MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Energy Facility Permitting
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PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Minnesota to Iowa 345 kV Transmission Line Project

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

Name: Rutland Township Email: drwedel@yourstarnet.net

Street Address: 1477 208th Avenue

City: Fairmont State: MN ZIP: 56031

Please share your comments on the environmental impact statement (EIS) that will be prepared for the Minnesota to Iowa 345 kV transmission line project. What issues / impacts need to be evaluated for the project? What alternatives routes should be considered to mitigate these impacts? What alternatives to the project should be studied?
Comments must be received by Friday, August 2, 2013.

See attachment for issues and impacts of the Rutland Township Board

Signature: See attachment for 4 Signatures of Board Members Date: 8-01-13

Please submit this form at today's meeting or mail it to the address provided on the back. You may use additional sheets, as necessary. Comments can also be e-mailed to the Department of Commerce Environmental Review Manager, Ray Kirsch, at: raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us or submitted online at: http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities.

Comment Form for

Minnesota to Iowa 345 kV Transmission Line Project

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

Township of Rutland

Martin County, Minnesota

1477 208th Avenue, Fairmont, MN 56031

Date: August 1, 2013

Dear Sir or Madame:

The Rutland Township Board would like to comment on a few issues and impacts that need to be evaluated for the 345 kV high voltage transmission project that is proposed to be built through Rutland Township, Martin County.

First, we would like to explain that the Rutland Township Board is a local unit of government elected by the residents of the township. We are elected with a responsibility for the safety, health and welfare of the residents of the township in which we serve.

One significant area of concern is the change of route that occurred after the September 2012 open house meetings. This new route A negatively affects ten homesteads in Sections 16, 18, 19, and 20 of Rutland Township. The plan that was put into place after September needs to be re-evaluated and route A needs to be changed to avoid all these residences/homesteads. The 345kV high voltage transmission line should not be in close proximity to any residences /homesteads in Rutland Township. It is to be noted that the Route A is proposed to be in the front yards of several of the homes! The Rutland Township Board has studied the routes and is adamantly opposed to Route A as it has been proposed due to the close proximity to the homesteads of Rutland Township residents. The obvious health concerns, economic loss of value to property, and loss of opportunities for resident's homesteads can be avoided by selecting a more direct route and avoiding Rutland Township residences/homesteads.

The Rutland Township Board is aware that this was a big oversight on the part of ITC in this route plan. The time to correct it is now. The Rutland Township board sees two alternatives for this project. The route can be changed to avoid residences in Rutland Township or move the homesteads away from the structures and wires. Some of these homesteads have been here for over 100 years! Now the decision is yours.

Rutland Township would also like to point out that there is a significant amount of public and private drainage tile in this area. It is more than likely that this could be impacted by the construction of these structures. Rutland Township would like ITC to work with all landowners and replace to the landowners satisfaction all drainage tile that will be impacted by the structures themselves and the construction of the 345 kV transmission line.

Please email any questions or responses to the Rutland Township Board if you have any questions or comments. We hope to hear about the new routing plan soon.

Thank you for your time and careful consideration for the residents of Rutland Township when making this very important route decision.

Sincerely,

Eric Colby, Supervisor
Billie Rabbe, Supervisor
Roxane Wedel, Clerk-Treasurer
Willard Abel, Supervisor

Rutland Township Board

Email: drwedel@yourstarnet.net

Phone: 507-238-4564