



Issued: July 14, 2014

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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

PUC Docket Nos. ET6675/CN-12-1053 and ET6675/TL-12-1337

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minnesota Department of Commerce (Department) has released the final environmental impact statement (FEIS) for the proposed Minnesota to Iowa 345 kV transmission line project in the counties of Jackson, Martin and Faribault.

The FEIS analyzes the potential human and environmental impacts of the project and possible measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate these impacts. It analyzes route alternatives and route variations that could be used for the project and provides a comparative analysis of routing options. The FEIS responds to the comments received on the draft EIS for the project. The FEIS will be used by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in deciding whether to issue a certificate of need and route permit for the project.

The FEIS can be viewed on the Department's website:
<http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?Id=33080>.

The FEIS can also be viewed through the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's website: <http://mn.gov/puc>, select "Search eDockets," enter the year ("12") and the docket number ("1053" or "1337"), and select "Search."

The FEIS is also available for viewing at the following public libraries:

- Blue Earth Public Library, 124 West 7th Street, Blue Earth MN 56013
- Fairmont Public Library, 110 North Park, Fairmont MN 56031
- Jackson County Library, 311 3rd Street, Jackson MN 56143
- Lakefield Public Library, 410 Main Street, Lakefield MN 56150
- Muir Library, 36 Main Street North, Winnebago MN 56098
- Sherburn Public Library, 27 North Main Street, Sherburn MN 56171

Project Description. ITC Midwest LLC has proposed to construct approximately 73 miles of new 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line in southern Minnesota, in the counties of Jackson, Martin and Faribault. The proposed transmission line would proceed from the existing Lakefield substation near Lakefield, Minn., eastward to a new Huntley substation near Winnebago, Minn.,

and then southward to the Iowa border. The project includes expansion of the Lakefield substation, construction of the new Huntley substation, and the relocation of several segments of existing 161 kV and 69 kV transmission lines.

Project Mailing List. To add your name to the mailing list for this project, contact the environmental review manager or public advisor (see below) or sign up on-line at: <http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?Id=33080>.

Subscribe to the Docket. In addition to the project mailing list, interested persons can receive email notification every time new documents are filed in the certificate of need and route permit dockets for this project by signing up at: <http://mn.gov/puc>, select “Subscribe to a Docket,” and follow the prompts. Note – subscribing may result in a large number of emails.

Project Contacts. If you have questions or would like more information, contact environmental review manager Ray Kirsch (651-539-1841, raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us) or public advisor Tracy Smetana (651-296-0406 or 1-800-657-3782, consumer.puc@state.mn.us).

This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio) by calling 651-539-1530.