



Minnesota Department of Commerce Energy Facility Permitting

Public Information and Scoping Meeting

Proposed Hollydale 115 kV Project PUC Docket No. E002/TL-11-152

October 26, 2011

Welcome

Tonight's Agenda

Introductions

State Permitting Process

Proposed Project

Questions and Comments

Purpose of Tonight's Meeting

- 1) Explain the State of Minnesota's high-voltage transmission line permitting process.
- 2) Present a description of the Hollydale 115 kV transmission line project proposed by Xcel Energy and Great River Energy.
- 3) Provide the public an opportunity to:
 - ask questions;
 - offer comments (written or oral); and
 - propose issues, impacts, and alternatives to be considered for the scoping decision document.

HVTL Permitting in Minnesota



115 kV Steel Pole Horizontal Post Structure

The **Public Utilities Commission** is the government unit that issues high-voltage transmission line route permits in Minnesota.

No person may construct a **high-voltage transmission line** without a route permit from the Commission (Minnesota Statute 216E.03, subdivision 2).

A **high-voltage transmission line** is a conductor of electric energy designed for and capable of operation at a voltage of 100 kV or more and is greater than 1,500 feet in length (Minnesota Statute 216E.01, subdivision 4).

Alternative Permitting Process

The Hollydale 115 kV project is being reviewed under the **alternative permitting process** (Minnesota Rules 7850.2900 to 7850.3900).

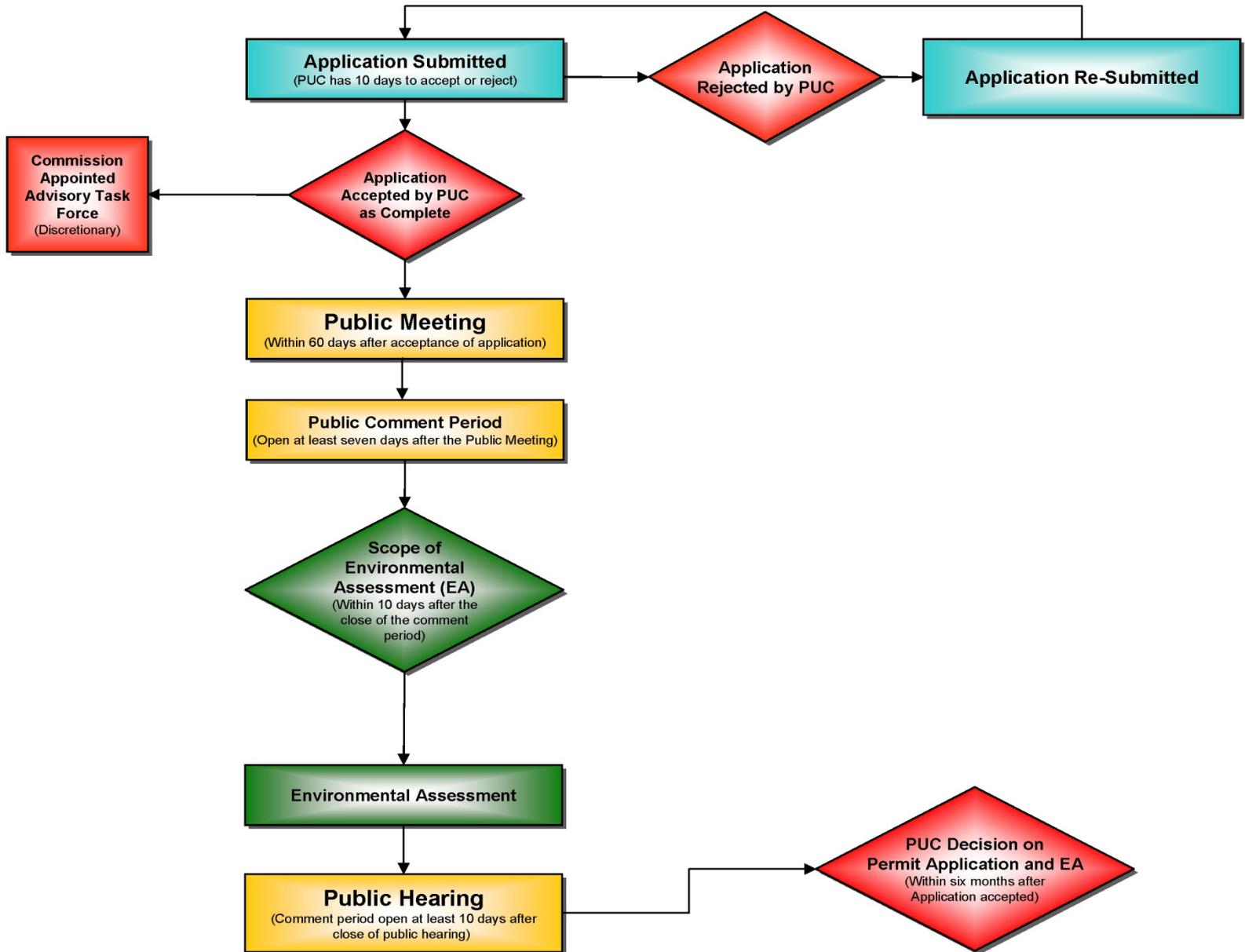
It is a high-voltage transmission line between 100 kV and 200 kV (Minnesota Rules 7850.2800, subpart 1C).

The alternative permitting process typically takes six (6) months to complete.



115 kV Wood Pole Horizontal Post Structure

**High Voltage Transmission Line
Alternative Permitting Process
Minnesota Rule 7850.2800 – 7850.3900**



Review Timeline

Route Permit Application Filed by Xcel Energy and Great River Energy	June 30, 2011
Public Utilities Commission Accepts Route Application as Complete	August 25, 2011
Advisory Task Force	October 18, 2011 November 1, 2011
Public Information and Scoping Meeting	October 26, 2011
Close of Scoping Comment Period	November 9, 2011
Scoping Decision Document Issued	November 23, 2011
Environmental Assessment (EA) Issued	February 2012
Public Hearing Convened by an Administrative Law Judge	TBD
Close of Public Hearing Comment Period	TBD
Public Utilities Commission Makes Route Permit Decision	TBD

Proposed Hollydale 115 kV Project

- The proposed Hollydale 115 kV transmission line project is located in the cities of Medina and Plymouth, Hennepin county, Minnesota.
- The project, as proposed by Xcel energy and Great River Energy is:
 - To replace and rebuild approximately 8 miles of existing 69 kV transmission line to 115 kV,
 - Construct approximately 0.8 miles of new 115 kV transmission line, and
 - Construct a new 115 kV substation.
- The applicants are requesting a 200 foot to 400 foot wide route width in which the 75 foot wide right-of-way would be located.
- The applicants plan to construct the rebuild portion of the 115 kV transmission line within the existing 69 kV transmission line wide right-of-way (approximately 70 foot to 100 foot wide).

Project Information

Project Name: **Hollydale 115 kV Project**

PUC Docket No. **E002/TL-11-152**

Energy Facility Permitting Website

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=32121>

eDockets Website

<https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp>

Enter number “**11**” for Year and “**152**” for Number.

Project Mailing List

Sign up tonight at front desk!

Go online <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/#MailingLists>

Contact by phone, email, fax or mail information to:

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Comments and Questions

Deadline to submit comments is November 9, 2011

Please direct comments or questions to:

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You may also submit comments online at:

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