic
- State Land**
- State Wildlife Management Area
  - State Scientific and Natural Area
  - State Park
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Land**
- Waterfowl Production Area
  - Conservation Easement
  - National Wildlife Refuge



## MONTICELLO TO ST. CLOUD PROPOSED ROUTES

DRAFT - CONCEPTUAL OR WORKING DOCUMENT