

# APPENDIX C

# **AGENCY LETTERS**



CITY OF SILVER BAY  
7 DAVIS DRIVE  
SILVER BAY, MN 55614  
(218) 226-4408

June 28, 2013

Dave Seykora  
State Program Administrative Coordinator  
Minnesota Department of Transportation  
State Transportation Building  
395 John Ireland Blvd, Suite 120  
St Paul, MN 55155

**Re: Minnesota Power 115 kV Transmission Line and Switching Station**

Dear Dave Seykora:

The City of Silver Bay is requesting your comments on the proposed Minnesota Power 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) project described below.

Minnesota Power has applied for a route permit application for the construction of a 0.7 mile 115kV HVTL that will be located entirely on North Shore Mining Company property in Lake County, Minnesota. The proposed HVTL construction will occur under the Local Review process included in Minn. Rules 7849.6200. The local authority to approve the route application will be the City of Silver Bay. In accordance with the rule, an Environmental Assessment will need to be completed before the Route Permit application can be approved. The 115kV transmission line route corridor and switching station is identified on the attached project location map and is located in Lake County Township 56N, Range 7W, Sections 31-32.

The City of Silver Bay is currently gathering information to prepare the Environmental Assessment. The City would like you to provide information, issues, concerns, and comments on the proposed route corridor and switching station. We would appreciate receiving comments from you by July 30, 2013.

In addition, the City of Silver Bay has scheduled a public meeting to provide an opportunity for you to ask questions, provide comments, and suggest issues to be analyzed in an Environmental Assessment. The meeting will be an open house and will provide an opportunity to view project exhibits and ask questions or provide comments to City staff, the Applicants, and the city's environmental consultant. There will not be a formal presentation. Open house details are provided below.

**City of Silver Bay Meeting Information:**

**When:** 5:00-7:00p.m., Thursday July 11, 2013

**Where:** Reunion Hall  
97 Outer Drive  
Silver Bay, Minnesota

If you require further information or have questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 218-226-4408. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Lana Fralich, City of Silver Bay Administrator

Attachment: Project Figure



CITY OF SILVER BAY  
7 DAVIS DRIVE  
SILVER BAY, MN 55614  
(218) 226-4408

June 28, 2013

Karen Kromar  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
Environmental Review and Operations Section  
Regional Division  
520 Lafayette Road North  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194

**Re: Minnesota Power 115 kV Transmission Line and Switching Station**

Dear Karen Kromar:

The City of Silver Bay is requesting your comments on the proposed Minnesota Power 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) project described below.

Minnesota Power has applied for a route permit application for the construction of a 0.7 mile 115kV HVTL that will be located entirely on North Shore Mining Company property in Lake County, Minnesota. The proposed HVTL construction will occur under the Local Review process included in Minn. Rules 7849.6200. The local authority to approve the route application will be the City of Silver Bay. In accordance with the rule, an Environmental Assessment will need to be completed before the Route Permit application can be approved. The 115kV transmission line route corridor and switching station is identified on the attached project location map and is located in Lake County Township 56N, Range 7W, Sections 31-32.

The City of Silver Bay is currently gathering information to prepare the Environmental Assessment. The City would like you to provide information, issues, concerns, and comments on the proposed route corridor and switching station. We would appreciate receiving comments from you by July 30, 2013.

In addition, the City of Silver Bay has scheduled a public meeting to provide an opportunity for you to ask questions, provide comments, and suggest issues to be analyzed in an Environmental Assessment. The meeting will be an open house and will provide an opportunity to view project exhibits and ask questions or provide comments to City staff, the Applicants, and the city's environmental consultant. There will not be a formal presentation. Open house details are provided below.

**City of Silver Bay Meeting Information:**

**When:** 5:00-7:00p.m., Thursday July 11, 2013

**Where:** Reunion Hall  
97 Outer Drive  
Silver Bay, Minnesota

If you require further information or have questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 218-226-4408. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Lana Fralich, City of Silver Bay Administrator

Attachment: Project Figure



CITY OF SILVER BAY  
7 DAVIS DRIVE  
SILVER BAY, MN 55614  
(218) 226-4408

June 28, 2013

Leslie Day  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
1554 Highway 2 Suite 2  
Two Harbors, MN 55616

**Re: Minnesota Power 115 kV Transmission Line and Switching Station**

Dear Leslie Day:

The City of Silver Bay is requesting your comments on the proposed Minnesota Power 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) project described below.

Minnesota Power has applied for a route permit application for the construction of a 0.7 mile 115kV HVTL that will be located entirely on North Shore Mining Company property in Lake County, Minnesota. The proposed HVTL construction will occur under the Local Review process included in Minn. Rules 7849.6200. The local authority to approve the route application will be the City of Silver Bay. In accordance with the rule, an Environmental Assessment will need to be completed before the Route Permit application can be approved. The 115kV transmission line route corridor and switching station is identified on the attached project location map and is located in Lake County Township 56N, Range 7W, Sections 31-32.

The City of Silver Bay is currently gathering information to prepare the Environmental Assessment. The City would like you to provide information, issues, concerns, and comments on the proposed route corridor and switching station. We would appreciate receiving comments from you by July 30, 2013.

In addition, the City of Silver Bay has scheduled a public meeting to provide an opportunity for you to ask questions, provide comments, and suggest issues to be analyzed in an Environmental Assessment. The meeting will be an open house and will provide an opportunity to view project exhibits and ask questions or provide comments to City staff, the Applicants, and the city's environmental consultant. There will not be a formal presentation. Open house details are provided below.

**City of Silver Bay Meeting Information:**

**When:** 5:00-7:00p.m., Thursday July 11, 2013

**Where:** Reunion Hall  
97 Outer Drive  
Silver Bay, Minnesota

If you require further information or have questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 218-226-4408. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Lana Fralich, City of Silver Bay Administrator

Attachment: Project Figure



CITY OF SILVER BAY  
7 DAVIS DRIVE  
SILVER BAY, MN 55614  
(218) 226-4408

June 28, 2013

Tony Sullins  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Twin Cities Ecological Services Office  
4101 East 80<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bloomington, MN 55425-1665

**Re: Minnesota Power 115 kV Transmission Line and Switching Station**

Dear Tony Sullins:

The City of Silver Bay is requesting your comments on the proposed Minnesota Power 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) project described below.

Minnesota Power has applied for a route permit application for the construction of a 0.7 mile 115kV HVTL that will be located entirely on North Shore Mining Company property in Lake County, Minnesota. The proposed HVTL construction will occur under the Local Review process included in Minn. Rules 7849.6200. The local authority to approve the route application will be the City of Silver Bay. In accordance with the rule, an Environmental Assessment will need to be completed before the Route Permit application can be approved. The 115kV transmission line route corridor and switching station is identified on the attached project location map and is located in Lake County Township 56N, Range 7W, Sections 31-32.

The City of Silver Bay is currently gathering information to prepare the Environmental Assessment. The City would like you to provide information, issues, concerns, and comments on the proposed route corridor and switching station. We would appreciate receiving comments from you by July 30, 2013.

In addition, the City of Silver Bay has scheduled a public meeting to provide an opportunity for you to ask questions, provide comments, and suggest issues to be analyzed in an Environmental Assessment. The meeting will be an open house and will provide an opportunity to view project exhibits and ask questions or provide comments to City staff, the Applicants, and the city's environmental consultant. There will not be a formal presentation. Open house details are provided below.

**City of Silver Bay Meeting Information:**

**When:** 5:00-7:00p.m., Thursday July 11, 2013

**Where:** Reunion Hall  
97 Outer Drive  
Silver Bay, Minnesota

If you require further information or have questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 218-226-4408. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Lana Fralich, City of Silver Bay Administrator

Attachment: Project Figure



CITY OF SILVER BAY  
7 DAVIS DRIVE  
SILVER BAY, MN 55614  
(218) 226-4408

June 28, 2013

Mary Ann Heidemann  
Manager State Historic Preservation Officer  
Minnesota Historical Society  
356 Kellogg Blvd W  
St. Paul, MN 55102

**Re: Minnesota Power 115 kV Transmission Line and Switching Station**

Dear Mary Ann Heidemann:

The City of Silver Bay is requesting your comments on the proposed Minnesota Power 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) project described below.

Minnesota Power has applied for a route permit application for the construction of a 0.7 mile 115kV HVTL that will be located entirely on North Shore Mining Company property in Lake County, Minnesota. The proposed HVTL construction will occur under the Local Review process included in Minn. Rules 7849.6200. The local authority to approve the route application will be the City of Silver Bay. In accordance with the rule, an Environmental Assessment will need to be completed before the Route Permit application can be approved. The 115kV transmission line route corridor and switching station is identified on the attached project location map and is located in Lake County Township 56N, Range 7W, Sections 31-32.

The City of Silver Bay is currently gathering information to prepare the Environmental Assessment. The City would like you to provide information, issues, concerns, and comments on the proposed route corridor and switching station. We would appreciate receiving comments from you by July 30, 2013.

In addition, the City of Silver Bay has scheduled a public meeting to provide an opportunity for you to ask questions, provide comments, and suggest issues to be analyzed in an Environmental Assessment. The meeting will be an open house and will provide an opportunity to view project exhibits and ask questions or provide comments to City staff, the Applicants, and the city's environmental consultant. There will not be a formal presentation. Open house details are provided below.

**City of Silver Bay Meeting Information:**

**When:** 5:00-7:00p.m., Thursday July 11, 2013

**Where:** Reunion Hall  
97 Outer Drive  
Silver Bay, Minnesota

If you require further information or have questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 218-226-4408. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Lana Fralich, City of Silver Bay Administrator

Attachment: Project Figure



CITY OF SILVER BAY  
7 DAVIS DRIVE  
SILVER BAY, MN 55614  
(218) 226-4408

June 28, 2013

Lisa Joyal  
Endangered Species Environmental Review Coordinator  
Natural Heritage Information System  
500 Lafayette Rd, Box 25  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Re: Minnesota Power 115 kV Transmission Line and Switching Station**

Dear Lisa Joyal:

The City of Silver Bay is requesting your comments on the proposed Minnesota Power 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) project described below.

Minnesota Power has applied for a route permit application for the construction of a 0.7 mile 115kV HVTL that will be located entirely on North Shore Mining Company property in Lake County, Minnesota. The proposed HVTL construction will occur under the Local Review process included in Minn. Rules 7849.6200. The local authority to approve the route application will be the City of Silver Bay. In accordance with the rule, an Environmental Assessment will need to be completed before the Route Permit application can be approved. The 115kV transmission line route corridor and switching station is identified on the attached project location map and is located in Lake County Township 56N, Range 7W, Sections 31-32.

The City of Silver Bay is currently gathering information to prepare the Environmental Assessment. The City would like you to provide information, issues, concerns, and comments on the proposed route corridor and switching station. We would appreciate receiving comments from you by July 30, 2013.

In addition, the City of Silver Bay has scheduled a public meeting to provide an opportunity for you to ask questions, provide comments, and suggest issues to be analyzed in an Environmental Assessment. The meeting will be an open house and will provide an opportunity to view project exhibits and ask questions or provide comments to City staff, the Applicants, and the city's environmental consultant. There will not be a formal presentation. Open house details are provided below.

**City of Silver Bay Meeting Information:**

**When:** 5:00-7:00p.m., Thursday July 11, 2013

**Where:** Reunion Hall  
97 Outer Drive  
Silver Bay, Minnesota

If you require further information or have questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 218-226-4408. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Lana Fralich, City of Silver Bay Administrator

Attachment: Project Figure



CITY OF SILVER BAY  
7 DAVIS DRIVE  
SILVER BAY, MN 55614  
(218) 226-4408

June 28, 2013

Matthew Huddleston  
Administrator  
601 Third Avenue  
Two Harbors, MN 55616

**Re: Minnesota Power 115 kV Transmission Line and Switching Station**

Dear Matthew Huddleston:

The City of Silver Bay is requesting your comments on the proposed Minnesota Power 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) project described below.

Minnesota Power has applied for a route permit application for the construction of a 0.7 mile 115kV HVTL that will be located entirely on North Shore Mining Company property in Lake County, Minnesota. The proposed HVTL construction will occur under the Local Review process included in Minn. Rules 7849.6200. The local authority to approve the route application will be the City of Silver Bay. In accordance with the rule, an Environmental Assessment will need to be completed before the Route Permit application can be approved. The 115kV transmission line route corridor and switching station is identified on the attached project location map and is located in Lake County Township 56N, Range 7W, Sections 31-32.

The City of Silver Bay is currently gathering information to prepare the Environmental Assessment. The City would like you to provide information, issues, concerns, and comments on the proposed route corridor and switching station. We would appreciate receiving comments from you by July 30, 2013.

In addition, the City of Silver Bay has scheduled a public meeting to provide an opportunity for you to ask questions, provide comments, and suggest issues to be analyzed in an Environmental Assessment. The meeting will be an open house and will provide an opportunity to view project exhibits and ask questions or provide comments to City staff, the Applicants, and the city's environmental consultant. There will not be a formal presentation. Open house details are provided below.

**City of Silver Bay Meeting Information:**

**When:** 5:00-7:00p.m., Thursday July 11, 2013

**Where:** Reunion Hall  
97 Outer Drive  
Silver Bay, Minnesota

If you require further information or have questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 218-226-4408. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Lana Fralich, City of Silver Bay Administrator

Attachment: Project Figure



CITY OF SILVER BAY  
7 DAVIS DRIVE  
SILVER BAY, MN 55614  
(218) 226-4408

June 28, 2013

Nathan Eide  
Land Commissioner  
601 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Two Harbors, MN 55616

**Re: Minnesota Power 115 kV Transmission Line and Switching Station**

Dear Nathan Eide:

The City of Silver Bay is requesting your comments on the proposed Minnesota Power 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) project described below.

Minnesota Power has applied for a route permit application for the construction of a 0.7 mile 115kV HVTL that will be located entirely on North Shore Mining Company property in Lake County, Minnesota. The proposed HVTL construction will occur under the Local Review process included in Minn. Rules 7849.6200. The local authority to approve the route application will be the City of Silver Bay. In accordance with the rule, an Environmental Assessment will need to be completed before the Route Permit application can be approved. The 115kV transmission line route corridor and switching station is identified on the attached project location map and is located in Lake County Township 56N, Range 7W, Sections 31-32.

The City of Silver Bay is currently gathering information to prepare the Environmental Assessment. The City would like you to provide information, issues, concerns, and comments on the proposed route corridor and switching station. We would appreciate receiving comments from you by July 30, 2013.

In addition, the City of Silver Bay has scheduled a public meeting to provide an opportunity for you to ask questions, provide comments, and suggest issues to be analyzed in an Environmental Assessment. The meeting will be an open house and will provide an opportunity to view project exhibits and ask questions or provide comments to City staff, the Applicants, and the city's environmental consultant. There will not be a formal presentation. Open house details are provided below.

**City of Silver Bay Meeting Information:**

**When:** 5:00-7:00p.m., Thursday July 11, 2013

**Where:** Reunion Hall  
97 Outer Drive  
Silver Bay, Minnesota

If you require further information or have questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 218-226-4408. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Lana Fralich, City of Silver Bay Administrator

Attachment: Project Figure



CITY OF SILVER BAY  
7 DAVIS DRIVE  
SILVER BAY, MN 55614  
(218) 226-4408

June 28, 2013

Alan Goodman  
Highway Engineer  
1513 Hwy 2  
Two Harbors, MN 55616

**Re: Minnesota Power 115 kV Transmission Line and Switching Station**

Dear Alan Goodman:

The City of Silver Bay is requesting your comments on the proposed Minnesota Power 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) project described below.

Minnesota Power has applied for a route permit application for the construction of a 0.7 mile 115kV HVTL that will be located entirely on North Shore Mining Company property in Lake County, Minnesota. The proposed HVTL construction will occur under the Local Review process included in Minn. Rules 7849.6200. The local authority to approve the route application will be the City of Silver Bay. In accordance with the rule, an Environmental Assessment will need to be completed before the Route Permit application can be approved. The 115kV transmission line route corridor and switching station is identified on the attached project location map and is located in Lake County Township 56N, Range 7W, Sections 31-32.

The City of Silver Bay is currently gathering information to prepare the Environmental Assessment. The City would like you to provide information, issues, concerns, and comments on the proposed route corridor and switching station. We would appreciate receiving comments from you by July 30, 2013.

In addition, the City of Silver Bay has scheduled a public meeting to provide an opportunity for you to ask questions, provide comments, and suggest issues to be analyzed in an Environmental Assessment. The meeting will be an open house and will provide an opportunity to view project exhibits and ask questions or provide comments to City staff, the Applicants, and the city's environmental consultant. There will not be a formal presentation. Open house details are provided below.

**City of Silver Bay Meeting Information:**

**When:** 5:00-7:00p.m., Thursday July 11, 2013

**Where:** Reunion Hall  
97 Outer Drive  
Silver Bay, Minnesota

If you require further information or have questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 218-226-4408. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Lana Fralich, City of Silver Bay Administrator

Attachment: Project Figure



CITY OF SILVER BAY  
7 DAVIS DRIVE  
SILVER BAY, MN 55614  
(218) 226-4408

June 28, 2013

Peter Walsh  
Lake County Commissioner  
6507 Highway 1, PO Box 584  
Finland, MN 55603

**Re: Minnesota Power 115 kV Transmission Line and Switching Station**

Dear Peter Walsh:

The City of Silver Bay is requesting your comments on the proposed Minnesota Power 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) project described below.

Minnesota Power has applied for a route permit application for the construction of a 0.7 mile 115kV HVTL that will be located entirely on North Shore Mining Company property in Lake County, Minnesota. The proposed HVTL construction will occur under the Local Review process included in Minn. Rules 7849.6200. The local authority to approve the route application will be the City of Silver Bay. In accordance with the rule, an Environmental Assessment will need to be completed before the Route Permit application can be approved. The 115kV transmission line route corridor and switching station is identified on the attached project location map and is located in Lake County Township 56N, Range 7W, Sections 31-32.

The City of Silver Bay is currently gathering information to prepare the Environmental Assessment. The City would like you to provide information, issues, concerns, and comments on the proposed route corridor and switching station. We would appreciate receiving comments from you by July 30, 2013.

In addition, the City of Silver Bay has scheduled a public meeting to provide an opportunity for you to ask questions, provide comments, and suggest issues to be analyzed in an Environmental Assessment. The meeting will be an open house and will provide an opportunity to view project exhibits and ask questions or provide comments to City staff, the Applicants, and the city's environmental consultant. There will not be a formal presentation. Open house details are provided below.

**City of Silver Bay Meeting Information:**

**When:** 5:00-7:00p.m., Thursday July 11, 2013

**Where:** Reunion Hall  
97 Outer Drive  
Silver Bay, Minnesota

If you require further information or have questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 218-226-4408. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Lana Fralich, City of Silver Bay Administrator

Attachment: Project Figure



CITY OF SILVER BAY  
7 DAVIS DRIVE  
SILVER BAY, MN 55614  
(218) 226-4408

June 28, 2013

Jennifer Thiemann  
District Manager  
601 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Two Harbors, MN 55616

**Re: Minnesota Power 115 kV Transmission Line and Switching Station**

Dear Jennifer Thiemann:

The City of Silver Bay is requesting your comments on the proposed Minnesota Power 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) project described below.

Minnesota Power has applied for a route permit application for the construction of a 0.7 mile 115kV HVTL that will be located entirely on North Shore Mining Company property in Lake County, Minnesota. The proposed HVTL construction will occur under the Local Review process included in Minn. Rules 7849.6200. The local authority to approve the route application will be the City of Silver Bay. In accordance with the rule, an Environmental Assessment will need to be completed before the Route Permit application can be approved. The 115kV transmission line route corridor and switching station is identified on the attached project location map and is located in Lake County Township 56N, Range 7W, Sections 31-32.

The City of Silver Bay is currently gathering information to prepare the Environmental Assessment. The City would like you to provide information, issues, concerns, and comments on the proposed route corridor and switching station. We would appreciate receiving comments from you by July 30, 2013.

In addition, the City of Silver Bay has scheduled a public meeting to provide an opportunity for you to ask questions, provide comments, and suggest issues to be analyzed in an Environmental Assessment. The meeting will be an open house and will provide an opportunity to view project exhibits and ask questions or provide comments to City staff, the Applicants, and the city's environmental consultant. There will not be a formal presentation. Open house details are provided below.

**City of Silver Bay Meeting Information:**

**When:** 5:00-7:00p.m., Thursday July 11, 2013

**Where:** Reunion Hall  
97 Outer Drive  
Silver Bay, Minnesota

If you require further information or have questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 218-226-4408. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Lana Fralich, City of Silver Bay Administrator

Attachment: Project Figure



CITY OF SILVER BAY  
7 DAVIS DRIVE  
SILVER BAY, MN 55614  
(218) 226-4408

June 28, 2013

North Shore Oil and Propane  
5114 Minnesota 61  
Silver Bay, MN 55614

**Re: Minnesota Power 115 kV Transmission Line and Switching Station**

Dear North Shore Oil and Propane:

Minnesota Power (MP) submitted an application for the North Shore Switching Station 115 kV transmission line project to the City of Silver Bay on May 16, 2013. Minnesota Power is seeking authorization to construct a 0.7 mile transmission line and switching station that will be entirely located on North Shore Mining Company property. The purpose of the project is to improve system reliability for the area and alleviate power supply deficiencies at the North Shore Mining Facility.

The City of Silver Bay has scheduled a public meeting to provide an opportunity for you to ask questions, provide comments, and suggest issues to be analyzed in an Environmental Assessment to be developed by the City. The meeting will be an open house that will provide landowners an opportunity to view project exhibits and ask questions or provide comments to City staff, MP and the city's environmental consultant. There will not be a formal presentation. Open house details are provided below.

**City of Silver Bay Meeting Information:**

**When:** 5:00-7:00p.m., Thursday July 11, 2013

**Where:** Reunion Hall  
97 Outer Drive  
Silver Bay, Minnesota

If you should have any questions now or following the meeting, please contact Lana Fralich at 218-226-4408.

Sincerely,

Lana Fralich, City of Silver Bay Administrator

Attachment: Project Figure



CITY OF SILVER BAY  
7 DAVIS DRIVE  
SILVER BAY, MN 55614  
(218) 226-4408

June 28, 2013

Cliffs Natural Resource  
10 Outer Drive  
Silver Bay, MN 55614

**Re: Minnesota Power 115 kV Transmission Line and Switching Station**

Dear Cliffs Natural Resource:

Minnesota Power (MP) submitted an application for the North Shore Switching Station 115 kV transmission line project to the City of Silver Bay on May 16, 2013. Minnesota Power is seeking authorization to construct a 0.7 mile transmission line and switching station that will be entirely located on North Shore Mining Company property. The purpose of the project is to improve system reliability for the area and alleviate power supply deficiencies at the North Shore Mining Facility.

The City of Silver Bay has scheduled a public meeting to provide an opportunity for you to ask questions, provide comments, and suggest issues to be analyzed in an Environmental Assessment to be developed by the City. The meeting will be an open house that will provide landowners an opportunity to view project exhibits and ask questions or provide comments to City staff, MP and the city's environmental consultant. There will not be a formal presentation. Open house details are provided below.

**City of Silver Bay Meeting Information:**

**When:** 5:00-7:00p.m., Thursday July 11, 2013

**Where:** Reunion Hall  
97 Outer Drive  
Silver Bay, Minnesota

If you should have any questions now or following the meeting, please contact Lana Fralich at 218-226-4408.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lana Fralich".

Lana Fralich, City of Silver Bay Administrator

Attachment: Project Figure



Aerial photography: NAIP 2010.



- Proposed Route Location
- Proposed Switching Station Location
- Road
- Railroad

**Project Location Map**  
**Minnesota Power-City of Silver Bay**  
 North Shore Switching Station  
 Transmission Line and Substation



0 1,000 2,000 Feet

**1:24,000**

Prepared by:



# **AGENCY RESPONSES**



**Minnesota Department of Transportation**

Office of Technical Support

395 John Ireland Boulevard

Saint Paul, MN 55155

Mailstop 678

JUL 25 2013

Phone: 651-366-4635

Fax: 651-366-4769

[stacy.kotch@state.mn.us](mailto:stacy.kotch@state.mn.us)

July 23, 2013

Lana Fralich, City Administrator

City of Silver Bay

7 Days Drive

Silver Bay, MN 55614

Re: In the Matter of the Minnesota Power 115kV High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) Project

Dear Ms. Fralich:

On June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013, a request was made for public comment on the scope of the Environmental Assessment (EA) relating to the route permit application by Minnesota Power for a 115 kV Transmission Line Project. The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) submits the following comments in response to the request.

At this time, very little information has been made available to our agency with regard to whether or not the proposed route, that looks to run parallel to Minnesota Trunk Highway (TH) 61, would be close enough to occupy a portion of the highway right of way. Therefore, without detailed mapping, including alignment and transmission right of way widths, MnDOT cannot fully assess how the proposed route might impact the trunk highway system.

If the proposed route *would* affect MnDOT right of way, MnDOT has a long history of working with utilities such as Minnesota Power to establish appropriate permitting conditions in locations where the utility seeks to utilize a state transportation corridor.

MnDOT has adopted a formal policy and procedures for accommodation of utilities on the highway rights of way ("Utility Accommodation Policy"). A copy of MnDOT's policy can be found at <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/utility/files/pdf/appendix-b.pdf>.

Any HVTL construction work, including delivery or storage of structures, materials or equipment that may affect MnDOT right of way is of concern such that MnDOT should be involved in planning and coordinating such activities. If work is required within MnDOT right of way for

An Equal Opportunity Employer



temporary or permanent access, please coordinate with Wayne Scheer, District 1 Permits, at 218-725-2780 or [Wayne.Scheer@state.mn.us](mailto:Wayne.Scheer@state.mn.us).

MnDOT has a continuing interest in working with the City of Silver Bay and Minnesota Power to ensure that possible impacts to the state transportation system are adequately addressed. We appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,



Stacy Kotch

Utility Transmission Route Coordinator

Minnesota Department of Transportation

An Equal Opportunity Employer





# Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

520 Lafayette Road North | St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4194 | 651-296-6300

800-657-3864 | 651-282-5332 TTY | [www.pca.state.mn.us](http://www.pca.state.mn.us) | Equal Opportunity Employer

July 29, 2013

Ms. Lana Fralich  
City of Silver Bay Administrator  
7 Davis Drive  
Silver Bay, MN 55614

Re: Minnesota Power 115 kV Transmission Line and Switching Station

Dear Ms. Fralich:

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Environmental Review Unit has reviewed the information in the letter and attachment dated June 28, 2013, regarding the construction of a 0.7 mile 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Lake County, Minnesota. Based on the limited information provided, and regarding matters for which the MPCA has regulatory responsibility and other interests, the MPCA staff has the following comments for your consideration.

- If the project will disturb a total of one acre or more of land, a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System/State Disposal System (NPDES/SDS) Construction Stormwater Permit (CSW Permit) is required from the MPCA. The owner and operator (usually the general contractor) are jointly responsible for obtaining and complying with the conditions of the CSW Permit. A detailed Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), containing stormwater management requirements both during and post construction, as well as erosion control and sediment control requirements during construction, must be prepared prior to submitting a CSW Permit application. CSW Permit coverage is required prior to commencing land disturbing activities (i.e., clearing, grading, filling, or excavating) relating to the project. For an overview of this permit and program, please refer to the following factsheet: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/wq-strm2-05.pdf>. Questions regarding CSW Permit requirements should be directed to Roberta Getman at 507-206-2629.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this project. Please be aware that this letter does not constitute approval by the MPCA of any or all elements of the project for the purpose of pending or future permit action(s) by the MPCA. Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the project proposer to secure any required permits and to comply with any requisite permit conditions. If you have any questions concerning our review of this project, please contact me at 651-757-2508.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen Kromar".

Karen Kromar  
Planner Principal  
Environmental Review Unit  
Resource Management and Assistance Division

KK:bt

cc: Craig Affeldt, MPCA, St. Paul  
Roberta Getman, MPCA, Rochester  
Patrick Carey, MPCA, Duluth



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
ST. PAUL DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
180 FIFTH STREET EAST, SUITE 700  
ST. PAUL MINNESOTA 55101-1678

JUL 22 2013

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

Operations  
Regulatory (2013-02486-LED)

July 19, 2013

Ms. Lana Fralich  
City Administrator  
City of Silver Bay  
7 Davis Drive  
Silver Bay, Minnesota 55614

Dear Ms. Fralich:

Thank you for providing preliminary information, including a corridor map, about Minnesota Power's proposed 0.7-mile long 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) project for Corps review and comment. As identified on the maps submitted to the Corps, the project would involve the construction of a switching area and installation of 115 kV high voltage overhead transmission line across Sections 31 and 32, T. 56N., R. 7W., Lake County, Minnesota.

We understand the project would involve the construction of a 300-foot-wide utility corridor (100-foot-wide right-of-way). From the information and map provided, it appears the project **may** cross or involve the discharge of dredged or fill material in waters of the United States, including wetlands. If the proposed project would cross and/or result in impacts to wetlands or waters of the United States, a DA permit may be required for the project; however, from the scale of the maps and lack of a ground truthed wetland determination, we are unable to determine whether the project would require a Department of the Army (DA) permit.

To determine whether the submittal of an application is required for this project, we would encourage Minnesota Power to contact our office and provide additional information, such as photographs and/or a wetland delineation of the corridor, to assist in our review.

To assist in the submittal of a complete application for this project, we are enclosing a list of information for Minnesota Power to provide in their application that would be necessary for the permit evaluation process. Upon the receipt of an application for this project, we would review the application and notify the applicant of any additional information necessary to complete our review of the project.

Operations  
Regulatory (2013-02486-LED)

If you have any questions, contact Ms. Leslie Day in our Two Harbors office at (651) 290-5693. In any correspondence or inquiries, please refer to the Regulatory number shown above.

Sincerely,

  
for Tamara E. Cameron  
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Enclosure:  
Information List  
Minnesota Joint Application Form

## INFORMATION NEEDED FOR CORPS PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

### REQUIRED MAPS, DRAWINGS, OR PHOTOS -

- Show exact location of the transmission line within the right-of-way corridor
- Demonstrate that you have identified the wetlands in the project right-of-way corridor using sources that could include (but are not limited to): county soil survey data, interpreted infrared satellite images, aerial photography review, or state wetland inventory maps. Wetland boundaries should be ground truthed.
- Identify the wetland types in the project right-of-way corridor
- Identify all waterbody and waterway crossings along the project right-of-way corridor, which may include judicial ditches, intermittent tributaries, perennial unnamed tributaries, Section 10 waters, and tributaries to Section 10 waters

### FURTHER DESCRIPTIONS NEED -

- Demonstrate that you have minimized waterway and wetland impacts in the application; examples: using existing utility corridors, using already disturbed utility corridors, using maintained corridors, etc. Note: we may have already received some of this information.

### EXCAVATION/FILLING -

- Dimensions of excavation/fill areas along the project corridor in wetlands for the placement of overhead utility poles and/or other structures

### TEMPORARY FILL PLACEMENT -

- Determine whether there would be temporary placement of fill material; if so, identify the purpose of this fill, list exact location, and determine the dimensions/area of fill

### CONVERSION -

- Identify all areas within the corridor where vegetation clearing would result in the conversion of wetland types (and calculate areas of conversion by wetland type)
- Describe how vegetation removal (mechanized versus non-mechanized, equipment to be used) would be accomplished

### STRUCTURE -

- On overhead maps, identify the location (and discuss dimensions) of all proposed structure(s); utility poles/structures

### ADJOINING PROPERTY OWNERS -

- Names and address of adjoining property owners, lessees, etc.

### ALTERNATIVES -

- Explain why there are no alternative sites or methods available that would accomplish the intended purpose of the project but would not require placement of fill in the wetland

MITIGATION -

- Wetland mitigation measures may be needed for the discharge of dredged or fill material for the placement of utility poles and for the conversion of wetland Types along the project corridor. Mitigation ratios could be between 0.25:1 and 1.50:1 depending upon the impact.

OTHER -

The Section 106 process needs to be completed for this project before Corps permit would be issued.

The project would need to satisfy the state water quality standards/waivers and tribal water quality standards/exemptions.

The project should satisfy the Minnesota Lake Superior Coastal Program (MNDNR).

The U.S. Coast Guard may need notification for the placement of the fiber-optic cable beneath Section 10 waters, including Lake Superior.

The Corps of Engineers Detroit District may need to be notified for the placement of the fiber-optic cable in Lake Superior.

Please note that a 3<sup>rd</sup> party may need to ground-truth wetland areas along the project corridor.

# Minnesota Local/State/Federal Application Forms for Water/Wetland Projects

## USE THIS APPLICATION FOR ANY PROJECT AFFECTING A LAKE, RIVER, STREAM OR WETLAND, INCLUDING:

Local Government Unit Approval Pursuant to Minnesota Wetlands Conservation Act (WCA)  
 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Permit to Work in Public Waters  
 Department of the Army Permit (33 CFR 325)

Note: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) will forward application forms to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for processing if state water quality certification is required from the MPCA. You **do not** need to send this application to the MPCA.

This application packet includes :

**Part I:** The **BASIC APPLICATION** and the **COE APPLICATION** to be filled out by all applicants (see Instructions).

**PART II:** The **REPLACEMENT PLAN SUPPLEMENT** to be completed *only for* projects that impact wetlands and require a replacement plan for wetland mitigation. **If you're not sure** whether your project requires a replacement plan, call your Local Government Unit (LGU) or Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) office for guidance.

**Do not proceed with your project** until you have received all required approvals from your LGU, the DNR and the COE. If you wish to confirm the status of your application at any time, contact the agencies directly (see Instructions, page 2). **Proceeding with work before all required authorizations are obtained may result in fines or other penalties, and may include a requirement to restore the project site to original condition.**

**If you have questions or need assistance** with filling out these forms, contact your local SWCD office, your LGU, your Area DNR Waters office, or your COE field office (see Instructions, page 2).

**If you believe that your project may be subject to watershed district, local zoning, or any other local regulations** besides those of your LGU, contact those office(s) directly. **If you are a Federal Farm Program participant** and your project affects a wetland or water body on agricultural land, your eligibility for USDA benefits may be affected. Contact a Natural Resources Conservation Service office for further information.

## A QUICK LOOK AT THE PROJECT APPLICATION PROCESS

**Electronic files:** Forms can be downloaded and filled out using Microsoft Word. Your input will be restricted to fill-in fields where users can enter text or check boxes. These areas appear gray on the screen, but not on the printed document.

Send copies of these completed application forms to your LGU, your Area DNR Waters office, and your COE regulatory office.

Any of the agencies may make initial contact with you to: a) inform you that it has no jurisdiction over your project; b) request additional information needed; or c) inform you of applicable fees.

When your application is considered complete and appropriate fees have been received (if requested) it will be distributed for appropriate review.

Following agencies' reviews, you will be informed if it has been approved, approved with changes or conditions, withdrawn, or denied.

For information about state laws, rules and regulations that direct this process go to the web site [www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us](http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us). For information on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regulations go to the web site [www.mvp.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil).

## Instructions for Part I

**HELP 1: Every applicant must fill out Section 1.** The applicant is the person, agency, company, corporation, or other organization that owns, leases, or holds other legal rights to the land where the project is located. Indicate names of multiple applicants on a separate sheet.

**HELP 1A: Fill out Section 1A only if you have designated an authorized agent.** An authorized agent may be an attorney, builder, consultant, contractor, engineer, or any other person or organization designated by the applicant to represent him/her in this process. An agent is not required.

**HELP 5: Purpose, description and dimensions of project:** State briefly (in a sentence or two) what you propose to do and why it is needed.

Also, describe whether your project will involve any of the following:

- Construction of structures, filling, draining, dewatering, removing, excavating or repair.
- Construction of an access path, bridge, culvert, dam, ditch, dock, driveway, riprap, road, sand blanket, shore protection, or tile line.
- Construction of any structures on fill, piles or a float-supported platform. If so, describe.
- Dredging or discharging (placing fill material) into a wetland or other water body (including the temporary placement of material). If so, explain the specific purpose of the placement of the material (such as erosion control) and indicate how it will be done (such as with a backhoe or dragline). If dredged material is to be discharged on an upland site, identify the location of the site.

Include an overhead view drawing showing the work to be undertaken and its relative location on the property. Show items such as property boundaries or lot dimensions; location and extent of shoreline, wetlands and water; location and dimensions and footprint of the proposed project, structure or activity (include length, width, elevation and other measurements as appropriate); points of reference such as existing homes, structures, docks or landscape features; indication of north; and location of spoil and disposal sites (if applicable). Hand drawn, computer generated or professionally prepared drawings are acceptable, as long as they contain all necessary information clearly, accurately, and in adequate detail. Please include specific dimensions whenever possible. You may also include photos, if you wish. Paper copies should be limited to maximum dimensions of 11" by 17". Computer files should be viewable in a PDF format; contact the agency for other usable formats.

**HELP 7:** For information regarding adjacent landowners, contact the tax assessor where the project is to be developed.

**HELP 8:** If any part of the work has already been completed, describe the area already developed. Include a description of structures completed; any dredged or fill material already discharged (including type of material and volume in cubic yards); acres or square feet filled (if a wetland or other water body); and whether the work was done under an existing permit (if so identify the authorization, if possible).

**HELP 9:** Other permits, reviews or approval related to the project may include the following: conditional use permit; plat approval; zoning variance; National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit; state disposal system permit (includes dredged material disposal); watershed district/watershed management organization permit (stormwater, erosion, floodplain); environmental assessment worksheet/environmental impact statement; hazardous waste site; feedlot permit; groundwater appropriation permit; or county/township driveway/road permit. Are you aware of any archeological or cultural resource determinations or surveys completed concerning the project or replacement site by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) or others? If yes, please explain on a separate sheet or attach a copy of any determinations or surveys.

### Final Checklists (Part I)

- Have you completed all of Part I (Page 1), plus the Federal application (Page 2)?
- Did you (and your agent, if applicable) sign Section 10 on page 1?
- Have you signed the Application for the Department of the Army Permit (Page 2) to seek Federal authorization of your project?
- Have you included the necessary attachments for Part I?

**Attachments must include:**

- Site Locator Map (Section 3)
- Type of Project (Section 4) (if additional space was needed)
- Overhead View of Project (Section 5 and HELP 5)
- Project Purpose, Description and Dimensions (Section 5) (if additional space was needed)

**Attachments may also include:**

- Applicant Contact Information (HELP 1) (if additional space was needed)
- Project Location (Section 3) (if additional space was needed)
- Project Alternatives (Section 6) (if additional space was needed)
- Photographs
- Adjoining Property Owners (Section 7) (if additional space was needed)
- Work Already Completed Section (Section 8) (if you answered YES)
- State Historic Preservation Office determination or survey

### Submitting Your Application

Make three copies of the entire application and all attachments. Keep the original, and mail a complete copy of your application to each of the local, state, and Federal entities listed below. Be sure to include Part I and all attachments with each application.

**LOCAL:** Send to the appropriate Local Government Unit (LGU). If necessary, contact your county Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) office or visit the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) web site ([www.bwsr.state.mn.us](http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us)) to determine the appropriate LGU.

**STATE:** Send to your Area DNR Waters office, attention Area Hydrologist. If necessary, contact your county Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) office or visit the DNR website ([www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us)) to locate the Area Hydrologist for your location, or contact a Regional DNR office:

NW Region:	NE Region:	Central Region:	Southern Region:
2115 Birchmont Beach Road N.E. Bemidji, MN 56601 Phone: 218-755-3973	1201 East Highway 2 Grand Rapids, MN 55744 Phone: 218-327-4416	1200 Warner Road St. Paul, MN 55106 Phone: 651-772-7910	261 Highway 15 South New Ulm, MN 56073 Phone: 507 359-6053

**FEDERAL:** Send to the appropriate U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regulatory field office:

<b>Brainerd:</b> U.S. COE, Regulatory Branch 10867 E. Gull Lake Drive N.W. Brainerd, MN 56401-9051 Phone: 218-829-8402	<b>St. Paul:</b> U.S. COE, Regulatory Branch Army Corps of Engineers Centre 190 5 <sup>th</sup> Street East St. Paul, MN 55101-9051 Phone: 651-290-5375	<b>La Crescent:</b> U.S. COE, Regulatory Branch 1114 South Oak Street La Crescent, MN 55947-1338 Phone: 507-895-8059	<b>Two Harbors:</b> U.S. COE, Regulatory Branch 1554 Highway 2, Suite 2 Two Harbors, MN 55616 Phone: 218-834-6630
--	--	--	---

**WEB SITES:** BWSR: [www.bwsr.state.mn.us](http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us) U.S. ACOE: [www.mvp.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil) DNR: [www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us) MPCA: [www.pca.state.mn.us](http://www.pca.state.mn.us)



The public burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 hours per response, although the majority of applications should require 5 hours or less. This includes the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Service Directorate of Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302; and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0710-0003), Washington, DC 20503. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number. Please DO NOT RETURN your form to either of these addresses. Completed applications must be submitted to the District engineer having jurisdiction over the location of the proposed activity.

**PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT:** Authorities: Rivers and Harbors Act, Section 10, 33 USC 403; Clean Water Act, Section 404, 33 USC 1344; Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act, 33 USC 1413, Section 103. Principal purpose: Information provided on this form will be used in evaluating the application for a permit. Routine uses: This information may be shared with the Department of Justice and other Federal, state, and local government agencies. Submission of requested information is voluntary; however, if information is not provided, the permit application cannot be evaluated nor can a permit be issued.

**ITEMS 1 THROUGH 4 TO BE FILLED IN BY THE CORPS**

- |                    |                      |                  |                               |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. APPLICATION NO. | 2. FIELD OFFICE CODE | 3. DATE RECEIVED | 4. DATE APPLICATION COMPLETED |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|

**YOU DO NOT NEED TO COMPLETE ITEMS 6-10 and 12-25 in the SHADED AREAS.**

*All applicants must complete non-shaded items 5 and 26. If an agent is used, also complete items 8 and 11. This optional Federal form is valid for use **only** when included as part of this entire state application packet.*

5. APPLICANT'S NAME	8. AUTHORIZED AGENT'S NAME AND TITLE (an agent is not required)
6. APPLICANT'S ADDRESS	9. AGENT'S ADDRESS
7. APPLICANT'S PHONE NO.	10. AGENT'S PHONE NO.

**11. STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION** (if applicable; complete only if authorizing an agent)  
 I hereby authorize \_\_\_\_\_ to act on my behalf as my agent in the processing of this application and to furnish, upon request, supplemental information in support of this permit application.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

12. PROJECT NAME OR TITLE (see instructions)	
13. NAME OF WATERBODY, IF KNOWN (if applicable)	14. PROJECT STREET ADDRESS (if applicable)
15. LOCATION OF PROJECT	
16. OTHER LOCATION DESCRIPTIONS, IF KNOWN (see instructions)	
17. DIRECTIONS TO THE SITE	18. NATURE OF ACTIVITY
19. PROJECT PURPOSE	20. REASON(S) FOR DISCHARGE
21. TYPES OF MATERIAL BEING DISCHARGED AND THE AMOUNT OF EACH TYPE IN CUBIC YARDS	
22. SURFACE AREA IN ACRES OF WETLANDS OR OTHER WATERS FILLED	
23. IS ANY PORTION OF THE WORK ALREADY COMPLETE? YES _____ NO _____ IF YES, DESCRIBE COMPLETED WORK.	
24. ADDRESSES OF ADJOINING PROPERTY OWNERS,	
25. LIST OF OTHER CERTIFICATIONS OR APPROVALS/DENIALS RECEIVED FROM OTHER FEDERAL, STATE OR LOCAL AGENCIES FOR WORK DESCRIBED IN THIS APPLICATION.	

26. Application is hereby made for a permit or permits to authorize the work described in this application. I certify that the information in this application is complete and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority to undertake the work described herein or am acting as the duly authorized agent of the applicant.

Signature of applicant	Date	Signature of agent (if any)	Date
------------------------	------	-----------------------------	------

The application must be signed by the person who desires to undertake the proposed activity (applicant), or it may be signed by a duly authorized agent if the statement in Block 11 has been filled out and signed. 18 U.S.C. Section 1001 provides that: Whoever, in any manner within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up with any trick, scheme, or disguises a material fact or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or entry, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years or both.

ENG FORM 4345, Jul 97 EDITION OF FEB 94 IS OBSOLETE. (Proponent: CECW-OR)

---

**FOR LGU USE ONLY:**

- Determination for Part 1:**
- No WCA Jurisdiction
  - Exempt: No. \_\_\_\_ (per MN Rule 8420.0122)
  - No Loss: \_\_\_\_ (A,B, . . .G, per MN Rule 8420.0220)
  - Wetland Boundary or type
  - Replacement required – applicant must complete Part II

**COMPLETE THE SECTION BELOW ONLY IF REPLACEMENT IS NOT REQUIRED:**

Application is (check one):  Approved  Approved with conditions (conditions attached)  Denied

Comments/Findings: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*LGU official signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name and Title*

**For Agricultural and Drainage exemptions (MN Rule 8420.0122 Subps. 1 and 2B), LGU has received proof of recording of restrictions (per MN Rule 8420.0115):**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*County where recorded*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Document # assigned by recorder*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*LGU official signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

---

## Instructions For Part II

Complete those portions of Part II: Replacement Plan Supplement for which information is readily available (such as location, existing land use, size of impact area, etc.) A person certified in wetland delineation must determine items pertaining to specific wetland impacts (wetland type, predominant vegetation, watershed name, etc.) Contact the local soil and water conservation district (SWCD) office for further information on obtaining such items.

### What to Include on Plans

Detailed overhead views of replacement site(s) (Part II), as well as profile view(s) of replacement site(s) (Part II), may be either hand drawn, computer generated or professionally prepared, as long as they contain all necessary information clearly, accurately, and in adequate detail. Please include specific dimensions whenever possible. You may also include photos, if you wish.

**Overhead views** of Part II replacement site(s) should include the following items that pertain to your project:

- Property boundaries and/or lot dimensions.
- Location and extent of shoreline, wetlands and water.
- Location and dimensions of proposed project, structure or activity. Include length, width, elevation and other measurements as appropriate.
- Points of reference (such as existing homes, structures, docks or landscape features).
- Location of inlet and outlet structures.
- Indication of north.
- Location of spoil and disposal sites (if applicable).
- Areas of wetland and upland plants established.

**Profile views** (side or cross-sectional views) should include the following items that pertain to your project:

- Location and dimensions of proposed project, structure or activity. Include elevation, depth, soil profile, side slope and other measurements as appropriate.
- Proposed water level elevation.

## Final Checklists

### Part II: Replacement Plan Supplement

- Have you completed all of Part II (pages 3-5)?
- Did you (or your agent) sign Section 19 on page 5?
- Have you included the necessary attachments for Part II?

**Attachments *must* include:**

- If the project includes any wetland banking (complete or partial), include Application for Withdrawal of Wetland Credits Form (Section 14)
- If the project includes any project-specific replacements (complete or partial), include:
  - Description of Replacement Wetland(s) Construction (Section 15)
  - Copy of vegetation management plan (Section 15)
  - Scale drawing of overhead view or replacement wetland (Section 18)
  - Scale drawing of profile view of replacement wetland (Section 18)

**Attachments *may* also include:**

- Additional description of Wetland Impact Charts (Section 11) (if additional space was needed)
- Additional Description of Replacement Wetlands charts (Section 17) (if additional space was needed)
- Additional soils information for created replacement wetland(s) (Section 18) (if available)

**Note:** To deposit surplus wetland credits in the State Wetland Bank, submit a Wetland Banking Application directly to your LGU (Section 16).

### Preparing Your Application for Mailing

- To apply for both state and Federal authorization, your application must include Part I (Page 1), the Federal application (Page 2), and attachments as indicated on *Final Checklist for Part I* (Instructions, Page 2).
- Your application must also include Part II (Pages 3-5) and additional attachments as indicated on *Final Checklist for Part II* (above).
- Make three copies of the entire application and all attachments. Keep the original, and mail the three copies to the appropriate local, state, and Federal agencies (see Instructions for Part I for addresses).

## PART II: REPLACEMENT PLAN SUPPLEMENT

*For assistance in completing Part II, contact your Local Government Unit or a professional consultant*

**11. DESCRIPTION OF WETLAND IMPACTS:** Complete the chart below: 1) Use one row of boxes for each wetland impact; 2) If your project has more than one wetland impact, reference your overhead view (part of Section 5) to this chart by identifying and labeling "first impact" and "second impact" on your overhead view; 3) If you are identifying only one wetland type within a given wetland impact area, use the first dotted line and leave the others blank; 4) If you have chosen to identify more than one wetland type within a given wetland impact area, use the extra dotted lines to indicate each wetland type, and identify predominant vegetation and size of impacted area for each separate wetland type within that impact area; 5) If you do not have access to some of this information, call your LGU or SWCD office for assistance. *(Photocopy chart for more impacts, if needed.)*

### DESCRIPTION OF WETLAND IMPACTS

Wetland impact <i>(as noted on overhead view)</i>	Watershed name or number <i>(if known)</i>	Watershed and Bank Service Area	Wetland plant community type <sup>1</sup>	Predominant vegetation in impacted wetland area	Size of area impacted <i>(in acres or square feet)</i>	Existing land use in project area <i>(check all that apply)</i>
<b>First impact</b>						<input type="checkbox"/> Housing <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Parks/recreation areas <input type="checkbox"/> Highways and associated rights-of-way <input type="checkbox"/> Forested <input type="checkbox"/> Farmsteads/agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant lands <input type="checkbox"/> Public and semi-public (schools/gov't facilities) <input type="checkbox"/> Airports <input type="checkbox"/> Extractive (gravel pits/quarries) <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
			-----	-----	-----	
			-----	-----	-----	
<b>Second impact</b>						
			-----	-----	-----	
			-----	-----	-----	

<sup>1</sup>If you are identifying only one wetland type within a given wetland impact area, use the first dotted line and leave the others blank. If you have chosen to identify more than one wetland type within a given wetland impact area, use the extra dotted lines to indicate each separate wetland type, and identify predominant vegetation and size of impacted area for each separate wetland type with that impact area.

**TOTALS OF AREA(S) IMPACTED FOR EACH WETLAND TYPE ON CHART** *(indicate acres  or square feet )*

Wetland plant community type <sup>1</sup>: Shallow open water:      Deep marsh:      Shallow Marsh:      Sedge meadow:  
 Fresh wet meadow:      Wet to wet mesic prairie:      Calcareous fen:      Open bog or coniferous bog:      Shrub carr or alder thicket:  
 Hardwood swamp or coniferous swamp:      Floodplain forest      Seasonally flooded basin

**12. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:** Are you aware of any special considerations that apply to either the impact site(s) or the replacement site(s)?  Yes  No  
 (Examples: the presence of endangered species, special fish and wildlife resources, sensitive surface waters, or waste disposal site.) If YES, list and describe briefly.

**13. SHORELAND IMPACT ZONE:** Please identify each wetland impact site noted in Section 15 that is within 1000 feet of a lake or 300 feet of a river.

<sup>1</sup> See *Wetland Plants and Plant Communities of Minnesota and Wisconsin (Eggers and Reed, 1997)* as modified by the Board of Water and Soil Resources, United States Army Corps of Engineers.

14. **HOW PROPOSED REPLACEMENT WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED:** Indicate how proposed replacement will be accomplished (check only one box below and continue as indicated):

- A. Wetland banking credits only  
Complete *Application for Withdrawal of Wetland Credits Form* and include with your application. Copies of this form are available from your LGU, or download a copy from [www.bwsr.state.mn.us](http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us)  
Skip to Section 19, page 6 (You do not need to complete Sections 15-18).
- B. Project-specific replacement only  
Continue with Section 15 below.
- C. A Combination of wetland banking and project-specific replacement. If using project specific replacement that will result in surplus wetland credits that you propose to deposit in the state wetland bank for future use, then you must submit a wetland banking application directly to your LGU before or concurrently with submittal of this form. Also, Complete *Application for Withdrawal of Wetland Credits Form* and include with your application. Copies of this form and the wetland banking application is available from your LGU, or download a copy from [www.bwsr.state.mn.us](http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us)  
Continue with Section 15 below.

15. **DESCRIPTION OF REPLACEMENT WETLAND(S) CONSTRUCTION** (Complete this section only if you marked Box B or Box C in Section 14 above):

Describe in detail how replacement wetland(s) will be constructed. If several methods will be used, describe each method. Details should include the following: 1) type of construction (such as excavated in upland, restored by tile break, restored by ditch block or revegetated); 2) type, size and specifications of outlet structures; 3) elevations relative to Mean Sea Level or established benchmarks or key features (such as sill, emergency overflow or structure height); 4) what best management practices will be implemented to prevent erosions or site degradation; 5) proposed timetable for starting and ending the project; and 6) a vegetation management plan. Write this description on a separate sheet of paper labeled *DESCRIPTION OF REPLACEMENT WETLAND CONSTRUCTION*.

16. **SURPLUS WETLAND CREDITS:** If using project-specific replacement (Box B or Box C in Section 14 above), will the replacement result in any surplus wetland credits that you wish to have deposited in the State Wetland Bank for future use?  Yes  No. If yes, submit a **Wetland Banking Application** directly to your LGU before or concurrently with submittal of this form. Copies are available from your LGU, or download a copy from [www.bwsr.state.mn.us](http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us)

17. **DESCRIPTION OF REPLACEMENT WETLANDS:** Complete the chart below: 1) Use one row of boxes for each wetland replacement site; 2) If your project has more than one wetland replacement site, reference your overhead view (part of Section 5) to this chart by identifying and labeling "first replacement site" and "second replacement site" on your overhead view; 3) If you are identifying only one wetland type within a given replacement site, use the first dotted line(s) and leave the others blank; 4) If you have chosen to identify more than one wetland type in a given replacement site, use the extra dotted lines to indicate each separate wetland type, and identify type(s) of replacement credits and "restored or created" for each separate wetland type with that replacement site; 5) If you do not have access to some of the information, or if you do not know your replacement ratio, call your LGU or SWCD office for assistance. *Photocopy chart for more wetland replacements, if needed.*

**DESCRIPTION OF REPLACEMENT WETLANDS**

Identify Wetland replacement site <i>(as noted on overhead view)</i>	Watershed name or number <i>(if known)</i> Bank Service Area	County	Section, Township, Range	Wetland Plant Community Type <sup>1</sup>	Type(s) of replacement credits <i>(in acres or square feet)</i>		Restored or created? Indicate R or C
					New Wetland Credits (NWC)	Public Value Credits (PVC)	
Name of First replacement site							
Name of Second replacement site							
If you are identifying only one wetland type within a given wetland impact area, use the first dotted line and leave the others blank. If you have chosen to identify more than one wetland type within a given wetland impact area, use the extra dotted lines to indicate each separate wetland type, and identify predominant vegetation and size of impacted area for each separate wetland type within that impact area.					<b>TOTAL NWC</b>	<b>TOTAL PVC</b>	
					<b>REQUIRED REPLACEMENT RATIO:</b> <i>(If known)</i>		

Wetland plant community type: Shallow open water: Deep marsh: Shallow Marsh: Sedge meadow:  
 Fresh wet meadow: Wet to wet mesic prairie: Calcareous fen: Open bog or coniferous bog: Shrub carr or alder thicket:  
 Hardwood swamp or coniferous swamp: Floodplain forest Seasonally flooded basin

\* See *Wetland Plants and Plant Communities of Minnesota and Wisconsin (Eggers and Reed, 1997)* as modified by the Board of Water and Soil Resources, United States Army Corps of Engineers.

**18. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR PROJECT-SPECIFIC REPLACEMENT (Required *only* if you marked Box B or Box C in Section 14):**  
For projects involving at least some project-specific replacement, include the following additional information:

Two drawings to scale of the replacement wetland. Include both overhead view and profile (side view or cross-sectional view). See *What to Include on Plans* (Instructions, Page 3) for a detailed description of what should be included in these drawings. Without drawings, your application will be considered incomplete.

For created replacement wetlands, include additional soils information (if available) that indicates the capability of the site to produce and maintain wetland characteristics.

**Note 1:** For replacement wetlands located on pipeline easements, you need to receive endorsement of your project from both the easement holder and the Minnesota Department of Public Safety's Office of Pipeline Safety. Before start of construction, the owner of any utilities must be notified. The landowner or contractor is responsible for giving this notice by calling "Gopher State One-Call" at 652-454-0002 (Twin Cities Metro Area) or 1-800-252-1166 (all other locations).

**Note 2:** For extensive or complex projects supplementary information may be requested at a later date from one or more of the responding agencies. Such information may include (but not be limited to) the following: topographic map, water table map, soil borings, depth soundings, aerial photographs, environmental assessment and/or engineering reports.

**19. SIGNED AFFIRMATION:**

**FOR PROJECTS INVOLVING REPLACEMENT BY WETLAND BANKING ONLY.** To the best of my knowledge and belief, all information in Part II is true, complete and accurate; and I affirm that the wetland losses will be replaced via withdrawal from an account in the State Wetland Bank.

**FOR PROJECTS INVOLVING EITHER PROJECT-SPECIFIC REPLACEMENT ONLY OR A COMBINATION OF WETLAND BANKING AND PROJECT-SPECIFIC REPLACEMENT:**

**Part A: The replacement wetland.** I affirm that the replacement wetland was not:

- Previously restored or created under a prior approved replacement plan or permit; **AND**
- Drained or filled under an exemption during the previous 10 years; **AND**
- Restored with financial assistance from public conservation programs; **AND**
- Restored using private funds, other than landowner funds, unless the funds are paid back with interest to the individual or organization that funded the restoration; and the individual or organization notifies the local government unit in writing that the restored wetland may be considered for replacement.

**Part B: Additional assurances** (check all that apply):

- The wetland will be replaced before or concurrent with the actual draining or filling of a wetland.
- An irrevocable bank letter of credit, performance bond, or other acceptable security has been provided to guarantee successful completion of the wetland replacement.
- The wetland losses will be replaced via withdrawal from an account in the State Wetland Bank.

**Part C. For projects involving any project-specific replacement:** Within 30 days of either receiving approval of this application or beginning work on the project, I will record the Declaration of Restrictions and Covenants on the deed for the property on which the replacement wetland(s) will be located; and I will at the same time submit proof of such recording to the LGU.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, all information in Part II is true, complete and accurate; and I affirm all statements in Part A and C, as well as checked assurance(s) in Part B.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of applicant or agent*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

**FOR LGU USE ONLY**

Replacement plan is (check one):  Approved     Approved with conditions (conditions attached)     Denied

\_\_\_\_\_  
*LGU official signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

LGU has received evidence of title and proof of recording of Declaration of Restrictions and Covenants for Replacement Wetland:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*County where recorded*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Document # assigned by recorder*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*LGU official signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

## Peterson, Monica

---

**From:** Lana Fralich <lanaf@silverbay.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 02, 2013 1:33 PM  
**To:** Garvey, Kelly; Daniel McCourtney (ALLETE)  
**Subject:** Northshore Mining/MN Power 115KV Switching Station

Hi Kelly,

I received a message from Andrew Horton of the Twin Cities field office of Fish and Wildlife Service that they have no comments to the letter we sent and we can proceed. He can be reached at 612-725-3548, ext. 2208

Thanks,  
Lana



Minnesota  
Historical Society

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

JUL 29 2013

Using the Power of History to Transform Lives  
PRESERVING > SHARING > CONNECTING

July 26, 2013

Lana Fralich, Administrator  
City of Silver Bay  
7 Davis Drive  
Silver Bay, MN 55614

RE: MN Power Transmission Line and Switching Station  
Silver Bay, Lake County  
SHPO Number: 2013-2478

Dear Ms Fralich:

Thank you for initiating consultation on the above project. Our comments are based on the responsibilities given the Minnesota Historical Society by the Minnesota Field Archaeology Act and the Minnesota Historic Sites Act.

It is unlikely that the project as proposed will affect any known or potential archaeological sites, so no survey will be needed. However, two historical sites do exist in the project vicinity that could be affected by the proposal: the Silver Bay Historic District (a planned mining town site) and portions of TH 61, an example of early trunk highway improvements. Both these sites have been determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

The specific protections offered by the Minnesota Historic Sites Act apply only to sites actually listed in the State or National Registers, and neither site noted above is so listed. However, we hope the project will be planned and carried out in a manner that avoids adverse effects to these sites, including direct effects and indirect visual impacts.

Please note that this comment letter does not address the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and implementing regulations at 36CFR800. If this project is considered for federal assistance, or requires a federal license or permit, it should be submitted to our office by the responsible federal agency

If you have any questions on our review, please contact me at (651) 259-3456.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Heidemann, Manager  
Government Programs and Compliance

**From:** [Lana Fralich](#)  
**To:** [Garvey, Kelly](#); [Daniel McCourtney \(ALLETE\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: NHIS Request: MN Power 115 kV Line  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 09, 2013 1:06:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [2012 NHIS Form and Instructions.pdf](#)

---

FYI...

---

**From:** Bump, Samantha (DNR) [mailto:Samantha.Bump@state.mn.us]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 09, 2013 9:15 AM  
**To:** Lana Fralich  
**Subject:** NHIS Request: MN Power 115 kV Line

Hi Lana,

We received your request for information on rare features. In order to proceed with your request, **we need to receive a signed Minnesota Natural Heritage Information System Data Request Form**. Please complete all information on the attached form and return to [Review.NHIS@state.mn.us](mailto:Review.NHIS@state.mn.us) or the address listed below. **You do not need to resend any maps**, but do let us know if you have previously sent in information. If we do not receive the requested data within 60 days of the date on this memo, we will assume you wish to withdraw your request.

Thank you,  
Samantha Bump  
NHIS Review Technician  
(651) 259-5091  
Division of Ecological and Water Resources  
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25  
St. Paul, MN 55155

[samantha.bump@state.mn.us](mailto:samantha.bump@state.mn.us)  
[www.mndnr.gov/eco](http://www.mndnr.gov/eco)

Minnesota Power 115 kV transmission line and Switching Station Silver Bay Minnesota

To: The File	
From: Minnesota Power	Project: MP 115kV Transmission line and Switching Station
Date: August 2013	

On April 10, 2013 Minnesota Power received Natural Heritage Inventory System (NHIS) data from the MDNR which covered the Silver Bay Project Area. The NHIS data showed that there is one species of special concern within the project area.

Minnesota's List of Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern species was approved on August 19, 2013 and the status of the Peregrine Falcon was changed from threatened to a species of special concern. The Special Concern status was assigned to the Peregrine Falcon due to its increasing population and prior inclusion as a threatened species. As a species of special concern, the peregrine falcon is not protected by Minnesota's Endangered Species Statute or the associated Rules, however, the MDNR will still track their nesting success and population. Minnesota Power has placed an artificial eyrie on a building located at mining facility which will encourage the peregrine falcon to continue nesting in northern Minnesota and will contribute to a stable or increasing population.



LAKE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

616 THIRD AVENUE, TWO HARBORS, MN 55616

P: (218) 834-8372 F: (218) 834-8545

WWW.CO.LAKE.MN.US/SWCD

Ms. Lana Fralich  
Administrator  
City of Silver Bay  
7 Davis Drive  
Silver Bay, MN 55614

Re: SWCD Response to Letter Dated June 28, 2013  
Minnesota Power 115 kV Transmission Line and Switching Station

Ms. Fralich,

Thank you for providing initial project information regarding the above-referenced project. Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District's (SWCD) role in a project like this is to 1) provide technical assistance upon request, 2) review and comment on the Environmental Assessment, and, if wetlands will be impacted, to 3) to serve on the Lake County Hydrology Committee/Wetland Technical Environmental Panel. Lake SWCD is not a regulatory agency and we do not issue project permits or conduct enforcement. We recommend that you also consult with Lake County Planning & Zoning, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and the Army Corps of Engineers.

Due to the project being located in a disturbed area and an Environmental Assessment being planned, Lake SWCD does not have any concerns with this project at the moment. We look forward to reviewing the Environmental Assessment and may contact you with questions at that time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Thiemann". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Jennifer Thiemann  
District Manager