

Issued: May 26, 2015

## **NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SCOPING DECISION**

**In the Matter of the Application by Great River Energy and Minnesota Power for a  
Certificate of Need and Route Permit for the  
Menahga Area 115 kV Transmission Line Project in  
Hubbard, Wadena, and Becker Counties, Minnesota**

**Docket Numbers: ET2, E015/CN-14-787 and ET2, E015/TL-14-797**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Minnesota Department of Commerce (Department) has issued the scoping decision for the environmental assessment to be prepared for the proposed Menahga Area 115 kV transmission line project in the Minnesota counties of Hubbard, Wadena, and Becker.

The environmental assessment (EA) will be prepared by the Department's Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) staff and will address the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project and alternatives to the project. The scoping decision identifies the route and site alternatives that will be examined in the EA (see map on back). The decision also identifies alternatives that will not be addressed.

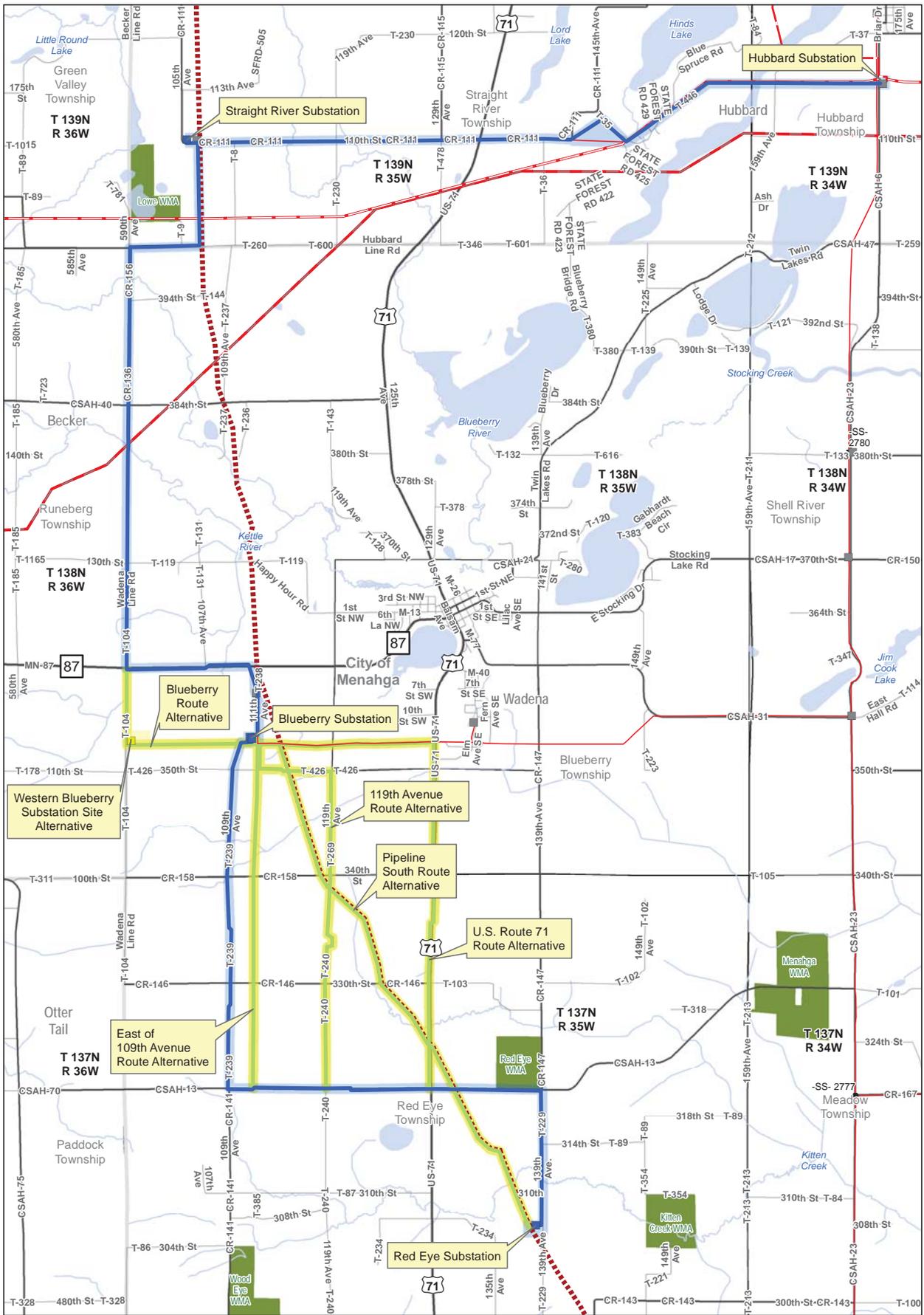
The scoping decision and other relevant documents are available on the Department's website <http://www.mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?Id=33985> and on the State of Minnesota's eDockets system: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (enter the year "14" and the number "787" or "797").

The EA is scheduled to be completed in September 2015. A public hearing will be held in the project area after completion of the EA.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact environmental review manager Ray Kirsch (651-539-1841, [raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us](mailto:raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us)) or public advisor Tracy Smetana (651-296-0406, [consumer.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:consumer.puc@state.mn.us)).

To place your name on the project mailing list, contact [docketing.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:docketing.puc@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2234 with the docket numbers (14-787 and 14-797), your name, mailing address, and email address. Please indicate how you would like to receive notices – by U.S. mail or email.

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



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|------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Applicants</b>      | <b>Existing</b>              |
| Proposed Alignment     | 34.5 kV Transmission Line    |
| Proposed Route         | 230 kV Transmission Line     |
| Proposed Substation    | 250 kV Transmission Line     |
| <b>Alternatives</b>    | Substation                   |
| Alternative Alignment  | Pipeline                     |
| Alternative Route      | MN Wildlife Management Areas |
| Alternative Substation |                              |

Data Sources Vary Between MNDOT, MNDNR, MNGEO and Great River Energy Aerial Image from ESRI Web service

Map Projection: WGS 1984 Web Mercator

0 3,900 Feet

Updated: 5/19/2015

**Menahga Area  
115 kV Project**

**Scoping Decision  
Route and Site  
Alternatives**