

PERMITTED ENERGY FACILITIES, SUMMARY

In 2014, Department of Commerce Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) staff assisted the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) in permitting eight high voltage transmission lines, prepared five environmental review documents, and conducted compliance reviews of pre-construction projects.

- 8 transmission lines with route permits issued
- 3 transmission lines with minor alterations authorized
- 5 environmental review documents prepared and issued (3 Environmental Assessments, 1 Environmental Impact Statement, and 1 Environmental Report)

TRANSMISSION LINES PERMITTED

- Odell 115 kV Transmission Line Project (TL-13-591)
- Canisteo 115 kV Transmission Line Project (TL-13-805)
- Deer River 115 kV Transmission Project (TL-13-68)
- ITC Midwest Minnesota to Iowa 345 kV Transmission Line Project (TL-12-1337; CN-12-1053)
- Kohlman Lake to Goose Lake 115 kV Transmission Line Project (TL-12-1151)
- Elko to New Market 115 kV Transmission Line Upgrade Project (TL-12-1245; CN-12-1235)
- Line 39 115 kV Transmission Line Route Permit Project (TL-12-1123)
- Scott County Substation to Westgate 115 kV Transmission Line Project (TL-11-948; CN-11-332)

MINOR ALTERATIONS AUTHORIZED

- Blue Lake-Wilmarth-Lakefield 345 kV Tap to Scott County Substation (MA-14-163)
- Enterprise Park to Crooked Lake 115 kV Transmission Line Project (TL-11-915)
- Savanna 115 kV Transmission Line Project (TL-10-1307)

TRANSMISSION LINES IN THE PERMITTING PROCESS

- Great Northern Transmission Line Project (TL-14-21; CN-12-1163)

POWER PLANTS IN THE PERMITTING PROCESS

- Aurora Distributed Solar Project (GS-14-515)

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS RELEASED IN 2014

- Odell 115 kV Transmission Line Project (TL-13-591); EA released in July 2014
- Canisteo Transmission Line Project (TL-13-805); EA released in April 2014
- Elko to New Market 115 kV Transmission Line Upgrade Project (TL-12-1245; CN-12-1235); EA released in February 2014.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS RELEASED IN 2014

- ITC Midwest Minnesota to Iowa 345 kV Transmission Line Project (TL-12-1337; CN-12-1053); Draft EIS released in March 2014; Final EIS released in July 2014

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS RELEASED IN 2014

- Great Northern Transmission Line Project (TL-14-21; CN-12-1163); ER released in July 2014.

Docket Number	Project Name	Project Description	Commission Decision
Power Plant Projects in Process			
GS-14-515	Aurora Distributed Solar Project	Construction of up to 24 distributed solar facilities ranging in size from 1.5 to 10 MW, with a total project output of approximately 100 MW.	Application Accepted September 14, 2014
Transmission Line Projects in Process			
TL-14-21	Great Northern Transmission Line (Minnesota Power)	Construction of approximately 220 miles of 500 kV transmission line from the Manitoba border to near Grand Rapids, Minn.	Application Accepted June 19, 2014
Transmission Line Projects Permitted			
TL-13-591	Odell Wind 115 kV Transmission Line Project	Construction of approximately 9.5 miles of 115 kV transmission line to transmit energy generated from 200 MW Odell Wind Farm.	Route Permit Issued October 29, 2014
TL-13-805	Canisteo Transmission Line Project (Minnesota Power)	Construction of two approximately 5.2 mile 115 kV transmission lines parallel to one another with an overlapping right-of-way.	Route Permit Issued July 2, 2014
TL-13-68	Deer River 115 kV Transmission Line Project (Minnesota Power)	Construction of a one mile 115 kV transmission line running along U.S. Highway 2 between Deer River and Cohasset in Itasca County.	Route Permit Issued August 10, 2014

Docket Number	Project Name	Project Description	Commission Decision
TL-12-1337	ITC Midwest Minnesota to Iowa 345 kV Transmission Line Project (ITC Midwest LLC)	Construction of approximately 75 miles of 345 kV transmission line in Jackson County, Martin County, and Faribault County, and south to the Iowa border.	Route Permit Issued November 25, 2014
TL-12-1151	Kohlman Lake to Goose Lake 115 kV Transmission Line Project (Xcel Energy)	Construction of approximately 2.8 miles of 115 kV transmission line in Ramsey County.	Route Permit Issued January 21, 2014
TL-12-1245	Elko, New Market and Cleary Areas 115 kV Transmission Line Project (Great River Energy)	Construction of a 5.4 mile new double circuit 115 kV transmission line and the rebuilding of approximately 11.3 miles of existing 69 kV transmission line to 115 kV in Scott County and Rice County.	Route Permit Issued August 5, 2014
TL-12-1123	Line 39 Transmission Line Project (Minnesota Power)	Construction of 2.8 miles of 115 kV transmission line near the city of Eveleth.	Route Permit Issued January 13, 2014
TL-11-948	Southwest Twin Cities Scott County to Westgate 115 kV Transmission Line Project (Xcel Energy)	Construction of approximately 20 miles of 115 kV transmission line from the Scott County substation to the Westgate substation near the city of Eden Prairie.	Route Permit Issued January 23, 2014
Transmission Line Minor Alterations			
MA-14-163	Blue Lake-Wilmarth-Lakefield 345 kV Tap to Scott County Substation (Xcel Energy)	Construction of approximately 0.5 miles of 345 kV transmission line and substation upgrades in Scott County.	Minor Alternation Authorized April 2, 2014
TL-11-915	Enterprise Park to Crooked Lake 115 kV Transmission Line Project	Transfer of route permit from Great River Energy to MMPA Transmission, LLC.	Permit Transfer Authorized December 4, 2014

Docket Number	Project Name	Project Description	Commission Decision
TL-10-1307	Savanna 115 kV Transmission Line Project (Great River Energy and Minnesota Power)	Alignment deviation outside of permitted route.	Alignment Deviation Approved December 3, 2014