

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

FOR THE

**PROPOSED MARSHALL MUNICIPAL UTILITIES
115 KV TRANSMISSION LINE AND SUBSTATION**

BY

CITY OF MARSHALL, MINNESOTA

APRIL 2007

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

**PROPOSED MARSHALL MUNICIPAL UTILITIES
115 KV TRANSMISSION LINE AND SUBSTATION**

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1.0 PROPOSED PROJECT DETAILS

1.1 Project Owner

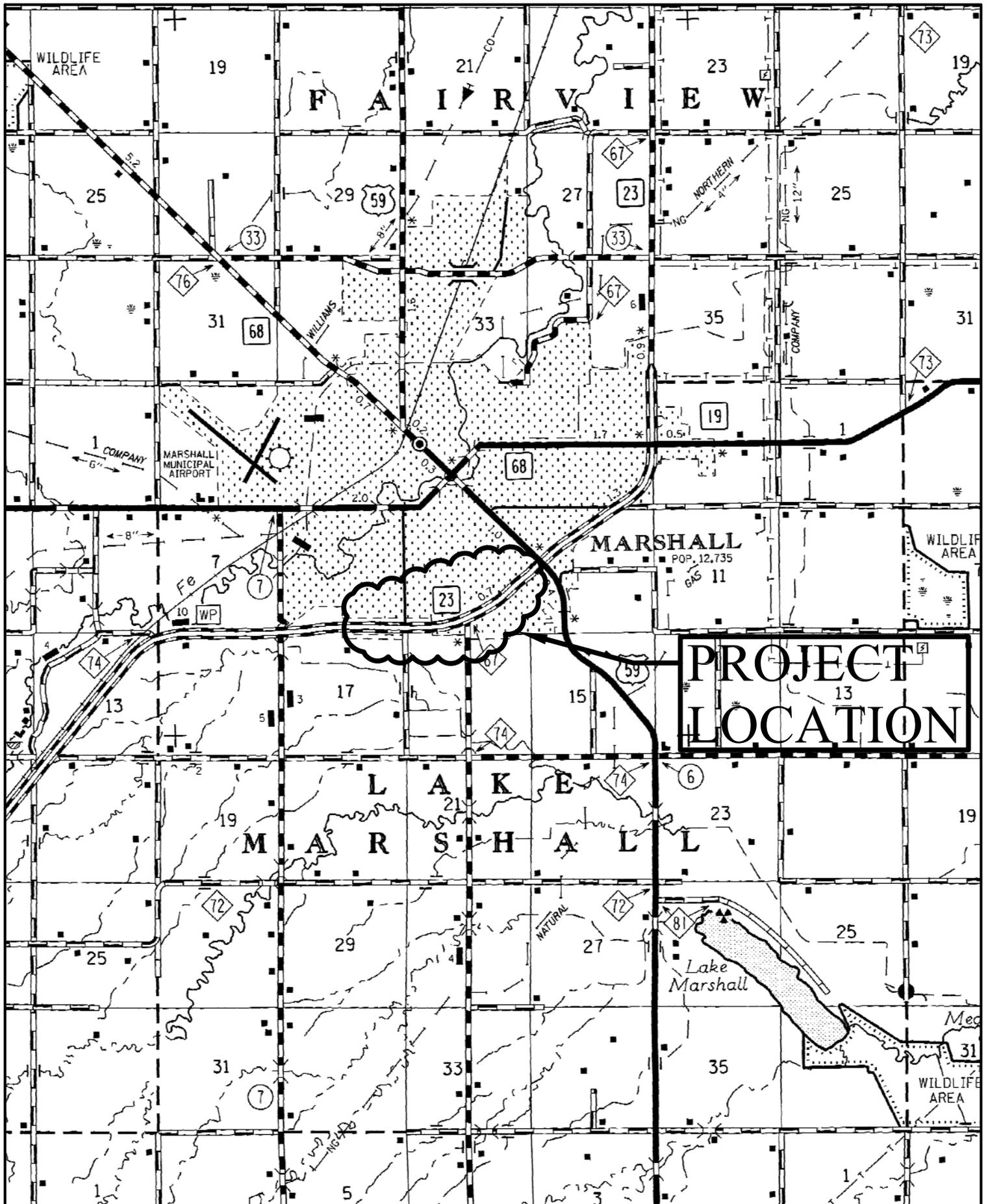
Marshall Municipal Utilities (MMU) owns and operates a municipal electric system providing service to the City of Marshall, Minnesota, a community with a population of 13,000. MMU is governed by a five member utility commission comprised of citizens appointed by the City Council.

1.2 Project Need

A comprehensive electric distribution system planning study was completed in 2004 for the Marshall Municipal Utilities (MMU) electric system. This study identified the immediate need for a new 115 kV electric substation located in the southwest portion of Marshall, in order to fulfill the most pressing needs on the system. This substation will provide additional substation capacity and distribution circuits which are necessary to keep up with growing electrical demands within the City. In addition to providing capacity for additional load growth, this substation will serve to improve overall system reliability and service. A proposed 115 kV double circuit transmission line will service this substation in a looped fashion, consistent with the other substations on the MMU system.

1.3 Project Location

The proposed transmission line will be located entirely within the city limits of Marshall in Lyon County, Minnesota. The proposed transmission line will be located in Sections 9, 10, and 17 of T111N, R41W on the south edge of Marshall, Minnesota. The entire route is either within public right-of-way, or on land that is owned by MMU. The following Figures No. 1 and No. 2 show the project location and the planned route of the new line.



**PROJECT
LOCATION**

REV	DATE	APP	DESCRIPTION

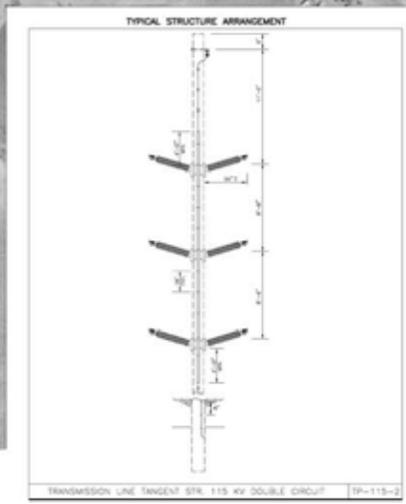
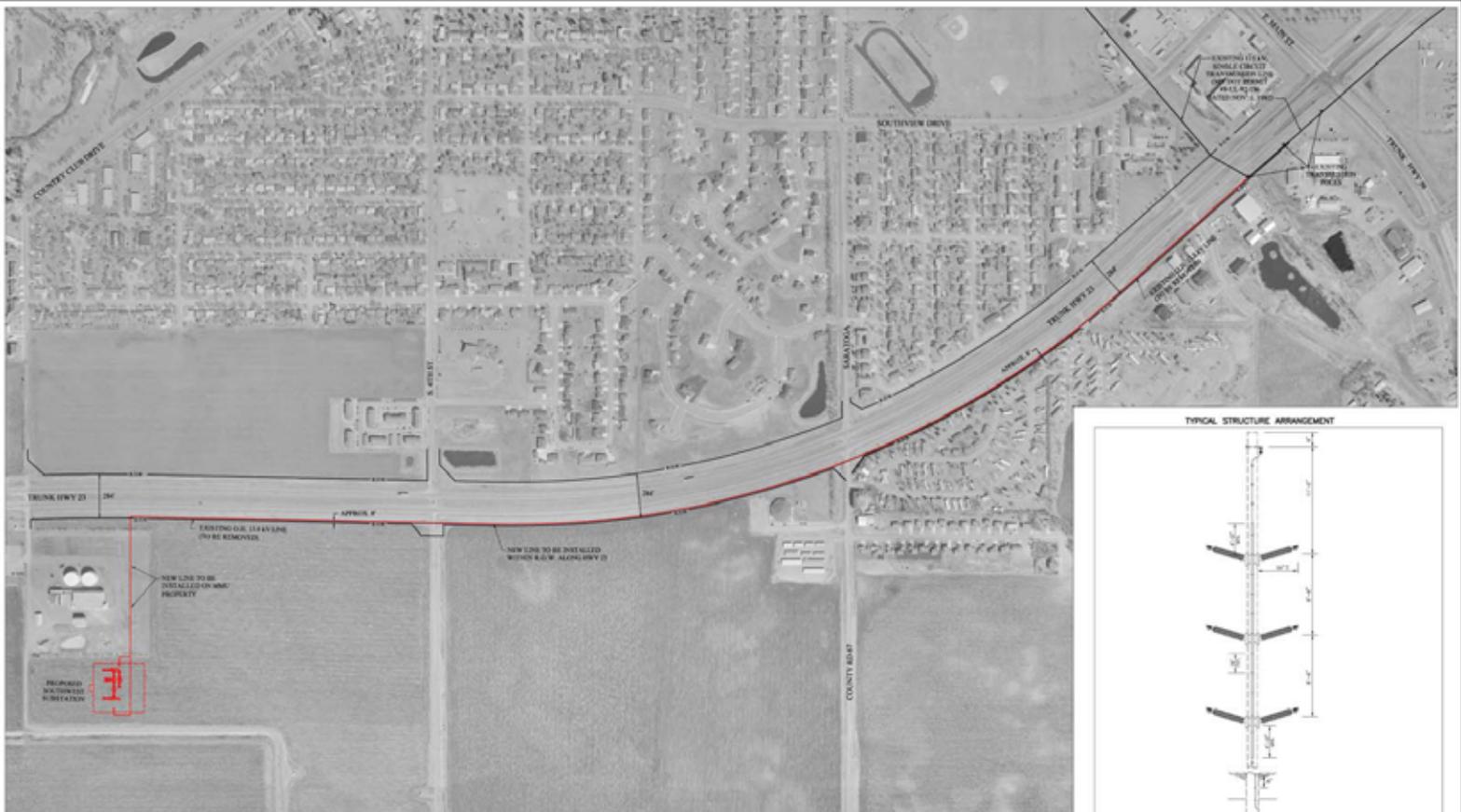
ICGR
DeWild Grant Reckert & Assoc. Co.
Consulting Engineers, Rock Rapids, Iowa

Date: 2-07
Designed By: CAR
Project Manager: CAR
Project Number: 420516

MARSHALL MUNICIPAL
UTILITIES
MARSHALL, MN

115 KV TRANSMISSION
LOOP EXPANSION

D
W
G
N
O
FIGURE
1



— PROPOSED LOCATION OF 115 kV TRANSMISSION LINE



REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	8/28	ISSUED TO MNDOT FOR PRELIMINARY REVIEW
2	1/27	ISSUED TO MNDOT FOR IDENTIFYING

DB&R Design Group Robert & Assoc. Co.
Consulting Engineers
Rock Rapids, Iowa

Drawn By: CJA
Project Manager: SJA
Project Number: 42054

MARSHALL MUNICIPAL UTILITIES
MARSHALL, MINNESOTA

115 kV TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTE
SOUTH R-O-W OF T.H. 23 - MARSHALL, MN

1 OF 1

1.4 Project Description

The project consists of the construction of approximately 1.7 miles of double circuit 115 kV transmission line located primarily in MN Trunk Hwy 23 right-of-way in the City of Marshall. The new line will serve to extend an existing MMU 115 kV line, in order to provide service to a new MMU substation. Also included in the project will be the removal of approximately 2.25 miles of existing overhead 13.8 kV distribution line. A new underground 13.8 kV line will be constructed to replace the overhead 13.8 kV distribution line.

The 115 kV transmission line will consist of narrow profile construction, utilizing horizontal post insulators. A typical structure is shown on Figure 2, as earlier depicted. All poles will be of steel construction. In addition, all structures will be self-supporting, without the use of guy and anchor attachments. The pole heights will range from 65 feet to 75 feet above the ground. The pole line will be generally centered 92 feet from the centerline of the northbound lane of MN Trunk Hwy 23.

2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

2.1 Air Quality

Since electric transmission lines and substations do not produce air emissions, there will be no environmental impacts to air quality. An insignificant amount of emissions will occur during construction due to normal construction vehicles and equipment.

2.2 Water Resources

This project will not affect any known water resources, due to its proximity. There are no public waters in the vicinity of the project, and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) had no concerns with the project (see letter dated 3/14/07).

2.3 Wildlife and Vegetation

The US Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and the DNR were contacted regarding potential wildlife and vegetation

resources in the vicinity of the project. In addition, a search of the Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program database was conducted for the project area.

It was noted from the Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program database that there is one known occurrence of a rare species within the searched area of a one mile radius, which is the Creek Heelsplitter (*Lasmigona compressa*). However, it was stated in the letter from the DNR that based on the nature and location of the project, that they believe this project will not affect any known occurrences of rare features.

Both the FWS (see email dated 4-2-07) and DNR (see letter dated 3/14/07) have indicated that they see no environmental impacts associated with the project.

2.4 Noise

Standard levels of noise associated with heavy construction equipment operation will occur during construction. These impacts are expected to be minimal, and would be similar in nature to the noise levels produced by normal traffic along the MN Trunk Hwy 23.

The high voltage transmission line and substation will both be operated within the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Noise Pollution Control Rules, Chapter 7030.

2.5 Archaeological and Historic Resources

The Minnesota Historical Society State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) was contacted concerning the presence of historic properties in the project vicinity. The SHPO (see letter dated March 9, 2007) indicated that no properties listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by this project.

2.6 Soils and Geology

The project will require a minimal amount of grading. A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan has been executed for the substation grading work. Erosion control measures will be implemented during construction of the transmission line.

2.7 Aesthetics and Visual Impacts

The proposed transmission line will generally be installed in the same location as an existing overhead 13.8 kV distribution line, which will be removed prior to construction of the transmission line. Therefore, the aesthetic and visual impacts of the line will be minimal, since an existing overhead line is being replaced with another overhead line. The new poles will be somewhat taller than the poles in the existing line. However, there will be fewer poles, since the spans between poles will be larger. The transmission line will consist of narrow profile construction to help minimize the visual impacts.

2.8 Human Settlement

The proposed transmission line and substation is located entirely within the public road right-of-way of MN Trunk Hwy 23, or on property owned by MMU which has been zoned for the use specified. Therefore, human settlement will not be impacted.

2.9 Public Health and Safety

All transmission line and substation facilities will be constructed in accordance with the National Electric Safety Code (NESC) and other relevant industry standards, to insure that adequate safety clearances and provisions are provided. Safety measures including fencing, warning signs, and equipment grounding will be provided per code requirements. All construction personnel will be required to follow Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations throughout project construction.

Questions about Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF) sometimes arise concerning electrical power lines. The following paragraphs include information provide by the Minnesota Department of Health on their website, located at <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/radiation/emf/>:

EMF refers to electric and magnetic fields which are invisible lines of force that surround any electrical device, such as a power line, electrical wiring, or an operating appliance. Electric fields are produced by voltage and these fields are easily shielded by objects

(e.g., trees, buildings, and skin). In contrast, magnetic fields are produced by current and these fields pass through most materials. Both electric and magnetic fields weaken with increasing distance from the source.

Even though electric and magnetic fields are present around operating appliances and power lines, more recent interest has focused on the potential health effects of magnetic fields. This is because some epidemiological studies have suggested that there may be an association between increased cancer risks and magnetic fields.

The term "EMF" in this summary refers to 60 hertz fields associated with alternating-current electrical power. These fields are distinct from other types of fields associated with the electromagnetic spectrum, such as AM/FM radio, television, cell phones, sun light (See electromagnetic spectrum, right). For questions about fields associated with cell phones and cell phone base stations, see Cellular Phone Facts.

People may be exposed to EMF at work, at home, and any place where electrical power is generated, distributed, or used. Magnetic field levels vary depending on the amount of current in a power line. Fields are typically highest during warm summer months, when electric consumption is the highest (i.e., due to the use of air conditioners and other appliances that consume high amounts of electricity).

For estimates of typical EMF levels from transmission lines, see Figure 1. Note that the magnetic field level drops quickly from the power line. In fact, levels at distances of 200-300 feet are often comparable or lower than levels from internal sources (e.g., appliances, wiring) in many homes. To compare levels from appliances and transmission sources, see Figure 2.

Some epidemiological studies have reported a statistical association between surrogate indicators of residential magnetic field exposure (e.g., wire coding) and two to three fold increases in leukemia risk. More recent studies have used direct measurements to estimate magnetic field exposures. These studies show mixed results - i.e., some have reported no association and others have reported a weak association.

The inconsistencies in the epidemiological research have raised questions and concerns about whether there is a true "cause and effect" relationship between magnetic fields and leukemia (or any other adverse health effects). Scientists generally have agreed that the epidemiological studies, by themselves, cannot establish a cause and effect relationship, and that additional evidence (e.g., laboratory studies) is needed to determine if there is a true relationship between magnetic fields and adverse effects.

In recent years there have been several laboratory studies in animals conducted under controlled experimental conditions. These studies have failed to provide any support for a relationship between magnetic fields and adverse human health effects (even at high exposure levels). In addition, studies of isolated cells (in vitro) have failed to establish a biological mechanism of action for how magnetic fields may cause cancer. These factors have raised considerable doubt in the scientific community about what relationship, if any, exists between magnetic field exposure and childhood leukemia or any other adverse health effect.

The Minnesota Department of Health has concluded that the current body of evidence is insufficient to establish a cause and effect relationship between EMF and health.

2.10 Transportation

A permit has been applied for and obtained from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT) for the construction of the proposed transmission line within the public road right-of-way of MN Trunk Hwy 23. Construction of the project will be performed so as to minimize any impacts to highway and road traffic. When needed, the appropriate traffic control devices will be utilized during construction, as coordinated with the MNDOT.

3.0 PROJECT APPROVALS, PUBLIC INPUT, AND PERMITS

3.1 Minnesota Project Approval Process

This project falls under the Power Plant Siting Act, Minnesota Statutes § 216E.001-18 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 4400, which requires a permit from the PUC for most transmission line projects over 100 kV. However, for eligible projects, an applicant may apply to those local units of government that have jurisdiction over the route for approval to build the project instead of applying to the PUC. The proposed 115 kV transmission line and substation project is eligible for local review. [Minnesota Statutes § 216E.05 and Minnesota Rules 4400.5000 Subps. 2. C., D.]

The City of Marshall is the local unit of government with jurisdiction in permitting the project. A local unit of government may relinquish its jurisdiction by requesting the PUC to assume jurisdiction within 60 days of the filing of an application with the local unit of government. [Minnesota Rules 4400.5000 Subp. 4.] An environmental assessment (EA) must be prepared by the local unit of government with jurisdiction over the project.

Specific requirements with regard to the environmental review process include providing an opportunity for the public to participate in the development of the scope of the environmental assessment before it is prepared; publishing notice in the EQB Monitor of when the assessment is available for review and of the procedure for commenting on the assessment; and withholding a final decision on the project until at least ten MN Dept. of Natural Resources (MN DNR) days after the notice appears in the EQB Monitor. The City of Marshall also must provide a copy of the environmental assessment to the PUC when it is completed. [Minnesota Rules 4400.5000 Subp. 5.] MMU is required to send notice to those persons on the PUC facilities permitting general notification list once a permit has been applied for from the local unit of government. [Minnesota Rules 4400.5000 Subp. 3.]

3.2 EA Public Input

MMU held a Public Hearing on January 17, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. to receive input on proposed scope of the EA for the project. A Notice of Public Hearing was published prior to the hearing date, inviting the public to

provide oral or written comments for consideration by the Commission. No persons appeared and no input was received at the Public Hearing.

3.3 Permits and Approvals

Following is a list of permits and approvals associated with the project, and their current status:

Agency	Permit or Approval	Regulated Activity	Status
City of Marshall	Local Review	Construction of 115 kV Transmission Line	In process
MN Dept. of Natural Resources (MN DNR)	Environmental Review – Threatened and Endangered Species, Wetlands, Other Resources	Review of Project Impacts	No foreseen environmental impacts – e-mail dated 3/13/07
MN Dept. of Natural Resources (MN DNR)	Minnesota Natural Heritage Database Review	Review of Project Impacts	No effect on any known occurrences of rare features – letter dated 2/27/07
MN Dept. of Transportation (MN DOT)	Utility Permit	Construction Within Trunk Highway Right-Of-Way	Permit issued 2/26/07
MN Historical Society State Historic Preservation Office (SVPO)	Review of Nationally Registered Historic Places	Historic Preservation	No historic properties affected by project – letter dated 3/9/07
US Dept. of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service	Environmental Review – Threatened and Endangered Species	Review of Project Impacts	No environmental concerns – e-mail dated 4/2/07

APPENDIX

Agency Correspondence

- US Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service (2 pages)
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) and Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program (9 pages)
- Minnesota Historical Society State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) (2 pages)
- Minnesota Department of Transportation (MN DOT) Utility Permit (5 pages)
- Notice of Public Hearing for Public Input on EA (1 page)
- Minnesota Department of Commerce / Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Energy Facilities Permitting (4 pages)

Chad Rasmussen

From: Laurie_Fairchild@fws.gov
Sent: Monday, April 02, 2007 9:23 AM
To: Chad Rasmussen
Subject: Re: Proposed 115 kV Transmission Line Project

Hi Chad,

Due to a large workload and reduced staff, we no longer provide "no comment" letters. Given the scope of your project (within existing right of way) and type of construction, we have no environmental concerns regarding your project. Please give me a call if you need anything further.

Laurie Fairchild
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Twin Cities Field Office
612-725-3548 x214

"Chad Rasmussen" <chadr@dgrnet.com>

03/29/2007 10:04 AM

To <Laurie_Fairchild@fws.gov>

CC <TwinCities@fws.gov>

Subject Proposed 115 kV Transmission Line Project

Dear Ms. Fairchild,

I am following up on a Feb. 5 letter (see attached) and Mar. 16 voice mail requesting your review of the above referenced project threatened and endangered species that occur in the area. This project does not represent a "major construction activity", however, we are requesting your input as part of the Environmental Assessment process.

Please provide some feedback as soon as possible. We have already received input from the other agencies, and plan to complete the Environmental Assessment after hearing back from you. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me.

Thanks!

Chad A. Rasmussen, P.E.

DeWild Grant Reckert & Associates Co.

1302 South Union St.

Rock Rapids, IA 51246-0511

Phone (712) 472-2531

Fax (712) 472-2710

E-mail <mailto:chadr@dgrnet.com>

Website www.dgrnet.com

4/2/2007



DeWild Grant Reckert and Associates Company
Consulting Engineers

1302 South Union Street
P.O. Box 511
Rock Rapids, IA 51246
17121 472-2531
Fax 17121 472-2710

February 5, 2007

Ms. Laurie Fairchild
Ecological Services Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4101 East 80th Street
Bloomington, MN 55425

**Re: Proposed Marshall Municipal Utilities 115 kV Transmission Line Project
Lyon County, Minnesota**

Dear Ms. Fairchild:

Marshall Municipal Utilities (MMU) is in the process of preparing an environmental assessment for a new 115 kV transmission line. The proposed transmission line will be 1.7 miles long, and will be located entirely within the city limits of Marshall in Lyon County, Minnesota. The new line will serve to extend an existing MMU 115 kV line, in order to provide service to a new MMU substation. The new facilities are being constructed by MMU to meet growing electrical demand within the city and to improve the reliability of their system.

The proposed transmission line is located in Sections 9, 10, and 17 of T111N, R41W on the south edge of Marshall, Minnesota. Enclosed are two figures which show the project location and the planned route of the new line.

MMU is requesting your review of this project with respect to threatened and endangered species that occur in the area. The proposed project does not represent a "major construction activity" as defined in 50CFR402.02.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your agency by Friday, March 9, 2007. If you have any questions or require more information about this project, please contact me at 712-472-2531 or chadr@dgrnet.com. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

DEWILD GRANT RECKERT
& ASSOCIATES COMPANY

Chad A. Rasmussen, P.E.
Project Manager

Enclosures



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

March 14, 2007

Chad A. Rasmussen, P.E.
DeWild Grant Reckert & Associates Co.
1302 South Union St.
Rock Rapids, IA 51246-0511
Phone (712) 472-2531

Dear Mr. Rasmussen:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Proposed Marshall Municipal Utilities 115 kV Transmission Line Project. We are encouraged with the opportunity to provide early environmental review on this project. At this point in the process, we have reviewed the project and have no environmental comments to provide.

We appreciate that you have requested the Natural Heritage review. This information is extremely useful for identifying rare natural features present/potentially impacted in a project area. We also encourage you to coordinate with the Board Conservationist concerning any potential wetland impacts.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd Kolander".

Todd Kolander
Environmental Assessment Ecologist
(507) 359-6073
Todd.kolander@dnr.state.mn.us



Chad Rasmussen

From: Todd Kolander [Todd.Kolander@dnr.state.mn.us]
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2007 12:59 PM
To: Chad Rasmussen
Subject: Re: FW: Shape File - Marshall, MN Transmission Line

Chad,

I see no serious environmental impacts related to the proposed project. If you need more formal correspondence, let me know.

Thank you,

Todd Kolander
Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist
261 Hwy 15 So.
New Ulm, MN 56073
(507) 359-6073
todd.kolander@dnr.state.mn.us

>>> "Chad Rasmussen" <chadr@dgrnet.com> 3/13/2007 10:55 AM >>>
Todd,

This shape file is in a NAD83 Minnesota State Plane South foot coordinate system. Let us know if you have any issues with the files, or if you require any further information.

Chad A. Rasmussen, P.E.

DeWild Grant Reckert & Associates Co.

1302 South Union St.

Rock Rapids, IA 51246-0511

Phone (712) 472-2531

Fax (712) 472-2710

E-mail <mailto:chadr@dgrnet.com>

Website www.dgrnet.com

-----Original Message-----

From: Eric Faber
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2007 10:48 AM
To: Chad Rasmussen
Subject: Shape File

Eric Faber

DeWild Grant Reckert & Associates

Chad Rasmussen

From: Todd Kolander [Todd.Kolander@dnr.state.mn.us]
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2007 9:06 AM
To: Chad Rasmussen
Subject: Re: Proposed Marshall Municipal Utilities 115 kV TransmissionLine Project

Hi Chad,

I was interested in getting a ArcView shape file for the proposed HVTL alignment. Is this something you can provide me? It would help considerably with my review.

Thank you,

Todd Kolander
Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist
261 Hwy 15 So.
New Ulm, MN 56073
(507) 359-6073
todd.kolander@dnr.state.mn.us

>>> "Chad Rasmussen" <chadr@dgrnet.com> 3/13/2007 9:00 AM >>>
Mr. Kolander,

I am following up on a letter requesting the MN DNR review of the above referenced project with respect to threatened and endangered species, wetlands, and other natural resources within the project area. The original letter and figures are attached for reference.

I have received back the information from the Natural Heritage database (also attached), which stated the project will not affect any known occurrences of rare features. This letter goes on to state that you are the Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist that we should contact regarding other natural resources.

We are working on the Environmental Assessment for the project, and would appreciate your input as soon as possible to keep the project on schedule. Feel free to contact me with any questions, or if you need any additional information.

Thanks,

Chad A. Rasmussen, P.E.

DeWild Grant Reckert & Associates Co.

1302 South Union St.

Rock Rapids, IA 51246-0511

Phone (712) 472-2531

Fax (712) 472-2710

E-mail <mailto:chadr@dgrnet.com>

Website www.dgrnet.com



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program, Box 25
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-40__

Phone: (651) 259-5109 Fax: (651) 296-1811 E-mail: lisa.joyal@dnr.state.mn.us

February 27, 2007

Mr. Chad Rasmussen
DeWild Grant Reckert & Associates Co.
1302 South Union Street
Rock Rapids, IA 51246

Re: Request for Natural Heritage information for vicinity of proposed 115 kV Transmission Line – SW Substation, T111N R41W Sections 8-10, Lyon County
NHNRP Contact #: ERDB 20070541

Dear Mr. Rasmussen,

The Minnesota Natural Heritage database has been reviewed to determine if any rare plant or animal species or other significant natural features are known to occur within an approximate one-mile radius of the area indicated on the map enclosed with your information request. Based on this review, there is 1 known occurrence of a rare species or native plant community in the area searched (for details, please see the enclosed database printouts and the explanation of selected fields). However, based on the nature and location of the proposed project I do not believe it will affect any known occurrences of rare features.

The Natural Heritage database is maintained by the Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program, a unit within the Division of Ecological Services, Department of Natural Resources. It is continually updated as new information becomes available, and is the most complete source of data on Minnesota's rare or otherwise significant species, native plant communities, and other natural features. Its purpose is to foster better understanding and protection of these features.

Because our information is not based on a comprehensive inventory, there may be rare or otherwise significant natural features in the state that are not represented in the database. A county-by-county survey of rare natural features is now underway, and is in progress for Lyon County. Our information about native plant communities is, therefore, good for that county. However, because survey work for rare plants and animals is less exhaustive, and because there has not been an on-site survey of all areas of the county, ecologically significant features for which we have no records may exist on the project area.

The enclosed results of the database search are provided in two formats: short record report and long record report. To control the release of locational information, which might result in the damage or destruction of a rare element, both printout formats are copyrighted.

The short record report provides rare feature locations only to the nearest section, and may be reprinted, unaltered, in an Environmental Assessment Worksheet, municipal natural resource plan, or report compiled by your company for the project listed above. If you wish to reproduce the short record report for any other purpose, please contact me to request written permission. **The long record report includes more detailed locational information, and is for your personal use only. If you wish to reprint the long record report for any purpose, please contact me to request written permission.**

Please be aware that review by the Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program focuses only on *rare natural features*. It does not constitute review or approval by the Department of Natural Resources as a whole. If you require further information on the environmental review process for other natural resource-related issues, you may contact your Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist, Todd Kolander, at (507) 359-6073.

An invoice in the amount of \$68.20 will be mailed to you under separate cover within two weeks of

DNR Information: 651-296-6157 • 1-888-646-6367 • TTY: 651-296-5484 • 1-800-657-3929



the date of this letter. You are being billed for map and database search and staff scientist review. Thank you for consulting us on this matter, and for your interest in preserving Minnesota's rare natural resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Joyal". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa A. Joyal
Endangered Species Environmental Review Technician

encl: Database search results
Rare Feature Database Print-Outs: An Explanation of Fields

Minnesota Natural Heritage & Nongame Research Program
Short Record Report of Element Occurrences within 1 mile radius of:
 115 KV Transmission Line - SW Substation
 T111N R41W Sections 8, 9, 10
 Lyon County

Element Name and Occurrence Number	Federal Status	MN Status	State Rank	Global Rank	Last Observed Date
Lyon County, MN					
<u>Lasmigona compressa</u> (Creek Heelsplitter) #244 Location Description: T112N R41W S15, T111N R41W S8, T112N R41W S27, T112N R41W S34, T112N R41W S14		SPC	S3	G5	2000-10-02

Records Printed = 1



DeWild Grant Reckert and Associates Company
Consulting Engineers

1302 South Union Street
P.O. Box 511
Rock Rapids, IA 51246
[712] 472-2531
Fax [712] 472-2710

February 5, 2007

Ms. Sarah Wren
Endangered Species Environmental Review Coordinator
Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Re: Proposed Marshall Municipal Utilities 115 kV Transmission Line Project
Lyon County, Minnesota**

Dear Ms. Wren:

Marshall Municipal Utilities (MMU) is in the process of preparing an environmental assessment for a new 115 kV transmission line. The proposed transmission line will be 1.7 miles long, and will be located entirely within the city limits of Marshall in Lyon County, Minnesota. The new line will serve to extend an existing MMU 115 kV line, in order to provide service to a new MMU substation. The new facilities are being constructed by MMU to meet growing electrical demand within the city and to improve the reliability of their system.

The proposed transmission line is located in Sections 9, 10, and 17 of T111N, R41W on the south edge of Marshall, Minnesota. Enclosed are two figures which show the project location and the planned route of the new line.

MMU is requesting your review of this project with respect to threatened and endangered species, wetlands, and other natural resources that occur in the area. We have enclosed a completed Natural Heritage Information System Data Request Form.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your agency by Friday, March 9, 2007. If you have any questions or require more information about this project, please contact me at 712-472-2531 or chadr@dgrnet.com. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

DEWILD GRANT RECKERT
& ASSOCIATES COMPANY

Chad A. Rasmussen, P.E.
Project Manager

Enclosures

For Agency Use Only:			
Received _____	Due _____	RUSH	
Related ES# _____			
Search Radius _____ mi.	ER/All _____	EOs _____	
Map'd _____	C/NoC _____	Let _____	Inv _____ Log out _____

MINNESOTA NATURAL HERITAGE INFORMATION SYSTEM DATA REQUEST FORM

DATE OF REQUEST 2-5-07

WHO IS REQUESTING THE INFORMATION?

Name and Title Chad Rasmussen
 Agency/Company DeWild Grant Reckert & Associates Co.
 Address 1302 South Union St. Rock Rapids IA 51246
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)
 Phone 712-472-2531 FAX 712-472-2710 e-mail chadr@dgrnet.com

THIS INFORMATION IS BEING REQUESTED ON BEHALF OF (if applicable): Marshall Municipal Utilities

WHAT INFORMATION DO YOU NEED?

- Printouts of known occurrences of federally and state listed plants and animals; native plant communities; and aggregation sites such as bat hibernacula, colonial waterbird nesting sites, and prairie chicken booming grounds.
- Information listed above, plus geological features and state rare species with no legal status.
- Other (specify): Comments with respect to any potential project impacts to wetlands, threatened and endangered species, and other resources.

Frequent applicants: Check here if you DO NOT need a copy of the field-by-field explanation of the printouts: _____

WHERE IS THE AREA OF INTEREST? 1) ENCLOSE A MAP showing detailed boundaries of the project area (topographic maps or aerial photos are preferred). 2) If a GIS shapefile of the project area is available, please provide a copy projected in UTM Zone 15, NAD83).

For Agency Use Only:
 REGION _____

PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED PROJECT INFORMATION

County	Twshp#	Range#	Section(s) (and half-section, quarter-section, etc., if known)
<u>Lyon</u>	<u>T 111 N</u>	<u>41W</u>	<u>9, 10, 17 (9-South half, 10-NW quarter, 17-North half)</u>

Project Name Proposed 115 kV Transmission Line - Southwest Substation
 Project Proposer Marshall Municipal Utilities
 Detailed Project Description (attach additional sheets if necessary) A new 115 kV transmission line is proposed to serve a new MMU substation. The line will be 1.7 miles long and will be located on the south edge of Marshall, within the City Limits. The line will be built entirely within public right-of-way or on land owned by MMU.
 Past Land-Use of Project Site hwy 23 road ditch - majority of route. Substation site was formerly agricultural use.

HOW WILL THE INFORMATION BE USED? Describe the planned use of the information, including in what form and detail you wish to publish this information, if any. This information will be part of an Environmental Assessment which is being prepared for the project. The information will be published in the Environmental Assessment, which will be provided to the MN Dept. of Commerce / MPUC.

TURN-AROUND TIME

Requests generally take 3 weeks from date of receipt to process, and are processed in the order received. Rush requests are processed in 2 weeks or less.

FEES

For-profit organizations, including consultants working for governmental agencies, are charged a fee for this service. In addition, a fee may be charged for large requests from any source. A surcharge (currently \$50) is applied for rush orders; if this is a rush order, please check the blank below. Fees subject to change. A fee schedule is available upon request. Please do not include payment with your request; an invoice will be sent to you.

_____ Rush

"The information supplied above is complete and accurate. I understand that material supplied to me from the Minnesota Natural Heritage Information System is copyrighted and that I am not permitted to reproduce or publish any of this copyrighted material without prior written permission from the Minnesota DNR. Further, if permission to publish is given, I understand that I must credit the Minnesota Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources as the source of the material."

Signature Chad Rasmussen

Mail or email completed forms to:

For further information call:

Endangered Species Environmental Review Coordinator *(for project reviews)* (651) 259-5107 or 259-5109
Sarah.wren@dnr.state.mn.us e.g. EAWs

or
Assistant Database Manager *(for general requests)* (651) 259-5123
Sharron.nelson@dnr.state.mn.us

at
Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Or FAX completed forms to: (651) 296-1811

Additional information about the Natural Heritage & Nongame Research Program is available at
http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/ecological_services/nhnrp/index.html

For Agency Use Only:

EO's requiring comment _____

Sources contacted	Topic	Response
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Response Summary _____

_____ Responder _____



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

March 9, 2007

Mr. Chad Rasmussen
DeWild Grant Reckert & Associates Co.
PO Box 511
Rock Rapids, IA 51246

RE: Proposed Marshall Municipal Utilities 115 kV transmission line
T111 R41 S9, S10 & S17, Lyon County
SHPO Number: 2007-1237

Dear Mr. Rasmussen:

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the above project. It has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the State Historic Preservation Officer by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and the Procedures of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (36CFR800).

Based on available information, we conclude that **no properties** listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by this project

Please contact our Compliance Section at (651) 259-3455 if you have any questions regarding our review of this project.

Sincerely,

Britta L. Bloomberg
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer



DeWild Grant Reckert and Associates Company
Consulting Engineers

1302 South Union Street
P.O. Box 511
Rock Rapids, IA 51246
[712] 472-2531
Fax [712] 472-2710

February 5, 2007

Mr. Dennis Gimmestad
Government Programs and Compliance Officer
Minnesota Historical Society
345 W. Kellogg Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55102-1906

**Re: Proposed Marshall Municipal Utilities 115 kV Transmission Line Project
Lyon County, Minnesota**

Dear Mr. Gimmestad:

Marshall Municipal Utilities (MMU) is in the process of preparing an environmental assessment for a new 115 kV transmission line. The proposed transmission line will be 1.7 miles long, and will be located entirely within the city limits of Marshall in Lyon County, Minnesota. The new line will serve to extend an existing MMU 115 kV line, in order to provide service to a new MMU substation. The new facilities are being constructed by MMU to meet growing electrical demand within the city and to improve the reliability of their system.

The proposed transmission line is located in Sections 9, 10, and 17 of T111N, R41W on the south edge of Marshall, Minnesota. Enclosed are two figures which show the project location and the planned route of the new line.

MMU is requesting your review of this project with respect to historic properties within the project area.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your agency by Friday, March 9, 2007. If you have any questions or require more information about this project, please contact me at 712-472-2531 or chadr@dgrnet.com. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

DEWILD GRANT RECKERT
& ASSOCIATES COMPANY

Chad A. Rasmussen, P.E.
Project Manager

Enclosures

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Utility Permit

Reference: Control Section 4207 T.H. 23

Attn: **MR STEVE JOHNSON**

OPERATIONS MANAGER

In accordance with Minnesota Statutes Section 161.45,
Minnesota Rules Section 8810, and this application
a Utility Permit for construction is granted to:

MARSHALL MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

CAUTION
CALL FOR UTILITY LOCATION BEFORE
YOU EXCAVATE, AUGER OR TRENCH

to place, construct and thereafter maintain a:

AERIAL POWER LINE (115 KV) WITH POLES

on or across, the right of way of Trunk Highway No. 23 in the location shown on the sketch
which is a part of the application, or in a location specified by the Department of Transportation in the attached Special
Provisions.

Recommended for approval:

Ben Vick

District/Division Representative

2-22-07

(Date)

Dated

2/26/07

Commissioner of Transportation
Transportation Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-1899

Approved by:

Division Engineer
Federal Highway Administration

(Date)

By

Marilyn Remer

Marilyn Remer, P.E.

Utilities Engineer

Permit No. 8 UL 2007 15812

COPIES:

Utilities Engineer
Applicant
District Engineer

Dave Trooien - Dist. 8

Assistant District Engineer
Maintenance

Dave Solsrud - Dist. 8

Project engineer

Amount of Surety Bond Required

UT 20070116

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
APPLICATION FOR UTILITY PERMIT ON
TRUNK HIGHWAY RIGHT OF WAY**

**SUBMIT 1 (ONE)
COMPLETED FORM
WITH 4 (FOUR) SETS OF
SKETCHES TO:**

Utilities Engineer - MS 678
Minnesota Department of Transportation
Transportation Building
395 John Ireland Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155-1899

INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANT	1. Complete only page one (no photocopies) 2. Sign completed form 3. Include 4 (four) sets of sketches	Company Project No. _____ Agreement No. _____ State Project No. _____
County <u>Lyon</u>	T.H. No. <u>23 SEC. 8,9 TWP. 111N RGE. 41W</u>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Facility <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement Facility	City/Township <u>Marshall, MN</u>	

Application is hereby made for permission to place, construct and thereafter maintain a Double circuit electric transmission line along ~~or across~~ Trunk Highway No. 23 from: parallel to the highway from STA4286+58 to STA4364+43 to: _____
92 feet from center line on the south (east, west, north or south) side of the trunk highway as shown on the attached sketch.

I. AERIAL CONSTRUCTION (Check appropriate box)		LIGHTING
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single pole (STEEL) <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open wire	Mounting Height _____
<input type="checkbox"/> H-Frame	<input type="checkbox"/> Cable	Mast Arm Length _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Single pole & H-Frame	<input type="checkbox"/> Vertical	Type of Lamp _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Steel tower	<input type="checkbox"/> Cross-arm	Watts _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Existing pole line	<input type="checkbox"/> Vertical & Cross-arm	Poles <input type="checkbox"/> Breakaway <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Breakaway
Voltage <u>115 kV, 3Ø</u>	Number of Conductors <u>6 phase cond. & 1 overhead ground wire</u>	Size of Conductors <u>(6) 795 ACSS Drake & (1) 3/8" EHS</u>

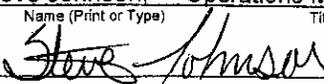
Minimum height of conductor: 28 ft. along highway NA ft. at crossings over highway

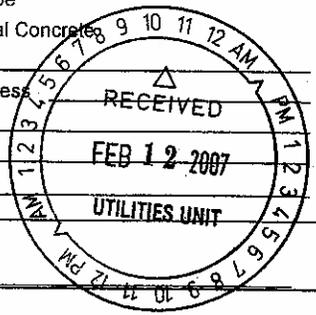
II. UNDERGROUND CONSTRUCTION		Will Facility be attached to a bridge? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Direct Buried		Size of Conductors, Cable	Depth
Voltage	Number of Conductors-Type		

CONDUIT	TYPE	CASING
<input type="checkbox"/> Plastic Type _____	Max. Oper. Pres. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Steel pipe
<input type="checkbox"/> Steel pipe	Wall thickness _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Sectional Concrete
<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple tile	Grade _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Clay tile	Class _____	Wall thickness _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Sectional concrete	Size _____	Grade _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Ductile iron	Depth _____	Class _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Number _____	Size _____

METHOD OF INSTALLING UNDER ROADBEDS (if open trench, explain why necessary) Directional Boring
 Jacking O Boring Pneuma Gopher Open trench Other _____

III. EXTENT & LOCATION OF TREE TRIMMING AND/OR CLEARING:

IV. Work to start on or after <u>July 1, 2007</u> and to be completed on or before <u>October 1, 2007</u>	Applicant <u>Marshall Municipal Utilities</u> <small>Name of Utility making application</small> Address <u>113 S Fourth Street</u> City <u>Marshall</u> State <u>Minnesota</u> Zip <u>56258</u> Telephone (507) <u>537-7005</u> By <u>Steve Johnson, Operations Manager</u> <small>Name (Print or Type) Title</small> Signed 
V. The applicant, in carrying on all of the work mentioned above or referred to in its application and in the Permit for construction issued therefore, shall strictly conform to the terms of the Permit, and the Rules of the State of Minnesota as set forth in Minnesota Rules 1983 as of July 31, 1983 together with the Special Provisions, all of which are made a part hereof. The applicant specifically agrees to be bound hereby. The applicant shall also comply with the regulations of all other governmental agencies for the protection of the public. The work shall be accomplished in a manner that will not be detrimental to the highway and that will safeguard the public.	
Dated this _____ day of _____, 2007	



This permit is issued to MARSHALL MUNICIPAL UTILITIES for an aerial transmission power line (115 KV - 7 conductor) on T.H. 23 as follows:

STATION	TO	STATION	DISTANCE FROM CENTERLINE
4286+58			92 feet south to south right of way
4286+58		4364+43	92 feet south

with pole and along with connections and as shown on the attached sketch(es) provided the installation does not affect existing signs, lights and markings. (APPROX .5 MILE WEST OF S 4TH ST EAST TO TH 59 IN CITY OF MARSHALL)

The installation authorized in this permit will be inspected by MS. GERI VICK, ENGINEERING SPECIALIST, 2505 TRANSPORTATION ROAD, WILLMAR, MN, 56201-2230, telephone number 320-214-3776. The applicant or its contractor shall notify him/her at least two days prior to starting the installation. He/she shall approve all highway materials prior to placement, and the total installation must meet with his/her satisfaction.

The applicant shall provide in-house inspection at all times while on trunk highway right of way.

The line shall be staked by the applicant and a field inspection made with the State's inspector prior to the start of the installation.

There shall be no interference to traffic at any time.

This permit is conditioned upon the applicant removing from the highway right of way all replaced aerial facilities within thirty days subsequent to completion of the installation. If such facilities cannot be removed within the thirty days, arrangements shall be made with the Assistant District Engineer - Maintenance to obtaining a Work Permit (Form 1723) from him/her in all instances he deems necessary.

Materials shall not be placed on highway right of way more than one week in advance of their use.

It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to utilize the "Gopher State One Call" excavation notice system as required under Minnesota Statute Chapter 216D, 48 hours prior to performing any excavation (phone 651-454-0002 Twin Cities Metro Area or Toll Free 1-800-252-1166).

The applicant shall coordinate the proposed installation with the existing facilities of others in the area.

All base and surface courses damaged during trenching operations shall be restored in a condition as good or better than before operations began. If replaced material settles, it shall be restored to its original condition by the applicant.

All entrances shall be satisfactorily restored by the applicant.

All curb or sidewalk disturbed shall be satisfactorily restored by the applicant.

All plants or trees removed or damaged shall be replaced in kind by the applicant.

All tree trimming or clearing shall have prior approval of the Assistant District Engineer - Maintenance.

All elm, oak and pine timber, stumps, roots and debris, together with the bark and byproducts with adhering bark of elm tree origin shall be disposed of according to Minnesota state and local law.

All wounds to oak trees located on projects south of the 46 degree parallel shall be avoided during April, May and June in order to prevent the spread of oak wilt. If it is necessary to complete utility work near oak trees during those months; any resulting wounds, including exposed root ends, shall be immediately treated with an asphaltic base wound dressing.

All specimen trees and other plants that are designated to remain shall be protected against damage by fencing when necessary. Temporary fencing shall be placed prior to starting any utility work. No material shall be stored, or any construction operation carried on inside the dripline of any tree except as designated by the Assistant District Engineer-Maintenance. Fencing shall remain in its original position until all work is completed or until designated for removal by the Assistant District Engineer-Maintenance.

Specimen tree roots exposed and damaged shall immediately be cut off cleanly inside the damaged area. Topsoil shall be immediately placed over the exposed area.

All drainage structures removed or damaged shall be restored by the applicant to as good or better condition than before operations began.

All drainage tile lines shall be located and staked as to location and elevation. Any damage to tile lines caused by the construction operations shall be repaired by the applicant.

Markers shall be placed by the applicant at: the right of way line, where there is a change of direction, and at driveways. (Markers shall be post mounted a minimum of 36 inches above ground, of a size and color recommended for that Utility by the uniform color code system).

It is expressly understood that this permit is issued subject to the applicant's compliance with the rules and regulations of the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board and any other affected governmental agencies.

Unless adequately protected by a traffic barrier, there shall be no work within the clear zone, nor shall pipe materials, equipment and other objects as determined by the State, be stored within the clear zone as determined by the Department and as defined by the latest edition of AASHTO'S "ROADSIDE DESIGN GUIDE"(2006). If portable concrete

jersey barriers are required they shall be placed in accordance with The 2005 Minnesota Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices" Portable Concrete Barrier Placement and End Treatments" Figure 6f-9 (Sheets 1 and 2).

The applicant shall furnish, install and maintain all required traffic control devices according to the "Minnesota Field Manual on Temporary Traffic Control Zone Layouts" (January 2007) (see website @ <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/trafficing/>), while performing the construction authorized by this permit.

If the temporary traffic control zone is to remain in one place for more than 3 days or involves a detour, road closure or a situation where the typical layouts do not apply, the applicant shall prepare a specific Traffic Control Plan for approval by Mn/DOT prior to start of any construction.

The applicant is required to preserve all existing survey monuments. If Mn/DOT determines that monuments have been disturbed or destroyed during construction activities, the applicant shall accept full responsibility for all costs incurred in the re-establishment of the monuments.

Within 30 days upon completion of the installation, the applicant must furnish to the Assistant District Engineer-Maintenance the Certificate of Completion Form (furnished with permit) and a set of "AS-BUILT" plans as stated on the Certificate of Completion.

No work which will restrict or interfere with traffic shall be performed between 12:00 Noon on the day preceding and 6:30 A.M. on the day following any consecutive combination of a Saturday, Sunday, and a Legal Holiday without the written permission of the Assistant District Engineer - Maintenance.

All areas disturbed by the applicant shall be restored with a minimum of 6" of topsoil (according to Mn/DOT Standard Specification 2105 Table 1 Topsoil Borrow), then sodded or seeded. Seed or sod shall be the same as/or compatible with the existing turf cover. If the areas are to be seeded, a Mn/DOT Seed mixture comparable to the existing turf along with Type 1 Mulch and Disk Anchoring shall be used according to Mn/DOT Specification 2575.

MARSHALL MUNICIPAL UTILITIES has a continuing bond of \$5,000.00 with the State of Minnesota, Department of Transportation.

NOTE: NO POLES SHALL BE LOCATED IN THE SIGHT CORNERS OF T.H.23.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On January 17, 2007, at 5:30 p.m., the Marshall Municipal Utilities Commission will hold a public hearing at their meeting room at 113 S. 4th Street in Marshall, MN to receive input on the proposed scope of an Environmental Assessment (EA) to be developed for the construction of a 115 kV electric transmission overhead line, 1.7 miles in length. The transmission line is intended to be constructed in the right of way of state highway 23, within the city limits of Marshall. The transmission line is to be used to connect the existing transmission system owned by Marshall Municipal Utilities, to a new electrical substation, under construction south of the water treatment plant, in Marshall.

Prior to developing the scope of work for the EA, the public is invited to provide input into that scope of work. Oral or written comments may be offered at the public hearing, for consideration by the Commission.

For the Commission:

Brad Roos, General Manager
Marshall Municipal Utilities



Energy Facility Permitting

85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2198
1.800.657.3794 / 651.296.4026
FAX 651.297.7891 TTY 651.297.3067
<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us>

January 4, 2007

Brad Roos
General Manager
Marshall Municipal Utilities
113 South Fourth Street
Marshall, MN 56258-1223

RE: Marshall Municipal Utilities 115 kV Transmission Line and Substation Project

Dear Mr. Roos,

This letter confirms that the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has received notification that Marshall Municipal Utilities (MMU) proposes to seek local review for the construction of a new 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line and substation in Lyon County, Minnesota. The project would be constructed entirely within the city limits of Marshall in Lyon County.

This project falls under the Power Plant Siting Act, Minnesota Statutes § 216E.001-18 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 4400, which requires a permit from the PUC for most transmission line projects over 100 kV. However, for eligible projects, an applicant may apply to those local units of government that have jurisdiction over the route for approval to build the project instead of applying to the PUC. The proposed 115 kV transmission line and substation project is eligible for local review. [Minnesota Statutes § 216E.05 and Minnesota Rules 4400.5000 Subps. 2. C., D.]

MMU has indicated that the City of Marshall is the Responsible Governmental Unit for this project and that they will be working with the city to obtain the necessary permits for the project. The City of Marshall is the only local unit of government with jurisdiction in permitting the project. A local unit of government may relinquish its jurisdiction by requesting the PUC to assume jurisdiction within 60 days of the filing of an application with the local unit of government. [Minnesota Rules 4400.5000 Subp. 4.]

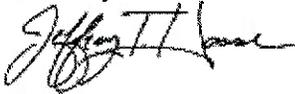
An environmental assessment must be prepared by the local unit of government with jurisdiction over the project. I acknowledge that the City of Marshall is the Responsible Governmental Unit for the 115 kV transmission line project.

Specific requirements with regard to the environmental review process include providing an opportunity for the public to participate in the development of the scope of the environmental assessment before it is prepared; publishing notice in the EQB Monitor of when the assessment is available for review and of the procedure for commenting on the assessment; and withholding a final decision on the project until at least ten days after the notice appears in the EQB Monitor. The City of Marshall also must provide a copy of the environmental assessment to the PUC when it is completed. [Minnesota Rules 4400.5000 Subp. 5.]

MMU is required to send notice to those persons on the PUC facilities permitting general notification list once a permit has been applied for from the local unit of government. [Minnesota Rules 4400.5000 Subp. 3.]

If there are any other questions, please feel free to contact me by phone or email.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Haase
Energy Facilities Permitting
Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
Saint Paul, MN 55101-2198
(P) 651.297.5648
(F) 651.297.7891
Jeffrey.Haase@state.mn.us

CC: Dr. Burl Haar, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
Mr. Bob Cupit, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission



113 South Fourth Street
Marshall, Minnesota 56258-1223
Telephone: 507-537-7005
Fax: 507-537-6836
www.marshallutilities.com

BRAD ROOS
General Manager
STEVE JOHNSON
Operations Manager
LESLIE HISKEN
Customer Service Manager
ROXY SOVELL MOON
Finance Manager

December 19, 2006

Mr. Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: Marshall Municipal Utilities 115 kV Transmission Line Project

Dear Mr. Haar:

This letter is to provide official notice to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission that Marshall Municipal Utilities (MMU) has elected to seek local approval for the construction of a new 115 kV transmission line in Marshall, Minnesota.

The new transmission line will be 1.7 miles long, and will be located entirely within the city limits of Marshall in Lyon County, Minnesota. The new line will serve to extend an existing MMU 115 kV line, in order to provide service to a new MMU substation. MMU will own the transmission line. The new facilities are being constructed to meet growing electrical demand within the city and to improve the reliability of our system. Enclosed is a drawing which shows the planned route of the new line.

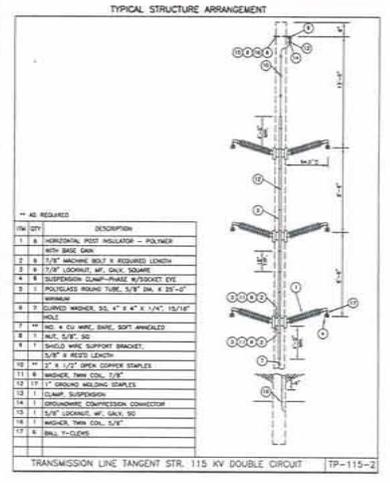
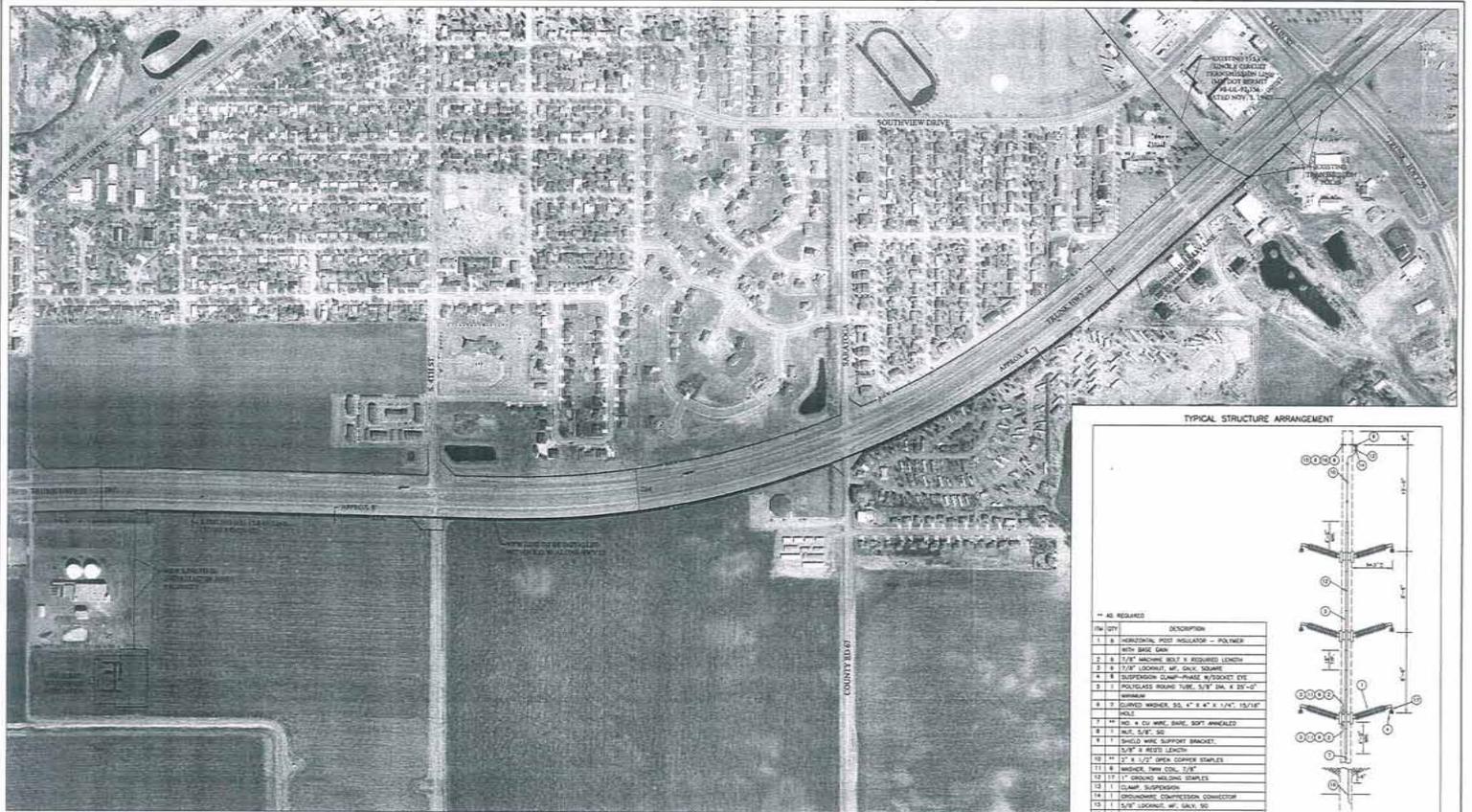
It is our understanding that the City of Marshall, Minnesota is the responsible governmental unit for this project. We intend to assist the City of Marshall with the permitting process. We have already provided the local MNDOT office with preliminary information about the project, and will file for a permit from their office after final design of the line has been completed.

If you require more information about this project, please contact me at 507-537-7005 or bradr@marshallutilities.com.

Sincerely,
Brad Roos
Brad Roos
General Manager

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Adam Sokolski, Minnesota Department of Commerce
Mr. Glenn Olson, City Engineer, Marshall, MN.



PROPOSED LOCATION OF 115 kV TRANSMISSION LINE



REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	8/26	ISSUED TO MPODT FOR PRELIMINARY REVIEW

IGER DeWitt Goss Resnik & Assoc. Co.
Consulting Engineers
Rack Rapids, Iowa

Drawn By: T.M. CAE
Designed By: B.A.M.
Project Manager: K.R.K.
Project Number: 428715

MARSHALL MUNICIPAL UTILITIES
MARSHALL, MINNESOTA

PRELIMINARY 115 kV TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTE
SOUTH R-O-W OF T.H. 23 - MARSHALL, MN

1 OF 1