



**Energy Facility Permitting**  
85 7th Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2198  
ph 651.296.4026 | fax 651.297.7891  
[www.energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us](http://www.energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us)

Issued: September 22, 2011

## **NOTICE OF SOLICITATION OF ADVISORY TASK FORCE MEMBERS FOR THE HOLLYDALE 115 kV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT**

To Whom it May Concern,

The Minnesota Department of Commerce is soliciting nominations for an advisory task force (ATF) for the Hollydale 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line project. Task force members are being solicited from local government units (LGUs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the project area (see attached task force charge).

The task force will assist Department of Commerce, Energy Facility Permitting (EFP) staff in developing the scope of the environmental assessment for the proposed Hollydale project.

The qualifications for serving on the task force are: (1) that the person be an employee or official of the LGU or NGO; (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 or Great River Energy.

Task force members will be appointed from the list of nominations received. The ATF will consist of no more than 10 persons. Appointees to the task force will be contacted by October 12, 2011. Meetings will be held at the Best Western Kelly Inn, 2705 North Annapolis Lane, Plymouth. The task force will meet two times – October 18 and November 1:

Meeting #1: Tuesday, October 18, 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Meeting #2: Tuesday, November 1, 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

To nominate a candidate for the task force, please fill out the attached candidate form and **email, fax, or mail the form to be received by 4:30 PM on Friday, October 7, 2011 to:**

Scott Ek, State Permit Manager  
Minnesota Department of Commerce  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198  
[scott.ek@state.mn.us](mailto:scott.ek@state.mn.us)  
fax: (651) 297-7891  
phone: (651) 296-8813

You can learn more about the proposed Hollydale 115 kV transmission line project on the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's energy facility permitting website:  
<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=32121>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Ek". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Scott Ek, State Permit Manager  
Energy Facility Permitting

enc: Advisory Task Force Charge  
Candidate Form



# Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project Advisory Task Force Candidate Information Form



**Candidate Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone No(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Employer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Job Function:** \_\_\_\_\_

**With which local governmental unit (LGU) or non-governmental organization (NGO) are you affiliated, and what is your role within it:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please describe your interest in the Hollydale transmission line project:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

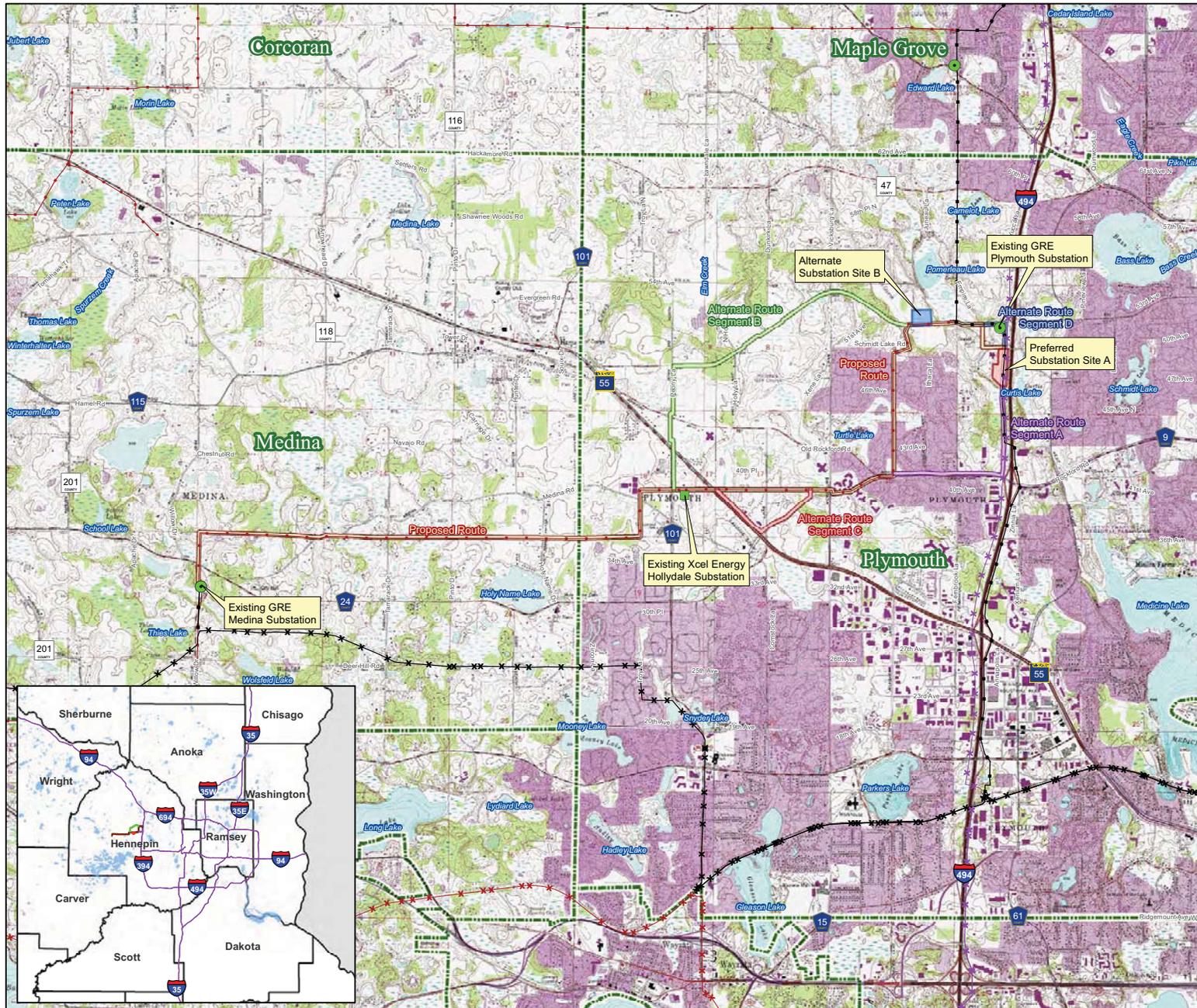
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate that you are not affiliated with Xcel Energy or Great River Energy, and that that you are not an officer, agent, or employee of Xcel Energy or Great River Energy by checking this box:**

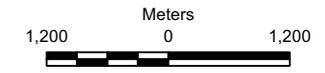
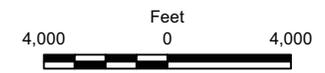
**Return to:** Scott Ek, State Permit Manager  
Minnesota Department of Commerce  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

[scott.ek@state.mn.us](mailto:scott.ek@state.mn.us)  
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- Existing Xcel Energy Substation
  - Existing GRE Substation
  - Municipality
  - Preferred Substation Site A
  - Alternate Substation Site B
  - Railroad
  - Proposed Route
  - Alternate Route Segment A
  - Alternate Route Segment B
  - Alternate Route Segment C
  - Alternate Route Segment D
- Existing Xcel Energy Transmission Line
- 69 kV
  - 115 kV
  - 345 kV
- Existing GRE Transmission Line
- 69 kV
  - 115 kV

Data Sources:  
Xcel Energy, GRE, MN DNR, MNDOT, USGS



**Figure B-1**

GENERAL VICINITY MAP  
Hollydale Project



In the Matter of the Route Permit  
Application for the Hollydale 115 kV  
Transmission Line Project in the Cities of  
Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County.

HOLLYDALE 115 kV PROJECT  
ADVISORY TASK FORCE  
STRUCTURE AND CHARGE  
DOCKET NO. E002/TL-11-152

**WHEREAS**, the applicants submitted a route permit application for the proposed Hollydale 115 kV transmission line project on June 30, 2011.

**WHEREAS**, the Commission, under Minnesota Statute 216E.08, may establish an advisory task force (ATF) to assist it in carrying out its duties. Under the statute the Commission shall provide guidance to the ATF in the form of a charge.

**WHEREAS**, an ATF shall be comprised of at least one representative from each of the following: regional development commissions, counties and municipal corporations, and one town board member from each county in which a route is proposed to be located. This statute further stipulates that no officer, agent, or employee of the applicant shall serve on the advisory task force.

**WHEREAS**, the ATF terminates upon completion of its charge or upon designation by the Department of Commerce of alternative sites or routes to be included in the environmental assessment, whichever occurs first.

**WHEREAS**, on August 25, 2011, the Commission authorized Department of Commerce Energy Facility Permitting (EFP) to establish an ATF with the structure and charge herein noted.

**THEREFORE**, having reviewed this information, the Department of Commerce makes the following determination with regard to the need for and charge to an ATF relating to this matter.

### **HOLLYDALE ADVISORY TASK FORCE AUTHORIZATION**

As authorized by the Commission, the Department of Commerce establishes an ATF to assist in identifying impacts and route alternatives to be evaluated in the environmental assessment to be prepared by EFP staff for the proposed Hollydale 115 kV transmission line project. The Hollydale ATF members will be solicited, as required by Minnesota Statute 216E.08, subdivision 1, from the following governmental units:

- Metropolitan Council
- Hennepin County
- City of Medina
- City of Plymouth

In addition, the ATF will include no more than six designated representatives from homeowners associations with property on or near the proposed project.

The ATF will be comprised of no more than 10 members total.

This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e. large print or audio) by calling 651-296-0391 (voice). Persons with hearing or speech disabilities may call us through Minnesota Relay at 1-800-627-3529 or by dialing 711.

The Department of Commerce charges the Hollydale ATF with:

1. Identifying specific impacts and issues of local concern that may be included in the scoping decision document and evaluated in the environmental assessment, particularly regarding potential conflicts with local planning and zoning.
2. Identifying potential alternative transmission line routes or route segments and alignments that may maximize positive impacts and minimize or avoid negative impacts of the project in specific areas of concern and that may be included in the scoping decision document and evaluated in the environmental assessment.

The following issues will not be addressed in the scope of environmental review:

- A no-build alternative.
- Issues related to project need, size, type, or timing.
- Routes segments or alternatives that would be unpractical or unreasonable, or would not meet the stated need of the proposed project.

ATF members are expected to participate with EFP staff in up to two meetings and to assist staff with the development of a summary of the task force's work, including their preferences or recommendations, if any. Meetings will be facilitated by EFP staff or a facilitator engaged by EFP staff.

The ATF will expire upon completion of its charge or upon release of the environmental assessment scoping decision by the Department of Commerce, whichever occurs first.

EFP staff is directed to solicit and appoint, as appropriate, members of the ATF and to begin work on the above-noted charge.

Signed this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2011

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William Grant, Deputy Commissioner