

273-274

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project
PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056



Name: Gabe Jarrot
Address: 1020 N. Hamlet Dr.
City: Avon State: MA ZIP: 56310

Please share your comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), including any further information to be addressed in a Final EIS for the proposed Fargo to St. Cloud 345 Kilovolt High Voltage Transmission Line Project.

Turn this form in today or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to David Birkholz, Site Permit Manager at david.birkholz@state.mn.us with TL-09-1056 in the subject line. Faxed comments can be sent to 651.297.7891. Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, October 18, 2010.

The city of Avon, MN and route D is an alternate route for the Fargo to St. Cloud 345 KV Transmission Line Project. I would like to make a comment that the preferred route that has already been identified (north of Avon) is a much better alternative for economic, environmental, and emotional reasons.

The city of Avon is a tight cluster of homes and small businesses sandwiched between Upper and Middle Spunk Lake and split by I-94 Freeway. This passageway is extremely narrow and the right of ways required for the transmission line makes route D a very expensive alternative given the homes and businesses that would need to be displaced. Looking at going underground, from my understanding is extremely costly that the consumers of the power will ultimately be paying.

Environmentally, Route D through Avon would be impacting some of Minnesota's greatest natural resource . . . our lakes.

Recognizing that the power requirements are and will be needed in the future and that nobody wants the transmission lines going through or near their homes or businesses, the amount of disruption and displacement that would take place on route D through this concentrated area of residents and businesses of Avon seems extremely excessive considering there are other "real" alternatives. The emotional impact of the homeowners and business owners would be far greater than the preferred route north of Avon where there is more space, less disruption, less environmental impact, and clearly the preferred route.

Signature: [Signature] Date: 10/12/10

Docket No. E002, ET2, TL-09-1056

275-279

Julie Jarrot, Secretary
Stratford Association
1020 Hamlet Dr N
Avon, MN 56310

October 12, 2010

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

Re: TL-09-1056

Dear David:

The Stratford neighborhood is just along the I-94 Freeway in Avon, MN. This neighborhood is in the pathway of Route D on the Fargo to St. Cloud transmission line project map (TL-09-1056). The residents of the Association want to express our thoughts as to why this route should not be considered for the project. First, this area has two lakes just along each side with a connecting stream underneath the freeway. In Middle Spunk Lake, right in our neighborhood and along the freeway, there are nesting loons, ducks and geese each year. Many wild fowl spend time here as they migrate each spring and fall. We fear the power lines might disrupt this delicate eco-system and permanently damage this natural resource.

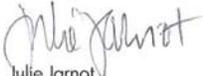
Next, there over ninety homes in this neighborhood, tightly nestled between the freeway and lake. Having these lines, whether overhead or underground, would perhaps result in the condemnation of a number of residences and destroy the atmosphere and living conditions of the entire neighborhood, upsetting hundreds of lives and causing severe damage to this circle drive that forms the pathway in and out of the neighborhood. There is a park in the center of the neighborhood that provides recreation to individuals, including the local youth baseball and other sports programs. There is also a beach area that provides for recreation throughout the summer. We also have a private boat landing is this homeowner's association. This is a close community and losing neighbors and recreation areas and the closeness we share is not acceptable.

Along with the concerns of the loss of community, the financial costs to the people of the neighborhood would be severe if the power lines go through this area and, indeed, the city of Avon as a whole. With the wide right of ways projected and rather small area of this neighborhood and the city of Avon, property values of all residences and commercial ventures would likely drop significantly, at a time when we've already seen downward pressure on property values because of the economy. This really seems an undue burden, not to just a few people, but literally to hundreds and hundreds of people and a large number of businesses.

Finally, there is a safety concern with having these power lines run right through a residential area where there are hundreds and hundreds of residents. We are told these lines are safe but we also know of many documented cases of stray voltage, of illnesses, of health issues for people and animals under and around such high voltage power lines. It does not seem logical to run these lines through a concentrated population area, because of the potential health dangers. It is just a bad and unnecessary risk. There are more appropriate, less expensive and less risky choices, by far.

We have raised our family in this wonderful unique community and now have been blessed with a grand daughter. I believe putting these lines in a rural setting is much more acceptable. As we drove towards Belgrade yesterday I was able to witness the towers and they were not disrupting any homes along the way. I cannot imagine what the displacement of family homes would do to our neighborhood in these already tough economic times.

Sincerely,



Julie Jarnot
Secretary
Stratford Association

Cc: Avon Mayor John Grutsch and Avon City Council

I also want to add that our homeowners association was just awarded a \$150,000 grant for rain gardens to help maintain our beautiful lake. We work so hard to keep our neighborhood wonderful and a power line along 194 would destroy our community. This really saddens me!

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

Name: Julie Jarnot
Address: 1020 Hamlet Drive N
City: Avon State: MN ZIP: 56310

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Signature: _____ Date: _____

280-286

September 16, 2010

Raymond Kirsch
O&S. Public Advisor

As a member of the (NORCA), the North Route Citizen's Alliance, I strongly oppose the North "Preferred & Alternate Route A," for the CAPX2020 Fargo to St. Cloud 345KV Transmission Line, based on the following principles.

1. Quality of Life

- A. Negative effects on ecology and environment, including natural areas and wildlife (ex. Shepards Lake, St. Wendel Swamp, which was given to the DNR from Stearns County. A rare swamp with unusual cold water bog and home to rare plants and numerous lady slippers.) And other ecologically sensitive wetlands and areas.
- B. Aesthetics, 175ft poles in a tranquil and rural settings.
- C. Traversing of agricultural property affecting livelihoods and jepardizing the heritage, preservation and integrity of family farms, including numerous "Century" and generational farms.

2. Significant Health Risks Associated with Electromagnetic Fields

- A. Electromagnetic Fields may contribute to Childhood and Adult Leukemia, Adult Brain Cancer, Lou Gehrig's Disease, Miscarriages and worsening of immune - related diseases.

3. Minnesota Policy on Non-Proliferation

- A. Minnesota Statute 216E.03 requires first consideration of potential routes that would use or parallel existing railroad and highway Rights of Way... such as the I94 corridor. 42% of the North Routes Approximately 39 miles creates new Rights of Way via private parcel lines, a clear departure from Minnesota's policy on Non-proliferation. Between Freeport and St. Cloud the proposed routes deviates dramatically and cut across rural and agricultural land.

4. Freeway Corridor verses Pristine Corridor

- A. The area near Avon, which the Avon Hills Initiative and St. Johns Abbey and University have opposed, was the original preferred route and follows Minnesota Statute 216E.03, this should be the route used. The line in that area could be buried under the lakes with no emissions of E.M.Fs and rest stops on both sides of the freeway could be eliminated due to many 24/7 convenience stores in close proximity.
- B. Spoiling Pristine, Rural, agricultural century farms and ecologically sensitive wetlands just doesn't make sense.



5. Negative Effects on Property and Land Values

- A. The I94 Corridor is already a spoiled view with the freeway itself, numerous billboards, traffic, turkey barns, and etc.

6. Minnesota Statues

- A. "Right to Farm" ordinances Stearns County's agriculture development and land use ordinances are some of the most restrictive in the state of Minnesota. Stearns County has expressed the importance of open space and farmland preservation through their comprehensive planning initiatives.

I think it would be totally irresponsible to not follow the I94 Corridor from Freeport to St. Cloud. Marring up the pristine areas of wetlands, agricultural land, rural homes and farmhouses, many of which are century farms. We chose to live in this area because of these reasons and don't want it spoiled by a high voltage transmission line that seems more appropriately placed, on the I94 Corridor, where according to Minnesota Statute 216E.03 requires first consideration and would have less of an impact on that area.

*Please help in the fight to keep the power
line on the I-94 Corridor from Fargo to St. Cloud
Thank You*

Sincerely,

Donna Johannes
13451 Co. Rd. 131
Holdingford, MN

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project
PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

Name: Edward S Kantor
Address: 40949 - City Rd 3
City: Haldensgard State: Mn ZIP: 56340

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10/5/2010
Greetings
I attended the recent meeting in Sh Joe and among the remarks made I expressed that I-94 currently would not work as it would cross the Aron Rest Stop (Mn). My question: why are we more concerned about a Rest Stop when no persons live there? A few trucks park there for limited time; but do not stay as would people & families who live in homes. I have seen high voltage numerous lines on above reg power lines in other locations (counties) the spacing right of way already does not more readily than need cropland or swamps. And we experienced power outage this Aug. due to storms which downed trees & lines that had to be strung. Please think?? You have better state than I do and this has been under plans w/ the state people for some time. I am still opposed to it going thru my property and it should be buried where feasible. Thank you
Sincerely,

Signature: Ed Kantor Date: 10/5/2010

Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project
PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056



Name: ART KEAFELD
Address: 30255 CO RD 17
City: MELROSE State: MN ZIP: 56252

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PLEASE CONSIDER KEEPING THE POWER LINE A LOW
THE I-94 HIGHWAY.
WE ARE IN THE RIGHT OF WAY & MILK 165 DAIRY
COWS - ALSO HAVE 14 RESIDENCES & FARMS WITHIN THE
3 MILE SECTION WHICH STARTS ALONG HWY 13 & CO RD 17
5 MILES N OF MELROSE & RUNS 3 MILES EAST THEN SOUTH
IN THIS 3 MILE SECTION YOU WOULD HAVE TO CROSS
CO RD 17 7 OR 8 TIMES TO AVOID THE 14 BUILDING
SITES MENTIONED ABOVE.

ALSO! SOME OF THE PEOPLE THAT SPOKE AT THE LAST
MEETINGS ARE MORE CONCERNED FOR THE WILD LIFE -
THE WILD LIFE WILL ADAPT MUCH EASIER THAN WILL
THE DAIRY COWS ~~WILL~~.

PLEASE KEEP A LOW I-94 CORRIDOR!

Signature: Arthur Keafeld Date: 10-11-10

Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

290-297

Tim Kerfeld

From: "Tim Kerfeld" <tkerfeld@albanytel.com>
To: "TIM & CARRIE KERFELD" <tkerfeld@albanytel.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 6:53 PM
Subject: Fw: capx2020

Oct 14, 2010

Hello,

Reasons to stay off of County Rd 17 Melrose MN:

*TC Kerfeld
30257 Co Rd 17
Melrose, MN 56352*

1. Cost of "going out of the way"
2. State Forest right off of Co Rd 17, camping & trails
3. Lake Silvia & recreational picnic area
4. Rolling hills, more poles needed, more cost
5. Birch Lake -Vacationers of the fresh lake water (not common)
6. Bald Eagles
7. Growing Farm community – with adding future animals and buildings
8. Residents on this stretch, many farmers and non-farmers, on both sides of the road, lots of weaving across 17, more then on I-94 stretch.
9. Snowmobile trail right along Co Rd 17
10. Drinking Water from our wells, preserved for our family and farm animals
11. Trees – shelter for our cows on pasture
12. Beauty of our land, quietness it has .
13. Living conditions, We the farm families our cows, cats, dogs, are here from birth till death 24-7
14. Stray Voltage – Farming is our income, a MN commodity, if farmers suffer our local towns & state suffers.
15. Property Value, we need to be appreciated now and future generations. All generations should get paid.
16. Airplanes spraying our fields, impossible with a high line.
17. Telephone tower
18. Crop loss, inconvenience of field work

Reasons to Stay on I-94

1. Easy access
2. MN DOT does not own the interstate
3. It already exist
4. Underground wiring through cities/towns is less taxing for everyone around
5. Extremely expensive to take line off of I-94
6. Existing noise on I-94 that would drown out Capx2020 power line
7. Temporary living conditions for people who live in towns. They move every few years and usually leave homes during the day to go to work.
8. Business, won't affect as many – farming is a business too.

Thank You,

TC Kerfeld
Jessica Kerfeld
Nathan Kerfeld
Melissa Kerfeld
Riley
 10/14/2010
ISAG

Oct 14th, 2010

Hello,

I would like to see a few things written in the EIS:

1. All generations need to get paid for power line on their property. Its important to include people now and in the future in this project and thank them with money for having the pole or line on their land. Any % of the profits of capx2020 be asking to much?

- A Given that we and the future generations to come for loss of safety.
- B Risk of our health
- C Loss of personal income from land value going down
- D Limiting our ableness to expand in a growing community of farming.
- E Future crop loss, with maintenance work done on power line

2. We also need to be sure all homes and buildings are a safe distance away from all power lines. If the pole is 100-300 feet up in the air then it needs to be at least that away from any building structure.

3. Removal of top soil 1st then replaced back after pole is in place.

4. Keep it considered as Ag land for tax purposes.

Thank You,

TC Kerfeld
Tarrie Kerfeld
Riley
ISAG

*TC Kerfeld
30257 Co Rd 17
Melrose, MN 56352*

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project
PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

Name: Myrene Lindeman
Address: 911 Hamlet Dr N
City: Avon State: Mn ZIP: 56310

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With a freeway going between two lakes and all the truck noise much of it trucks from Canada we don't need more noise. (It is my understanding there is noise connected with this line. It does not seem cost effective either to put it underground in this area.

Signature: Myrene Lindeman Date: 10-4-10

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project
PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

Name: Jeff Manthe
Address: 953 Hamlet Dr. N
City: Avon State: MN ZIP: 56310

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I want to state my opposition to any plan that might include running the transmission lines along I 94 through Avon, MN. This would run the lines through both heavy residential and commercial properties and through and around a few lakes and Spunk Creek. Specifically, my opposition is to considering Route D. The impact on families and businesses would be severe and the disruption to the ecosystem would also be significant. There are nesting loons, geese and ducks in these areas and many migrating species each spring & fall. Homes and businesses might be condemned and the balance of this community destroyed. I recommend the routes on the map marked preferred on alternate route. Smart people have deemed these most appropriate for good reasons.

Signature: Jeffrey D Manthe Date: 10-12-2010

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

**Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project
PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056**

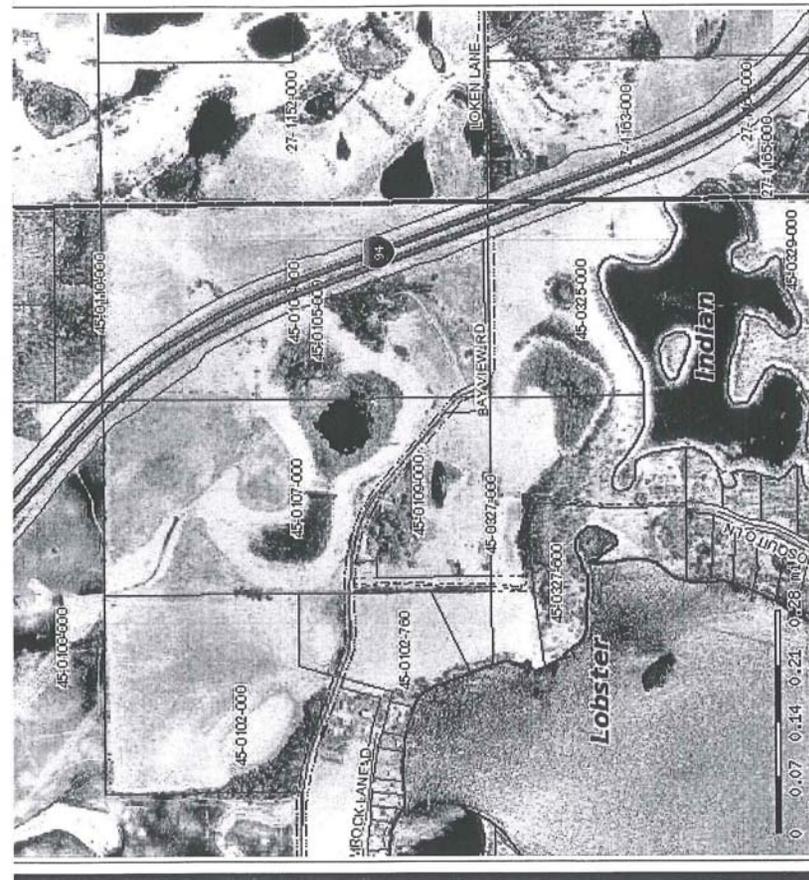
Name: Keith Meloy - Susan Foshien
 Address: 9680 Bayview Rd. N.W.
 City: Garfield State: MN ZIP: 56332

Please share your comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), including any further information to be addressed in a Final EIS for the proposed Fargo to St. Cloud 345 Kilovolt High Voltage Transmission Line Project.

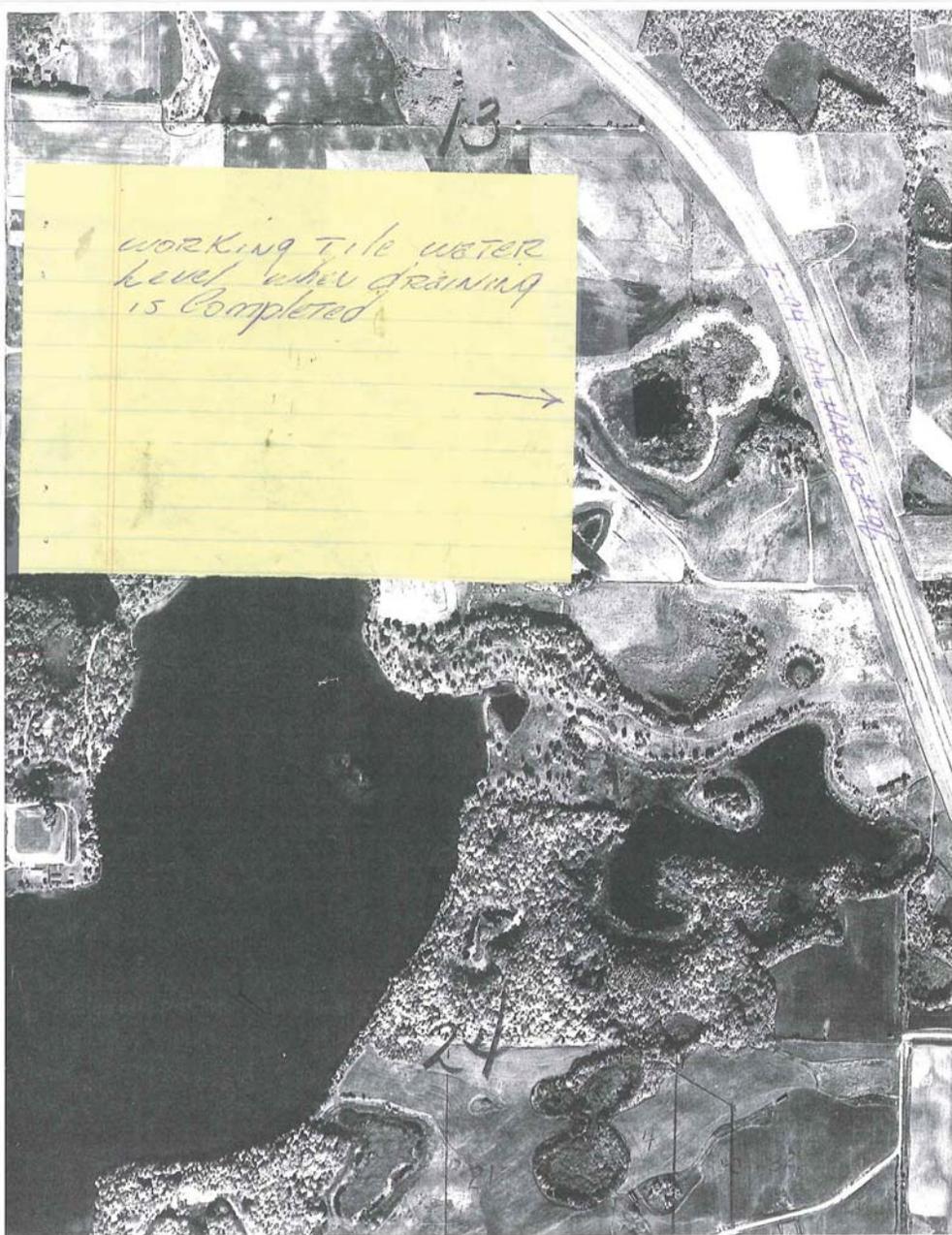
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I see no reason to leave the I-94 Corridor and drop south to Sec. 24 in Moe Twp. Just to move east 1100ft on the route. The Homestead to go around is no longer occupied the owner died and the present owner is going to remove all buildings (Jerrin Foshien) the present owner is not in your Appendix K of Landowners Associated with Route - Page 12 He had no idea what's been going on with your plan to drop south and take out the Grove of trees next to his house which protects our drive-way from winter snow storms. (Pictures submitted at Fergus Falls Meeting) 9/27/10 Also passing thru a planned Public Park and 103 Planned Homes. Plans included of development at Alexandria meeting 9/28/10 I looked at your E.I.S. Book and nothing has changed from the original Lay out (Nothing)! ARE these meetings just a feel good chat making us feel we really can help the next generation inherit a wise thought plan and not crap-up the Country side, with lines running on undeveloped beautiful land (crap-up the which they could build on) Free Way

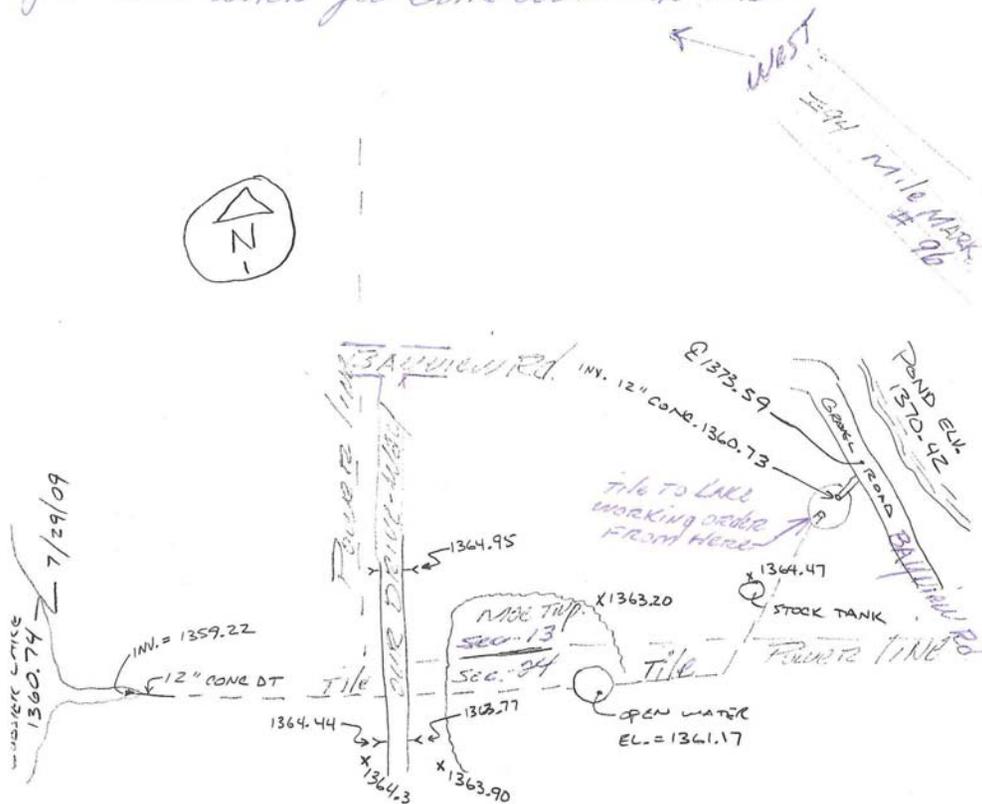
Signature: Keith Meloy Date: 9-28-10

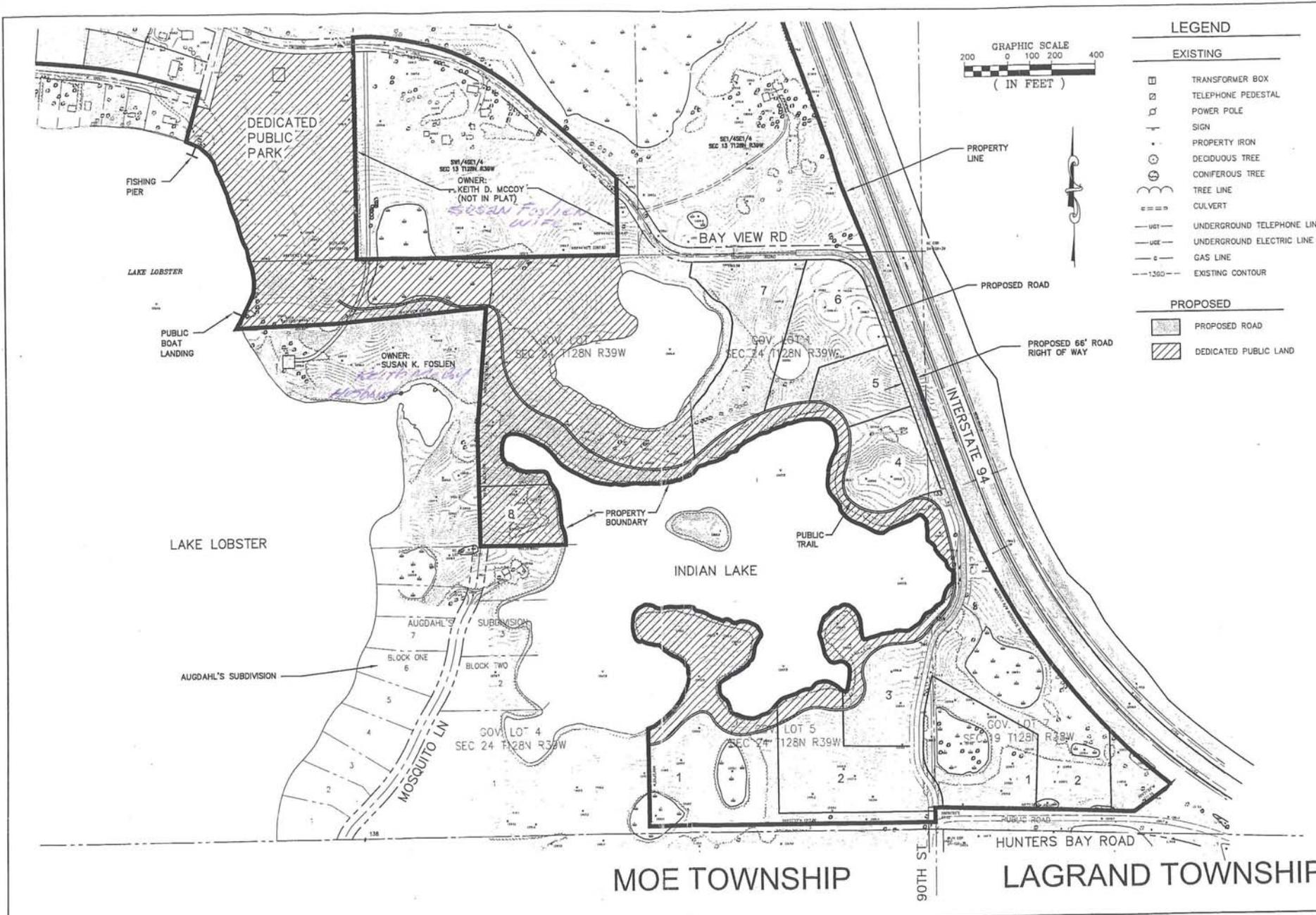


Disclaimer: Douglas County does not warrant or guarantee the accuracy of the data. The data is meant for reference purposes only and should not be used for critical decisions. If you have questions regarding the data presented in this map, please contact the Douglas County GIS Department. Map created on Jan 20, 2010 1:25. This information is to be used for reference purposes only. Copyright © 2006 Douglas County GIS. All Rights Reserved.



if by tile or open ditch this water shed to the lake has to remain open. what provisions will you make when you build over the tile?





LEGEND

EXISTING

- ☐ TRANSFORMER BOX
- ⊠ TELEPHONE PEDESTAL
- ⊡ POWER POLE
- ⊟ SIGN
- ⊘ PROPERTY IRON
- ⊙ DECIDUOUS TREE
- ⊚ CONIFEROUS TREE
- ⌒ TREE LINE
- ≡≡≡ CULVERT
- UT— UNDERGROUND TELEPHONE LINE
- UE— UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC LINE
- G— GAS LINE
- 1260- EXISTING CONTOUR

PROPOSED

- ▨ PROPOSED ROAD
- ▩ DEDICATED PUBLIC LAND

DATE		REVISIONS							
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN, SPECIFICATION, OR REPORT WAS PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY CLOSE PERSONAL SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A FULLY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.									
DATE	LIC. NO.	XXXXX							
PRELIMINARY LAYOUT LOBSTER LAKE DEVELOPMENT ZAVADIL DEVELOPMENT DOUGLAS COUNTY, MN									
DRAWN	DATE	SCALE	PROJECT	SHEET					
7-3007	7-3007	SCALE AS SHOWN	LOBSTER LAKE DEVELOPMENT	2					
GRADE - S.DWG									
SHEET									
2 OF 2									

Pipe Line

125 Building Sites

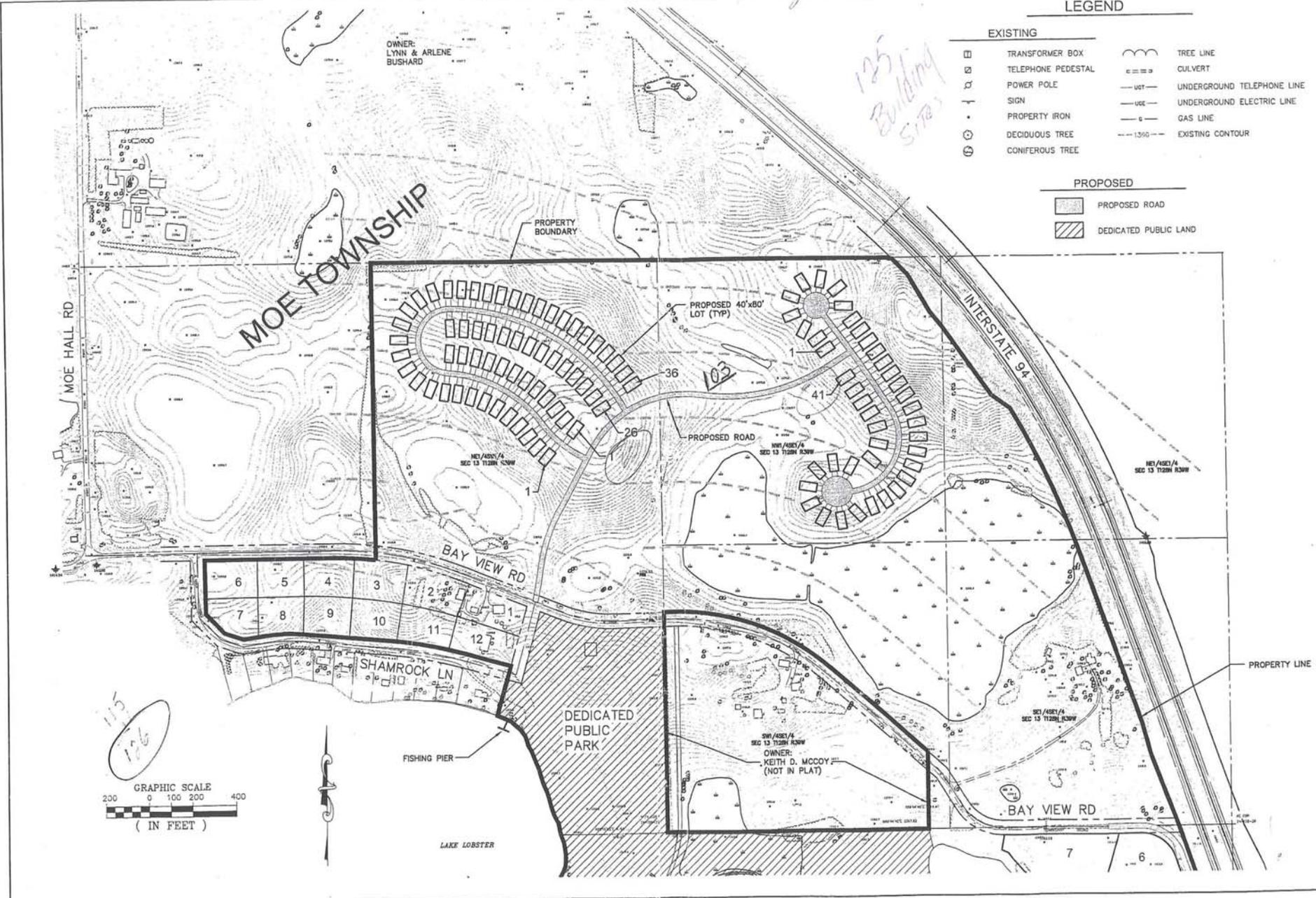
LEGEND

EXISTING

- ☐ TRANSFORMER BOX
- ⊠ TELEPHONE PEDESTAL
- ⊕ POWER POLE
- ⊙ SIGN
- ⊙ PROPERTY IRON
- ⊙ DECIDUOUS TREE
- ⊙ CONIFEROUS TREE
- TREE LINE
- CULVERT
- U&T --- UNDERGROUND TELEPHONE LINE
- U&E --- UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC LINE
- G --- GAS LINE
- 1:50 --- EXISTING CONTOUR

PROPOSED

- ▨ PROPOSED ROAD
- ▨ DEDICATED PUBLIC LAND



OWNER:
LYNN & ARLENE
BUSHARD

PROPERTY BOUNDARY

PROPOSED 40'x80'
LOT (TYP)

PROPOSED ROAD

INTERSTATE 94

BAY VIEW RD

SHAMROCK LN

DEDICATED PUBLIC PARK

OWNER:
KEITH D. MCCOY
(NOT IN PLAT)

BAY VIEW RD

115
126

GRAPHIC SCALE
0 100 200 400
(IN FEET)



LAKE LOBSTER

DATE	
REVISED	
BY	

LANDTEAM
INCORPORATED
CONSULTING ENGINEERING AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
309 23RD AVENUE EAST • ALEXANDRIA, MINNESOTA 56308
PHONE: (763) 792-2766 • FAX: (763) 792-2766

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE PLAN, SPECIFICATION, OR REPORT PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY CLOSE PERSONAL SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.
DATE: _____ LIC. NO. _____

PRELIMINARY LAYOUT
LOBSTER LAKE DEVELOPMENT
ZAVADIL DEVELOPMENT

DATE: 7-20-2007
SCALE: AS SHOWN
PROJECT: GLOSDON
GRADE-N.D.W
SHEET
1 OF 2



without GROVE SNOW
CAN Blow in FROM the N.W
open Fields For Miles to N.W



MAIL BOX ON BAYVIEW RD
LINE COULD FOLLOW BAYVIEW RD
EAST AND NOT REMOVE GROVE (WIND)
SNOW



Looking NORTH TO BAYVIEW RD,
without Grove on west side,
of DRIVE I could not keep DRIVE
open



South end of Grove at sec 24
where line turns east on sec 13 & 24



305-306

Mr. Birkholz

My husband and I have lived on our 10 acre hobby farm on County Road 3 since 1974. It originally belonged to my husband's great grandfather. Then to his grandparents and we hope to give it to our son, which would be 5 generations. I feel that we must protect this piece of land for future generations.

I think that the power line would have a negative impact on the environment. The area around County Road 3 has wetlands, wildlife and rich farmland. The aerial spraying would kill not only vegetation, but wildlife and farm animals and possibly affect our health. Also, the power line itself would have a negative affect on our environment. I believe that the line is not Minnesota Environmentally safe. Remember, this is were we live.

Why can't we compromise? Why can't the line follow I-94? In the areas, such as wayside rests and lakes or other key areas that follow I-94, possibly go around ? or underground ? I think, financially, it would be better to go underground or short bypasses rather than go miles and miles from I-94.

Please don't destroy our scenic byways, farmlands, and wildlife!

Sincerely,

Christy Morgel

37313 County Road 3

Avon, MN 56310

*without GROVE BANK
could be over TRUCK Cab
as shown by open Door
on TRUCK setting on Road*

RECEIVED

OCT 15 2010

MN Dept of Commerce
Mailroom

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project
PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

Name: Terrence Mergel
Address: 37313 County Rd. 3
City: Avon State: MN ZIP: 56310

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Seems like the people who are fighting to keep the power line away from I-94 have profited the most from I-94. All the cities and towns along the I-94 corridor have made thousands or millions of dollars from revenue generated by the Interstate over the years.

Take Albany for instance, chances are there wouldn't be a golf course or industrial park if it wasn't for I-94. Even the farmers whose land borders the Interstate, for most of them, it's a few minutes drive to the Interstate. Isn't it logical, from the point of building and maintaining the power line to keep it along I-94 instead of criss crossing the country?

Signature: Terrence Mergel Date: 10-13-2010

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project
PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

Name: DAVID MORREIM (320) 251-8773
Address: 7001 ROLLING RIDGE ROAD
City: ST. CLOUD State: MN ZIP: 56303

Please share your comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), including any further information to be addressed in a Final EIS for the proposed Fargo to St. Cloud 345 Kilovolt High Voltage Transmission Line Project.

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I OWN 150 ACRES IN SECT. ST. JOSEPH TOWNSHIP. THE GREEN ROUTE WOULD RUN THROUGH THE EAST PART OF MY FARM. INSTALLATION OF THE LINE WOULD HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON EXISTING AGRICULTURAL USE AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT FOR RESIDENTIAL USE. EAST OF 73RD AVENUE IN THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD IS THE ROLLING RIDGE ESTATES DEVELOPMENT OF SINGLE FAMILY HOMES. MOST RESIDENTS OF THIS DEVELOPMENT ARE UNAWARE OF THE PROJECT, BUT THOSE RESIDENTS I HAVE TALKED TO SAY THEY ARE AGAINST IT. WILL THE RESIDENTS OF ROLLING RIDGE ESTATES ST. CLOUD, BE NOTIFIED OF THIS GREEN ROUTE?

Signature: David Morreim Date: 9/30/10

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project
PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

Name: Michael J. Now
Address: 20933 330th St.
City: Acuba, MN State: MN ZIP: 56307

Please share your comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), including any further information to be addressed in a Final EIS for the proposed Fargo to St. Cloud 345 Kilovolt High Voltage Transmission Line Project.

Turn this form in today or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to David Birkholz, Site Permit Manager at david.birkholz@state.mn.us with TL-09-1056 in the subject line. Faxed comments can be sent to 651.297.7891. Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, October 18, 2010.

PRIVATE AIRSTRIP PERMANENTLY TO RT. E. 60' - 240'
MAP SHEET 77 N OF FIFTH LAKES 1000' E OF
SAND LAKES RD - APPROX SWD OF RUNWAY.

PERMANENTLY IN TO FRA

Signature: Michael J. Now Date: 27th SEP 2010

Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project
PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

Name: Gerry and Kathy Nordos
Address: 9130 Oriole Lane SW
City: Alexandria State: Mn. ZIP: 56308

Please share your comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), including any further information to be addressed in a Final EIS for the proposed Fargo to St. Cloud 345 Kilovolt High Voltage Transmission Line Project.

Turn this form in today or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to David Birkholz, Site Permit Manager at david.birkholz@state.mn.us with TL-09-1056 in the subject line. Faxed comments can be sent to 651.297.7891. Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, October 18, 2010.

We strongly support the preferred (green on map) route along I 94 for the Transmission Line project in the Alexandria Area !!

We disapprove of the alternate route that would run along City Rd 21 and City Rd 4 between Lake Mary and Lake Andrew !!

Signature: Gerry & Kathy Nordos Date: 9-28-10

Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

311-313

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project
PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

Name: MICHAEL FERCUOCO
Address: 14315 Co Rd 159
City: Avon State: MN ZIP: 56310

Please share your comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), including any further information to be addressed in a Final EIS for the proposed Fargo to St. Cloud 345 Kilovolt High Voltage Transmission Line Project.

Turn this form in today or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to David Birkholz, Site Permit Manager at david.birkholz@state.mn.us with TL-09-1056 in the subject line. Faxed comments can be sent to 651.297.7891. Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, October 18, 2010.

The area along Interstate 94 has many environmentally sensitive sections, especially wetland and lakes from east of St. John's to Avon. There is not enough land area from the Interstate to the frontage roads or the lakes along this route. There is a natural prairie area near the St. John's Exits that needs to be circumvented as well.

Do there really a need for this line. We live in this area because of the quality of life and the pristine environment. ~~Is~~ Is this quality of life worth jeopardizing for a power line??

Signature: Michael Feruoco Date: 9/29/10

Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

314-317

October 13, 2010

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



RE: CN-06-1115

Mr. Birkholz:

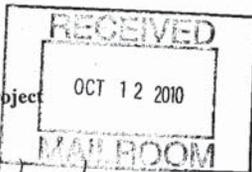
I was recently in attendance of a local Draft EIS public meeting on the evening of September 30th, pertaining to the proposed Fargo-St. Cloud Project. I live near the "Applicant Preferred Route" and wish to take this opportunity to express my concerns about the proposed power line route. I heard many compelling arguments against the proposal, with relatively few, if any, arguments in favor of the proposed route(s). I currently operate a beef enterprise with land which would abut part of the proposed "preferred route." My concerns with the entire project range from whether or not there actually exists a need (per testimony from an energy audit professional), to the long-term effects of such an adversely-affecting undertaking. I have many friends, family and acquaintances who would be directly impacted by the "preferred route" near St. Wendel and St. Joseph, and Avon. There are countless century farms which would likely be defaced and mutilated by forcing the large, unsightly structures on the sacred soil founded by settlers. My biggest concern, beyond the unsightly view, is actually the detriments of defoliation on and near critical habitat. My goal is to someday operate an organic beef ranch. I appreciate the delicate nature of biodiversity of nature. The construction and maintenance on and near our sacred land would be a travesty to say the least. I am abhorred to even think that the already-existing route of the I-94 corridor is being vacated for a route which would have devastating effects for years to come. Additionally, I have heard from many of the landowners who would be directly impacted by the power line, and they have stated that they would likely request that the State purchase their property (even at a loss) and vacate the area. Such action would prove to be a prohibitive burden to the taxpayers of Minnesota. I have rendered my support (financial and moral) to the agencies involved in fighting the unfavorable routes. It is my request that in your prudence, you do everything in your power to assure a decision is rendered fairly and with the utmost consideration to our environment.

Sincerely,

John Ruprecht
16629 County Road 52
Avon, MN 56310
(320)-260-5755

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project
PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056



Name: ARIAN E. and Viola (Eikmeier) Schlagel
Address: 18983 Eaglewood Road
City: Clearwater State: MN ZIP: 55320

Please share your comments on the potential impacts, mitigation measures and alternative routes to be considered in the scoping document and environmental impact statement to be prepared for the proposed Fargo to St. Cloud 345 Kilovolt High Voltage Transmission Line Project.

Since the substation for the Fargo-St. Cloud transmission line has been decided and is now close to Co. Rd. 138, it seems logical to continue either along Co. Rd. 138 or cross the road and angle towards and along the Sauk River behind the Schleper farm bldgs. and on toward the I-94 Corridor keeping it in open areas with no homes involved.

It was mentioned that you are still considering backtracking about 2 miles along the railroad right of way towards I-94. This second route would involve close proximity to 8 homes in this 2 mile stretch including the Ken and Linda Eikmeier property which was already split up in 1976 when I-94 went through. At that time they lost many beautiful Oak trees and this would take many more. They act as a buffer for some of the freeway noise. It would also involve cutting through the Eikmeier family farm of which I am co-owner. This makes no sense to me or my family.

I am asking that you would consider your first choice following the St. Cloud By-Pass transmission corridor along Co. Rd. 134 which has already been cleared near St. Stephen and St. Wendel where literally no homes would be involved through marsh areas despite the pressure of allegedly "heavy" opposition by land developers and the politics involved.

Signed: Viola E. Schlagel
Signed: Arian E. Schlagel

Date: 10/8/2010

Date: 10/9/2010

Preferred Route - Segment Proliferation Analysis

Township	Miles		
	Prolif	Non-Prolif	Total
Brockway	4.75	0.5	5.25
Avon	5	3.25	8.25
Albany	1	0	1
Total	10.75	3.75	14.5

Township	Percentage		
	Prolif	Non-Prolif	Total
Brockway	90.5%	9.5%	100.0%
Avon	60.6%	39.4%	100.0%
Albany	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Total	74.1%	25.9%	100.0%

Name: Lisa Schwalbe
Address: 16825 363rd St
City: Avon State: MN ZIP: 56310

Please share your comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), including any further information to be addressed in a Final EIS for the proposed Fargo to St. Cloud 345 Kilovolt High Voltage Transmission Line Project.

Turn this form in today or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to David Birkholz, Site Permit Manager at david.birkholz@state.mn.us with TL-09-1056 in the subject line. Faxed comments can be sent to 651.297.7891. **Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, October 18, 2010.**

My family feels strongly that preferred route breaks to many new grounds. Brockway township has 4.75 miles of proliferation and only .5 miles of non-proliferation. Avon township has 5 miles of proliferation and 3.25% nonproliferation. Albany has 1 mile of proliferation and 0 miles of nonproliferation. That's a total of 74% proliferation! How can this be following the rules & regulations? I would also hate to see the prime farmland wasted as farmers are forced to quit there jobs. Beautiful Pelican Lake will be in harms way, destroying more nature. Please make the right choice and study all other options including South of 94.

Signature: Lisa Schwalbe Date: 10-12-10



PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project
PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

Name: PATRICIA E. SPANIER
Address: 735 WINDSOR WAY
City: AVON State: MN ZIP: 56310

Please share your comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), including any further information to be addressed in a Final EIS for the proposed Fargo to St. Cloud 345 Kilovolt High Voltage Transmission Line Project.

Turn this form in today or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to David Birkholz, Site Permit Manager at david.birkholz@state.mn.us with **TL-09-1056** in the subject line. Faxed comments can be sent to 651.297.7891. **Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, October 18, 2010.**

I am a concerned homeowner and do not want a power line in our area. There are many children & adults that will be affected.

Signature: Pat Spanier Date: 10-15-10

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project
PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

Name: MARVIN OR JUDY THIELEN
Address: 31856 RIVERVIEW RD
City: MELROSE State: MN ZIP: 56352

Please share your comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), including any further information to be addressed in a Final EIS for the proposed Fargo to St. Cloud 345 Kilovolt High Voltage Transmission Line Project.

Turn this form in today or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to David Birkholz, Site Permit Manager at david.birkholz@state.mn.us with **TL-09-1056** in the subject line. Faxed comments can be sent to 651.297.7891. **Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, October 18, 2010.**

SEE ATTACHED

Signature: Marvin Thiel Date: 10/14/10

We have several concerns as outlined below:

1. We feel that Alternate Route A would be a much more feasible route. That route is a much less populated area than the I-94 corridor Preferred Route. The people living/farming/business owners along the I-94 corridor already have to "put up" with the freeway and the setbacks from the freeway as far as the right ways and restrictions. Basically the freeway is like the Berlin Wall. It cannot be crossed. Our land is split by the freeway, and we have to travel 12 miles round trip to get to our land on the north side. Everybody benefits from the freeway but us. Where does a person get just compensation? And now the power line... Where does it all end?
2. An option to look at would be: Go south of the freeway on MN 237 at the New Munich exit. Go to Section 1, south line and the north line of section 11. Then head west along those two section lines until you hit section lines 2 and 11 and head west. You will come out right on Cty Rd 173 and Riverview Rd right where you want the line to come out. This would take you away from most of the Melrose Wellhead Protection Area, you would just be in a small section of it, in the south corner and you would clear Melrose without a problem.
3. At the Environmental meeting in Melrose, we were questioning setback rules regarding spreading manure/fertilizer around the poles. The poles are 30 to 50 feet deep, which would be in the ground water, as the water table is so high in our area. Do the poles act like a well casing? We have 150 feet setbacks from wells. Would we also have setbacks from these poles? If so, we do not feel that these poles should be placed out in our fields.
4. If we have to deal with this power line for the rest of our lives on this farm and also our future generations have to deal with it and put up with the "eye sores," we feel that the "one-time payment" does not do justice. There should be yearly compensation as the power line benefits everybody **at our expense and losses.**

Marvin Thielen

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

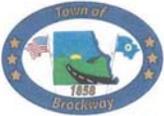
Name: Steven F Thompson
Address: 13619 100th St S
City: Barnesville State: Minn ZIP: 56514

Please share your comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), including any further information to be addressed in a Final EIS for the proposed Fargo to St. Cloud 345 Kilovolt High Voltage Transmission Line Project.

Turn this form in today or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to David Birkholz, Site Permit Manager at david.birkholz@state.mn.us with TL-09-1056 in the subject line. Faxed comments can be sent to 651.297.7891. **Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, October 18, 2010.**

↑
If the 140th Ave South route is used
it would be best to bury the power lines
about 1 mile each side of Lesmeister's
Air Strip or use the south route by
Breckenridge.

Signature: Steven F Thompson Date: 9-27-2010

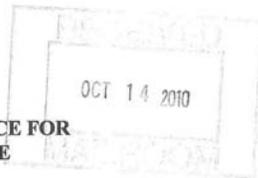


327-328

**TOWN OF BROCKWAY
STEARNS COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**RESOLUTION EXPRESSING A PREFERENCE FOR
THE CAPX 2020 POWER LINE ROUTE**

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-10.05.10



WHEREAS, the power companies of Xcel Energy and Great River Energy have petitioned for a route permit for the construction of a new high-voltage power line ("Transmission Line") that will be located in part through Brockway Township; and

WHEREAS, the petition has been referred to the Minnesota Office of Administrative Hearings ("OAH") as OAH Docket Number 15-2500-20995-2 for factual findings and a recommendation to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission ("PUC") as to the location of the Transmission Line; and

WHEREAS, the consortium of power companies have filed a Minnesota Route Permit application identifying a preferred route, alternate route A and several Preferred Route Segment Alternatives; and

WHEREAS, the Preferred Route and the Alternate Route A, east of the City of Freeport, detour North away from Interstate 94. This diversion would run through Brockway Township, Sections 29-32, a Sensitive Environmental Area and DNR Protected Wetland (See attached Exhibit A-Sensitive Area Brockway Township Sections 29-32 map 2009) and near Shepard Lake; and

WHEREAS, Shepard Lake is an important part of an exceptionally rare St. Wendel Bog complex and is just a little over two miles from the St. Wendel Bog area which is a designated scientific and wildlife management area by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. The distance between the two areas results in Shepard Lake being an important migration and nesting supplement to the extremely rare and unique wildlife and birds that reside in the St. Wendel Bog area (See Exhibits B & C: Scientific & Natural Areas St. Wendel Tamarack Bog identified by the Minnesota DNR and the attached-St. Wendel Bog bird checklist); and

WHEREAS, the importance of the St. Wendel Bog is referenced in 3.2.5 Special Environmental Considerations found in the Environmental Report: CAPX2020 Group 1 Transmission Project-March 31, 2008, PUC Docket No.ET-2, E002/CN-06-115 (Identified as Exhibit D: Special Environmental Considerations 3.2.5); and

WHEREAS, the St. Wendel Bog is also addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS Statement: see p. 7-36, 7-121 PUC Docket No. ET-2, E00s/TL-09-1056 on the website: http://www.energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/documents/25053/DEIS_Compiled_090110.pdf); and

WHEREAS, the above identified Environmental Report, the DEIS and Stearns County have acknowledged the importance of this sensitive area and Shepard Lake is within this relatively small geographic area (attached as Exhibit E: Minnesota County Biological Survey-Native Plant communities and rare species of Stearns County); and

WHEREAS this small geographic area makes up a significant proportion of the remaining natural vegetation and rare plants and animals of Stearns County and protection of Brockway Township Sections 29-32 is paramount and vital for preservation of this remaining rare area; and

WHEREAS Shepard Lake is a large wetland which has immense value for recreation such as canoeing, birding, and photography,

WHEREAS, a Shepard Lake Restoration Project (a two-hundred sixty-four acres area) is in development, which has the potential to support significant waterfowl habitat when it is restored and should receive the highest protection; and

WHEREAS, Brockway Township residents have been in communication with John Haffley, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and Steve Erickson, a Private Lands Biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service who intend to work on the restoration project of Shepard Lake. Mr. Erickson states that "restoring Shepard Lake would have far reaching benefits to the environment (including water quality improvement, groundwater recharge, floodwater retention, wildlife habitat enhancement, etc.) and it is likely that the DNR would issue the necessary permits" (identified as Exhibit F: attached letter regarding Shepard Lake restoration project); and

WHEREAS, Brockway Township has specific concerns with the Preferred Route and Alternative Route A through Brockway Township and, particularly in the environmentally sensitive Shepard Lake area; and

WHEREAS, the Brockway Township Board of Supervisors believe that the detrimental impacts from the Preferred Route and Alternative Route A through Brockway Township would result in significant harm to the above sensitive environmental areas;

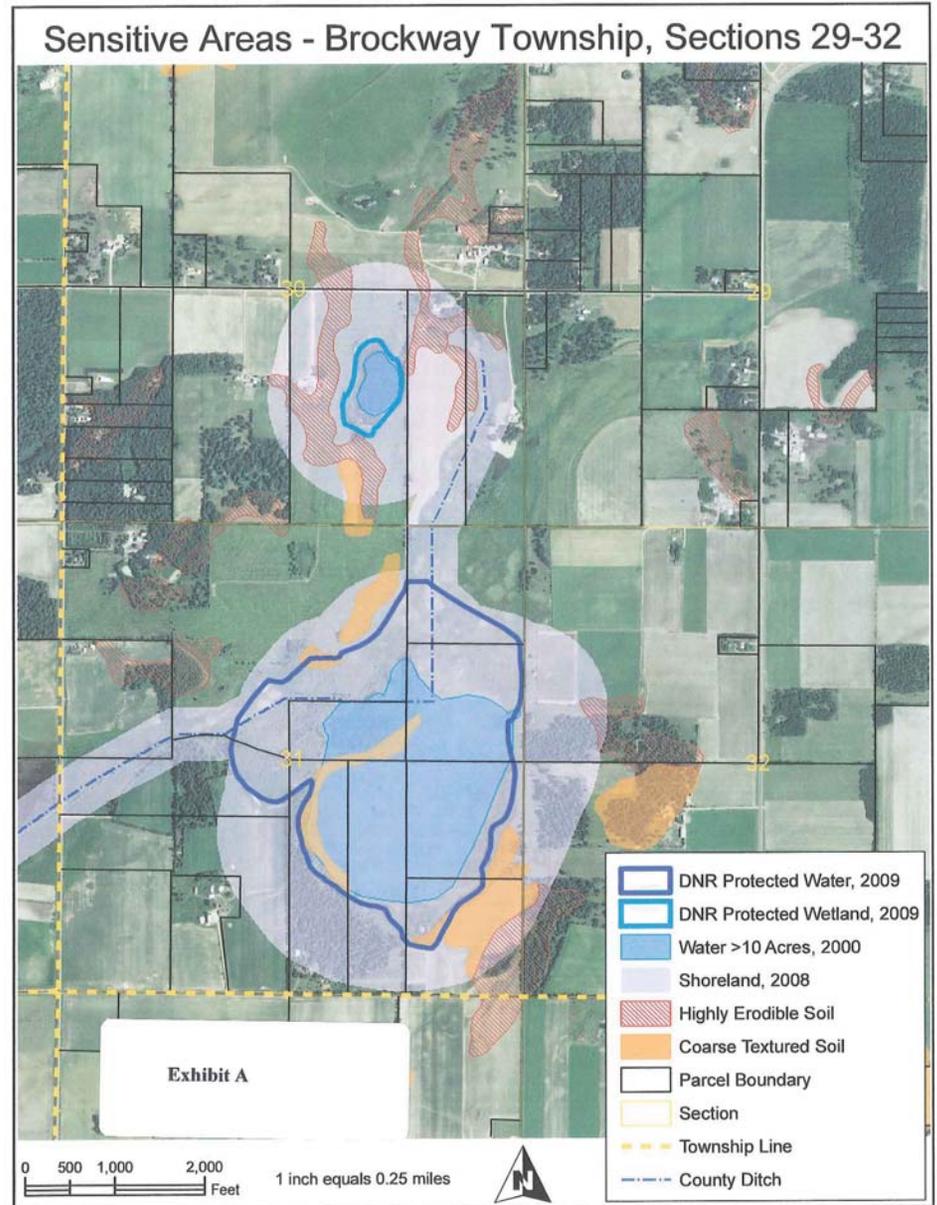
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF BROCKWAY, STEARNS COUNTY, MINNESOTA:

1. That the Brockway Township Sections 29-32, and the Shepard Lake area, deserves special environmental considerations as a special area of concern referenced in 3.2.5. Special Environmental Considerations in the CAPX Environmental Report and subsequent DEIS.
2. That the Brockway Township Board of Supervisors believes that the route that parallels as close as possible to I-94 or identified as Preferred Route D, as described in the DEIS would be the route that does the least amount of harm to human life and the environment.

Passed this 5th day of October, 2010.


Town Board Chair


Town Clerk



St. Wendel Tamarack Bog SNA

170 Acres



© MN DNR

Located 10 miles NW of St. Cloud on Co Rd 4. Park on the shoulder of the road.

Stearns County Twp 125N Rng 29W Sec 9 & 16

Type: [Deciduous Woods](#)

ECS Subsection: [Hardwood Hills](#)

Description:

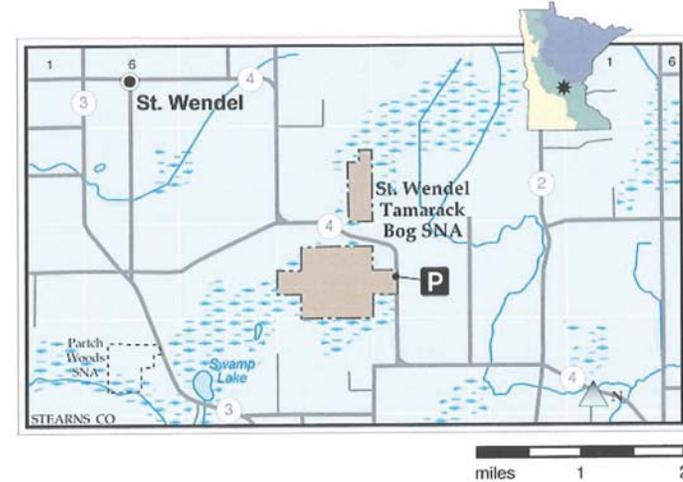
St. Wendel Tamarack Bog SNA is one of the top two sites for Significant Biological Diversity in Stearns County (Minnesota County Biological Survey, 1999). The site is a large wetland complex, which encompasses one of the largest remaining blocks of native vegetation in the county. This SNA supports the best and largest example of Minerotrophic Tamarack Swamp in central Minnesota. In addition to the extensive tamarack stands, the project area also contains: rare Mixed Hardwood Seepage Swamp, and unique Calcareous Seepage Fen which supports a population of the State Threatened *Carex sterilis* (sterile sedge). Significant acreage of Rich Fen, Wet Meadow, Mixed Hardwood Swamp, and Shrub Swamp also occur. Two shallow lakes, each named ?Swamp Lake?, with rich aquatic vegetation complete the natural mosaic of the large wetland complex.

The Hardwood Hills ECS Subsection defines the transition zone between the forests to the northeast and the prairies to the southwest in this part of the state.

[Bird List](#) PDF

[Plant List](#)

EXHIBIT B



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DNR is an equal opportunity employer

1-888-MN
651-296-6141

<mailto:info.dnr@state.mn.us>

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Cedar Waxwing	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Orange-crowned Warbler	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Nashville Warbler	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Warbler	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-rumped Warbler	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-and-white Warbler	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> American Redstart	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Ovenbird	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Waterthrush	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> American Tree Sparrow	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Clay-colored Sparrow	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Vesper Sparrow	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Savannah Sparrow	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Song Sparrow	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Swamp Sparrow	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> White-throated Sparrow	C	U	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Harris's Sparrow	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> White-crowned Sparrow	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Dark-eyed Junco	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Cardinal	U	U	U	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Meadowlark	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Grackle	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown-headed Cowbird	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Finch	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> House Finch	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> White-winged Crossbill	U	O	U	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Pine Siskin	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> American Goldfinch	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> House Sparrow	O	O	O	O

Taxonomy, Season and Abundance Key

The names and taxonomic arrangement of species follows that of the Checklist of the Birds of Minnesota (January, 2005) prepared by the Minnesota Ornithological Union (MOU) Records Committee.

The seasons in the checklist are defined as follows:

Sp (Spring) = March, April, May
 Su (Summer) = June, July
 Fa (Fall) = August, September, October, November
 Wi (Winter) = December, January, February

Abundance codes are defined as follows:

C = Common — present, relatively easy to find
 U = Uncommon — observed, may be difficult to find
 O = Occasional — may or may not be present in any year
 R = Rare — has occurred at least once, may recur

This checklist contains the names of all birds that have been documented at this site by reliable observers, including principal observer Bob Janssen, MOU records, and data obtained in research reports. Funding for this project was provided in part by the State Wildlife Grants program administered by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Checklist layout by Jennifer Untelmann. Persons interested in the sources used in preparation of this list may contact Project Supervisor/Nongame Specialist Katie Havs at 218-308-2641.

For more information contact DNR Information Center, 500 Lafayette Rd. St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
 651-296-6157 or toll-free 888-MIN-NDNR (646-6387).

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is available to all individuals regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, age, sexual orientation, membership or activity in a local commission, or disability. Discrimination inquiries should be sent to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4031, or the Equal Opportunity Office, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling 651-296-6157 (Metro Area, TTY 651-296-5484, 800-657-3929)

St. Wendel Tamarack Bog Scientific and Natural Area

BIRD Checklist



Date: _____
 Weather: _____
 Observe _____

 Notes: _____

EXHIBIT C



MINNESOTA'S WILD & RARE

Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare is the state's conservation action plan for protecting Minnesota's native animal species that are rare or likely to become rare in the near future.

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 Division of Ecological Resources
 DNR Web Site: www.dnr.state.mn.us

Birding Opportunities at St. Wendel Tamarack Bog SNA

St. Wendel Tamarack Bog, is a 170 acre unit, located 10 miles NW of St. Cloud, in Stearns County. This site is one of the top two sites identified by the MN County Biological Survey for significant biological diversity in Stearns County. This SNA consists of a north unit and a south unit separated by Stearns County Road 4. Both units contain extensive bog with tamaracks predominating.

A total of 84 bird species have been recorded from the unit. Black-backed Woodpeckers have been recorded during the winter months in the bog. Nine species of warblers were recorded on the SNA during the census period. Savannah, Song and Swamp Sparrows are common on the SNA. Six species of woodpeckers and five species of flycatchers are of regular occurrence at this site. Yellow-billed and Black-billed Cuckoo's were recorded by the County Biological Survey but were not found subsequently. This area has a great potential for breeding birds in June and July, especially for neo-tropical warbler species that use this habitat type for breeding. Tamarack bogs of this extent are a rare and disappearing habitat type this far south in Minnesota and for this reason this area needs further study.

Access is from County Road 4, a portion of the unit abuts this highway, but grassy swamp is present for the majority of this adjacent parcel. The area is heavily wooded, so be prepared for difficult conditions. In the winter when the bog is frozen access could be good depending on the depth of snow present.

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Duck	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Mallard	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Green Heron	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Turkey Vulture	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Bald Eagle	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Harrier	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Cooper's Hawk	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Broad-winged Hawk	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed Hawk	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Sandhill Crane	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Solitary Sandpiper	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Wilson's Snipe	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Dove	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-billed Cuckoo	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-billed Cuckoo	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Horned Owl	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-throated Hummingbird	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-bellied Woodpecker	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Downy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Hairy Woodpecker	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-backed Woodpecker	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Flicker	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Pileated Woodpecker	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Wood-Pewee	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Alder Flycatcher	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Willow Flycatcher	U	U	U	U

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Least Flycatcher	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Crested Flycatcher	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-throated Vireo	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-headed Vireo	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-eyed Vireo	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue Jay	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> American Crow	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree Swallow	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Rough-winged Swallow	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Cliff Swallow	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn Swallow	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-breasted Nuthatch	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> White-breasted Nuthatch	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Creeper	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> House Wren	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Sedge Wren	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Bluebird	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Veery	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Swainson's Thrush	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Hermit Thrush	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> American Robin	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Gray Catbird	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> European Starling	O	O	O	O

3.2.5 Special Environmental Considerations

A special area of concern in this segment is the Avon Hills area near Collegeville (note the "biological area" on Map 12. Several people commented on their interest in the area through the public scoping process.

The Avon Hills area of Stearns County, including all of Avon and Collegeville Townships and parts of St. Joseph, St. Wendel, Farming, and Wakefield Townships and the campus of St. John's University has been identified by the Audubon Society and its partners as an Important Bird Area. As part of an international effort, Important Bird Areas represent the most critical areas for the conservation of bird populations statewide. The Avon Hills area is important because of its extensive forested landscape and the populations of Red-shouldered Hawks, Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, Wood Ducks, Cerulean Warblers and other species that are found here. A number of WPAs managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are within the Important Bird Area, as are two Minnesota DNR Scientific and Natural Areas, the St. Wendel Bog and the St. Johns Arboretum.

Audubon Minnesota is concerned about the loss of habitat from siting transmission structures and clearing the corridor for the line. There is also the potential for serious habitat fragmentation that can have serious impacts on many forest bird populations.

According to the Avon Hills Initiative, a community-based organization located in Central Minnesota committed to preserving the rural and natural character of the roughly 50,000 acres in Avon, Saint Joseph, Collegeville, and St. Wendel Township, the wooded hills, wetlands, and lakes of this area are a key component of the remaining natural vegetation of Stearns County. As identified by the MN County Biological Survey, a significant proportion of the remaining natural vegetation and rare plants and animals of the entire county lie within this relatively small geographic area.

Environmental Report: CapX 2020 Group 1 Transmission Project

March 31, 2008

PUC Docket No ET-2, E002/CN-06-1115 (page 63)

EXHIBIT D

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project
PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056

Name: Raymond + Josephine Wabetzko
 Address: 15177 Co Rd 151
 City: Avon Mn State: MN ZIP: 56310

Please share your comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), including any further information to be addressed in a Final EIS for the proposed Fargo to St. Cloud 345 Kilovolt High Voltage Transmission Line Project.

Turn this form in today or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to David Birkholz, Site Permit Manager at david.birkholz@state.mn.us with **TL-09-1056** in the subject line. Faxed comments can be sent to 651.297.7891. **Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, October 18, 2010.**

*Keep the transmission lines along the Interstate 94
 We have enough problems farming with housing
 more power lines creating problems. We have
 beautiful farm land out here + power lines can
 create problems for cattle. We are too close to
 the road + our house is too close to the power
 line route - please our lovely food is at stake
 Keep lines on 94 Highway where they belong*

Signature: _____ Date: _____

331-333

October 12, 2010

Minnesota Office of Energy Security
Energy Facility Permitting
Mr. David Birkholz
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

RE: CAPX2020

Dear Mr. Birkholz

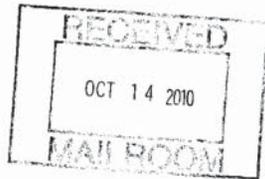
I am writing this letter with great concern over the location of the high transmission power lines from Fargo to St. Cloud. It is my understanding that one route being considered, may have the following impact on my property. The impact would be negative on wetlands, prime agricultural farmland, Sheppard's Lake, several other palustrine water resources, and some of Stearns County's historic resources.

I am asking for your support to direct this 345KV transmission line down the I-94 corridor where it is already an established route for this use. In areas where the appearance is a concern; why not place underground.

Thank you for your support regarding this very important matter.

Sincerely,

David A. Walz
David A. Walz
9356 County Road#4
St. Joseph, MN 56374
320-493-7349



334-339

Dana and Steve Weber
924 Hamlet Dr S
Avon, MN 56310

October 15, 2010

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

RE: Proposed Route D on the Fargo to St. Cloud project (TL-09-1056)

Dear David:

We are residents of the Stratford Neighborhood Association, located just along the I-94 Freeway in Avon, MN. The freeway literally runs through our backyard. We are writing to voice our opposition to the proposed Route D of this transmission project for the following reasons.

First, specific to our family, there is a safety concern with having these power lines running right next to our home. We have 2 children. Our oldest has Autism. We have grave concerns that any additional environmental challenges to his health will result in adverse affects to his neurological and physical health. He is at the most volatile stage in his life, nearing puberty, where 1 in 4 pre-teens and teens with Autism develop seizures as well as face regression and heightened sensory disorders due to the changes their bodies are going through.

Additionally, our youngest child suffers from recurring severe migraine headaches. We have recently found he has spots on his brain and we are extremely concerned of the adverse effects ANY electromagnetic pollution will have on both of our children's health, not to mention ours and those around us. While your studies conclude that the levels of EMF that are emitted are considered "safe," this does not take into account individuals with acute or chronic disorders, due to the generalization any study must provide.

Our children cannot afford to risk any additional burdens to their health, which includes the effects of additional electromagnetic fields near our home. It is a bad and unnecessary risk. There are more appropriate, less expensive and less risky choices, by far.

During a time when the economy has suffered a deep recession and the job market has been extremely volatile, we are in a position that if Route D were to be approved, regardless of whether our home would be displaced by the placement of the high voltage transmission line, we would be forced to move in order to protect our children. This would cause extreme and undue financial hardship to our family, during a time when we have suffered deep cuts in our household income due to our employer's actions, in addition to the medical expenses we currently face. Our home's value has deteriorated as a result of the poor economy, which adds to the financial strain of any costs we would need to incur in order to relocate to a safer home.



We also want to note the concerns that our neighborhood association has expressed to you in a collaborated letter from the Stratford Association President, Jeff Manthe, which we fully agree with:

- This area also has a lake just along each side with a connecting stream underneath the freeway. In Middle Spunk Lake, right in our neighborhood and along the freeway, there are nesting loons, ducks and geese each year. Many wild fowl spend time here as they migrate each spring and fall. We fear the power lines might disrupt this delicate eco-system and permanently damage this natural resource.
- Next, there over ninety homes in this neighborhood, tightly nestled between the freeway and lake. Having these lines, whether overhead or underground, would perhaps result in the condemnation of a number of residences and destroy the atmosphere and living conditions of the entire neighborhood, upsetting hundreds of lives and causing severe damage to this circle drive that forms the pathway in and out of the neighborhood.
- There is a park in the center of the neighborhood that provides recreation to individuals, including the local youth baseball and other sports programs.
- There is also a beach area that provides for recreation throughout the summer. This is a close community and losing neighbors and recreation areas and the closeness we share is not acceptable.
- Along with the concerns of the loss of community, the financial costs to the people of the neighborhood would be severe if the power lines go through this area and, indeed, the city of Avon as a whole. With the wide right of ways projected and rather small area of this neighborhood and the city of Avon, property values of all residences and commercial ventures would likely drop significantly, at a time when we've already seen downward pressure on property values because of the economy.
- Finally, there is a safety concern with having these power lines run right through a residential area where there are hundreds and hundreds of residents. We are told these lines are safe but we also know of many documented cases of stray voltage, of illnesses, of health issues for people and animals under and around such high voltage power lines.

For the above stated reasons, we, Dana and Steve Weber are formally voicing our **strong opposition** regarding the potential selection of Route D for this transmission line project.

Sincerely,

Dana + Steve Weber

Dana and Steve Weber

Cc: Avon Mayor John Grutsch, Stratford Association and Avon City Council

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

**Fargo to St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Line Project
PUC Docket No. E002, ET2/TL-09-1056**

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

*Mr Don Wieber
11927 County Road 3
Avon MN 56310-9681*

Please share your comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), including any further information to be addressed in a Final EIS for the proposed Fargo to St. Cloud 345 Kilovolt High Voltage Transmission Line Project.

Turn this form in today or mail to the address provided on the back (use additional sheets as necessary). You may also email comments to David Birkholz, Site Permit Manager at david.birkholz@state.mn.us with **TL-09-1056** in the subject line. Faxed comments can be sent to 651.297.7891. **Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, October 18, 2010.**

*When we were doing the Wobagon trail
years ago they said that it could be
used for this purpose also. Why not use
it when it would not bother anyone.*

Signature: *Don* Date: *10-11-10*

344-346

Birkholz, David (COMM)

From: Check, Terence [TCHECK@CSBSJU.EDU]
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2010 2:10 PM
To: Birkholz, David (COMM)
Cc: Check, Terence
Subject: TL-09-1056

October 18, 2010

12486 Old Collegeville Road
St. Joseph, MN 56374

David Birkholz
State Permit Manager
Minnesota Office of Energy Security
85 7th Place E., Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Dear Mr. Birkholz:

I am writing in response to the draft environmental impact statement discussing the Fargo-St. Cloud 345 kV Transmission Project proposed by Xcel Energy and Great River Energy. I work at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota, near the site of one of the proposed corridors for the transmission line, along interstate 94. I also am a resident of St. Joseph, Minnesota, and my home is very close to this same corridor along I-94 and also very near another proposed corridor along the Lake Wobegon Trail. I am in the unfortunate position of having both my work and home life severely affected by a decision to place the transmission projects in either of these locations.

But the thesis of my letter is not to urge you to put these lines in someone else's backyard. From the public meetings I have attended, as well as the draft of the Environmental Impact Statement I have read, I believe insufficient attention has been given in these reports to the actual need for the project in the first place. Xcel Energy and Great River Energy are for-profit companies that have a direct stake in convincing publics to consume more energy. The studies they have put forward about the supposed demand are out-of-date and make assumptions about energy consumption that are unreliable, given energy trends in the last few years, as well as dampened demand as a result of the slow economy.

Large-scale infrastructure projects that have damaging effects on natural and cultural environments should be seen as a last resort, after exhaustive efforts are made to conserve energy first. There is the potential to save enormous amounts of energy through energy conservation and programs that educate citizens about (and create incentives for) efficiency. This is the path that must be pursued more aggressively before this project is considered.

I was disappointed, after reading the voluminous draft EIS report, to see little or no attention given to climate change. Despite the lip service given to renewable energy, the fact remains that this line's primary purpose is to distribute coal-produced energy. This further entrenches our reliance on fossil fuels and exacerbates the effects of climate change, at a time when society needs to be working vigorously on options that minimize the consumption of fossil fuels.

I am also concerned that the draft EIS downplays the immediate environmental and health effects of these transmission lines. I have read the testimony of David Carpenter of the State University of New York in Albany about the link between high-powered electricity lines

and childhood cancer. This concerns me greatly, given that I have two young children who would be playing in the fields near these lines.

The justification to build these lines is based on flimsy evidence and is motivated primarily by profit. The draft EIS should have given more weight both to the immediate and long-term environmental and health consequences of these transmission lines.

Respectfully,

Dr. Terence Check

Becky Coulter
Sanford Moskowitz
12625 Old Collegeville Road
Saint Joseph, MN 56374

October 18, 2010

David Birkholz, Site Permit Manager:

Regarding TL-09-1056

Dear Mr. Birkholz:

My husband and I are new residents to Minnesota. In 2005 we moved here when Sanford took a position as assistant professor in the Management Department at St. John's University. I took a position as a therapist at Catholic Charities, St. Cloud Children's Home.

I am writing regarding the proposed alternates I-94 and Collegeville Road. Understandably, no one wants a major electric power route to cut through their community, so all I can do is write from the perspective of someone who is new to this community, but sees its strengths and character. I chose a property on Old Collegeville Road, right next to the walking bridge over I-94 to St. John's campus for a number of reasons including proximity to my husband's job, the involved character of the neighborhood, and the knowledge that all the woods surrounding our land were state and St. John's refuge land, not to be developed. Also, right down at the other end of the road there is the Lake Wobegon Trail.

Being situated right next to the walking bridge, I am aware of the function of St. John's woods as a place for recreation and respite for people all over the area. The same is true for the Lake Wobegon trail, which I use regularly. The placement of this power line into the refuge areas or along the Lake Wobegon trail would have a highly adverse impact on all those who come for recreation, as well as the involved, activist community living in this area. .

Pragmatically as a property owner, I would not have ever made the substantial investment in property improvement here if I had known that these refuge lands could be appropriated. On a more collective note, This neighborhood was already impacted by the building of I-94, I certainly hope it will not have to sustain another loss of this magnitude.

Sincerely,

Becky Coulter