



**In the Matter of ITC Midwest, LLC's Route Permit Application for the Minnesota to Iowa 345 kV Transmission Line Project and Associated Facilities in Jackson, Martin, and Faribault Counties**

**Advisory Task Force  
Authorization and Charge  
PUC Docket No. ET6675/TL-12-1337**

### **ADVISORY TASK FORCE AUTHORIZATION, CHARGE, AND ORDER**

The above-noted matter has come before the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Commerce (Department) for a decision on the appointment of an advisory task force (ATF) to advise the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) on ITC Midwest, LLC's (ITCM) route permit application for the proposed Minnesota to Iowa 345 kV transmission line project and associated facilities.

As authorized by the Commission, the Deputy Commissioner is establishing an advisory task force to assist in identifying impacts and route alternatives to be evaluated in the environmental impact statement (EIS) to be prepared by the Department for the proposed project.

ATF members will be solicited from the following governmental units:<sup>1</sup>

RDCs:	Southwest Regional Development Commission, Region Nine Development Commission
Counties:	Jackson, Martin, Faribault
City:	Sherburn
Townships:	Belmont, Des Moines, Hunter, Enterprise, Wisconsin, Center Creek, Fox Lake, Elm Creek, Fraser, Jay, Manyaska, Rutland, Jo Daviess, Elmore, Pilot Grove, Verona

Based on this solicitation, the ATF will consist of up to 20 members.

As authorized by the Commission, the Department herein charges ATF members to:

1. Assist in identifying specific impacts and issues of local concern that should be analyzed in the EIS that will be prepared for the proposed project;
2. Assist in determining potential route and site alternatives that should be analyzed in the EIS.

ATF members will be expected to participate in up to three meetings and to assist Department staff with the development of a summary of the task force's work. The Department anticipates that it will engage staff from the Minnesota Office of Management and Budget to facilitate ATF meetings.

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<sup>1</sup> See Minnesota Statute 216E.08, Subd. 1.

The advisory task force will expire upon issuance of the EIS scoping decision for the project by the Deputy Commissioner of the Department.

**THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MAKES THE FOLLOWING ORDER:**

**WHEREAS**, ITC Midwest, LLC, submitted an application for a route permit for the Minnesota to Iowa 345 kV transmission line project and associated facilities on March 28, 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statute 216E.08 provides for the establishment of an advisory task force (ATF) to assist the Commission in carrying out its duties; and

**WHEREAS**, at its regularly scheduled meeting on May 23, 2013, the Commission authorized the Department to establish an ATF and develop a structure and charge for the ATF; and

**WHEREAS**, Minn. Stat. 216E.08 establishes that an ATF comprise at least one representative from each regional development commission, county, and municipal corporation, and at least one town board member from each county in which a route is proposed to be located;

**THEREFORE**, the Department herein establishes an advisory task force for the Minnesota to Iowa 345 kV transmission line project and associated facilities, authorizes Department staff to appoint members of the task force, and adopts the above determination with regard to its structure and charge.

Signed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May 2013

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



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William Grant, Deputy Commissioner