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~ PUBLIC NOTICE ~

XCEL ENERGY HOSTING PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES ABOUT TRANSMISSION LINE UPGRADE

Xcel Energy is hosting public open houses to provide information on an electric transmission line upgrade in the southwest Twin Cities. The company is proposing to rebuild a segment of existing 69 kilovolt (kV) transmission line with a 115 kV line and is seeking public feedback prior to filing a Route Permit application with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission later this winter.

OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

Monday, January 10

4 to 7 p.m.
Eden Prairie Community Center
16700 Valley View Road
Eden Prairie, MN 55346

Thursday, January 13

4 to 7 p.m.
Bayview Event Center
687 Excelsior Boulevard
Excelsior, MN 55331

Maps and information on the proposed construction location, structure types, right-of-way and the permitting process will be available at the open house. Project staff will be available to talk about the proposed schedule and project and to answer any questions you may have. Information on how to participate in the state route permitting process will also be available.

You are welcome at anytime during the hours of the open house. If you cannot attend, please contact Tim Rogers or Chris Rogers from Xcel Energy at the numbers below, and they will send you information or have an Xcel Energy representative arrange to speak with you at another time.

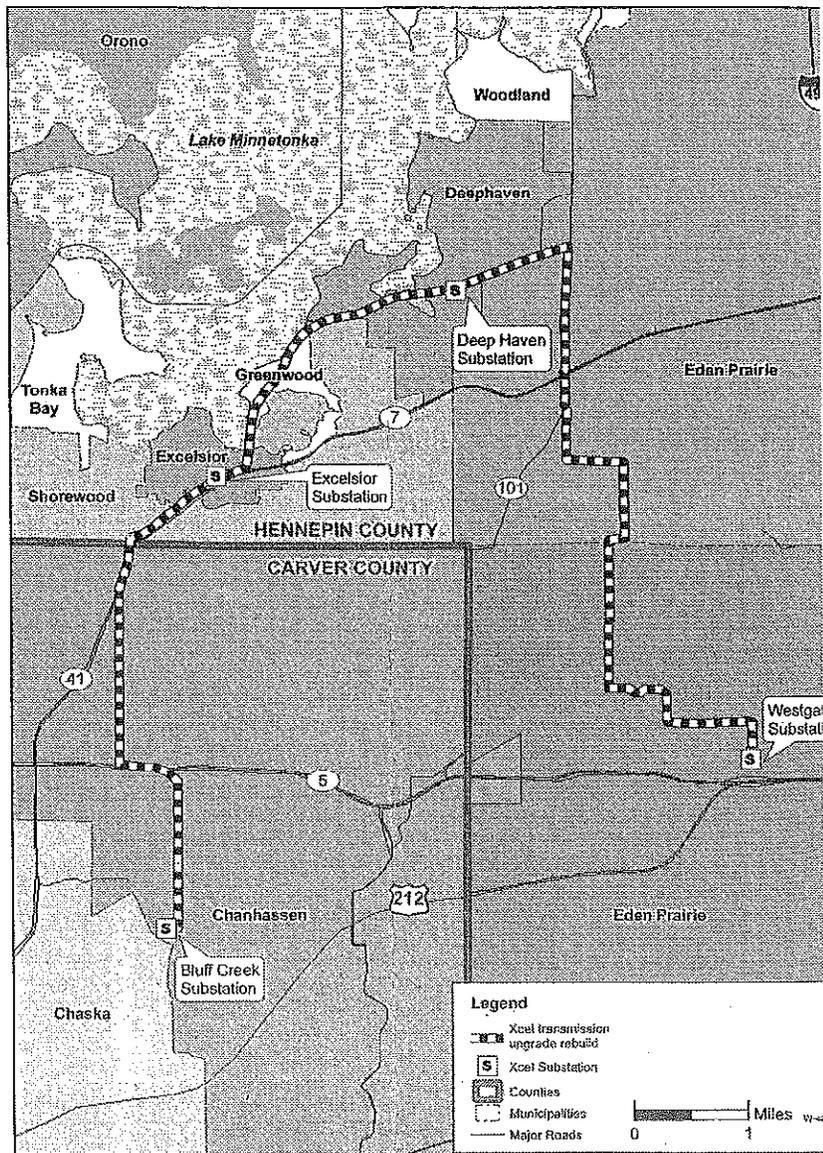
LAND ACQUISITION CONTACTS

Chris Rogers,
senior siting and land rights agent
Xcel Energy
(612) 330-6078
christopher.c.rogers@xcelenergy.com

Tim Rogers,
supervisor, siting and permitting
Xcel Energy
(612) 330-1955
timothy.s.rogers@xcelenergy.com

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The project extends from the Bluff Creek Substation in Chanhassen north/northeast to the Excelsior Substation, then northeast to the Deephaven Substation, then east/southeast to the end point at West Gate Substation in Eden Prairie. This project is needed to ensure reliable and stable electric service in the southwest Twin Cities, including Chanhassen, Deephaven, Eden Prairie, Excelsior, Greenwood, Minnetonka and Shorewood.





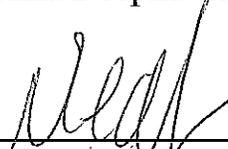
Minnesota Newspaper Association
12 South Sixth Street Suite 1120
Minneapolis, MN 55402
612-332-8844

Affidavit of Publication

The Minnesota Newspaper Association verifies that the
Public Open House

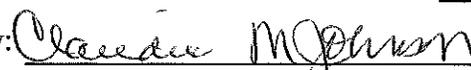
ran as follows

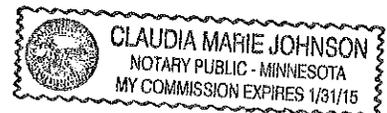
Chanhassen Villager Dec. 30, 2010
Eden Prairie News Dec. 30, 2010
Eden Prairie Sun Dec. 30, 2010
Excelsior Shorewood Chanhassen Sun Dec. 30, 2010
Minnetonka Deephaven Hopkins Sun Dec. 30, 2010

By:  Managing Director

Date: 1/6/11

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6 day of January 2011.

Notary: 
My Commission Expires January 31, 2015



APPENDIX E.3
ATTENDANCE FORM FOR JANUARY 10 AND JANUARY 13, 2011 XCEL
ENERGY PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

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Xcel Energy
 Northern States Power Company – Minnesota
 Bluff Creek – Westgate 115kV Transmission Line
 Rebuild Project – Public Meeting 1/10/2010

PLEASE SIGN IN

| NAME | ADDRESS | PHONE/EMAIL | REPRESENTING |
|----------------------|---------|-------------------|--------------|
| Todd Farnam | | | |
| Andie Christopherson | | | |
| Dan Pocerlich | | | |
| Brian Now | | bknow@hotmail.com | |
| Boris Lundbloom | | | |
| VINCE COPE | | | |
| Kermit Gien | | | |
| Tom ELMER | | | |
| MADON of Dawn SADD | | | |
| Brian K. 15th Bunker | | | |
| | | | |

Xcel Energy
 Northern States Power Company – Minnesota
 Bluff Creek – Westgate 115kV Transmission Line
 Rebuild Project – Public Meeting 1/10/2010

PLEASE SIGN IN

| NAME | ADDRESS | PHONE/EMAIL | REPRESENTING |
|---------------------|---------|---|--------------|
| DAVE Wisboef | | 952-474-2464 | Excelsior |
| Brian Frisk Burdick | | 952-474-5243 | Greenwood |
| Jeff Hernc | | 612-839-4309 | |
| Matt Werness | | | Home |
| Howard Peterson | | 952-934-2050 | Resident |
| Rao Bachi | | 952 949 8899 | Home |
| STEVE YERKES | | 952 994-0990 | Home |
| Jim Cron | | | |
| KRISTIN OSTRANDER | | 952-474-8400 | Greenwood |
| DIRIC BAIC | | DEEPHAWEN ECOW3101@Yachoo.com | DEEPHawen |
| Steven Heson | | 953-934-9017 | |

Xcel Energy
 Northern States Power Company – Minnesota
 Bluff Creek – Westgate 115kV Transmission Line
 Rebuild Project – Public Meeting 1/10/2010

PLEASE SIGN IN

| NAME | ADDRESS | PHONE/EMAIL | REPRESENTING |
|----------------------|---------|----------------------|--------------|
| CARL MATTSON | | | ISD 112 |
| Gary Reding | | 952-975-0709 | |
| Jim Delaney | | 952-934-8403 | |
| Randy McClelland | | 952-937-0957 | |
| Bud & LeeAnn Wudlick | | 952-474-3389 | Greenwood |
| Larry Martin | | 952 938 1055 | |
| OLIVER PAPP | | OPAPP@TCROSSJOWW.COM | |
| Geoff Haraway | | gharaway@msn | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Xcel Energy
 Northern States Power Company – Minnesota
 Bluff Creek – Westgate 115kV Transmission Line
 Rebuild Project – Public Meeting 1/13/2010

PLEASE SIGN IN

| NAME | ADDRESS | PHONE/EMAIL | REPRESENTING |
|-----------------|---------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| CHUCK DAHL | | 952-473-4576 | |
| Scott Jesse | | 952-401-1084 | |
| J SANDERS | | 952-474-4231 | |
| KEITH ANDERSON | | 952-170-8443 | |
| LOREN BORJAN | | (952) 939-8290 | |
| MARK SETTERHOLM | | GREENWOOD, MN 612-239-5900 | |
| JOHN MCKEE | | 952-474-1058 | |
| GREG PEDERSON | | 763-218-6766 | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Xcel Energy
 Northern States Power Company – Minnesota
 Bluff Creek – Westgate 115kV Transmission Line
 Rebuild Project – Public Meeting 1/13/2010

PLEASE SIGN IN

| NAME | ADDRESS | PHONE/EMAIL | REPRESENTING |
|---------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| LIV HORNELAND | | 612-237-7505 | Property owner |
| GARY & KUIANI POLEK | | 952-474-3505 | Home owner |
| RAY & JANE ALSTINE | | 952-401-8091 | |
| Tom Fletcher ^{+Pat} | | 952-224-5550 | Property Owner City of Greenwood |
| R. JOHNSON | | 952-474-9361 | PROPERTY OWNER |
| Becky DORR | | 952-442-2207 | |
| Dana O'Konski | | 952-949-6128 | homeowner |
| NEAL SIMON | | 952-217-5658 | Homeowner |
| DEB KIND | | 952-401-9181 | MAYOR |
| Kelvin Kaczmarek | | 952-934-1434 | Home Owner |
| Khai Tran | | 952-934-1621 KT8509@gmail.com | Home Owner |

Xcel Energy
 Northern States Power Company – Minnesota
 Bluff Creek – Westgate 115kV Transmission Line
 Rebuild Project – Public Meeting 1/13/2010

PLEASE SIGN IN

| NAME | ADDRESS | PHONE/EMAIL | REPRESENTING |
|--------------------|---------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Dana Young | | Rd DanaYoung@mchs.com | city of Deephaven |
| Lisa Holstrom | | lisa.holstrom@ msugrads.com | |
| KIMBAK ANDERSON | | | |
| BOB QUAM | | quamco@aol.com | City of Greenwood |
| Beth & Leon Cook | | bartews@cbornet.com | |
| Connie Dahlstrom | | bvdckd@hotmail.com | |
| Kristina Blomquist | | kblomquist@yahoo.com | |
| ELENA TUDOR | | Estador291@aol.com | |
| Diana Hoyt | | dianahoyt@ hotmail.com | Minnetonka |
| Douglas McPeck | | d-mcpeck@ hotmail.com | |
| J. W. HILL | | 474-2083 | GREENWOOD |

Xcel Energy
 Northern States Power Company – Minnesota
 Bluff Creek – Westgate 115kV Transmission Line
 Rebuild Project – Public Meeting 1/13/2010

PLEASE SIGN IN

| NAME | ADDRESS | PHONE/EMAIL | REPRESENTING |
|--------------------|---------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Kevin Streete | | kstreet12@yahoo.com | |
| Cheyl Sykora | | Klaire 1200@yahoo.com | |
| PAUL SKRENE | | PAULSKRENE@MCHSI.COM | CITY OF DEERHAVEN |
| Bob Nelson | | 934-2422 | MNTKA |
| LW Pankuk | | 952-934-2480 | MNTKA |
| Tom & DIANA GAG | | 952-474-9047 | SELF |
| Mark Spalding | | 507-931-6231 | SELF |
| BRIAN HECK | | | City |
| Jay+kathy Petersen | | 612-801-3392 | |
| Dick GLOVER | | 952-474-8418 | self |
| ROBERT BOESLACK | | 612-868-8114 | Property owner |

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APPENDIX E.4

PROJECT INFORMATION LITERATURE PROVIDED AT PUBLIC MEETINGS

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PROPOSED BLUFF CREEK TO WESTGATE TRANSMISSION LINE REBUILD PROJECT
NEAR CHANHASSEN, SHOREWOOD, EXCELSIOR, GREENWOOD, DEEPHAVEN
MINNETONKA AND EDEN PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Why is this project needed?

This project is an upgrade of existing lines from 69 kV to 115 kV and is needed to ensure reliable and stable electric service in the area near the cities of Chanhassen, Shorewood, Excelsior, Greenwood, Deephaven, Minnetonka, and Eden Prairie. The project will help to eliminate low voltage issues and equipment overloads during transmission outages.

What permits are needed?

A Certificate of Need (CON) is required for the project because it is classified as a large energy facility under Minn. Stat. §§ 216B.243 and 216B.2421, subd. 2(3) and is a high voltage transmission line with a capacity greater than 100 kV more than ten miles of transmission line within Minnesota. Xcel Energy will apply for a CON for the project in early 2011.

A Route Permit is required for the project under Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) rules. The project will be filed under the alternative permitting process identified in Minnesota Rules Chapter 7850.2900 to 7850.3900. Xcel Energy will file the route permit in conjunction with the CON in early 2011.

When is construction anticipated?

The permitting process is expected to take six to eight months. After the route is approved, Xcel Energy will begin detailed survey and design. We expect construction to begin in the fall of 2012. The project is anticipated to be in service in 2013.

What can landowners expect in the form of compensation if the route is on their land?

The project will occupy existing transmission line corridors. Some new easements may be necessary, however. Should easement modifications be required, Xcel Energy will provide fair compensation in the form of easement payments to property owners where new easements are necessary. We will work directly with property owners to address their concerns. Property owners may continue to use the land around transmission structures as long as it doesn't interfere with the safe operation of the electric line facilities. We have additional handouts providing more detailed right-of-way information and a description of how the landowner contact process works.

What about EMF?

Electric and magnetic fields, called EMF for short, are created by anything that conducts electricity, including transmission lines, household appliances and business equipment. These fields are strongest closest to their source, so the farther you are away from the source, the lower the strength of the field. Decades of scientific and medical research, reviewed by national and international expert panels and government agencies, have found no convincing evidence of adverse impacts to human health from EMF. We would be happy to provide more detailed background information concerning the question of health effects associated with magnetic fields if you wish. We will also provide information on this issue in our permit applications.

What will the line look like?

The route for the project is not expected to move from the current right-of-way. Poles for the transmission line will include single pole structures made of either galvanized or weathering steel. The pictures below are similar to how the transmission line structures (poles) will appear in those areas that won't be sharing local distribution or cable TV lines.

Single Circuit 115 kV Structures



Galvanized Pole Structure



Weathering Steel Structure

Will the Project include new Substations?

Electrical equipment upgrades will be part of the project. This new equipment can be installed within the current fenced area at the existing Westgate and Excelsior substations. The Deephaven substation will require some expansion of the fenced equipment area, but this expansion will be contained within the property currently owned by Xcel. No additional land acquisition will be necessary for equipment upgrades at the substation locations.