



Consumers



Electricity



Energy Facilities



Natural Gas



Telecom



Public Information and Scoping Meeting

Minnesota-Iowa Transmission Line Project

Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Docket Numbers: ET-6675/CN-12-1053
ET-6675/TL-12-1337

June 16, 17, 18, 2013
Fairmont, Jackson, Blue Earth



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AGENDA

- ▶ Introduction – Public Utilities Commission
- ▶ Certificate of Need and Route Permit Roles and Process – Public Utilities Commission
- ▶ Project Summary – ITC Midwest LLC
- ▶ Environmental Review – Department of Commerce
- ▶ Citizen Comments and Questions



Public Utilities Commission

- ▶ Regulates
 - Permitting for power plants, pipelines, transmission lines
 - Local and in-state long distance telephone companies
 - Investor-owned electric and natural gas utilities
- ▶ 5 Commissioners
 - Appointed by the Governor
 - Serve staggered terms
 - Full time employment
- ▶ 50 staff



Who's Who?

- ▶ **Applicant** – Company asking for Certificate of Need and Transmission Line Route Permit – *ITC Midwest LLC*
- ▶ **Department of Commerce Energy Facility Permitting (EFP)** – State agency, conducts environmental review
- ▶ **Department of Commerce Energy Regulation & Planning** – State agency, represents the public interest when utilities ask to change rates, services, facilities
- ▶ **Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH)** – State agency, Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) holds hearings, summarizes the facts in the record, makes recommendations to Public Utilities Commissioners



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Who's Who?

- ▶ **Public Utilities Commission (PUC)** – State agency, five Commissioners appointed by Governor, makes decision on certificate of need and route permit
- ▶ **Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Public Advisor** – Helps citizens participate in the certificate of need and route permit processes. Neutral party, does not give legal advice, not an advocate.
- ▶ **Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Staff Analyst** – Assists in building the record. Informs Commissioners on impacts of different decisions. Neutral party, does not give legal advice, not an advocate.



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Large Energy Facility

- Transmission line with capacity of 200 kilovolts (kV) or more *and*
- Greater than 1500 feet in length
- OR–
- Transmission line with capacity of 100 kV or more *and*
- More than 10 miles of its length in Minnesota *or* crosses state line
- Requires **Certificate of Need** from Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
 - Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 216B
 - Minnesota Rules, Part 7849



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High Voltage Transmission Line

- Will operate at 100 kV or more *and*
- Greater than 1500 feet in length
- Requires **Route Permit** from Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
 - Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 216E
 - Minnesota Rules, Part 7850



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Route Permit Includes...

- ▶ Permitted Route
 - The location of a high voltage transmission line between two end points
 - The route width may vary, up to 1.25 miles

- ▶ Right-of-Way
 - The land interest required within a route for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a high voltage transmission line

- ▶ Anticipated Alignment
 - The anticipated location of the lines and poles



Factors considered in Public Utilities Commission's decision on the **need** and **route**

- ▶ Human settlement – displacement, noise, aesthetics, cultural values, recreation, public services
- ▶ Public health and safety
- ▶ Economy– agriculture, forestry, tourism, mining
- ▶ Archaeological and historic resources
- ▶ Natural environment – air and water quality, flora and fauna
- ▶ Rare and natural resources



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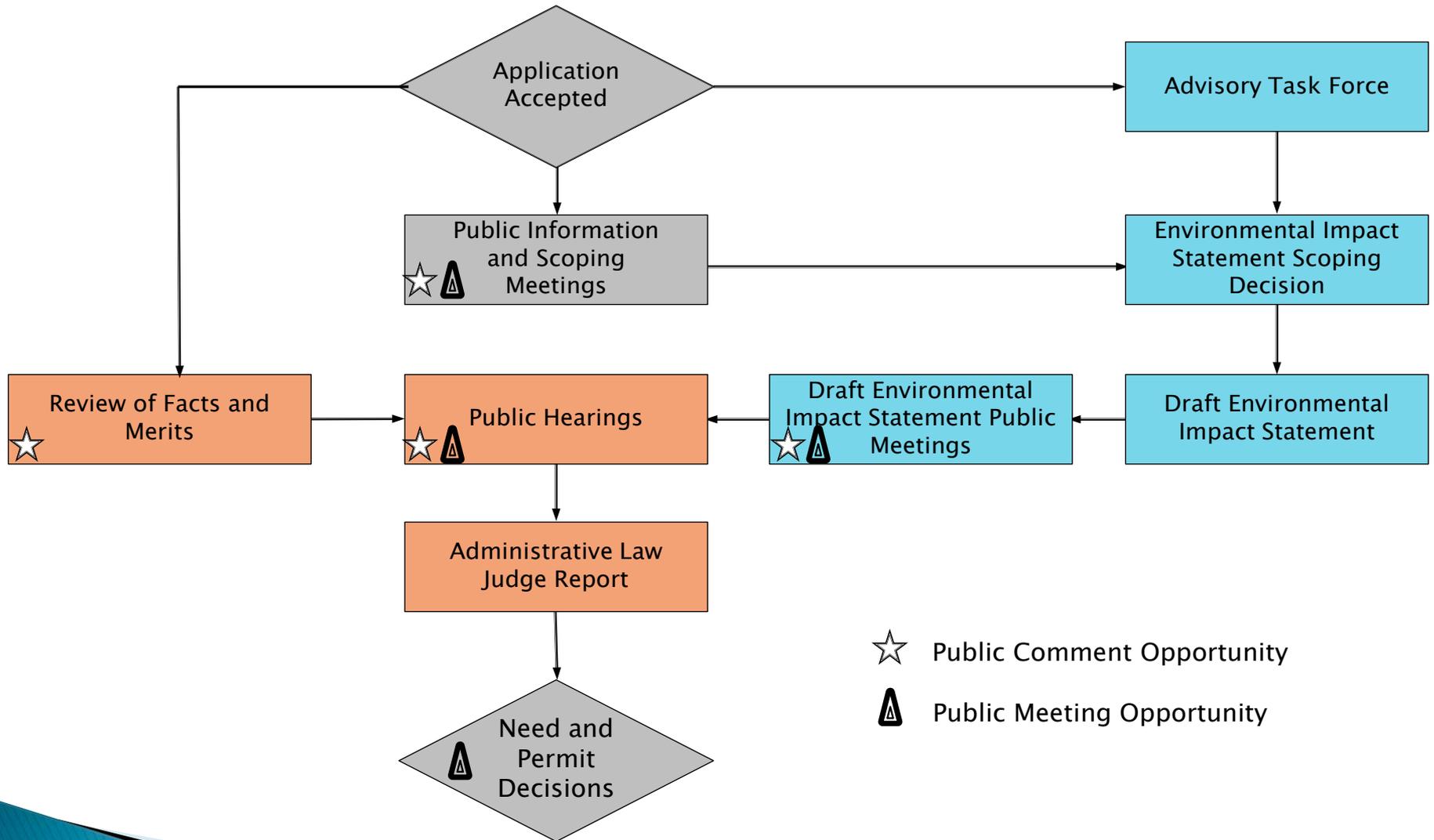


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Factors considered in Public Utilities Commission's decision on the **need** and **route**

- ▶ Design options to maximize efficiencies and allow for future expansion
- ▶ Use of existing rights-of-way
- ▶ Use of natural boundaries, e.g., survey lines, field boundaries
- ▶ Use of existing large electric power generating sites
- ▶ Electrical system reliability
- ▶ Costs of constructing, operating, and maintaining the transmission line

High Voltage Transmission Line Need and Permit Process



Application Acceptance to Permit Decision = 12-15 months



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Estimated Project Timeline

Certificate of Need and Route Permit Applications Filed	March 2013
Certificate of Need and Route Permit Applications Accepted	June 2013
*Public Information & Scoping Meeting	July 16, 17, 18, 2013
Comment Period Closes	August 2, 2013
Scope of Environmental Impact Statement	October 2013
Draft Environmental Impact Statement Published	February 2014
Draft Environmental Impact Statement Public Meetings	March 2014
Public Hearings	April 2014
Final Environmental Impact Statement Published	May 2014
Administrative Law Judge Report	July 2014
Certificate of Need and Permit Decisions	September 2014



How do I get more information?

- ▶ Department of Commerce Project Website
 - <http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?Id=33080>
- ▶ See all documents related to this project
 - www.puc.state.mn.us
 - Select *Search eDockets*
 - Enter the year and the Docket Number
 - 12 is the year and 1053 is the number for certificate of need
 - 12 is the year and 1337 is the number for route permit
 - Select *Search*, and the list of documents will appear on the next page



How do I get more information?

- ▶ Subscribe to receive e-mail notification when new documents are added to the Docket
 - www.puc.state.mn.us
 - Select *Subscribe to a Docket*
 - Subscribe by Docket Number
 - 12 is the year and 1053 is the number for certificate of need
 - 12 is the year and 1337 is the number for route permit



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How do I get more information?

- ▶ Sign up for the Project Mailing List to receive information about project milestones and opportunities for citizen participation
 - Complete and return “Project Mailing List” card
 - Sign up online
 - mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/#mailing
 - Contact the Public Utilities Commission
 - consumer.puc@state.mn.us
 - 651-296-0406 or 1-800-657-3782



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Additional Resources

- ▶ Department of Commerce
mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/
- ▶ Minnesota Statutes and Rules
www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/
- ▶ Public Utilities Commission
www.puc.state.mn.us





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Project Contacts

Public Advisor
Public Utilities Commission
Tracy M.B. Smetana
consumer.puc@state.mn.us
Phone 651-296-0406
Toll Free 1-800-657-3782

Staff Analyst
Public Utilities Commission
Scott Ek
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Phone 651-201-2255

Project Summary – ITC Midwest LLC

Manager, Regulatory Strategy

ITC Midwest LLC

David Grover

dgrover@itctransco.com

Phone 651-222-1000 Ext. 2308

Senior Civil Engineer

ITC Midwest LLC

Dick Coeur

wcoeur@itctransco.com

Phone 319-297-6802

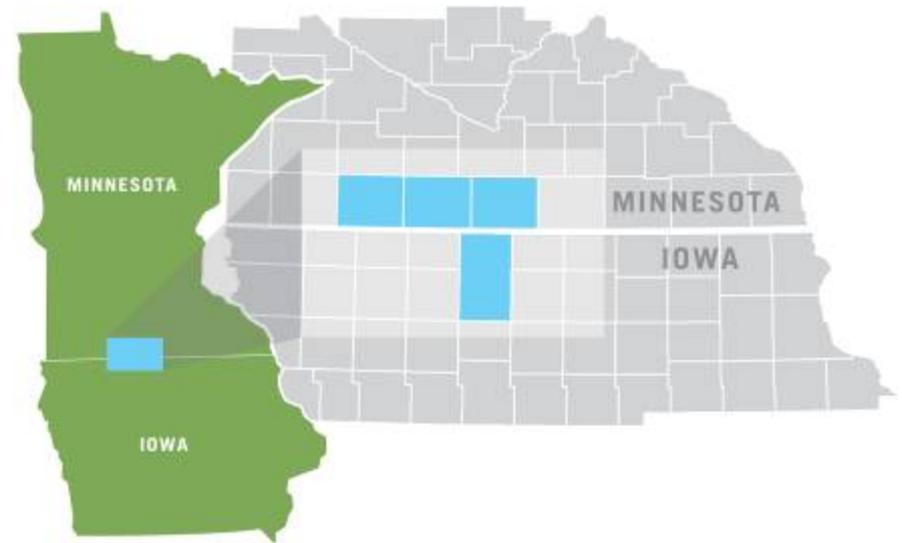


Minnesota – Iowa 345 kV Transmission
Project and Associated Facilities in
Jackson, Martin, and Faribault Counties
Docket Nos. ET6675/CN-12-1053 & ET6675/TL-12-1337

Public Information and Scoping Meetings
July 16, 17, & 18, 2013

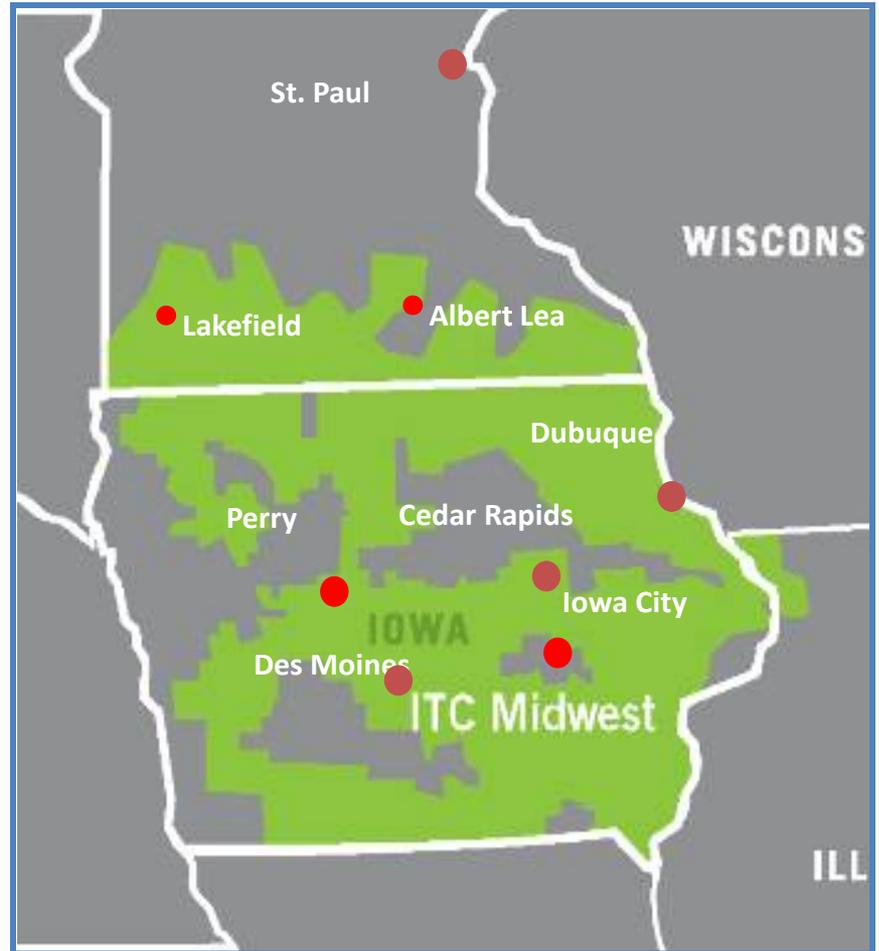
Presentation Agenda

- Introduction to ITC Midwest LLC
- Project Overview
- Route Review

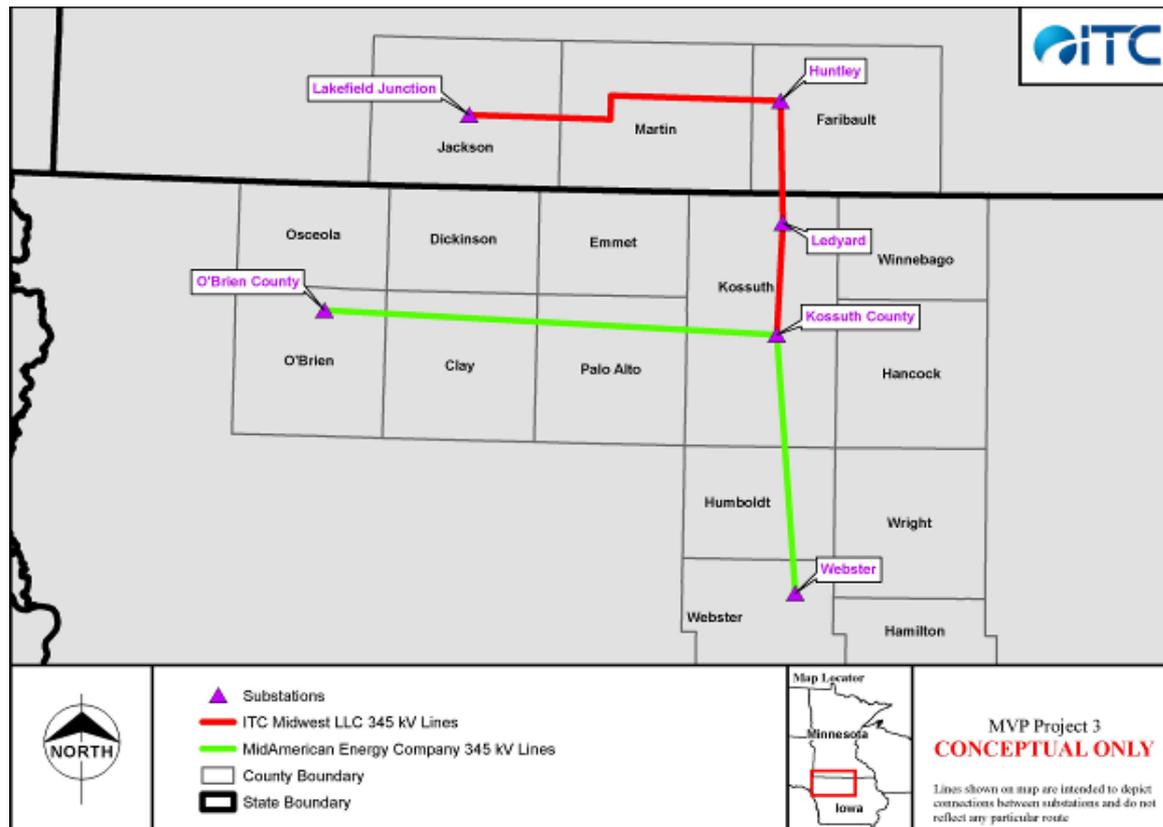


Introduction to ITC Midwest LLC

- Transmission-Owning Utility
- December 2007
 - Acquired Alliant Energy - Interstate Power and Light Company Transmission Assets
- Headquarters in Cedar Rapids
- Offices and operating facilities in Albert Lea, Lakefield, St. Paul, Dubuque, Iowa City, Des Moines, and Perry



Project Overview

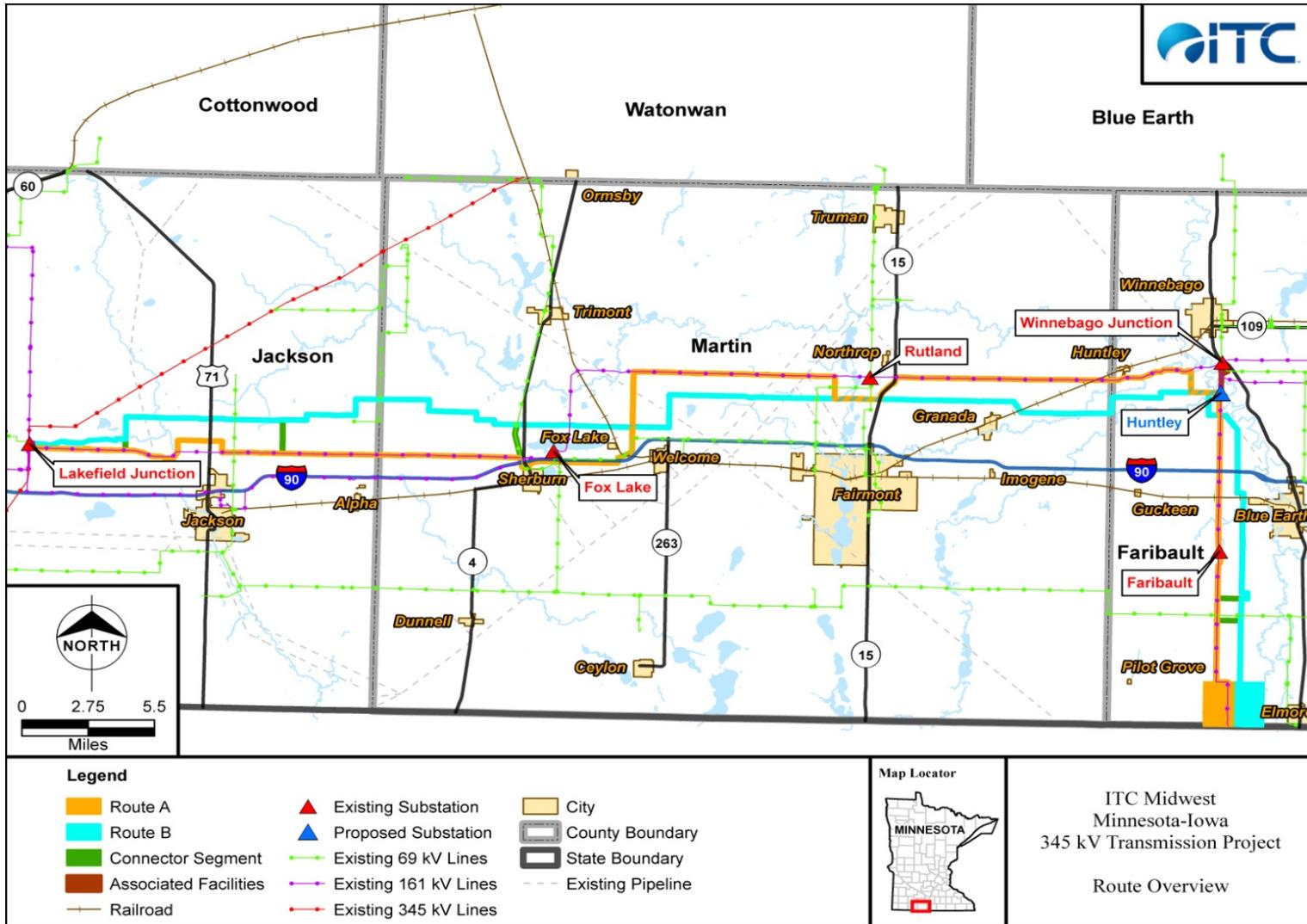


- MISO MVP 3
- Owners
 - ITC Midwest
 - MidAmerican Energy
- Connections (MN)
 - Lakefield Junction
 - Huntley
- Connections (IA)
 - Ledyard
 - Kossuth County
 - O'Brien County
 - Webster

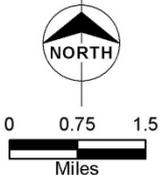
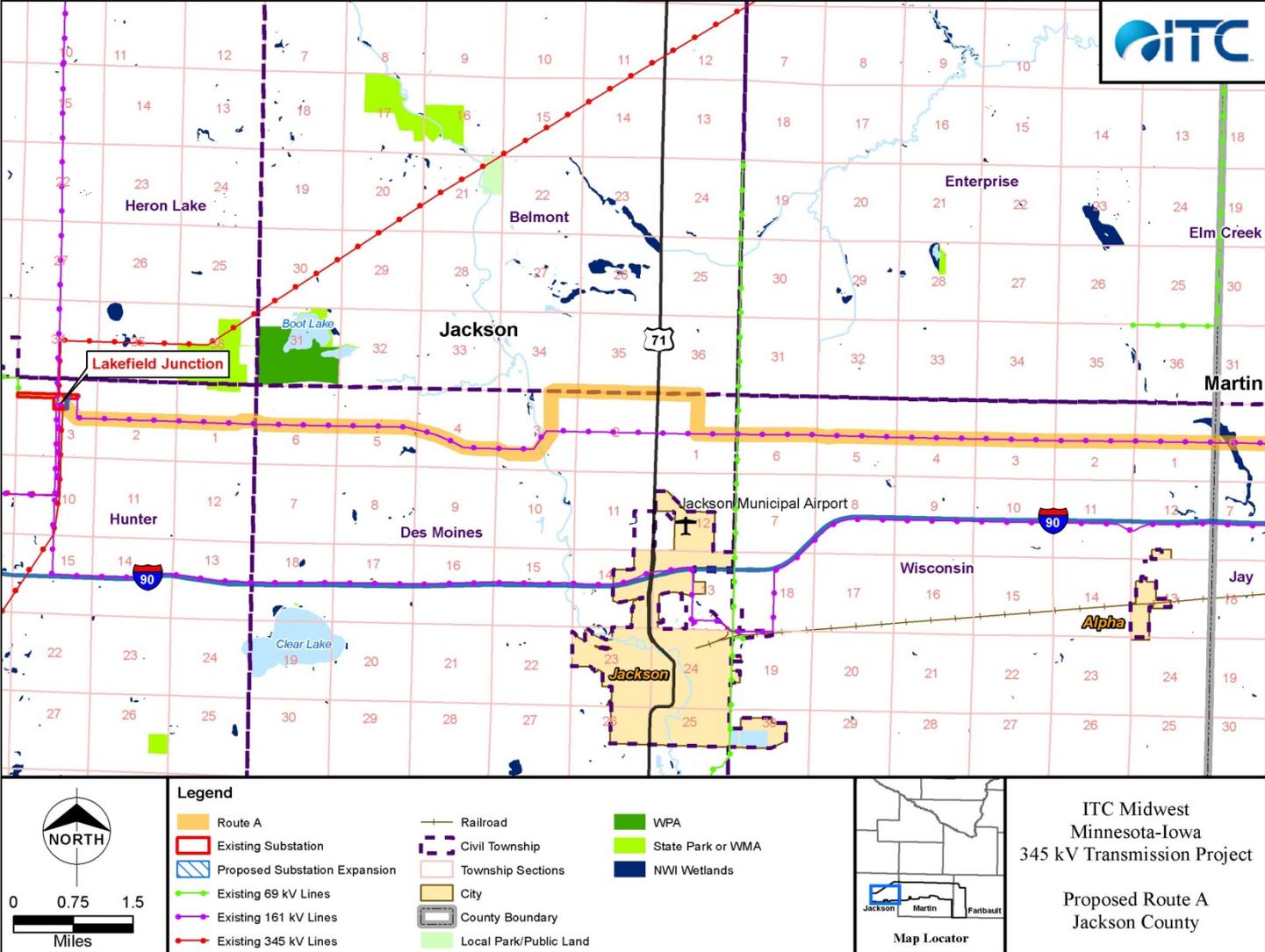
Project Details

- 75 Miles in Minnesota
- 345 kV on 345 kV/161 kV Structures
 - 200-Foot Right-of-Way
- Substations in Minnesota
 - Jackson – Expand
 - Huntley – New
 - Winnebago – Remove
- 161 kV Transmission Line Reroutes at Huntley
 - 150-Foot Right-of-Way

Route Review



Route A – Jackson County

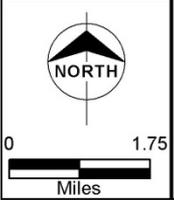
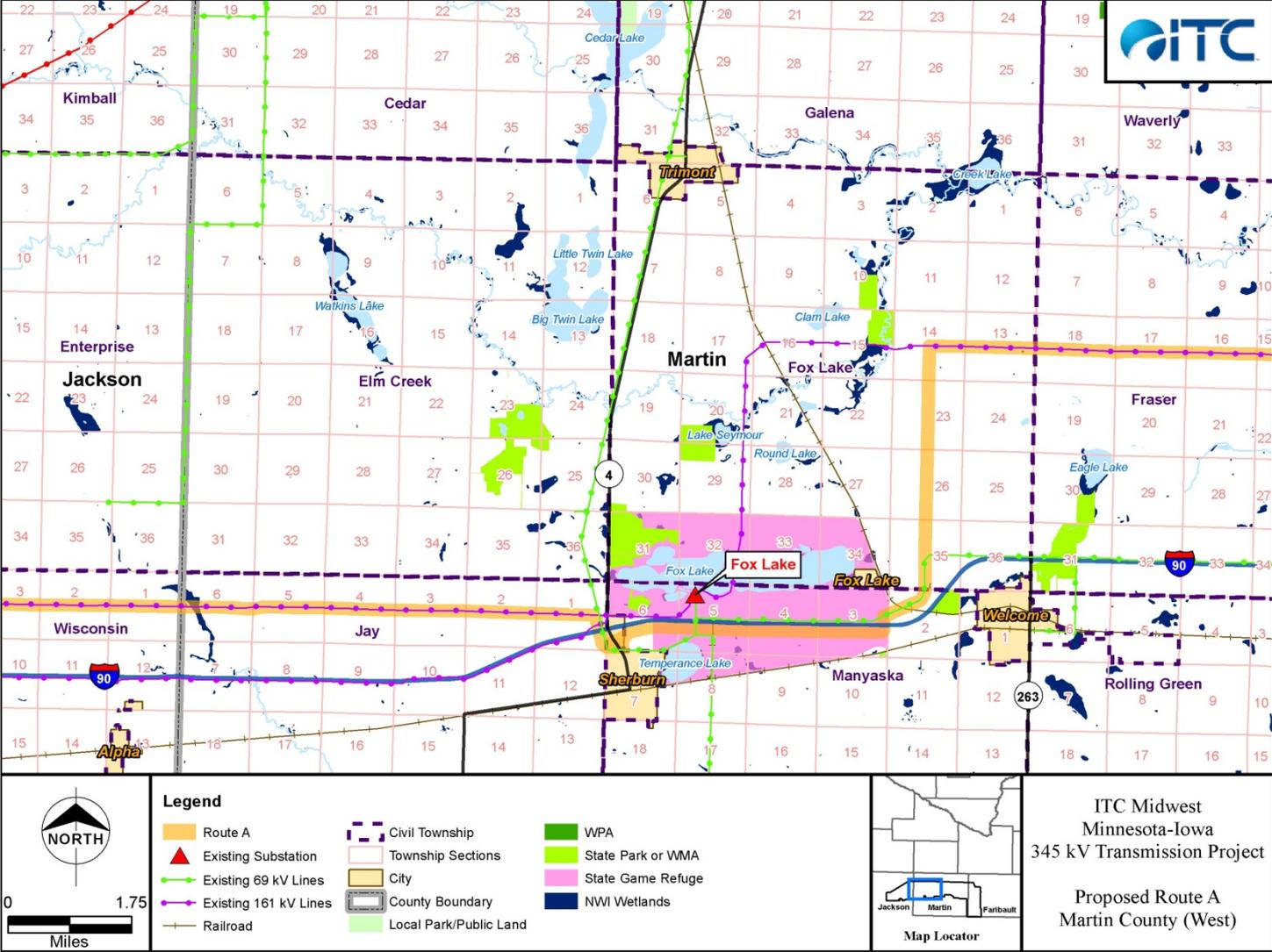


ITC Midwest
Minnesota-Iowa
345 kV Transmission Project

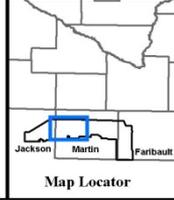
Proposed Route A
Jackson County



Route A – Martin County West



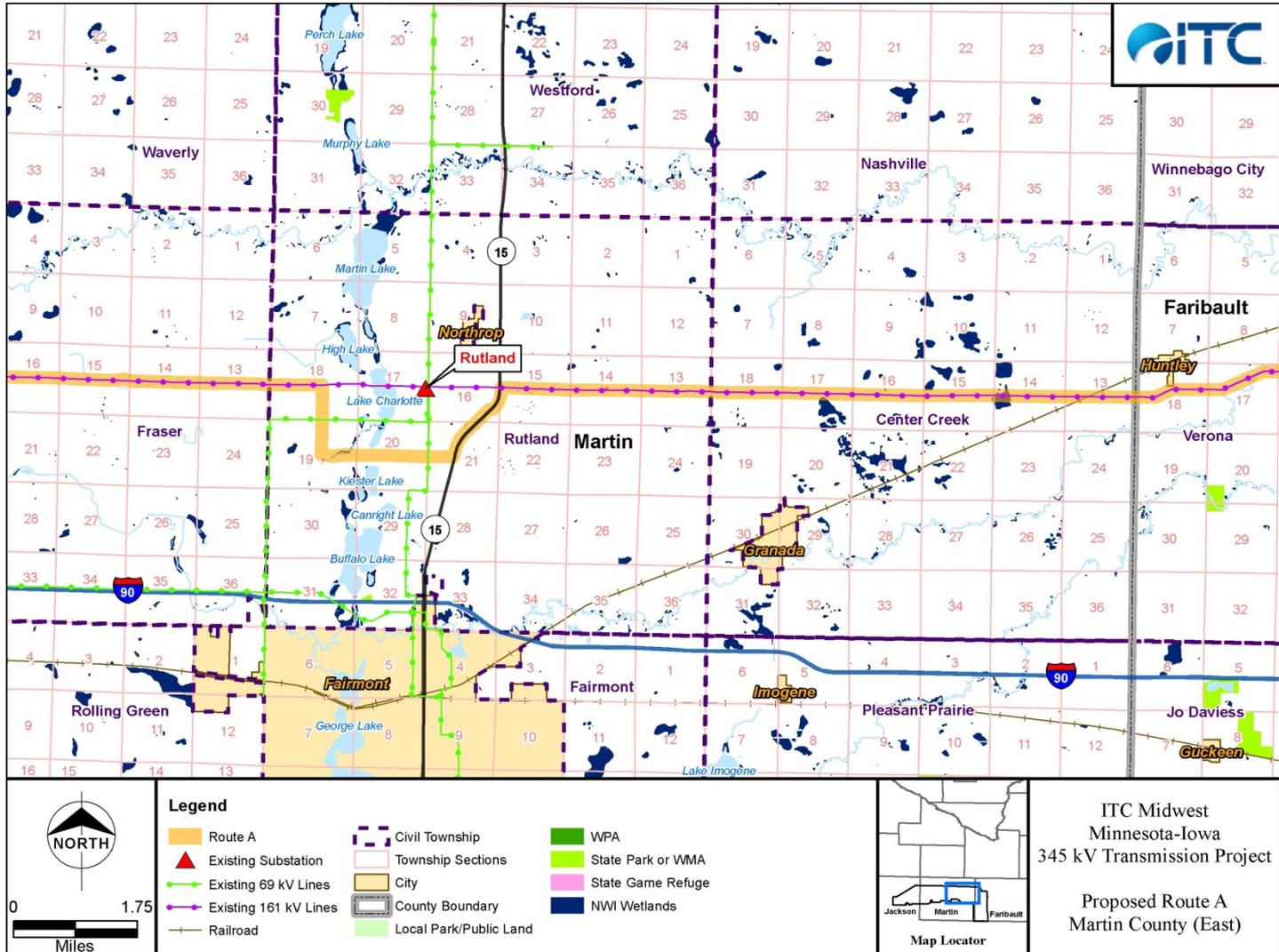
Legend			
	Route A		Civil Township
	Existing Substation		Township Sections
	Existing 69 kV Lines		City
	Existing 161 kV Lines		County Boundary
	Railroad		Local Park/Public Land
	WPA		State Park or WMA
	State Game Refuge		NWI Wetlands



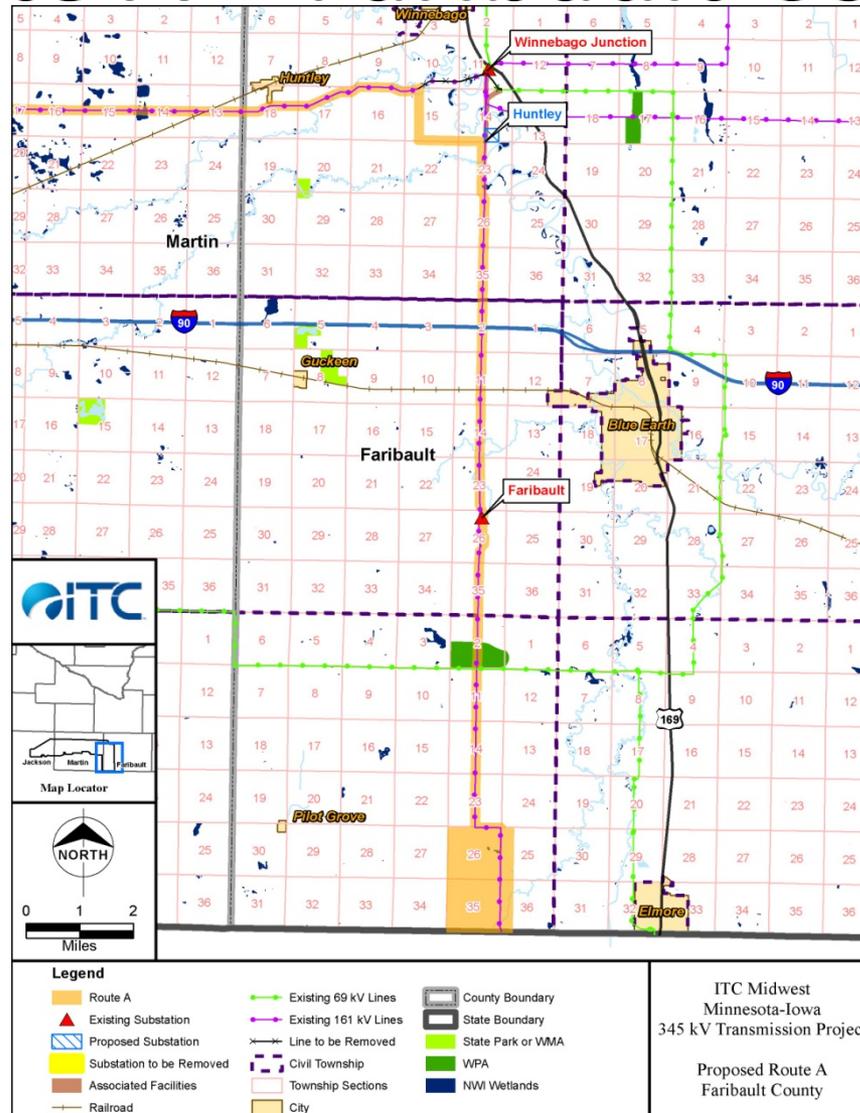
ITC Midwest
Minnesota-Iowa
345 kV Transmission Project

Proposed Route A
Martin County (West)

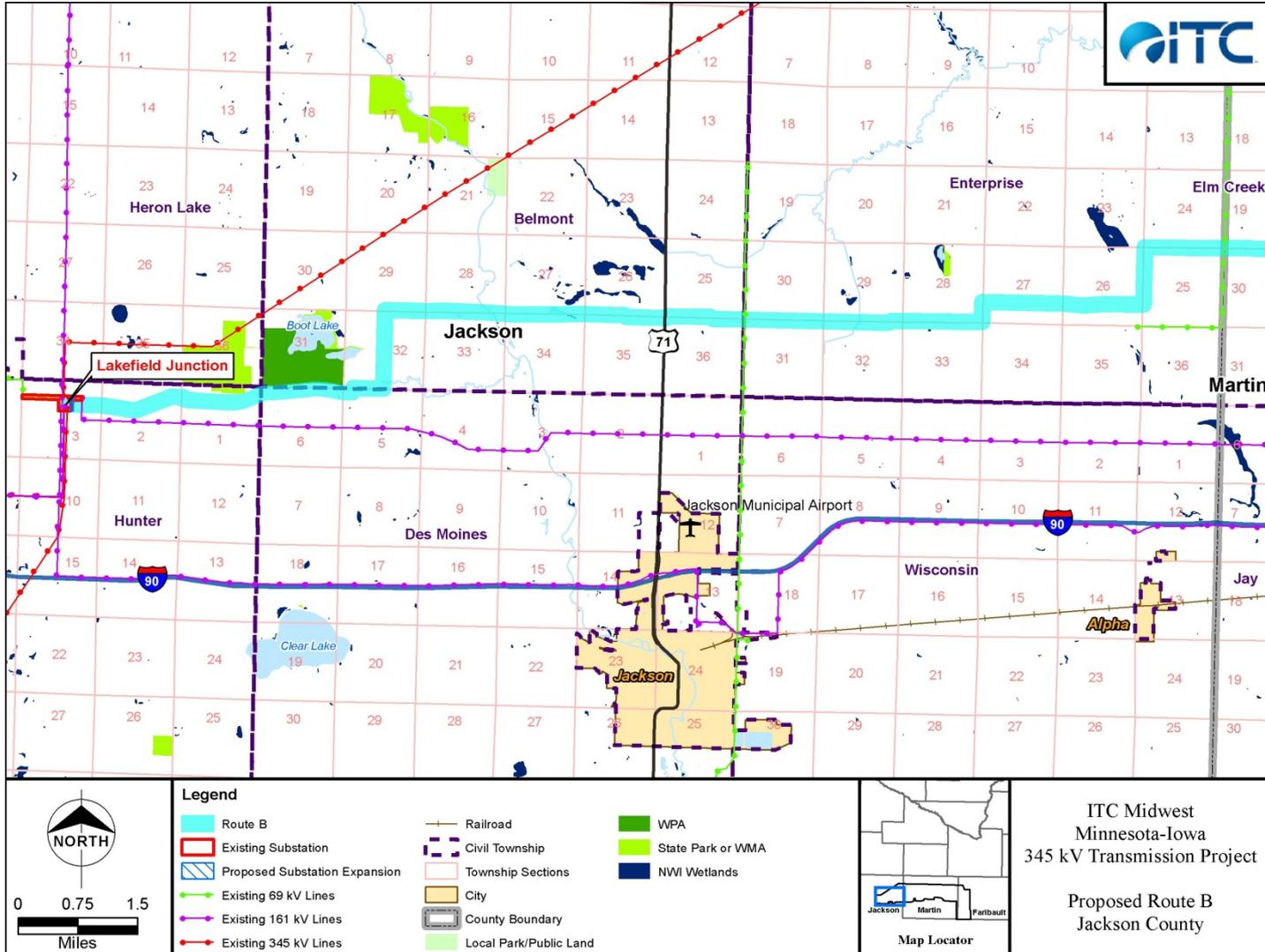
Route A – Martin County East



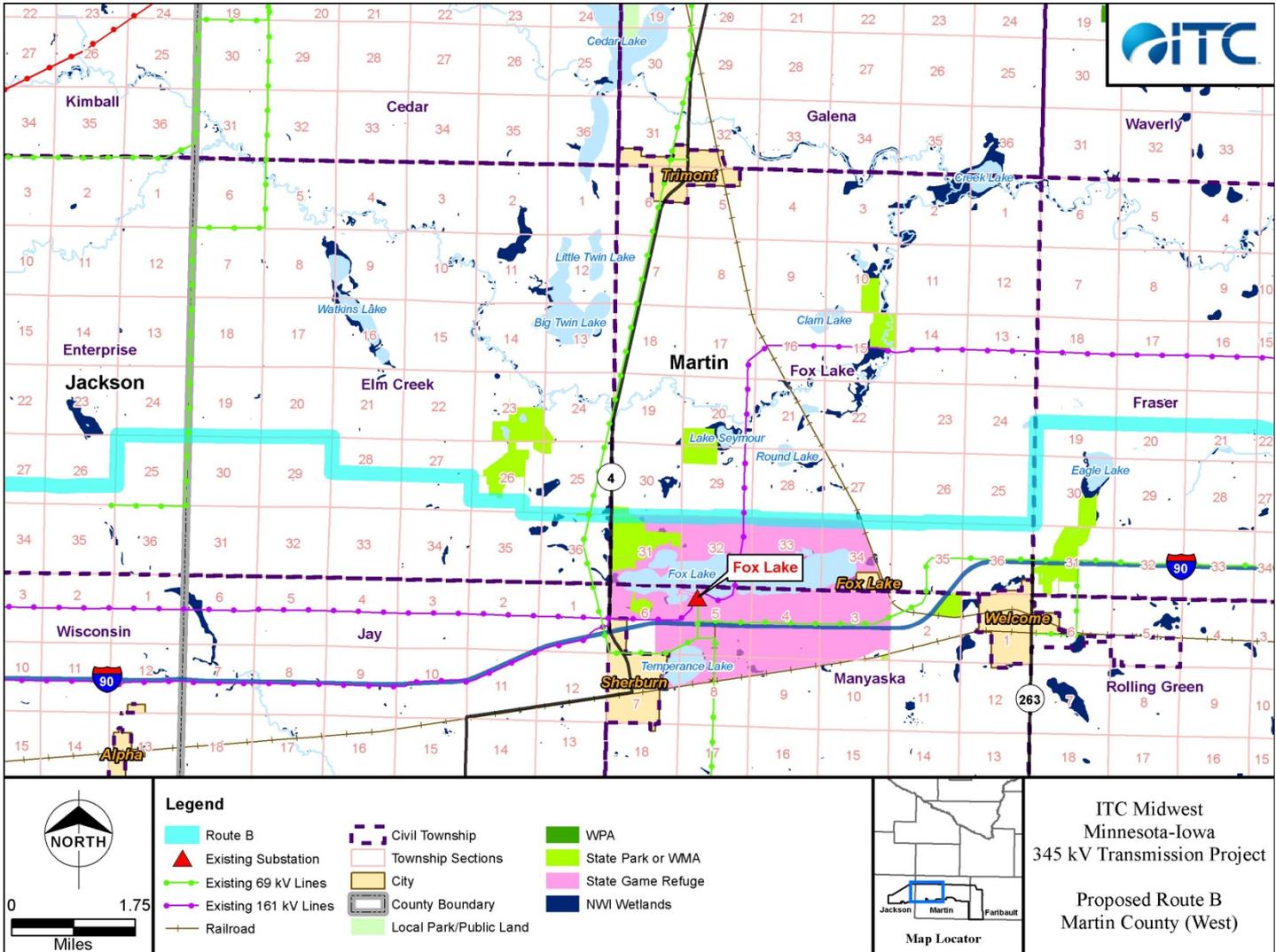
Route A – Faribault County



Route B – Jackson County



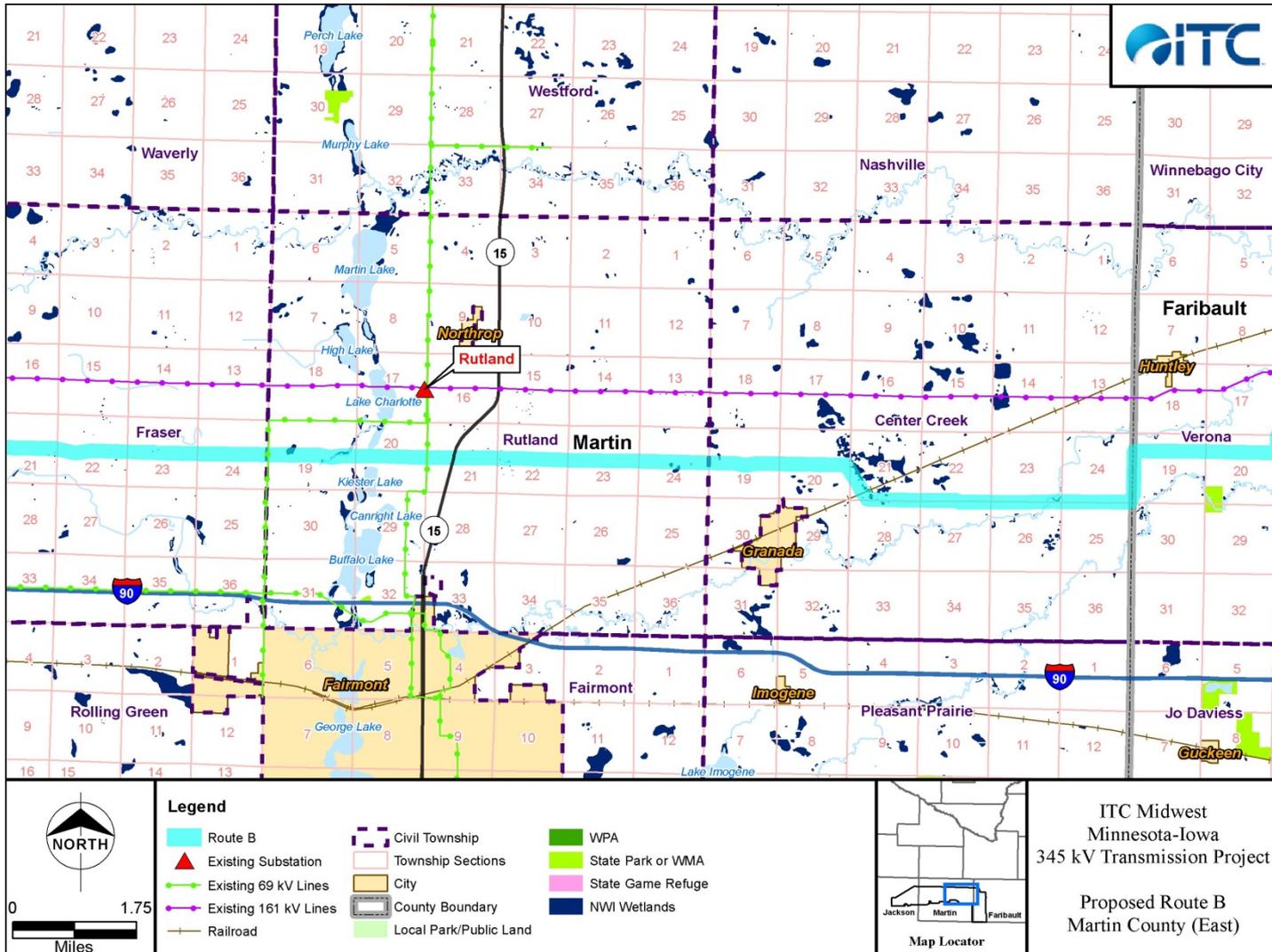
Route B – Martin County West



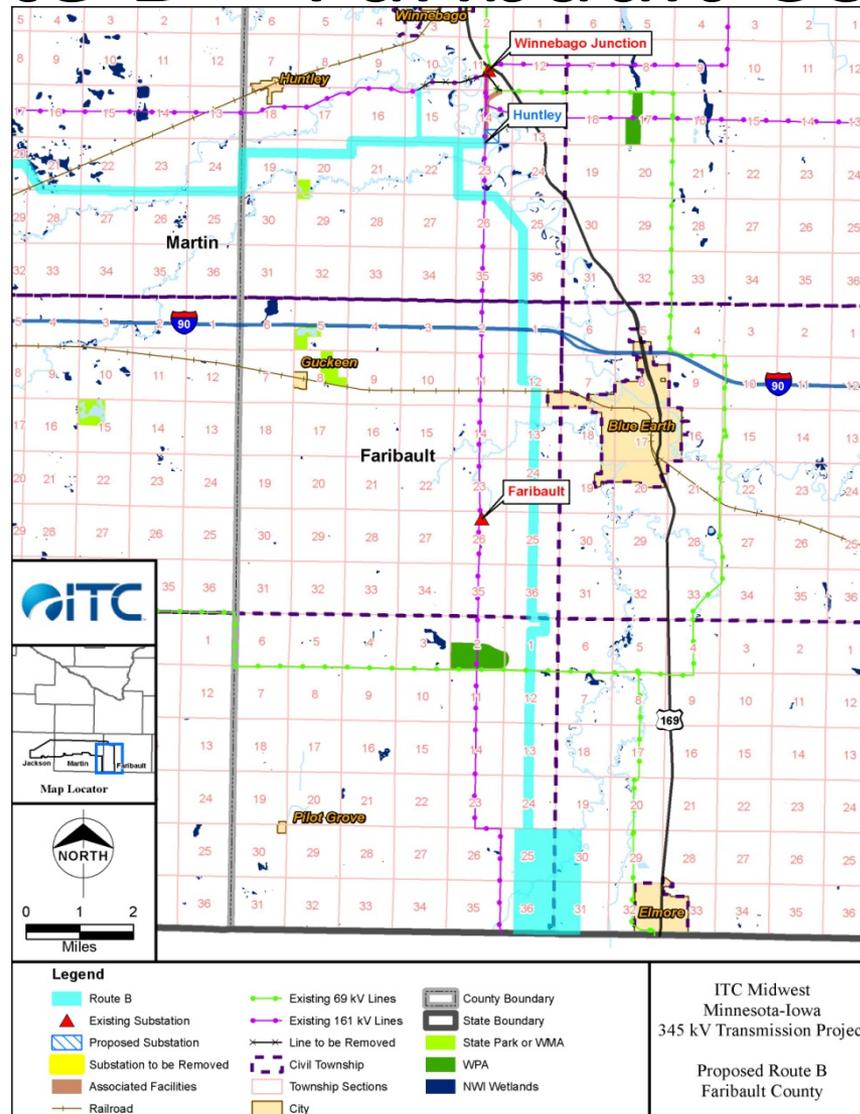
ITC Midwest
Minnesota-Iowa
345 kV Transmission Project

Proposed Route B
Martin County (West)

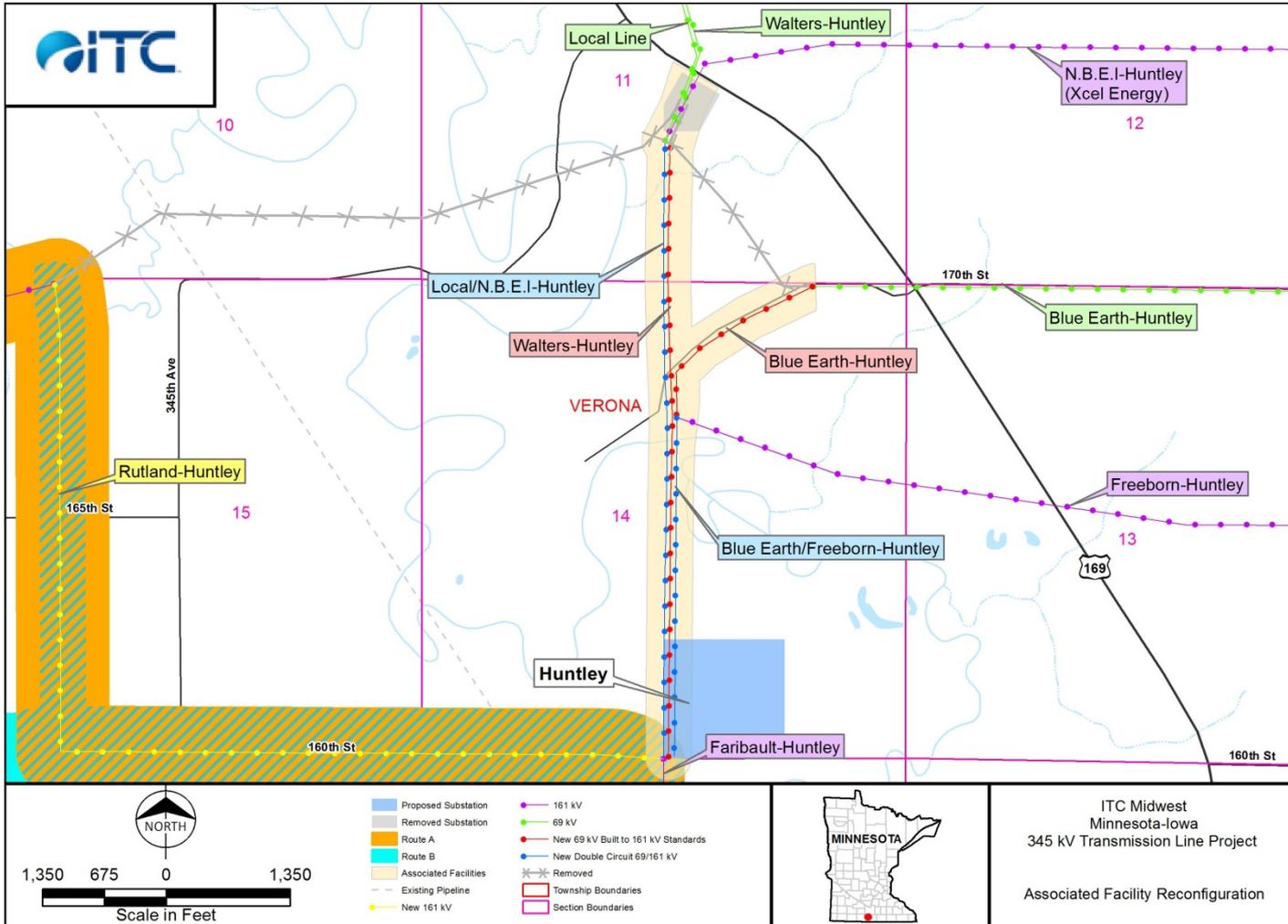
Route B – Martin County East



Route B – Faribault County



161 kV Associated Facilities



Summary of Use of Existing Linear Features by Route*

Route	Length (miles)	Transmission (miles)	Road (miles)	Field/Division/Survey Lines (miles)	None (miles)	% Of Length Paralleling Linear Features**
A	73	55	12	52	6	92
B	73	0	35	53	20	72

*Taken from Table 6 of the Route Permit Application

** No railroads or pipelines are paralleled by Route A or Route B.

Department of Commerce



Environmental Review Manager
Department of Commerce

Ray Kirsch

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Phone 651-539-1841

Toll Free 1-800-657-3794

Environmental Review

Environmental Impact Statement

- Facts and Uncertainties
- Does Not Advocate
- Scope – “Table of Contents”
 - Statute and Rule
 - Public Input

“Alternatives to the project shall include the no-build alternative, demand side management, purchased power, facilities of a different size...generation rather than transmission... and those alternatives identified by the commissioner of the Department of Commerce [in the scoping decision].” Minnesota Rule 7849.1500

Environmental Review

Scope of the Environmental Impact Statement

- Issues / Impacts to Examine
- Mitigation Strategies to Analyze
 - Route Alternatives to Consider
- Alternatives to the Project

Environmental Review

Scope of the Environmental Impact Statement

- Issues / Impacts to Examine
- Mitigation Strategies to Analyze
 - Route Alternatives to Consider
- Alternatives to the Project

“A person desiring that a particular site or route be evaluated shall submit to the commissioner... during the scoping process, an explanation of why the site or route should be included in the environmental impact statement and any other supporting information the person wants the commissioner to consider.” Minnesota Rule 7850.2500

Environmental Review

Scope of the Environmental Impact Statement

- Issues / Impacts to Examine
- Mitigation Strategies to Analyze
 - Route Alternatives to Consider
- Alternatives to the Project

“A person desiring that a particular alternative or possible adverse impact of the project be considered...shall identify the alternative or impact to be included, provide an explanation of why the alternative or impact should be included... and submit all supporting information the person wants the commissioner to consider ”

Minnesota Rule 7849.1400

Environmental Review – Comments

- Verbal Comments at Tonight's Meeting
- Complete and Submit a Comment Sheet
- Comment On-Line
<http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities>
- Mail, Fax, or Email a Comment:
Ray Kirsch
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
fax: 651-539-1549
raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us
- Comment Period Ends: **August 2, 2013**

Environmental Review – Comments

- One Speaker at a Time
 - Please Limit Comments to a Few Minutes
 - Please State and Spell Your Name for the Court Reporter
 - Maintain Respect for Others
 - Direct Your Comments / Questions to the Scope of the EIS
- 

Environmental Review

Scope of the Environmental Impact Statement

- Issues / Impacts to Examine
 - Mitigation Strategies to Analyze
 - Route Alternatives to Consider
 - Alternatives to the Project
- 