

From: thomas.vertes@usbank.com
To: [Ek, Scott \(COMM\)](#)
Cc: hdriver4710@aol.com
Subject: PUC Docket No. E002/TL-11-152 (Hollydale Project)
Date: Friday, November 04, 2011 12:09:07 PM
Attachments: [EA scope letter for meeting of 102611.doc](#)

November 4, 2011

To: Scott Ek
State Permit Manager
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 – 7th Place East
Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101
scott.ek@state.mn.us

From: Tom Vertes
4710 Orchid Lane North
Plymouth, MN 55446

RE: PUC Docket No. E002/TL-11-152

Dear Mr. Ek;

I attended the meeting held at the Best Western on October 26, 2011 and am submitting this letter as part of the comment process for the Hollydale Project for Plymouth and Medina.

I would like to state that I am for the Hollydale Project if it is for the betterment of the Plymouth community and back the Hwy. 494 and Hwy. 55 route as was unanimously recommended at the meeting.

Without restating the various health related issues that have been addressed in previous letters and comments from effected residents in the neighborhoods (refer to PUC edocket #11-152) and which all agree upon, my focused concern is the esthetic and valuation of the properties when a clearly acceptable alternative route is available.

The proposed route labeled “Route E” as I understood from the meeting would run along an existing highways and by commercial properties that have power-lines in there vicinity, and would not adversely effect their operations in either an economic, visual or operational manor.

The new poles according Mr. Sedarski, Permitting for Xcel, would be 90” steel and would need an 8’ excavation per pole to set a concrete footing/base. I have only seen these poles by highways and railroad tracks, never in residential areas. These are the same poles that are at the north-east corner of the intersection of Interstate 494 and County Road 9 by the super-Target. In addition, the easement would increase to 38’ from center to possible as much as 100’, depending on the area, this change is significantly greater than the current allowable right-of-way.

Reviewing Xcel's own comparison of the proposals there would be at least 90 homes effected. Xcel has stated that it promotes an effort to maintain good community and public relations it would be in their best interest to plan a route with minimal environmental, public and visual impacts.

Also, I have recently spoke with a number of realtors regarding the marketability of a home with a high voltage power line running beside it and was shocked that valuations would decline 10% to 20% of fair market pricing. Translating the costs in a very conservative manor as follows, using the base of 90 homes being affected at an average fair market price of \$250,000. $\$250,000 \times 15\% = \$37,500$ for a total of \$3,375,000. This would significantly effect the Plymouth tax base.

Thank you,

Tom Vertes
Hdrider4710@aol.com

U.S. BANCORP made the following annotations

Electronic Privacy Notice. This e-mail, and any attachments, contains information that is, or may be, covered by electronic communications privacy laws, and is also confidential and proprietary in nature. If you are not the intended recipient, please be advised that you are legally prohibited from retaining, using, copying, distributing, or otherwise disclosing this information in any manner. Instead, please reply to the sender that you have received this communication in error, and then immediately delete it. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Mary Jean and John Vickers
4005 Garland Ln. N
Plymouth, MN. 55446

Dear Scott,

First of all, I'd like to let you know that it is very comforting knowing that we the people do have a voice and we the people can change the direction of what was presented as the only option. Xcel has made us feel as if they were simply going through the motions with no intention of listening or changing what they felt was in their best interest. An interest that would make them the most money with the least amount of cost, time and effort to complete.

Also, that you stated that we can make a difference and could have the proposed plan changed, gave us all hope.

So, I wish to thank you for that.!!

With that being said, I'd like to submit the following for consideration and for the recored;

- 1) I agree with the proposed option mentioned at the 10-26-11 public meeting--the Hwy 55 & Hwy 494 as the only option for Xcel to consider, pursue and actually implement based on the following issues to be considered;
 - a) There are already power lines that could be used and increased in pole dimensions and voltage capabilities
 - b) Would have minimum impact on housing / developments
 - c) The decreased home values of 10%-40% based on the findings of licensed realstate agents presenting at public meeting
 - d) Would not cause concerns or increased medical issues with occupants—especially smaller children and adults. See all references of medical studies made by Elizabeth Lafrenz at public meeting.
 - e) The level of EMF output and the above studies findings regarding medical concerns and proved increased cases of a variety of different medical conditions associated with power lines.
 - f) Not pit one neighbor(hood) against another as it appears was being done by the options under consideration by xcel and taking what appears to be big money making efforts with very little human health and property devaluation under consideration
 - g) Noise level from the voltage of the power line upgrade. It is well known that it will be present. Especially for how close my home is with it in my back yard As well as for neighbors that are not aware of this issue/topic/concern due to not being informed.
 - h) Concerned with possible personal safety of my children/family and others known/unknown that may arise via down wires due to storms, fires, electrical hazards and other increased hazards that are unknown to me at this time with a fully functioning power lines of this nature
 - i) I would not have paid money/purchased current home had I known that this was an option when the line was a non functioning line.
 - j) I'd also, like to know where I can go to see the proposed poles/lines to get a better understanding of what it will look like vs a picture that simply shows it in an ideal setting alongside an open road and field vs backing up to homes and in a home development.

Let me know if there is anything that I/we may/should be doing with what we submit as well. Since we don't have a clue on what to do or how to do it, we are at the mercy of the process. This has required us to try to become an expert in a matter that we can not and must rely on assistance.

Thanks once again.

Mary Jean and John Vickers.

PC 11-152

Rice, Robin (PUC)

From: Paul Waaraniemi <pwaaraniemi@llchurch.org>
Sent: Sunday, November 06, 2011 7:09 PM
To: #PUC_Public Comments
Subject: Hollydale project no. e002/TL-11-152

To PUC and Scott Ek,

As seen in the pictures below (poor quality though they are), the location Xcel wants to put the 115kv power line is totally unsuitable. It runs through a residential neighborhood with children, along a much used walking path, over wetlands, a school, a soccer field, a ball diamond, residential play areas, well-treed yards, and right over decks and patios. It also runs closely between town homes, and into and through Turtle Lake Park. This route is totally unacceptable.

Xcel must find a way to run this along 494 and 55 as the community has proposed, or along a route that will not impact Plymouth residences. Along the highways, where there already lines, it would have no significant impact on residential areas, would not hurt property values, be a blight on a neighborhood through industrial-looking power poles and their arms, endanger children's health on playgrounds, parks and yards, nor would it be a blight on the natural environment in our parks and wetlands.

GRE should not foist this on us by selling the right away to Xcel. Since GRE is not using the line, it should be removed and they should relinquish the right of way they have. We implore you to reject this a route for a high voltage power line.

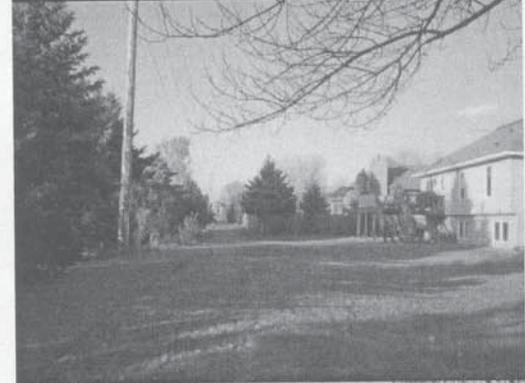
Respectfully,

Paul D. Waaraniemi
Publications Director
pwaaraniemi@llchurch.org

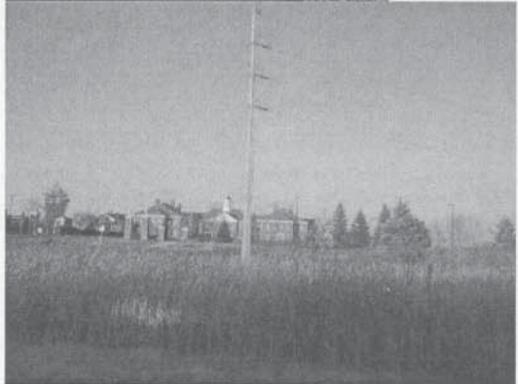
4820 ORCHID LANE N
Plymouth, MN
55446
pwaaraniemi@llchurch.org

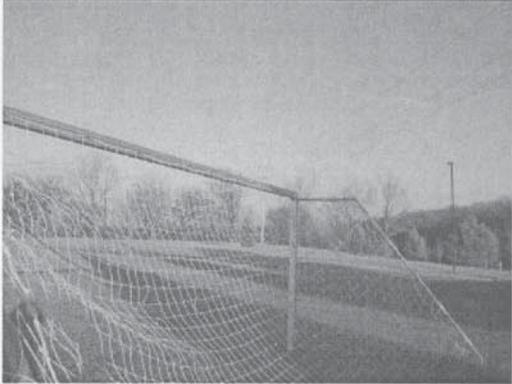














Brian & Heidi Wasserman
17040 41st Avenue N.
Plymouth, MN. 55446

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Thanks once again.

Brian & Heidi

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
To: [Ek, Scott \(COMM\)](#)
Subject: Weimert Wed Nov 2 07:14:06 2011 E002/TL-11-152
Date: Wednesday, November 02, 2011 7:14:11 AM

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina,
Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: Michelle Weimert

County: Hennepin County

City: Plymouth

Email: michelle.weimert@emerson.com

Phone: 612-850-9232

Impact: The proposed route for the new electrical wires is our backyard. The current wires are hardly seen and therefore our backyard is very pleasant with large trees. Adding these new higher voltage wires will dramatically change our backyard landscape in a negative way. The view will be compromised and potentially our large trees could be impacted, for examples. As a result, our property value will decrease. With today's housing crisis, we don't need additional negative changes to our property value.

Also, we have 3 young children. We do not need a larger pole in our yard for them to play around. Also, we have plans to add a treehouse to one of our large trees within the next year. If the trees are cut down, then we lose these fun times with our kids.

Please consider the alternate routes.

Mitigation: Please consider the alternate routes that have less of an impact on neighborhoods. Running parallel to I-494, for example, is minimal impact to homes.

thank you for considering the alternates.

Submission date: Wed Nov 2 07:14:06 2011

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:

From: [Ron Whitehouse](#)
To: [Ek, Scott \(COMM\)](#)
Subject: Docket No. E002/TL-11-152
Date: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 2:30:41 PM

Dear Scott,

After reviewing the proposed routing of the Hollydale Power Line, it is obvious that Xcel Energy has several options that would be less intrusive to Plymouth residents than the one proposed.

These massive structures would be directly overhead of one of the more delightful and frequently used parks in Plymouth, The Turtle Lake Park.

I am not one to stand in the way of "Progress", however, in all such projects that proclaim the necessity of doing it ONE way, there are also many options that make much more sense than the ONE way when everything is taken into consideration.

As determined by Money magazine, Plymouth is a unique community in, not only to the country, but especially to the state and to its residents. It is incumbent upon all of us to do everything we can to maintain that uniqueness.

Your assistance in this respect would be greatly appreciated, not only by Mary Ann and I, but by many many more people in the Hollydale area.

With kindest regards

Ron and Mary Ann Whitehouse
4520 Orchid Circle
Plymouth, MN 55446

ronwhitehouse@comcast.net

763-551-9567

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
To: [Ek, Scott \(COMM\)](#)
Subject: WILMO Thu Nov 3 21:57:10 2011 E002/TL-11-152
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2011 9:57:13 PM

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: MIKE WILMO

County: Hennepin County

City: PLYMOUTH

Email: MIKE.WILMO@TENNANTCO.COM

Phone: 612-229-7849

Impact: - My first concern would be the same as most others who have commented, effect on residential home owner values. They will go down substantially with no real compensation to the property owners. There's no way I would have bought this house if I'd known this was coming. What's very bad for me is also bad for other home owners in my neighborhood. This power line would be visible by homeowners from many blocks away, the majority of whom don't even know about the project at the time of my writing. They didn't need to be notified legally...

- Like I'm sure the majority of people who are leaving comments, I have HUGE concerns about the health aspect of these lines running thru a residential area. Concerns that I fear will fall on deaf ears. I expect to see power lines of this scale on the sides of major and secondary roads, along railroad tracks past and present or thru undeveloped fields. NOT the middle of residential area. Some may sight precedence of power lines of this scale being built in residential neighborhood in the past. Closer inspection will reveal that these power lines were built along completely different easements that usually involved railroad tracks past or present. Often bordering commercial zoning. I'm my case, this line is intended to go between two residential back yards...

- It is VERY reasonable to expect to see a power line the size that already exists in my back yard. And it's reasonable to expect it to stay there. Few people who walk under it know it's even there.

- The current power line was constructed in the early 1970's thru wetlands and the middle of fields, long before there were any houses built. Also before wetland and environmental impact issues gained prominence.

- Potentially all of my evergreens providing separation / privacy from the bike trail behind my house will be wiped out.

Mitigation: As I mentioned above, people expect to see a power line of this scale on the side of the road or near railroad tracks. They are seen in these places so commonly that they are 'not seen' as a result. To that end, I support a route that would follow MN HWY 55 to Interstate 494. Then route north along 494 to the substation located near this interstate. The public in general would expect to see a power line of this size along this route.

This route would still affect a number of people. Most would be transient or in a commercial area. Again, I'd expect to see a power line passing thru a commercial area.

I'm writing these comments from just such a commercial area, and there's a power line over my head as I'm writing.

Thanks for reading and your consideration.

msh

Submission date: Thu Nov 3 21:57:10 2011

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
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

From: [Zeroni, Jenny](#)
To: [Ek, Scott \(COMM\)](#)
Cc: [Ilan Zeroni](#)
Subject: Hollydale Project - Bridlewood & Churchill Farms Comments and Proposed Alternative
Date: Wednesday, November 09, 2011 10:59:47 AM
Attachments: [Bridlewood Churchill Farms Alternate Routes.pdf](#)
[Comments on scope of EA 20111109.docx](#)
Importance: High

I write concerning the high voltage transmission line that is proposed to run alongside the homes in the Bridlewood Farm, Churchill Farm, And Orchards Of Plymouth neighborhoods.

I, my husband and our two 6-year old children live at 3630 Urbandale Ln N, Plymouth, MN 55446, and the proposed power line is planned to run through our back yard. In fact, simple analysis shows that in the segment extending west from the Hollydale Substation and through the Bridlewood Farm, Churchill Farm, And Orchards Of Plymouth neighborhoods, it is planned to run within 100 feet of 55 homes, within 200 feet of 98 homes, and within 300 feet of 134 homes! These are 134 households that will be negatively affected in a severe to devastating extent, with no way to mitigate or recoup the losses, specifically when considering that a family's house is typically its most significant investment, involving much of its financial assets over a period of decades.

The Bridlewood / Churchill Farm homeowners' association are proposing alternative routes, which I attach to this email. Running the power line along these routes will certainly cost Xcel Energy and GRE more due to expenditures associated with the longer line and obtaining easement. However, the Utilities have means of recouping some if not all of these costs, whereas the residents of the 134 affected households of the Bridlewood Farm, Churchill Farm, And Orchards Of Plymouth neighborhoods do not.

Specific to my property, FHA guidelines dictate that our property will be placed in a "hazardous" area. Yet, to my knowledge, not one member of our community was advised of these risks, let alone invited to be a member of the task force. The health risk, significant devaluation of our property, noise and aesthetic aspects are very troubling.

The various alternative routes that our association proposes, which run along roads or highways, a set of industrial green houses and across open farmland seem far more suitable than running the new higher voltage lines right along virtually unbuffered backyards and houses and along a walking path, all within a densely populated residential area. It would very much appear that certain financial interests were considered far above those of the health, safety and welfare of the people living in the 134 affected homes. Of course, once the values of those properties drop, so will the values of adjoining properties, creating a domino effect that would be detrimental to the entire communities.

Our proposed alternatives would impact far fewer houses, as shown in the materials. The Bridlewood / Churchill Farm development looks to be the single most densely populated housing in the area, yet it appears that it was selected to have the lines run right next to the homes. This would seem to be the immediate result of this highly populated area having absolutely no representation on the advisory task force. The proposals of our association would have very little impact on the homes of other developments and would use the natural buffering effect of the roads and highways and industrial or open land to

maximum effect.

The currently proposed line seems to unnecessarily harm the maximum number of people and homes when one would certainly expect that the risk/reward assessment should have been looking to achieve exactly the opposite result. It will devastate 55 households, mine included, and will have a severe negative effect on an additional 79 households. No corporate financial consideration should take precedence over such an overwhelming negative effect on entire communities. The proposed route is also in direct conflict with the State Of Minnesota Department Of Health conclusion ("A White Paper On Electric And Magnetic Field Policy And Mitigation Options, The Minnesota State Interagency Working Group On EMF Issues, September 2002), which states: "Based on these considerations, the Work Group considers it prudent public health policy to take a prudent avoidance approach to mitigating EMF exposures." The proposed route is in no way prudent when EMF exposures or financial ramifications to the many households affected are considered.

Mr. Ek, I cannot state strongly enough how opposed I am to the proposed route. It is evident that corporate financial considerations took precedence over common sense and regard to the welfare of our communities when proposing this route. I urge you to be the voice of reason and decency when presenting this case, and to recommend that any of our proposed alternative routes be accepted instead of the Utilities'. This line should not run alongside our neighborhoods in this unbuffered manner, but should instead run along the roads and highways and industrial, open and farm land, where it will not threaten as much harm.

Thank you, and I trust that you will present our case with the seriousness and compassion it requires.

Jenny Zeroni, 3630 Urbandale Ln N, Plymouth MN 55446.

Jenny Zeroni

Principal Development Engineer,
Peripheral Vascular



4600 Nathan Lane North | Plymouth, MN 55442 | USA

Main: +1 763 398 7000

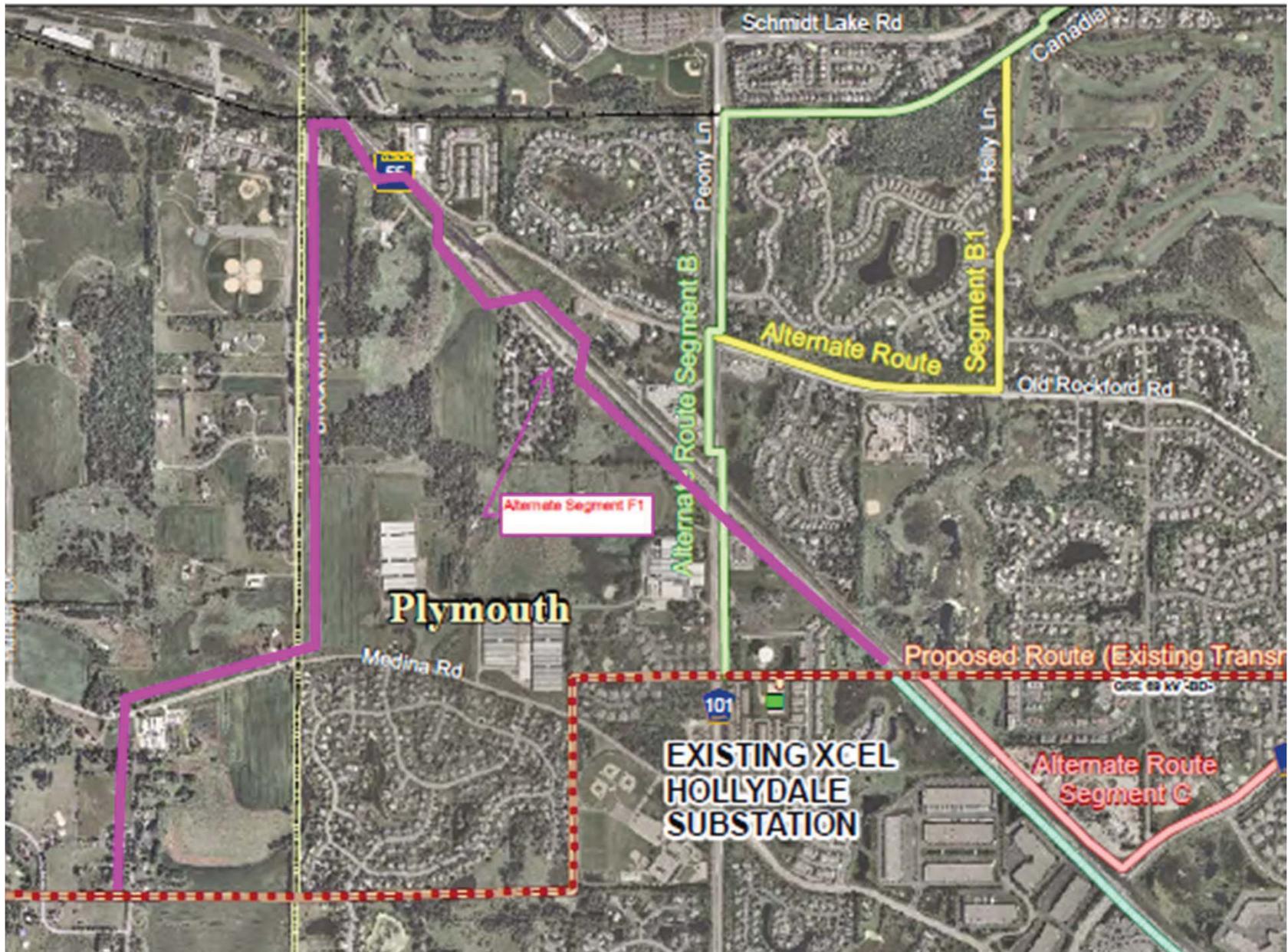
Fax: +1 763 398 7200

Direct: +1 763 591 3859

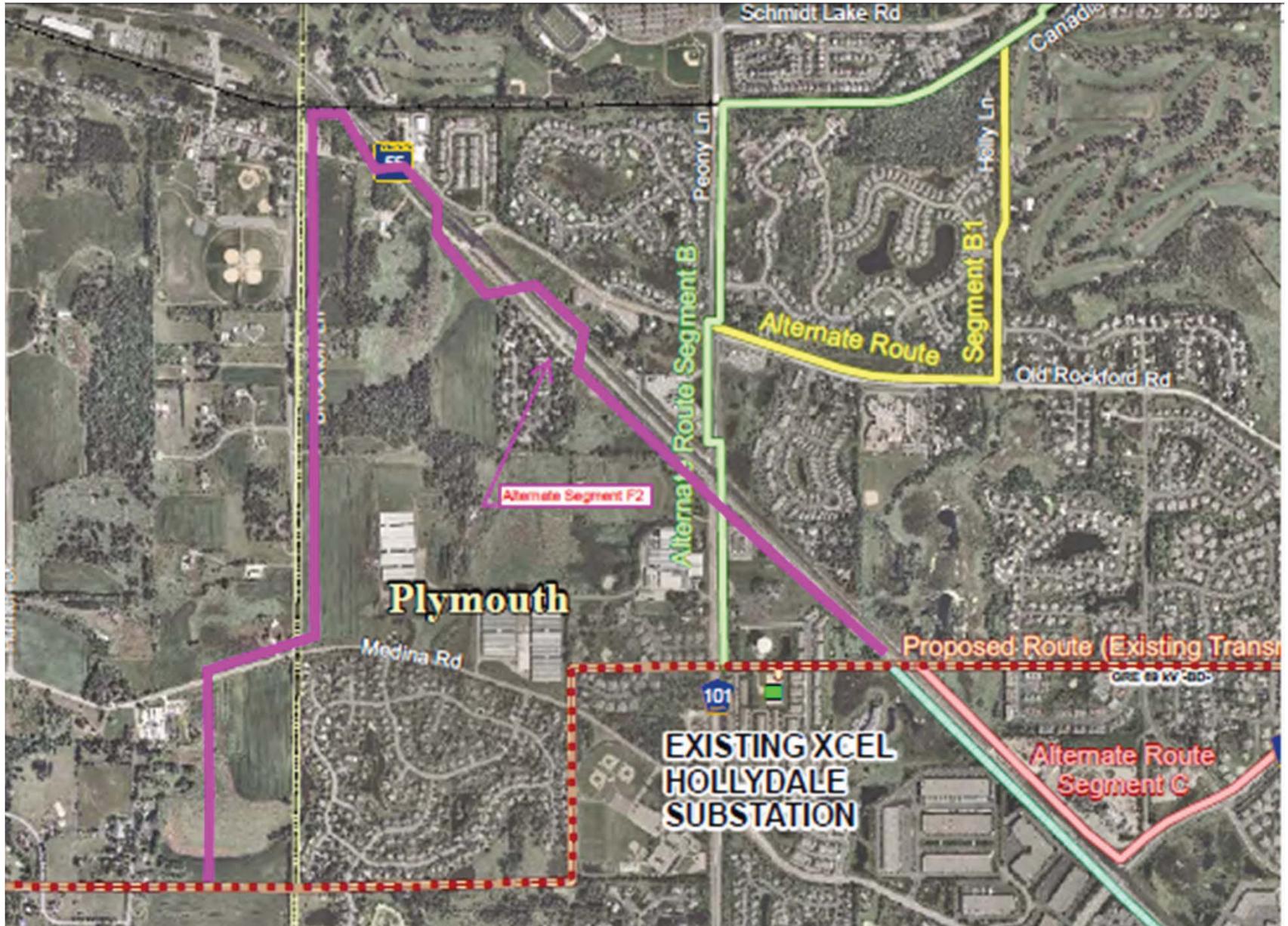
Mobile: +1 763 276 8331

Email: jzeroni@ev3.net

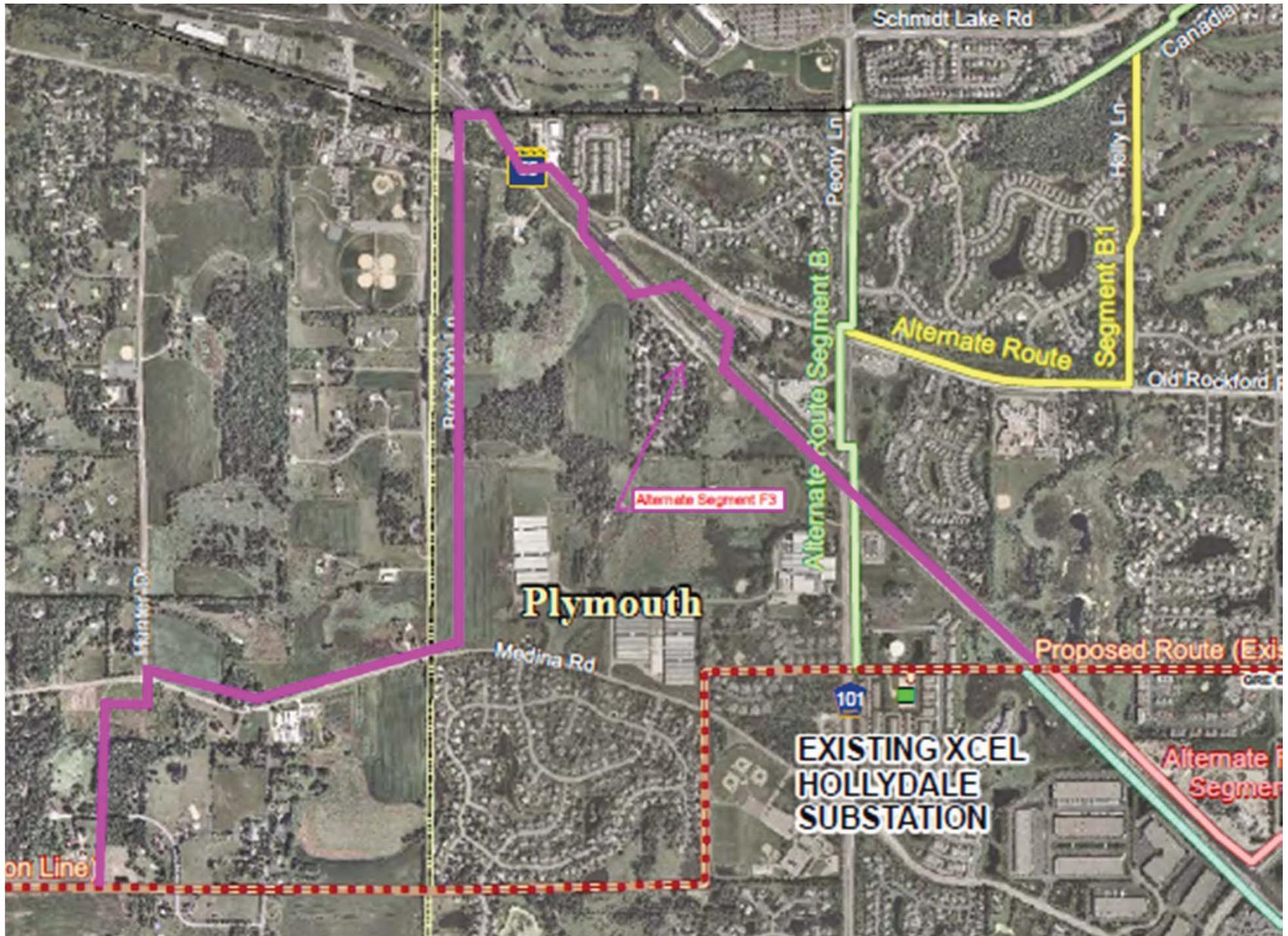
Bridlewood Farms Proposed – Alternate F1



Bridlewood Farms Proposed – Alternate F2



Bridlewood Farms Proposed – Alternate F3



1) The Neighborhoods of Bridlewood Farms and Churchill Farms Have Not Previously Had a Voice in the Route-Selection Process.

It is fair to say that there is no greater property interest than that which one has in one's home. That interest includes the right to be secure against infringement on the health and safety of the home's occupants, the right of quiet enjoyment, and the right against having the value of that property destroyed or damaged for public use without just compensation.

It would appear that while the route-permitting process was designed to include, and give a voice to, those persons whose property interests would most be impacted by the project, it failed to achieve that goal with respect to the residents of the Bridlewood Farms and Churchill Farms neighborhoods, who had no representation on the Advisory Task Force ["ATF"]. The role of the ATF was to identify impacts and issues that should be considered in the environmental assessment for evaluation of proposed routes for the transmission lines. To carry out that charge, representatives of those who have an interest in the location of the route were selected to serve on the ATF. No one representing the interests of the Bridlewood Farms or Churchill Farms neighborhoods served on the ATF and, as far as we can determine, no specific request was ever made to anyone in these neighborhoods.

As such, although the process was set up to have the appearance of fairness, it proceeded without actual fairness to these neighborhoods. The end result is that decisions about routes and their alternatives were made by those whose interests may very well be in conflict with, and adverse to, those in the Bridlewood Farms and Churchill Farms neighborhoods. In short, we were deprived of a voice and the opportunity to have a meaningful impact on a project that jeopardizes our property rights. As such, we urge serious and thoughtful consideration of our comments and proposals for alternative routes given that we were not part of the prior route-selection process.

2) The Proposed Route Will Have Serious and Irreparable Adverse Impacts on the Residents of the Bridlewood Farms and Churchill Farms Neighborhoods.

The following are our collected comments that address the effects of "the construction and operation of the high-voltage transmission line on human settlement, including, but not limited to, public health and safety, displacement, noise, aesthetics, socioeconomic impacts, cultural values, recreation, and public services." *See*, Minn. R. 7850.1900 Subp. 3 B.

A. Number of Homes Impacted

- The proposed route brings the line within 200 feet of at least 80 homes in the Bridlewood Farms and Churchill Farms neighborhoods (and nearby vicinity), as well as an additional 40 homes bordering the north side of Medina Road.

- Many of the homes are substantially closer to the proposed transmission lines than 200 feet. For example:

3600 Zircon Ln. N. – 66'
3605 Zircon Ln. N. – 59'
3465 Zircon Ln. N. – 44'
3475 Zircon Ln. N. – 42'
3475 Zircon Ln. N. – 45'
3720 Urbandale Ln. – 61'
18705 37th Ave. N. – 125'
18715 37th Ave. N. – 105'
18725 37th Ave. N. – 75'
18735 37th Ave. N. – 70'
18805 37th Ave. N. – 84'
18815 37th Ave. N. – 84'
18825 37th Ave. N. – 67'

- As such, the proposed power-line route will have a significant adverse impact on the quality of life for a substantial number of residents, providing justification for consideration of our proposed alternative routes that impact fewer homes.

B. Impact on the Quiet Enjoyment of Homes Bordering the Proposed Line

- Fire hazard near high-voltage lines is a well-known and substantiated danger. Because of that danger and the proximity of the homes near the line, the proposed route will limit the ability of residents bordering the line to operate gas or charcoal grills or use fire pits. This same danger will require bordering residents to take extra precautions when filling lawn mowers and other gas-powered tools.
- Noise from the proposed power line could adversely impact the relative peace and quiet that the residents are used to enjoying and impact the sleep of those who border the line.
- The proposed lines will be attached to metal poles, rather than the wood poles that are now used. Unlike the wood poles that are easily camouflaged by the existing foliage (especially in the neighboring wetland), the metal poles will be easily visible. Moreover, the metal poles are expected to be at least ten-feet taller than the existing wood ones, making them more visible and unsightly to the neighboring homeowners, even those not directly bordering the transmission line.
- Currently, many residents along the proposed route border a wetland that provides an aesthetically pleasing environment and a home to egrets, herons, and other migratory birds. We are concerned that the installation of the proposed power

line and its expected clear zone will destroy that wetland and the enjoyment and tranquility that it brings to the neighborhood.

- The concerns in this section are magnified in this neighborhood given the number of homes in close proximity to the proposed power-line route.

C. Health and Safety Concerns

- The health and safety concerns from high-voltage power lines have been well articulated by others, and we do not intend on repeating them in detail here. Nevertheless, we are mindful of the fact that Xcel and other power companies like it have never conclusively established that chronic exposure to high-voltage power lines does *not* have adverse health impacts. Studies done by the World Health Organization and other similar organizations advise that the evidence of adverse health effects from chronic exposure to high-voltage lines is sufficiently strong to remain a concern and to warrant further research.
- Because obtaining conclusive causality between high-voltage power lines and an increase in cancer, such as child leukemia, is difficult at best, and because there are a significant number of credible studies that suggest there may be a correlation between high-voltage power lines and serious adverse health effects, we urge prudence given the number of homes in close proximity to the power line on the proposed route. At the very least, mitigating EMF-reducing measures should be considered.
- In addition to the large number of homes in close proximity to the high-voltage power lines, we ask that notice be taken that the proposed route travels over, and directly next to, walking/bicycle paths that the entire neighborhood – including pregnant women and children – use for pleasure and for walking to school.
- We have also learned that the Federal Housing Authority considers high-voltage lines to be a “hazard,” as indicated by their own cite requirements quoted below:

“2-0 INTRODUCTION

This Chapter addresses the site requirements for FHA-insured mortgages. Before the valuation process can begin, subject properties must meet specific site requirements. The appraisal process is the lender's tool for determining if a property meets the minimum requirements and eligibility standards for a FHA-insured mortgage.

2-2 SPECIAL NEIGHBORHOOD HAZARDS AND NUISANCES

Physical conditions in some neighborhoods are hazardous to the personal health and safety of residents and may endanger physical improvements. These conditions include unusual topography, subsidence, flood zones, unstable soils, traffic hazards and various types of grossly offensive nuisances.

* * *

J. OVERHEAD HIGH-VOLTAGE TRANSMISSION LINES

No dwelling or related property improvement may be located within the engineering (designed) fall distance of any pole, tower or support structure of a high-voltage transmission line, * * * . For field analysis, the appraiser may use tower height as the fall distance.

For the purpose of this Handbook, a High-Voltage Electric Transmission Line is a power line that carries high voltage between a generating plant and a substation. **These lines are usually 60 Kilovolts (kV) or greater and are considered hazardous.** Lines with capacity of 12-60 kV and above are considered high voltage for the purpose of this Handbook. High voltage lines do not include local distribution and service lines.”

- If an agency of the United States government considers high-voltage power lines to be a hazard, then so shouldn't those who are making the decision that these same kinds of lines be placed within 200 feet of at least 120 homes?
- As stated in the FHA site-requirement guidelines, a significant number of homes along this proposed route are within the fall lines of these proposed 90-foot metal poles, resulting in a significant potential risk to the occupants.
- Mosquito control in the wetlands adjacent to many of the effected properties is currently being done by helicopter. We are concerned that the installation of the proposed lines could adversely impact the ability to carry out effective mosquito-control measures, putting residents at a great risk of exposure to mosquito-borne illnesses.
- The concerns in this section are magnified in this neighborhood given the number of homes in close proximity to the proposed power-line route.

D. Property Values

- Because of the above-cited negative impacts that will inevitably result from the proposed power line, the homeowners adjacent to it will most certainly experience a substantial reduction in their property values, creating a domino effect on numerous other homeowners.
- The inability to acquire FHA-insured mortgages reduces the number of potential buyers.
- These concerns in this section are magnified in this neighborhood given the number of homes in close proximity to the proposed power-line route.

3) Bridlewood Farms/Churchill Farms Proposed Alternative Routes

Because of the risks and concerns identified above, we, the residents of Bridlewood/Churchill Farms, believe that the proposed route is unacceptable. We have outlined four alternative routes: Of the four alternate routes, three of them (“F1”, “F2” & “F3”) are based on the “Alternate F” that was originally proposed by the ATF. We, the residents of Bridlewood/Churchill Farms strongly recommend consideration of all four Alternate Routes because they impact significantly fewer homes in comparison to the “Proposed Route”.

Hollydale Project - Area West of Cty Rd 101 and East of Holy Name Drive						
(# of Homes Affected by 115kv Line, by Distance from Line)						
Route/Severity	0 - 100ft	100 - 200 ft	200 - 300 ft	Total	Fewer Properties Affected	% Reduction
Proposed	55	43	36	134	0	0%
Alternate F1	32	9	22	63	71	53%
Alternate F2	20	10	24	54	80	60%
Alternate F3	18	9	22	49	85	63%
Alternate G	10	6	17	33	101	75%

The following is a description of each Alternative Route described in the table above:

Proposed Route F1 – Start at Hollydale Substation

- Using the existing “Proposed Route” from the Hollydale Substation go east back to Hwy 55.
- Follow Hwy 55 west to rail line to Medina border.
- Follow the Medina-Plymouth border south to Brockton Lane.
- Follow Brockton Lane South to Medina Road.
- Follow Medina Road west to Holy Name Drive.
- Follow Holy Name Drive (west side) south to connect to the “Proposed Route”.

Proposed Route F2 – Start at Hollydale Substation

- Using the existing “Proposed Route” from the Hollydale Substation go east back to Hwy 55.
- Follow Hwy 55 west to rail line to Medina border.
- Follow the Medina-Plymouth border south to Brockton Lane.
- Follow Brockton Lane South to Medina Road intersection.
- At the corner of Brockton Lane and Medina Road turn west on Medina Road, for 500 feet; at that point, go directly south to connect to the “Proposed Route”.

Proposed Route F3 – Start at Hollydale Substation

- Using the existing “Proposed Route” from the Hollydale Substation go east back to Hwy 55.
- Follow Hwy 55 west to rail line to Medina border.
- Follow the Medina-Plymouth border south to Brockton Lane.
- Follow Brockton Lane South to Medina Road intersection.
- Follow Medina Road west to Hunter Drive.
- Go south following the Dundee and others property lines and connect to the “Proposed Route”.

Proposed Route G – Start at Hollydale Substation

- Using the existing “Proposed Route” from the Hollydale Substation go east back to Hwy 55.
- Follow Hwy 55 west (south side) to north boundary of Park Nicollet property.
- Follow the north property line west to Brockton Lane.
 - Propose new right of way through the Park Nicollet property line.
- Follow Brockton Lane South to Medina Road.
- At the corner of Brockton Lane and Medina Road turn west on Medina Road, for 500 feet; at that point, go directly south to connect to the “Proposed Route”.

From: [Ilan Zeroni](#)
To: [Ek, Scott \(COMM\)](#)
Subject: Hollydale Project – Bridlewood & Churchill Farms Comments and Proposed Alternative
Date: Wednesday, November 09, 2011 9:46:26 AM
Attachments: [Bridlewood Churchill Farms Alternate Routes.pdf](#)
[Comments on scope of EA 20111109.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Ek,

I write concerning the high voltage transmission line that is proposed to run alongside the homes in the Bridlewood Farm, Churchhill Farm, And Orchards Of Plymouth neighborhoods.

I, my wife and our two 6-year old children live at 3630 Urbandale Ln N, Plymouth, MN 55446, and the proposed power line is planned to run through our back yard. In fact, simple analysis shows that in the segment extending west from the Hollydale Substation and through the Bridlewood Farm, Churchhill Farm, And Orchards Of Plymouth neighborhoods, it is planned to run within 100 feet of 55 homes, within 200 feet of 98 homes, and within 300 feet of 134 homes! These are 134 households that will be negatively affected in a severe to devastating extent, with no way to mitigate or recoup the losses, specifically when considering that a family's house is typically its most significant investment, involving much of its financial assets over a period of decades.

The Bridlewood / Churchhill Farm homeowners' association are proposing alternative routes, which I attach to this email. Running the power line along these routes will certainly cost Xcel Energy and GRE more due to expenditures associated with the longer line and obtaining easement. However, the Utilities have means of recouping some if not all of these costs, whereas the residents of the 134 affected households of the Bridlewood Farm, Churchhill Farm, And Orchards Of Plymouth neighborhoods do not.

Specific to my property, FHA guidelines dictate that our property will be placed in a "hazardous" area. Yet, to my knowledge, not one member of our community was advised of these risks, let alone invited to be a member of the task force. The health risk, significant devaluation of our property, noise and aesthetic aspects are very troubling.

The various alternative routes that our association proposes, which run along roads or highways, a set of industrial green houses and across open farmland seem far more suitable than running the new higher voltage lines right along virtually unbuffered backyards and houses and along a walking path, all within a densely populated residential area. It would very much appear that certain financial interests were considered far above those of the health, safety and welfare of the people living in the 134 affected homes. Of course, once the values of those properties drop, so will the values of adjoining properties, creating a domino effect that would be detrimental to the entire communities.

Our proposed alternatives would impact far fewer houses, as shown in the materials.

The Bridlewood / Churchhill Farm development looks to be the single most densely populated housing in the area, yet it appears that it was selected to have the lines run right next to the homes. This would seem to be the immediate result of this highly populated area having absolutely no representation on the advisory task force. The proposals of our association would have very little impact on the homes of other developments and would use the natural buffering effect of the roads and highways and industrial or open land to maximum effect.

The currently proposed line seems to unnecessarily harm the maximum number of people and homes when one would certainly expect that the risk/reward assessment should have been looking to achieve exactly the opposite result. It will devastate 55 households, mine included, and will have a severe negative effect on an additional 79 households. No corporate financial consideration should take precedence over such an overwhelming negative effect on entire communities. The proposed route is also in direct conflict with the State Of Minnesota Department Of Health conclusion ("A White Paper On Electric And Magnetic Field Policy And Mitigation Options, The Minnesota State Interagency Working Group On EMF Issues, September 2002), which states: "Based on these considerations, the Work Group considers it prudent public health policy to take a prudent avoidance approach to mitigating EMF exposures." The proposed route is in no way prudent when EMF exposures or financial ramifications to the many households affected are considered.

Mr. Ek, I cannot state strongly enough how opposed I am to the proposed route. It is evident that corporate financial considerations took precedence over common sense and regard to the welfare of our communities when proposing this route. I urge you to be the voice of reason and decency when presenting this case, and to recommend that any of our proposed alternative routes be accepted instead of the Utilities'. This line should not run alongside our neighborhoods in this unbuffered manner, but should instead run along the roads and highways and industrial, open and farm land, where it will not threaten as much harm.

Thank you, and I trust that you will present our case with the seriousness and compassion it requires.

Ilan Zeroni, 3630 Urbandale Ln N, Plymouth MN 55446.

1) The Neighborhoods of Bridlewood Farms and Churchill Farms Have Not Previously Had a Voice in the Route-Selection Process.

It is fair to say that there is no greater property interest than that which one has in one's home. That interest includes the right to be secure against infringement on the health and safety of the home's occupants, the right of quiet enjoyment, and the right against having the value of that property destroyed or damaged for public use without just compensation.

It would appear that while the route-permitting process was designed to include, and give a voice to, those persons whose property interests would most be impacted by the project, it failed to achieve that goal with respect to the residents of the Bridlewood Farms and Churchill Farms neighborhoods, who had no representation on the Advisory Task Force ["ATF"]. The role of the ATF was to identify impacts and issues that should be considered in the environmental assessment for evaluation of proposed routes for the transmission lines. To carry out that charge, representatives of those who have an interest in the location of the route were selected to serve on the ATF. No one representing the interests of the Bridlewood Farms or Churchill Farms neighborhoods served on the ATF and, as far as we can determine, no specific request was ever made to anyone in these neighborhoods.

As such, although the process was set up to have the appearance of fairness, it proceeded without actual fairness to these neighborhoods. The end result is that decisions about routes and their alternatives were made by those whose interests may very well be in conflict with, and adverse to, those in the Bridlewood Farms and Churchill Farms neighborhoods. In short, we were deprived of a voice and the opportunity to have a meaningful impact on a project that jeopardizes our property rights. As such, we urge serious and thoughtful consideration of our comments and proposals for alternative routes given that we were not part of the prior route-selection process.

2) The Proposed Route Will Have Serious and Irreparable Adverse Impacts on the Residents of the Bridlewood Farms and Churchill Farms Neighborhoods.

The following are our collected comments that address the effects of "the construction and operation of the high-voltage transmission line on human settlement, including, but not limited to, public health and safety, displacement, noise, aesthetics, socioeconomic impacts, cultural values, recreation, and public services." *See*, Minn. R. 7850.1900 Subp. 3 B.

A. Number of Homes Impacted

- The proposed route brings the line within 200 feet of at least 80 homes in the Bridlewood Farms and Churchill Farms neighborhoods (and nearby vicinity), as well as an additional 40 homes bordering the north side of Medina Road.

- Many of the homes are substantially closer to the proposed transmission lines than 200 feet. For example:

3600 Zircon Ln. N. – 66'
3605 Zircon Ln. N. – 59'
3465 Zircon Ln. N. – 44'
3475 Zircon Ln. N. – 42'
3475 Zircon Ln. N. – 45'
3720 Urbandale Ln. – 61'
18705 37th Ave. N. – 125'
18715 37th Ave. N. – 105'
18725 37th Ave. N. – 75'
18735 37th Ave. N. – 70'
18805 37th Ave. N. – 84'
18815 37th Ave. N. – 84'
18825 37th Ave. N. – 67'

- As such, the proposed power-line route will have a significant adverse impact on the quality of life for a substantial number of residents, providing justification for consideration of our proposed alternative routes that impact fewer homes.

B. Impact on the Quiet Enjoyment of Homes Bordering the Proposed Line

- Fire hazard near high-voltage lines is a well-known and substantiated danger. Because of that danger and the proximity of the homes near the line, the proposed route will limit the ability of residents bordering the line to operate gas or charcoal grills or use fire pits. This same danger will require bordering residents to take extra precautions when filling lawn mowers and other gas-powered tools.
- Noise from the proposed power line could adversely impact the relative peace and quiet that the residents are used to enjoying and impact the sleep of those who border the line.
- The proposed lines will be attached to metal poles, rather than the wood poles that are now used. Unlike the wood poles that are easily camouflaged by the existing foliage (especially in the neighboring wetland), the metal poles will be easily visible. Moreover, the metal poles are expected to be at least ten-feet taller than the existing wood ones, making them more visible and unsightly to the neighboring homeowners, even those not directly bordering the transmission line.
- Currently, many residents along the proposed route border a wetland that provides an aesthetically pleasing environment and a home to egrets, herons, and other migratory birds. We are concerned that the installation of the proposed power

line and its expected clear zone will destroy that wetland and the enjoyment and tranquility that it brings to the neighborhood.

- The concerns in this section are magnified in this neighborhood given the number of homes in close proximity to the proposed power-line route.

C. Health and Safety Concerns

- The health and safety concerns from high-voltage power lines have been well articulated by others, and we do not intend on repeating them in detail here. Nevertheless, we are mindful of the fact that Xcel and other power companies like it have never conclusively established that chronic exposure to high-voltage power lines does *not* have adverse health impacts. Studies done by the World Health Organization and other similar organizations advise that the evidence of adverse health effects from chronic exposure to high-voltage lines is sufficiently strong to remain a concern and to warrant further research.
- Because obtaining conclusive causality between high-voltage power lines and an increase in cancer, such as child leukemia, is difficult at best, and because there are a significant number of credible studies that suggest there may be a correlation between high-voltage power lines and serious adverse health effects, we urge prudence given the number of homes in close proximity to the power line on the proposed route. At the very least, mitigating EMF-reducing measures should be considered.
- In addition to the large number of homes in close proximity to the high-voltage power lines, we ask that notice be taken that the proposed route travels over, and directly next to, walking/bicycle paths that the entire neighborhood – including pregnant women and children – use for pleasure and for walking to school.
- We have also learned that the Federal Housing Authority considers high-voltage lines to be a “hazard,” as indicated by their own cite requirements quoted below:

“2-0 INTRODUCTION

This Chapter addresses the site requirements for FHA-insured mortgages. Before the valuation process can begin, subject properties must meet specific site requirements. The appraisal process is the lender's tool for determining if a property meets the minimum requirements and eligibility standards for a FHA-insured mortgage.

2-2 SPECIAL NEIGHBORHOOD HAZARDS AND NUISANCES

Physical conditions in some neighborhoods are hazardous to the personal health and safety of residents and may endanger physical improvements. These conditions include unusual topography, subsidence, flood zones, unstable soils, traffic hazards and various types of grossly offensive nuisances.

* * *

J. OVERHEAD HIGH-VOLTAGE TRANSMISSION LINES

No dwelling or related property improvement may be located within the engineering (designed) fall distance of any pole, tower or support structure of a high-voltage transmission line, * * * . For field analysis, the appraiser may use tower height as the fall distance.

For the purpose of this Handbook, a High-Voltage Electric Transmission Line is a power line that carries high voltage between a generating plant and a substation. **These lines are usually 60 Kilovolts (kV) or greater and are considered hazardous.** Lines with capacity of 12-60 kV and above are considered high voltage for the purpose of this Handbook. High voltage lines do not include local distribution and service lines.”

- If an agency of the United States government considers high-voltage power lines to be a hazard, then so shouldn't those who are making the decision that these same kinds of lines be placed within 200 feet of at least 120 homes?
- As stated in the FHA site-requirement guidelines, a significant number of homes along this proposed route are within the fall lines of these proposed 90-foot metal poles, resulting in a significant potential risk to the occupants.
- Mosquito control in the wetlands adjacent to many of the effected properties is currently being done by helicopter. We are concerned that the installation of the proposed lines could adversely impact the ability to carry out effective mosquito-control measures, putting residents at a great risk of exposure to mosquito-borne illnesses.
- The concerns in this section are magnified in this neighborhood given the number of homes in close proximity to the proposed power-line route.

D. Property Values

- Because of the above-cited negative impacts that will inevitably result from the proposed power line, the homeowners adjacent to it will most certainly experience a substantial reduction in their property values, creating a domino effect on numerous other homeowners.
- The inability to acquire FHA-insured mortgages reduces the number of potential buyers.
- These concerns in this section are magnified in this neighborhood given the number of homes in close proximity to the proposed power-line route.

3) Bridlewood Farms/Churchill Farms Proposed Alternative Routes

Because of the risks and concerns identified above, we, the residents of Bridlewood/Churchill Farms, believe that the proposed route is unacceptable. We have outlined four alternative routes: Of the four alternate routes, three of them (“F1”, “F2” & “F3”) are based on the “Alternate F” that was originally proposed by the ATF. We, the residents of Bridlewood/Churchill Farms strongly recommend consideration of all four Alternate Routes because they impact significantly fewer homes in comparison to the “Proposed Route”.

Hollydale Project - Area West of Cty Rd 101 and East of Holy Name Drive						
(# of Homes Affected by 115kv Line, by Distance from Line)						
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Alternate G	10	6	17	33	101	75%

The following is a description of each Alternative Route described in the table above:

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- Using the existing “Proposed Route” from the Hollydale Substation go east back to Hwy 55.
- Follow Hwy 55 west to rail line to Medina border.
- Follow the Medina-Plymouth border south to Brockton Lane.
- Follow Brockton Lane South to Medina Road.
- Follow Medina Road west to Holy Name Drive.
- Follow Holy Name Drive (west side) south to connect to the “Proposed Route”.

Proposed Route F2 – Start at Hollydale Substation

- Using the existing “Proposed Route” from the Hollydale Substation go east back to Hwy 55.
- Follow Hwy 55 west to rail line to Medina border.
- Follow the Medina-Plymouth border south to Brockton Lane.
- Follow Brockton Lane South to Medina Road intersection.
- At the corner of Brockton Lane and Medina Road turn west on Medina Road, for 500 feet; at that point, go directly south to connect to the “Proposed Route”.

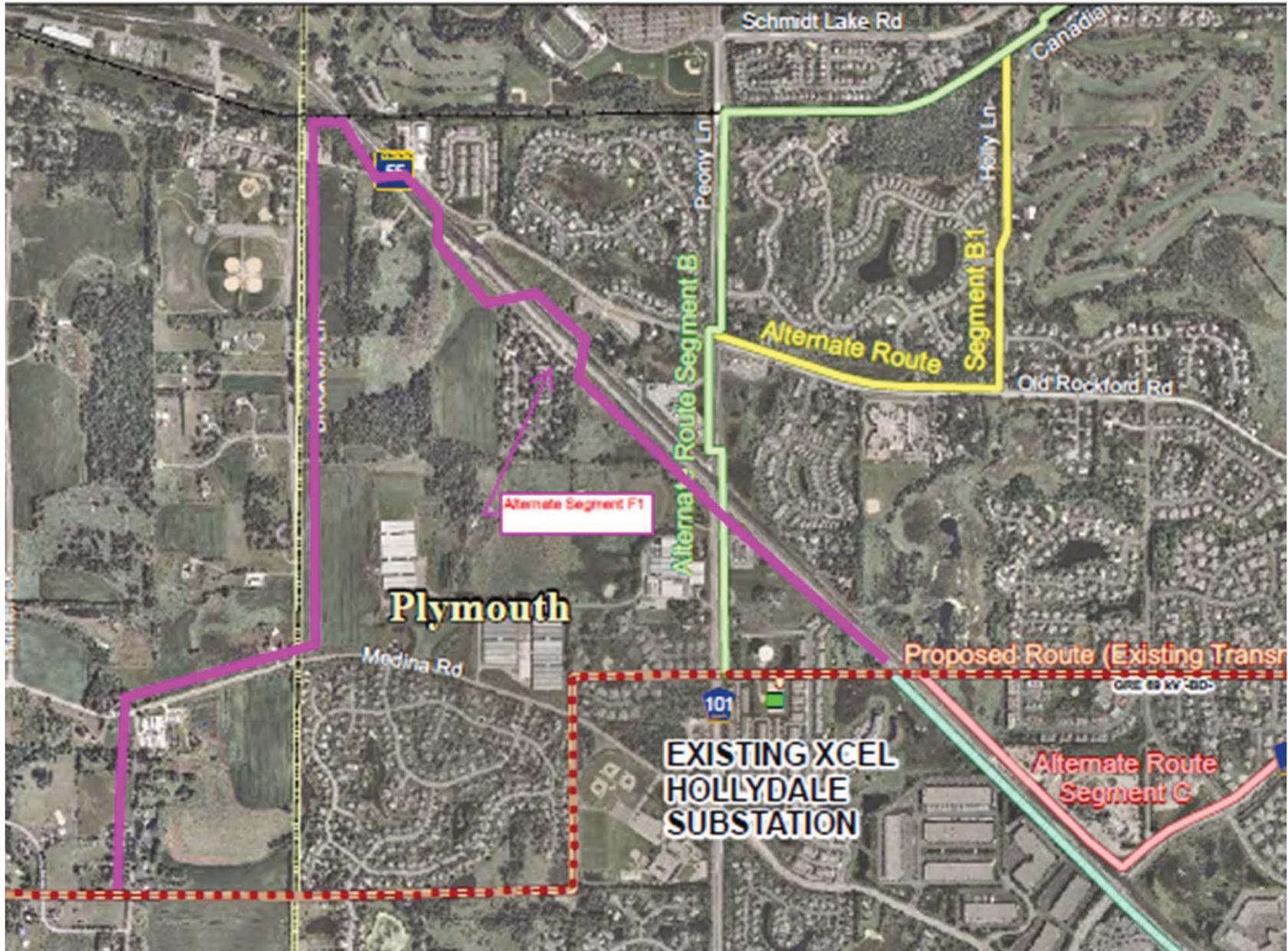
Proposed Route F3 – Start at Hollydale Substation

- Using the existing “Proposed Route” from the Hollydale Substation go east back to Hwy 55.
- Follow Hwy 55 west to rail line to Medina border.
- Follow the Medina-Plymouth border south to Brockton Lane.
- Follow Brockton Lane South to Medina Road intersection.
- Follow Medina Road west to Hunter Drive.
- Go south following the Dundee and others property lines and connect to the “Proposed Route”.

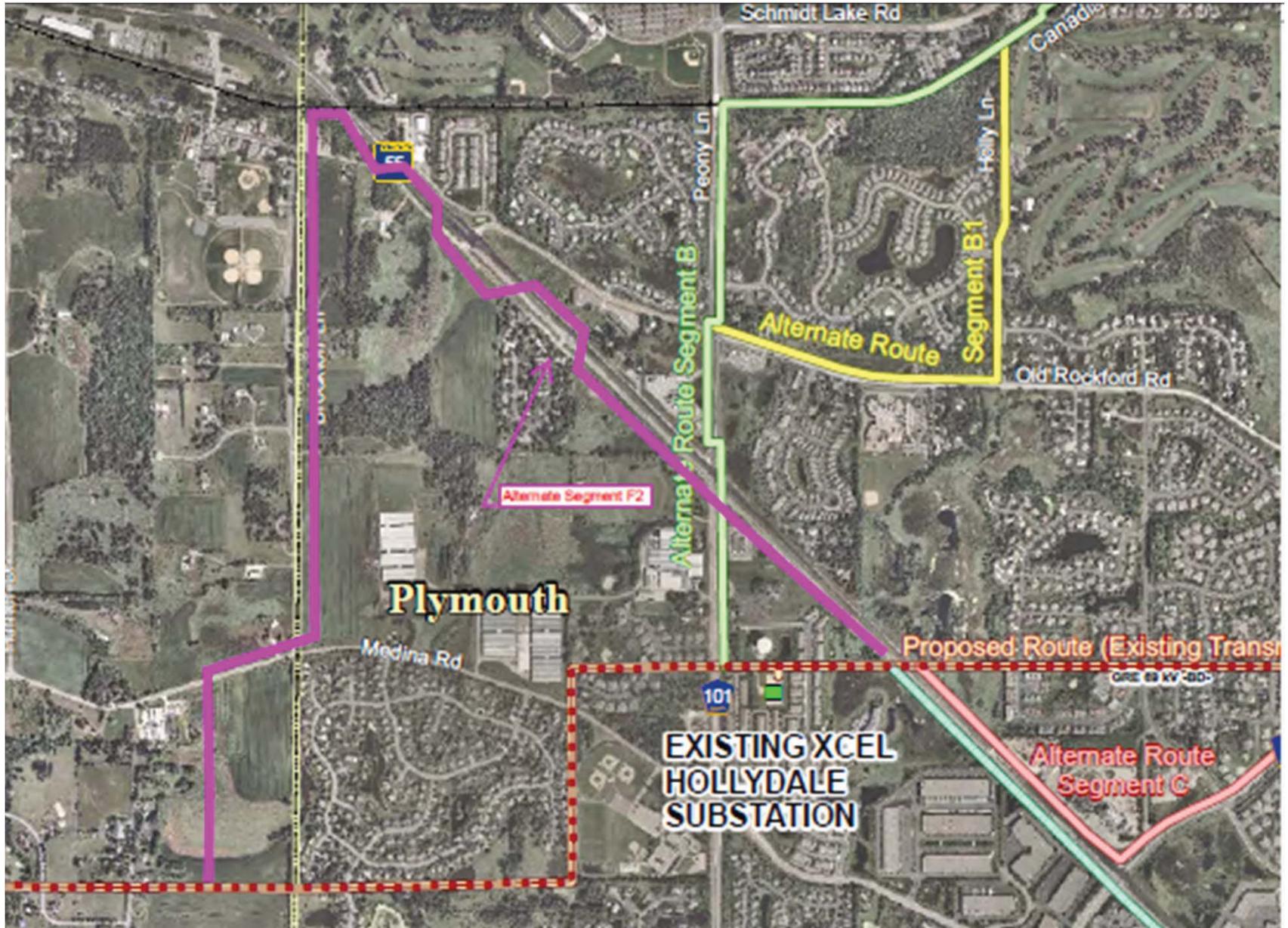
Proposed Route G – Start at Hollydale Substation

- Using the existing “Proposed Route” from the Hollydale Substation go east back to Hwy 55.
- Follow Hwy 55 west (south side) to north boundary of Park Nicollet property.
- Follow the north property line west to Brockton Lane.
 - Propose new right of way through the Park Nicollet property line.
- Follow Brockton Lane South to Medina Road.
- At the corner of Brockton Lane and Medina Road turn west on Medina Road, for 500 feet; at that point, go directly south to connect to the “Proposed Route”.

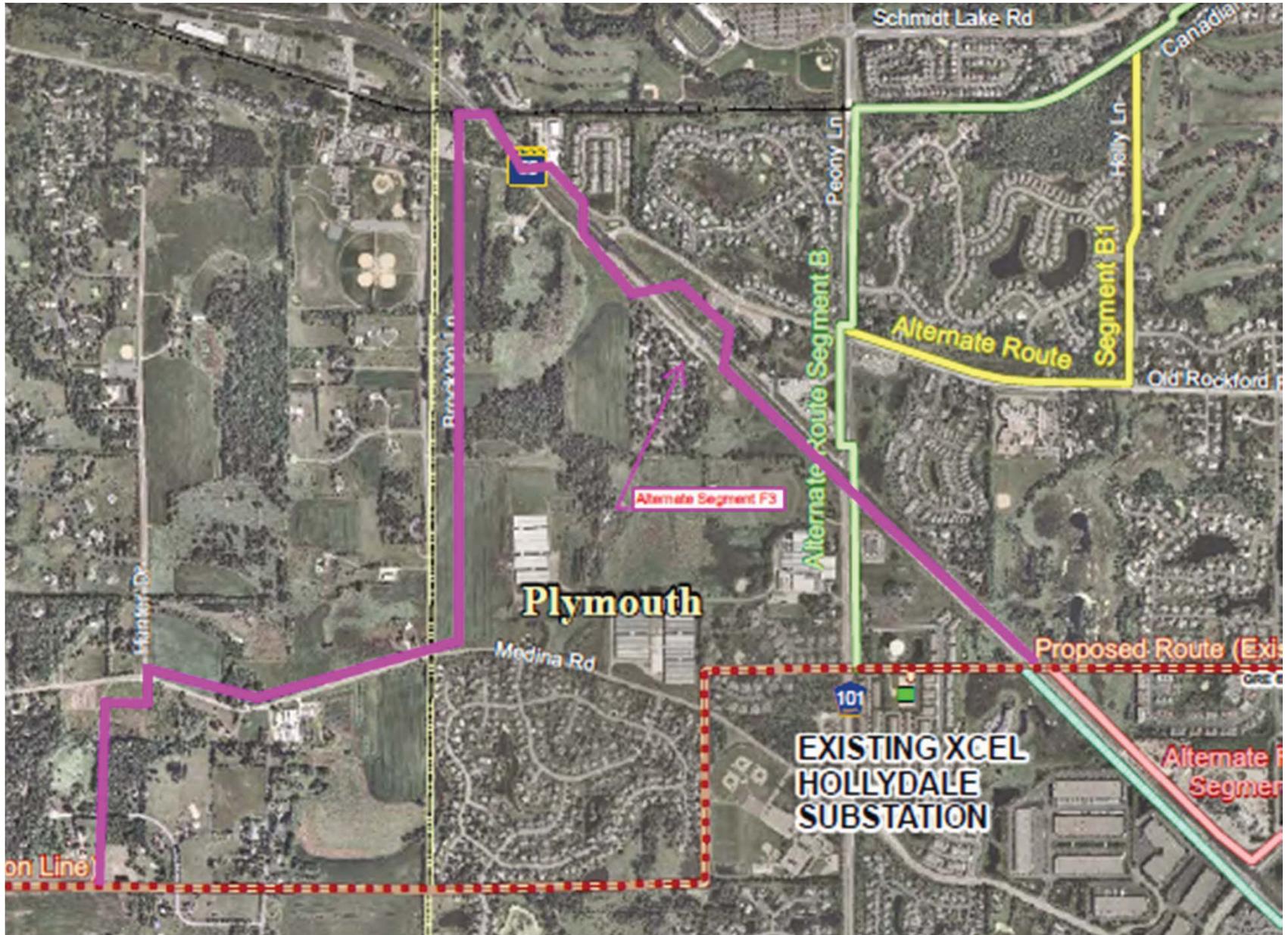
Bridlewood Farms Proposed – Alternate F1



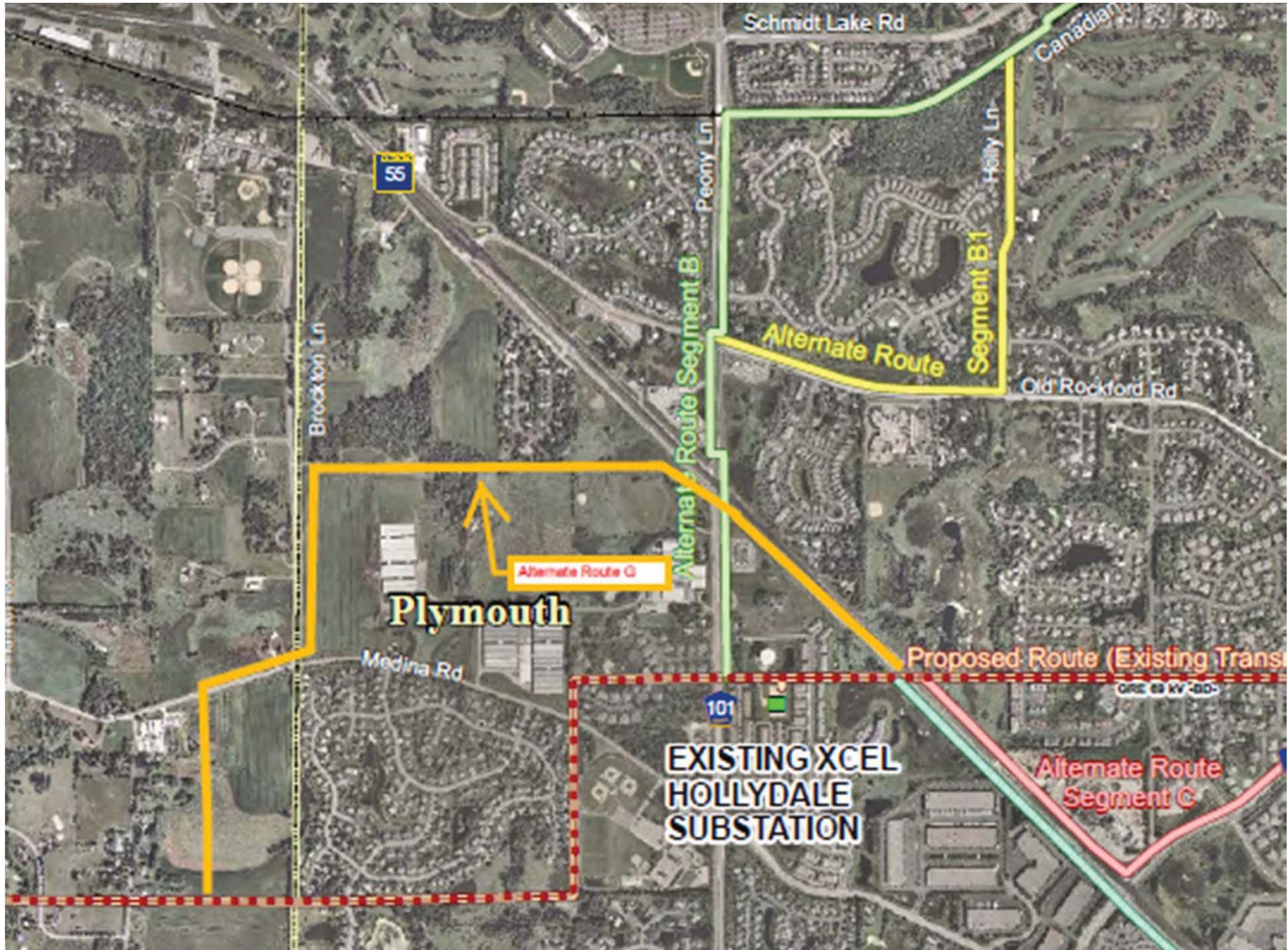
Bridlewood Farms Proposed – Alternate F2



Bridlewood Farms Proposed – Alternate F3



Bridlewood Farms Proposed – Alternate G



Wei Chen and Xiao-Hong Zhu
16805 40th PL N
Plymouth, MN. 55446

Dear Scott,

First of all, I'd like to let you know that it is very comforting knowing that we the people do have a voice and we the people can change the direction of what was presented as the only option. Xcel has made us feel as if they were simply going through the motions with no intention of listening or changing what they felt was in their best interest. An interest that would make them the most money with the least amount of cost, time and effort to complete.

Also, that you stated that we can make a difference and could have the proposed plan changed, gave us all hope.

So, I wish to thank you for that.!!

With that being said, I'd like to submit the following for consideration and for the record;

- 1) I agree with the proposed option mentioned at the 10-26-11 public meeting--the Hwy 55 & Hwy 494 as the only option for Xcel to consider, pursue and actually implement based on the following issues to be considered;
 - a) There are already power lines that could be used and increased in pole dimensions and voltage capabilities
 - b) Would have minimum impact on housing / developments
 - c) The decreased home values of 10%-40% based on the findings of licensed real estate agents presenting at public meeting
 - d) Would not cause concerns or increased medical issues with occupants—especially smaller children and adults. See all references of medical studies made by Elizabeth Lafrenz at public meeting.
 - e) The level of EMF output and the above studies findings regarding medical concerns and proved increased cases of a variety of different medical conditions associated with power lines.
 - f) Not pit one neighbor(hood) against another as it appears was being done by the options under consideration by Xcel and taking what appears to be big money making efforts with very little human health and property devaluation under consideration
 - g) Noise level from the voltage of the power line upgrade. It is well known that it will be present. Especially for how close my home is with it in my back yard, as well as for neighbors that are not aware of this issue/topic/concern due to not being informed.
 - h) Concerned with possible personal safety of my children/family and others known/unknown that may arise via down wires due to storms, fires, electrical hazards and other increased hazards that are unknown to me at this time with a fully functioning power lines of this nature
 - i) I would not have paid money/purchased current home had I known that this was an option when the line was a non functioning line.
 - j) I'd also, like to know where I can go to see the proposed poles/lines to get a better understanding of what it will look like vs a picture that simply shows it in an ideal setting alongside an open road and field vs backing up to homes and in a home development.

Let me know if there is anything that I/we may/should be doing with what we submit as well. Since we don't have a clue on what to do or how to do it, we are at the mercy of the process. This has required us to try to become an expert in a matter that we can not and must rely on assistance.

Thanks once again.

Wei Chen and Xiao-Hong Zhu (house owners)

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 3:38 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Capouch Tue Nov 8 15:38:12 2011 E002/TL-11-152

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: Peter Capouch

County:

City: Plymouth

Email: clfh1750@yahoo.com

Phone:

Impact:

Mitigation: Please use 494 and Hwy 55 as the route for the new power line; that route impacts residential neighborhoods the least.

Thank you,

Peter Capouch

Submission date: Tue Nov 8 15:38:12 2011

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
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Ken and Ginny Nelson [KenandGinnyNelson=Comcast.net@change.org] on behalf of Ken and Ginny Nelson [KenandGinnyNelson@Comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 3:29 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Focus on quality of life not profits in evaluating power line project.

Dear Mr. Sedarski & Mr. Ek

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Xcel Energy & Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

As residents of Timber Creek Crossing, located at the intersection of Schmidt Lake Road & Garland Lane N in Plymouth, we are extremely concerned with the options still being considered for the power line transmission project.

We ask that Xcel Energy shift their overall strategy for this project from profit generation to maintaining and promoting the quality of life for the residents of not only Timber Creek Crossing, but also all potential residents impacted by the proposed and alternate routes. We are all well aware that there is a viable option (the 494/55 corridor) that will have minimal impact on the quality of life, health and home values of all residents impacted by these proposals. This should be the primary focus of this project!

Some key points for your consideration:

1. The existing transmission line was built in 1971, long before most of those homes on the line were built. The commission should not transfer the line from those homes that were purchased where there was already a power line to homes where there have been no prior plans for a transmission line. We as Timber Creek Crossing residents already shoulder the burden of living along railroad tracks and next to a gun club, please don't add to it by now giving us a transmission line also as proposed in Alternate Route Segment B.
2. If the goal is to reduce residential impacts, Alternate Route Segment B provides one of the least benefits of all the alternative proposals – a less than 50% reduction in residential impacts and brings the line to over 100 homes that don't already have it.
3. For the greatest reduction, the commission should consider relocating the transmission line to commercial areas, running it from the Hollydale Substation, down Highway 55 and then up 494 to the new preferred Pomerleau Lake Substation. This realignment would reduce residential impacts by over 95%.

Please make a smart decision and put the community first! There are residents of all ages, family situations and demographics who are strongly opposed to the proposed route and alternate routes. It was evident in the October 26 public hearing. Don't have our concerns and appeals fall on deaf ears. It is a matter of the quality of life that Plymouth prides itself upon.

Sincerely,

Residents of the Timber Creek Crossing community
Plymouth, MN
November 2011

Just imagine how you and your family would vote if you had a chance to influence new power construction away from your neighborhood.

Ken and Ginny Nelson
Plymouth, Minnesota

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/no-power-lines-for-timber-creek. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition. 

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: MaryAnn Blade [maryann.blade@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 3:13 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale 115kV Transmission Line Project

Dear Mr. Ek:

I am writing you to express our great concern regarding the proposed route for expanding the electrical current available to meet the future needs of the community. My family bought our home in Bridlewood farms because of the beauty of the preserve behind our house, the safety in the neighborhood, and a place where we could be comforted as we age in an environment that will ensure that we are away from hazards. I am frankly very frightened by the thought that our home is so close to the proposed new route for expanded voltage. My children are all grown, but I see our neighbors who have young children will be so affected. There are so many home that will be in potential harm's way.

As a former executive who worked with government daily, it does not seem right that there was no representation for Bridlewood farms on the taskforce that voted or made the recommendation for the proposed route. My husband and I walked the route and saw that these poles will be people's front and back yards. That does not seem right.

Please, look at the alternative routes that our association members have outlined and see if there might be an alternative that will affect fewer people. Thank you in advance, for your consideration.

Sincerely, Richard and Mary Ann Blade

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Julie Adams [jujuadams@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 2:57 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Docket No. E002/TL-11-152

Dear Scott,

I live in Plymouth and attended the October 26th meeting regarding the Proposed Hollydale Transmission Line Project. I've come to the conclusion that Xcel Energy does not want to run the new power lines along Hwy.55 and 494 because of cost. They can't possibly think anyone (including themselves) would want high voltage power lines running through any residential area much less an area known for wetlands.

Please convey to Xcel Energy that the best option for all parties involved is for Xcel to run the new power lines along Hwy. 55 and I494. All residential owners in this proposed project are more than willing to pay the additional cost even if that cost is substantial.

Thank You,
Julie Adams

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: MaryAnn Blade [maryann.blade@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 2:54 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale115kV Transmission Line Project

Dear Mr. Ek:

I am writing you to express our great concern regarding the proposed route for expanding the electrical current available to meet the future needs of the community. My family bought our home in Bridlewood farms because of the beauty of the preserve behind our house, the safety in the neighborhood, and a place where we could be comforted as we age in an environment that will ensure that we are away from hazards. I am frankly very frightened by the thought that our home is so close to the proposed new route for expanded voltage. My children are all grown, but I see our neighbors who have young children that will be ultimately exposed. There are so many homes affected. As a former executive who worked with government daily, it does not seem right that there was no representation

for Bridlewood Farms on the taskforce that voted or made the recommendation for the proposed route. My husband and I walked the route and saw that these poles will be in people's front and back yards. That does not seem right.

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: ANNE SEARLE [annesearle@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 2:43 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale Project - Bridlewood & Churchill Farms Comments and Proposed Alternatives
Attachments: Bridlewood_Churchill Farms_Alternate Routes (2).pdf; Comments on scope of EA_20111109.docx; Hollydale Project Contact Information.docx

Dear Mr. Ek,

Please find attached documents for your consideration. My family along with multiple other young families live in the Bridlewood neighborhood and were very concerned to hear of the latest proposed plan. I appreciate that you will receive numerous emails so will keep this short as the attached documents say it all.

We thank you for taking the time to review these and hope that the proposed alternate routes will meet with approval.

Yours sincerely,
Anne Searle

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Gurpreet Dhillon [gurpreetd@hotmail.com@change.org] on behalf of Gurpreet Dhillon [gurpreetd@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 2:28 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Focus on quality of life not profits in evaluating power line project.

Dear Mr. Sedarski & Mr. Ek

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Xcel Energy & Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

As residents of Timber Creek Crossing, located at the intersection of Schmidt Lake Road & Garland Lane N in Plymouth, we are extremely concerned with the options still being considered for the power line transmission project.

We ask that Xcel Energy shift their overall strategy for this project from profit generation to maintaining and promoting the quality of life for the residents of not only Timber Creek Crossing, but also all potential residents impacted by the proposed and alternate routes. We are all well aware that there is a viable option (the 494/55 corridor) that will have minimal impact on the quality of life, health and home values of all residents impacted by these proposals. This should be the primary focus of this project!

Some key points for your consideration:

1. The existing transmission line was built in 1971, long before most of those homes on the line were built. The commission should not transfer the line from those homes that were purchased where there was already a power line to homes where there have been no prior plans for a transmission line. We as Timber Creek Crossing residents already shoulder the burden of living along railroad tracks and next to a gun club, please don't add to it by now giving us a transmission line also as proposed in Alternate Route Segment B.
2. If the goal is to reduce residential impacts, Alternate Route Segment B provides one of the least benefits of all the alternative proposals – a less than 50% reduction in residential impacts and brings the line to over 100 homes that don't already have it.
3. For the greatest reduction, the commission should consider relocating the transmission line to commercial areas, running it from the Hollydale Substation, down Highway 55 and then up 494 to the new preferred Pomerleau Lake Substation. This realignment would reduce residential impacts by over 95%.

Please make a smart decision and put the community first! There are residents of all ages, family situations and demographics who are strongly opposed to the proposed route and alternate routes. It was evident in the October 26 public hearing. Don't have our concerns and appeals fall on deaf ears. It is a matter of the quality of life that Plymouth prides itself upon.

Sincerely,

Residents of the Timber Creek Crossing community
Plymouth, MN
November 2011

Timber creek Crossings has many children and it is not safe to have power lines close to it. Secondly, we are already hit by the housing market downturn and do not want to loose more due to these power lines. Safety and home value are two major concerns. Please do not put power lines here.

Gurpreet Dhillon
Plymouth, Minnesota

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/no-power-lines-for-timber-creek. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition.



Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: jlnelson@ties2.net
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 1:41 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale Project - Bridlewood and Churchill Farms

Dear Mr. Ek,

We have recently been made aware of the Hollydale Project and plans to increase voltage in our neighborhood. We agree with our neighbors that this would have a serious negative impact on us, our neighborhood and adjoining neighborhoods. We strongly urge you to give thoughtful consideration to the alternate route proposals being recommended.

Respectfully,

Duane and Jeanette Nelson

3440 Zircon lane North

Plymouth, Mn 55447

763-473-6228

Email sent via TIES WebMail

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 1:34 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Bruns Tue Nov 8 13:33:39 2011 E002/TL-11-152

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: Grant Bruns

County: Hennepin County

City: Plymouth

Email: grantbruns@comcast.net

Phone: 612-597-1664

Impact: I believe the line should be routed along 494 and west on Hwy 55, avoiding all residential neighborhoods.

Mitigation:

Submission date: Tue Nov 8 13:33:39 2011

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
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Peysakhovich, Vadim (RCIS) [Vadim.Peysakhovich@rcis.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 1:26 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: FW: Hollydale Project

Good afternoon Mr.Ek,

I checked the distance between my house and existing line – 26 Feet...
Also, I cannot check the distance between my deck and lines but it less than 30 feet.

This is the info that I found about the lines:

The electric and magnetic fields are usually low enough by about 120 or 150 metres away ~ even from the largest power lines.

However some recent work at Bristol University suggests that living down-wind of the line (ie the NORMAL wind direction blows across the line before coming to your house) can produce a higher than normal incidence of a number of cancers. The 'safe' distance is about 500 metres, but is less if there are tall trees or high bushes between you and the line as most of the harmful aerosols attach themselves to these before they reach your house.

If the wind normally blows in any other direction than towards you from the power lines, then the 120 or 150 metres mentioned above is probably adequate.

Also, if it is a very non-polluted area (low natural radon gas and low man-made pollutants ~ industrial & motor vehicle, etc) then, again, the 120 to 150 metres clearance distance should be adequate.

Sincerely,

Vadim Peysakhovich

3960 Everest Ln N,

Plymouth, MN 55446

Phone: (763) 559-9845

From: Peysakhovich, Vadim (RCIS)
Sent: Thursday, October 06, 2011 7:16 AM
To: 'scott.ek@state.mn.us'
Subject: Hollydale Project

Dear Mr. Ek,

I am a homeowner in Holly Creek Village Townhome Association. I am very concerned about the proposed route of the Hollydale Project. I request that an alternative to Route C be used that does not pass close to as great a number of homes as Route C.

Alternative C that follows highway right-of-way is more suited to future expansion than lines that are within 35 feet of a number of homes. The existing right-of-way of Route C has not had an active line for a number of years. Installing a larger active line will create major changes. In addition to living next to live voltage, it would require established trees and privacy vegetation be cleared from right-of-ways. The metal poles required by this line, running between homes in Plymouth, are inconsistent with the type of poles and the locations of lines used for other above ground electrical transmission in Plymouth.

I trust that public input from letters of concern, public meetings and the advisory task will enable Xcel, GRE and Energy Facility Permitting to find a viable solution.

Sincerely,

Vadim Peysakhovich

3960 Everest Ln N,

Plymouth, MN 55446

Phone: (763) 559-9845

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Restrepo, Mary B [MRestrepo@CBBURNET.COM]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 12:18 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale Project

Scott:

I am very concerned about the location of the 115kV power line. I live at 14105 41st Ave. N and my home backs up to Rockford Road. I do NOT want the exposure of the power lines directly behind my home. This scenario poses a health threat to me and my family; including my 8 month grandson that lives with me.

I know full well the financial impact of power lines located in close proximity to single family homes. If a home sells, it sells at a dramatic discount to homes that don't have power lines in site. I don't anticipate that those benefiting from the added power lines would be willing to compensate homeowners that lose substantial value in their homes.

Putting the power lines along Rockford Road would be a travesty to those that live here. This is a highly residential area and the impact to property values, health, wetlands and aesthetics would be devastating. I encourage you to look for routes that do not impact housing. Position the towers on 494 or Hwy 55 seem a better alternative to putting families at risk.

Thanks

Jorge Restrepo
14105 41st Ave. N.
Plymouth, MN 55446

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Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Restrepo, Mary B [MRestrepo@CBBURNET.COM]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 12:13 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale project

Scott:

I am very concerned about the location of the 115kV power line. I live at 14105 41st Ave. N and my home backs up to Rockford Road. I do NOT want the exposure of the power lines directly behind my home. This scenario poses a health threat to me and my family; including my 8 month grandson that lives with me.

In addition, as a real estate agent, I know full well the financial impact of power lines located in close proximity to single family homes. If a home sells, it sells at a dramatic discount to homes that don't have power lines in site. I don't anticipate that those benefiting from the added power lines would be willing to compensate homeowners that lose substantial value in their homes.

Putting the power lines along Rockford Road would be a travesty to those that live here. This is a highly residential area and the impact to property values, health, wetlands and aesthetics would be devastating. I encourage you to look for routes that do not impact housing. Position the towers on 494 or Hwy 55 seem a better alternative to putting families at risk.

Thanks

Mary Restrepo
14105 41st Ave. N.
Plymouth, MN 55446

The information in this electronic mail message is the sender's confidential business and may be legally privileged. It is intended solely for the addressee(s). Access to this internet electronic mail message by anyone else is unauthorized. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distribution or any action taken or omitted to be taken in reliance on it is prohibited and may be unlawful.

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Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Jus D [tubbybabee@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 11:51 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale Project - Bridlewood and Churchill Farms Comments and Proposed Alternatives
Attachments: Bridlewood_Churchill Farms_Alternate Routes.pdf

November 8, 2011

Mr Scott Ek
State Permit Manager
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St Paul, MN 55101-2198

Dear Mr Ek,

We live in the Bridlewood Farm community, located west of County Road 101 and South of Medina Road.

We have just been made aware that the pending Hollydale Project, west of the Hollydale Substation, will significantly impact our neighborhood. We are writing to let you know that we do not approve of the Xcel and Great River Energy rebuild west of the Hollydale Substation, as currently proposed.

The proposed rebuild of the existing power transmission line that cuts across our community and wetlands to a 115kV will introduce many significant adverse impacts including health and safety, noise, aesthetics and the inevitable devaluation of our property.

We are joining with the entire Bridlewood Farm and Churchill Farm neighborhoods to recommend several alternate routes. The current proposal impacts approximately 134 homes. There are alternatives which impact far fewer homes. One of the alternatives, G, impacts as few as 33 homes. This is very significant.

Please find these alternate routes F1, F2, F3 and G, attached. All of these alternatives would use the existing "Proposed Route" from the Hollydale Substation to Highway 55. From the intersection of Highway 55 and County Road 101, the line would route to Brockton Lane and ultimately to Medina Road on the way to the existing GRE Medina Substation. These alternatives alleviate the need to negatively impact over 100 homes and up to 300 residents.

We trust that you will present our case with all due seriousness and compassion. We consider the significant and sometimes devastating impact to over 100 properties and 300 residents of our community very serious. Thank you for your consideration to this matter.

Sincerely,

David and Justine Duong
18625 37th Ave North
Plymouth, MN 55446
763-478-2003

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Ken Salzl [ksalzl=comcast.net@change.org] on behalf of Ken Salzl [ksalzl@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 11:26 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Focus on quality of life not profits in evaluating power line project.

Dear Mr. Sedarski & Mr. Ek

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Xcel Energy & Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

As residents of Timber Creek Crossing, located at the intersection of Schmidt Lake Road & Garland Lane N in Plymouth, we are extremely concerned with the options still being considered for the power line transmission project.

We ask that Xcel Energy shift their overall strategy for this project from profit generation to maintaining and promoting the quality of life for the residents of not only Timber Creek Crossing, but also all potential residents impacted by the proposed and alternate routes. We are all well aware that there is a viable option (the 494/55 corridor) that will have minimal impact on the quality of life, health and home values of all residents impacted by these proposals. This should be the primary focus of this project!

Some key points for your consideration:

1. The existing transmission line was built in 1971, long before most of those homes on the line were built. The commission should not transfer the line from those homes that were purchased where there was already a power line to homes where there have been no prior plans for a transmission line. We as Timber Creek Crossing residents already shoulder the burden of living along railroad tracks and next to a gun club, please don't add to it by now giving us a transmission line also as proposed in Alternate Route Segment B.
2. If the goal is to reduce residential impacts, Alternate Route Segment B provides one of the least benefits of all the alternative proposals – a less than 50% reduction in residential impacts and brings the line to over 100 homes that don't already have it.
3. For the greatest reduction, the commission should consider relocating the transmission line to commercial areas, running it from the Hollydale Substation, down Highway 55 and then up 494 to the new preferred Pomerleau Lake Substation. This realignment would reduce residential impacts by over 95%.

Please make a smart decision and put the community first! There are residents of all ages, family situations and demographics who are strongly opposed to the proposed route and alternate routes. It was evident in the October 26 public hearing. Don't have our concerns and appeals fall on deaf ears. It is a matter of the quality of life that Plymouth prides itself upon.

Sincerely,

Residents of the Timber Creek Crossing community
Plymouth, MN
November 2011

Ken Salzl
Plymouth, Minnesota

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/no-power-lines-for-timber-creek. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition. 

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Jan Cincoski [jancincski@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 11:04 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Docket E002/TI-11-152

Dear Mr. Ek,

In regards to the proposed Hollydale 115kV Transmission Line Project, I do not feel the proposed path is the appropriate location for this for the following reasons:

1. It will negatively impact the value of homes in the area. In the current market, we are already struggling to retain our home values and having this major transmission line located in the neighborhood will decrease the values further.
2. The possible health problems related to having a power line of this size in a residential area.
3. Site lines - from our home, the lines will be directly in our line of site. Again, when we would go to sell our home in the future, prospective buyers could see this and possibly cause a reduction in the sale of the house, or loss of a sale.

I am sure there are other routes that would not go through neighborhoods, especially with both Highways 55 and 494 so close.

Thank you for your consideration,

Janice Cincoski
4745 Kingsview Lane
Plymouth, MN 55446
jancincski@aol.com

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Karen Wallerius [tini.b@hotmail.com@change.org] on behalf of Karen Wallerius [tini.b@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 11:04 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Focus on quality of life not profits in evaluating power line project.

Dear Mr. Sedarski & Mr. Ek

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Xcel Energy & Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

As residents of Timber Creek Crossing, located at the intersection of Schmidt Lake Road & Garland Lane N in Plymouth, we are extremely concerned with the options still being considered for the power line transmission project.

We ask that Xcel Energy shift their overall strategy for this project from profit generation to maintaining and promoting the quality of life for the residents of not only Timber Creek Crossing, but also all potential residents impacted by the proposed and alternate routes. We are all well aware that there is a viable option (the 494/55 corridor) that will have minimal impact on the quality of life, health and home values of all residents impacted by these proposals. This should be the primary focus of this project!

Some key points for your consideration:

1. The existing transmission line was built in 1971, long before most of those homes on the line were built. The commission should not transfer the line from those homes that were purchased where there was already a power line to homes where there have been no prior plans for a transmission line. We as Timber Creek Crossing residents already shoulder the burden of living along railroad tracks and next to a gun club, please don't add to it by now giving us a transmission line also as proposed in Alternate Route Segment B.
2. If the goal is to reduce residential impacts, Alternate Route Segment B provides one of the least benefits of all the alternative proposals – a less than 50% reduction in residential impacts and brings the line to over 100 homes that don't already have it.
3. For the greatest reduction, the commission should consider relocating the transmission line to commercial areas, running it from the Hollydale Substation, down Highway 55 and then up 494 to the new preferred Pomerleau Lake Substation. This realignment would reduce residential impacts by over 95%.

Please make a smart decision and put the community first! There are residents of all ages, family situations and demographics who are strongly opposed to the proposed route and alternate routes. It was evident in the October 26 public hearing. Don't have our concerns and appeals fall on deaf ears. It is a matter of the quality of life that Plymouth prides itself upon.

Sincerely,

Residents of the Timber Creek Crossing community
Plymouth, MN
November 2011

Karen Wallerius
Plymouth, Minnesota

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/no-power-lines-for-timber-creek. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition. 

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Mattson, Carmen J [MattsonC@AETNA.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 10:57 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale Project - Bridlewood & Churchill Farms Comments & Proposed Alternatives

November 8, 2011

Scott Ek
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Dear Mr. Ek:

I live in Churchill Farms in Plymouth. I recently learned of the Hollydale Project, and how it will impact our neighborhood. My property is in the northeast corner of Churchill Farms, within the easement, & will be directly affected by the current proposal to rebuild and convert the existing power transmission lines to 115kV. I want to let you know that the current proposal is unacceptable to me, particularly since I did not have a voice on the Alternatives Task Force.

The current easement goes back to 1968 and allows for wood poles. I was made aware of this easement when purchasing our property in 1994. The current proposal for metal poles that are significantly taller and wider, and will be visible above the treeline, is much more intrusive than allowed for in the original easement. The existing power transmission line is already an unsightly eyesore along our property and across the adjacent wetland. But, the proposed conversion to 115 kV introduces many more concerns and adverse impacts, including health and safety associated with EMFs, noise, aesthetics, and the inevitable devaluation of our property.

I am joining and supporting the entire Churchill Farms and Bridlewood Farm neighborhoods in recommending alternate routes, where significantly fewer homes will be impacted. Even if some of these open areas in these alternative routes are developed for homes in the future, the prospective buyers at that time will know in advance the risks and hazards that are associated with the high-voltage power lines.

I am very concerned about this serious issue and the impact it will have directly on my family and my property.

Thank you for your compassionate consideration of my stated position.

Sincerely,

Carmen Mattson
18690 34th Ave. N.
Plymouth, MN 55447
763-476-9376

This e-mail may contain confidential or privileged information. If you think you have received this e-mail in error, please advise the sender by reply e-mail and then delete this e-mail immediately. Thank you. Aetna

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Craig Mattson [CMattson@primetherapeutics.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 10:54 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale Project ? Bridlewood & Churchill Farms Comments and Proposed Alternatives

November 8, 2011

Mr. Scott Ek
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Dear Mr. Ek,

I live in Churchill Farms in Plymouth. I recently learned of the Hollydale Project, and how it will impact our neighborhood. My property is in the northeast corner of Churchill Farms, within the easement, & will be directly affected by the current proposal to rebuild and convert the existing power transmission lines to 115kV. I want to let you know that the current proposal is unacceptable to me, particularly since I did not have a voice on the Alternatives Task Force.

The current easement goes back to 1968 and allows for wood pole. I was made aware of this easement when purchasing our property in 1994. The current proposal for metal poles that are significantly taller and wider, and will be visible above the treeline, is much more intrusive than allowed for in the original easement. The existing power transmission line is already an unsightly eyesore along our property and across the adjacent wetland. But, the proposed conversion to 115 kV introduces many more concerns and adverse impacts, including health and safety associated with EMFs, noise, aesthetics, and the inevitable devaluation of our property.

I am joining and supporting the entire Churchill Farms and Bridlewood Farm neighborhoods in recommending alternate routes, where significantly fewer homes will be impacted. Even if some of these open areas in these alternative routes are developed for homes in the future, the prospective buyers at that time will know in advance the risks and hazards that are associated with the high-voltage power lines.

I am very concerned about this serious issue and the impact it will have directly on my family and my property. Thank you for your compassionate consideration of my stated position.

Sincerely,

Craig Mattson
18690 34th Ave. N.
Plymouth, MN 55447
763-476-9376

Prime Therapeutics made the following annotations

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Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Ryan Niemi [ryan.niemi@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 10:43 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale Project - Bridlewood & Churchill Farms comments & proposed alternatives

November 8, 2011

Mr. Scott Ek
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Dear Scott:

We have lived in the Churchill Farm/Bridlewood Farm community for the past 18 years which is located west of 101 South and south of Medina Road.

We have just been made aware that the pending Hollydale Project (west of the Hollydale Substation) will significantly impact our neighborhood. We are writing to let you know we do NOT approve of the Xcel and Great River Energy rebuild west of the Hollydale Substation, as currently proposed.

The existing power transmission line runs directly in our front yard, if the proposed line is converted to 115 kV, we will be 44 feet away from these lines. This creates multiple reasons why this is NOT ok with us.

- 1.) We live, eat, and sleep 44 feet away from these lines every day, the increased health risks of this high of a voltage line is dramatically increased to our family (grandparents, parents, and little children who visit every day).
- 2.) Then we have the aesthetic issue, we would have these new larger poles, louder buzzing, and more poles than we currently have in the neighborhood.
- 3.) We were informed that if the poles are put any closer to our house than they are currently located, we will **NOT** be allowed to **BBQ** at our own home that we have lived at for the past 18 years due to **flammable risks**.
- 4.) All of this would be a negative effect on the value of our home, not to mention that by installing these power lines, you limit the type of buyer we can draw to our property since people would not have the option of getting an FHA loan. We know the value of our property is higher than current FHA guidelines, however we do not know what a proposed buyer wanted an FHA loan by putting enough money down on the property. With these new power lines, this would not be an option.

We are joining with the entire Bridlewood Farm and Churchill Farm neighborhoods to recommend several alternate routes. The current proposal impacts approximately 134 homes. There are alternatives which impact far fewer homes. One of the alternatives impacts as few as 33 homes. That is significant!

We understand these alternatives (F1, F2, F3, and G) are being submitted to you, if they haven't already. All of these alternatives would use the existing "Proposed Route" from the Hollydale Substation to Highway 55 (1-2 blocks). From the intersection of Hwy 55 and 101 South, the line would route to Brockton Lane and

ultimately to Medina Road on the way to the existing GRE Medina Substation. These alternatives alleviate the need to negatively impact over 100 homes and up to 300 residents.

We trust that you will present our case with all due seriousness and compassion. We consider the direct damaging impact to our property as well as the significant and sometimes devastating impact to over 100 properties and 300 residents of our community very serious. Thank you for your consideration in this important issue.

Sincerely,

Patricia and Carl Niemi
3475 Zircon Lane North
Plymouth, MN 55447
763-449-9306

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Amy Jokinen [amybjokinen@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 10:13 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale Project - Bridlewood and Churchill Farms

Mr Ek,

As a resident of Bridlewood Farms, I would implore you to take the time to review alternate routes for the proposed high voltage power lines that are slated to run through and affect our community. Based on review of the alternative routes, there are options that do not affect nearly as many residents of a high density neighborhood such as ours.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Tim & Amy Jokinen
3835 Alvarado Ln N
Plymouth, MN 55446

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Kalyani Subash [kalyani.subash@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 10:06 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale Project

Dear Mr. Ek

We are a homeowner in Holly Creek Village association. We am very concerned about the proposed route of the Hollydale Project. The current 69kV line comes within 30 feet of townhomes in our association. Large metal utility poles do not belong between homes in Plymouth when there are alternatives. All of our neighborhood's utilities are buried except for the existing de-energized 69kV line which should have originally been routed along major roads. Please advise Xcel to use a route along major roads, such as Hwy 55 to 494 North, Alternative E.

We request that the state approve Alternative E as it would affect the least number of homes. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,
Vis and Kalyani Subash

17016, 39th Court N
Plymouth MN 55446

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: eddieetzel@comcast.net
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 10:04 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: docket 32121

We are opposed to the current proposed route of 115kv power line route. Do to health implications, property value of homes, proximity of homes,cultural & aesthetic values,wetland impacts, right of way impacts.

We would like to see route be changed to 494 and hwy 55 as far away from homes as possible.

Sincerely:
Ed & Mary Ann Etzel
4863 Orchid Lane
Plymouth, MN 55446

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Amin Kader [kader@augsborg.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 10:00 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Re: PUC Docket No. E002/TL 11-52

Dear Mr. Ek:

I needed to communicate to you my strongest opposition to the routing of Hollydale line. You will be receiving comments that represent the collective concerns of numerous interested persons who live in the Bridlewood Farm and Churchill Farms neighborhoods in Plymouth, Minnesota related to the Hollydale 115kV Transmission Line project. This will serve as our comments on the scope of the environmental assessment of the project, as well as our request for consideration of, and proposals for, the alternative routes that we have detailed in the comments.

We strongly urge consideration of our proposed routes as part of the environmental assessment for the reasons set forth in the attached comments

Sincerely,

Amin Kader
18630 37 Avenue North
Plymouth, MN 55446

Amin Kader
Department of Business
Administration and MIS
Augsburg College
2211 Riverside Ave.
Minneapolis, MN 55454

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Malango, Kavitha [Kavitha.Malango@parknicollet.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 9:55 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: RE: Resident of 4665 Orchid Lane N Plymouth

Hi,

My name is Kavitha Malango, living in 4665 Orchid Lane N, more than a year, I came to know about Hollydale Project. **Please use 494 and Hwy 55 as the route for this project**

concerns are:

- Health Implications - I have 2 kids there are at 3 years old
- Property Value of Homes
- Proximity to Homes
- Cultural & Aesthetic Values
- Wetland Impacts
- Right of Way Impacts

Thanks
Kavitha
612-803-8301

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Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Shelly Zitzlsperger [shelly.zitz@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 9:50 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale 115kV Transmission Line Project

Dear Mr. Ek,

We are sending this email as concerned homeowners who live in the Bridlewood Farms neighborhood of Plymouth, MN. We have lived in Bridlewood Farms for 5 years, and we have 3 little boys (ages 4, 2 and 9 months). We live very close to one of the towers being considered for the upgrade to 115 kV. We have read that there are possible adverse health effects as a result of living near high voltage power lines, and we greatly support the Bridlewood/Churchill Farms initiative to consider alternative routes.

Thank you very much for reading this email and for thinking of our family as you consider possible alternative routes for the transmission lines.

Sincerely,
Shelly & Matt Zitzlsperger

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Samy Muthuraj [kothalasamy@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 9:48 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Cc: Malango, Kavitha
Subject: Resident of 4665 Orchid Lane N Plymouth

Hi,

My name is Samy, living in 4665 Orchid Lane N, more than a year, I came to know about Hollydale Project.
Please use 494 and Hwy 55 as the route for this project

concerns are:

- Health Implications - I have 2 kids there are at 3 years old
- Property Value of Homes
- Proximity to Homes
- Cultural & Aesthetic Values
- Wetland Impacts
- Right of Way Impacts

Thanks
Samy
952-270-0775

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Tan EnhuiPeng Ping [enhuipp@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 9:37 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale Project GÇô Bridlewood & Churchill Farms Comments and Proposed Alternatives

Importance: High

November 7, 2011

Mr. Scott Ek
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Dear Scott:

We live in the Bridlewood Farm community, located west of 101 South and south of Medina Road.

We have just been made aware that the pending Hollydale Project (west of the Hollydale Substation) will significantly impact our neighborhood. We are writing to let you know we do NOT approve of the Xcel and Great River Energy rebuild west of the Hollydale Substation, as currently proposed.

The existing power transmission line either cuts across our community **(FOR HOMEOWNERS DIRECTLY AFFECTED, PLEASE REPLACE WITH "CUTS ACROSS OUR PROPERTIES")**. It is already an unsightly eyesore along our community property and across our community and wetland **(FOR HOMEOWNERS DIRECTLY AFFECTED, PLEASE REPLACE WITH "property and wetland")**. The proposed rebuild converts this line to a 115 kV and introduces many more concerns. It will introduce significant adverse impacts including health and safety, noise, aesthetics, and the inevitable devaluation of our property.

We are joining with the entire Bridlewood Farm and Churchill Farm neighborhoods to recommend several alternate routes. The current proposal impacts approximately 134 homes. There are alternatives which impact far fewer homes. One of the alternatives impacts as few as 33 homes. That is significant!

We understand these alternatives (F1, F2, F3, and G) are being submitted to you, if they haven't already. All of these alternatives would use the existing "Proposed Route" from the Hollydale Substation to Highway 55 (1-2 blocks). From the intersection of Hwy 55 and 101 South, the line would route to Brockton Lane and ultimately to Medina Road on the way to the existing GRE Medina Substation. These alternatives alleviate the need to negatively impact over 100 homes and up to 300 residents.

We trust that you will present our case with all due seriousness and compassion. We consider the **(FOR HOMEOWNERS DIRECTLY AFFECTED, PLEASE INSERT "DIRECT DAMAGING IMPACT TO OUR PROPERTY AS WELL AS THE")** significant and sometimes devastating impact to over 100 properties and 300 residents of our community very serious. Thank you for your consideration in this important issue.

Sincerely,

Enhui Tan
18370 37th Place Noth
Plymouth, MN 55446
Plymouth, MN 55446
763-218-1107

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Mark Snyder [mark.snyder@constructionresults.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 9:30 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM); scot.ek@state.mn.us
Subject: Hollydale Project, why not just bury the lines?

Scott Ek,

I live one house away from the "Proposed Route" (near Minnesota Lane and 42nd); along with my family and neighbors.

I am also a Civil Engineer, and own a General Contracting Company in Plymouth. So my perspective might be a bit different than others.

Of course, the most logical solution would be to have Xcel and Great River Energy work together to put the line on the Highway 55 and I-494 route, thus avoiding the High Voltage Lines running through most Residential Areas. Please find a way to make this happen, even if there are costs involved. I'm sure that Xcel and GRE can find a way to legally recoup these costs from the end-users, and spread over many years of providing power to that area out west. Or, if the costs for acquiring these new easements is outside of their budget for this year; perhaps the job can be simply delayed for a couple of years until their budget allows for this option to be paid for.

A possible source of revenue for Xcel and GRE might be to sell the current Easement that exists for the 69 kv line that is immediately adjacent to peoples homes. This would be sold to the property owners adjacent to this easement. I do not have real estate experience, but I believe there would certainly be some 'value' to these neighbors in having this easement abandoned. I know that it would have some value to me. These funds could be used to help offset some overall cost for the Utility Company. This seems to be much more pro-active than having neighbors pay to hire lawyers and fighting about this in the public court system.

Lastly, if it is "absolutely not possible" to reroute these lines through mainly 'non-residential' properties....then I strongly suggest that these lines be Buried in Residential Areas. This is a compromise, which only asks for buried lines where new large poles and above-grade lines go through residential areas. Some people think that burying power lines is prohibitively expensive for the Utility company. However, as you know, this is done all of the time. Centerpoint Energy always buries their utilities (natural gas lines), as to most of the other utilities today. There will be construction equipment needed in these areas (backhoes, dump trucks, concrete trucks, cranes, etc.) for the foundation and power poles; and I would think it would be less disruptive to simply excavate a trench (with a trenching machine or a backhoe) and simply bury these power lines. The minimal extra disruption during construction will be much better received by the home owners, rather than forever living with these unsightly power poles and power lines that is currently being proposed. Of course, if it makes financial sense, they can use Directional Boring Machines to shoot the lines under roadways, or through other areas that conflict with other existing buried utilities. As you know, these directional boring machines are used all of the time, and their technology is getting better each year. This is a very logical alternative, if changing the route is absolutely not possible.

(I want you to know that I do not have any interest in performing the "construction work"...that is not my motive for sending this email. My company performs commercial building projects; and I realize that Xcel (and probably GRE) has their own crews to perform this work anyway. Its just that I am around construction projects every single day, and I know what construction equipment can do. This would not be a difficult job. I'm sure Xcel and GRE have buried many, many power lines in the past, and they are very familiar with this work. My motive is to avoid having to look at these larger power lines and poles, outside of my front windows

in my house, for the next 20 or more years.)

Please reply to this email, so I know that you received it.

Thank you,
Mark Snyder
4200 Minnesota Lane
Plymouth, MN 55446
Cell: 612-282-5656

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 9:25 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Doran Tue Nov 8 09:25:06 2011 E002/TL-11-152

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: Sue Doran

County: Hennepin County

City: Plymouth

Email:

Phone:

Impact: I do not like want that view out my back window. We purchased the home because of the views of nature/woods. I am concerned about our property value decreasing. Also the proposed path is in an area that is heavily used by walkers. Which I believe poses a safety/health concern.

Mitigation: Please use an alternative route that keeps the lines along major freeways and highways as much as possible. (Hwy 55& 494)

Submission date: Tue Nov 8 09:25:06 2011

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
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Steven Gilkey [stevegilkey@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 9:24 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Docket No. E002/TL-11-152

Scott Ek,

I have attended all of the public meetings and have reviewed all of the documentation regarding the proposed Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project. Based on this time investment, I am more convinced than ever that the 494 and Hwy 55 route for the new lines is the best approach for all parties.

My expectation of the Public Information and Scoping Meeting on Wednesday, October 26, 2011, was that Xcel Energy would communicate their concerns with the 494 and Hwy 55 route; instead they communicated incompetence. I am interested in learning the state's position regarding Xcel's issues with the **494 and Hwy 55 route along with your professional assessment of the validity of their concerns.**

Regards,

Steven Gilkey
4635 orchid Lane N
Plymouth, MN 55446

--

Steven Gilkey [612-270-9991](tel:612-270-9991)

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 9:05 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Illikainen Tue Nov 8 09:05:21 2011 E002/TL-11-152

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: Curtis Illikainen

County: Hennepin County

City: Plymouth

Email: illy5@msn.com

Phone: 763-550-9846

Impact: I strongly oppose the current proposal for the Hollydale Transmission Line Upgrade by Xcel Energy and Great Rivers Energy when a suitable alternative is available that has far less impact and footprint in our community.

Mitigation: A recommendation to route the line south along I-494 to Highway 55 and along Highway 55 and connect with the present transmission line enroute to Medina would bypass the more densely populated residential areas.

Submission date: Tue Nov 8 09:05:21 2011

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
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Nancy Strong [andrew50strong@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 8:29 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)

Scott,

Bill Strong and I want to be added to the informational email group regarding the proposed power lines in Plymouth. We are apposed to the power lines being installed through any residential community area. You would not want this in your back yard--and neither does anyone else. The best place is along 494 and 55. If that is not in agreement then run your lines up 94 and service Medina through Corcorcan countryside

William & Nancy Strong.

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Brett Scholder [abbyspot@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 8:12 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Cc: Brett Scholder
Subject: PUC Docket No. E002/TL-11-152

Scott,

I was unable to attend the recent public utilities commission meeting October 26. Regardless I wanted to share my concerns about relocated the transmission lines close to mine and my neighbor's property in Wyndemere Farms.

Alternate Route B concerns me for the following reasons:

- When I purchased my home 7 years ago there were no plans to have power lines so close to my property. If there was any thought of relocating the power lines when I purchased my home I would never have built here. There were many properties we turned down because they were too close to utilities.
- The negative impact on my property value
- The unforeseen health risks associated with living near utilities.
- The negative effects on the environment, including the likelihood of cutting down trees and placing towers in marshlands and wetlands along Alternate Route B.

In my opinion, Alternate Route B is the least attractive in terms of new residential impact, complexity and associated project costs. Other routes again in my opinion appear to be better options. And, while I didn't attend the October 26 meeting I trust my neighbors who did and understand the concerns of the property owners along the proposed route, the arguments presented during the public hearing to relocate the upgraded lines to a new route do not offset the potential impact on new residents or support transferring their concerns to other residents:

- Previous Knowledge: The existing transmission line was built in 1971, which is before most of the homes along the existing line were built. As such, every property owner along the proposed route would have been either compensated for the easement or would have purchased or built their home with complete knowledge of existing utility easement or the existing transmission line.

- Impact on Property Value: Several home owners along the proposed route cited a 15-20% reduction in property value directly related to the addition of transmission line as an argument to relocate the power lines. However, if property value is negatively impacted by the transmission lines, then the property owners along the proposed route would have received a 15-20% benefit in the form of reduced purchase price when they originally purchased their homes.
- Effects of EMF: Xcel Energy stated that the proposal submitted to rebuild the transmission lines along the existing route was designed to meet all state and World Health Organization (WHO) standards for acceptable EMF exposure. If the impact of EMF is a valid argument, and no study has proven a connection between EMF and cancer, leukemia, etc., then the state should reconsider reducing its established requirement for EMF exposure. Plus, doesn't the increased height of the proposed towers more than offset the increased EMF at the ground level

Neither I or my neighbors want the transmission lines along our property and rerouting the proposed line to Alternate Route B would impact additional residents and increase costs. And, while I believe that Xcel Energy and Great River Energy have a public responsibility to design and plan for power distribution that considers the impact on the surrounding community, they shouldn't do so with a complete disregard to the expense.

Respectfully Yours,

Brett and Lisa Scholder
4800 Narcissus Court N
Plymouth, MN 55446

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Bob Kyweriga [kyweriga@gmail.com@change.org] on behalf of Bob Kyweriga [kyweriga@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 7:06 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Focus on quality of life not profits in evaluating power line project.

Dear Mr. Sedarski & Mr. Ek

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Xcel Energy & Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

As residents of Timber Creek Crossing, located at the intersection of Schmidt Lake Road & Garland Lane N in Plymouth, we are extremely concerned with the options still being considered for the power line transmission project.

We ask that Xcel Energy shift their overall strategy for this project from profit generation to maintaining and promoting the quality of life for the residents of not only Timber Creek Crossing, but also all potential residents impacted by the proposed and alternate routes. We are all well aware that there is a viable option (the 494/55 corridor) that will have minimal impact on the quality of life, health and home values of all residents impacted by these proposals. This should be the primary focus of this project!

Some key points for your consideration:

1. The existing transmission line was built in 1971, long before most of those homes on the line were built. The commission should not transfer the line from those homes that were purchased where there was already a power line to homes where there have been no prior plans for a transmission line. We as Timber Creek Crossing residents already shoulder the burden of living along railroad tracks and next to a gun club, please don't add to it by now giving us a transmission line also as proposed in Alternate Route Segment B.
2. If the goal is to reduce residential impacts, Alternate Route Segment B provides one of the least benefits of all the alternative proposals – a less than 50% reduction in residential impacts and brings the line to over 100 homes that don't already have it.
3. For the greatest reduction, the commission should consider relocating the transmission line to commercial areas, running it from the Hollydale Substation, down Highway 55 and then up 494 to the new preferred Pomerleau Lake Substation. This realignment would reduce residential impacts by over 95%.

Please make a smart decision and put the community first! There are residents of all ages, family situations and demographics who are strongly opposed to the proposed route and alternate routes. It was evident in the October 26 public hearing. Don't have our concerns and appeals fall on deaf ears. It is a matter of the quality of life that Plymouth prides itself upon.

Sincerely,

Residents of the Timber Creek Crossing community
Plymouth, MN
November 2011

Xcel Energy should not transfer a line from homes that were purchased where there was already a power line to existing homes where there have been no prior plans for a transmission line.

Bob Kyweriga
Plymouth, Minnesota

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/no-power-lines-for-timber-creek. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition. 

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Tiny Dischinger [youngdish@hotmail.com@change.org] on behalf of Tiny Dischinger [youngdish@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 6:41 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Focus on quality of life not profits in evaluating power line project.

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Xcel Energy & Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

As residents of Timber Creek Crossing, located at the intersection of Schmidt Lake Road & Garland Lane N in Plymouth, we are extremely concerned with the options still being considered for the power line transmission project.

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Please make a smart decision and put the community first! There are residents of all ages, family situations and demographics who are strongly opposed to the proposed route and alternate routes. It was evident in the October 26 public hearing. Don't have our concerns and appeals fall on deaf ears. It is a matter of the quality of life that Plymouth prides itself upon.

Sincerely,

Residents of the Timber Creek Crossing community
Plymouth, MN
November 2011

Tiny Dischinger
Plymouth, Minnesota

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/no-power-lines-for-timber-creek. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition.



Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Sandy Dischinger [sandydisch@hotmail.com@change.org] on behalf of Sandy Dischinger [sandydisch@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 6:41 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Focus on quality of life not profits in evaluating power line project.

Dear Mr. Sedarski & Mr. Ek

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Xcel Energy & Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

As residents of Timber Creek Crossing, located at the intersection of Schmidt Lake Road & Garland Lane N in Plymouth, we are extremely concerned with the options still being considered for the power line transmission project.

We ask that Xcel Energy shift their overall strategy for this project from profit generation to maintaining and promoting the quality of life for the residents of not only Timber Creek Crossing, but also all potential residents impacted by the proposed and alternate routes. We are all well aware that there is a viable option (the 494/55 corridor) that will have minimal impact on the quality of life, health and home values of all residents impacted by these proposals. This should be the primary focus of this project!

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Please make a smart decision and put the community first! There are residents of all ages, family situations and demographics who are strongly opposed to the proposed route and alternate routes. It was evident in the October 26 public hearing. Don't have our concerns and appeals fall on deaf ears. It is a matter of the quality of life that Plymouth prides itself upon.

Sincerely,

Residents of the Timber Creek Crossing community
Plymouth, MN
November 2011

Sandy Dischinger
Plymouth, Minnesota

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/no-power-lines-for-timber-creek. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition. 

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Sher Foerster [sherfoerster@gmail.com@change.org] on behalf of Sher Foerster [sherfoerster@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 6:16 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Focus on quality of life not profits in evaluating power line project.

Dear Mr. Sedarski & Mr. Ek

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Xcel Energy & Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

As residents of Timber Creek Crossing, located at the intersection of Schmidt Lake Road & Garland Lane N in Plymouth, we are extremely concerned with the options still being considered for the power line transmission project.

We ask that Xcel Energy shift their overall strategy for this project from profit generation to maintaining and promoting the quality of life for the residents of not only Timber Creek Crossing, but also all potential residents impacted by the proposed and alternate routes. We are all well aware that there is a viable option (the 494/55 corridor) that will have minimal impact on the quality of life, health and home values of all residents impacted by these proposals. This should be the primary focus of this project!

Some key points for your consideration:

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Please make a smart decision and put the community first! There are residents of all ages, family situations and demographics who are strongly opposed to the proposed route and alternate routes. It was evident in the October 26 public hearing. Don't have our concerns and appeals fall on deaf ears. It is a matter of the quality of life that Plymouth prides itself upon.

Sincerely,

Residents of the Timber Creek Crossing community
Plymouth, MN
November 2011

I do not want these power lines put in for both aesthetic and health reasons. I carefully looked for a home that was not near power lines, and because existing power lines were elsewhere, I purchased this property. A change now after we've all purchased property that we thought was safely NOT near powerlines seems unfair and unwarranted. This is a residential area with many children and families. Please go somewhere else.

Sher Foerster
Plymouth, Minnesota

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/no-power-lines-for-timber-creek. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition. 

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Perry Leger [perryleger13@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 4:21 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: proposed power lines

Dear Scott Ek,

I live at 19000 31 Ave. N. in Plymouth. Currently I am abroad until Dec. 2011. I have been made aware of the proposed power line installation in our area, and am concerned of the repercussions of the placement. I would like to encourage consideration of alternative routes. Please keep my email as a vote for changing the current placement.

Sincerely,

Perry Leger
19000 31 Ave. N.
Plymouth, MN 55447

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Abhilasha Gupta [g_abhilasha@hotmail.com@change.org] on behalf of Abhilasha Gupta [g_abhilasha@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 3:54 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Focus on quality of life not profits in evaluating power line project.

Dear Mr. Sedarski & Mr. Ek

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Xcel Energy & Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

As residents of Timber Creek Crossing, located at the intersection of Schmidt Lake Road & Garland Lane N in Plymouth, we are extremely concerned with the options still being considered for the power line transmission project.

We ask that Xcel Energy shift their overall strategy for this project from profit generation to maintaining and promoting the quality of life for the residents of not only Timber Creek Crossing, but also all potential residents impacted by the proposed and alternate routes. We are all well aware that there is a viable option (the 494/55 corridor) that will have minimal impact on the quality of life, health and home values of all residents impacted by these proposals. This should be the primary focus of this project!

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Sincerely,

Residents of the Timber Creek Crossing community
Plymouth, MN
November 2011

Abhilasha Gupta
Plymouth, Minnesota

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/no-power-lines-for-timber-creek. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition. 

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Sundeep Arora [saroram@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 3:33 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Comment letter opposing the proposed Hollydale 115 Kv Project
Attachments: Hollydale_115Kv_Project_letter_of_opposition[1].docx

Mr Ek,

Greetings to you. My name is Sundeep Arora and I am a Plymouth, MN resident concerned about the proposed Hollydale 115 Kv Project. Please see my attached comment letter and thanks, in advance, for including this letter as part of the comments opposing this project. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or points of clarification.

Sincerely,
Sundeep Arora
16405 39th Avenue North
Plymouth, MN 55446

November 6, 2011

Mr. Scott Ek
State Permit Manager
Energy Planning Permitting
Re: Hollydale 115 Kv Project – PUC Docket No. E002/TL-11-152

Mr. Ek,

Greetings to you and thank you for allowing so many Plymouth residents to voice their numerous concerns about the proposed Xcel Energy/Great River Energy Hollydale 115 Kv Project at the October 26, 2011 community meeting held at the Kelly Inn in Plymouth. My name is Cort Cieminski and my wife Karen and our three children live at 16515 39th Place North in Plymouth, MN. We would be adversely affected by the proposed route of the high voltage power line, as it would run less than 50 feet from our home.

It is my with my strongest voice that I recommend that the Public Utilities Commission reject the proposed and alternate routes of this high voltage power line that is to be constructed as part of the Hollydale Project. Instead of routing this line through several residential areas of Plymouth, including my neighborhood, I strongly suggest that this new power line be routed along the corridors of Minnesota State Highway 55 and Interstate 494 in Plymouth.

In my view, the current proposed route of the Hollydale Project and the alternate routes would both come with a steep negative impact upon residential areas of Plymouth and choosing one route over another simply pits one Plymouth neighborhood against another, with no residential neighborhood wanting to have this new high voltage power line running through it. It was quite apparent at the October community meeting that this was the overwhelming sentiment of those in attendance of that meeting. In their application for the Hollydale Project, Xcel Energy and Great River Energy claim that one of their objectives of this proposed project is to minimize the impacts of this high voltage power line on Plymouth residents. It is disingenuous, as best, for Xcel Energy to claim that they desire to minimize the impact upon the residents of Plymouth, while at the same time, putting forth a proposed route for the power line that exposes at least 360 homes in Plymouth within 200 feet or less along the proposed route to the potential safety concerns of electromagnetic fields, significant loss of home values, power line noise, risk to wetland areas, and general unsightliness that would accompany such a high voltage power line.

This proposed route of the Hollydale Project is quite simply the easiest and cheapest route for Xcel Energy/Great River Energy. It does not, however, take into account all of the detrimental effects of running a high voltage power line through a heavy residential area. To construct a project such as this would be counter to the vast majority of high voltage lines in the state of Minnesota that are routed instead through existing non-residential corridors. Such a corridor

already exists in Plymouth and it is the Highway 55 and I-494 corridor. It was extremely disappointing at the October community meeting to hear that Xcel Energy did not have any details to provide about the feasibility of such a route in this corridor. Not including this Highway 55 & I-494 corridor as an alternate route of the Hollydale Project demonstrates to me that Xcel Energy is not interested in the welfare of the residents of Plymouth over its corporate profit margin and fiscal bottom line.

I thank you in advance for including this letter in your comments on the proposed Hollydale 115 Kv Project. I strongly urge the Public Utilities Commission to reject the proposed route and to instead route this project in the Highway 55 and I-494 corridor.

Sincerely,

Cort and Karen Cieminski

Cort & Karen Cieminski
16515 39th Place North
Plymouth, MN 55454

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: vincent Jacovetty [vjacovetty=comcast.net@change.org] on behalf of vincent Jacovetty [vjacovetty@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, November 08, 2011 12:50 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Focus on quality of life not profits in evaluating power line project.

Dear Mr. Sedarski & Mr. Ek

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Xcel Energy & Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

As residents of Timber Creek Crossing, located at the intersection of Schmidt Lake Road & Garland Lane N in Plymouth, we are extremely concerned with the options still being considered for the power line transmission project.

We ask that Xcel Energy shift their overall strategy for this project from profit generation to maintaining and promoting the quality of life for the residents of not only Timber Creek Crossing, but also all potential residents impacted by the proposed and alternate routes. We are all well aware that there is a viable option (the 494/55 corridor) that will have minimal impact on the quality of life, health and home values of all residents impacted by these proposals. This should be the primary focus of this project!

Some key points for your consideration:

1. The existing transmission line was built in 1971, long before most of those homes on the line were built. The commission should not transfer the line from those homes that were purchased where there was already a power line to homes where there have been no prior plans for a transmission line. We as Timber Creek Crossing residents already shoulder the burden of living along railroad tracks and next to a gun club, please don't add to it by now giving us a transmission line also as proposed in Alternate Route Segment B.
2. If the goal is to reduce residential impacts, Alternate Route Segment B provides one of the least benefits of all the alternative proposals – a less than 50% reduction in residential impacts and brings the line to over 100 homes that don't already have it.
3. For the greatest reduction, the commission should consider relocating the transmission line to commercial areas, running it from the Hollydale Substation, down Highway 55 and then up 494 to the new preferred Pomerleau Lake Substation. This realignment would reduce residential impacts by over 95%.

Please make a smart decision and put the community first! There are residents of all ages, family situations and demographics who are strongly opposed to the proposed route and alternate routes. It was evident in the October 26 public hearing. Don't have our concerns and appeals fall on deaf ears. It is a matter of the quality of life that Plymouth prides itself upon.

Sincerely,

Residents of the Timber Creek Crossing community
Plymouth, MN
November 2011

vincent Jacovetty
Plymouth, Minnesota

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/no-power-lines-for-timber-creek. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition. 

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Nate Lukecart [Nate.Lukecart@genmills.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 11:59 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Cc: natelukecart@uwalumni.com
Subject: Comments regarding PUC Docket No. E002/TL-11-152

Dear Scott,

I live in the Holly Creek Village association and would like to provide my comments on the proposed Project (PUC Docket No. E002/TL-11-152). Given the close proximity of the proposed line to the homes in our association I am very concerned about the impact that this project would have on our community aesthetics, property values, health, and environment. My home is approximately equal distance from the current line and to highway 55, so I will be affected by this line in almost any final form that it takes, but to me the proposed route is clearly inferior to the alternatives. If it is a viable option, burying the lines would be preferred as this would have the least long term impact to the Plymouth community. If this is not a viable option, please advise and recommend that Xcel use a route along major roads, specifically the Hwy 55 to 494 North proposed alternate, Alternative E. I request that the state approve Alternative E as it would affect the least number of homes. As I'm sure many other comments have come in on various parts of the proposed line, I will direct my other comments towards the section of the proposed line that would run west from Rockford road and Vicksburg through the Holly Creek Village Townhomes.

- My neighborhood aesthetics will be very negatively affected.
 - The current 69kV line comes within 30 feet of townhomes in our association. After inspecting similar voltage and pole designs in the area it is strikingly clear to me that such large metal utility poles do not belong in such close proximity to homes and should not be run directly between homes in Plymouth when there are alternatives. After actually seeing the size of these structure first hand I find it appalling that the idea of running them directly through a neighborhood is being considered at all. Structure of this size and appearance should only be routed along major roads or buried.
 - These 115 kV lines would have a substantially larger impact to aesthetics than do the existing lines. Lines like the 69kV ones that exist today are very common in neighborhoods all over the twin cities and with the modest wooden poles fit into the tree line and home skylines. They don't stand out as unusual. With the large metal structures proposed here that simply isn't the case. The metal poles are so large that they give an immediate impression that these structures are uncommon and industrial.
 - The height of the existing 69kV lines is similar to the height of the homes in our association. From my front windows the existing poles and power lines are not visible above the houses. With the increase in pole height, this line will dominate the skyline that I see out my windows and in my front yard every day. The poles will be taller than the trees in the neighborhood and will obscure the neighborhood aesthetics, not only for the homes directly along the line, but also for the homes within at least ½ mile or more away from it.
 - I don't believe that having the weatherized pole, i.e. a big rusty pole, would improve the aesthetics. At the Public information and scoping meeting the Xcel reps mentioned that the grey poles were designed to blend into a blue sky. One look at the 115kV lines running along the east side of 494 make it quite clear that they do not.

- Based on the current pole location on the existing line, I will have to look at a big ugly metal pole every time I enter or leave the association if this project moves forward along the proposed route. This would not go unnoticed by potential home buyers.
- The environmental assessment should include an on-site visit of the Holly Creek Village Townhomes association, along with members from our residence board to see firsthand the impact that this project would have.
- My property value will drop.
 - I don't think anyone could make a good argument that this would not negatively affect home prices. No home values currently have the high voltage line already factored in. Although the low voltage lines have existed as long as our association has, these larger lines and poles would have a severe impact to home values not only for the homes directly on the line, but all the homes in the vicinity. When I went to inspect what other 115 kV lines actually looked like my jaw hit the floor, and I couldn't believe that Xcel would think it appropriate to put these huge structures in people's back yards.
 - The other locations that I found these structures were either along major freeways or run along railroad tracks with towering trees on both sides. They were not in direct proximity to homes.
 - Because 115kV lines are not nearly as common as low voltage lines, home buyers have plenty of options to avoid them. Low voltage lines are so much more common. If I were buying my home today, I would certainly choose to avoid such structure.
 - Given the fall in home prices over the past several years and the very long average time on the market, the effect on property values will be even more severe. Even if home prices begin to turn around, this project will be a huge drag to sales in our neighborhood. As home prices would drop further it would put more owners underwater on their mortgage, myself included. This would effectively prevent me from having the ability to sell my home, even at a great monetary loss. It is not simply a paper loss of value.
 - Running the lines underground or along the south side of highway 55 would be a much better alternative. The businesses would not be effected and the section closest to my house is already industrial development and the sight of larger power lines.
- Neighborhood wildlife may be driven away or wetlands could be damaged
 - We have wetlands intermingled with the homes, which is home to many species of wildlife including: ducks, quails, foxes, rabbits, geese, and others. We see and hear these animals regularly.
 - Construction could damage the existing wetlands.
 - The humming noise and feeling created by the EMF generated by the lines might drive away and keep away natural wildlife.
- Where is the long term strategic planning for growth to the west?
 - One of my greatest concerns is that this is just the beginning and in the future there will be another request for further power line growth. The future population expansion west of the current proposal makes future further upgrades seem very plausible. The route that this 115 kV line takes is likely to be upgraded in the future to either a higher voltage or to a double circuit.
 - The double circuited version of these types of lines are even more ugly, large, and noticeable than the single circuits.

- The Environmental Assessment should look critically to what will happen down the road from this current project.
- I am scared for the health of my two young daughters
 - The Environmental Assessment should consider not only the current state of literature on the effects of EMF, but also consider the pattern and timing of research that showed harmful effects in other areas, such as tobacco and asbestos.
 - In the public information meeting I specifically asked what level of magnetic field Xcel deemed unsuitable for human health and they did not provide an answer. They simply pointed to the fact that there is currently no legal limit to it. To me the unwillingness to even acknowledge that there is an unsafe upper limit is worrying. Asbestos was perfectly fine, until it wasn't. Everything has an exposure level that becomes dangerous to health. Water is toxic if you drink enough of it in one sitting. When MRI technicians operate that machine, they do it from another room. Magnetic fields are used for therapy. Clearly there is an effect of magnetic fields on the human body. At some level they are dangerous, and I think it is reasonable to expect that this fact be acknowledged.
 - Health studies have shown a link between EMF exposure and dangerous health outcomes. Questions about the statistical significance of some epidemiological health studies does not point to this being safe. It simply means that covariant factors are not fully understood and could not be adequately normalized in the correlations. It is not at all uncommon for it to take decades to expose these types of complex cause and effect mechanisms, and for industry advocates to obfuscate scientific findings behind the argument of uncertainty. This was true for tobacco, asbestos, ozone depleting gases, and carcinogenic chemicals. It is entirely reasonable that this will also be the case for magnetic fields.
 - Why does Xcel only talk about the magnetic field generated at 300 feet distance from the power line? They mentioned that the field was only 0.64 milligauss at 300 feet distance, which they point out is somewhat relative to that created by home wiring. So, what about at 30 feet as many people will be exposed to in their homes? How do we know that more than doubling the field exposure is not sufficient to be harmful? They talked about higher EMF from electric blankets and toasters, but my toaster only runs for about a minute a day not 24/7.
 - I don't care about a control and test group taken 20 years ago, I care about my family. If 5 or 10 or 20 years from now it becomes widely recognized that EMF increases the risk of cancer in children who grew up around high voltage lines, what will the PUC or Xcel Energy have to tell my daughters then? What will be the mitigation plan then?

Beyond the project specifics, I think the permitting process needs to be greatly improved, frankly, it stinks. It feels like it is being rushed ahead to the benefit of Xcel and GRE without adequate time from the community to provide feedback and be part of the process. By the time the project becomes this formal, it feels like a crisis that is being shoved at us, as we try frantically to figure out what has just happened. To Xcel this is just another project that they want to execute as quickly and cheaply as possible, but to us this is our homes, our families, and our lives. This process should involve more community engagement much earlier in the process before it feels like such a crisis stage.

Please advise and recommend that Xcel either bury the line or use a route along major roads, specifically the Hwy 55 to 494 North proposed alternate, Alternative E. I request that the state approve Alternative E as it would affect the least number of homes. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Nate Lukecart

16825 39th Ave. North

Plymouth, MN, 55446

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Deborah Price [dl.price@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 11:23 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale Project-Bridlewood & Churchill Farms Comments and Proposed Alternatives

Mr. Scott Ek
State Permit Manager
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7 th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
Re: PUC Docket No. E002/TL 11-52

Dear Mr. Ek,

The wall of our home is 40 feet from the existing Hollydale Transmission Line. Our family lives at 3465 Zircon Lane N, Plymouth, MN 55447 in the Churchill Farms neighborhood. We are very worried about the Excel/Great River Energy proposal.

We strongly support the alternative routes provided by the Bridlewood and Churchill Farms residents, which would keep the Hollydale Transmission line at least 400 feet from the nearby homes. We support the issues raised in the letter from the residents.

Proposed Route F1 – Start at Hollydale Substation · Using the existing “Proposed Route” from the Hollydale Substation go east back to Hwy 55.

- Follow Hwy 55 west to rail line to Medina border.
- Follow the Medina-Plymouth border south to Brockton Lane.
- Follow Brockton Lane South to Medina Road.
- Follow Medina Road west to Holy Name Drive.
- Follow Holy Name Drive (west side) south to connect to the “Proposed Route”.

Proposed Route F2 – Start at Hollydale Substation · Using the existing “Proposed Route” from the Hollydale Substation go east back to Hwy 55.

- Follow Hwy 55 west to rail line to Medina border.
- Follow the Medina-Plymouth border south to Brockton Lane.
- Follow Brockton Lane South to Medina Road intersection.
- At the corner of Brockton Lane and Medina Road turn west on Medina Road, for 500 feet; at that point, go directly south to connect to the “Proposed Route”.

Proposed Route F3 – Start at Hollydale Substation · Using the existing “Proposed Route” from the Hollydale Substation go east back to Hwy 55.

- Follow Hwy 55 west to rail line to Medina border.
- Follow the Medina-Plymouth border south to Brockton Lane.
- Follow Brockton Lane South to Medina Road intersection.
- Follow Medina Road west to Hunter Drive.
- Go south following the Dundee and others property lines and connect to the “Proposed Route”.

Proposed Route G – Start at Hollydale Substation · Using the existing “Proposed Route” from the Hollydale Substation go east back to Hwy 55.

- Follow Hwy 55 west (south side) to north boundary of Park Nicollet property.
- Follow the north property line west to Brockton Lane.
- o Propose new right of way through the Park Nicollet property line.
- Follow Brockton Lane South to Medina Road.
- At the corner of Brockton Lane and Medina Road turn west on Medina Road, for 500 feet; at that point, go directly south to connect to the “Proposed Route”.

There are a number of negative impacts that will result from the installation of the high voltage power lines next to our home:

1. The property values of our \$500,000 home will dramatically decrease. Not only ours, but there will be a domino effect to other homes in the neighborhood.
2. There are serious health & safety concerns tied to high voltage power lines; one of the key ones is the impact of the electromagnetic radiation. There will be a danger of fire hazards with using charcoal grills or filling lawn mowers or snow blowers with gasoline.
3. There is no doubt that these poles will be noisier and less aesthetically pleasing. You will see them on the paths that you walk on and in the Greenwood playground.
4. The proposed lines will be attached to metal poles, rather than the wood poles that are now used. Unlike the wood poles that are easily camouflaged by the existing foliage (especially in the neighboring wetland), the metal poles will be easily visible. Moreover, the metal poles are expected to be at least ten-feet taller than the existing wood ones, making them more visible and unsightly to the neighboring homeowners, even those not directly bordering the transmission line.
5. Currently, many residents along the proposed route border a wetland that provides an aesthetically pleasing environment and a home to egrets, herons, and other migratory birds. We are concerned that the installation of the proposed power will harm their environment.
6. In addition to the large number of homes in close proximity to the high-voltage power lines, we ask that notice be taken that the proposed route travels over, and directly next to, walking/bicycle paths that the entire neighborhood – including pregnant women and children – use for pleasure and for walking to school. Behind our home are a sledding hill, basketball courts and tennis courts used by the neighborhood children that will now be in danger of the harm from high voltage power lines.
7. We do not support metal poles or having the poles placed closer to our home.

Please consider our issues. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deborah and Philip Price
3465 Zircon Lane North, Plymouth, MN 55447
dl.price@comcast.net

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Denise Paskach [dpaskach@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 11:20 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale project

I am writing to you concerning this route.

I have lived in Plymouth for over 20 years, moved here from Maple Grove. Not having big power lines in the neighborhood was a factor in where we chose to purchase a home.

I have talked to realtors and they all have said that this would in fact hurt the value of homes. Potential buyers will not even look at a house to buy if they are close to this proposed route.

As you are aware many residents are against this coming through our neighborhood. I urged you to listen and make the right decision to make the route along 494 and Hwy 55 to be used as the route as far away from homes as possible.

Sincerely,
Denise and Steve Paskach
15000 45th ave north
Plymouth,Mn.

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 10:58 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Doran Mon Nov 7 22:57:58 2011 E002/TL-11-152

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: Bob Doran

County: Hennepin County

City: Plymouth

Email: bobdoran@comcast.net

Phone:

Impact: I was just informed about this new transmission line and I would not like that view out my back window. I am concerned about our property value decreasing. Please use an alternative route that keeps the lines along major freeways and highways as much as possible. (Hwy 55& 494)

Mitigation:

Submission date: Mon Nov 7 22:57:58 2011

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
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 10:27 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Cieminski Mon Nov 7 22:27:26 2011 E002/TL-11-152

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: Cort Cieminski

County: Hennepin County

City: Plymouth

Email: cjieminski@stkate.edu

Phone: (763) 432-2434

Impact:

November 6, 2011

Mr. Scott Ek

State Permit Manager

Energy Planning Permitting

Re: Hollydale 115 Kv Project -- PUC Docket No. E002/TL-11-152

Mr. Ek,

Greetings to you and thank you for allowing so many Plymouth residents to voice their numerous concerns about the proposed Xcel Energy/Great River Energy Hollydale 115 Kv Project at the October 26, 2011 community meeting held at the Kelly Inn in Plymouth. My name is Cort Cieminski and my wife Karen and our three children live at 16515 39th Place North in Plymouth, MN. We would be adversely affected by the proposed route of the high voltage power line, as it would run less than 50 feet from our home.

It is my with my strongest voice that I recommend that the Public Utilities Commission reject the proposed and alternate routes of this high voltage power line that is to be constructed as part of the Hollydale Project. Instead of routing this line through several residential areas of Plymouth, including my neighborhood, I strongly suggest that this new power line be routed along the corridors of Minnesota State Highway 55 and Interstate 494 in Plymouth.

In my view, the current proposed route of the Hollydale Project and the alternate routes would both come with a steep negative impact upon residential areas of Plymouth and choosing one route over another simply pits one Plymouth neighborhood against another, with no residential neighborhood wanting to have this new high voltage power line running through it. It was quite apparent at the October community meeting that this was the overwhelming sentiment of those in attendance of that meeting. In their application for the Hollydale Project, Xcel Energy and Great River Energy claim that one of their objectives of this proposed project is to minimize the impacts of this high voltage power line on Plymouth residents. It is disingenuous, as best, for Xcel Energy to claim that they desire to minimize the impact upon the residents of Plymouth, while at the same time, putting forth a proposed route for the power line that exposes at least 360 homes in Plymouth within 200 feet or less along the proposed route to the potential safety concerns of electromagnetic fields, significant loss of home values, power line noise, risk to wetland areas, and general unsightliness that would accompany such a high voltage power line.

This proposed route of the Hollydale Project is quite simply the easiest and cheapest route for Xcel Energy/Great River Energy. It does not, however, take into account all of the detrimental effects of running a high voltage power line through a heavy residential area. To construct a project such as this would be counter to the vast majority of high voltage lines in the state of Minnesota that are routed instead through existing non-residential corridors. Such a corridor already exists in Plymouth and it is the Highway 55 and I-494 corridor. It was extremely disappointing at the October community meeting to hear that Xcel Energy did not have any details to provide about the feasibility of such a route in this corridor. Not including this Highway 55 & I-494 corridor as an alternate route of the Hollydale Project demonstrates to me that Xcel Energy is not interested in the welfare of the residents of Plymouth over its corporate profit margin and fiscal bottom line.

I thank you in advance for including this letter in your comments on the proposed Hollydale 115 Kv Project. I strongly urge the Public Utilities Commission to reject the proposed route and to instead route this project in the Highway 55 and I-494 corridor.

Sincerely,

Cort and Karen Cieminski

Cort & Karen Cieminski

16515 39th Place North

Plymouth, MN 55454

Mitigation: This proposed route of the Hollydale Project is quite simply the easiest and cheapest route for Xcel Energy/Great River Energy. It does not, however, take into account all of the detrimental effects of running a high voltage power line through a heavy residential area. To construct a project such as this would be counter to the vast majority of high voltage lines in the state of Minnesota that are routed instead through existing non-residential corridors. Such a corridor already exists in Plymouth and it is the Highway 55 and I-494 corridor. It was extremely disappointing at the October community meeting to hear that Xcel Energy did not have any details to provide about the feasibility of such a route in this corridor. Not including this Highway 55 & I-494 corridor as an alternate route of the Hollydale Project demonstrates to me that Xcel Energy is not interested in the welfare of the residents of Plymouth over its corporate profit margin and fiscal bottom line.

Submission date: Mon Nov 7 22:27:26 2011

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
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Barbara Morris [barann11@q.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 10:24 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Docket No. E002/TL-11-152

November 7, 2011

I am a concerned Plymouth homeowner whose home is across the street from the Proposed Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line route.

The proposed route has lines going through densely populated areas. In my neighborhood the lines are over a walking path, which many people use to go to the community park. Several homeowners have mature landscaping which will be impacted by the right of way. The size of the poles to be used are the ones you see along highways and not in residential neighborhoods.

Health issues of living close to a 115kV power line are also a concern.

No doubt the proposed power line route will severely lower our home values.

Sometimes using an existing route doesn't always mean it is the best route. I am asking for the Highways 494 and 55 be used as the route, as far away from homes as possible.

Barbara Morris
4625 Orchid Lane
Plymouth MN 55446

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Cort Cieminski [ccieminski@stkate.edu]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 10:14 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: comment letter opposing the proposed Hollydale 115 Kv Project
Attachments: Hollydale 115Kv Project letter of opposition.docx

Mr Ek,

Greetings to you. My name is Cort Cieminski and I am a Plymouth, MN resident concerned about the proposed Hollydale 115 Kv Project. Please see my attached comment letter and thanks, in advance, for including this letter as part of the comments opposing this project. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or points of clarification.

Sincerely,
Cort Cieminski
16515 39th Place North
Plymouth, MN 55446

--

Cort J. Cieminski, PT, PhD, ATR
Associate Professor & Anatomy Lab Director
Doctor of Physical Therapy Program
St. Catherine University
601 25th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55454
(651) 690-7884 (Office)
(800) 945-4599
(651) 690-7876 (Fax)
www.stkate.edu/dpt

November 6, 2011

Mr. Scott Ek
State Permit Manager
Energy Planning Permitting
Re: Hollydale 115 Kv Project – PUC Docket No. E002/TL-11-152

Mr. Ek,

Greetings to you and thank you for allowing so many Plymouth residents to voice their numerous concerns about the proposed Xcel Energy/Great River Energy Hollydale 115 Kv Project at the October 26, 2011 community meeting held at the Kelly Inn in Plymouth. My name is Cort Cieminski and my wife Karen and our three children live at 16515 39th Place North in Plymouth, MN. We would be adversely affected by the proposed route of the high voltage power line, as it would run less than 50 feet from our home.

It is my with my strongest voice that I recommend that the Public Utilities Commission reject the proposed and alternate routes of this high voltage power line that is to be constructed as part of the Hollydale Project. Instead of routing this line through several residential areas of Plymouth, including my neighborhood, I strongly suggest that this new power line be routed along the corridors of Minnesota State Highway 55 and Interstate 494 in Plymouth.

In my view, the current proposed route of the Hollydale Project and the alternate routes would both come with a steep negative impact upon residential areas of Plymouth and choosing one route over another simply pits one Plymouth neighborhood against another, with no residential neighborhood wanting to have this new high voltage power line running through it. It was quite apparent at the October community meeting that this was the overwhelming sentiment of those in attendance of that meeting. In their application for the Hollydale Project, Xcel Energy and Great River Energy claim that one of their objectives of this proposed project is to minimize the impacts of this high voltage power line on Plymouth residents. It is disingenuous, as best, for Xcel Energy to claim that they desire to minimize the impact upon the residents of Plymouth, while at the same time, putting forth a proposed route for the power line that exposes at least 360 homes in Plymouth within 200 feet or less along the proposed route to the potential safety concerns of electromagnetic fields, significant loss of home values, power line noise, risk to wetland areas, and general unsightliness that would accompany such a high voltage power line.

This proposed route of the Hollydale Project is quite simply the easiest and cheapest route for Xcel Energy/Great River Energy. It does not, however, take into account all of the detrimental effects of running a high voltage power line through a heavy residential area. To construct a project such as this would be counter to the vast majority of high voltage lines in the state of Minnesota that are routed instead through existing non-residential corridors. Such a corridor

already exists in Plymouth and it is the Highway 55 and I-494 corridor. It was extremely disappointing at the October community meeting to hear that Xcel Energy did not have any details to provide about the feasibility of such a route in this corridor. Not including this Highway 55 & I-494 corridor as an alternate route of the Hollydale Project demonstrates to me that Xcel Energy is not interested in the welfare of the residents of Plymouth over its corporate profit margin and fiscal bottom line.

I thank you in advance for including this letter in your comments on the proposed Hollydale 115 Kv Project. I strongly urge the Public Utilities Commission to reject the proposed route and to instead route this project in the Highway 55 and I-494 corridor.

Sincerely,

Cort and Karen Cieminski

Cort & Karen Cieminski
16515 39th Place North
Plymouth, MN 55454

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: rlnewton3@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 10:01 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Docket No. E002

Dear Scott,

This email is to inform you of my opposition to the Hollydale 115Kv Transmission Line Project. I believe the proposed power line will have a significant, negative impact on our Quail Ridge neighborhood property values. As a current homeowner in this development, I recommend that the preferred route for this line be along Interstate 494 and Highway 55.

Protecting our home investments is of critical importance me and to all of us in the Quail Ridge Development. Please hear my plea to route this Hollydale Transmission Line Project to a path along 494 and 55 .

Thank you
Randi Newton

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Eric Martyak [emartyak@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 10:02 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Public Comment for Hollydale Transmission Line, Docket # TL-11-152

Subject: Public Comment for Hollydale Transmission Line, Docket # TL-11-152

Dear Mr. Ek:

I am writing today to provide public comment on the Hollydale Transmission Line, Docket # TL-11-152.

I live in Conor Meadows, on the proposed Alternate Route B that runs along the railroad tracks. I understand this upgrade needs to happen, but I would like to see it happen in such a way that it will benefit all of Plymouth. To that end, the line should be relocated so that between the Hollydale Substation and the new Plymouth Substation the line runs through Plymouth's commercial areas along highways 55 and 494 instead of through wetlands and residential areas as it does now.

When this line was first built 40 years ago, Plymouth was mostly rural so the most direct route was used. However today we have a clear commercial corridor in Plymouth along highways 55 and 494 where 90 foot steel towers are more appropriate.

This also isn't only about people and property values - moving this line would dramatically decrease the amount of wetlands impacted as the line presently crosses over a mile of wetlands. We have an abundance of wildlife that use these wetlands and it is not often that we have an opportunity to reduce further impacts like we have now.

If the 55/494 route proves to be unfeasible, I believe the line should **not** be shifted to the railroad tracks. Most of the homes on the existing line were built long after the transmission line was installed in 1971, so the impacts on property values and aesthetics were already present when they purchased their home. Our homes near the railroad tracks already suffer from the burden of their proximity to the railroad tracks, we should not add to it a new burden which was never envisioned when these homes were built five, ten, or even fifteen years ago.

I understand this is a tough decision, and there is never a solution that makes everyone happy, but the vast majority of Plymouth - those on the line and those far removed from the line - want to see the Hollydale Transmission Line relocated to highways 55 and 494. I hope you will give the highway 55/494 route the significant attention it deserves and that you will recommend this route in order to improve the quality of life for Plymouth residents and its wildlife.

Thank you for your time

Sincerely,

Eric Martyak
4925 Olive Lane N
Plymouth, MN 55446

Eric Martyak | emartyak@yahoo.com | 763.267.3441

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Shiva Buggeinani [shivaramak@gmail.com@change.org] on behalf of Shiva Buggeinani [shivaramak@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 9:23 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Focus on quality of life not profits in evaluating power line project.

Dear Mr. Sedarski & Mr. Ek

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Xcel Energy & Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

As residents of Timber Creek Crossing, located at the intersection of Schmidt Lake Road & Garland Lane N in Plymouth, we are extremely concerned with the options still being considered for the power line transmission project.

We ask that Xcel Energy shift their overall strategy for this project from profit generation to maintaining and promoting the quality of life for the residents of not only Timber Creek Crossing, but also all potential residents impacted by the proposed and alternate routes. We are all well aware that there is a viable option (the 494/55 corridor) that will have minimal impact on the quality of life, health and home values of all residents impacted by these proposals. This should be the primary focus of this project!

Some key points for your consideration:

1. The existing transmission line was built in 1971, long before most of those homes on the line were built. The commission should not transfer the line from those homes that were purchased where there was already a power line to homes where there have been no prior plans for a transmission line. We as Timber Creek Crossing residents already shoulder the burden of living along railroad tracks and next to a gun club, please don't add to it by now giving us a transmission line also as proposed in Alternate Route Segment B.
2. If the goal is to reduce residential impacts, Alternate Route Segment B provides one of the least benefits of all the alternative proposals – a less than 50% reduction in residential impacts and brings the line to over 100 homes that don't already have it.
3. For the greatest reduction, the commission should consider relocating the transmission line to commercial areas, running it from the Hollydale Substation, down Highway 55 and then up 494 to the new preferred Pomerleau Lake Substation. This realignment would reduce residential impacts by over 95%.

Please make a smart decision and put the community first! There are residents of all ages, family situations and demographics who are strongly opposed to the proposed route and alternate routes. It was evident in the October 26 public hearing. Don't have our concerns and appeals fall on deaf ears. It is a matter of the quality of life that Plymouth prides itself upon.

Sincerely,

Residents of the Timber Creek Crossing community
Plymouth, MN
November 2011

I purchased a home in Timber Creek Crossing. we have 2 kids and lot of kids living around here are playing outside most of the time, we are already negatively impacted by the rail road, and we are not ready for another impact with the high voltage transmission, please don't put power line through our community.

Shiva Buggeinani
Plymouth, Minnesota

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/no-power-lines-for-timber-creek. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition.



Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Jeff Boehler [jeffboehler@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 9:20 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale Project - Bridlewood and Churchill Farms Comments and Proposed Alternatives
Attachments: Comments on scope of EA_20111109.docx

Dear Mr. Ek,

As a resident of Plymouth and Bridlewood Farms I am very concerned about the proposed power line running through our neighborhood. My wife and I built the home we live in on Alvarado Lane and have been here for almost two decades. We've enjoyed living in this community and are worried that a power line right next to our house would not only present possible health risks but also lower the value of the home that we've worked so hard on over the years.

The attached document expresses our concerns, as well as our request for consideration of alternative routes that would not affect nearly as many residents. Please consider other routes for the reasons included in this letter.

Sincerely,

Jeff Boehler
3630 Alvarado Lane North
763-478-2973

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Deborah Burica [dburica@HOTMAIL.COM]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 9:15 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale Transmission Line between Bridlewood and Churchill

Dear Mr. Ek,

I am a home owner in the Churchill Farms neighborhood in Plymouth. As a resident here for the past eleven years, I cannot begin to tell you what a wonderful neighborhood this is and a fabulous place to raise our children. I was quite concerned to hear about the proposed transmission line running through our neighborhood. Although I am sure it must be a difficult decision to make, I hope you will consider the alternate routes when making your decision. I hope the final decision will be in the best interest of the neighbors living under the wires and our neighborhood as a whole.

Many thanks,
Deborah Burica

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: gthompso@mindspring.com
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 9:08 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale Transmission Line Project - Comments

Mr. Ek,

It has come to our attention that Xcel Energy is proposing to install high voltage electrical lines from the Hollydale substation along a route that runs through the adjoining neighborhoods of Bridlewood and Churchill Farms in western Plymouth. As a homeowner in the Churchill Farms neighborhood, we are writing to you to express our opposition over Xcel Energy's current route proposal through these two subdivisions.

Our objections are three-fold: 1) the potential risk to our health and safety and that of other residents due to chronic electromagnetic radiation exposure emitted by high voltage lines, 2) the negative aesthetic and environmental impact of the presence of these utility lines through the two neighborhoods, and 3) the risk of devaluation of property values due to the close proximity of these lines to residential housing in each neighborhood.

We respectfully ask for your consideration of the alternate routes being proposed by members of the Bridlewood and Churchill Farms neighborhoods that would address our concerns.

Thank you in advance for your support of the public safety and continued enjoyment of our neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

Glen and Kathy Thompson
3370 Xanthus Lane N
Plymouth, MN 55447

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 9:04 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Thorvilson Mon Nov 7 21:04:25 2011 E002/TL-11-152

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: Ryan Thorvilson

County: Hennepin County

City: Plymouth

Email: thorvilson@mac.com

Phone: 763-442-1499

Impact: Impact on home values should be considered further. Best option would be to build the new lines along highway 55 and 494 (would positively impact many home values). Second best option is to upgrade the lines where they are (these homes are already negatively impacted by power lines - upgrading the lines would have an incremental impact, but not as big as putting new lines by homes that have no lines by them today). Worst option is to moves the lines by different homes (huge negative impact to people who specifically chose to purchase homes without power lines by them).

Mitigation: Highway 55 and 494 is the best option for the city, environment, and homeowners. This option needs to be further explored before any decision is made.

Submission date: Mon Nov 7 21:04:25 2011

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
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Churchill Farms Association [board@churchillfarms.org]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 8:54 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale Transmission Line between Bridlewood and Churchill

Dear Mr. Ek,

We are writing on behalf of our Churchill Farms neighborhood. We, the members of the board, as part of our duties of running the neighborhood association, have the responsibility of looking out for what is in the best interest of the community in which we serve. As a result, we strongly oppose the proposed transmission line running through our neighborhood. We know this would greatly impact those neighbors whose houses are near the lines and our neighborhood as a whole. We are concerned for our property values, the aesthetics of our neighborhood, and the health of our neighbors. We hope you will look at the proposed redirected routes and find an alternate solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
The Churchill Farms Board

Bob Lawrence (bob.lawrence3@gmail.com)
Deborah Burica (dburica@hotmail.com)
Laurence Levin (laurencelevin74@gmail.com)
Greg Iverson (gregiver@hotmail.com)
Rob Clark (robclark18@gmail.com)
Ann Olson (maggieandmoose@aol.com)

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: jodybon@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 8:15 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale project

Scott,

The thought of putting high voltage power lines right through several residential neighborhoods is very concerning. This seems wrong in so many ways:

Health implications, destroying established private properties, devastating home values etc.....

Please use the 494/55 route where these power lines would be much farther away from private homes and residents.

With great concern,

Jody Bonsen

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 7:57 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Keller Mon Nov 7 19:56:36 2011 E002/TL-11-152

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: Tom and Renee Keller

County: Hennepin County

City: Plymouth

Email: tk@miusacorp.com

Phone: 612-308-2284

Impact: I live very close to CR 9 just East of the Wetlands, on Minnesota Lane N. The impact of this Line Project will be enormous to our neighborhood. We live in Parkview Ridge and moved here in 1992. We love this area and all of the immediate opportunities it brings to us (access to 494, shopping in Plymouth, the library, movie theater, Lifetime Fitness, etc... If this Line is installed along CR 9 we see some very specific issues: health implications to local homes, devaluation of homes, huge impact to the wetlands on CR 9 between Vicksburg and Minnesota Lane, not to mention the impact that installation and maintenance will bring to the project.

We recommend the Line Project be installed along the CR 55 route. This process will have least amount of impact on personal homes/health/environment issues.

Thanks

Tom / Renee Keller

Mitigation:

Submission date: Mon Nov 7 19:56:36 2011

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 7:12 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Ryder Mon Nov 7 19:11:49 2011 E002/TL-11-152

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: Karna Ryder

County: Hennepin County

City: Plymouth

Email:

Phone:

Impact: I do not want the Transmission Line project to run through the residential neighborhood for the following reasons:

Health Implications

Property Values

Aesthetic Values

Wetland Impacts

Mitigation: I want Xcel to focus on using 494 and 55 as a route for power lines.

Submission date: Mon Nov 7 19:11:49 2011

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
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 7:00 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Lund Mon Nov 7 19:00:03 2011 E002/TL-11-152

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: Dennis Lund

County: Hennepin County

City: Plymouth

Email:

Phone:

Impact: I do not see what there is to gain by running a high voltage power through a residential area. It will not add value to our homes but will decrease them in value. With this economy the already decreasing value of homes does NOT need to be accelerated with this project. Using the 494 and highway 55 corridors would make more sense as there are already these types of power lines already there. Please reconsider the placement of this line and protect not only our home values but the health of your citizens.

Thank you.

Mitigation:

Submission date: Mon Nov 7 19:00:03 2011

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
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Jeff In MN [jeffinminn@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 6:55 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Cc: onkens@gmail.com
Subject: Bridlewood Farms - Proposed 115kv Power Line Upgrade

Dear Mr. Ek,

The purpose of this email is three fold:

- 1) Officially object to the proposed routing of the 115KV power line through Bridlewood Farms.
- 2) Voice my displeasure with the lack of thoroughness of the notification period.
- 3) Urge you to review in detail the letter from the concerned residents from Bridlewood Farms and Churchill Farms dated November 5th, 2011.

The bulk of my displeasure surrounds my understanding that there were many other proposed options that affect a far smaller amount of the community (see the details in the November 5 letter.) and these options were rejected based on the input one or two property owners. This is especially compounded by the fact that the Bridlewood and Churchill neighborhoods were completely left out of any early discussions.

At this point, I would like to strongly urge that the options set forth in the Bridlewood/Churchill Farms letter be reviewed in detail such that the modification to the 115KV line can be done with the least impact to the residents of the community.

Respectfully,

Jeff Ehm
3685 Urbandale Lane
Plymouth, MN
763-478-6032

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: DENNIS WINSLOW [denniswinslow@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 6:51 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale 115kV Transmission Project

Dear Mr. Ek,

My name is Dennis Winslow. My family and I live at 3660 Urbandale Ln. N. in Plymouth. The Hollydale power line project in question runs along the back of our property line, between our yard and the Greenwood Elementary school playfields. I am writing to reiterate the points made in the letter recently sent to you from a group of concerned citizens in the Bridlewood Farms and Churchill Farms neighborhoods. I share the many concerns outlined in this letter, including the potential negative impact to property values, aesthetics, and most importantly, the possible health and safety concerns.

We have already experienced restrictions on the use of our property due to the existing easement granted to the power company. Several years ago, we were told that we could not build a three season porch due to the power line right of way in force. We had to request a variance from the power company, just to build a deck. With the housing market in it's current state, we cannot afford any additional impediments that could potentially drive down the value of our properties and make them less desirable to potential buyers.

I specifically want to bring your attention to the possible health concerns associated with chronic exposure to high voltage electricity. While the evidence of such health risks is mixed, it does cause us a great deal of concern. On a personal note, my wife was diagnosed with breast cancer last fall at the age of 46. She is the fourth woman on our cul-de-sac to be diagnosed with breast cancer in the past few years. All of these women were in their 40's and have been long term residents of Bridlewood. All live within close proximity to the current power lines. While we have no direct evidence to suggest that the long term exposure to high voltage power lines was the cause of the breast cancers, I am sure you can appreciate the fact that we do not want to be subject to increased levels of exposure, particularly when there are a number of alternative routes available for the power line. Each of these alternative would reduce the number of household exposed to high voltage power when compared to the current proposal.

I respectfully request that you consider the alternative proposals outlined for you, so as to minimize the multi-faceted impact of this project on those of us lining in Bridlewood and Churchill Farms.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this issue in more detail.

Respectfully,

Dennis Winslow
3660 Urbandale Ln. N.
Plymouth, MN 55446
763-478-2308

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Xin Yan [SYAN=TILESHOP.COM@change.org] on behalf of XIN YAN [SYAN@TILESHOP.COM]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 6:34 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Focus on quality of life not profits in evaluating power line project.

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Xcel Energy & Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

As residents of Timber Creek Crossing, located at the intersection of Schmidt Lake Road & Garland Lane N in Plymouth, we are extremely concerned with the options still being considered for the power line transmission project.

We ask that Xcel Energy shift their overall strategy for this project from profit generation to maintaining and promoting the quality of life for the residents of not only Timber Creek Crossing, but also all potential residents impacted by the proposed and alternate routes. We are all well aware that there is a viable option (the 494/55 corridor) that will have minimal impact on the quality of life, health and home values of all residents impacted by these proposals. This should be the primary focus of this project!

Some key points for your consideration:

1. The existing transmission line was built in 1971, long before most of those homes on the line were built. The commission should not transfer the line from those homes that were purchased where there was already a power line to homes where there have been no prior plans for a transmission line. We as Timber Creek Crossing residents already shoulder the burden of living along railroad tracks and next to a gun club, please don't add to it by now giving us a transmission line also as proposed in Alternate Route Segment B.
2. If the goal is to reduce residential impacts, Alternate Route Segment B provides one of the least benefits of all the alternative proposals – a less than 50% reduction in residential impacts and brings the line to over 100 homes that don't already have it.
3. For the greatest reduction, the commission should consider relocating the transmission line to commercial areas, running it from the Hollydale Substation, down Highway 55 and then up 494 to the new preferred Pomerleau Lake Substation. This realignment would reduce residential impacts by over 95%.

Please make a smart decision and put the community first! There are residents of all ages, family situations and demographics who are strongly opposed to the proposed route and alternate routes. It was evident in the October 26 public hearing. Don't have our concerns and appeals fall on deaf ears. It is a matter of the quality of life that Plymouth prides itself upon.

Sincerely,

Residents of the Timber Creek Crossing community
Plymouth, MN
November 2011

XIN YAN
MEDINA, Minnesota

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/no-power-lines-for-timber-creek. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition.



Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: kai He [khe@tileshop.com@change.org] on behalf of kai He [khe@tileshop.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 6:20 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Focus on quality of life not profits in evaluating power line project.

Dear Mr. Sedarski & Mr. Ek

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Xcel Energy & Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

As residents of Timber Creek Crossing, located at the intersection of Schmidt Lake Road & Garland Lane N in Plymouth, we are extremely concerned with the options still being considered for the power line transmission project.

We ask that Xcel Energy shift their overall strategy for this project from profit generation to maintaining and promoting the quality of life for the residents of not only Timber Creek Crossing, but also all potential residents impacted by the proposed and alternate routes. We are all well aware that there is a viable option (the 494/55 corridor) that will have minimal impact on the quality of life, health and home values of all residents impacted by these proposals. This should be the primary focus of this project!

Some key points for your consideration:

1. The existing transmission line was built in 1971, long before most of those homes on the line were built. The commission should not transfer the line from those homes that were purchased where there was already a power line to homes where there have been no prior plans for a transmission line. We as Timber Creek Crossing residents already shoulder the burden of living along railroad tracks and next to a gun club, please don't add to it by now giving us a transmission line also as proposed in Alternate Route Segment B.
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Please make a smart decision and put the community first! There are residents of all ages, family situations and demographics who are strongly opposed to the proposed route and alternate routes. It was evident in the October 26 public hearing. Don't have our concerns and appeals fall on deaf ears. It is a matter of the quality of life that Plymouth prides itself upon.

Sincerely,

Residents of the Timber Creek Crossing community
Plymouth, MN
November 2011

kai He
Maple grove, Minnesota

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/no-power-lines-for-timber-creek. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition. 

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 6:17 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Fiene Mon Nov 7 18:17:00 2011 E002/TL-11-152

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: John Fiene

County: Hennepin County

City: Plymouth

Email: johnfiene@msn.com

Phone: 763-559-3137

Impact: When we moved here from Illinois in 1989, we were thrilled to actually drive by farms on our way to our new home. Population being what it is, those days have long since passed, but we still enjoy the openness and serenity our location provides.

I feel strongly that the proposed intrusion of high tension electrical towers will not only negatively affect our property values, but infringe upon the value of life which we have come to cherish.

It is my understanding that an alternate route is under consideration which will not have these effects on others, and we strongly urge you to adopt it.

Mitigation:

Submission date: Mon Nov 7 18:17:00 2011

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
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: The Napiers [the-napiers@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 5:37 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Docket number: E002/TL-11-152 - Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project

Dear Mr. Ek,

Regarding the proposed 115kV Transmission Line Project, I am going to send several emails to your attention each dealing with a particular position or concern.

In the public meeting held at the Kelly Inn on October 26, it was suggested that Xcel Energy pursue the option of running the transmission line along Route 55 to the intersection of Routes 55 and 494, then north to the proposed Pomerleau Lake Substation. I am very much in favor of this option as opposed to the alternatives proposed by Xcel Energy.

Given that Xcel proposed as options using both Route 55 and Route 494, it seems that eliminating the portion of the proposed line that is north of Route 55 (mainly going through heavily populated areas) is a good option. In addition, there is currently what appears to be a 115kV line on the eastern side of Route 494 for a considerable portion of the distance from Route 55 to Bass Lake Road (spanning the entire distance that the proposed line would parallel Route 494). The usage of current right of ways is a primary factor in determining future right of way changes.

Thanks,
Alan Napier
16520 39th Avenue North
Plymouth, MN 55446
Email: the-napiers@comcast.net
Phone: 763.557.9398

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Airong Zhou [apple.zar@gmail.com@change.org] on behalf of Airong Zhou [apple.zar@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 5:37 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Focus on quality of life not profits in evaluating power line project.

Dear Mr. Sedarski & Mr. Ek

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Xcel Energy & Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

As residents of Timber Creek Crossing, located at the intersection of Schmidt Lake Road & Garland Lane N in Plymouth, we are extremely concerned with the options still being considered for the power line transmission project.

We ask that Xcel Energy shift their overall strategy for this project from profit generation to maintaining and promoting the quality of life for the residents of not only Timber Creek Crossing, but also all potential residents impacted by the proposed and alternate routes. We are all well aware that there is a viable option (the 494/55 corridor) that will have minimal impact on the quality of life, health and home values of all residents impacted by these proposals. This should be the primary focus of this project!

Some key points for your consideration:

1. The existing transmission line was built in 1971, long before most of those homes on the line were built. The commission should not transfer the line from those homes that were purchased where there was already a power line to homes where there have been no prior plans for a transmission line. We as Timber Creek Crossing residents already shoulder the burden of living along railroad tracks and next to a gun club, please don't add to it by now giving us a transmission line also as proposed in Alternate Route Segment B.
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Please make a smart decision and put the community first! There are residents of all ages, family situations and demographics who are strongly opposed to the proposed route and alternate routes. It was evident in the October 26 public hearing. Don't have our concerns and appeals fall on deaf ears. It is a matter of the quality of life that Plymouth prides itself upon.

Sincerely,

Residents of the Timber Creek Crossing community
Plymouth, MN
November 2011

We got a lot of young kids living around here, please, don't put the power line here!

Airong Zhou
Plymouth, Minnesota

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/no-power-lines-for-timber-creek. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition. 

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: anna gimmestad [anna.gimmestad@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 5:28 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)

Please move the power lines to 494 and 55 from the original holly dale project thanks (:

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Xiaoyan Liu [liuxiaoyan74@yahoo.com@change.org] on behalf of Xiaoyan Liu [liuxiaoyan74@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 5:24 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Focus on quality of life not profits in evaluating power line project.

Dear Mr. Sedarski & Mr. Ek

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Xcel Energy & Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

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We ask that Xcel Energy shift their overall strategy for this project from profit generation to maintaining and promoting the quality of life for the residents of not only Timber Creek Crossing, but also all potential residents impacted by the proposed and alternate routes. We are all well aware that there is a viable option (the 494/55 corridor) that will have minimal impact on the quality of life, health and home values of all residents impacted by these proposals. This should be the primary focus of this project!

Some key points for your consideration:

1. The existing transmission line was built in 1971, long before most of those homes on the line were built. The commission should not transfer the line from those homes that were purchased where there was already a power line to homes where there have been no prior plans for a transmission line. We as Timber Creek Crossing residents already shoulder the burden of living along railroad tracks and next to a gun club, please don't add to it by now giving us a transmission line also as proposed in Alternate Route Segment B.
2. If the goal is to reduce residential impacts, Alternate Route Segment B provides one of the least benefits of all the alternative proposals – a less than 50% reduction in residential impacts and brings the line to over 100 homes that don't already have it.
3. For the greatest reduction, the commission should consider relocating the transmission line to commercial areas, running it from the Hollydale Substation, down Highway 55 and then up 494 to the new preferred Pomerleau Lake Substation. This realignment would reduce residential impacts by over 95%.

Please make a smart decision and put the community first! There are residents of all ages, family situations and demographics who are strongly opposed to the proposed route and alternate routes. It was evident in the October 26 public hearing. Don't have our concerns and appeals fall on deaf ears. It is a matter of the quality of life that Plymouth prides itself upon.

Sincerely,

Residents of the Timber Creek Crossing community
Plymouth, MN
November 2011

Xiaoyan Liu
Plymouth, Minnesota

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/no-power-lines-for-timber-creek. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition. 

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 4:43 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Ryder Mon Nov 7 16:42:38 2011 E002/TL-11-152

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: Derek Ryder

County:

City: Plymouth

Email:

Phone:

Impact: I am concerned about running power lines through residential neighborhood.

It can affect:

Health

Property Values

Wetlands

Right of Way

Mitigation: These lines should be routed along 494 and 55 instead of through residential neighborhoods.

Submission date: Mon Nov 7 16:42:38 2011

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Jeffrey Thompson [Jthompson@meagher.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 4:02 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: RE: Comments_on_scope_of_EA_201111091

Dear Mr. Ek,

I'm sorry, but to supplement my earlier correspondence, this is my personal view. I am not a representative of either association or homeowner group. And I think I may have sent you the attachment prematurely in that the resident group's have not delivered them officially to you, as yet. I do fully endorse the group's comments as a resident and affected person.

Thanks,

Jeff Thompson

From: Jeffrey Thompson
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 10:55 AM
To: 'scott.ek@state.mn.us'
Cc: 'kslavik@plymouthmn.gov'; 'bstein@plymouthmn.gov'; 'jjohnson@plymouthmn.gov'; 'tbildsoe@plymouthmn.gov'; 'gblack@plymouthmn.gov'; 'jwosje@plymouthmn.gov'; 'jwillis@plymouthmn.gov'
Subject: Comments_on_scope_of_EA_201111091

Dear Mr. Eck and the Mayor and City Council of Plymouth,

I write concerning the high voltage transmission lines that are proposed to run alongside the homes in the Bridlewood / Churchhill Farm neighborhoods.

I attach the Bridlewood / Churchhill Farm homeowners' association comments on the proposed high voltage powerline. I fully agree with those comments and am extremely troubled by the proposed location of the new transmission lines.

We live at 3600 Alvarado Lane North, Plymouth, MN 55446. While our property is not listed on the attachment as being within 100 feet of the line, I am fairly sure that our house is about 75 - 90 feet from the existing small wooden pole that is proposed to be replaced by the massive higher voltage pole. We are immediately on the other side of a narrow strip of trees from the existing pole and line, where it traverses the berm between the two neighborhoods. According to the FHA guidelines discussed in the attachment, that means that our property will be placed in a "hazardous" area if the currently proposed higher voltage line and pole go in. Yet, we were never advised of these risks, let alone invited to be a member of the task force.

I had no idea that because of the new, much higher voltage lines that are proposed, we would be unable to use our barbeque or fill our lawnmower due to the fire / explosion risk. The health risk is also very troubling. We are advised that the noise of the new lines will make it very difficult to sleep, as well. And I wonder whether the huge old oak in the backyard and the strip of trees would be killed or removed.

The various alternative routes that our association proposes, which run along roads or highways, a set of industrial green houses and across open farmland seem far more suitable than running the new higher voltage lines right along virtually unbuffered backyards and houses and along a walking path. It would very much appear that certain financial interests were considered far above those of the health, safety and welfare of the people living in the homes.

Our proposed alternatives would impact far fewer houses, as shown in the materials. The Bridlewood / Churchhill Farm development looks to be the single most densely populated housing in the area, yet it appears that it was selected to have the lines run right next to the homes. This would seem to be the immediate result of this highly populated area having absolutely no representation on the advisory task force. The proposals of our association would have very little impact on the homes of other developments and would use the natural buffering effect of the roads and highways and industrial or open land to maximum effect.

The currently proposed line seems to unnecessarily harm the maximum number of people and homes when one would certainly expect that the risk/reward assessment should have been looking to achieve exactly the opposite result.

I include the Plymouth Mayor and City Council both because I know many of you, having served with you on the Planning Commission and/or the Charter Commission, and because I would fully expect the City to protect its citizens. The current proposal would do the greatest harm to the greatest number of people. It should be changed. If the City made this a priority, it could and would impact the way that the lines are going in.

I urge that the line be moved so that it does not run alongside the neighborhood in this unbuffered manner and that it instead run along the roads and highways and industrial, open and farm land, where it will not threaten as much harm.

Jeffrey M. Thompson, Esq.
3600 Alvarado Lane N.
Plymouth, MN 55446
763-478-8845 (h)
612-371-1306 (o)

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Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: vlb [vlb@midwestfamily.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 3:33 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Cc: vlb
Subject: Hollydale Project
Attachments: Xcel route letter to Scott vb.docx

Importance: High

Please see the attached letter. We are NOT in favor of the current proposal west of the Hollydale Station.

Thanks,
Ron and Victoria Boyd
vlb@midwestfamily.com

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This information is intended only for the use of the addressee and may contain information that is privileged, confidential, and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of the communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by returning it to the sender and deleting it from your computer system.

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: HARLEY D REED JR [hreedjr13@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 3:17 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale 115kV Transmission Line Project

I am writing to request the Hollydale 115kV transmission line be routed on the line south along I-494 to Highway 55 and along Highway 55 and connect with the present transmission line enroute to Medina. That route would bypass the neighborhoods along county road 9.

My home faces county road 9 and would be directly impacted by the proposed route along county road 9. I was unable to attend the recent meeting on this proposal and wanted to make sure my voice was heard.

Thank you.

Harley Reed
3990 Niagara Lane N
Plymouth, MN 55446
763-551-1271

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 2:20 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Nyren Mon Nov 7 14:19:49 2011 E002/TL-11-152

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: Jennie Nyren

County: Hennepin County

City: Plymouth

Email:

Phone:

Impact: We strongly oppose the proposed 115k power lines through our neighborhood (QuailRidge association) for the following reasons:

* Health Concerns - As we heard in last week's Town-Hall meeting from physicians and others, there is a heightened risk (70% higher it seemed) of certain types of cancers (leukemia) in children who live close to high-power transmission lines, and there also seem to be a heightened risk for adults. In other progressive countries in Europe and Canada, those types of lines are not allowed in neighborhoods for that reason. One lady in the meeting said that she treats people with magnetic fields in her job (she is a medical doctor) and it does affect people, so having that around all the time would be very dangerous to people living in our neighborhood.

* Property Value Decline - When we bought our house, we were told that there was no power going through the lines across the street and that those had not been used in a very long time (abandoned), and if we would have been told that they were used (even with 69k) we would not have bought our house, and we most certainly would not have done so had we known that there was a proposal to install a 115k high-power line. Having such a tall and big structure with high power will scare away future buyers for the same reasons we do not want them there (health concerns, property value decline etc), and one realtor in the meeting mentioned that in similar situations property values could go down 10-40%. That would mean a huge decrease in property taxes for the city to support schools etc. Plymouth was chosen the best city to live in in 2008 - we need to keep it that way. Also, buying a house is the biggest investment for most people, so it would be unfortunate if a project like this could "ruin" that investment when we did not agree to that when we bought the house.

* Legality of Proposal - It seems that the way the easements and right of way are setup in our neighborhood, it would not even be possible to install the new power lines within the existing legal limits (per info from the City Of Plymouth). Also the existing easement contracts specifically state 69k not 115k from what I was told, so is it even legal to increase that without approval from the home owners? Those contracts were also created at a time when there were no people living in that area, it was just farmland and there was no intention to have power through those lines around people.

* Wildlife - There are many paths and parks close to where we live and along the path of the proposed route - and that was one of the reasons we decided to purchase a house in that neighborhood to begin with. The installation of new power lines would seriously damage the existing wildlife there.

* Aesthetics - The proposed structures are much taller and not wood-based, and lots of trees would have to be cut down etc, so the look of the entire neighborhood would change for the worse - a lot worse.

Mitigation: With all these things in mind, there really is only one valid and correct option and that is to have the new 115k lines go down 55 and up 494.

At the Town-Hall meeting last week, everybody in the room (I believe close to 200 people, from many different neighborhoods along the proposed/alternative routes) agreed to that option, and no one was against it. The City Of Plymouth has also endorsed that option (and no other option). It is simply the right thing to do

Submission date: Mon Nov 7 14:19:49 2011

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
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Rhonda Rusch [rhonda.rusch@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 2:11 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Bridlewood Farms & Churchill power lines

Dear Scott,

I would like to request that the Dept of Commerce/ Energy Facility NOT place power lines near Greenwood Elementary School nor thru the middle of our neighborhood.

We feel that the alternative of lining them up more closely to HiWay 55 is a much better and eco friendly alternative to placing them thru an existing neighborhood.

Thank you for your reconsideration of this important placement.

Sincerley,

--

Rhonda Rusch
3835 Yellowstone Ct N
Plymouth, MN 55446
763.607.6588

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Paige Sawyer [psawyer24@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 2:08 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: concern xcel proposal
Attachments: Holy%20Creek%20Common%20Letter[1].doc

Please see attached letter for consideration.

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 1:49 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Johnson Mon Nov 7 13:49:09 2011 E002/TL-11-152

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: Dawn Johnson

County: Hennepin County

City: Plymouth

Email: dawnjohn75@hotmail.com

Phone: 402-980-4080

Impact: I absolutely do not wish to have the new power line stretched through our neighborhood, in the Hollydale 115Kv Transmission Line Project. We purchased our home several years ago, carefully considering all aspects of the area, and weeding out those homes specifically that had large lines/towers/power amounts near them. I had no desire for this in my backyard before, and am even more opposed to it now that I own my beautiful house.

There is an alternate route of 494 and 55 which is better for homeowners. Please consider the 494/55 route versus our neighborhood of Quail Ridge.

Mitigation:

Submission date: Mon Nov 7 13:49:09 2011

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
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 12:40 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Altizer Mon Nov 7 12:40:22 2011 E002/TL-11-152

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: Tanis Altizer

County:

City: Plymouth

Email: tanisaltizer@hotmail.com

Phone:

Impact: I am writing today as a concerned single mother trying to provide a good life for myself and my son. The 115kV power line that you are proposing run through my backyard would cause myself, and others like me along the proposed route, great concern as long as it's hanging over our heads (literally).

The property values in my neighborhood have already gone down about 25%. Even though I put 22% down and have been paying off my mortgage for 6 years, I am stuck because the value has decreased so much in the recent years. I can't imagine the impact a powerline would have on this already crippling situation.

More importantly than that, is the health and safety of the children in our neighborhood. I would be extremely uncomfortable with a powerline present inches from where dozens of neighborhood children play every day. For the safety of my child, I would feel compelled to move away from the powerline as soon as possible; which wouldn't be able to happen for a number of years given the market.

Please place the line along the proposed HWY 55 and 494 route away from residential housing. For safety, security and cosmetic reasons this is the best alternative for the customers you are serving. So many things are out of our control these days, this is one thing you do have control over. It would mean a lot to the residents of Plymouth for now and many, many years to come, not to have this line over our heads every single time we walk out the front door.

Thank you,

Tanis Altizer

Mitigation:

Submission date: Mon Nov 7 12:40:22 2011

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

andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Scott Hamre [shamre@veeco.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 12:15 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Cc: Scottcarolh3@aol.com
Subject: Docket No. E002/TL-11-152

Dear Mr. Ek,

I want to make a comment regarding the proposed Hollydale 115KV Transmission Line project.

I agree with the unanimous opinion of the people at the October 26th public information and scoping meeting – The only logical route for the new proposed transmission line is to follow the Hwy 55 and Hwy 494 corridors.

This route addresses many of our areas of concern:

Health Implications
Property value of Homes
Proximity to Homes
Cultural & Aesthetic Values
Environmental Impacts
Right of Way Impacts

The route for this high voltage transmission line project will also impact future extra high voltage transmission line projects (they will most likely want to follow the same established route). We must make the right decision now to minimize the impact to our health and well-being for the current project and for future projects that are certain to come.

Please pass along my concerns, to all involved, to help make sure the right decision (following the Hwy 55 and Hwy 494 corridors) is made.

Regards,
Scott & Carol Hamre
4810 Minnesota Lane N
Plymouth, MN 55446
Scottcarolh3@aol.com

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Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Sandy Hoy [sandy@davidhoy.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 12:08 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale 115kV Transmission Line Project

Mr. Ek,

I am writing you today to express my disappointment in hearing about the upgraded power lines that are planned for our Churchill Farms neighborhood. This upgrade is not acceptable for so many reasons, especially the health risks associated with such electrical structures. My family and I have lived in the Churchill Farms neighborhood for 13 years and would very much appreciate it if this plan could be modified and re-routed away from our neighborhood. I believe the proposal that we are making will be a remedy to the situation.

Thank you,

Sandra M. Hoy
18700 32nd Ave N
Plymouth, MN 55447
763.449.3170

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Trish Johnson [trishjohnsonmn@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 12:03 PM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Hollydale Project - Comment from Bridlewood Farms Neighborhood

Dear Scott,

It has recently come to our attention that a high voltage power line is proposed for our neighborhood (Bridlewood Farms). We are contacting you to forward our concern regarding this matter through the appropriate channel. It is our desire that this power line **not** be placed within our neighborhood. We realize that this high voltage power line would significantly reduce the property value of our home and decrease the desirability of the entire Bridlewood Farms neighborhood.

Thank you for your time,

Tim and Trish Johnson
3910 Urbandale Lane North
Plymouth, MN 55446

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Mathew Knutson [mathew.knutson@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 11:43 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Issues and Impacts within Quail Ridge of Plymouth related to the Hollydale Project (Docket No E002/TL-11-152)
Attachments: Issues_and_Impacts_Quail_Ridge_Hollydale_Project.pdf

Scott,

Just a follow-up on our conversations last week. Please find attached a document that outlines issues and impacts within the Quail Ridge of Plymouth housing community related to the Hollydale 115kV Transmission Line Project (Docket No E002/TL-11-152).

Sincerely,

Mathew Knutson
Plymouth resident

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: AllaGRig@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 11:42 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Public Comment for Hollydale Transmission Line, Docket # TL-11-152

Dear Mr. Ek:

I am writing today to provide public comment on the Hollydale Transmission Line, Docket # TL-11-152. I live in Conor Meadows, on the proposed Alternate Route B that runs along the railroad tracks. I understand this upgrade needs to happen, but I would like to see it happen in such a way that it will benefit all of Plymouth. To that end, the line should be relocated so that between the Hollydale Substation and the new Plymouth Substation the line runs through Plymouth's commercial areas along highways 55 and 494 instead of through wetlands and residential areas as it does now.

When this line was first built 40 years ago, Plymouth was mostly rural so the most direct route was used. However today we have a clear commercial corridor in Plymouth along highways 55 and 494 where 90 foot steel towers are more appropriate.

This also isn't only about people and property values - moving this line would dramatically decrease the amount of wetlands impacted as the line presently crosses over a mile of wetlands. We have an abundance of wildlife that use these wetlands and it is not often that we have an opportunity to reduce further impacts like we have now.

If the 55/494 route proves to be unfeasible, I believe the line should **not** be shifted to the railroad tracks. Most of the homes on the existing line were built long after the transmission line was installed in 1971, so the impacts on property values and aesthetics were already present when they purchased their home. Our homes near the railroad tracks already suffer from the burden of their proximity to the railroad tracks, we should not add to it a new burden which was never envisioned when these homes were built five, ten, or even fifteen years ago.

I understand this is a tough decision, and there is never a solution that makes everyone happy, but the vast majority of Plymouth - those on the line and those far removed from the line - want to see the Hollydale Transmission Line relocated to highways 55 and 494. I hope you will give the highway 55/494 route the significant attention it deserves and that you will recommend this route in order to improve the quality of life for Plymouth residents and its wildlife.

Thank you for your time.

Thank you for your effort on this important issue. There is tremendous support in the community for the highway 55/494 route and we believe there is a good chance we can affect the outcome to everyone's benefit.

Sincerely,

Alla Grig

4920 Narcissus Lane N
Plymouth, MN 55446

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: apache@web.lmic.state.mn.us
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 11:04 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Flaming Mon Nov 7 11:04:12 2011 E002/TL-11-152

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: Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project in the Cities of Plymouth and Medina, Hennepin County

Docket number: E002/TL-11-152

User Name: Erland Flaming

County: Hennepin County

City: Plymouth

Email: feltd@charter.net

Phone: 763-515-4505

Impact: As property manager of the Association, I would like to bring forth the concerns that I and the Board of Directors of the Association have discussed relating to this project and the alternate route which follows in part Peony Lane which runs parallel to the west of the Association between Old Rockford Road and Highway 55. Property values is biggest issue because these would be visible from the Association. Health issues are the second issue.

Mitigation: After reviewing the proposal by the City of Plymouth to follow the South side right of way of Highway 55, we, as representatives of the Association, have put our support in this Alternate E proposal.

Submission date: Mon Nov 7 11:04:12 2011

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
andrew.koebrick@state.mn.us

Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Jeffrey Thompson [Jthompson@meagher.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 10:55 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Cc: kslavik@plymouthmn.gov; bstein@plymouthmn.gov; jjohnson@plymouthmn.gov; tbildsoe@plymouthmn.gov; gblack@plymouthmn.gov; jwosje@plymouthmn.gov; jwillis@plymouthmn.gov
Subject: Comments_on_scope_of_EA_201111091
Attachments: Comments_on_scope_of_EA_201111091.docx

Dear Mr. Eck and the Mayor and City Council of Plymouth,

I write concerning the high voltage transmission lines that are proposed to run alongside the homes in the Bridlewood / Churchhill Farm neighborhoods.

I attach the Bridlewood / Churchhill Farm homeowners' association comments on the proposed high voltage powerline. I fully agree with those comments and am extremely troubled by the proposed location of the new transmission lines.

We live at 3600 Alvarado Lane North, Plymouth, MN 55446. While our property is not listed on the attachment as being within 100 feet of the line, I am fairly sure that our house is about 75 - 90 feet from the existing small wooden pole that is proposed to be replaced by the massive higher voltage pole. We are immediately on the other side of a narrow strip of trees from the existing pole and line, where it traverses the berm between the two neighborhoods. According to the FHA guidelines discussed in the attachment, that means that our property will be placed in a "hazardous" area if the currently proposed higher voltage line and pole go in. Yet, we were never advised of these risks, let alone invited to be a member of the task force.

I had no idea that because of the new, much higher voltage lines that are proposed, we would be unable to use our barbeque or fill our lawnmower due to the fire / explosion risk. The health risk is also very troubling. We are advised that the noise of the new lines will make it very difficult to sleep, as well. And I wonder whether the huge old oak in the backyard and the strip of trees would be killed or removed.

The various alternative routes that our association proposes, which run along roads or highways, a set of industrial green houses and across open farmland seem far more suitable than running the new higher voltage lines right along virtually unbuffered backyards and houses and along a walking path. It would very much appear that certain financial interests were considered far above those of the health, safety and welfare of the people living in the homes.

Our proposed alternatives would impact far fewer houses, as shown in the materials. The Bridlewood / Churchhill Farm development looks to be the single most densely populated housing in the area, yet it appears that it was selected to have the lines run right next to the homes. This would seem to be the immediate result of this highly populated area having absolutely no representation on the advisory task force. The proposals of our association would have very little impact on the homes of other developments and would use the natural buffering effect of the roads and highways and industrial or open land to maximum effect.

The currently proposed line seems to unnecessarily harm the maximum number of people and homes when one would certainly expect that the risk/reward assessment should have been looking to achieve exactly the opposite result.

I include the Plymouth Mayor and City Council both because I know many of you, having served with you on the Planning Commission and/or the Charter Commission, and because I would fully expect the City to protect its citizens. The current proposal would do the greatest harm to the greatest number of people. It should be changed. If the City made this a priority, it could and would impact the way that the lines are going in.

I urge that the line be moved so that it does not run alongside the neighborhood in this unbuffered manner and that it instead run along the roads and highways and industrial, open and farm land, where it will not threaten as much harm.

Jeffrey M. Thompson, Esq.
3600 Alvarado Lane N.
Plymouth, MN 55446
763-478-8845 (h)
612-371-1306 (o)

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Ek, Scott (COMM)

From: Sergio Rosa [tchegobox@gmail.com@change.org] on behalf of Sergio Rosa [tchegobox@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 10:26 AM
To: Ek, Scott (COMM)
Subject: Focus on quality of life not profits in evaluating power line project.

Dear Mr. Sedarski & Mr. Ek

I just signed the following petition addressed to: Xcel Energy & Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

As residents of Timber Creek Crossing, located at the intersection of Schmidt Lake Road & Garland Lane N in Plymouth, we are extremely concerned with the options still being considered for the power line transmission project.

We ask that Xcel Energy shift their overall strategy for this project from profit generation to maintaining and promoting the quality of life for the residents of not only Timber Creek Crossing, but also all potential residents impacted by the proposed and alternate routes. We are all well aware that there is a viable option (the 494/55 corridor) that will have minimal impact on the quality of life, health and home values of all residents impacted by these proposals. This should be the primary focus of this project!

Some key points for your consideration:

1. The existing transmission line was built in 1971, long before most of those homes on the line were built. The commission should not transfer the line from those homes that were purchased where there was already a power line to homes where there have been no prior plans for a transmission line. We as Timber Creek Crossing residents already shoulder the burden of living along railroad tracks and next to a gun club, please don't add to it by now giving us a transmission line also as proposed in Alternate Route Segment B.
2. If the goal is to reduce residential impacts, Alternate Route Segment B provides one of the least benefits of all the alternative proposals – a less than 50% reduction in residential impacts and brings the line to over 100 homes that don't already have it.
3. For the greatest reduction, the commission should consider relocating the transmission line to commercial areas, running it from the Hollydale Substation, down Highway 55 and then up 494 to the new preferred Pomerleau Lake Substation. This realignment would reduce residential impacts by over 95%.

Please make a smart decision and put the community first! There are residents of all ages, family situations and demographics who are strongly opposed to the proposed route and alternate routes. It was evident in the October 26 public hearing. Don't have our concerns and appeals fall on deaf ears. It is a matter of the quality of life that Plymouth prides itself upon.

Sincerely,

Residents of the Timber Creek Crossing community
Plymouth, MN
November 2011

Sergio Rosa
Plymouth, Minnesota

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at www.change.org/petitions/no-power-lines-for-timber-creek. To respond, email responses@change.org and include a link to this petition. 



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 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

COMMENT FORM
 Public Information and Scoping Meeting
Proposed Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project
 Docket No. E002/TL-11-152

NOV - 8 2011

Name: TOM & BARBARA JOABEL email: TJoabel@yahoo.com
 Street Address: 4335 BLAIR LN, N.
 City: PLYMOUTH, State: MN ZIP: 55446

Share your comments on the proposed Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project. **Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 9, 2011.**

WE ARE VERY UPSET TO HEAR OF XCELS PLANS TO RUN HIGH VOLTAGE LINES THROUGH RESIDENTIAL AREAS IN PLYMOUTH, WE LIVE IN QUAIL RIDGE AND FEEL SUCH CHANGES WOULD NEGATIVELY IMPACT OUR ENVIRONMENT, PROPERTY VALUES, AND AESTHETICS OF OUR HOME. (WE KNOW OF TWO BUYERS THAT BACKED OUT OF BUYING A HOME IN QUAIL RIDGE SPECIFICALLY BECAUSE OF THE PROPOSED POWER LINE PROJECT.) WE ALSO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE HEALTH HAZARDS AND RISKS TO PEOPLE LIVING CLOSE TO HIGH POWER LINES.

PLEASE ROUTE YOUR HIGH POWER LINES ALONG HIGHWAYS 494 AND 55. THANK YOU.

Please turn this form in tonight or mail to the address provided on the back. You may use additional sheets, as necessary. Comments can also be e-mailed to Scott Ek at: scott.ek@state.mn.us with Docket No. E002/TL-11-152 in the email subject line or submitted online at: <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/publicComments.html?projectId=32121>

Signature: Tom & Barbara Joabel Date: 4/6/11



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COMMENT FORM
Public Information and Scoping Meeting
Proposed Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project
Docket No. E002/TL-11-152

NOV - 8 2011

Name: Judy H Payne email: _____
Street Address: 4564 Niagara Lane N
City: Plymouth State: MN ZIP: 55446

Share your comments on the proposed Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project. **Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 9, 2011.**

I feel strongly that the Hwy 55/494 corridor be used to accomplish the technical goals of this project. Although some people may stress the implications to health and property values, there can be no doubt that aesthetics and its effect on quality of life alone is more than sufficient reason to route the proposed lines to the already industrial/transportation corridor of 55/494. Minnesota has proven itself to be a state that can "do better" - to be unwilling to accept "good enough". I say this as a long time resident, but one who gained perspective by living 13 years of my adult life in southern California. The very least impact to neighborhoods, wetlands, parks, and trails should remain at the top of the criteria for this decision making process, not expediency.

Please turn this form in tonight or mail to the address provided on the back. You may use additional sheets, as necessary. Comments can also be e-mailed to Scott Ek at: scott.ek@state.mn.us with Docket No. E002/TL-11-152 in the email subject line or submitted online at: <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/publicComments.html?projectId=32121>

Signature: _____

Judy Payne

Date: _____

11/7/2011



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COMMENT FORM
Public Information and Scoping Meeting
Proposed Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project
Docket No. E002/TL-11-152

Name: Kim & Pete Kelzenberg email: kkelze@comcast.net
Street Address: 16425 38th Ave. N.
City: Plymouth State: MN ZIP: 55446

Share your comments on the proposed Hollydale 115 kV Transmission Line Project. **Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 9, 2011.**

I am writing to inform you of how extremely opposed we are to the Alternative Route Segment C. We purchased our home with the intention of staying away from the existing Transmission Corridor that runs through West Branch Estates. I believe it would be detrimental to people that did not buy homes on the existing Transmission corridor to relocate the transmission line to Alternative Route Segment C. Other than proceeding with the Proposed Route, we think the only reasonable alternative route would be to run the line south along I494 and west along the south side of Hwy. 55. This route, after all, is along major highways and commercial businesses. The I494 to MN Hwy 55 route should be reviewed to determine if it is a viable or cost effective option.

Please turn this form in tonight or mail to the address provided on the back. You may use additional sheets, as necessary. Comments can also be e-mailed to Scott Ek at: scott.ek@state.mn.us with Docket No. E002/TL-11-152 in the email subject line or submitted online at:

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/publicComments.html?projectId=32121>

Signature: Kim Kelzenberg Date: 11-1-11

11/7/11

I thank the Department for hosting the informative meetings and to dedicating time, resources + media to including the public in its decision process, and hope that the same dedication to the wishes of the residents of Plymouth be realized in the final outcome.

Sincerely,

Debra A. Payer