



STATE OF MINNESOTA Energy Facility Permitting



Issued: October 17, 2011

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

In the Matter of the Application of Prairie Rose Transmission, LLC for a Route Permit for the 115 kV Interconnection Project in Rock County (PUC Docket: IP-6838/TL-10-134)

The Minnesota Department of Commerce, Energy Facility Permitting Unit (EFP) has released the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Prairie Rose 115 kV Transmission Line Project.

The intent of the environmental review process is to inform the public, the applicants and decision-makers about potential impacts and possible mitigations for a proposed project. The EA for the Prairie Rose transmission project evaluated impacts for the Applicant's proposed route along County Rd 7 and Township Rd 72 in Rock County. In this instance, no route alternates were proposed for comparative analysis.

Copies of the EA can be obtained through EFP and may be viewed at the Public Utilities Commission web site: <http://www.energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=28283>.

Project Description

The Project is a 115 kV transmission line that would be built to interconnect the Prairie Rose 200 MW Wind Farm to the transmission grid. The complete proposed transmission line would span approximately 24 miles, from the Prairie Rose Wind Farm Substation in Rose Dell Township in Rock County to the Split Rock Substation in Brandon, South Dakota. The Minnesota portion of the proposed Project would be approximately 5.5 to seven miles long. The single-circuit transmission line would head west along County Highway 7 to County Highway 23. There it would continue due west along Township Road 72 to the Minnesota-South Dakota border. The proposed route would be sited along a combination of existing road right-of-way (ROW) and private land adjacent the public road ROW.

Public Hearing

A Public Hearing on the Route Permit will be held in the project area shortly after this release of the Environmental Assessment and will be noticed separately.

Project Contacts and Information

For more information about the environmental review process, contact State Permit Manager David Birkholz (651-296-2878, david.birkholz@state.mn.us), Department of Commerce, Energy Facility Permitting, 85 7th Place East, Suite 500, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101-2198.

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