



85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
main: 651.296.4026 tty: 651.296.2860 fax: 651.297.7891
www.commerce.state.mn.us

PUBLIC COMMENT SHEET

CapX Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project

PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448

Name:

Greg Soule (5/6/10)

Representing:

self and family

Address:

2915-345th St, Denison

Email:

gsoule@bestlaw.com

Comments:

I strongly recommend the primary route along Hwy 52. The greatest emphasis in selecting a route should be given to avoiding a proliferation of multiple transmission routes. I believe that this is actually a requirement of state law, Hwy 52 is already a major transportation and industrial route, and has significant high tension electrical lines along the road. Anyone who bought property along Hwy 52 had already taken into account that a major freeway was already there, and should not be "surprised" by the addition of a new power line. In contrast, the property owners in the "country" where the alternate route →

Please submit comments by 4:30pm, May 20, 2010 to:

Matthew Langan
Minnesota Dept. of Commerce
85 7th Place East
Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Email: matthew.langan@state.mn.us
Phone: 651-296-2096
Fax: 651-297-7891

is located, would never ~~had~~ have had any reason to expect a semi-industrial development like these powerlines, and so it is an unfair "surprise" to them, as a totally out of character imposition. I believe that this difference in legitimate expectations is behind the recognition in state law of avoiding a proliferation of utility route corridors, and should be given the greatest emphasis in selecting a route.

Postage
Required

TO: Matthew Langan
Minnesota Dept. of Commerce
85 7th Place East
Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Langan, Matthew (COMM)

From: Stacey, Colleen K. [stacey.colleen@mayo.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2010 12:11 PM
To: Langan, Matthew (COMM); Doperalski, Melissa (DNR); Kirsch, Raymond (COMM); Schrenzel, Jamie (DNR)
Cc: Rohlfing, Suzanne E., R.N.
Subject: CAPX2020 High Voltage Transmission Lines

Hi all,

I am Colleen Stacey, and I live within a mile of the proposed northern route that goes through Wabasha County, and between the Duane Klein and Dale Rohlfing properties.

I would like to see existing rights-of-way used rather than disrupting people's livelihood, and the beautiful biosphere that we live in.

I have prairie remnants with unusual wild flowers on my property that will undoubtedly be destroyed by the spraying of the lines. I have lived here for 35 years, and have had the privilege of watching foxes at play, being confronted by a badger, watching the turkeys ramble past my shed and the deer graze on my hay fields. There have been tree frogs and tadpoles to share with my children. In the evening I hear the coyotes settle in for the night, and listen to the raccoons. On summer mornings I am awakened by the song of birds. I am surrounded by woods with beautiful trees and song birds and raptors, and have had the pleasure of listening to a whip-or-will, and watching a hawk zero in on a gopher. There are beautiful places to ride my horses, and go cross country skiing and sledding and hiking without having to load up and drive somewhere. There are trade-offs to living out here that I gladly make, as it has been a sanctuary for me as well as the animals.

Access to this line would be very difficult, as the only road to that area is a private driveway, that in winter is completely drifted in. This driveway was built as a road in 1880 by the rail road, and there is still the remnants of a bridge across the Zumbro river. That driveway only goes within half a mile of the proposed route, so I would expect there would be road construction to do.

Why in the world are we destroying the world we live in by marching across the state with transmission lines, when the use of electrical energy is declining, and wind and solar powers are gearing up?

Why are we not confining the disruption by using existing right-of-ways?

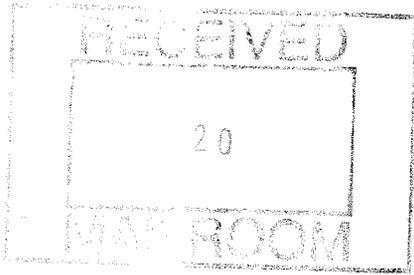
Why are we not producing energy near the sights that use it, rather than using an archaic, inefficient method to push energy from the west to the east?

I will be forwarding a printed copy of this letter to each of you.

Thank you for 'listening'.

Sincerely,

Colleen Stacey
39986 590th Street
Zumbro Falls, MN 55991



May 18, 2010
39986 590th Street
Zumbro Falls, MN 55991

Matt Langan
OES State Permit Manager
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Dear Mr. Langan,

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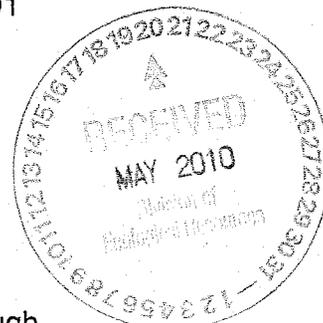
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Colleen Stacey

May 18, 2010
39986 590th Street
Zumbro Falls, MN 55991

Jamie Schrenzel
Ecological Resources
Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155-4025



Dear Ms. Schrenzel,

I live within a mile of the proposed northern route that goes through Wabasha County, and between the Duane Klein and Dale Rohlfing properties.

I would like to see existing rights-of-way used rather than disrupting people's livelihood, and the beautiful biosphere that we live in.

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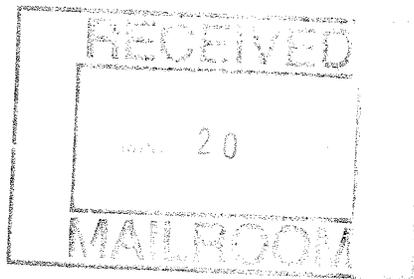
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Sincerely,

Colleen Stacey
Colleen Stacey



May 18, 2010
39986 590th Street
Zumbro Falls, MN 55991

Ray Kirsch
OES Public Advisor
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Dear Mr. Kirsch,

I live within a mile of the proposed northern route that goes through Wabasha County, and between the Duane Klein and Dale Rohlfing properties.

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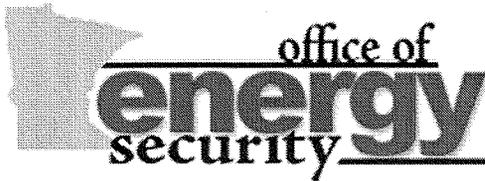
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Colleen Stacey



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PUBLIC COMMENT SHEET

CapX Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project

PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448

Name:

Representing:

David & Carol Steichen

Self

Address:

Email:

6052 Wark Rd
Cincinnati, OH

cincysteichens@yahoo.com

Comments:

Attached is our letter from March 17, 2010. Our concerns are related to the development of our land which it seems, according to the sheet map 18, will be used for or a portion which will be used as easement or route preferred for 161KV.

Please submit comments by **4:30pm, May 20, 2010** to:

Matthew Langan
Minnesota Dept. of Commerce
85 7th Place East
Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Email: matthew.langan@state.mn.us
Phone: 651-296-2096
Fax: 651-297-7891

6052 Werk Road
Cincinnati, OH 45248
March 14, 2010

Matt Langan, Project Manager
Office of Energy Security, Energy Facility Permitting
85 - 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101

Subject: Docket No. E-002/T1-09-1448

Dear Matt:

I spoke with you February 22, 2010 regarding the "High Voltage Transmission Line," Preferred 161 kV Route, that will run along the roadway (65th Avenue NW) next to our property in Olmsted county, New Haven Township, in Minnesota.

In order to refresh your memory, our property is located on page 39 (Sheet Map 18) in the CapX2020 Preferred and Alternate Route Option map book, which we received a few weeks ago. We have two parcels, (SW ¼ SE ¼ SEC 12 - 108 - 15, 40.00 AC) and (NW ¼ NE ¼ Less S450.42FT E208.71 FT SEC 13 - 108 - 15, 37.84 AC). There seems to be two docket numbers. One is (CN - 08 - 992) which I acquired from the Public Utilities Commission, State of Minnesota web site on February 16, 2010. The other docket number (E-002/TL-09-1448), is on the Notice and Order for Hearing Before the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, issued March 9, 2010.

Our concern is that the high voltage transmission lines and the easement or right of use of Preferred 161 kV Route, extends almost down the center of our property in SEC 13 - 108 -15. We had this land in CRP which expired a year ago. We sold a parcel from that same Section 13, of 2.16 AC a few years ago, and planned to start development of more of that land. With the CapX2020 Excel project in the making at this time, it creates a very real hardship for us to continue further development of that property. Those lines will not only require a large portion of our Section 13, but will create an undesirable atmosphere for many people considering to purchase property for a 'home in the country.'

We urge you to consider erecting the high voltage transmission line on the Alternative 161 kV Route.

Sincerely,



David and Carol Steichen

Cc: Grant Stevenson
Pamela Jo Rasmussen

57174 205 AV
Plainview, MN 55964

Matthew Langan
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV project

Dear Matthew,

I would like to thank the OES (Office of Energy Security) for holding these scoping meetings. I only hope that you, unlike the Wabasha County Board with the recent jail issue, seriously consider the comments made by the residents that are affected by this project.

I would like to urge you to use the preferred route in the existing Dairyland Q-3 line corridor since this would have the smallest impact on the environment, land use, and residences.

The Alternative 345kV Route passes between 150 and 300 feet of the proposed centerline of my neighbor, Tom Feils in section 30 of Watopa Township; and passes within 550 feet of my home in section 25 of Highland Township (reference attached map – property corners marked in red). This alternate route is directly across the center of my property and across the area where we regularly work and train our horses. I would like to propose 2 substitute routes which would reduce the impact on at least these two farm sites.

The first would be to break away from the existing corridor, West, at County Highway 14. This would better implement Minnesota's policy of non-proliferation, utilizing the existing Right Of Way.

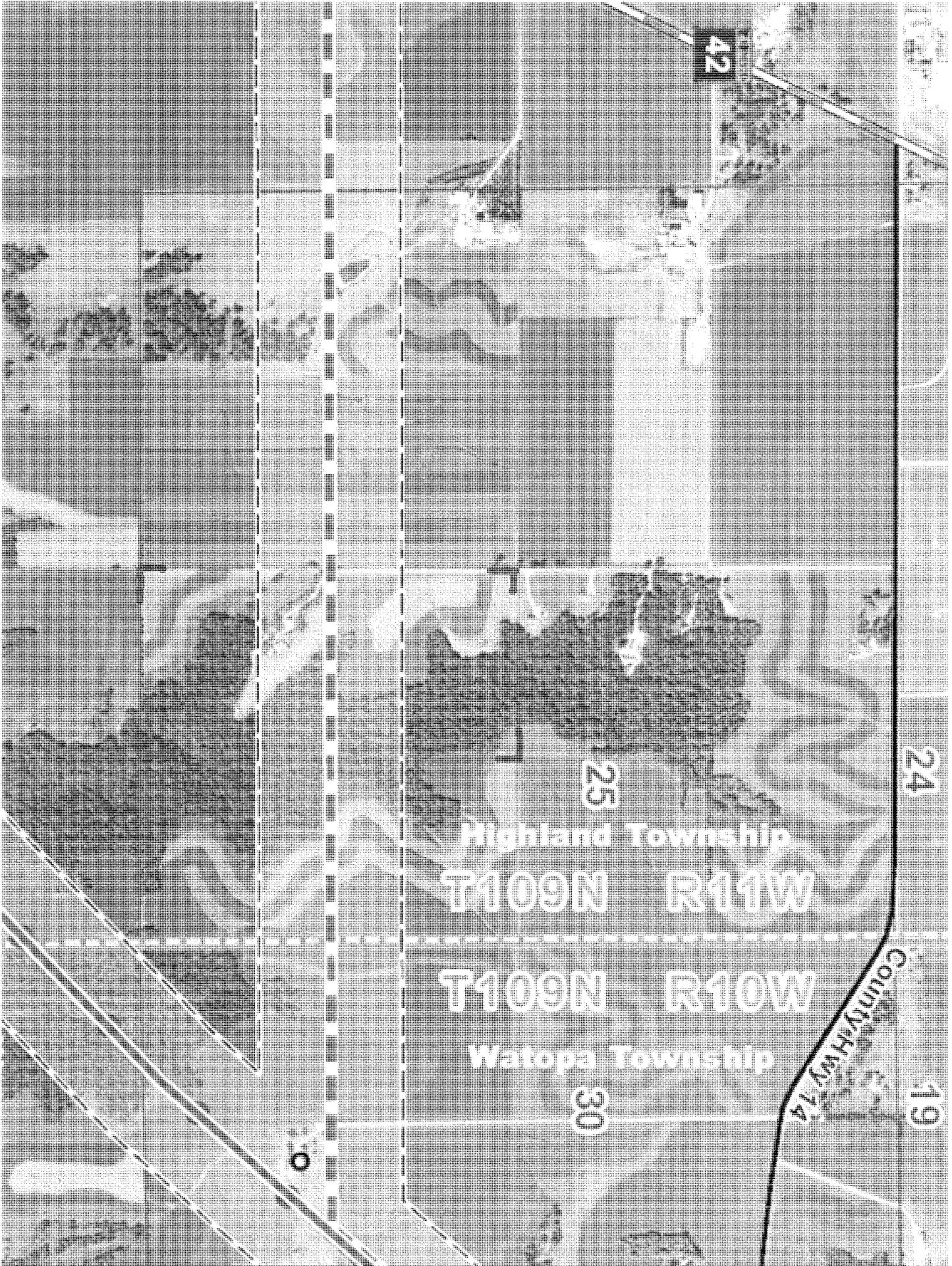
The second would be to break away from the existing corridor at the South line of section 30 in Watopa Township and follow it West along the South line of section 25 in Highland Township.

I appreciate this opportunity to express my concerns and offer these substitute routes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roy Terry Jr." The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Roy Terry Jr.



42

25

Highland Township

T109N R11W

T109N R10W

Watopa Township

30

24

49

County Hwy 14

35

57174 205 AV
Plainview, MN 55964

Matthew Langan
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV project

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roy Terry Jr.".

Roy Terry Jr.

42

18

24

19

25

Highland Township

T109N R11W

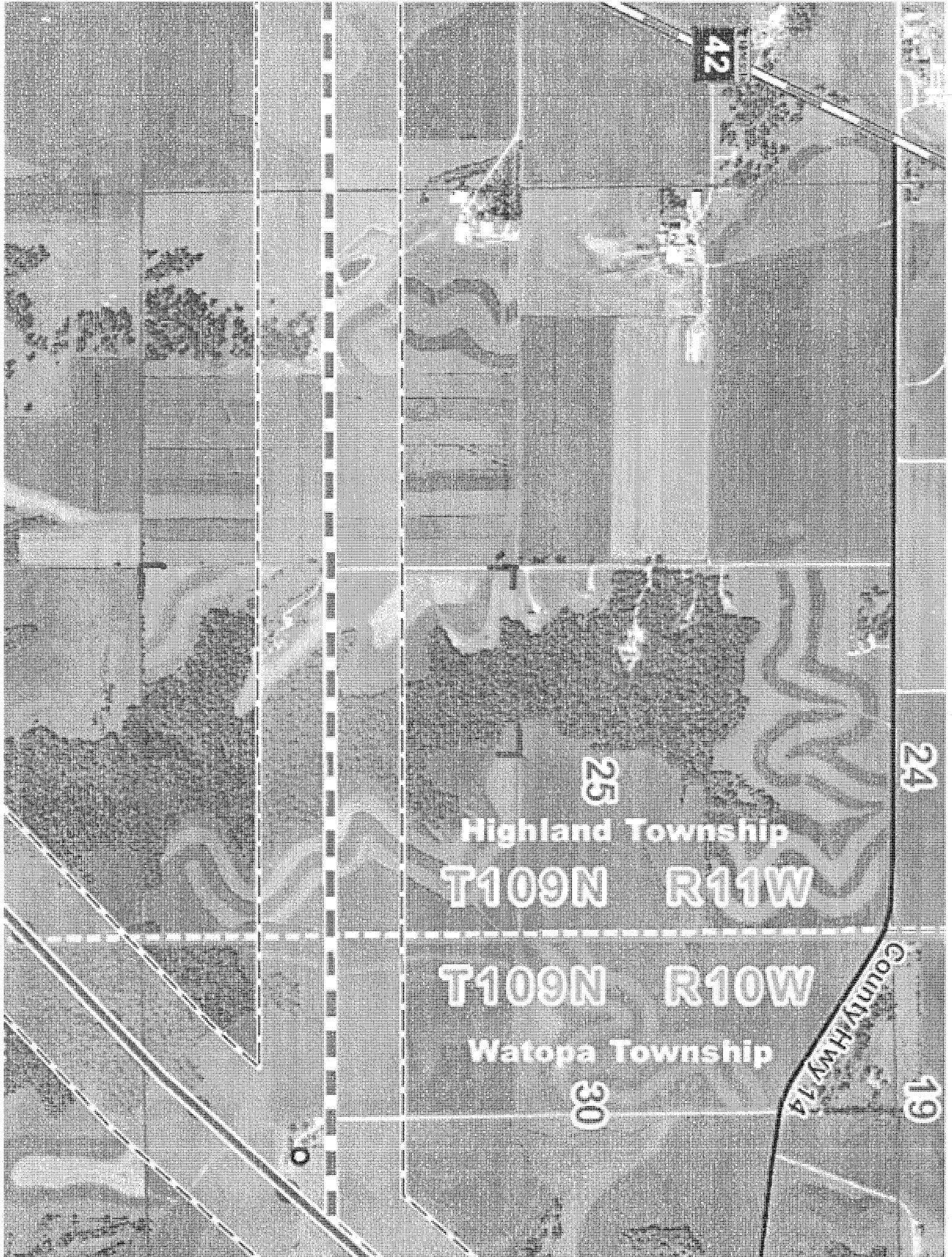
T109N R10W

Watopa Township

30

County Hwy 74

20



May 17, 2010

The North Route Group

C/O 2301 15th Ave NE

Rochester, MN 55901

Matthew Langan

MOES State Permit Manager

85 7th Place East, Suite 500

St. Paul, MN 55101-2198



RE: Docket # E002/TL-09-1448

Dear Mr. Langan,

Enclosed is a letter from the North Route Group expressing our concerns, and factors we wish to be included in the scope of the DEIS for the CAPX2020 High Voltage Transmission line project. With regard to the Alternate North Route from Rte 52 through Zumbro Township, we have included some comments and recommendations for your consideration.

Although there is one letter enclosed, we request that you recognize each signature individually, as if you received one letter from each of us. Some of us will also forward additional comments and considerations separate from this letter

We thank you in advance for your thoughtful review of our concerns.

Very sincerely and respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Rohlfing

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Suzanne Rohlfing".

On behalf of The North Route Group

May 10, 2010

The North Route Group
C/O 2310 15th Ave NW
Rochester, MN 55901

Matthew Langan

Minnesota Office of Energy Security

85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

RE: Docket # E002/TL-09-1448

Dear Mr. Langan,

We are the North Route Group: citizens east and west, from Rte 52 to 375th Ave, of the proposed Alternate North Route crossing of the Zumbro River for the CAPX2020 345 KV Transmission Lines. Recognizing the MOES utilization of MN Statute 216E.03, subd. 7, and MN Rules 7849.5910, we would like to site our concerns and submit our recommendations for consideration for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Our land is in and near the Zumbro River and its Valley, located in Mazeppa, Zumbro and Pine Island townships. It is part of the Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood State Forest. It is an area of natural beauty and environmental significance. The river cuts through forest and woodlands, bluff land and wetlands. It is host to a significant number of plant and animal species. It has no existing corridor or existing river crossing structure. It would become fragmented habitat. It is the closest route to a registered eagles nest in section 10 of T109N R14W. It crosses a Special Regulation section of the Zumbro for Smallmouth Bass, and would transect the river just south and upriver from the North Zumbro tributary. It contains and is in close proximity to two of the rarest habitat in Minnesota: remnant prairie and oak savanna. This route transects two tree farms and property containing long standing Stewardship Plans with the Department of Natural Resources. One property is host to a monarch migratory stop/phenomenon.

The Zumbro River is a host to many year round recreational activities, many of which are reliant upon the river itself and the habitat, topography and aesthetics of the area. These include fishing, tubing, hunting, bird and eagle watching, nature trails, youth camps, and public campgrounds, a ski hill for winter skiing and boarding, and canoeing/kayaking. According to the *DNR Canoe and Boating Guide* for the Zumbro River, "two of the most popular trips (on the Zumbro) are from Zumbro Lake Power dam to Zumbro Falls, or Zumbro Falls to Hammond or Millville". Minn Statute 86A.02 supports the conservation of, and recognizes the importance of, these areas in the state.

The culture of the region is rural. Many folks here have owned or cared for these properties for many years or generations, be it farmed or wooded. We choose to continue our existing way of life void of noise, property disruption, land destruction and economic loss. The North Route crossing the Zumbro includes at least two century farms. The area immediately south of the proposed route hosts a history of "Bark Town", and the foundations of the original Wabasha County 7 bridge crossing and the old school house.

We have concern regarding proliferation in this natural, minimally disturbed area along the Zumbro River. The majority of this section of the Alternate North Route does not utilize existing corridors: transmission, road or property lines. It transects many property parcels where section and half section lines are used. A portion cuts cross country without any type of corridor utilization. There is no existing infrastructure at this proposed Zumbro River crossing. The above mentioned counters the Minnesota Non-Proliferation Policy, with reference to Minn Stat. 216E.03, subd. 7 (b) and Peer, 266 N.W. 2nd 868.

We have concern with regard to a 150 ft. clear cut, and then permanent maintenance of that swath in the area. The risk from continuous deforestation, chemicals, native species elimination, invasive species opportunity, and mechanical impacts both on and near the proposed route and access points to the route. We also have concern as to how these impacts will further degrade the area and the Zumbro River Valley.

Other concerns include: sink holes, the karst terrain and highly erodible soil, a private landing strip, proximity to livestock, inability to build a home or out buildings, missing notation of homes being built on the route permit application, GPS and farming operation interruption and safety, EMF and health impact on humans and animals, property value depreciation, and noise.

We ask that the MOES consider and refer to the following:

- 1) The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Mission Statement- **“ to work with citizens to conserve and manage the state’s natural resources, to provide outdoor recreation opportunities, and to provide for commercial uses of natural resources in a way that creates a sustainable quality of life”**. (MNDNR Division of Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan 2006-2011)
- 2) A Letter from the Division of Parks and Recreation Director, The Plan, Third Core Area **“ the opportunity to preserve Minnesota’s original landscapes for future generations”** (Cortland Nelson, MNDNR Division of Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan 2006-2011)
- 3) Minnesota Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment- **“ dedicate funding to protect our drinking water sources; to protect, enhance and restore our wetlands, prairies, forests and fish, game and wildlife habitat; to protect our parks and trails; and to protect, enhance and restore our lakes, rivers, streams and groundwater...** (Minnesota sales and use tax increase amendment, November 4, 2008)
- 4) Public and Private Partnership in the Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest- (*“My Healthy Woods, A Handbook for Family Woodland Owners: managing woods in Southeast Minnesota”*; The Aldo Leopold Foundation, 2010)
- 5) Action Plan for Minnesota Wildlife: Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy-**“Tomorrow’s Habitat identifies habitat loss and degradation as the primary problem facing species in greatest need in Minnesota.”** (Tomorrow’s Habitat for the Wild and Rare: Minnesota DNR)

We ask that that MOES consider the Preferred Route and other route alternatives that include: existing corridors to utilize or parallel, less river and creek crossings, less forest, and less natural habitat..

We ask that the MOES consider exclusion of the Alternate North Route crossing of the Zumbro River.

We ask for an updated biological survey by the DNR in the area of the proposed North Route Zumbro crossing.

We represent the present, and wish to conserve for the future. We respectfully submit our concerns and thank you for your careful consideration.

The North Route Group and concerned citizens near the North Route Alternate.

Cc: Ray Kirsch, MOES

Melissa Doperalski, MNDNR

Jamie Schrenzel, MNDNR

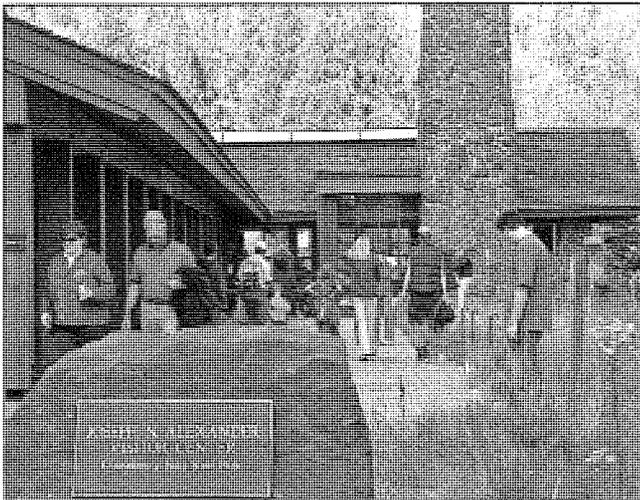
Enclosures and signature pages

**Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Mission Statement**

The mission of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is to work with citizens to conserve and manage the state's natural resources, to provide outdoor recreation opportunities, and to provide for commercial uses of natural resources in a way that creates a sustainable quality of life.

**DNR Division of Parks and Recreation
Mission Statement**

We will work with the people of Minnesota to provide a state park system which preserves and manages Minnesota's natural, scenic and cultural resources for present and future generations while providing appropriate recreational and educational opportunities.



What is Minnesota State Parks?

Minnesota State Parks is the common name often used to refer to the units operated by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Division of Parks and Recreation.

These units include:

- State parks*
- State recreation areas*
- State sidesides*

The Division of Parks and Recreation also oversees the operation of forest recreation areas, including both campgrounds and day use sites, within Minnesota's state forests.

The purposes and characteristics of the various units of the system are described in Minnesota Statutes Chapter 86A, known as the Outdoor Recreation Act (the statute is included in Appendix D).

The Division of Parks and Recreation is one unit within the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The Department's focus encompasses providing high-quality recreation opportunities, providing economic opportunities for resource industries, and preserving important features of the state's natural and cultural heritage. DNR programs include fish and wildlife habitat improvement, fire management, mineral potential research, management of public lands and waters, and many others – all designed to provide sustainable benefits to Minnesotans now and into the future.

A Letter from the Division Director:

Making Minnesota State Parks, “Everyone’s Country Estate”

The subtitle of this plan, “Everyone’s Country Estate”, has a special meaning for those familiar with the history of Minnesota’s state parks. It was a favorite phrase of Judge Clarence R. Magney, an early and very influential supporter of state parks. A lawyer, jurist, former mayor of Duluth, Minnesota and associate justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, Judge Magney personally advocated for the establishment of many state parks in the park system today, especially those along the shore of Lake Superior. He foresaw that state parks should, in his words, serve as everyman’s country estate - their natural beauty and recreational qualities preserved for all citizens. Judge C.R. Magney State Park, along Lake Superior’s shore, was named in his honor.

It is our goal to follow Judge Magney’s vision and truly make Minnesota State Parks “Everyone’s Country Estate.”

In our rapidly changing world we are seeing many trends that will impact our state parks and how people recreate:

- Minnesota’s population will grow by 27% from 2000 to 2030, bringing more development pressure to natural lands and additional demand for recreational opportunities.
- Minnesota’s population is getting older – the average age will increase from 35.4 years in 2000 to 40.2 years by 2030. As people get older, visits to state parks decline, as does participation in other outdoor activities.
- Minnesota will grow more racially and ethnically diverse – the state’s Hispanic and non-white population will nearly double to 19% in 2030. These groups have traditionally been less connected with state parks and other outdoor recreation sites.
- Minnesota is growing more urban and suburban – residents from these areas participate less in outdoor recreation, including visiting state parks.
- People are more connected via technology – the intranet, cell phones, GPS, etc. Many people expect to stay connected while recreating, or use technology as part of their recreation experience. Approximately 70% of the population uses technology for trip planning.

These trends and other demographic and social changes occurring in Minnesota and throughout the country will have an important impact on our efforts in the coming years.

Author Richard Louv, in his book “Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder,” cites a growing body of knowledge that shows the value of connecting with the natural world and how that connection provides an antidote to many of the problems that ail our children today.

Nearly a century ago Luther Standing Bear, a member of the Lakota Indian tribe, said “Man’s heart, away from nature, becomes hard; (the Lakota) knew that lack of respect for growing, living things soon led to lack of respect for humans too.”

For those who wish to reverse the impacts of these trends and encourage a reconnection with nature, it is important to think strategically and act swiftly. We, in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Division of Parks and Recreation, have created a six-year Strategic Plan to allow us to act and respond quickly during this time of dynamic change. What remains constant, however, are the goals of our three-part state park mission to preserve Minnesota’s original landscapes, provide abundant outdoor recreation opportunities and educate park visitors and the public about Minnesota’s natural and cultural heritage. The Division strategic plan links with the DNR’s A Strategic Conservation Agenda, illustrating the Division’s contributions to the Department’s priorities.

The Plan

The Strategic Plan we have developed focuses on five core areas including the challenges within each of the three mission areas, the changing workforce and the administrative structure needed to provide a park system.

Although we face many challenges, within those challenges lie opportunities:

- The opportunity to find new ways to draw visitors to state parks, understand the barriers that may be keeping them away and explore what we might do better or differently to attract new users.
- The opportunity to use visitor services and interpretive activities to explore creative means of reaching the younger generation and underserved populations.
- The opportunity to preserve Minnesota's original landscapes for future generations.
- The opportunity to attract, hire, train and retrain an invigorated work force that is representative of the population of the state and will enable us to connect with diverse groups.
- The opportunity to think differently about how we can provide services in the most efficient manner that will best serve the citizens of this state.

It is exciting to think that we can work together toward reversing the downward trend of the public's connection to nature and the outdoors and provide citizens with their own "country estate" experience in state parks. In Minnesota we have the unique situation of many local friends groups associated with individual state parks and a strong citizen-supported organization, the Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota, to work with us to carry out these goals. Within the DNR, we will work with other divisions and bureaus to be more efficient in the delivery of our services.

Implementation

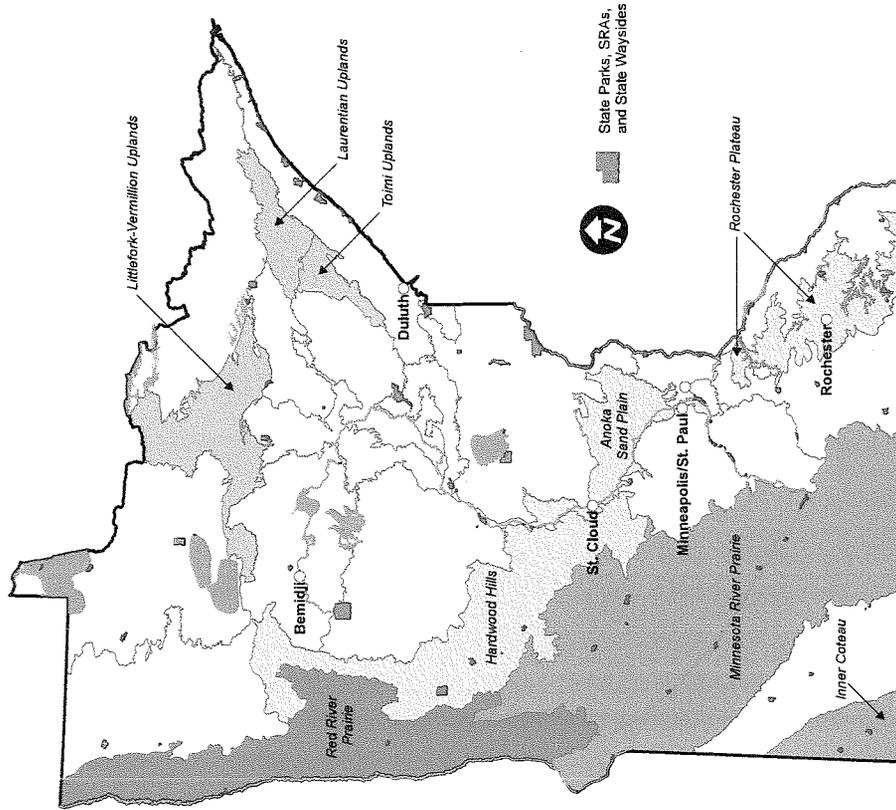
We feel we have set a strategic direction for the most significant issues facing Minnesota's state park system in the near future. As with any strategic planning effort, the process itself of identifying issues and challenges, setting priorities and staying grounded in core mission values is beneficial. We will craft three biennial workplans that focus on the issues and strategies, the action steps and measurable outcomes. A summary of the strategic plan and copy of the first biennial workplan is included with this document. We are committed to having a strategic plan that is action oriented and provides every citizen in Minnesota the opportunity for outdoor recreation experiences.

Thank you for your interest in Minnesota's state parks.



Courtland Nelson, Director
Division of Parks and Recreation

Figure 4 - Resource Preservation Needs for Minnesota's Landscape Regions



Source: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation. 2000. Minnesota State Park System Land Study.

Minnesota's Landscape Regions:
 Part of the DNR Division of Parks and Recreation's statutory mission is to preserve examples of Minnesota's native landscapes. State parks are to "exemplify the natural characteristics of the major landscape regions of the state, as shown by accepted classifications. . . ." MS 86A.05 subd 2.
 The DNR and U.S. Forest Service developed an Ecological Classification System (ECS) for ecological mapping and landscape classification in Minnesota.
 ECS Subsections are defined using glacial deposition processes, surface bedrock formations, topographic relief, and distribution of plants, especially trees. Minnesota has 26 subsections.
 The Division analyzed these subsections as part of its Minnesota State Park System Land Study. The gap analysis followed 5 steps:
 1. Define biological, geological and cultural resource themes across the state.
 2. Identify how well each theme is represented within the state park system.
 3. Identify which themes are present in each subsection.
 4. Determine the significance of themes within each subsection.
 5. Identify which significant themes for each subsection are not preserved in the state park system.
 Subsections with large numbers of unrepresented themes in one or more of the resource categories were identified as resource preservation need areas.
 Subsections without a unit of the state park system were also identified as areas with resource preservation needs.

ECS Subsections with Greatest Biological Resource Preservation Needs

Seven biological themes were identified as high or medium need for representation in over twelve subsections.

The three ECS subsections with the greatest number of unrepresented themes are:

- Hardwood Hills
- Anoka Sand Plain
- Rochester Plateau

ECS Subsections with Greatest Geological Resource Preservation Needs

Two geologic themes are identified to have high or medium need for representation in the state park system in six subsections.

The two ECS subsections with the greatest number of unrepresented themes are:

- Inner Coteau
- Minnesota River Prairie

ECS Subsections with Greatest Cultural Resource Preservation Needs

There is limited data available for preservation and interpretation of many types of cultural features. Information on standing structures is robust, because the structures are readily observable. Information on subsurface archaeological sites is more limited since they are only documented when they are disturbed for research, construction or land use activities.

The ECS Subsection with the greatest number of unrepresented themes is:

- Red River Prairie

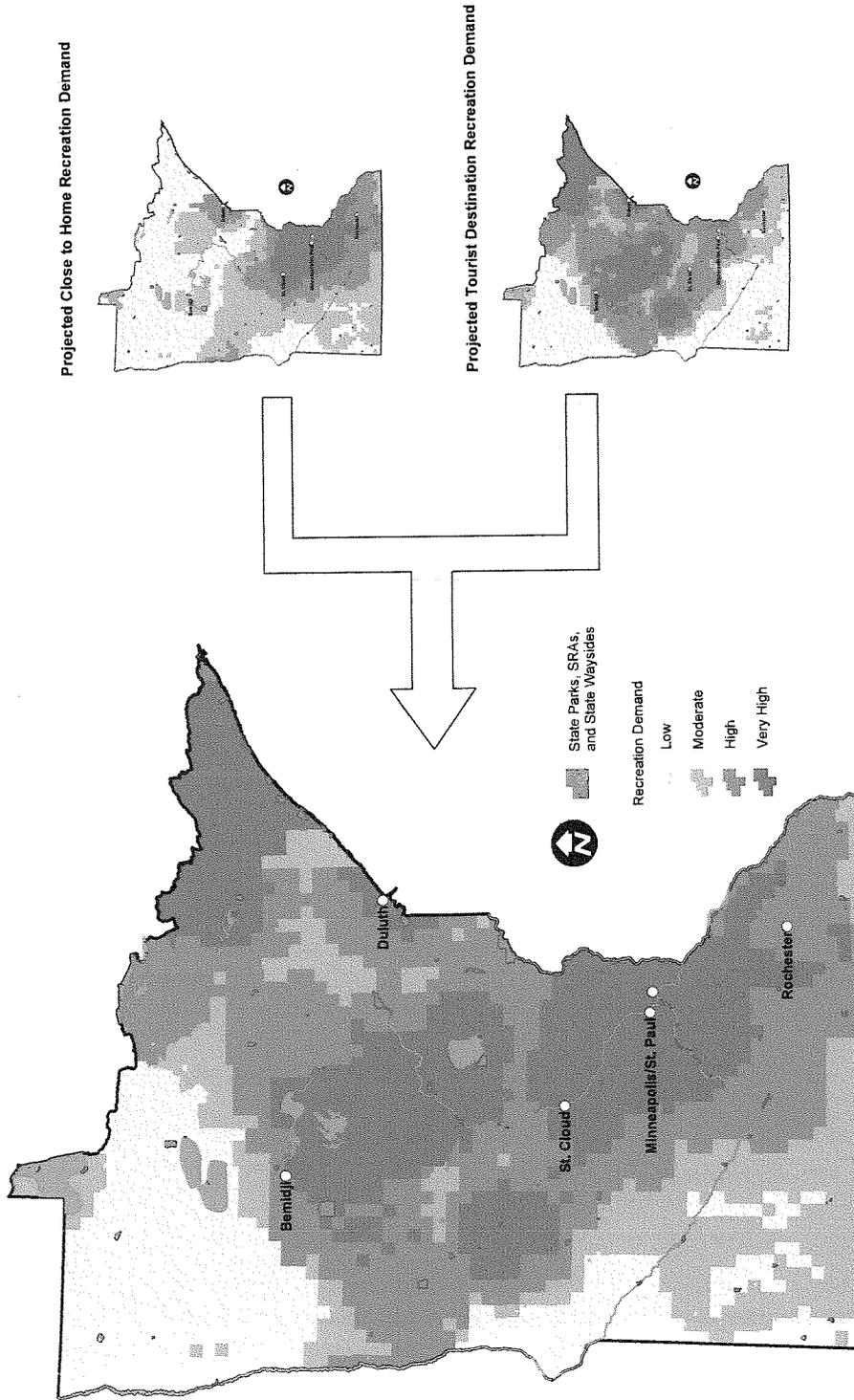
ECS Subsections without State Park System Units

Subsections without state park system units have unrepresented themes across several of the above categories.

The three ECS Subsection without state park system units are:

- Littlefork-Vermillion Uplands
- Laurentian Uplands
- Toimi Uplands

Figure 5 - Projected Outdoor Recreation Demand for 2025



Source: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation. 2000. Minnesota State Park System Land Study.

Projecting Recreation Demand:

A part of the DNR Division of Parks and Recreation's statutory mission is to provide recreation opportunities, without impairment to its resource base.

The Division developed a projection for recreation demand in 2025 as part of its Minnesota State Park System Land Study. The projection used population and tourism destination forecasts to estimate the geographic distribution of recreation demand for 2025.

Two components were used to develop the projection:

1. **Close to home demand** – representing the number of people that live within 30 miles of any particular location. This component is meant to capture primarily day users, or local demand for recreation by people near their homes.
2. **Tourism destination demand** – representing the number of recreation hours spent within 30 miles of major tourism destinations. This component is meant to capture demand for recreation facilities from people on vacation within 30 miles of their primary destination.

A composite of two components serves as a projection of the demand for outdoor recreation in Minnesota for 2025.

The Minnesota Office of Tourism identifies the tourism destination locations annually.

Zumbro River and Whitewater River

A Water Trail Guide

This information is available in alternative format upon request.

Minnesota State Parks and Trails Regional Unit
1200 Warner Road
St. Paul, MN 55106
651-772-7900

Whitewater Wildlife Management Area Office
Route 2, Box 353
Altona, MN 55910
507-932-4132

Online water trail information and maps can be found at www.mnstateparks.com/watertrails

The DNR Information Center provides information on recreational opportunities in Minnesota.

The DNR Information Center
500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-0480
651-296-5157 (Main Area) MN Toll-Free
651-296-5157 (Main Area) MN Toll-Free
TTY: 1-800-657-3929 (MN Toll-Free)
WWW.DNR.MN.GOV

You can make a difference by joining the DNR Adopt-A-River program. This program allows you to help improve your favorite recreation area. Call the DNR Information Center for a brochure, or visit www.mnstateparks.com/adoptriver.

Photo: DNR
© 2010 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

THE RIVER

Limestone and sandstone layers over the Zumbro and Whitewater rivers are the result of glacial erosion in Minnesota to the Mississippi. The Zumbro's narrow valley is lined with rocky outcrops for much of its length below the Rochester area. The Whitewater River is a more typical river with wide, sandy banks and a more meandering course. The Whitewater River is a more typical river with wide, sandy banks and a more meandering course.

LAY OF THE LAND

Southeastern Minnesota's landscape is as picturesque today as it was when early explorers first viewed its steep, rugged bluffs and deep river valleys. The Zumbro and Whitewater rivers were formed by the retreat of the last glaciers, which carved through hundreds of feet of limestone and sandstone. The Zumbro River was named by the Native Americans because in the spring it turned a milky white as high water broke the light-colored clay on its banks. There are no white sand beaches along the river. The designated canoe route meanders through the bottomlands of the Whitewater W.M.A. and the upper part of the Zumbro W.M.A. is a designated trout stream. As such, there is a high density of trout in the river. The river is more suited to the observation of wildlife, vegetation and scenery than a boating focused adventure.

WHITESTRONG W.M.A.

The Whitewater Wildlife Management Area acquisition began in 1931 after the Rochester Zoak Walton League and the Whitewater Wildlife Management Area were established. It currently encompasses 27,000 acres, making it the largest tract of public land in southern Minnesota. The area is a mosaic of forest, wetlands, and open fields. The Whitewater Wildlife Management Area is a mosaic of forest, wetlands, and open fields. The Whitewater Wildlife Management Area is a mosaic of forest, wetlands, and open fields.

RIVER TOWNS

Geneseo: Bears the name of an ancient township in northern Italy, the birthplace of Columbus.
Hammond: A railway village, named for Joseph Hammond, the farmer who settled here in 1856 and on whose land the town was platted. It offers a picnic area and carry-in access.
Kellogg: Founded in 1877. Named by officers of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway. The town is a typical small town with a variety of services, including a gas station, convenience store and a restaurant.
Mazon: Settled in 1855. Named for Ivan Mazon, a Cassock County farmer who settled here in 1855. It offers a picnic area, carry-in access, campground, gas station, convenience store and restaurant.
Millville: Settled in part due to the "fine water power of the Zumbro River, falling 14 feet." It offers a picnic area, carry-in access, campground, gas station and restaurant.
Orange: Founded in 1854. Named after the Orinco River in France. It offers a picnic area, carry-in access, carry-in access, campground, gas station, convenience store and restaurant.
Pine Island: Settled in 1835. Derived its name from salt white sandstone bluffs that surround the island. It offers a picnic area, carry-in access, campground, gas station, convenience store and restaurant.
Rochester: Settled in 1855. Named after Rochester, New York. It offers a picnic area, carry-in access, campground, gas station, convenience store and restaurant.
Thelma: A railway village, named for Henry Thelma, on whose land this village was platted. It offers a picnic area, carry-in access, campground, gas station, convenience store and restaurant.
Zumbro Falls: Settled in 1854. It's name is a compound of the French word "Zumbro" and the Dakota suffix "fa", meaning "at". The city offers a picnic area, carry-in access, campground, gas station, convenience store and restaurant.
Ellis: This village on the Whitewater River was named after an island in Italy famed for rich iron ore deposits.

NATURAL COMMUNITIES

The Zumbro and Whitewater rivers are home to a variety of natural communities. The Zumbro River is a typical river with wide, sandy banks and a more meandering course. The Whitewater River is a more typical river with wide, sandy banks and a more meandering course.

SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEMS

On our recreation trips, we encourage you to observe and appreciate the natural world around you. The Zumbro and Whitewater rivers are home to a variety of natural communities. The Zumbro River is a typical river with wide, sandy banks and a more meandering course. The Whitewater River is a more typical river with wide, sandy banks and a more meandering course.

RIVER WILDLIFE

Rare amphibians and reptiles in these river valleys require a variety of different habitats. Wooded floodplains and slopes along the Zumbro River provide food and cover for wood frogs, common frogs, and American toads. The Whitewater River provides a variety of habitats for a variety of species, including muskrats, water snakes, and water turtles. The Zumbro River provides a variety of habitats for a variety of species, including muskrats, water snakes, and water turtles.

TRIP PLANNING & USE

For Your Safety:

- Know your skills and capabilities when selecting a route.
- Check weather forecasts and river conditions before you start.
- Pay attention to weather forecasts.
- Take along a spare paddle.
- Each person is responsible to have a personal flotation device.
- Be cautious of river obstructions, such as over hanging and dead trees in the water.
- Be cautious of rapids and boulders with caution.
- The average canoeing speed is two to three miles per hour. Water level depends largely on the flow at the Rochester area. The Zumbro River is a typical river with wide, sandy banks and a more meandering course. The Whitewater River is a more typical river with wide, sandy banks and a more meandering course.

GLACIAL MELTSTREAM RUSHED DOWNSTREAM THROUGH FEET OF LIMESTONE AND SANDSTONE.

The Zumbro and Whitewater rivers are the result of glacial erosion in Minnesota to the Mississippi. The Zumbro's narrow valley is lined with rocky outcrops for much of its length below the Rochester area. The Whitewater River is a more typical river with wide, sandy banks and a more meandering course. The Whitewater River is a more typical river with wide, sandy banks and a more meandering course.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

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ROUTE DESCRIPTION

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Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment

On Nov. 4, Minnesota voters approved a proposed Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment. During the 2008 session, the Minnesota Legislature agreed to place the amendment on the ballot.

Below are answers to frequently asked questions about the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment.

The question that was on the 2008 General Election ballot stated:

"Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to dedicate funding to protect our drinking water sources; to protect, enhance, and restore our wetlands, prairies, forests, and fish, game, and wildlife habitat; to preserve our arts and cultural heritage; to support our parks and trails; and to protect, enhance, and restore our lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater by increasing the sales and use tax rate beginning July 1, 2009, by three-eighths of one percent on taxable sales until the year 2034?"

Yes

No

How much money will this raise and what would it be used for?

The current general sales and use tax rate is 6.5%. Sales tax revenue is deposited in the state General Fund. The amendment will increase the general sales and use tax rate by three-eighths of one percentage point (0.375%) to 6.875% and dedicate the additional proceeds as follows:

- 33% to a newly created Outdoor Heritage Fund to be spent only to **restore, protect, and enhance wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for game, fish, and wildlife** (approximately \$80 million in FY 2010 and \$91 million in FY 2011);
- 33% to a newly-created Clean Water Fund to be spent only **to protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater, with at least 5% of the fund spent to protect drinking water sources** (approximately \$80 million in FY 2010 and \$91 million in FY 2011);
- 14.25% to a newly created Parks and Trails Fund to be spent only **to support parks and trails of regional or statewide significance** (approximately \$35 million in FY 2010 and \$39 million in FY 2011);
- 19.75% to a newly created Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund to be spent only **for arts, arts education, and arts access, and to preserve Minnesota's history and cultural heritage** (approximately \$48 million in FY 2010 and \$54.5 million in FY 2011).

These figures are estimates from the Minnesota Department of Revenue; the total amount of money available from future sales tax receipts can be greatly affected by general economic conditions in the state.

The money dedicated under the constitutional amendment will be appropriated by law. The dedicated money must supplement traditional funding sources for these purposes and could not be used as a substitute.

Will the DNR receive this money?

These dollars will not go directly to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The Legislature will make final funding decisions based on the merits of any proposed projects. Projects can be proposed by the DNR as well as other organizations and agencies.

The constitutional amendment states that funds can only be used for projects that meet the criteria established by law. That is, they must restore, protect, and enhance wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for game, fish, and wildlife; protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater; and support parks and trails of regional or statewide significance.

What are the DNR's long-range conservation plans and strategies?

[View the DNR's long-range conservation plans and strategies](#)

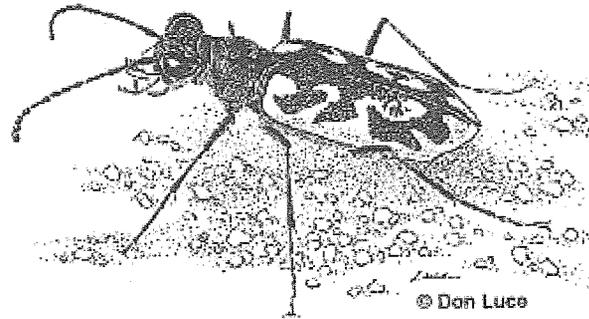
How are spending decisions being made?

Learn more about how the [Lessard Outdoor Heritage Council](#) EXT will make recommendations for 1/8 of the new sales tax revenue. The council is made up of a group of Minnesotans asked to collaborate and develop priority conservation spending areas for the projected revenue.

Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare

An Action Plan for Minnesota Wildlife Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy

Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare is a strategic plan focused on managing Minnesota's populations of "species in greatest conservation need." Species in greatest conservation need (SGCN) are defined as native animals whose populations are rare, declining, or vulnerable to decline and are below levels desirable to ensure their long-term health and stability.



In Minnesota, 292 species meet the **definition** of species in greatest conservation need (SGCN). This **set of SGCN** includes mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fishes, insects, and mollusks, and represents about one-quarter of the nearly 1,200 animal species in Minnesota that were assessed for this project.

Tomorrow's Habitat is the product of a partnership of conservation organizations working together to ensure that these species populations are sustained for future generations. The Department of Natural Resources is leading this effort here in Minnesota, in partnership with wide range of conservation organizations and individuals, including the **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, The Nature Conservancy, University of Minnesota, Audubon Minnesota, U.S. Geological Survey, Natural Resources Research Institute**, and many others. This CWCS partnership encourages interested conservation stakeholders to use the information presented in the CWCS as a menu for action, to adopt and adapt to their unique interests and capabilities.



State Wildlife Grants Program

In 2001, the U.S. Congress created the **State Wildlife Grants Program (SWG)** that provided funding to manage species in greatest conservation need. One of the requirements to participate in this program was that all states and territories develop a wildlife action plan by October 2005. Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare is our response to this congressional mandate. It helps guide how the SWG program operates in Minnesota, and provides direction for sustaining species in greatest

conservation need into the future.

The Primary Challenge: Habitat Loss and Degradation

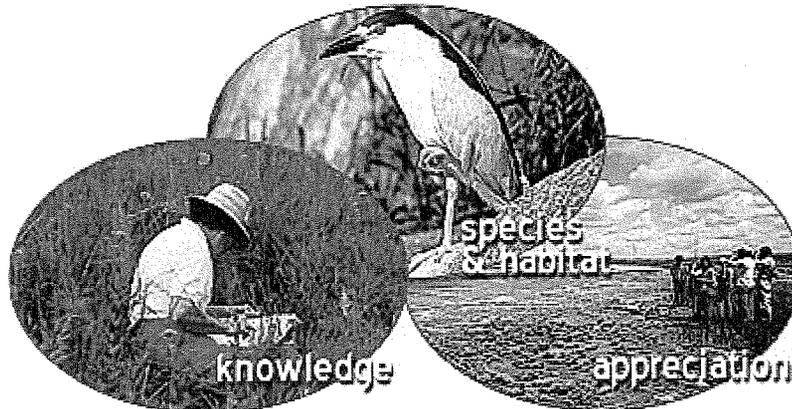
Tomorrow's Habitat identifies habitat loss and degradation as the primary problem facing species in greatest conservation need in Minnesota. It recommends a

simple and direct approach to this problem: conserve key habitats used by Minnesota's SGCN in order to conserve the majority of Minnesota's wildlife. The partnership arrived at this approach over the course of an intense 30-month planning effort in consultation with a broad variety of conservation stakeholders. It is based on a series of analyses that examined the needs of all 292 SGCN and identified key habitats that benefit them. This analysis was conducted in each of Minnesota's 25 ecological subsections.

Three Goals of Tomorrow's Habitat

Tomorrow's Habitat has three goals to address the needs of Minnesota's species in greatest conservation need:

1. Stabilize and increase populations of species in greatest conservation need
2. Improve knowledge about species in greatest conservation need
3. Enhance people's appreciation and enjoyment of species in greatest conservation need



What's Next: Operational Planning

The Department of Natural Resources, in partnership other conservation organizations, is turning attention to operational planning for Tomorrow's Habitat. A team of people will explore ways to support and incorporate the CWCS strategic vision and priority conservation actions into the ongoing operations of conservation organizations. The team will be asking how the vision and actions in Tomorrow's Habitat reflect existing priorities, and how they can be used to help shape future conservation priorities for these organizations. A very important aspect of operational planning will be to create a framework and commitment to long-term monitoring of species in greatest conservation need and key habitats.

Interested conservationists are encouraged to participate and support this new phase of planning for the Wild and Rare.

Questions?

Daren Carlson

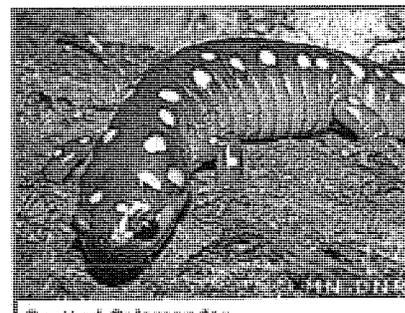
Phone: 651-259-5079

E-mail: daren.carlson@dnr.state.mn.us

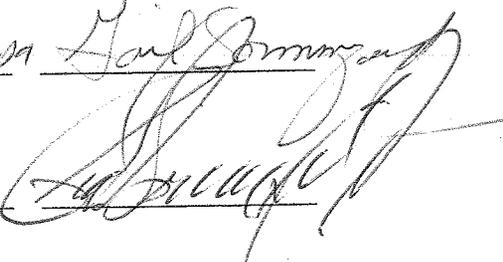
Brian Stenquist

Phone: 651-259-5144

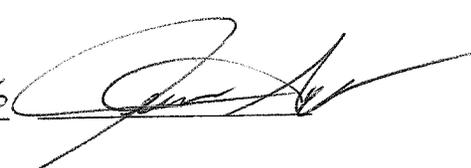
E-mail: brian.stenquist@dnr.state.mn.us



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<u>Jill Drayer</u>	<u>59207 423rd Ave. Mazeppa</u>	<u></u>
<u>Kia Hackman</u>	<u>59919 430th Ave</u>	<u></u>
<u>MARILYN GROSSBACH</u>	<u>MAZEPPA 42931 595th St.</u>	<u></u>
<u>Gail Sommaywell</u>	<u>48718 240th Ave Mazeppa</u>	<u></u>
<u>Red Sommaywell</u>	<u>" " "</u>	<u></u>
<u>Marilyn Kastler</u>	<u>59206 423 AV Mazeppa MN 55956</u>	<u></u>
<u>Shirley & Denny McWaters</u>	<u>21612 480 St. - 7th</u>	<u></u>
<u>Jeff Vilen</u>	<u>39270 590th St Zumbro Falls</u>	<u></u>
<u>Colleen Stacey</u>	<u>39986 590th St, Zumbro Falls</u>	<u></u>
<u>Scott Brown Stacey</u>	<u>39986 590th St, Zumbro Falls</u>	<u></u>

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<u>Thomas C Grossbach</u>	<u>42931 595ST Mazeppa</u>	<u>Thom C Grossbach</u>
<u>Laverne S. Hofschulte</u>	<u>11948 CARDLINE NE Fgin</u>	<u>Laverne S. Hofschulte</u>
<u>David Cocker</u>	<u>59684 415th Ave Mazeppa</u>	
<u>Denice Cocker</u>	<u>59684 415th Ave, Mazeppa</u>	<u>Denice Cocker</u>
<u>Christine Wheatly</u>	<u>39270 590th St Zumbro Falls, MN 55991</u>	<u>Christine Wheatly</u>
<u>KEVIN KASTLER</u>	<u>59225 CTY RD. 71 MAZEPPA, MN. 55954</u>	<u>K Kastler</u>
<u>BARB REGNIER</u>	<u>59363 CTY RD 71 MAZEPPA, MN 55956</u>	<u>Barb Regnier</u>
<u>Jeannie Schreeder</u>	<u>48325-240th Ave Mazeppa, MN 55956</u>	
<u>Katherine Rohlfing</u>	<u>2310 15th Ave NW Rochester, MN 55901</u>	<u>K. Rohlfing</u>

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ADDRESS

SIGNATURE

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MAZEPPA
48325 24th AVE

Jim Schreaden

Stephen Hactman

59919 430th Ave
Mazeppa MN

Step Hactman

Suzanne Rohlfing

2310 15th Ave NW
Rochester MN 55901

Suzanne Rohlfing

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<u>Rob Sawinski</u>	<u>39050 590th ST. ZF</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>Ava Sawinski</u>	<u>" " "</u>	<u>Ava Sawinski</u>
<u>Ellen Swanson</u> <u>Ellen Swanson</u>	<u>58507 - 390th Ave, ZF</u>	<u>Ellen Swanson</u>
<u>GENE SWANSON</u>	<u>58507 390th Ave, SF</u>	<u>Eugene Swanson</u>
<u>Bob Seemann</u>	<u>39152 590th ST</u>	<u>Robert C. Seemann</u>
<u>ANITA SEEMANN</u>	<u>39152 590th ST</u>	<u>Anita Seemann</u>
<u>James D. Gerken</u>	<u>39476 590th ST</u>	<u>James Gerken</u>
<u>Laune M. Gerken</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>Laune Gerken</u>
<u>Janice Baker</u>	<u>39821 590th 590th ST. Falls Zumbro</u>	<u>Janice Baker</u>
<u>Joel Baker</u>	<u>39821 590th ST</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>James Baker</u>	<u>39821 590ST</u>	<u>J. E. Baker</u>

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Ed Wyant

40011 590th St

Edward Wyant

Lester Windkast

40325 590th St

Lester Windkast

Lori Windkast

40325 590th St

Lori Windkast

Jody Weckwerth

39386 590th St.

Jody Weckwerth

Craig Weckwerth

39386 590th St

Craig Weckwerth

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<u>NAME (print)</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
<u>Brian Darcy</u>	<u>244 Summit St SE</u>	<u>Brian Darcy</u>
<u>Duane Hofschulte</u>	<u>423 3rd Ave S.E.</u>	<u>Duane Hofschulte</u>
<u>Carol Hofschulte</u>	<u>↓ ↓ ↓</u>	<u>Carol Hofschulte</u>
<u>Dora Helderud</u>	<u>407 3rd Ave SE</u>	<u>Dora Helderud</u>
<u>Willa Grubke</u>	<u>260 2nd St.</u>	<u>Willa Grubke</u>
<u>Michelle Peterson</u>	<u>408 2nd Ave SE</u>	<u>Michelle</u>
<u>Paul Stimets</u>	<u>710 River Bluff Rd</u>	<u>Paul Stimets</u>
<u>Lisa Stimets</u>	<u>710 River Bluff Rd</u>	<u>Lisa Stimets</u>
<u>Duane Windhous</u>	<u>719 River Bluff Rd</u>	<u>Duane Windhous</u>
<u>Glen Holland</u>	<u>957 River Bluff Rd</u>	<u>Glen Holland</u>
<u>Wayne Siem</u>	<u>322 Cherry St E</u>	<u>Wayne Siem</u>
<u>Cynthia Smith</u>	<u>Mazeppa, Mn 55956</u> <u>170 2nd Ave SE 55956</u>	<u>Cynthia Smith</u>

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<u>Ray Vik</u>	<u>23603 465th st.</u>	<u>Ray Vik</u>
<u>Fried Siewert</u>	<u>348 Chestnut St</u>	<u>Fried Siewert</u>
<u>Cindy Pahl</u>	<u>389 4th Ave NW</u>	<u>Cindy A Pahl</u>
<u>Kathy Steffes</u>	<u>115 2nd Ave. SE</u>	<u>Kathy Steffes</u>
<u>Bea Tweed</u>	<u>172 cherry st</u>	<u>Bea Tweed</u>
<u>Sarah Nelson</u>	<u>137 2nd Ave NE</u>	<u>Sarah H. Nelson</u>
<u>Mary Sibley</u>	<u>167 2nd Ave SE. Mezappa</u>	<u>Mary Sibley</u>
<u>Danae Ladewig</u>	<u>166 2nd Ave SE</u>	<u>Danae Ladewig</u>
<u>Joe Weber</u>	<u>253 2nd Ave SE</u>	<u>Joe Weber</u>
<u>Andrea Treistad</u>	<u>345 2nd Ave SE</u>	<u>Andrea Treistad</u>
<u>Bill Hayes</u>	<u>408 2nd Ave SE</u>	<u>Bill Hayes</u>
<u>Carnie Perkins</u>	<u>419 2nd Ave SE</u>	<u>Carnie Perkins</u>

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Ladrie Warner Ladrie Warner	1123 Cherry St. E.	Ladrie Warner
^{Kevin Eckblad} Kevin Eckblad	43810 453rd ST	Kevin Eckblad
Dolores Burdick	Mazeppa, Mn.	Dolores Burdick
JOHN GRAHLKE	Mazeppa	John Grahlke
Jennifer Diggins	Mazeppa	Jennifer Diggins
Penny Faber	Mazeppa	Penny Faber
Shelly Liffbrig	1096 Cherry St, Mazeppa	Shelly Liffbrig
^{DeAnn Horsman} De Ann Horsman	Mazeppa	DeAnn Horsman
^{Delane Liffbrig} Delane Liffbrig	1199 Valley Heights	Delane Liffbrig
Terri Liffbrig	1150 Cherry St mazeppa	Terri Liffbrig
MIKE HORSMAN	1183 CHERRY ST. E.	Mike Horsman
Willie Frank	408 1st Ave S	William Frank
Annette Tabor	1411 Ave. NE mazeppa mn	Annette Tabor

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<u>NAME (print)</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
<u>Kay McBede</u>	<u>P.O. 227 MAREPPA</u>	<u>Kay McBede</u>
<u>George Swenson</u>	<u>214 Chestnut St.</u>	<u>George Swenson</u>
<u>Ken Berg</u>	<u>353 1ST ave S</u>	<u>Ken Berg</u>
<u>Jason Neshem</u> <u>Jason Neshem</u>	<u>P.O. Box 67 MAREPPA</u>	<u>Jason Neshem</u>
<u>Dennis Bordick</u>	<u>P.O. Box 235 MAREPPA</u>	<u>Dennis Bordick</u>
<u>Steven J. Popliniski</u>	<u>255 1ST AVE North</u> <u>MAREPPA MN</u> <u>55456</u>	<u>Steven J. Popliniski</u>
<u>My Auld</u>	<u>41599 240th Ave</u> <u>MAREPPA</u>	<u>My Auld</u>
<u>Ken Markson</u>	<u>47127 Cty 11 Blvd, Mareppa</u>	<u>Ken Markson</u>
<u>Dee Markson</u>	<u>47127 Cty 11 Blvd - Mareppa</u>	<u>Dee Markson</u>
<u>Harold Porter</u>	<u>50071 240th Ave Way</u>	<u>Harold Porter</u>
<u>Jamra Chiodo</u>	<u>50071 - 240th Ave Way</u>	<u>Jamra Chiodo</u>

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<u>Julie Adler</u>	<u>59504 Cty Rd 71 Mazepa</u>	<u>Julie Adler</u>
<u>Susan Ziombka</u>	<u>59775 Cty Rd 71 Mazepa</u>	<u>Susan Ziombka</u>
<u>Colene Lenhart</u>	<u>59814 415th Mazepa</u>	<u>Colene Lenhart</u>
<u>Stan Lenhart</u>	<u>59814 415th Mazepa</u>	<u>Stan Lenhart</u>
<u>Sue Johnson</u>	<u>42167 603 St Mazepa</u>	<u>Sue Johnson</u>
<u>Clyde Johnson</u>	<u>42167 603 ST. MAZEPPA</u>	<u>Clyde Johnson</u>
<u>Craig Thoreson</u>	<u>59444 415th MAZEPPA</u>	<u>Craig Thoreson</u>
<u>Jean Thoreson</u>	<u>59444 415th Ave MAZEPPA</u>	<u>Jean Thoreson</u>
<u>Nancy A Whetstone</u> <u>Nancy Whetstone</u>	<u>59342 County Rd 71</u>	<u>Nancy Whetstone</u>
<u>Bruce Whetstone</u>	<u>59342 Cty Rd 71</u>	<u>Bruce Whetstone</u>
<u>Richard Staub</u>	<u>48429-240th AVE</u> <u>MAZEPPA</u>	<u>Richard Staub</u>

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Ralph Frank	311 2nd AVE SE Mazepa	Ralph E. Frank
Norma Frank	" " "	Norma E. Frank
Gwen Ross	328 2nd ave SE	Mazepa, Mn.
Dona Ross	" " "	Dona Ross
Patricia Kohlbeck	186 Summit St SE	Patricia Kohlbeck
Andrew Miller	323 3rd Ave SE	Andrew Miller
Charles Gilmore	827 River Bluff Rd SE	Charles Gilmore 55963
Amy Gadiant	48741 230 Ave	Pine Island, Mn
Cynthia Olmsted	Mazepa, MN 55965 59634 County Rd 71 59753 County Rd 71	CKO Mazepa, MN Mazepa, Mn 55956
Nancy Gorman		

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<u>NAME (print)</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
<u>Travis Liffriq</u>	<u>64223 Cty Rd 7</u>	<u>Travis Liffriq</u>
<u>Rob Liffriq</u>	<u>63492 Cty Rd 7</u>	<u>Rob Liffriq</u>
<u>Jamie Warner</u>	<u>1123 Cherry St E</u>	<u>Jamie Warner</u>
<u>Steve Markus</u>	<u>311 4th Ave NW</u>	<u>Steve Markus</u>
<u>JOE LIFFRIQ</u>	<u>1199 VALLEY HEIGHTS</u>	<u>Joe Liffriq</u>
<u>BRIAN GROEBBER</u>	<u>47632 240TH AVE</u>	<u>Brian Groebber</u>
<u>Sara J. Baunler</u> <u>Sara J. Baunler</u>	<u>47632 240th Ave</u>	<u>Sara J. Baunler</u>
<u>Linda Friedrich</u>	<u>19347 Cty. 10 Blvd</u>	<u>Linda Friedrich</u>
<u>Mark Van Natta</u>	<u>128 Chestnut St</u>	<u>Mark Van Natta</u>
<u>Lonna Swenson</u>	<u>410 Chestnut St</u>	<u>Lonna Swenson</u>
<u>DAN SIEMS</u>	<u>P.O. Box 82 Mazeppa,</u>	<u>Dan Siems</u>

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 Security RE: the CAPX2020 High Voltage Transmission Line : DATE- May 10, 2010

NAME (print)	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
<u>Rich Vander Weerd</u>	<u>49183 240th Ave Mazeppa MN.</u>	
<u>Justin Staub</u>	↓	
<u>Don Schreuder</u>	<u>48056 240 ave</u>	<u>Don Schreuder Mazeppa mn</u>
<u>MARCELLA Schreuder</u>	<u>Same</u>	<u>Marcella Schreuder</u>
<u>Ginger Staub</u>	<u>49171 240th Ave</u>	<u>Ginger Staub Mazeppa mn</u>
<u>David Staub</u>	<u>49171 240th Ave</u>	<u>David Staub</u>
<u>RON Johnson</u>	<u>43056 595th St. Mazeppa, mn</u>	<u>Ronald E Johnson</u>
<u>Bonnie Perzynski</u>	<u>43056 595th St. Mazeppa, mn</u>	<u>Bonnie Perzynski</u>
<u>Marilyn Hofschulte</u>	<u>780 Cherry St. E Mazeppa mn</u>	<u>Marilyn Hofschulte</u>
<u>Roger Hofschulte</u>	<u>780 Cherry St E Mazeppa, MN</u>	<u>Roger Hofschulte</u>
<u>Ted Brenny</u>	<u>47211 County 11 Blvd Mazeppa mn</u>	<u>Ted Brenny</u>

Signature for the letter/petition from the North Route Group to the MN Office of Energy
Security RE: the CAPX2020 High Voltage Transmission Line : DATE- May 10, 2010

<u>NAME (print)</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
<u>DUANE KLEIN</u>	<u>59106 403 AVE ⁵⁵⁹⁹¹ _{MIN} ZUMBRO FALLS</u>	<u>Duane Klein</u>
<u>Jay Whitesel</u>	<u>59345 Cty Rt. 7</u>	<u>Jay Whitesel</u>
<u>Fred Lipp</u>	<u>PO BOX 237 MAZEPPA MN</u>	<u>Fred Lipp</u>
<u>Amy Kastler</u>	<u>59225 CTY Rd 71 _{Mazeppa, MN}</u>	<u>Amy E Kastler</u>
<u>Mary Fleming</u>	<u>59237 423rd Ave _{Mazeppa MN 55956}</u>	<u>Mary Fleming</u>
<u>David Fleming</u>	<u>59237 423rd Ave _{Mazeppa, MN}</u>	<u>David Fleming</u>
<u>Patrick Adams</u>	<u>59179 423RD AVE _{MAZEPPA MN}</u>	<u>Patrick Adams</u>
<u>Sara Adams</u>	<u>59179 423rd Ave _{Mazeppa, MN}</u>	<u>Sara Adams</u>
<u>Brian Drueyer</u>	<u>59207 423rd Ave _{Mazeppa, MN}</u>	<u>Brian Drueyer</u>
<u>Robert Glanville</u>	<u>58869 County Road 71 _{Mazeppa}</u>	<u>Robert Glanville</u>
<u>Valyn Adler</u>	<u>59504 County Road 71</u>	<u>Valyn Adler</u>

Signature for the letter/petition from the North Route Group to the MN Office of Energy
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<u>NAME (print)</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
<u>Jeanette C. Hackman</u>	<u>14137 N Cty Rd 24</u> <u>Wabasha MN 55981</u>	<u>Jeanette C Hackman</u>
<u>Lavern A. Hackman</u>	<u>Wabasha MN, 55981</u> <u>14137 N CTR. Rd 24</u>	<u>Lavern Hackman</u>
<u>Briant Fruth</u> <u>Brad</u>	<u>48925 Cty 11 blvd</u> <u>Pine Island, MN 55963</u>	<u>Brad</u>
<u>Robin Fruth-Dugstad</u>	<u>48925 Cty 11 Blvd</u> <u>Pine Island, MN 55963</u>	<u>R Fruth Dugstad</u>
<u>BRAD DUGSTAD</u>	<u>48925, CTY. 11 BLVD</u> <u>PINE ISLAND, MN 55963</u>	<u>Brad</u>
<u>Danny Anderson</u>	<u>48662 C 11 BLVD</u> <u>Pine Island MN 55963</u>	<u>Danny Anderson</u>
<u>James E. Dolan</u>	<u>59611 Cty Rd. 71</u>	<u>James E. Dolan</u>
<u>Marian R. Dolan</u>	<u>59611 CTY. Rd. 71</u>	<u>Marian R. Dolan</u>
<u>JEFF DOLAN</u>	<u>59611 CT. RD. 71</u>	<u>Jeff Dolan</u>
<u>Paul + Laura Mulholland</u>	<u>59413 County Rd 7</u>	<u>Paul + Laura</u>
<u>Dori Klein</u>	<u>59106 403 Ave.</u>	<u>Dori Klein</u>

Signature for the letter/petition from the North Route Group to the MN Office of Energy
Security RE: the CAPX2020 High Voltage Transmission Line: DATE- 5-10-10

NAME (print)

ADDRESS

SIGNATURE

Jim Peterson

457. CHEVY ST
MAZEP A MN
167 24000

Jim Peterson

ERVIN Sibley

MAZEP A MN

Ervin Sibley

Deb House-Finley

37095 CR 70
Zumbro Falls

(signed by proxy - Sibley)
Deb House-Finley

Jim Finley

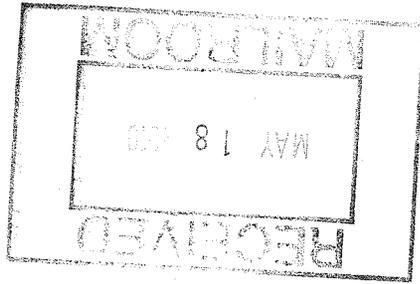
37095 CR 70
Zumbro Falls

(signed by proxy - Sibley)
Jim Finley

David Roth

1510 5th AVE NW
ROCHESTER MN 55901

David Roth



May 17, 2010

The North Route Group

C/O 2301 15th Ave NE

Rochester, MN 55901

Raymond Kirsch

MOES Public Advisor

85 7th Place East, Suite 500

St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

RE: Docket # E002/TL-09-1448

Dear Mr. Kirsch,

Enclosed is a letter from the North Route Group expressing our concerns, and factors we wish to be included in the scope of the DEIS for the CAPX2020 High Voltage Transmission line project. With regard to the Alternate North Route from Rte 52 through Zumbro Township, we have included some comments and recommendations for your consideration.

Although there is one letter enclosed, we request that you recognize each signature individually, as if you received one letter from each of us. Some of us will also forward additional comments and considerations separate from this letter

We thank you in advance for your thoughtful review of our concerns.

Very sincerely and respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Rohlfig

On behalf of The North Route Group

May 10, 2010

The North Route Group
C/O 2310 15th Ave NW
Rochester, MN 55901

Matthew Langan

Minnesota Office of Energy Security

85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

RE: Docket # E002/TL-09-1448

Dear Mr. Langan,

We are the North Route Group: citizens east and west, from Rte 52 to 375th Ave, of the proposed Alternate North Route crossing of the Zumbro River for the CAPX2020 345 KV Transmission Lines. Recognizing the MOES utilization of MN Statute 216E.03, subd. 7, and MN Rules 7849.5910, we would like to site our concerns and submit our recommendations for consideration for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Our land is in and near the Zumbro River and its Valley, located in Mazeppa, Zumbro and Pine Island townships. It is part of the Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood State Forest. It is an area of natural beauty and environmental significance. The river cuts through forest and woodlands, bluff land and wetlands. It is host to a significant number of plant and animal species. It has no existing corridor or existing river crossing structure. It would become fragmented habitat. It is the closest route to a registered eagles nest in section 10 of T109N R14W. It crosses a Special Regulation section of the Zumbro for Smallmouth Bass, and would transect the river just south and upriver from the North Zumbro tributary. It contains and is in close proximity to two of the rarest habitat in Minnesota: remnant prairie and oak savanna. This route transects two tree farms and property containing long standing Stewardship Plans with the Department of Natural Resources. One property is host to a monarch migratory stop/phenomenon.

The Zumbro River is a host to many year round recreational activities, many of which are reliant upon the river itself and the habitat, topography and aesthetics of the area. These include fishing, tubing, hunting, bird and eagle watching, nature trails, youth camps, and public campgrounds, a ski hill for winter skiing and boarding, and canoeing/kayaking. According to the *DNR Canoe and Boating Guide* for the Zumbro River, "two of the most popular trips (on the Zumbro) are from Zumbro Lake Power dam to Zumbro Falls, or Zumbro Falls to Hammond or Millville". Minn Statute 86A.02 supports the conservation of, and recognizes the importance of, these areas in the state.

The culture of the region is rural. Many folks here have owned or cared for these properties for many years or generations, be it farmed or wooded. We choose to continue our existing way of life void of noise, property disruption, land destruction and economic loss. The North Route crossing the Zumbro includes at least two century farms. The area immediately south of the proposed route hosts a history of "Bark Town", and the foundations of the original Wabasha County 7 bridge crossing and the old school house.

We have concern regarding proliferation in this natural, minimally disturbed area along the Zumbro River. The majority of this section of the Alternate North Route does not utilize existing corridors: transmission, road or property lines. It transects many property parcels where section and half section lines are used. A portion cuts cross country without any type of corridor utilization. There is no existing infrastructure at this proposed Zumbro River crossing. The above mentioned counters the Minnesota Non-Proliferation Policy, with reference to Minn Stat. 216E.03, subd. 7 (b) and Peer, 266 N.W. 2nd 868.

We have concern with regard to a 150 ft. clear cut, and then permanent maintenance of that swath in the area. The risk from continuous deforestation, chemicals, native species elimination, invasive species opportunity, and mechanical impacts both on and near the proposed route and access points to the route. We also have concern as to how these impacts will further degrade the area and the Zumbro River Valley.

Other concerns include: sink holes, the karst terrain and highly erodible soil, a private landing strip, proximity to livestock, inability to build a home or out buildings, missing notation of homes being built on the route permit application, GPS and farming operation interruption and safety, EMF and health impact on humans and animals, property value depreciation, and noise.

We ask that the MOES consider and refer to the following:

1) The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Mission Statement- **“ to work with citizens to conserve and manage the state’s natural resources, to provide outdoor recreation opportunities, and to provide for commercial uses of natural resources in a way that creates a sustainable quality of life”**. (MNDNR Division of Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan 2006-2011)

2) A Letter from the Division of Parks and Recreation Director, The Plan, Third Core Area **“ the opportunity to preserve Minnesota’s original landscapes for future generations”** (Cortland Nelson, MNDNR Division of Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan 2006-2011)

3) Minnesota Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment- **“ dedicate funding to protect our drinking water sources; to protect, enhance and restore our wetlands, prairies, forests and fish, game and wildlife habitat; to protect our parks and trails; and to protect, enhance and restore our lakes, rivers, streams and groundwater...** (Minnesota sales and use tax increase amendment, November 4, 2008)

4) Public and Private Partnership in the Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest- (*“My Healthy Woods, A Handbook for Family Woodland Owners: managing woods in Southeast Minnesota”*; The Aldo Leopold Foundation, 2010)

5) Action Plan for Minnesota Wildlife: Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy-**“Tomorrow’s Habitat identifies habitat loss and degradation as the primary problem facing species in greatest need in Minnesota.”** (Tomorrow’s Habitat for the Wild and Rare: Minnesota DNR)

We ask that that MOES consider the Preferred Route and other route alternatives that include: existing corridors to utilize or parallel, less river and creek crossings, less forest, and less natural habitat..

We ask that the MOES consider exclusion of the Alternate North Route crossing of the Zumbro River.

We ask for an updated biological survey by the DNR in the area of the proposed North Route Zumbro crossing.

We represent the present, and wish to conserve for the future. We respectfully submit our concerns and thank you for your careful consideration.

The North Route Group and concerned citizens near the North Route Alternate.

Cc: Ray Kirsch, MOES

Melissa Doperalski, MNDNR

Jamie Schrenzel, MNDNR

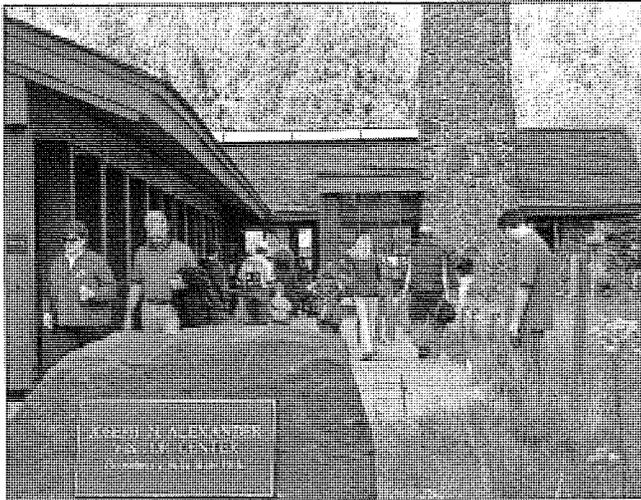
Enclosures and signature pages

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Mission Statement

The mission of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is to work with citizens to conserve and manage the state's natural resources, to provide outdoor recreation opportunities, and to provide for commercial uses of natural resources in a way that creates a sustainable quality of life.

DNR Division of Parks and Recreation Mission Statement

We will work with the people of Minnesota to provide a state park system which preserves and manages Minnesota's natural, scenic and cultural resources for present and future generations while providing appropriate recreational and educational opportunities.



What is Minnesota State Parks?

Minnesota State Parks is the common name often used to refer to the units operated by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Division of Parks and Recreation.

These units include:

- *State parks*
- *State recreation areas*
- *State waysides*

The Division of Parks and Recreation also oversees the operation of forest recreation areas, including both campgrounds and day use sites, within Minnesota's state forests.

The purposes and characteristics of the various units of the system are described in Minnesota Statutes Chapter 86A, known as the Outdoor Recreation Act (the statute is included in Appendix D).

The Division of Parks and Recreation is one unit within the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The Department's focus encompasses providing high-quality recreation opportunities, providing economic opportunities for resource industries, and preserving important features of the state's natural and cultural heritage. DNR programs include fish and wildlife habitat improvement, fire management, mineral potential research, management of public lands and waters, and many others – all designed to provide sustainable benefits to Minnesotans now and into the future.

A Letter from the Division Director:

Making Minnesota State Parks, "Everyone's Country Estate"

The subtitle of this plan, "Everyone's Country Estate", has a special meaning for those familiar with the history of Minnesota's state parks. It was a favorite phrase of Judge Clarence R. Magney, an early and very influential supporter of state parks. A lawyer, jurist, former mayor of Duluth, Minnesota and associate justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, Judge Magney personally advocated for the establishment of many state parks in the park system today, especially those along the shore of Lake Superior. He foresaw that state parks should, in his words, serve as everyman's country estate - their natural beauty and recreational qualities preserved for all citizens. Judge C.R. Magney State Park, along Lake Superior's shore, was named in his honor.

It is our goal to follow Judge Magney's vision and truly make Minnesota State Parks "Everyone's Country Estate."

In our rapidly changing world we are seeing many trends that will impact our state parks and how people recreate:

- Minnesota's population will grow by 27% from 2000 to 2030, bringing more development pressure to natural lands and additional demand for recreational opportunities.
- Minnesota's population is getting older – the average age will increase from 35.4 years in 2000 to 40.2 years by 2030. As people get older, visits to state parks decline, as does participation in other outdoor activities.
- Minnesota will grow more racially and ethnically diverse – the state's Hispanic and non-white population will nearly double to 19% in 2030. These groups have traditionally been less connected with state parks and other outdoor recreation sites.
- Minnesota is growing more urban and suburban – residents from these areas participate less in outdoor recreation, including visiting state parks.
- People are more connected via technology – the intranet, cell phones, GPS, etc. Many people expect to stay connected while recreating, or use technology as part of their recreation experience. Approximately 70% of the population uses technology for trip planning.

These trends and other demographic and social changes occurring in Minnesota and throughout the country will have an important impact on our efforts in the coming years.

Author Richard Louv, in his book "Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder," cites a growing body of knowledge that shows the value of connecting with the natural world and how that connection provides an antidote to many of the problems that ail our children today.

Nearly a century ago Luther Standing Bear, a member of the Lakota Indian tribe, said "Man's heart, away from nature, becomes hard; (the Lakota) knew that lack of respect for growing, living things soon led to lack of respect for humans too."

For those who wish to reverse the impacts of these trends and encourage a reconnection with nature, it is important to think strategically and act swiftly. We, in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Division of Parks and Recreation, have created a six-year Strategic Plan to allow us to act and respond quickly during this time of dynamic change. What remains constant, however, are the goals of our three-part state park mission to preserve Minnesota's original landscapes, provide abundant outdoor recreation opportunities and educate park visitors and the public about Minnesota's natural and cultural heritage. The Division strategic plan links with the DNR's [A Strategic Conservation Agenda](#), illustrating the Division's contributions to the Department's priorities.

The Plan

The Strategic Plan we have developed focuses on five core areas including the challenges within each of the three mission areas, the changing workforce and the administrative structure needed to provide a park system.

Although we face many challenges, within those challenges lie opportunities:

- The opportunity to find new ways to draw visitors to state parks, understand the barriers that may be keeping them away and explore what we might do better or differently to attract new users.
- The opportunity to use visitor services and interpretive activities to explore creative means of reaching the younger generation and underserved populations.
- The opportunity to preserve Minnesota's original landscapes for future generations.
- The opportunity to attract, hire, train and retrain an invigorated work force that is representative of the population of the state and will enable us to connect with diverse groups.
- The opportunity to think differently about how we can provide services in the most efficient manner that will best serve the citizens of this state.

It is exciting to think that we can work together toward reversing the downward trend of the public's connection to nature and the outdoors and provide citizens with their own "country estate" experience in state parks. In Minnesota we have the unique situation of many local friends groups associated with individual state parks and a strong citizen-supported organization, the Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota, to work with us to carry out these goals. Within the DNR, we will work with other divisions and bureaus to be more efficient in the delivery of our services.

Implementation

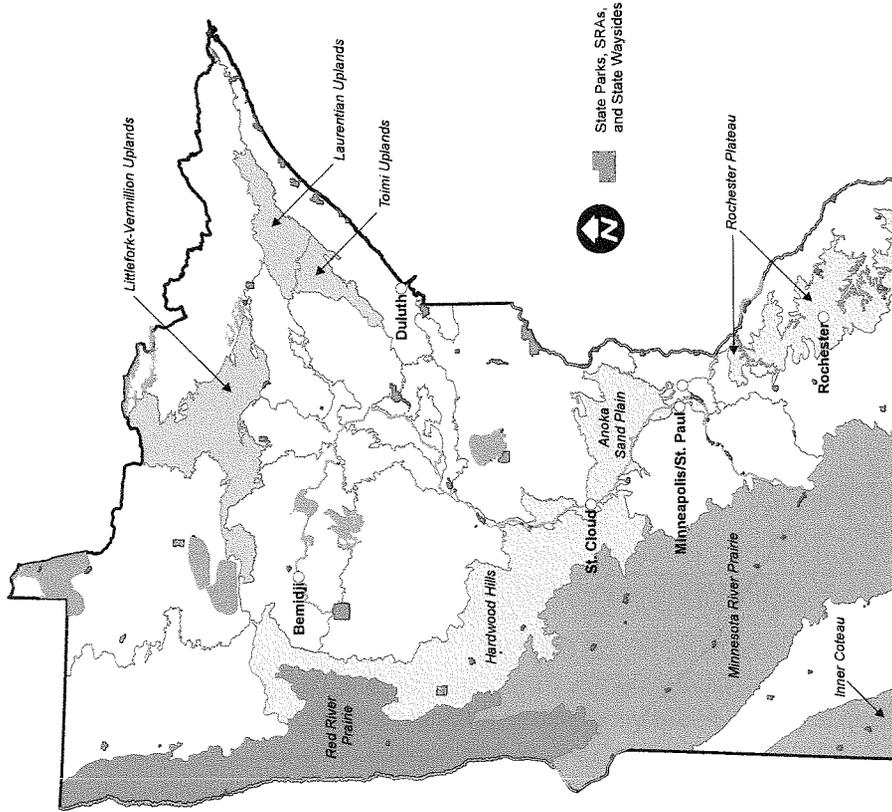
We feel we have set a strategic direction for the most significant issues facing Minnesota's state park system in the near future. As with any strategic planning effort, the process itself of identifying issues and challenges, setting priorities and staying grounded in core mission values is beneficial. We will craft three biennial workplans that focus on the issues and strategies, the action steps and measurable outcomes. A summary of the strategic plan and copy of the first biennial workplan is included with this document. We are committed to having a strategic plan that is action oriented and provides every citizen in Minnesota the opportunity for outdoor recreation experiences.

Thank you for your interest in Minnesota's state parks.



Courtland Nelson, Director
Division of Parks and Recreation

Figure 4 - Resource Preservation Needs for Minnesota's Landscape Regions



Source: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation. 2000. Minnesota State Park System Land Study.

ECS Subsections with Greatest Biological Resource Preservation Needs

Seven biological themes were identified as high or medium need for representation in over twelve subsections.

The three ECS subsections with the greatest number of unrepresented themes are:

- Hardwood Hills
- Anoka Sand Plain
- Rochester Plateau

ECS Subsections with Greatest Geological Resource Preservation Needs

Two geologic themes are identified to have high or medium need for representation in the state park system in six subsections.

The two ECS subsections with the greatest number of unrepresented themes are:

- Inner Coteau
- Minnesota River Prairie

ECS Subsections with Greatest Cultural Resource Preservation Needs

There is limited data available for preservation and interpretation of many types of cultural features. Information on standing structures is robust, because the structures are readily observable. Information on subsurface archaeological sites is more limited since they are only documented when they are disturbed for research, construction or land use activities.

The ECS Subsection with the greatest number of unrepresented themes is:

- Red River Prairie

ECS Subsections without State Park System Units

Subsections without state park system units have unrepresented themes across several of the above categories.

The three ECS Subsection without state park system units are:

- Littlefork-Vermillion Uplands
- Laurentian Uplands
- Toimi Uplands

Minnesota's Landscape Regions:

Part of the DNR Division of Parks and Recreation's statutory mission is to preserve examples of Minnesota's native landscapes. State parks are to "exemplify the natural characteristics of the major landscape regions of the state, as shown by accepted classifications..." MS 86A.05 subd 2.

The DNR and U.S. Forest Service developed an Ecological Classification System (ECS) for ecological mapping and landscape classification in Minnesota.

ECS Subsections are defined using glacial deposition processes, surface bedrock formations, topographic relief, and distribution of plants, especially trees. Minnesota has 26 subsections.

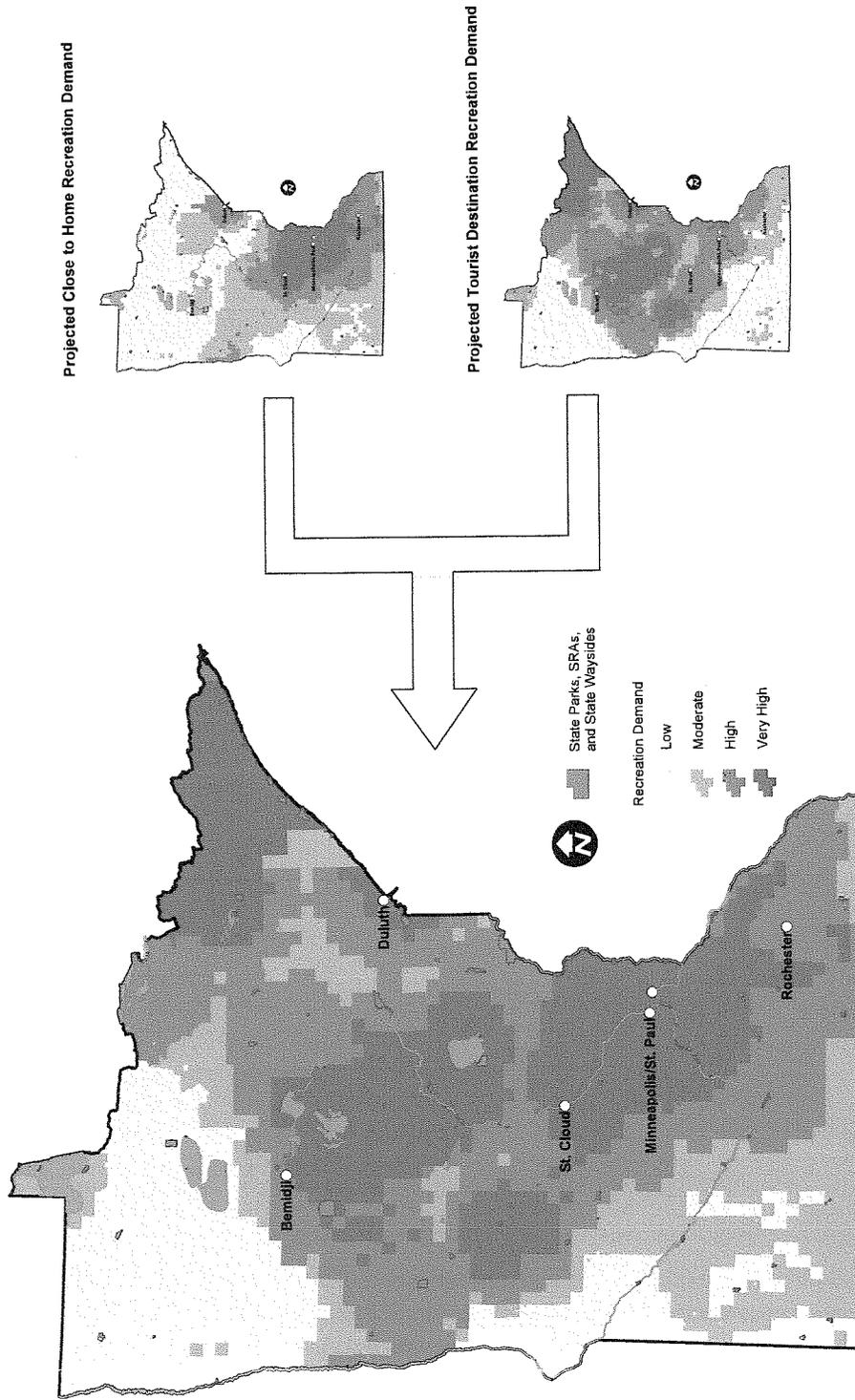
The Division analyzed these subsections as part of its Minnesota State Park System Land Study. The gap analysis followed 5 steps:

1. Define biological, geological and cultural resource themes across the state.
2. Identify how well each theme is represented within the state park system.
3. Identify which themes are present in each subsection.
4. Determine the significance of themes within each subsection.
5. Identify which significant themes for each subsection are not preserved in the state park system.

Subsections with large numbers of unrepresented themes in one or more of the resource categories were identified as resource preservation need areas.

Subsections without a unit of the state park system were also identified as areas with resource preservation needs.

Figure 5 - Projected Outdoor Recreation Demand for 2025



Source: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation. 2000. Minnesota State Park System Land Study.

Projecting Recreation Demand:
A part of the DNR Division of Parks and Recreation's statutory mission is to provide recreation opportunities, without impairment to its resource base.

The Division developed a projection for recreation demand in 2025 as part of its Minnesota State Park System Land Study. The projection used population and tourism destination forecasts to estimate the geographic distribution of recreation demand for 2025.

Two components were used to develop the projection:

1. **Close to home demand** – representing the number of people that live within 30 miles of any particular location. This component is meant to capture primarily day users, or local demand for recreation by people near their homes.
2. **Tourism destination demand** – representing the number of recreation hours spent within 30 miles of major tourism destinations. This component is meant to capture demand for recreation facilities from people on vacation within 30 miles of their primary destination.

A composite of two components serves as a projection of the demand for outdoor recreation in Minnesota for 2025.

The Minnesota Office of Tourism identifies the tourism destination locations annually.

A WATER TRAIL GUIDE TO THE ZUMBRO AND WHITEWATER RIVERS

Carry-In Access
 [Symbol] Carry-In Access

Water Access
 [Symbol] Water Access

Rest Area
 [Symbol] Rest Area

Watercraft Campsite
 [Symbol] Watercraft Campsite

No Facilities Campsite
 [Symbol] No Facilities Campsite

Campground
 [Symbol] Campground

Private Campground
 [Symbol] Private Campground

River Mile
 [Symbol] River Mile

Rapids
 [Symbol] Rapids

Dam
 [Symbol] Dam

Fishing Pier
 [Symbol] Fishing Pier

Parking
 [Symbol] Parking

Drinking Water
 [Symbol] Drinking Water

Outoffter
 [Symbol] Outoffter

Public lands
 [Symbol] Public lands

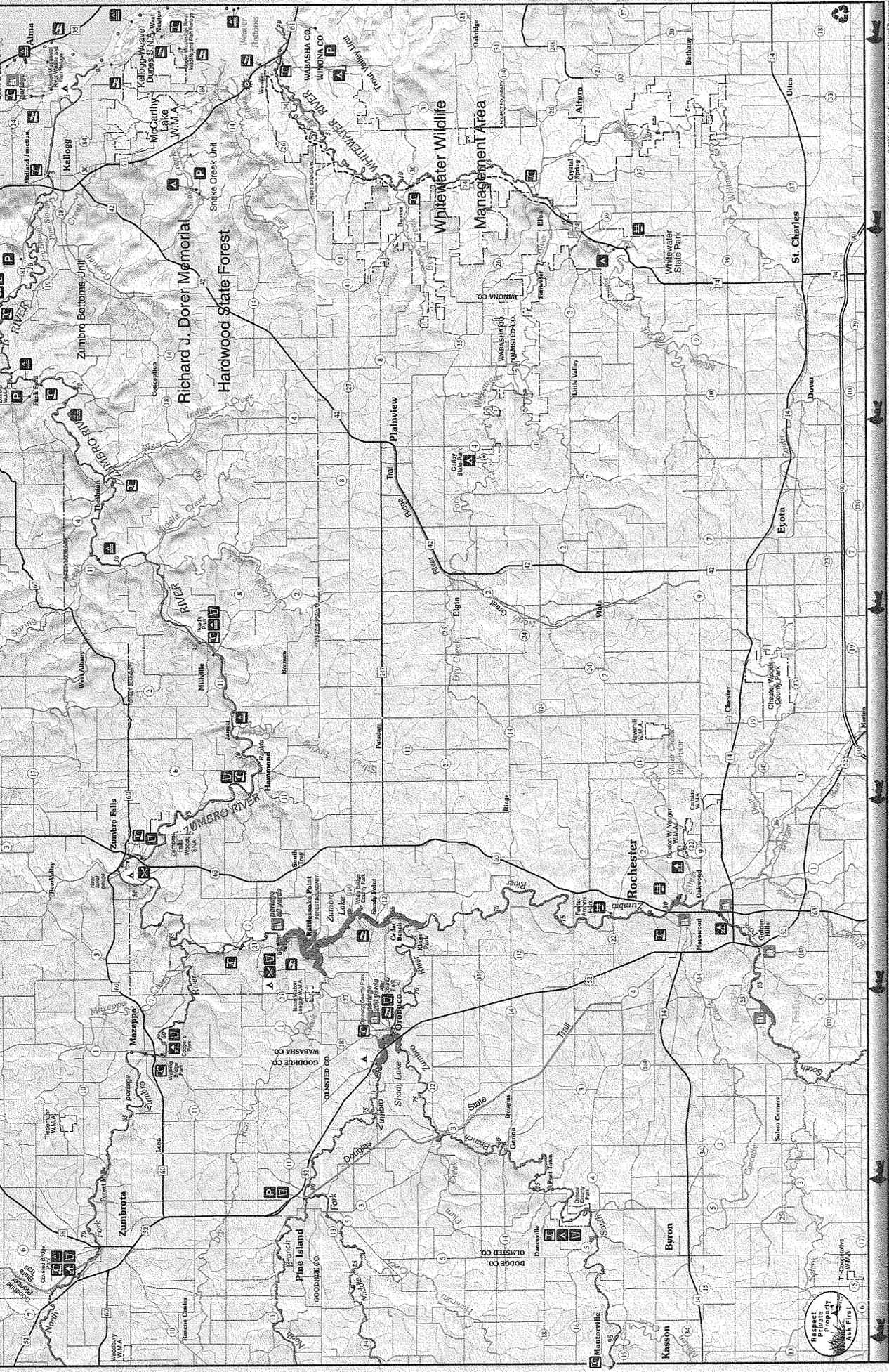
Other lands
 [Symbol] Other lands

Out of State land
 [Symbol] Out of State land

W.M.A. = Wildlife Management Area

Scale:
 0 1 2 3 4 Miles
 0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

North Arrow



Respect Private Property
 Ask First

Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment

On Nov. 4, Minnesota voters approved a proposed Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment. During the 2008 session, the Minnesota Legislature agreed to place the amendment on the ballot.

Below are answers to frequently asked questions about the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment.

The question that was on the 2008 General Election ballot stated:

"Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to dedicate funding to protect our drinking water sources; to protect, enhance, and restore our wetlands, prairies, forests, and fish, game, and wildlife habitat; to preserve our arts and cultural heritage; to support our parks and trails; and to protect, enhance, and restore our lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater by increasing the sales and use tax rate beginning July 1, 2009, by three-eighths of one percent on taxable sales until the year 2034?"

Yes

No

How much money will this raise and what would it be used for?

The current general sales and use tax rate is 6.5%. Sales tax revenue is deposited in the state General Fund. The amendment will increase the general sales and use tax rate by three-eighths of one percentage point (0.375%) to 6.875% and dedicate the additional proceeds as follows:

- 33% to a newly created Outdoor Heritage Fund to be spent only to **restore, protect, and enhance wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for game, fish, and wildlife** (approximately \$80 million in FY 2010 and \$91 million in FY 2011);
- 33% to a newly-created Clean Water Fund to be spent only to **protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater, with at least 5% of the fund spent to protect drinking water sources** (approximately \$80 million in FY 2010 and \$91 million in FY 2011);
- 14.25% to a newly created Parks and Trails Fund to be spent only to **support parks and trails of regional or statewide significance** (approximately \$35 million in FY 2010 and \$39 million in FY 2011);
- 19.75% to a newly created Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund to be spent only **for arts, arts education, and arts access, and to preserve Minnesota's history and cultural heritage** (approximately \$48 million in FY 2010 and \$54.5 million in FY 2011).

These figures are estimates from the Minnesota Department of Revenue; the total amount of money available from future sales tax receipts can be greatly affected by general economic conditions in the state.

The money dedicated under the constitutional amendment will be appropriated by law. The dedicated money must supplement traditional funding sources for these purposes and could not be used as a substitute.

Will the DNR receive this money?

These dollars will not go directly to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The Legislature will make final funding decisions based on the merits of any proposed projects. Projects can be proposed by the DNR as well as other organizations and agencies.

The constitutional amendment states that funds can only be used for projects that meet the criteria established by law. That is, they must restore, protect, and enhance wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for game, fish, and wildlife; protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater; and support parks and trails of regional or statewide significance.

What are the DNR's long-range conservation plans and strategies?

[View the DNR's long-range conservation plans and strategies](#)

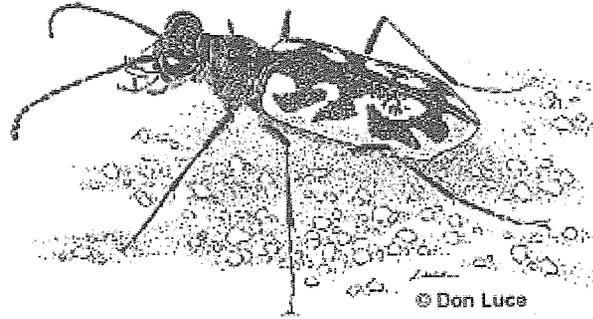
How are spending decisions being made?

Learn more about how the [Lessard Outdoor Heritage Council](#) EXT will make recommendations for 1/8 of the new sales tax revenue. The council is made up of a group of Minnesotans asked to collaborate and develop priority conservation spending areas for the projected revenue.

Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare

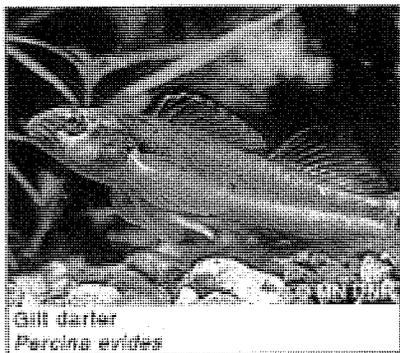
An Action Plan for Minnesota Wildlife Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy

Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare is a strategic plan focused on managing Minnesota's populations of "species in greatest conservation need." Species in greatest conservation need (SGCN) are defined as native animals whose populations are rare, declining, or vulnerable to decline and are below levels desirable to ensure their long-term health and stability.



In Minnesota, 292 species meet the **definition** of species in greatest conservation need (SGCN). This **set of SGCN** includes mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fishes, insects, and mollusks, and represents about one-quarter of the nearly 1,200 animal species in Minnesota that were assessed for this project.

Tomorrow's Habitat is the product of a partnership of conservation organizations working together to ensure that these species populations are sustained for future generations. The Department of Natural Resources is leading this effort here in Minnesota, in partnership with wide range of conservation organizations and individuals, including the **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, The Nature Conservancy, University of Minnesota, Audubon Minnesota, U.S. Geological Survey, Natural Resources Research Institute**, and many others. This CWCS partnership encourages interested conservation stakeholders to use the information presented in the CWCS as a menu for action, to adopt and adapt to their unique interests and capabilities.



Gill darter
Perca evides

State Wildlife Grants Program

In 2001, the U.S. Congress created the **State Wildlife Grants Program** (SWG) that provided funding to manage species in greatest conservation need. One of the requirements to participate in this program was that all states and territories develop a wildlife action plan by October 2005. Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare is our response to this congressional mandate. It helps guide how the SWG program operates in Minnesota, and provides direction for sustaining species in greatest

conservation need into the future.

The Primary Challenge: Habitat Loss and Degradation

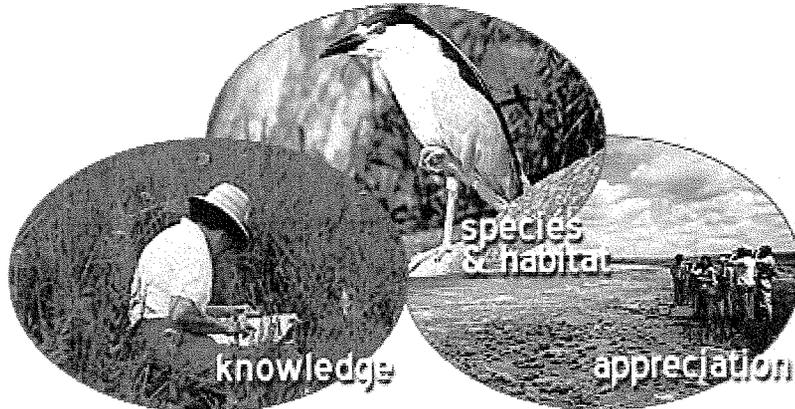
Tomorrow's Habitat identifies habitat loss and degradation as the primary problem facing species in greatest conservation need in Minnesota. It recommends a

simple and direct approach to this problem: conserve key habitats used by Minnesota's SGCN in order to conserve the majority of Minnesota's wildlife. The partnership arrived at this approach over the course of an intense 30-month planning effort in consultation with a broad variety of conservation stakeholders. It is based on a series of analyses that examined the needs of all 292 SGCN and identified key habitats that benefit them. This analysis was conducted in each of Minnesota's 25 ecological subsections.

Three Goals of Tomorrow's Habitat

Tomorrow's Habitat has three goals to address the needs of Minnesota's species in greatest conservation need:

1. Stabilize and increase populations of species in greatest conservation need
2. Improve knowledge about species in greatest conservation need
3. Enhance people's appreciation and enjoyment of species in greatest conservation need



What's Next: Operational Planning

The Department of Natural Resources, in partnership other conservation organizations, is turning attention to operational planning for Tomorrow's Habitat. A team of people will explore ways to support and incorporate the CWCS strategic vision and priority conservation actions into the ongoing operations of conservation organizations. The team will be asking how the vision and actions in Tomorrow's Habitat reflect existing priorities, and how they can be used to help shape future conservation priorities for these organizations. A very important aspect of operational planning will be to create a framework and commitment to long-term monitoring of species in greatest conservation need and key habitats.

Interested conservationists are encouraged to participate and support this new phase of planning for the Wild and Rare.

Questions?

Daren Carlson

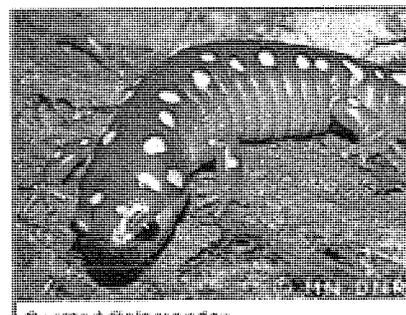
Phone: 651-259-5079

E-mail: daren.carlson@dnr.state.mn.us

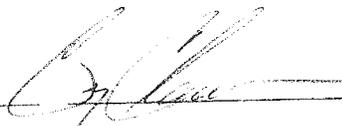
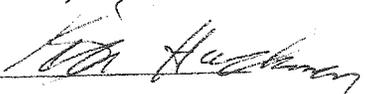
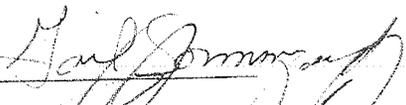
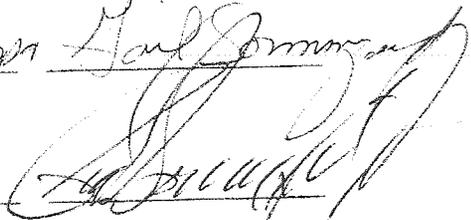
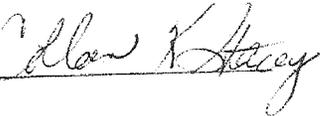
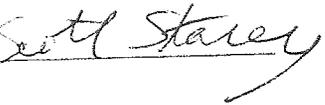
Brian Stenquist

Phone: 651-259-5144

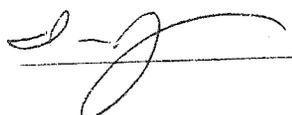
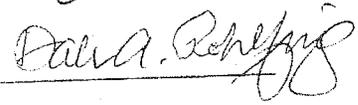
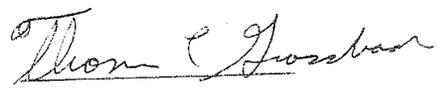
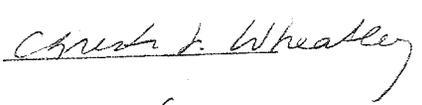
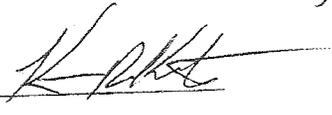
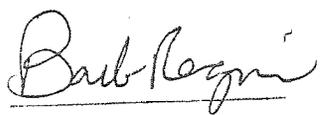
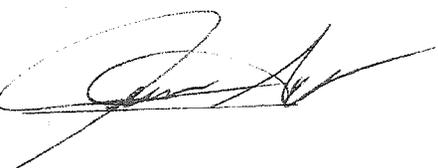
E-mail: brian.stenquist@dnr.state.mn.us



Signature for the letter/petition from the North Route Group to the MN Office of Energy Security RE: the CAPX2020 High Voltage Transmission Line : DATE- MAY 10 - 2010.

NAME (print)	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
<u>Greg Clemenson</u>	59227 Co Rd 71 MAZEPPA	
<u>Jill Drueger</u>	59207 423rd Ave. Mazeppa	
<u>M/A Hackman</u>	59919 430th Ave	
<u>MARILYN GROSSBACH</u>	42931 595th St. ^{MAZEPPA}	
<u>Gail Sommersell</u>	48718 240th Ave Mazeppa	
<u>Red Sommerfeld</u>	" " "	
<u>Marilyn Kastler</u>	59206 423 AV Mazeppa MN 55956	
<u>Shirley & Denny McWaters</u>	21612 480 St - 7th	
<u>Jeff V. Ica</u>	39270 590th St Zumbro Falls	
<u>Colleen Stacey</u>	39986 590th St, Zumbro Falls	
<u>Scott Brown Stacey</u>	39986 590th St, Zumbro Falls	

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Security RE: the CAPX2020 High Voltage Transmission Line : DATE- MAY 10 - 2010

<u>NAME (print)</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
<u>DEAN REGNIER</u>	<u>59363 COUNTY RD 71 MAZEPPA, MN 55956</u>	
<u>DALE A. ROHLFING</u>	<u>2310 NW 15th Ave Rochester, MN 55901</u>	
<u>Thomas C Grossbach</u>	<u>42931 595ST Mazeppa</u>	
<u>Laverne S. Hofschulte</u>	<u>11948 Cold 11 NE Fgic Ladino's Highway</u>	
<u>David Cocker</u>	<u>59684 415th Ave Mazeppa</u>	
<u>Denice Cocker</u>	<u>59684 415th Ave, Mazeppa</u>	
<u>Christine Wheatley</u>	<u>39270 590th St Zumbro Falls, MN 55991</u>	
<u>KEVIN KASTLER</u>	<u>59225 CTY RD. 71 MAZEPPA, MN. 55954</u>	
<u>BARB REGNIER</u>	<u>59363 CTY RD 71 MAZEPPA, MN 55956</u>	
<u>Jeannie Schreeder</u>	<u>48325-240th Ave Mazeppa, MN 55956</u>	
<u>Katherine Rohlfing</u>	<u>2310 15th Ave NW Rochester, MN 55901</u>	

Signature for the letter/petition from the North Route Group to the MN Office of Energy
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NAME (print)	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
<u>Rob Sawinski</u>	<u>39050 590th St, ZF</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>Ava Sawinski</u>	<u>" " "</u>	<u>Ava Sawinski</u>
<u>Ellen Swanson</u> Ellen Swanson	<u>38507 - 390th Ave, ZF</u>	<u>Ellen Swanson</u>
<u>GENE SWANSON</u>	<u>38507 390th Ave, SF</u>	<u>Eugene Swanson</u>
<u>Bob Seemann</u>	<u>39152 590th ST</u>	<u>Robert Seemann</u>
<u>ANITA SEEMANN</u>	<u>39152 590th ST</u>	<u>Anita Seemann</u>
<u>James D. Gerken</u>	<u>39476 590th ST</u>	<u>James Gerken</u>
<u>Laune M Gerken</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>Laune Gerken</u>
<u>Janice Baker</u>	<u>39821 590th 590th St. Falls</u> <small>Zumbro</small>	<u>Janice Baker</u>
<u>Joel Baker</u>	<u>39821 590th St</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>James Baker</u>	<u>39821 590ST</u>	<u>J.B. Baker</u>

Signature for the letter/petition from the North Route Group to the MN Office of Energy
Security RE: the CAPX2020 High Voltage Transmission Line : DATE- May 10, 2010

NAME (print)

ADDRESS

SIGNATURE

Ed Wyant

40011 590th St

Edward Wyant

Lester Windkast

40325 590th St

Lester Windkast

Lon Windkast

40325 590th St

Lon Windkast

Jody Weckwerth

39386 590th St.

Jody Weckwerth

Craig Weckwerth

39386 590th St

Craig Weckwerth

Signature for the letter/petition from the North Route Group to the MN Office of Energy
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NAME (print)	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
<u>Brian Pacey</u>	<u>244 Summit St SE</u>	<u>Brian Pacey</u>
<u>Duane Hoff</u>	<u>423 3rd Ave SE</u>	<u>Duane Hoff</u>
<u>Carol Hofschulte</u>	↓ ↓ ↓	<u>Carol Hofschulte</u>
<u>Dora Hellerud</u>	<u>407 3rd Ave SE</u>	<u>Dora Hellerud</u>
<u>Willa Gruhke</u>	<u>260 3rd St</u>	<u>Willa Gruhke</u>
<u>Michelle Peterson</u>	<u>408 2nd Ave SE</u>	<u>Michelle Peterson</u>
<u>Paul Stimets</u>	<u>710 River Bluff Rd</u>	<u>Paul Stimets</u>
<u>Lisa Stimets</u>	<u>710 River Bluff Rd</u>	<u>Lisa Stimets</u>
<u>Duane Windhaust</u>	<u>719 River Bluff Rd</u>	<u>Duane Windhaust</u>
<u>Glen Holland</u>	<u>957 River Bluff Rd 322 Cherry St E</u>	<u>Glen Holland</u>
<u>Wayne Siem</u>	<u>Mazeppa, Mn 55956</u>	<u>Wayne Siem</u>
<u>Cynthia Smith</u>	<u>170 2nd Ave SE 55430</u>	<u>Cynthia Smith</u>

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<u>NAME (print)</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
<u>Ray Vik</u>	<u>23603 465th st.</u>	<u>Ray Vik</u>
<u>Fred Siewert</u>	<u>348 Chest NUTGT</u>	<u>Fred Siewert</u>
<u>Cindy Pahl</u>	<u>384 4th Ave NW</u>	<u>Cindy A Pahl</u>
<u>Kathy Steffes</u>	<u>115 2nd Ave. SE</u>	<u>Kathy Steffes</u>
<u>Ben Tweed</u>	<u>172 cherry st</u>	<u>Beverly-Love</u>
<u>Sarah Nelson</u>	<u>137 2nd Ave NE</u>	<u>Jenahli Nelson</u>
<u>Mary Sibley</u>	<u>167 2nd Ave SE</u>	<u>Mozzetta</u>
<u>Danae Ladewig</u>	<u>166 2nd Ave SE</u>	<u>Danae Ladewig</u>
<u>Joe Weber</u>	<u>253 2nd AVE SE</u>	<u>Joe Weber</u>
<u>Andrea Treistad</u>	<u>345 2nd Ave SE</u>	<u>Andrea Treistad</u>
<u>Bill Hayes</u>	<u>408 2nd Ave SE</u>	<u>Bill Hayes</u>
<u>Carnie Perkins</u>	<u>419 2nd Ave SE</u>	<u>Carnie Perkins</u>

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<u>NAME (print)</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
Ladrie Warner Ladrie Warner	1123 Cherry St. E.	Ladrie Warner
Kevin Eckblad Kevin Warner	43810 453rd ST	Kevin Warner
Dolores Burdick	Mazeppa, Mn.	Dolores Burdick
JOHN GRUHLKE	Mazeppa	John Gruhlke
Jennifer Diggins	Mazeppa	Jennifer Diggins
Penny Faber	Mazeppa	Penny Faber
Shelly Liffbrig	1096 Cherry St, Mazeppa	Shelly Liffbrig
De Ann Horsman De Ann Horsman	Mazeppa	De Ann Horsman
Delane Liffbrig Delane Liffbrig	1199 Valley Heights	Delane Liffbrig
Terri Liffbrig	1150 Cherry St Mazeppa	Terri Liffbrig
MIKE HORSMAN	1183 CHERRY ST. E.	Mike Horsman
Will Fink	408 15 th Ave S	William Fink Will Fink
Annette Tabor	1411 Ave. NE	mazeppa mn Annette Tabor

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<u>NAME (print)</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
<u>Kay McBede</u>	<u>P.O. 227 Mazepa</u>	<u>Kay McBede</u>
<u>George Swenson</u>	<u>214 Chestnut St.</u>	<u>George Swenson</u>
<u>Ken Berg</u>	<u>353 1st Ave S</u>	<u>Ken Berg</u>
<u>Jason Neshem Jason Neshem</u>	<u>P.O. Box 67 Mazepa</u>	<u>Jason Neshem</u>
<u>Dennis Burdick</u>	<u>P.O. Box 235 Mazepa</u>	<u>Dennis Burdick</u>
<u>Stewart J. Pepliniski</u>	<u>255 1st Ave North Mazepa MN 55456</u>	<u>Stewart J. Pepliniski</u>
<u>My Auld</u>	<u>41599 240th Ave Mazepa</u>	<u>My Auld</u>
<u>Ken Markson</u>	<u>47127 Cty 11 Blvd, Mazepa</u>	<u>Ken Markson</u>
<u>Dee Markson</u>	<u>47127 Cty 11 Blvd - Mazepa</u>	<u>Dee Markson</u>
<u>Harold Porter</u>	<u>50071 240th Ave Way</u>	<u>Harold Porter</u>
<u>Jamra Chiodo</u>	<u>50071 - 240th Ave Way</u>	<u>Jamra Chiodo</u>

Signature for the letter/petition from the North Route Group to the MN Office of Energy
Security RE: the CAPX2020 High Voltage Transmission Line : DATE- MAY 10 - 2010

NAME (print)	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Julie Adler	59504 Cty Rd 71 Mazepa	Julie Adler
Susan Ziemba	59775 Cty Rd 71 Mazepa	Susan Ziemba
Colene Lenhart	59814 415 th Mazepa	Colene Lenhart
Stan Lenhart	59814 415 th Mazepa	Stan Lenhart
Sue Johnson	42167 603 St Mazepa	Sue Johnson
Clyde Johnson	42167 603 ST. MAZEPPA	Clyde Johnson
Craig Thoreson	59444 415 th MAZEPPA	Craig Thoreson
Jean Thoreson	59444 415 th Ave MAZEPPA	Jean Thoreson
Nancy A Whetstone	59342 County Rd 71	Nancy Whetstone
Nancy Whetstone		
Bruce Whetstone	59342 Cty Rd 71	Bruce Whetstone
Richard STAUB	49429-240 th AVE MAZEPPA	Richard Staub

Signature for the letter/petition from the North Route Group to the MN Office of Energy
 Security RE: the CAPX2020 High Voltage Transmission Line : DATE- May 10, 2010

NAME (print)	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
<u>Ralph Frank</u>	<u>311 2ND AVE SE MAZEPPA</u>	<u>Ralph E. Frank</u>
<u>Norma Frank</u>	<u>" " "</u>	<u>Norma B. Frank</u>
<u>Ernest Ross</u>	<u>328 2nd Ave SE, Mazeppa, Mn.</u>	<u>Ernest Ross</u>
<u>Dona Ross</u>	<u>" " "</u>	<u>Dona Ross</u>
<u>Patricia Kohlbeck</u>	<u>186 Summit St SE</u>	<u>Patricia Kohlbeck</u>
<u>Andrew Miller</u>	<u>323 3rd Ave SE</u>	<u>Andrew Miller</u>
<u>Charles Gilmore</u>	<u>827 River Bluff Rd SE</u>	<u>Charles Gilmore</u>
<u>Amy Gadiant</u>	<u>48741 230 Ave Pine Island, Mn</u>	<u>Amy Gadiant</u>
<u>Cynthia Olmsted</u>	<u>Mazeppa, MN 55965 59034 County Rd 71</u>	<u>55963 C/O Mazeppa, MN</u>
<u>Nancy Gorman</u>	<u>59753 County Rd 71</u>	<u>Mazeppa, Mn 55956</u>

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<u>NAME (print)</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
<u>Travis Liffrig</u>	<u>64223 Cty Rd 7</u>	<u>Travis Liffrig</u>
<u>Rob Liffrig</u>	<u>63492 Cty Rd 7</u>	<u>Rob Liffrig</u>
<u>Jamie Warner</u>	<u>1123 Cherry ST E</u>	<u>Jamie Warner</u>
<u>Steve Markus</u>	<u>311 4th Ave NW</u>	<u>Steve Markus</u>
<u>JOHN LIFFRIG</u>	<u>1199 VALLEY HEIGHTS</u>	<u>John Liffrig</u>
<u>BRIAN GROTEBOER</u>	<u>47632 240th AVE</u>	<u>Brian Groteboer</u>
<u>Sara J. Baunler</u> <u>Sara J. Baunler</u>	<u>47632 240th Av.</u>	<u>Sara J. Baunler</u>
<u>Linda Friedrich</u>	<u>19347 Cty. 10 Blvd</u>	<u>Linda Friedrich</u>
<u>Mark Van Natta</u>	<u>128 Chestnut St</u>	<u>Mark Van Natta</u>
<u>Lonna Swenson</u>	<u>410 Chestnut St</u>	<u>Lonna Swenson</u>
<u>DAN SIEMS</u>	<u>P.O. Box 82 Mazeppa,</u>	<u>Dan Siems</u>

Signature for the letter/petition from the North Route Group to the MN Office of Energy
Security RE: the CAPX2020 High Voltage Transmission Line : DATE- May 10, 2010

NAME (print)

ADDRESS

SIGNATURE

Rich Lande Stubb

49183 240th Ave Mazepa MN

Justin Stubb



Don Schreuder

48056 240th Ave Mazepa MN

Don Schreuder

MARCELLA Schreuder Same

Marcella Schreuder

Ginger Staub

49171 240th Ave

Ginger Staub
Mazepa MN

DD

49171 240th Ave

Daniel Stubb

RON JOHNSON

43056 595th St, Mazepa MN

Ronald E Johnson

Bonnie Perzynski

43056 595th St, Mazepa MN

Bonnie Perzynski

Marilyn Hofschulte

780 Cherry St. E Mazepa MN

Marilyn Hofschulte

Roger Hofschulte

780 Cherry St E Mazepa, MN

Roger Hofschulte

Ted Brenny

47211 County 11 Blvd Mazepa, MN

Ted Brenny

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Security RE: the CAPX2020 High Voltage Transmission Line : DATE- May 10, 2010

NAME (print)	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
<u>DUANE KLEIN</u>	<u>59106 403 AVE ⁵⁵⁹⁹¹ ZUMBRO FALLS MN</u>	<u>Duane Klein</u>
<u>Jay Whitesel</u>	<u>59345 Cty Rt. 7</u>	<u>Jay Whitesel</u>
<u>Fred Lippig</u>	<u>PO BOX 237 MAZEPPA MN</u>	<u>Fred Lippig</u>
<u>Amy Kastler</u>	<u>59225 CTY Rd 71 Mazeppa, MN</u>	<u>Amy E Kastler</u>
<u>Mary Fleming</u>	<u>59237 423rd Ave Mazeppa MN 55956</u>	<u>Mary Fleming</u>
<u>David Fleming</u>	<u>59237 423rd Ave Mazeppa, MN</u>	<u>David Fleming</u>
<u>Patrick Adams</u>	<u>59179 423RD AVE MAZEPPA MN</u>	<u>Patrick Adams</u>
<u>Sara Adams</u>	<u>59179 423rd Ave Mazeppa MN</u>	<u>Sara Adams</u>
<u>Brian Drucyor</u>	<u>59207 423rd Ave Mazeppa, MN</u>	<u>Brian Drucyor</u>
<u>Robert Glanville</u>	<u>58869 County Road 71 Mazeppa</u>	<u>Robert Glanville</u>
<u>Valryn Adler</u>	<u>59504 County Road 71</u>	<u>Valryn Adler</u>

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<u>NAME (print)</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
<u>Jeanette C. Hackman</u>	<u>14137 N Cty Rd 24</u> <u>Wabasha MN 55981</u>	<u>Jeanette C Hackman</u>
<u>Lauryn A. HACKMAN</u>	<u>Wabasha MN. 55981</u> <u>14137 N CTR. RD. 24</u>	<u>Lauryn Hackman</u>
<u>Brian Fruth</u> Brad	<u>48925 Cty 11 blvd</u> <u>Pine Island, MN 55963</u>	Brad
<u>Robin Fruth-Dugstad</u>	<u>48925 Cty 11 Blvd</u> <u>Pine Island, MN 55963</u>	<u>Robin Dugstad</u>
<u>BRAD DUGSTAD</u>	<u>48925, CTY. 11 BLVD</u> <u>PINE ISLAND, MN 55963</u>	<u>Brad</u>
<u>Jenny Anderson</u>	<u>48662 County Blvd</u> <u>Pine Island MN 55963</u>	<u>Jenny Anderson</u>
<u>James E. Dolan</u>	<u>59611 Cty Rd. 71</u>	<u>James E. Dolan</u>
<u>Marian R. Dolan</u>	<u>59611 CTY. Rd. 71</u>	<u>Marian R. Dolan</u>
<u>JEFF DOLAN</u>	<u>59611 CT. RD. 71</u>	<u>Jeff Dolan</u>
<u>Paul + Laura Mulholland</u>	<u>59413 County Rd 7</u>	<u>Paul + Laura</u>
<u>Dori Klein</u>	<u>59106 403 Ave.</u>	<u>Dori Klein</u>

Signature for the letter/petition from the North Route Group to the MN Office of Energy
Security RE: the CAPX2020 High Voltage Transmission Line : DATE- 5-10-10

NAME (print)

ADDRESS

SIGNATURE

Jim Peterson

N.W. CHEVY ST
MAZEPA MN
167 240 Ave

Jim Peterson

ERVIN Sibley

MAZEPA MN

Ervin Sibley

Deb House-Finley

37095 CR 70
Zumbro Falls

(Signed by proxy - Sibley)
Deb House-Finley

Jim Finley

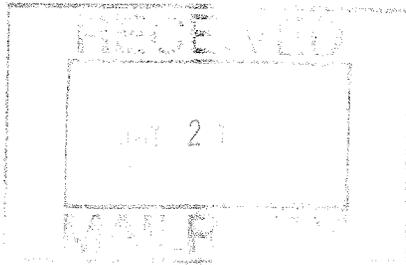
37095 CR 70
Zumbro Falls

(Signed by proxy - Sibley)
Jim Finley

David B. H. G.

2310 15th AVE NW
Bellestar MN 55301

David B. H. G.



May 20, 2010

Suzanne Rohlfing

2310 15th Ave NW

Rochester, MN 55901

Matthew Langan

Mn Office of Energy Security

85 7th Place East, Suite 500

St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

RE: Docket# TL-09-1448

Dear Matt,

I ask thank you please include these signatures to those submitted with the letter from the North Route Group dated May 10, 2010.

Thank you.

Respectfully yours,

Suzanne Rohlfing

The North Route Group

Signature for the letter/petition from the North Route Group to the MN Office of Energy
Security RE: the CAPX2020 High Voltage Transmission Line : DATE- MAY 10, 2020.

<u>NAME (print)</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
<u>Chad Graves</u>	<u>38564 590th ST. Zumbro Falls MN 55991</u>	<u>Chad Graves</u>
<u>Dan Thiem</u>	<u>58957 Hwy 63 Zumbro Falls MN</u>	<u>Dan Thiem</u>
<u>Kelly Thiem</u>	<u>58957 Hwy 63 Zumbro Falls MN 55991</u>	<u>Kelly Thiem</u>
<u>Pat Olson</u>	<u>38607 590th ST. Zumbro Falls, Mn.</u>	<u>Pat Olson</u>
<u>Duane Van Houten</u>	<u>59495 390th Ave Zumbro Falls - MN.</u>	<u>Duane Van Houten</u>
<u>Shama Myers</u>	<u>38564 590th St. Zumbro Falls, 55991</u>	<u>Shama Myers</u>
<u>CLIFFORD LAGING</u>	<u>ROCHESTER, MN. 1857 18 1/2 ST. N.W.</u>	<u>Clifford Laging</u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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Langan, Matthew (COMM)

From: Mike Thedens [mthedens01@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2010 11:07 PM
To: Langan, Matthew (COMM)
Subject: CapX2020 Hampton-Rochester- LaCrosse

Public Comment Sheet

CapX Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448

Name: Alfred Thedens
Address: 4236 125 St NE Rochester, Mn 55906

Comments:

I have a number of concerns with the preferred route that is being proposed along my 80 acre farm where I reside in Olmsted County, Farmington Township, Section 9. My farm is located on map 23 of the CapX2020 project map for Hampton to Rochester to LaCrosse. On this map it indicates the preferred route is to be along the south $\frac{1}{4}$ mile long property line and along the east $\frac{1}{2}$ mile long property line of my farm.

My first concern is how this transmission line will impact my farm and my son's property to the south located in Section 9 of Farmington Township. Looking at map 23, in the middle of Section 9, the preferred route for the transmission line changes from going east/west to north/south. The concern with this is the 160 acre farm to the south of my property is my son's century farm. My farm has the preferred transmission line which encompasses 50 percent of the perimeter of my farm which seems to be over excessive. My wife and I are retired and sometime in the near future our property will be part of my son's farm and expand his continuous farm acreage from 160 acres to 240 acres. When this happens his farm will be divided by a $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of transmission line along with $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of transmission line on the perimeter property lines. Besides my son's farm, there is a 160 acre farm to the east of my farm in Section 9. This is farm was my sister's where she raised her family and her granddaughter currently has ownership. My son is interested in purchasing this 160 acre farm when my great niece decides to sell. When this would happen, my son's farm acreage would expand to a continuous 400

acre farm that would end up being divided by a $\frac{3}{4}$ mile transmission line along with $\frac{1}{4}$ mile transmission line on the perimeter property lines. These opportunities to expand my son's farm were in the planning staging for the past number of years and before any thoughts of any proposed transmission lines. My family over the past 150 years has owned up to 540 acres of the 620 acres that make up Section 9 in Farmington Township. It is my intent for my farm property to become part of my son's farm and have it past onto my grandson's in the future and keep the farm in the family.

Besides concerns of transmission lines dividing the farm property I am also concerned about other items such as land values, farm operation flexibility, aesthetics and recreation.

Land values are a very big concern. My family as stated previously has a made a big property investment in Section 9 for over the past 150 years. If this transmission line would be routed thru Section 9 as proposed then this would have a negative impact on the resale/loan value of all this property. I know if I was given the opportunity to purchase two similar farms (size, building site, tillable acres) and the only major difference was one had transmission lines and the other did not, I know I would not offer as much money to purchase the property with the transmission lines. Why would someone else do any different? Transmission lines certainly do not make the landscape more appealing to look at. Being retired, I depend on the farm income and the value of my property to take care of my wife and myself for a living. What happens if we get sick and one of both of us end up in a nursing home? The less our farm is worth the fewer choices we have available based on what we can afford. I know the placement of these transmission lines will have a negative impact on the value of the farms. Also Farmington Township only allows buildable sites to be on a minimum of 80 acres. Since my farm is only 80 acres there is no way that I can split it up and try to sell a portion of the property without any transmission lines on it to try and recoup any negative impact it may have on the value of our farm.

The future flexibility of the farm operations in Section 9 of Farmington Township is going to be affected by the placement of transmission lines. I know on my niece's farm for instance the need to build a new house is required especially if my son purchases the property and one of my grandsons decide to build a house there. The old abandoned building site is not much worth salvaging so placing the house and building site in a new location on the property is a strong possibility. Transmission lines will impact the location of where to setup a new building site in the future. Also if these transmission lines are placed and my son ends up taking ownership of my niece's farm besides having my farm as stated previously then he will need to farm around the base of $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of transmission line poles that will dividing up the farmland.

The aesthetic impact to the farm will also be negative. Who wants to look out the window of their house or drive a tractor while doing field work and enjoying nature to see a transmission line in the middle it? Well, certainly not me. I have always enjoyed spending time on my farm and part of that is the scenery that is currently there. That is part of why I choose to live where I do.

Then there is the impact the transmission lines will have on the recreation of the property. Besides my family doing field work and enjoying the scenery, my son and grandson's deer and pheasant hunt on all of this farmland (mine, my son's century farm and my niece's). Over the past few years we have also seen bald eagles flying around and nesting on and or near our farm. Having transmission lines may not have a large impact on this, but it certainly takes away from the setting of being in the middle of nature doing something you enjoy and then seeing this man made transmission line in it.

These are my concerns of the proposed transmission lines on my farm and the adjacent farms in Olmsted County of Farmington Township Section 9.

Alfred Thedens

Langan, Matthew (COMM)

From: Thedens, Mike [mthedens@rochester.mn.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2010 8:13 AM
To: Langan, Matthew (COMM)
Subject: Public Comments for CapX2020 Hampton-Rochester-Lacrosse
Attachments: Map 23 with Section 9.pdf

Public Comment Sheet

CapX Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project

PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448

Name: Mike Thedens

Address: 4313 Hwy 247 NE Elgin, Mn 55932

Comments:

I have a number of concerns with the preferred route that is being proposed along my 160 acre century farm where I reside in Olmsted County, Farmington Township, Section 9. The actual tax description of the property is Sect-09 Twp-108 Range-013 160.00 AC or SW ¼ Sec 9 108 13. My century farm is located on map 23 of the CapX2020 project map for Hampton to Rochester to LaCrosse. On this map it indicates the preferred route is to be along the north ½ mile long property line of my farm.

My first concern is how this transmission line will impact my farm and also my parents and cousins property located in Section 9 of Farmington Township. Looking at map 23, in the middle of Section 9, the preferred route for the transmission line changes from going east/west to north/south. The concern with this is the 80 acre farm to the north of my property is my parent's farm. Their farm has the preferred transmission line going along both the ¼ mile long south property line and the ½ mile long east property line which encompasses 50 percent of the perimeter of their farm. My parents are retired and sometime in the near future this will be my property and will expand my continuous farm acreage from 160 acres to 240 acres. When this happens my farm will be divided by ¼ mile of transmission line along with ¾ mile of transmission line along it perimeter property lines. Besides my parent's farm, there is my cousin's 160 acre farm to the east of my parent's farm in Section 9. This is the home of my father's sister where she raised

5/18/2010

her family and her granddaughter currently has ownership. I am interested in purchasing this 160 acre farm when my cousin decides to sell. My cousin mentioned that they would let me know when they want to sell the farm. When this would happen, along with my parent's farm I would expand my farm acreage to a continuous 400 acre farm that would end up being divided by $\frac{3}{4}$ mile transmission line and $\frac{1}{4}$ mile transmission line along the perimeter property lines. **Reference the marked up map I sent along with these comments of concerns.** These opportunities to expand my farm were in the planning staging for the past number of years and before any thoughts of any proposed transmission lines. My family over the past 150 years has owned up to 540 acres of the 620 acres that make up Section 9 in Farmington Township. It is my intent to own the property of my parent/cousins, besides what I currently own and pass it onto my sons and keep the farm in the family.

Besides concerns of transmission lines dividing the farm property I am also concerned about other items such as land values, farm operation flexibility, aesthetics and recreation.

Land values are a very big concern. My family as stated previously has made a big property investment in Section 9 for over 150 years. If this transmission line would be routed thru Section 9 as proposed then this would have a negative impact on the resale/loan value of all this property. I know if I was given the opportunity to purchase two similar farms (size, building site, tillable acres) and the only major difference was one had transmission lines and the other did not, I know I would not offer as much money to purchase the property with the transmission lines. Why would someone else do any different? Transmission lines certainly do not make the landscape more appealing to look at. With the situation of my parent's farm they are retired and depend on the farm income and the value of their property to take care of them for the rest of their life. What happens if they go into a nursing home? The less their farm is worth the fewer choices they have available to them. I know the placement of these transmission lines will have a negative impact on the value of the farms. Also Farmington Township only allows buildable sites to be on a minimum of 80 acres. Since my parent's farm is only 80 acres there is no way that they can split up and try to sell a portion of the property without any transmission lines on it to try and recoup any negative impact it may have on their farm as a whole.

The future flexibility of the farm operations in Section 9 of Farmington Township is going to be affected by the placement of transmission lines. I know on my cousin's farm for instance the need to build a new house is required especially if I purchase the property and one of my sons decide to build a house there. The old abandoned building site is not much worth salvaging so placing the house and building site in a new location on the

property is a strong possibility. Transmission lines will impact the location of where to setup a new building site in the future. Also if these transmission lines are placed and I end up taking ownership of the adjacent farms as stated previously then I will need to farm around the base of $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of transmission line poles.

The aesthetic impact to the farm will also be negative. Who wants to look out the window of their house or drive a tractor while doing field work and enjoying nature to see a transmission line in the middle it? Well, certainly not me. I have always enjoyed spending time on my farm and part of that is the scenery that is currently there.

Then there is the impact the transmission lines will have on the recreation of the property. Besides doing field work and enjoying the scenery, my sons and I also deer and pheasant hunt on the farm. Over the past few years we have also seen bald eagles flying around and nesting on and or near our farm. Having transmission lines may not have a large impact on this, but it certainly takes away from the setting of being in the middle of nature doing something you enjoy and then seeing this man made transmission line in it.

These are my concerns of the proposed transmission lines on my farm and the adjacent farms in Olmsted County of Farmington Township Section 9.

Mike Thedens

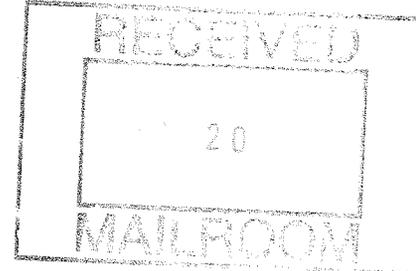
Public Comment Sheet

CapX Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project

PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448

Name: Mike Thedens

Address: 4313 Hwy 247 NE Elgin , Mn 55932



Comments:

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My first concern is how this transmission line will impact my farm and also my parents and cousins property located in Section 9 of Farmington Township. Looking at map 23, in the middle of Section 9, the preferred route for the transmission line changes from going east/west to north/south. The concern with this is the 80 acre farm to the north of my property is my parent's farm. Their farm has the preferred transmission line going along both the $\frac{1}{4}$ mile long south property line and the $\frac{1}{2}$ mile long east property line. My parents are retired and sometime in the near future this will be my property and will expand my continuous farm acreage from 160 acres to 240 acres. When this happens my farm will be divided by $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of transmission line along with $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of transmission line along it perimeter property lines. Besides my parent's farm, there is my cousin's 160 acre farm to the east of my parent's farm in Section 9. This is the home of my father's sister where she raised her family and her granddaughter currently has ownership. I am interested in purchasing this 160 acre farm when my cousin decides to sell. My cousin mentioned that they would let me know when they want to sell the farm. When this would happen, along with my parent's farm I would expand my farm acreage to a continuous 400 acre farm that would end up being divided by $\frac{3}{4}$ mile transmission line and $\frac{1}{4}$ mile

transmission line along the perimeter property lines. These opportunities to expand my farm were in the planning staging for the past number of years and before any thoughts of any proposed transmission lines. My family over the past 150 years has owned up to 540 acres of the 620 acres that make up Section 9 in Farmington Township. It is my intent to own the property of my parent/cousins, besides what I currently own and pass it onto my sons and keep the farm in the family.

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The future flexibility of the farm operations in Section 9 of Farmington Township is going to be affected by the placement of transmission lines. I know on my cousin's farm for instance the need to build a new house is required especially if I purchase the property and one of my sons decide to build a house there. The old abandoned building site is not much worth salvaging so moving the house and building site to a new location is a strong possibility. Transmission lines will impact the location of where to setup a new building site in the future. Also if these transmission lines are placed

and I end up taking ownership of the adjacent farms as stated previously then I will need to farm around the base of $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of transmission line poles.

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These are my concerns of the proposed transmission lines on my farm and the adjacent farms in Olmsted County of Farmington Township Section 9.

MT COUSINS FARM
166 ACRES
LISA ROMBALL



Hampton • Recheville • La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project
MN Route Permit Application

MY PARENTS FARM 80 ACRES
ALFRED THEOENS
URSULA THEOENS

MY CENTURY FARM 160 ACRES
MIKE THEOENS
CONNIE THEOENS

Project Routes
Sheet Map 23

Proposed Features
Preferred 345 kV Route
Alternative 345 kV Route
Route Option
Preferred 161 kV Route
Alternative 161 kV Route
Wisconsin Alternative Route

Route
Substation Siting Area

Highway
Right-of-Way of Construction
Right-of-Way of 1958 Field Construction

Existing Transmission
Substation

345 kV Transmission Line
161 kV Transmission Line
138 kV Transmission Line
115 kV Transmission Line
200 kV Transmission Line
345 kV Transmission Line
161 kV Transmission Line

Interference
Areas where any one
of the following:
- Municipality
- Airport
- Health Management Area
- Wetland
- National Wildlife Refuge
- Antennas
- Airports
- State Right-of-Way

PLBP
PLBP
Township
County
City
Civil Township

Scale: 1" = 1000' (Horizontal)
0 0.5 1.0 Miles

Inset Map: Shows the project location within the state of Wisconsin, with labels for 'MILWAUKEE', 'MADISON', 'LA CROSSE', and 'HAMPTON'.

Langan, Matthew (COMM)

From: Duane Tiede [dctiede@ameritech.net]
Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2010 12:59 PM
To: Langan, Matthew (COMM)
Subject: Comments on CapX Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345kV Transmission Line Project
Attachments: Attachment 1 May 2010.jpg; Attachment 2 May 2010.jpg

Dear Mr. Langan,

These comments are relative to PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448

The farm I own is located southwest of Zumbrota, MN along the line of the proposed routing of the new 345 kV transmission line. Last year's proposed routing had this line running directly adjacent to my house and farmyard. I submitted comments and requests for change and appreciate that those comments were heard and the proposed routing adjusted to at least move the line to my south property line and a little further away from the house. The farm's address is 46998 170th Ave., Zumbrota, MN.

I would like to offer the following additional comments:

1. This 1.5 mile length of the proposed transmission line does not have any alternative identified as both the preferred and alternate routes follow this same path. To the best of my review, this is the only segment of the entire project that does not have an alternative route different from the preferred route. I thought that it was a requirement in the Minnesota State law permitting process that all routes have an alternative route identified. My suggestion for this alternative is shown in the attached file, Attachment 1, which is the route along Highway 52 near Zumbrota. The proposed route now follows Highway 52 almost to Zumbrota, but then deviates through rural, agricultural land that will impact agriculture and wildlife much more than following the existing highway right of way through Zumbrota.
2. If Alternate 1 routing is not selected, I would ask for a modification to the proposed preferred and alternate routes on the south edge of my farm as shown in Attachment 2. Alternate 2 is simply to run the line along the south property border straight east to where the preferred line turns south. This would have less impact on agricultural practices on my farm and reduce the length of transmission line required.
3. Again, if Alternate 1 routing is not selected, please consider Alternate 3 which extends the power line straight west from my south property line over to County Rd 43. This will move the line south from the new house just west of 170th Ave. and make a straight line along my entire south property line.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

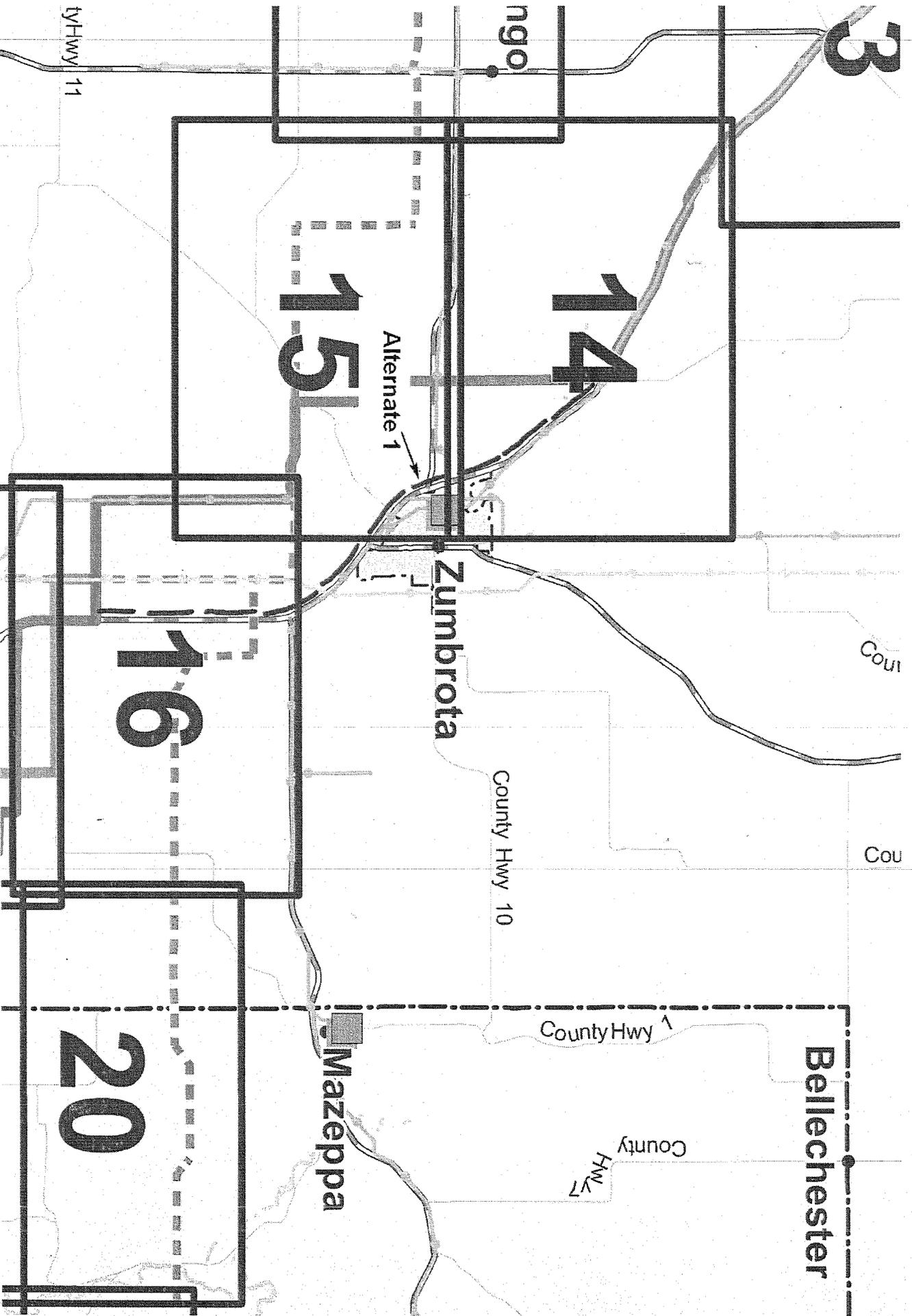
I can be reached via email at dctiede@ameritech.net or phone at (630)640-8212

Regards,

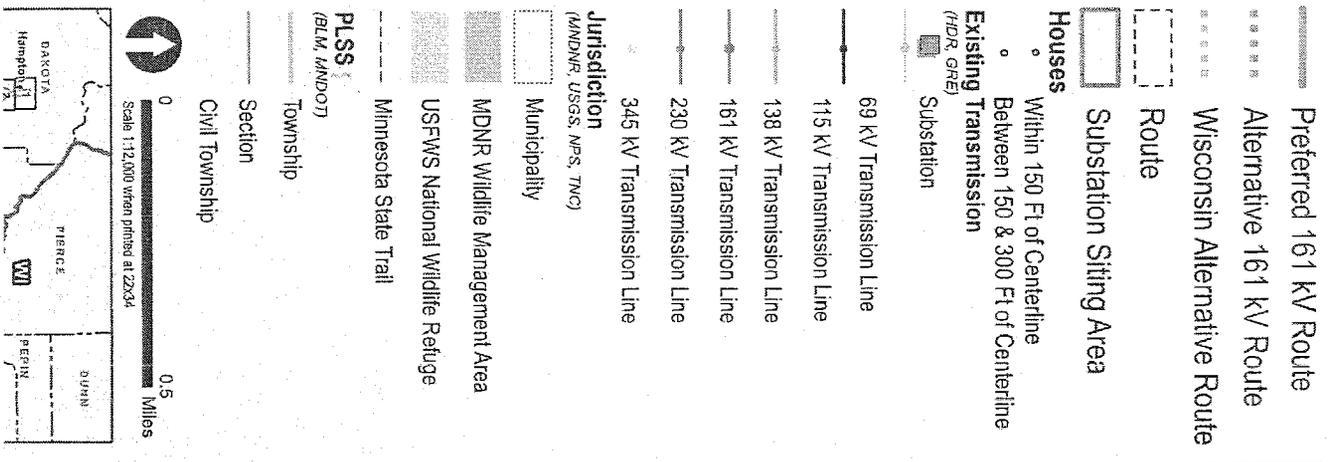
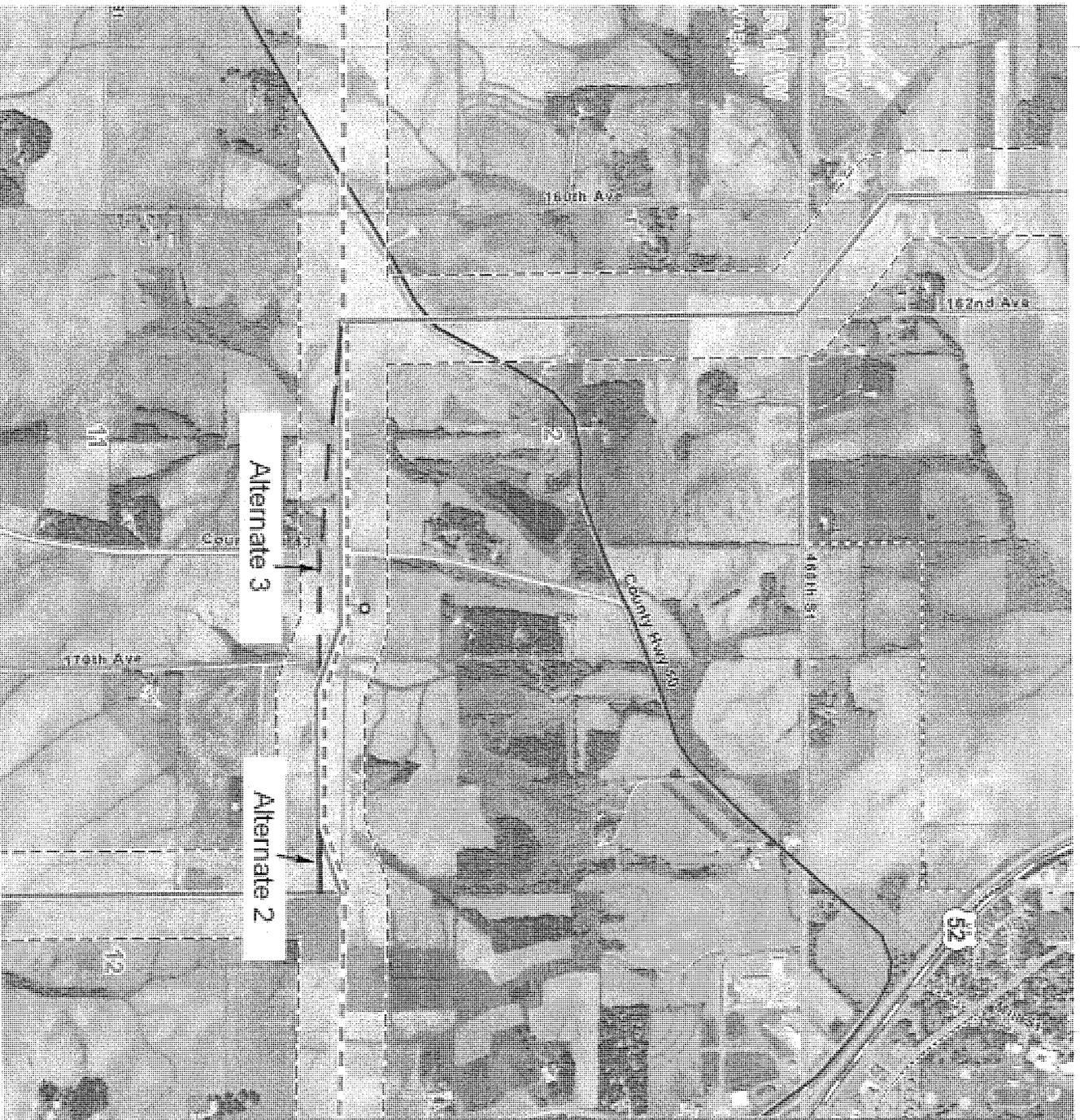
Duane Tiede

5/20/2010

Attachment 1 - Route Alternative Along Hwy 52



Attachment 2 - Route Alternates 2 and 3



Langan, Matthew (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Monday, May 17, 2010 9:15 PM
To: Langan, Matthew (COMM)
Subject: Trelstad Mon May 17 21:14:57 2010 E002/TL-09-1448

This public comment has been sent via the form at:
www.energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/publicComments.html

You are receiving it because you are listed as the contact for this project.

Project Name: Hampton to Rochester to La Crosse 345kV and 161kV Transmission Line

Docket number: E002/TL-09-1448

User Name: John Trelstad

County: Goodhue County

City: Zumbrota

Email: jtreldstad@hcinet.net

Phone:

Impact: I currently own property that is considerably close to the proposed alternate route. When I first heard about this project I figured that it would stay on the proposed route. Then I heard of the possible use of the alternate route was cheaper. I am quite concerned. My property has been in my family for over 35 years. If I would have known about this sooner, I would not have bought this from my parents. So I have a few questions that hopefully you can answer them. Because, we all know that a house and acreage, I always thought was a investment. I hope that my thought process was not wrong. 1. What affect will the power line have on property value? 2. What are the effects of long term exposure? 3. What is the impact on our large amount of wildlife. Deer, pheasants and turkeys. 4. What impact would this be to the farmers on the cropland, that this would take? 5. Will this affect communacations, satellite, phones, etc? 6. Why wouldnt you build near other lines (power)? I know that we need this, but I also feel that some homeowners, more than likely have the same fears as me.

Mitigation: In response to question 1. I absolutely feel that this will drop value in my property. I dont know how it wouldnt. No one wants to look at a power line or hear it at night when you are outside. In response to question 2. I and my wife are expecting our 1st child, I am really concerned about long term exposure. This is a major concern. I have not heard anything on this! In response to question 3. In the last 10 years the population of turkeys has really grown. Also deer and pheasant. It is always a pleasure to see them. I a have a feeling that this powerline will make them go elsewere. In response to question 4. More than likely drive down price for the land. In response to question 5. Communacations are very important, news per satellite, telephone, cellular phones. In response to question 6. I feel that having power lines near others, wouldnt have as much an impact on humans, animals, and market value of properties. During this ongoing recession, the taxpayer really cant take much more blows to our pocketbooks. In the end it all comes down to, would you want this in you front yard.

Submission date: Mon May 17 21:14:57 2010

This information has also been entered into a centralized database for future analysis.

For questions about the database or the functioning of this tool, contact:

Andrew Koebrick



85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
main: 651.296.4026 try: 651.296.2860 fax: 651.297.7891
www.commerce.state.mn.us

PUBLIC COMMENT SHEET

CapX Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project

PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448

Name:

Dennis Veiseth

Representing:

Ag Farmland & gravel pit owner

Address:

43703 165th Ave.

Email:

maxx.veiseth@juno.com

Zumbrota, MN 55992

Comments:

I am an owner of ag land and a sand gravel pit where this powerline is proposed in Sec 23 of Minneola township. I think the powerline should continue down along Hwy 52 thru Zumbrota and stay on state right of way. The gravel pit is a continuous pit between neighboring land owners. I was reading a draft site permit application and that doesn't allow wind turbines to be placed on gravel pits so I see no need to place transmission lines on gravel pits.

Please submit comments by 4:30pm, May 20, 2010 to:

Matthew Langan
Minnesota Dept. of Commerce
85 7th Place East
Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Email: matthew.langan@state.mn.us
Phone: 651-296-2096
Fax: 651-297-7891

To: The Minnesota Department of Commerce Office of Energy Security and anyone whom it may concern

Subject: Public comment/feedback on issues of concern and alternative route suggestions for the Xcel Energy proposed Hampton-Rochester-LaCrosse 345 kV Transmission Line Project to be considered and addressed in the environmental impact statement (EIS).

My wife and I, along with our three young children (ages 6 years old and younger), reside on five acres located at 9525 40th Ave NE, Elgin, MN 55932 in Farmington Township of Olmsted County.

My concerns with this route are many including but not limited to:

- Threats to the health of individuals residing or frequenting land near these proposed high power lines (I am especially concerned about the health threats to my young children and family)
- Negative impacts on land and property values; lack of adequate research on health risks associated with residing near high voltage lines (specifically existing research does not necessarily examine the same high voltages—345 and 161 kV—proposed presently and there also is not adequate long term research; in other words research review does not show “apples to apples” but rather “apples to oranges” comparisons and does not fully examine potential long term impacts due to lack of current research for this)
- Negative impacts on livestock and farmland in the area which many rely on for income and retirement
- Special consideration needs to be taken regarding the impact on dairy versus non-dairy farm land being impacted by these power lines as dairy farmers need to access their land significantly more times each year compared to non-dairy farmers. Thus these power lines should be routed to avoid dairy farms which are frequented multiple (20+) times per year as the lines would not only be inconvenient to work around but also dairy farmers would be at significantly increased risk of greater exposure to these lines when considering potential negative health risks. Non-dairy farms on the other hand are only typically accessed 3 times per year.
- The unsightly appearance of these towering power lines surrounding our homes and country landscape
- Threats to wildlife and the natural landscape

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE ROUTE SUGGESTIONS:

- First of all, I would **encourage the most northern proposals for the 345 kV line be considered and pushed** over the more southern route.
- I strongly oppose any routes (345, 161 or other voltages) in or near Section 16 or along/around 40th Avenue NE between Highway 247 and Co Rd 21 in Farmington Township, Olmsted County.
- As alternative suggestions for proposed 161 lines in Farmington Township (if these become necessary), I would like to suggest consideration to run the line to County Road 11 (B160 on the map) and then go south on County Road 11.
- A second suggestion for placement of proposed 161 lines in Farmington Township, Olmsted County (again if necessary at all) would be to run the power line down B159 on the map.
- With the above proposed alternative 161 route suggestions, no dairy farms would be affected and a relatively low number of overall residences and farms would be affected, including none known to have small children.

Thank you for your time in reviewing these concerns. Thank you also for considering the alternative route suggestions listed above.

Sincerely,

Mitch Walch
9525 40th Ave NE
Elgin, MN 55932
507-288-3310
Farmington Township, Olmsted County
mitchwalch@hotmail.com

To: The Minnesota Department of Commerce Office of Energy Security and anyone whom it may concern

Subject: Feedback on issues of concern and alternative route suggestions for the Xcel Energy proposed Hampton-Rochester-LaCrosse 345 kV Transmission Line Project to be considered and addressed in the environmental impact statement (EIS).

On May 4, 2010 I attended the EIS scoping meeting at the Plainview Legion in Plainview, MN regarding the proposed Xcel Energy Hampton-Rochester-LaCrosse 345 kV CapX2020 transmission line project. I appreciated the opportunity to attend this meeting and be involved and informed further in this process which I have been active in following for some time now. Our property address is 9525 40th Avenue NE, Elgin, MN 55932 in Farmington Township located in Olmsted County (near Sec 16). We live just down the road (less than one mile) from my family's home dairy farm (Eldon Malwitz Residence 10852 40th Ave NE, Elgin, MN 55932 and Wilbur Malwitz Residence 10848 40th Ave NE, Elgin, MN 55932, Farmington Township, Olmsted County) where we spend much time as a family and our children visit daily including before/after school and one full day each week for child care while my husband and I are working. I have several concerns about any of the proposed power lines running within close proximity to our home or my family farm. I oppose any power lines (345 kV or 161 lines) running within 2 miles of either of these properties (addresses mentioned above) for several reasons as outlined below.

1. CONCERN FOR HEALTH RISKS TO HUMANS LIVING NEAR (defined as within a 2 mile radius) OF THE PROPOSED HIGH VOLTAGE POWER LINES:

The first and strongest reason I oppose any of the proposed power lines running anywhere near the above mentioned properties is regarding health concerns. Specifically, we have three children ages 6 years old and younger who I do not want exposed in any nearby proximity to these lines given the fact that there have been documented correlations between serious negative health outcomes and individuals (especially young children) living near high voltage power lines. I work in the healthcare field with a research background and specialize in treatment of patients with neurologic conditions. I have reviewed research personally and have met with top professionals and specialists in pediatrics, oncology, neurology and general medicine practices all of whom have strongly advised me both personally and professionally against living (and especially raising young children) within a 2 mile radius of the proposed 345 or 161 voltage power lines. At scoping meetings and information obtained from the CapX project I am told that "there are no proven health risks with living near these lines" and human health concerns seem to be downplayed when brought up. What they fail to point out to the public and what has been grossly overlooked is the fact that there ARE positive correlations with negative health outcomes and living near high voltage power lines. Again, children have even more positive correlations with experiencing negative health outcomes (including types of cancer) associated with living near high voltage power lines. Additionally, I find that the information, research and reports that CapX bases their statements regarding health risks and these power lines on are not of fair comparison research by any means. The fact is that there is actually very little

overall research available on power lines of the proposed voltages, and where there is research studying health and power line threats there is not substantial longitudinal research (due to the relatively new nature of these structures) to fairly and accurately make statements on long term health risks associated with close proximity exposure to these lines. In other words, research that exists on the health risks of living near high voltage power lines typically examines lower voltage lines that those proposed by this project, and long term impacts are not fully studied such as what are the health risks 10, 20, 30, 40+ years after being exposed. In summary, I think that the HEALTH RISKS TO HUMANS LIVING NEAR (defined as within a 2 mile radius) OF THE PROPOSED HIGH VOLTAGE POWER LINES NEEDS TO BE FULLY ADDRESSED AS A MAJOR CONCERN OF THIS PROJECT AND THE THREAT OR POTENTIAL THREAT IT HAS ON HUMAN HEALTH AND LIFE, ESPECIALLY IN CHILDREN. I urge the EIS to fully consider this concern as a priority, as well as the lack of fair comparison and longitudinal research on the topic. Persons affected by these lines do not want to be "guinea pigs" due to lack of choice in the matter and certainly we do not want our children put at risk unfairly. Due to potential health risks, as well as other concerns, it would make most sense to run lines where they have the least potential for impact on running near (within 2 mile radius) homesteads or highly frequented/worked areas such as dairy farms versus regular crop farms.

2. CONSIDERATION FOR THE TYPE OF FARM LAND BEING IMPACTED AND HOW THAT FARM LAND IS USED, SPECIFICALLY HOW FREQUENTLY LAND IS ACCESSED AND RISK FOR EXPOSURE FOR DAIRY FARMERS VERSUS NON-DAIRY FARMERS.

Briefly, although we do not dairy farm my parents (within one mile of us) do own and operate a family dairy farm where we (including our children) spend a significant amount of time. My husband assists with farm work and my children enjoy "helping" on the farm as well and may one day even take it over as it continues to get passed down to the next generation. Dairy farmers are required to access and work their land significantly more times per year as compared to non-dairy farmers; dairy farmers typically access their land 20+ times per year (i.e. plant hay, spray, fertilize, cut the hay, rake the hay, bale the hay each time of harvest) versus non-dairy farmers who typically need to access their fields only 3 times per year. I urge the EIS to study and make recommendations that power lines especially be required to avoid interrupting dairy farms as these farmers would be at significantly increased exposure and burden to the lines versus non dairy farmers.

3. DECREASE IN PROPERTY VALUE and AESTHETIC QUALITY OF LAND/PROPERTY and THREAT TO WILDLIFE:

We have worked hard to purchase and make our home in the beautiful rural Rochester, MN country setting where we are located conveniently just a mile from the family farm my grandparents farmed 50+ years ago, which my father is currently farming and planning to pass down to his son (my brother) and future generations. The unsightly view of high voltage power lines on/near our properties is heart breaking and would obviously negatively impact land and property value for that which we have worked hard for and taken pride in, that being our homes and family farm. Our home in particular is

a former one room country school house which has much historical significance and value; to have unsightly power lines running in close proximity would be wrong. It would likewise disturb the beauty and habitat of the surrounding landscape, nature and wildlife which all needs to also be considered.

PROPOSED ROUTE SUGGESTIONS:

- First of all, I would **encourage the most northern proposals for the 345 kV line be considered and pushed** over the more southern route.
- I strongly oppose any routes (345, 161 or other voltages) in or near Section 16 or along/around 40th Avenue NE between Highway 247 and Co Rd 21 in Farmington Township, Olmsted County.
- As alternative suggestions for proposed 161 lines in Farmington Township (if these become necessary), I would like to suggest consideration to run the line to County Road 11 (B160 on the map) and then go south on County Road 11.
- A second suggestion for placement of proposed 161 lines in Farmington Township, Olmsted County (again if necessary at all) would be to run the power line down B159 on the map.
- With the above proposed alternative 161 route suggestions, no dairy farms would be affected and a relatively low number of overall residences and farms would be affected, including none known to have small children.

Thank you for your time in considering and investigating the above mentioned concern areas, as well as for considering the route suggestions outlined above.

Respectfully,
Sara Walch
9525 40th Avenue NE
Elgin, MN 55932

507-288-3310
walch.sara@mayo.edu

James E. & Patricia A. Walter
Pine Bend Farm
312 County 11 Blvd. NW
Pine Island, MN 55963
(507)356-4573
jim.pinebed@gmail.com



Matthew Langan
Minnesota Dept. of Commerce
85 7th Place East
Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Dear Matthew:

We are farmers who own land on both the east and west sides of Highway 52 on the north edge of Pine Island, MN. On the east side we have a 150 A. field that has been identified for commercial development in the city's comprehensive plan.

On the enclosed Map A we have circled our field, and you will see that it will be impacted twice if the CapX2020 project follows your Preferred routes. Besides affecting us in a personal way, we are very concerned about the affect it will have on future growth/development of Pine Island to the north.

The enclosed Map B also shows our 150 A field. It is outlined in black. Although this map was copied from the city's comprehensive plan to show how development is projected to take place, it also shows, marked in pink, the proposed route for County #11 when MNDOT completes the north interchange for the city of Pine Island. This road will also intersect our 150 A. field!

So, we have the same field with a road going from north to south through it, and two power lines going from east to west through it! How can growth/development take place? Please reconsider your CapX routes and move them farther to the north!

Sincerely,

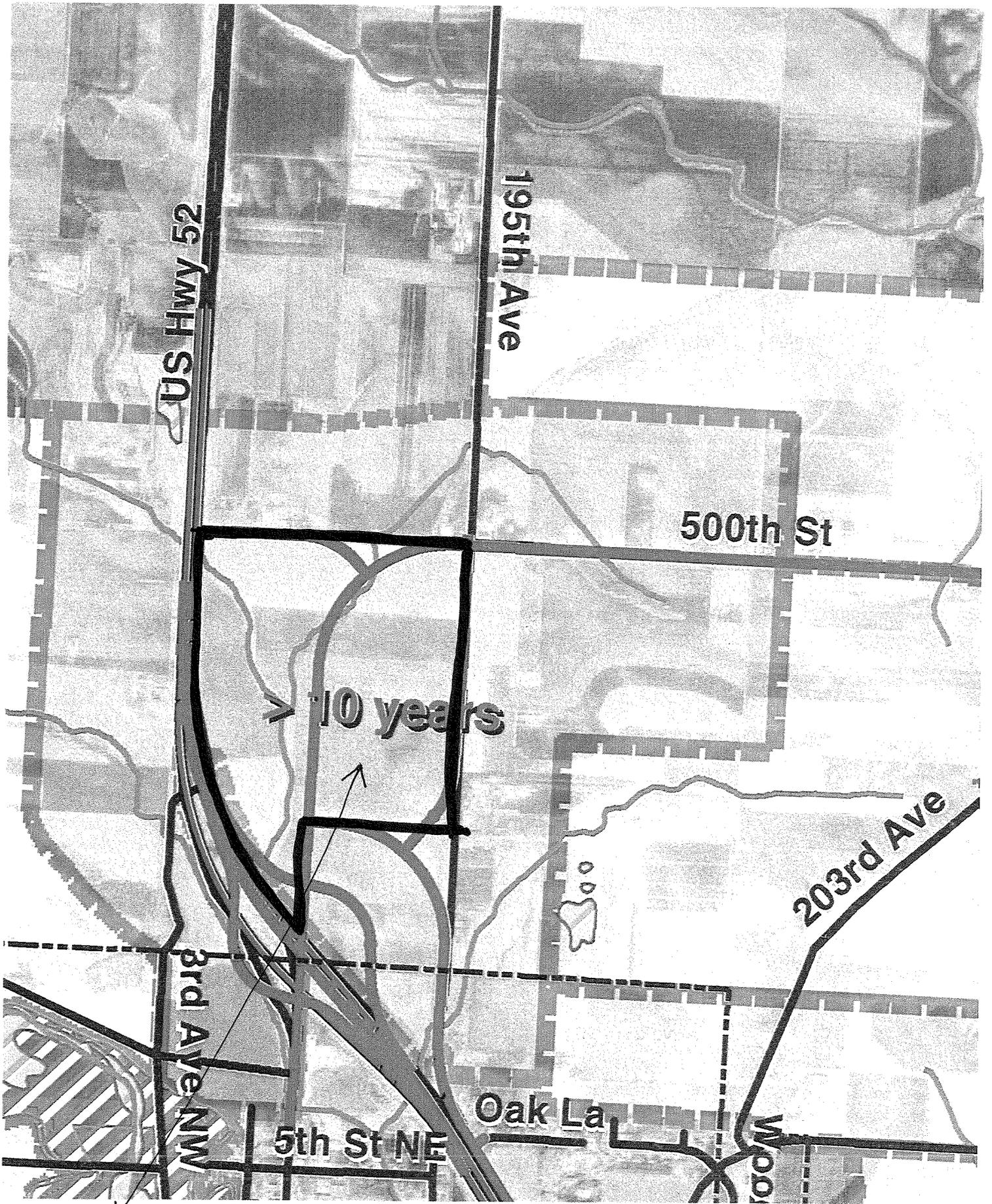
Jim Walter
Pat Walter

Jim & Pat Walter

Map A



The circled area is shown in more detail on Map B. - Again, it is on the 150 A field on the east side of Hwy 52.



This is our 150 A. field on the east side of Hwy. 52. The pink lines designate where the County 11 road will go when the north

Langan, Matthew (COMM)

From: Shw5@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2010 10:32 PM
To: Langan, Matthew (COMM)
Subject: (no subject)

Matthew.

I wanted to express my opinion on the preferred 161KV line that runs down highway 52 then turns south down Olmsted Co. 31 to 117th St. and heads west following the roads to Rochester. I live at 11637 Co. Rd. 31 N.W (Newhaven township section 11. It looks as if I will mow with-in 100 feet of the pole. If I or my wife get a pacemaker, as I am already over 60 will it be safe to be this close? When we searched for this lot 30 years ago it had to have access to the road to be a useable lot. This following country roads where lots of us have built seems to be a great way to muck up our lifetime dreams. Running close to all these personal homes where we spend 80% of our lives seems to me should be avoided at all costs. The unknown detrimental health effects that can be magnified by so much time near this 161KV line is not acceptable.

What is wrong with the Douglas trail, the old railroad line that runs to Rochester. I would rather ride or walk an hour or two a week by it than live by it! This must already have a right of way for a great cost savings.

What is wrong with highway 52 that runs to Rochester. I would rather drive by it on the way to work than live by it!

I would rather have the line follow the proposed high speed rail right of way to Rochester to group two needed of right of ways in one, for a huge cost savings. Also less peoples lives would be affected.

Also the line running a line on a back property line or fence where it is close to crops growing or livestock are grazing as an argument by agriculture interests not to have it there is ridiculous! Peoples homes and primary residences where we live with our kids are more important than corn, livestock, or farming inconvenience. The line doesn't belong on the so called preferred route on Olmsted Co. 31 by our homes. YOU will make us want to move if we can even sell our house next to this 161KV line.

This line would be an assault on my freedom and pursuit of happiness. Keep it away from our homes.

Stephen and Debbie Walters rural Oronoco

Langan, Matthew (COMM)

From: Janet/Rob Weber [jrweber@sprynet.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2010 9:42 AM
To: Langan, Matthew (COMM)
Subject: Comments for: CapX Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project (Rob and Janet Weber)

Attachments: capxFigure1.jpg; capxFigure2.JPG; capxFigure3.JPG; capxFigure4.JPG



capxFigure1.jpg
(106 KB)



capxFigure2.JPG
(107 KB)



capxFigure3.JPG
(118 KB)



capxFigure4.JPG
(106 KB)

Hi Matt,

We attended one of the informational meetings in Pine Island and would like to thank you for your time. It was very helpful.

We own property along the preferred 345 kV route, north of Zumbrota, where the proposed transmission line would turn south by highway 7. We have a couple of concerns if the preferred route is chosen. The first concern is with the health risks associated with living near a high voltage power line. The second concern is the possibility of losing any of our trees, or their branches, as part of a right-of-way. We would want to keep all of these to block the view of the transmission line.

I have attached maps to point out our land and some ideas we would like you to consider if the preferred route is chosen. Each of the maps shows a portion of map #14 from the capx2020 site (http://www.capx2020.com/routemaps/HRL_maps_01-19-2010/CapX_HRL_01-19-2010_Sheetmap_14.pdf).

Figure 1 shows our property marked with a yellow border. We would like to keep the 500 foot line from crossing the open, mowed part of our property where our lawn and buildings are. Ideally, this line would come no closer than the trees in front of our house (toward the highway). Also, we would not want a right-of-way on our land to ensure our trees remain untouched.

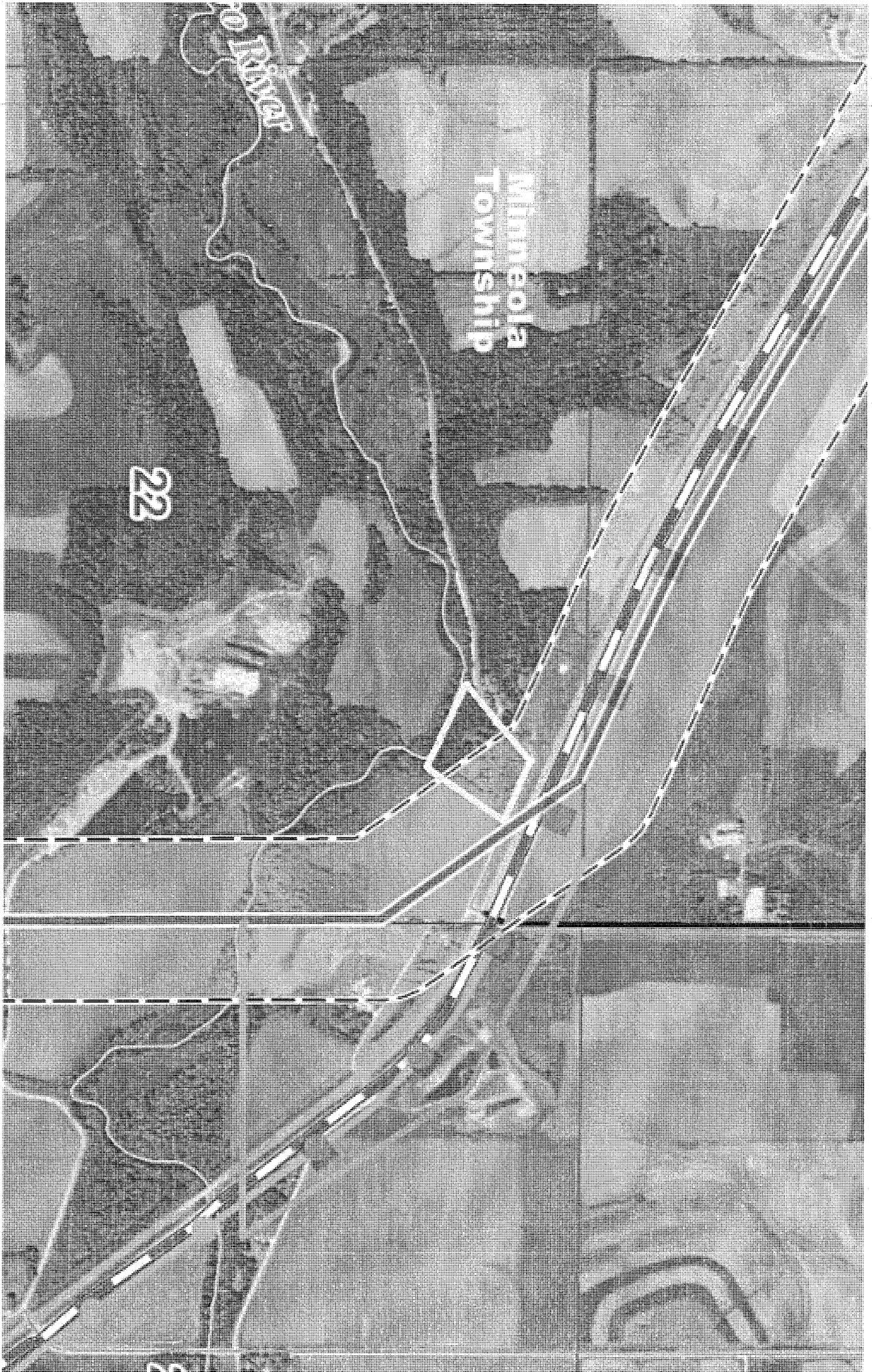
Figure 2 shows an option with the route continuing further along highway 52 and crossing the highway along the next open field. Note: Another goal with this option is to keep the route as far across the highway as possible. This option would alleviate our concerns.

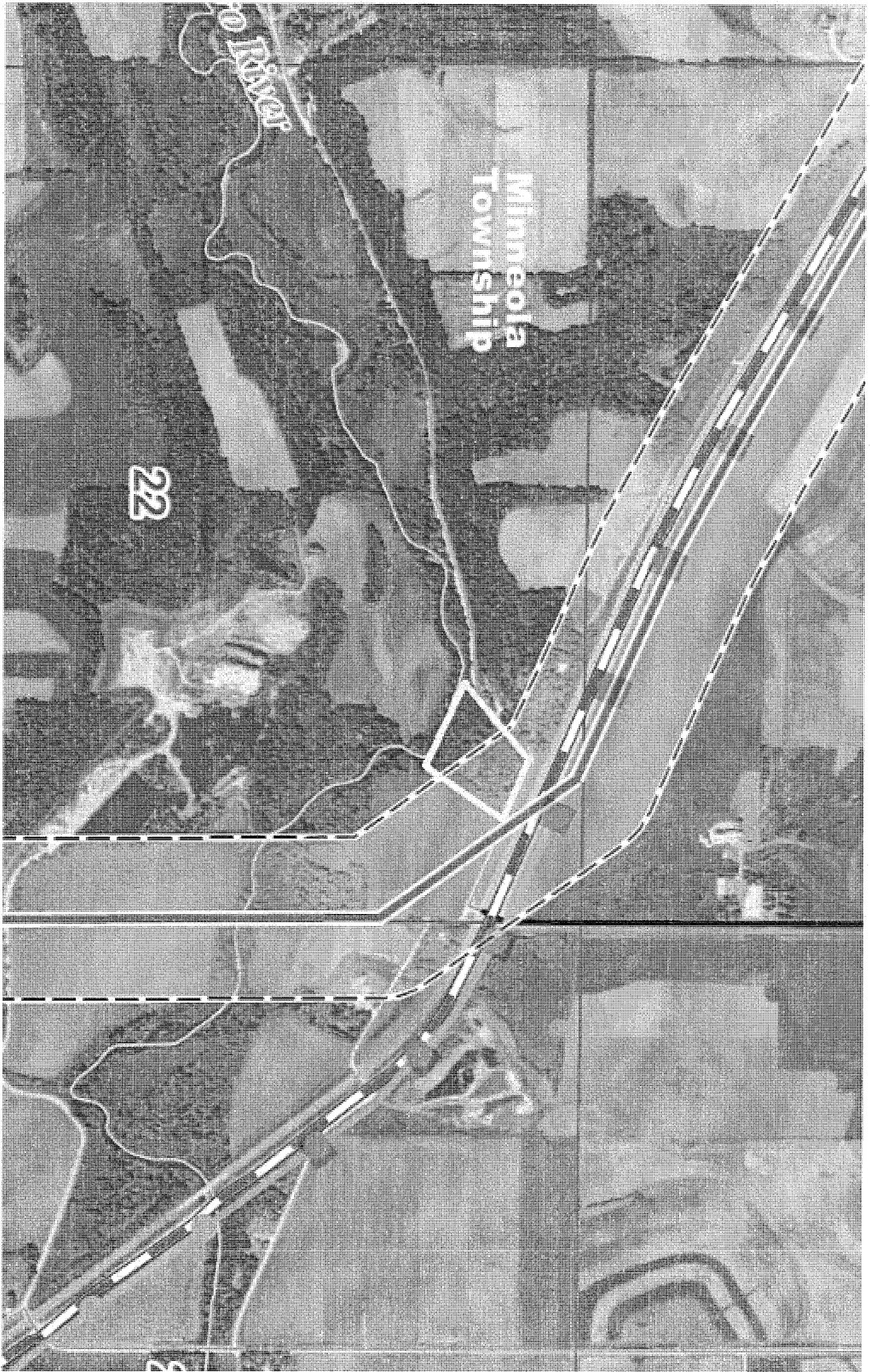
Figure 3 shows two possible spots where the route might cross the highway before reaching our property; however, I am not familiar enough with the property in this area to suggest the best way for these alternatives to hook up with the rest of the route. Either of these options would alleviate our concerns as well, assuming the completed routes stayed further from our property.

Figure 4 shows slight modifications to the proposed route. The goals here would be, once again, to keep the route as far across the highway as possible and to make the turn when transmission line is across, or past, corner 'B' of property instead of when it is across corner 'A' of our property. This option would help with our concerns, although the previous options would be preferable.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Rob and Janet Weber
15788 Sherwood Trail
Zumbrota, MN 55992
jrweber@sprynet.com

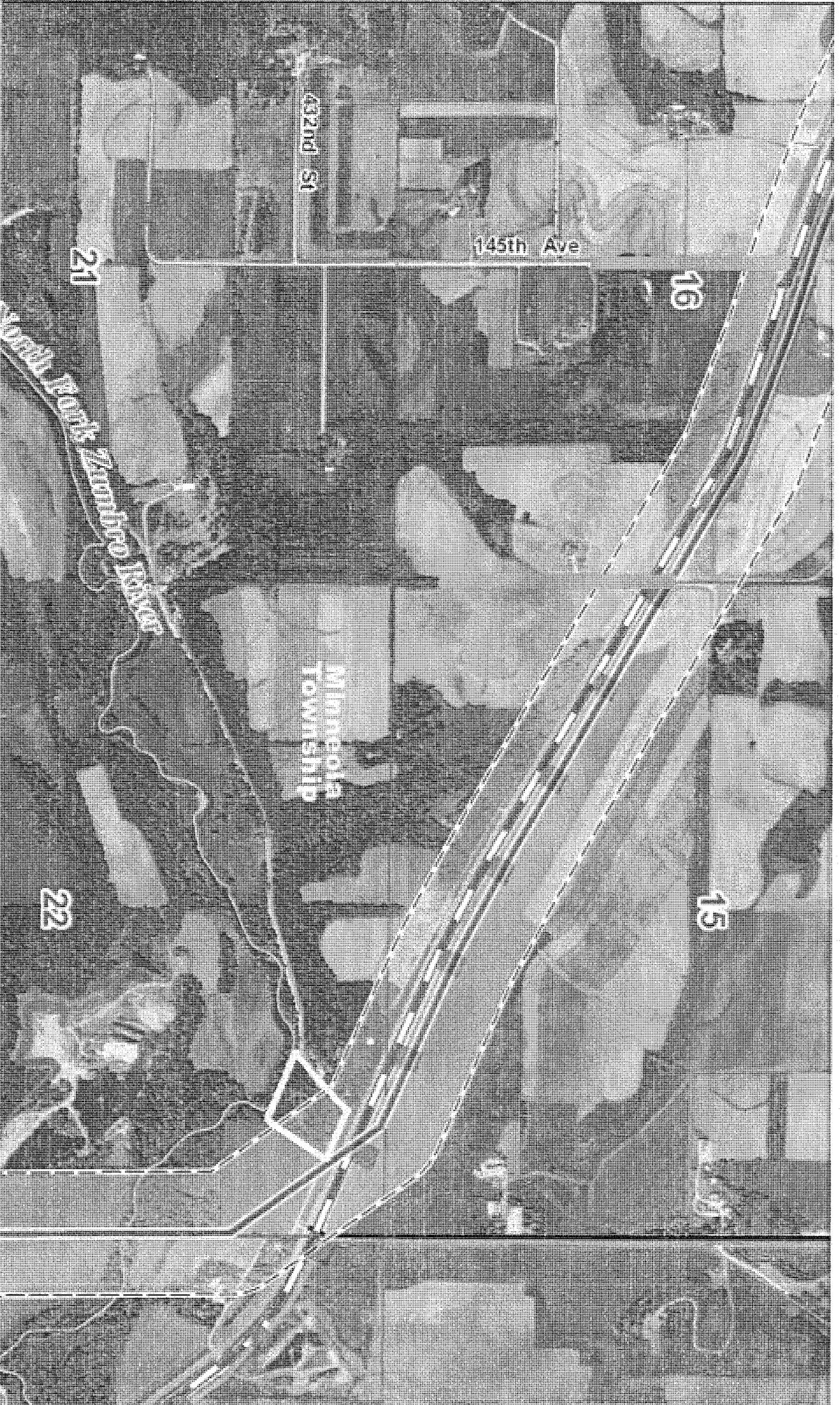




Minnesota
Township

222

0171000



33rd St

145th Ave

21

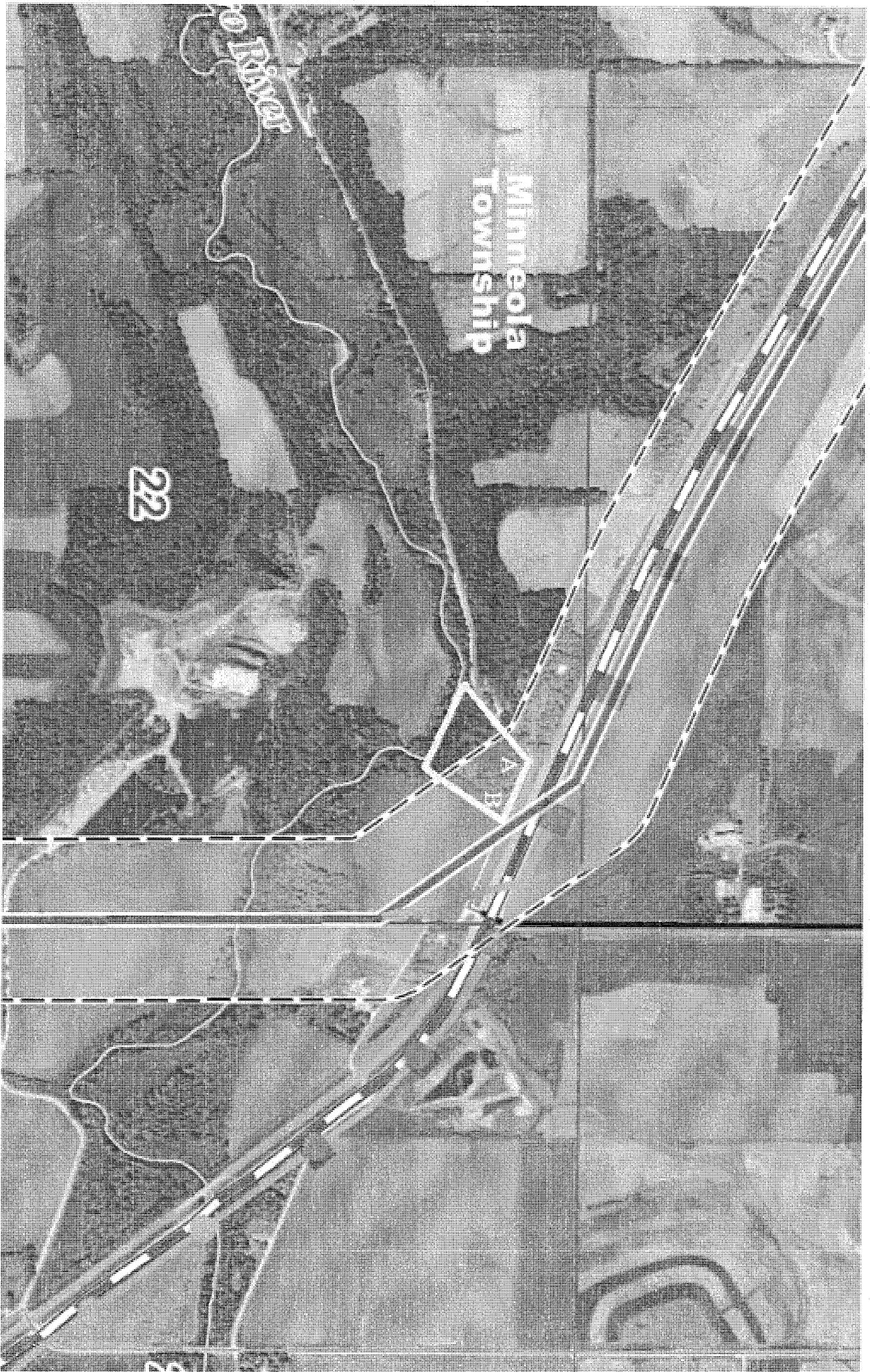
16

North Fork Zumbro River

Minnesota Township

15

22



Minnesota
Township

222

A

B



Public Comment Sheet

CapX Hampton – Rochester – La Crosse Transmission Line Project

PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448

Name: Allen and Jennifer Whipple

Representing: Allen and Jennifer Whipple

Address: 12005 Highway 63 North
Rochester, MN 55906

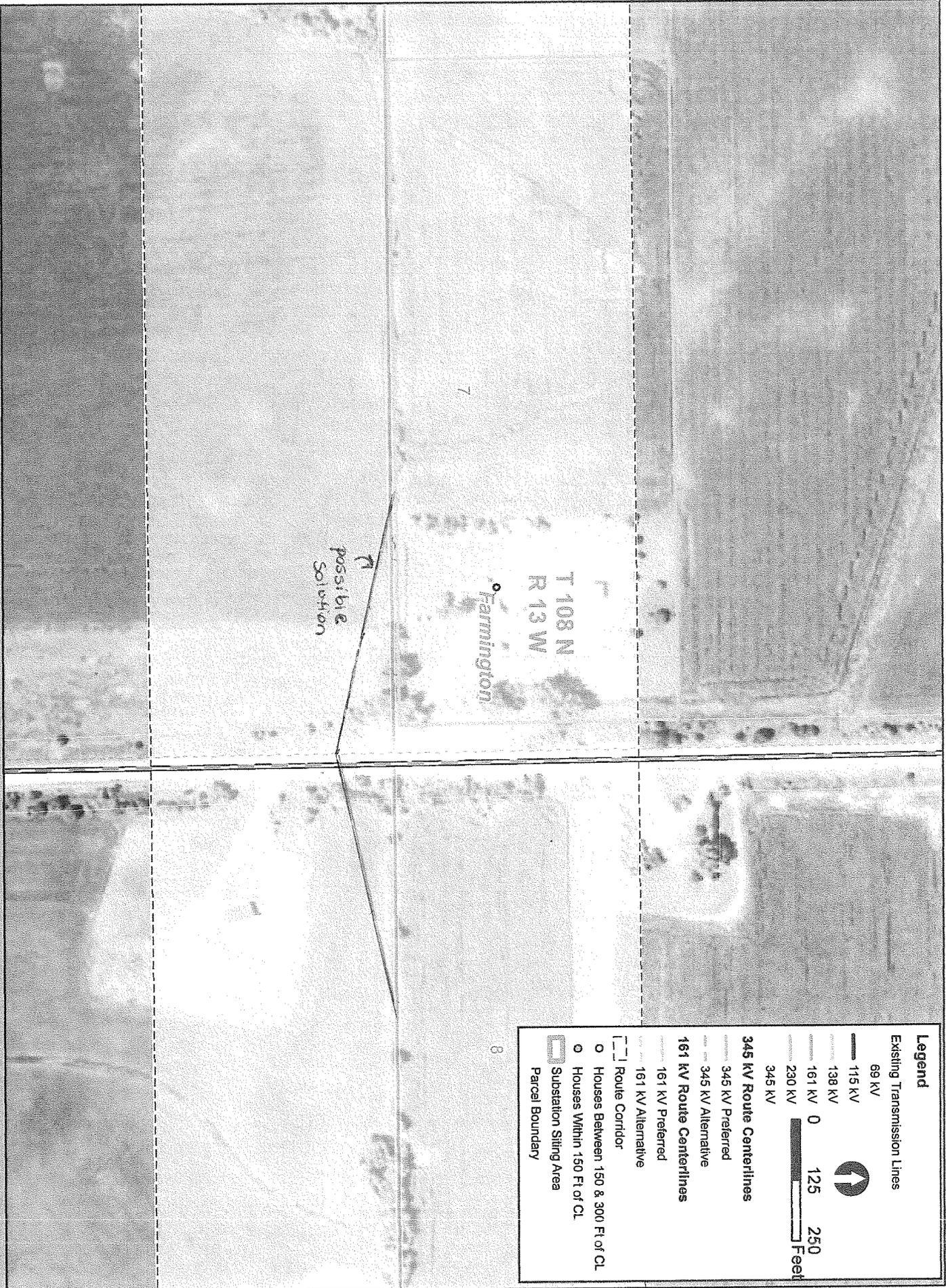
Email: whip@rconnect.com

Comments:

The enclosed photos show our home and part of the 19 acres we own. These photos were taken in 1999. The line of trees on the south side of the house is now about 15 feet high. The centerline is approximately 140 feet from our house, thus a right of way of 75 feet from center would leave us with 65 feet from the house. Were the preferred line selected for the 345 kV power line, we would lose this row of trees as well as our yard.

The most appropriate solution would be to move the centerline of the transmission line to a position equal distance between our place and the place across the highway (see diagram). Part of this slight modification to the west of the highway is an existing right of way owned by the Williams Pipeline. This would provide both our place and the place across the highway with a distance of greater than 200 feet from the transmission line.





Legend

Existing Transmission Lines

- 115 kV
- 138 kV
- 161 kV
- 230 kV
- 345 kV

345 kV Route Centerlines

- 345 kV Preferred
- 345 kV Alternative

161 kV Route Centerlines

- 161 kV Preferred
- 161 kV Alternative

Route Corridor

- Houses Between 150 & 300 Ft of CL
- Houses Within 150 Ft of CL

Substation Siting Area

Parcel Boundary

Feet

0 125 250



85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
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www.commerce.state.mn.us

PUBLIC COMMENT SHEET

CapX Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project

PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448

Name:

Roland Wood

Representing:

Roland + Carol Wood

Address:

22060 Cty Rd 27 Plainview MN 55964

Email:

Comments:

Concerning property at T108N R11W. presently your proposal crosses through my fields from the Sub Station east. I would propose going North 1/4 mile at the Sub Station and then east on property line. If you follow your proposed Route I will have poles in my strips + you will have to remove more than 1/4 mile of trees. Also moving the line 1/4 mile on the West would get the line farther from my dairy Barn.

I think the alternate I propose looks straighter and would affect fewer people.

The change I propose is in black on the enclosed Map.

Roland + Carol Wood

Please submit comments by **4:30pm, May 20, 2010** to:

Matthew Langan
Minnesota Dept. of Commerce
85 7th Place East
Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Email: matthew.langan@state.mn.us
Phone: 651-296-2096
Fax: 651-297-7891

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85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
main: 651.296.4026 tty: 651.296.2860 fax: 651.297.7891

www.commerce.state.mn.us

PUBLIC COMMENT SHEET

CapX Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project

PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-09-1448

Name:

Representing:

KRAIG WURST

Address:

Email:

27547 Co. Rd. 28 PLAINVIEW MINN. 55964

Comments:

The Power Line is RUNNING too Close to Our Airport, For SAFE OPERATION, I'M Sure the FAA Will NOT Allow US to operate if this Power Line Goes through. Also on our West Property the LINE Goes through our Building Site & Within 100 Feet of our Well. I do NOT WANT to stop your Power Line if we are properly Compensated.

See ATTACHED MAP.

Please submit comments by 4:30pm, May 20, 2010 to:

Matthew Langan
Minnesota Dept. of Commerce
85 7th Place East
Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Email: matthew.langan@state.mn.us
Phone: 651-296-2096
Fax: 651-297-7891

May 14, 2010

Matthew Langan

State Permit Manager

Minnesota Office of Energy Security

85 7th Place East, Suite 500

St. Paul, Minnesota, 55101-2198



Dear Mr. Langan:

Enclosed is a petition signed in the neighborhood along the line of the alternative route. These neighbors are concerned about the impact of the living near the 345kV route and the impact on Mr. Kettner's pacemaker. Lois is concerned about the impact on her oxygen tank. I turned other petitions from this area at the Pine Island meeting on May 5th. As I testified, other neighbors are concerned about the impact on GPS units used for farming, electric fences and the current that will be carried by metal sheds.

I thought you did a very nice job facilitating the session. You listened and also managed the questions in a professional, but caring manner.

Thanks,

Therese Zink

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Therese Zink".

