Energy Facility Permitting
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2198
1.800.657.3794 / 651.296.4026
FAX 651.297.7891 TTY 651.297.3067
http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us

Issued: March 23, 2010

SOLICITATION OF ADVISORY TASK FORCE MEMBERS

To Whom it May Concern:

This notice is soliciting nominations for the Hampton to Northern Hills Advisory Task Force (ATF) and/or the North Rochester to Mississippi River ATF for the proposed CAPX 2020 Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Project (Project). On January 19, 2010, Xcel Energy submitted a High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for the Project. The application was accepted as complete on March 9, 2010. In an Order dated March 16, 2010, the Commission authorized the establishment of two advisory task forces: the Hampton to Northern Hills ATF and the North Rochester to Mississippi River ATF. Both task forces would assist the Office of Energy Security (OES) in identifying impacts, issues and alternatives that should be assessed in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The Hampton to Northern Hills ATF would focus on the proposed routes between the existing Hampton Substation (Hampton, Minn.) and the existing Northern Hills Substation (Rochester, Minn.). The North Rochester to Mississippi River ATF would focus on the proposed routes between the proposed North Rochester Substation (near Pine Island, Minn.) to the Minnesota terminus of the proposed project at the Mississippi River (near Kellogg, Minn.)

The task force will assist the Minnesota Office of Energy Security (OES) Energy Facility Permitting (EFP) staff in developing the scope of the EIS. The OES charges the ATF members to:

1. Assist in determining specific impacts and issues of local concern that should be assessed in the EIS; and
2. Assist in determining potential route alternatives that should be assessed in the EIS.

The ATF will expire upon designation of the EIS scoping decision by the OES Director.

ATF members will be selected from the list of nominations received. The Hampton to Northern Hills ATF will consist of no more than 15 persons. The structure of the advisory task force will be pursuant to Minn. Stat. 216E.08, subdivision 1. The final structure will comprise one employee or elected official from each county (3), one employee or elected official from each city (7), board members from the seventeen townships (3-5), and up to two non-governmental organizations (0-2).

Members of the Hampton to Northern Hills ATF will be solicited from the following:

Type	Name
County	Dakota
County	Goodhue
County	Olmsted
City	Cannon Falls
City	Dennison
City	Hampton
City	Pine Island
City	Randolph
City	Rochester
City	Wanamingo
Township	Hampton
Township	Randolph
Township	Sciota
Township	Vermillion
Township	Cannon Falls
Township	Holden
Township	Leon
Township	Minneota
Township	Pine Island
Township	Roscoe
Township	Stanton
Township	Wanamingo
Township	Warsaw
Township	Cascade
Township	Kalmar
Township	New Haven
Township	Oronoco
NGO	
NGO	

The Northern Hills to Mississippi River ATF will consist of no more than 10 persons. ATF members will be selected from the list of nominations received. The structure of the advisory task force will be pursuant to Minn. Stat. 216E.08, subdivision 1. The final structure will comprise one employee or elected official from each county (3), one employee or elected official from each city (2), board members from the eleven townships (3-5), and up to two non-governmental organizations (0-2).

Members of the North Rochester to Mississippi River ATF are being solicited from the following:

Type	Name
County	Goodhue
County	Olmsted
County	Wabasha
City	Kellogg
City	Pine Island
Township	Pine Island
Township	Farmington
Township	Oronoco
Township	Elgin
Township	Greenfield
Township	Highland
Township	Mazeppa
Township	Oakwood
Township	Plainview
Township	Watopa
Township	Zumbro
NGO	OES Project Mail List
NGO	Groups requesting ATF

Please provide the name of a person(s) who may well represent their agency or organization in regard to this endeavor. The qualifications for serving on the task force are (1) that the person be an employee or representative of the entity; (2) that the person be willing, interested, and available to serve on the task force; (3) that the person be knowledgeable about local planning and environmental issues; and (4) that the person not be an officer, agent, or employee of Xcel Energy. If you or someone in your organization would like to be considered for inclusion on the ATF, please fill out the attached candidate information form and **e-mail, fax or mail the form to be received by 4:30 p.m. on April 6, 2010** to:

Matthew Langan, State Permit Manager
Office of Energy Security
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
matthew.langan@state.mn.us
ph. 651.296.2096, fax 651.297.7891

Members of the ATF will be contacted by April 13, 2010. Each ATF will meet three times. Specific meeting times and locations within the project area will be announced by April 13. Each meeting will be held in the afternoon on one day during the following range of dates:

Meeting #1: April 27 – 29
Meeting #2: May 11-13
Meeting #3: June 1-3

If you imagine an appropriate contact person within your organization, please pass on this letter along with the enclosed form to them. Also, please pass on this letter along with the enclosed form to any other groups you think might be interested, notably nongovernmental environmental or civic organizations.

To learn more about the application, visit the project webpage at:

http://www.energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=25731

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

Sincerely,

Matthew Langan, State Permit Manager

enc: Candidate Form
ATF Charge

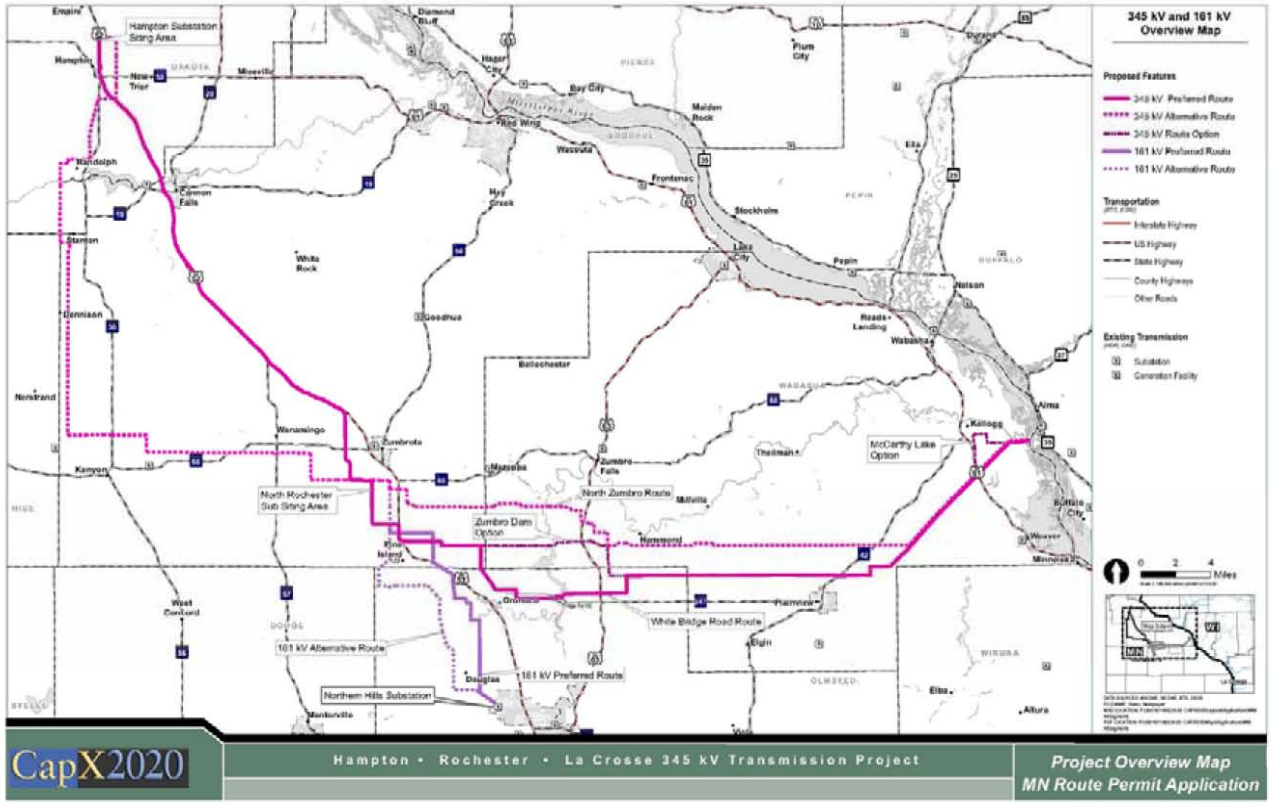

Figure ES-1: Project Overview Map

Hampton ▪ Rochester ▪ La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project