APPENDIX H

Cultural Resources Literature Review Report

414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

March 5, 2012

Ms. Mary Ann Heidemann
State Historic Preservation Office
Minnesota Historical Society
345 Kellogg Boulevard West
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102-1906

Re: Request for Project Review
Kohlman Lake to Goose Lake 115 kV Transmission Line Rebuild Project
Xcel Energy, Inc. / Northern States Power Company

Dear Ms. Heidemann:

Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation, d/b/a Xcel Energy, Inc. ("Xcel Energy") is planning an electric transmission project located in the cities of Maplewood, White Bear Lake, Vadnais Heights, Gem Lake, and White Bear Township in Ramsey County, Minnesota, as shown on the attached Figure 1. The project involves rebuilding approximately 3.3 miles of existing single circuit 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to a double circuit 115 kV transmission line between the Kohlman Lake (KOL) and Goose Lake (GLK) substations. The Project is referred to as the Kohlman Lake to Goose Lake 115 kV Transmission Line Rebuild Project ("Project"). The Project is needed to ensure reliable power delivery to the northeastern metro region, between Arden Hills and Hugo, and to meet the North American Electric Reliability Corporation ("NERC") planning standards without shedding load during transmission outages.

The Project involves: (1) removing the existing single circuit 115 kV transmission line structures and wires between KOL and GLK substations, (2) rebuilding a new double circuit 115 kV transmission line between KOL and GLK substations in approximately the same alignment, and (3) modifying the existing substations and transmission line terminations.

The proposed rebuilt 115 kV transmission line meets the definition of a High Voltage Transmission Line under Minn. Rules Chapter 7850.1000, subp. 9. Xcel Energy will apply for a Route Permit from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission ("PUC"), which is required for the Project. The Project qualifies for the Alternative Permitting Process under Minn. Stat. § 216E.04, subd. 2(3) and pursuant to Minn. Rules Chapter 7850.2800 to 7850.3900 (see Minn. Rules Chapter 7850.2800, subp. I(C)), which Xcel Energy may elect to use. With regard to cultural resources, Xcel Energy will provide in the Route Permit Application to the PUC a description of the effects of the proposed facility on archaeological and historic resources to aid in the preparation of an environmental impact statement under Minn. Rules Chapter 7850.1900, subp. 3(d).

A Certificate of Need ("CON") is not required for the Project because it is not classified as a large energy facility ("LEF") under Minn. Stat. §§ 216B.243 and 216B.2421, subd. 2(3). While the Project is a High Voltage Transmission Line ("HVTL") with a capacity of 100 kV or more, it is not more than I0 miles long in Minnesota and it does not cross a state line. Therefore, Xcel Energy will not need to apply for a CON for the Project.

On behalf of Xcel Energy, Merjent, Inc. ("Merjent") conducted a cultural resources Phase Ia Literature Review ("Report") for the proposed Project, a copy of which is enclosed for the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office's ("SHPO") review and comment.

As the report details, the Project is located in a corridor of existing infrastructure. The majority of the transmission line proposed to be rebuilt is located within railroad right-of-way and crosses Highway 694, Ramsey County Road "E", MN Highway 61, Ramsey County Road "F", Ramsey County Road 146 and the railroad tracks in three (3) locations. The railroad right-of-way traverses through developed areas comprised of residential, commercial, and industrial land uses. The railroad lines are the oldest cultural features present and potentially eligible for National Register listing; however, the replacement of the existing transmission line will not alter the current historic setting of the rail lines. The potential for undiscovered archeological resources is low because of the extensive ground disturbance due to existing development. Therefore, the Report recommends that no archaeological or historic resources will be adversely affected by construction or operation of the transmission line Project.

Xcel Energy respectfully requests SHPO written agreement with the Report findings and recommendations.

If you have questions regarding this Project or require additional information, please contact me at (612) 330-2909 or Sage.Tauber@xcelenergy.com.

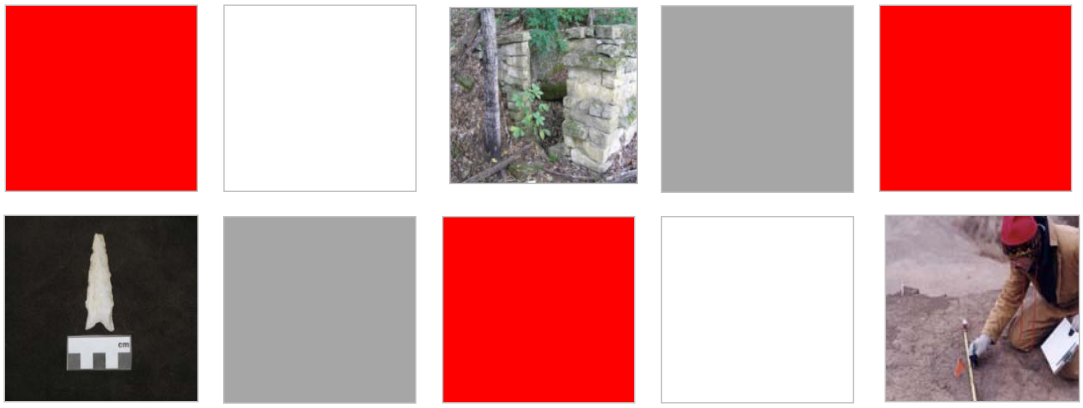
Sincerely,

XCEL ENERGY, INC.

Sage Tauber

Sage Tauber
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Phase Ia Literature Review Report for the Xcel Energy, Inc./Northern States Power Company Proposed Kohlman Lake to Goose Lake 115kV Transmission Line Rebuild Project, Ramsey County, Minnesota (dated March 2012)



Phase Ia Literature Review
for the
Xcel Energy, Inc./Northern States Power Company
Proposed Kohlman Lake to Goose Lake
115kV Transmission Line Rebuild Project

Ramsey County, Minnesota

March 2012

Report Title: Phase Ia Literature Review for the Xcel Energy, Inc./Northern States Power Company Proposed Kohlman Lake to Goose Lake 115kV Transmission Line Rebuild Project, Ramsey County, Minnesota

Report Prepared by: Merjent, Inc.
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Report Author: Peggy J. Boden, PhD

Report Date: March 2012

Submitted to:

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INTRODUCTION

Project Description

Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation, d/b/a Xcel Energy, Inc. ("Xcel Energy") is planning an electric transmission project located in the cities of Maplewood, White Bear Lake, Vadnais Heights, Gem Lake, and White Bear Township in Ramsey County, Minnesota, as shown on the attached **Figure 1**. The project involves rebuilding approximately 3.3 miles of existing single circuit 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to a double circuit 115 kV transmission line between the Kohlman Lake (KOL) and Goose Lake (GLK) substations. The Project is referred to as the Kohlman Lake to Goose Lake 115 kV Transmission Line Rebuild Project ("Project"). The Project is needed to ensure reliable power delivery to the northeastern metro region, between Arden Hills and Hugo, and to meet the North American Electric Reliability Corporation ("NERC") planning standards without shedding load during transmission outages.

The Project involves: (1) removing the existing single circuit 115 kV transmission line structures and wires between KOL and GLK substations, (2) rebuilding a new double circuit 115 kV transmission line between KOL and GLK substations in approximately the same alignment, and (3) modifying the existing substations and transmission line terminations.

Approximately forty (40) existing single circuit structures will be replaced with approximately the same number of new double circuit structures. The majority of the proposed new structures will be galvanized steel poles with a vertical davit arm configuration constructed on drilled pier concrete foundations. The average height of the new structures will be approximately 90 feet with an average span of 300 to 500 feet. All substation modifications will occur within existing graded areas.

Ground disturbance associated with this Project will generally be limited to excavation necessary for the removal of existing structures and the construction of new structures on drilled pier concrete foundations. Xcel Energy is using a 200-foot-wide route planning corridor centered on the existing line, and plans to use a maximum 100-foot-wide construction corridor (50 feet on either side of the proposed centerline).

As part of the environmental review for the proposed Project, Merjent, Inc. (Merjent) is assessing the potential Project impacts on cultural resources. This report presents the methods and findings of a cultural resources literature review for the Project area. The primary goal of a literature review is to identify all known previously recorded archaeological sites and historic standing structures for a given location, as well as the previously completed site inventories. The additional goals are to define the cultural background and determine the potential for the presence of unrecorded cultural sites.

Dr. Peggy J. Boden of Merjent conducted the research and wrote the literature review report. Merjent's Geographic Information System department prepared the project maps.

Jurisdiction

At this time, there are no federal regulatory triggers that would require compliance with federal historic preservation laws, notably Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as

amended. However, the NHPA and its enacting regulations have become standards for identifying cultural resources and evaluating their significance, and will serve as a general guide to researching and writing the literature review.

Environmental review of the Project falls under the jurisdiction of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC). Specifically, the Minnesota PUC will review the Project for effects on archaeological and historical resources under Minnesota Rules Chapter 7850.1900, subp. 3(d). Also, Minnesota state laws protect burials of all types (Minnesota Private Cemeteries Act [Minn. Stat. § 307]), and archaeological and historic sites that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or the Minnesota Register of Historic Sites (Minnesota Historic Sites Act [Minn. Stat. § 138.661-138.6691]).

Project Location

The Project is located in the Cities of White Bear Lake, Maplewood, Vadnais Heights, Gem Lake, and White Bear Township. The legal township, range and section description of the Project location is listed in the following table. The area of potential effect (APE) for direct impacts to cultural resources is the 200-foot-wide route planning corridor, which includes the 100-foot-wide construction corridor.

In order to study the cultural background and better understand the potential for impacts on cultural resources for the Project APE, a one-mile buffer around the APE was used to gather information. The APE plus the one-mile buffer is defined as the cultural resources study area (or study area). Within this report, phrases such as "Project area" or "Project location" refer to the general geographical location of the Project, not the specific APE or study area. Table 1 provides the legal township, range and sections designations for the Project APE and study area. Figures 1 and 2 are topographic and aerial photo-based maps showing the Project study area and the results of the literature review.

Table 1. Legal Description of Project APE and Project Cultural Resources Study Area

	Township	Range	Section(s)	County
Project APE	30N	22W	22, 27, 34	Ramsey
	29N	22W	3	Ramsey
Project Study Area	30N	22W	22, 23, 26, 27, 33, 34, 35	Ramsey
	29N	22W	3, 4	Ramsey

The Project area is located among primarily residential/commercial properties with some light manufacturing or warehousing. There is also open land and small lakes, ponds, and wetlands. The majority of the Project route will follow the alignment of the existing Xcel Energy single circuit 115kV transmission line (Line #0885), which is almost entirely located within the railroad right-of-way.

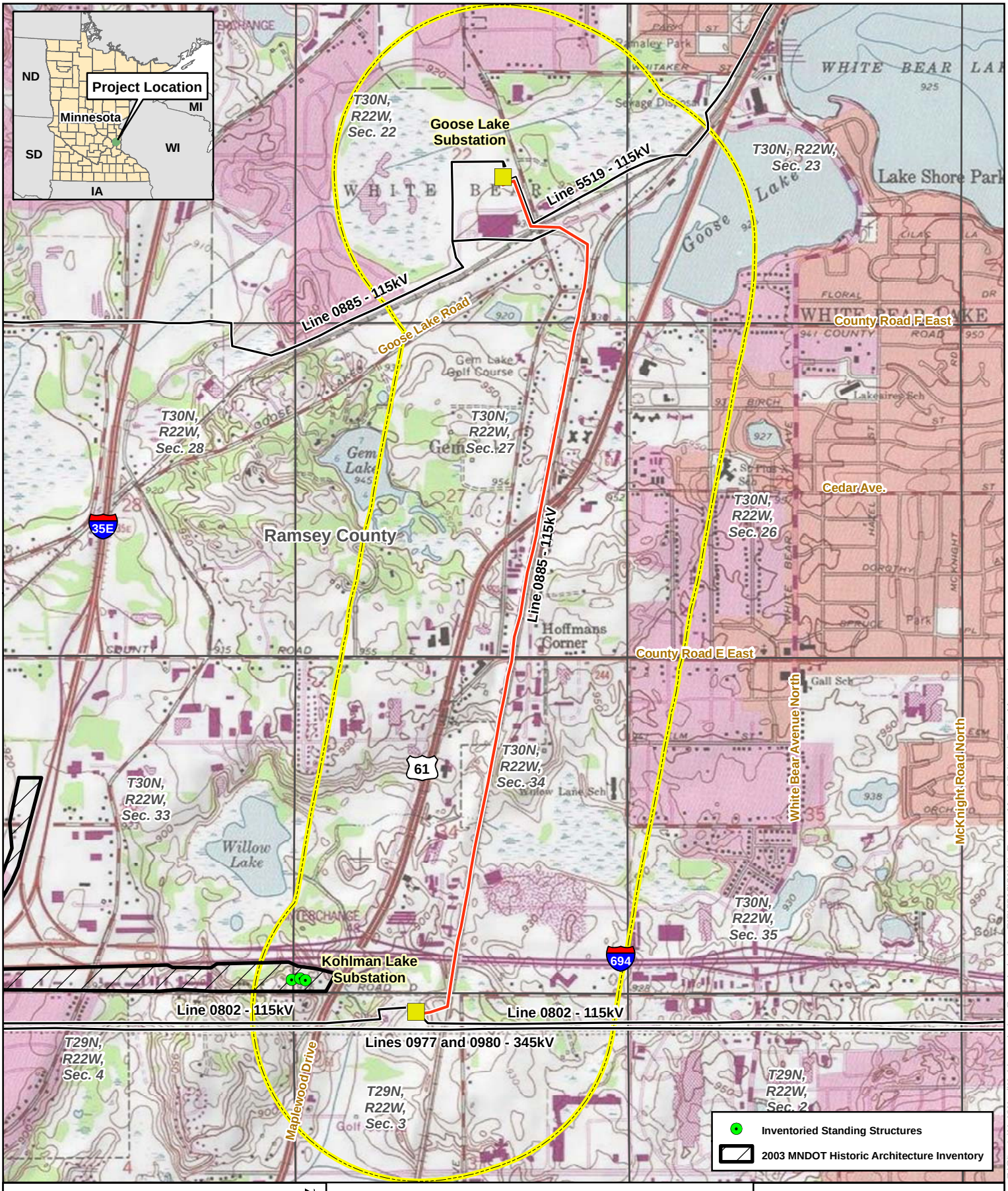

Figure 1

Kohlman Lake to Goose Lake 115kV Transmission Line Rebuild Project

Topographic Map for Cultural Resources Literature Review

Ramsey County, Minnesota

Xcel Energy℠

Source: Cultural Resources Data Provided by the SHPO
All other data from Xcel Energy, ESRI, and Merjent
This information is for environmental review purposes only.

Source: Z:\Clients\U_Xx\xcel\KohlmanLake_GooseLake_ArcGIS\2012\01\LIT_Review_Maps\Cultural_Topo_Map.mxd

Date: (3/2/2012)

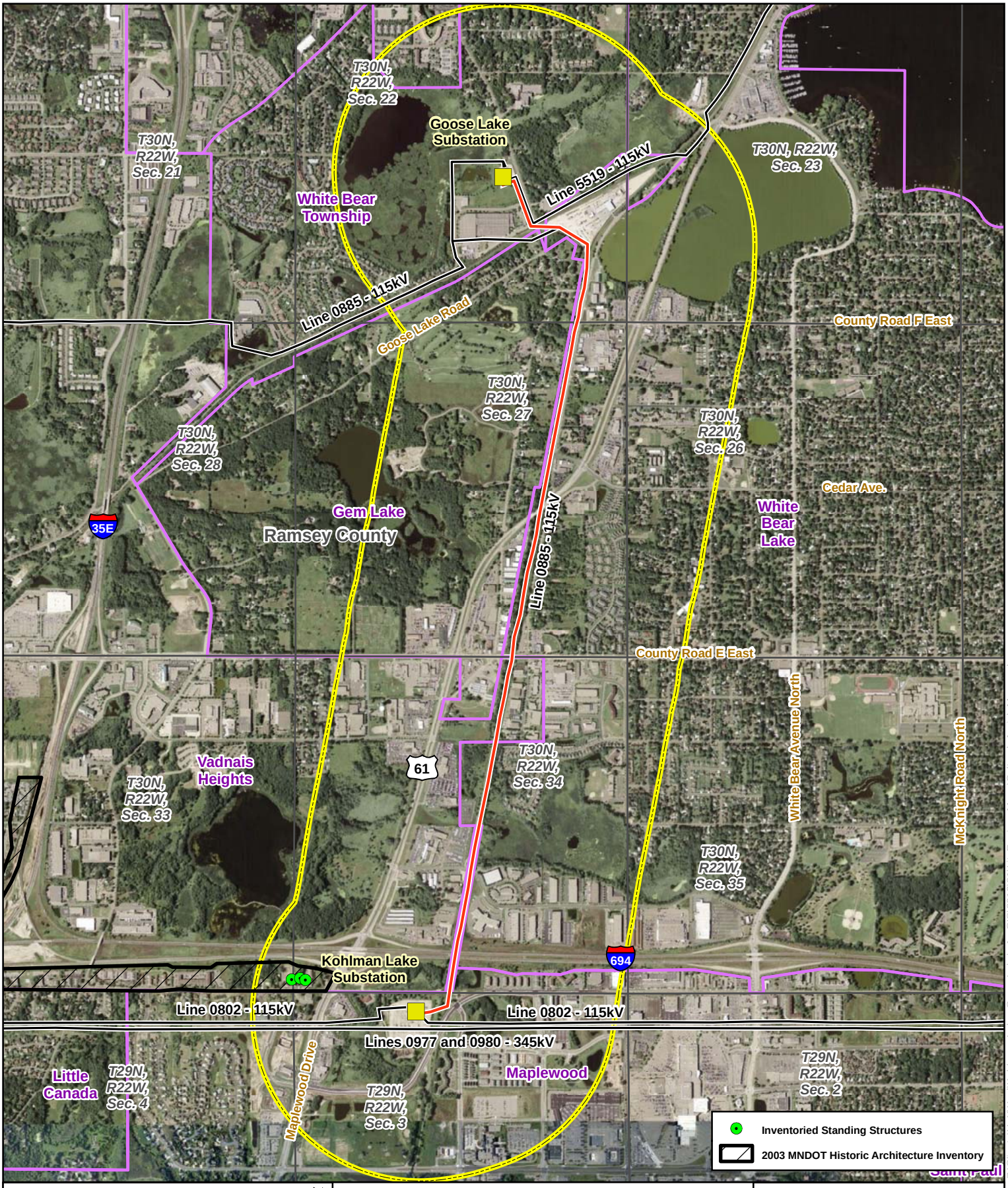

Figure 2

Kohlman Lake to Goose Lake 115kV Transmission Line Rebuild Project

Aerial Map for Cultural Resources Literature Review

Ramsey County, Minnesota

Xcel Energy℠

Source: Cultural Resources Data Provided by the SHPO
All other data from Xcel Energy, ESRI, and Merjent
This information is for environmental review purposes only.

Source: Z:\Clients\SU_Xx\Xcel\Kohlman Lake_GooseLake_ArcGIS\2012\01\LIt_Review_Maps\Cultural_Aerial_Map.mxd

Date: (3/2/2012)

Cultural Resources Study Area Background

The proposed Project is located in southeastern Minnesota, specifically in the Cities of White Bear Lake, Maplewood, Vadnais Heights, Gem Lake, and White Bear Township in Ramsey County. Archaeologically, this is within the Central Lake Deciduous Archaeological Region. The region is described as having "more mounds than any other region" (Anfinson 1990). The recorded mounds are known at large lakes such as Lake Minnetonka, Lake Mille Lacs and Otter Tail Lake, with some concentrations of mounds known along the banks of the St. Croix River. The nearest recorded mounds to the Project area are a set of nine mounds found on the northwest side of White Bear Lake. These mounds were first recorded in the late nineteenth century. Amateur excavations at the time uncovered human bones and animal-bone artifacts. WPA descriptions in 1936 report a flint lock pistol associated with the mounds, suggesting that the mound group dates to the Contact Period or later (Arzigian and Stevenson 2003).

The climate of the Project area is characteristic of the North American mid-continent, that is, subject to temperature extremes in winter and summer, and turbulent precipitation events. The topography of this region was formed by the retreat of the Wisconsin glaciers and is characterized by patchwork hilly moraines, flat outwash plains, and shallow to very deep lakes. The soils were formed by glacial retreat and subsequent forest vegetation, resulting in medium to coarse texture loams. Prior to Euro-American settlement, the vegetation was predominantly oak forests, with deciduous-coniferous forests more common in the north. The Project area is further defined by its landscape of small lakes among hilly moraines and till plains. The Project location is approximately three miles north of the Mississippi River as it travels through St. Paul, and approximately ten miles west of the St. Croix River at the City of Stillwater (see Figure 1).

To provide the briefest cultural background for the Project area, the earliest occupants of the region were Paleo-Indians (9,000-7,500 B.C.), known mostly through chance discovery of their large lithic tools and weapons. Occupation by Archaic period groups followed (7,500-500 B.C.), known by their technically improved lithic tools and exploitation of more diverse resources. By the Woodland period (500 B.C.-1600 A.D.), the bow and arrow and pottery were widely used. The Plains Village groups (1000-1650 A.D.), such as the Oneota, developed distinctive tribal customs and practices, expressing their beliefs through decorative material culture. Prehistorically, the Central Lakes Deciduous Archaeological Region was a favored location for the Woodland period groups. They lived near lakes and utilized the many associated resources such as lake rushes and water lilies, wild rice, fish, and waterfowl.

When the first Europeans came to the region to trade for animal pelts (Early Contact period, 1640-1840), they encountered the Ojibwe and Dakota Indians. In preparation for Euro-American entry into the northern frontier, and to monitor disputes between the Dakota and Ojibwe Indians, Fort Snelling (Fort) was built in 1825. At the time the Fort was constructed, several bands of Dakota lived in villages along the terraces of the Minnesota River Valley west of the Fort. These are known from narratives and artwork of the period, from place names, and also from archaeological sites.

When Euro-Americans migrated in large numbers to Minnesota Territory, this area between St. Paul and White Bear Lake was purchased using the "Cash Entry Act of 1820" to purchase land, as well as land scripted for service in the War of 1812 (Bureau of Land Management). The land of the Project area was patented between 1854 and 1856, at a time when Minnesota was still a territory, but when the frontier

was quickly being occupied and settled. The White Bear Lake area became an early recreation destination, first in the late 1800s when St. Paul residents traveled the few miles north for picnics and fishing, and again during the depression era when notorious gangsters favored the White Bear Lake area for extended stays away from big cities.

Today, the Project area lies in the metropolitan area of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota. Known mainly as a residential community, White Bear Lake, Maplewood, Vadnais Heights, Gem Lake, and White Bear Township actually has a diverse economic base in addition to housing development and retail, including manufacturing, recreation, and service industry businesses. Land use of the general Project location is a mix of light industrial, residential and commercial (Minnesota Geospatial Information Office). There is also urban infrastructure. The transmission line corridor is located primarily within the railroad right-of-way, which runs parallel to Hoffman Road for a large portion of the Project extent (see Figures 1 and 2).

METHODS

The main objective in reviewing the cultural resources literature is to identify the recorded cultural sites and assess the potential for unrecorded sites within the Project study area. The standard for considering a cultural property significant is whether it meets the criteria for listing on the NRHP. The initial criterion for such listing is an age of 50 or more years. Beyond age, a property must retain integrity and be associated with significant historic trends, historic persons, building styles and craftsmanship, or the property must have the potential to provide significant information about the past (National Park Service 1995).

Merjent reviewed and followed the published guidelines for conducting cultural resources literature reviews in Minnesota (Anfinson 2005). The Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), located in the Minnesota History Center building in St. Paul, is the record keeper for the state's prehistoric and historic archaeological site files, historic standing structure inventory files, and field survey reports. Dr. Boden requested a SHPO file search of their database by email, and after receiving the results, made a trip to the Minnesota SHPO on January 27, 2012 and reviewed the files for information on the Project study area.

Dr. Boden examined the current topographic and aerial photo-based maps to understand the modern land use of the study area and to provide a baseline for examining the historic maps and documents. Several online resources were used to gather information. Dr. Boden looked up general information online about Ramsey County and the City of White Bear Lake. She also examined primary sources that have been digitized and made available online, such as the original land survey maps, the original land patent records, and historic aerial photos. Many of these same resources are available at the Minnesota History Center library; however, it is preferable to view digitized images that can be enlarged rather than the microfiche copies available in the history library.

Many cities in Minnesota have established a Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) that is charged with creating policies that promote historic preservation. HPCs may have policies regarding historic preservation for construction on new or existing structures, and may conduct property inventories. The City of White Bear Lake does not have an HPC, although it does have an active historical society. The White Bear Lake Area Historical Society gathers and preserves historical items and provides educational programming about the White Bear Lake area (White Bear Lake Historical Society 2011).

LITERATURE REVIEW RESULTS

National Register of Historic Places/Minnesota Historic Sites

A search of the NRHP website and the records on file at the Minnesota SHPO revealed that there are 113 properties and 9 historic districts in Ramsey County listed on the NRHP. The listed properties include single family houses, commercial buildings, public buildings such as churches and libraries, and bridges. The historic districts are all distinctive neighborhoods within the City of St. Paul. There are four properties in the City of White Bear Lake listed on the NRHP, all of them located on the north side of the city's namesake lake, and none within one mile of the Project APE. None of the NRHP-listed properties are located in the Project APE or study area.

There are two railroad lines that run through the Project study area and converge immediately northeast of the Goose Lake substation. The St. Paul to Duluth Line of the Northern Pacific Railroad, which parallels the Project route, is described in the Multiple Property Nomination to the NRHP for *Railroads in Minnesota, 1862 – 1956* (Schmidt et al., 2002). This line was originally constructed by the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Company in 1868. It was first leased and then purchased by the Northern Pacific Railroad Company in 1900. The St. Anthony to White Bear Lake Line was first built by the Minneapolis and Duluth Company in 1871. The line was purchased by the Minneapolis and St. Louis Company in 1881, and finally became part of James J. Hill's Northern Pacific Railroad in 1900. The Multiple Property Nomination document describes the significance of the many railroads of Minnesota, and establishes the criteria for considering a rail line and associated railroad features as eligible for listing on the NRHP. These two railroad lines certainly meet the initial criteria of being more than 50 years old. Only a field survey would determine if the lines maintains their historic integrity and setting sufficiently to be eligible for listing on the NRHP, although they almost certainly do. Because the proposed Project will not alter the landscape or surroundings of the original railroad centerline and the proposed new transmission lines represent an in-kind use of the urban infrastructure corridor of highway, railroad, and transmission line, there will be no notable change to the existing setting of these sections of the Northern Pacific Railroad (Figures 1 and 2).

In addition to the NRHP, the Minnesota Historical Society maintains a list of properties that are significant to the history of Minnesota. No Minnesota Historic Sites are located within the Project study area.

Minnesota State Site Files

Previously Recorded Archaeological Sites

No archaeological sites have been recorded in the Project APE, that is, the 200-foot-wide route planning corridor which includes the 100-foot-wide construction corridor for the new double circuit 115 kV transmission line, or in the larger one mile Project study area. The closest recorded archaeological sites are the mounds on the northwest side of White Bear Lake, mentioned earlier.

Previously Recorded Standing Structures

Other than the two Northern Pacific Railroad Lines that converge at Goose Lake, only three houses have been inventoried within the Project study area. A Phase I architectural history investigation, completed for the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) in 2003 prior to reconstruction of the Edgerton Bridge at the Highway 694 and I-35E Interchange, inventoried three houses that fall within the Project study area (see Figures 1 and 2). The three houses meet the initial criteria of being at least 50 years old, but none of them retained sufficient historic integrity in design and materials to be further considered for listing on the NRHP (Wiltberger, Hawkinson and Halverson 2003).

Previously Conducted Cultural Resources Surveys

The reports of cultural resources inventory surveys in the study area were examined; the only professional technical report for the study area on file at the Minnesota SHPO was the 2003 MnDOT architectural history investigation mentioned above (Wiltberger, Hawkinson, and Halverson 2003). The St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission and the Ramsey County Historical Society did sponsor a Historic Sites Survey of Ramsey County in 1981 that inventoried several properties in White Bear Lake, but none of the properties were within this Project's study area (Murphy and Granger 1981).

Other Resources

Other historical documents relevant to the study area were reviewed in order to identify possible unrecorded historic sites that might be affected by the Project.

General Land Office Survey Maps

The General Land Office (GLO) Survey maps, representing the original township surveying of the Minnesota Territory in 1853, were viewed online through the Minnesota Historical Society's library website. The GLO maps do not show any cultural features on the landscape when the early survey was done. They do show the topography dotted with many small lakes, streams between lakes, and wetlands.

Historic Plat Maps

Several historic plat maps were viewed online to determine if any historic features such as pioneer trails or early homesteads were recorded in the Project APE or study area (John R. Borchert Map Library). Early activity or buildings can become lost to history, although buried remnants may be left behind. The earliest map atlas examined (Andreas 1974) shows the two rail lines that became part of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company holdings in 1900. It appears that these structures are the oldest historical properties in the study area. No additional cultural information can be gleaned from the early plat maps.

Historic Aerial Photographs

Merjent reviewed aerial photographs of the study area that are available online from the GIS Department of Ramsey County. The 1940 aerial map shows Highway 61, and the two Northern Pacific Railroad lines that converge just west of Goose Lake. The remaining Project area was dominated by farm fields and farmsteads, although there was some residential development, especially near White Bear Lake. The 1953 aerial photo shows the same road/railroad corridor, and further residential development, notably to the east of the Project APE. Historically to the present, the Project APE is dominated by the urban infrastructure of graded roads, a rail line, and the electric transmission line.

RECOMMENDATIONS

There are no historic landmarks, historic properties, districts, or landscapes within the Project APE or Project study area. There are no recorded archaeological sites within the Project study area. Three standing structures were inventoried within the study area, although none of these are within the Project APE, and none are recommended as eligible for listing on the NRHP.

Prior to European contact, the Project study area was probably visited by Native American groups in order to utilize the many lake and wetland resources. The mound group on the northern side of White Bear Lake indicates that the area was occupied by American Indians who had early contact with Europeans. Historically, the Project area was an agricultural community feeding farm products into the Twin Cities, and to a lesser degree, the area around the lakes was a recreation destination. During the significant railroad building decades at the end of the nineteenth century, two rail lines that were built from St. Anthony and St. Paul north to White Bear Lake converged at Goose Lake, very near the northern terminus of the Goose Lake substation. These Northern Pacific Railroad lines are the oldest intact cultural features in the Project study area, and are discussed in the Multiple Property Nomination to the NRHP Form (Schmidt et al., 2002). The proposed Project is a rebuild of an existing transmission line mostly within its existing easement, which also shares the infrastructure corridor with the railroad, and improved roads for most of its length. Thus, the proposed transmission line rebuild within approximately the same alignment will not adversely affect the historic integrity or setting of the Northern Pacific Railroad lines.

The potential for impacting unrecorded archaeological resources within the Project APE is low to very low because of the extensive development of the general Project location. Most of the Project APE is located in railroad right-of-way, and repeated construction within the proposed Project corridor minimizes the potential for discovering any intact archaeological deposits. It is our recommendation that no recorded archaeological or historic sites will be adversely affected by the proposed construction of the transmission line.

Merjent understands that the Project is under the jurisdiction of the Minnesota PUC and applicable state and local laws. Merjent is making recommendations according to standard predictability models for discovery of archaeological resources in the Upper Midwest, and in accordance with the relevant PUC regulations, the Minnesota Historic Sites Act, the Minnesota Field Archaeology Act, and the Minnesota Private Cemeteries Act. If there is federal involvement in the Project, such as federal permitting, licensing, or funding, the Project should comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

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