

**Environmental Assessment  
for the Proposed**

**Long Lake to Mantrap  
115 kV Transmission Line Upgrade Project**

**Hubbard County, Minnesota**

**Henrietta Township**

***June 2015***

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## List of Acronyms Used in this Document

<b>ACRONYMS</b>	
ACSR	Aluminum Conductor Steel Reinforced
BMP	Best Management Practice
Commission	Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
CSAH	County State Aid Highway
CUP	Conditional Use Permit
dB	Decibel
dB(A)	Decibel, A-weighted
DNR	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
EA	Environmental Assessment
EMF	Electromagnetic fields
EQB	Minnesota Environmental Quality Board
IEEE	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
Itasca-Mantrap	Itasca-Mantrap Cooperative Electrical Association
kV	Kilovolt
kV/m	Kilovolts per meter
MHS	Minnesota Historical Society
MnDOT	Minnesota Department of Transportation
MPCA	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
NAC	Noise Area Classification
NESC	National Electric Safety Code
NIEHS	National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NWI	National Wetland Inventory
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
ROW	Right-of-way
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service

## 1.0 Introduction

Great River Energy is a not-for-profit generation and transmission cooperative based in Maple Grove, Minnesota. Great River Energy provides electrical energy and related services to 28 member cooperatives, including Itasca-Mantrap Cooperative Electrical Association (Itasca-Mantrap). Great River Energy's distribution cooperatives, in turn, supply electricity and related services to approximately 650,000 residential, commercial and industrial customers in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Great River Energy, on behalf of Itasca-Mantrap, has submitted an application to Henrietta Township for a conditional use permit (CUP) to convert an existing 34.5 kilovolt (kV) substation to 115 kV and to rebuild an existing 34.5 kV sub-transmission line and replace it with a new 115 kV and 115/34.5 kV transmission line. The line proposed to be upgraded is located east and northeast of the City of Park Rapids, primarily along County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 4.

Henrietta Township is tasked with conducting environmental review of proposed transmission line project requests when an applicant seeks local permitting. After release of this Environmental Assessment (EA), a public hearing will be held for the CUP application.

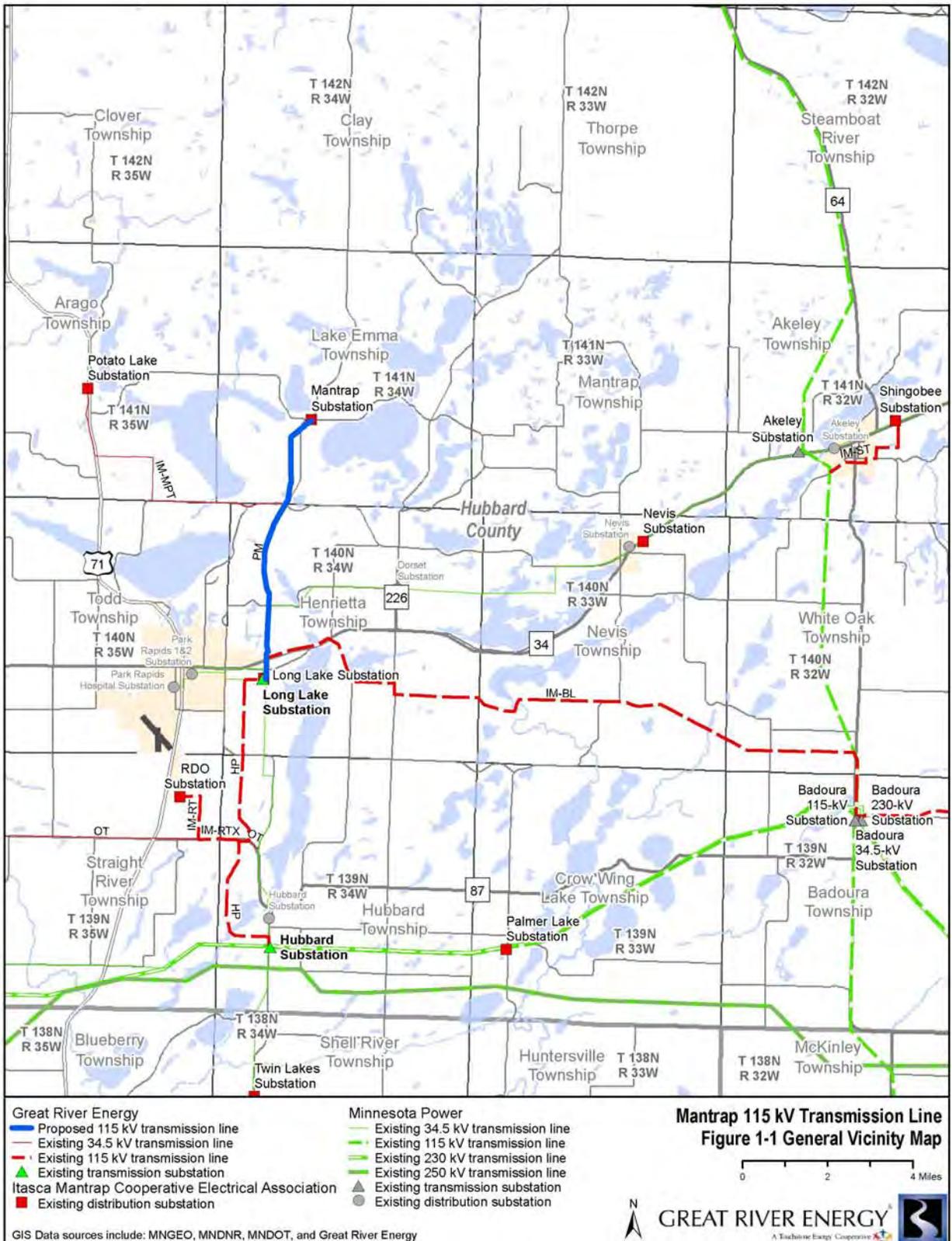
### 1.1 Project Need and Proposed Project

The existing electrical system in the project area (consisting of distribution lines, sub-transmission lines, transmission lines and substations), is approaching its electrical capacity to reliably deliver electricity to the area consumers. Itasca-Mantrap and Great River have therefore identified a need to upgrade an existing 34.5 kV substation and transmission line to improve and maintain reliable service on the distribution grid in this area.

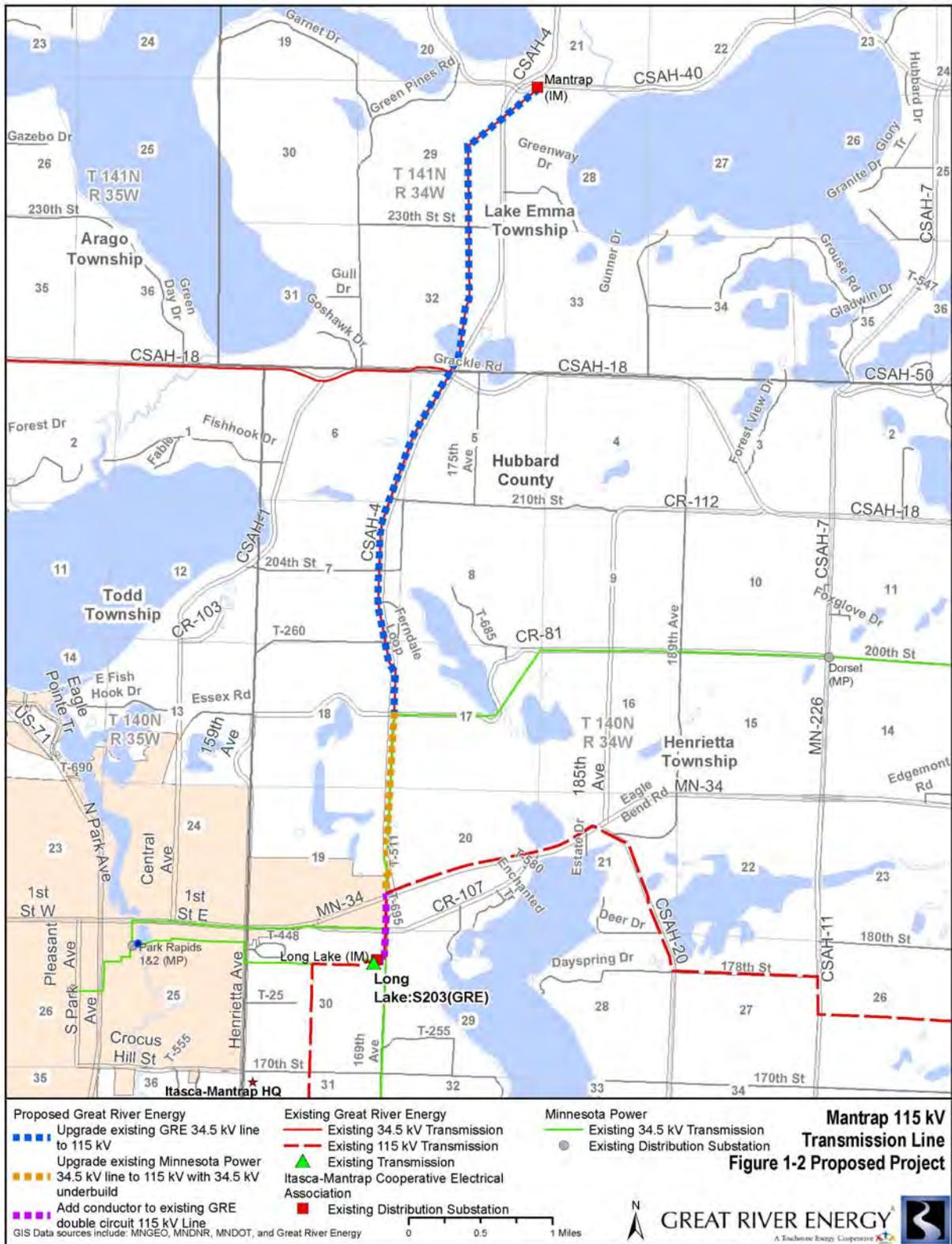
Itasca-Mantrap is proposing to convert an existing 34.5 kV substation to operate at 115 kV and Great River Energy is proposing rebuild an existing 34.5 kV transmission line to 115 kV standards (approximately 6.5 miles) in Emma Township, Henrietta Township, and Park Rapids, in Hubbard County, Minnesota (**Figure 1-1**). The 6.5-mile route will tap Great River Energy's existing 115 kV Long Lake Substation and run 6.5 miles north to the existing Mantrap Substation (**Figure 1-2**).

The project is discussed in more detail below and in Section 3.0.

**FIGURE 1-1 GENERAL VICINITY MAP**



**FIGURE 1-2 PROPOSED PROJECT**



## 1.2 Project Location and Schedule

The proposed 115 kV transmission line will be located in Sections 30, 20, 19, 18, 17, 7, 6 and 5, T140N, R34W and Sections 32, 29 and 28, T141N, R34W, near Park Rapids, Minnesota (**Figures 1-1 and 1-2**).

Project permitting will occur in 2015 and construction will occur in early 2016.

## 1.3 Project Cost Estimate

Estimated project costs are listed below.

Mantrap Substation Upgrades	\$ 550,000
Great River Energy Long Lake Substation Add Breaker & Deadend Structure	\$ 633,000
Great River Energy Transmission Line Construction	\$ 4,569,000
<b>Total Estimated Project Cost</b>	<b>\$ 5,752 ,000</b>

## **2.0 Regulatory Framework**

### **2.1 Permit Requirement**

This project falls under the State of Minnesota's Power Plant Siting Act, (Minnesota Statutes § 216E.01-.18 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7850) for transmission projects over 100 kV and requires a permit from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission). However, for eligible projects, a utility may apply to the local unit of government that has jurisdiction over the project for approval instead of applying to the Commission (Minn. Rules 7850.5300). This proposed 115 kV project is eligible for local review.

Great River Energy is seeking approvals for the project from Henrietta Township. Henrietta Township has agreed to act as the local unit of government with jurisdiction to conduct the EA for the entire project. Henrietta Township has 60 days to relinquish its jurisdiction after receipt of the permit application on April 13, 2015.

As required by Minn. Rules 7850.5300 Subp.3, a project notice (see **Appendix A**) was sent by Great River Energy to the Commission and to those persons on the Power Plant Siting General Notification list indicating that Great River Energy is seeking local approval of the project. A letter from the Division of Energy Resources confirming that the Commission received notification that Great River Energy intends to seek local approval is also included in **Appendix A**.

### **2.2 Environmental Assessment Requirement**

In accordance with Minn. Rules 7850.5300 Subp.5, an EA prepared by the local unit of government with jurisdiction over the project must be completed. The EA contains information on the human and environmental impacts of the proposed project and addresses methods to mitigate such impacts.

When the EA is complete, Henrietta Township must publish a notice in the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Monitor that the EA is available for review, how a copy of the document may be reviewed, that the public may comment on the document, and the procedure for submitting comments to the Township. A final decision on the project cannot be made until at least ten days after the notice appears in the EQB Monitor.

### **2.3 Public Participation/Scoping of Environmental Assessment**

Henrietta Township sent a survey to the property owners within 350 feet of the proposed project on April 18, 2015, to solicit input on the scope of the EA (see **Appendix B**). The comment period ended on May 11, 2015. During this process, Henrietta Township staff received a number of written comments and phone calls regarding the project. Survey responses are provided in **Appendix B**.

Survey responses were received from owners of fifteen parcels along the route. Landowners of eleven of these parcels had no comment on the project. Landowners of four parcels had comments as summarized below.

**Comment 1:** Ark Animal Hospital's concern is to "limit the cutting of the established trees such as the poplars and pines currently growing between the sand trail along Cnty 4 and the road itself. Visual aesthetics are important in this, a rural, resort based community. These trees provide a sound buffer for the residents that live along Cty 4 and for people who walk, horseback ride and bike on the old road bed, now referred to by us as the sand trail.

We have spent 21 years trying to grow trees by our clinic, to provide shade for our customers and their pets during the warm summer months when the western sun shines hot on the parking lot. Also these trees beautify and increase the appeal of our hard built enterprise. The prospect of cutting them down does not sit well with our goals at the clinic, and would not be welcome.

**Response:** Great River Energy works with property owners individually on the vegetation clearing and maintenance needs for each parcel on the project. Generally, compensation is offered for the removal of landscape or timber quality vegetation on private property that is within the easement or outside of the easement and hazardous to the overhead transmission line. Compatible plantings that mature at a height of fifteen (15) feet or less may be allowed to remain or be planted within the easement, which will be determined during easement negotiations.

**Comment 2:** A landowner's survey provided contact information in regards to compensation.

**Comment 3:** The Hubbard County Regional Economic Development Commission commented, "Get it done. This is needed infrastructure and has been in the planning stages forever."

**Comment 4:** A landowner's survey included the comment, "I am in favor of the upgraded service lines."

## 2.4 Conditional Use Permit

Henrietta Township requires a CUP for this project. Great River Energy submitted a CUP Application to Henrietta Township on April 13, 2015. After the EA is finalized, notice of the EA has been published in the EQB Monitor, and the comment period requirements have been met, Henrietta Township will hold a public hearing and make a decision on Great River Energy's request for a CUP.

The CUP process is also open to the public as part of the respective review by the Henrietta Township Planning Commission at its regularly scheduled meetings. Prior to

the public hearing, notices are sent out to landowners located within 1,320 feet (1/4 mile) feet of the project corridor. Public hearing notices are published in the Henrietta Township official newspaper, Park Rapids Enterprise, Henrietta Website and official posting sites.

### 3.0 Engineering Design, Right-of-Way Acquisition, and Construction

#### 3.1 Substation Upgrade

The Mantrap Substation (**Figure 3-1**) owned by Itasca-Mantrap is located in Section 28, Township 141N, Range 34W in Lake Emma Township. The substation is enclosed in a fenced area. The upgrades will take place inside the substation and will not change the location of the fence.

The primary components of the upgraded Mantrap Substation will include:

- A 115 kV transformer to replace the 34.5 kV transformer; and
- A new 115 kV rated high side structure will be installed.

#### 3.2 Proposed Transmission Line Conversion

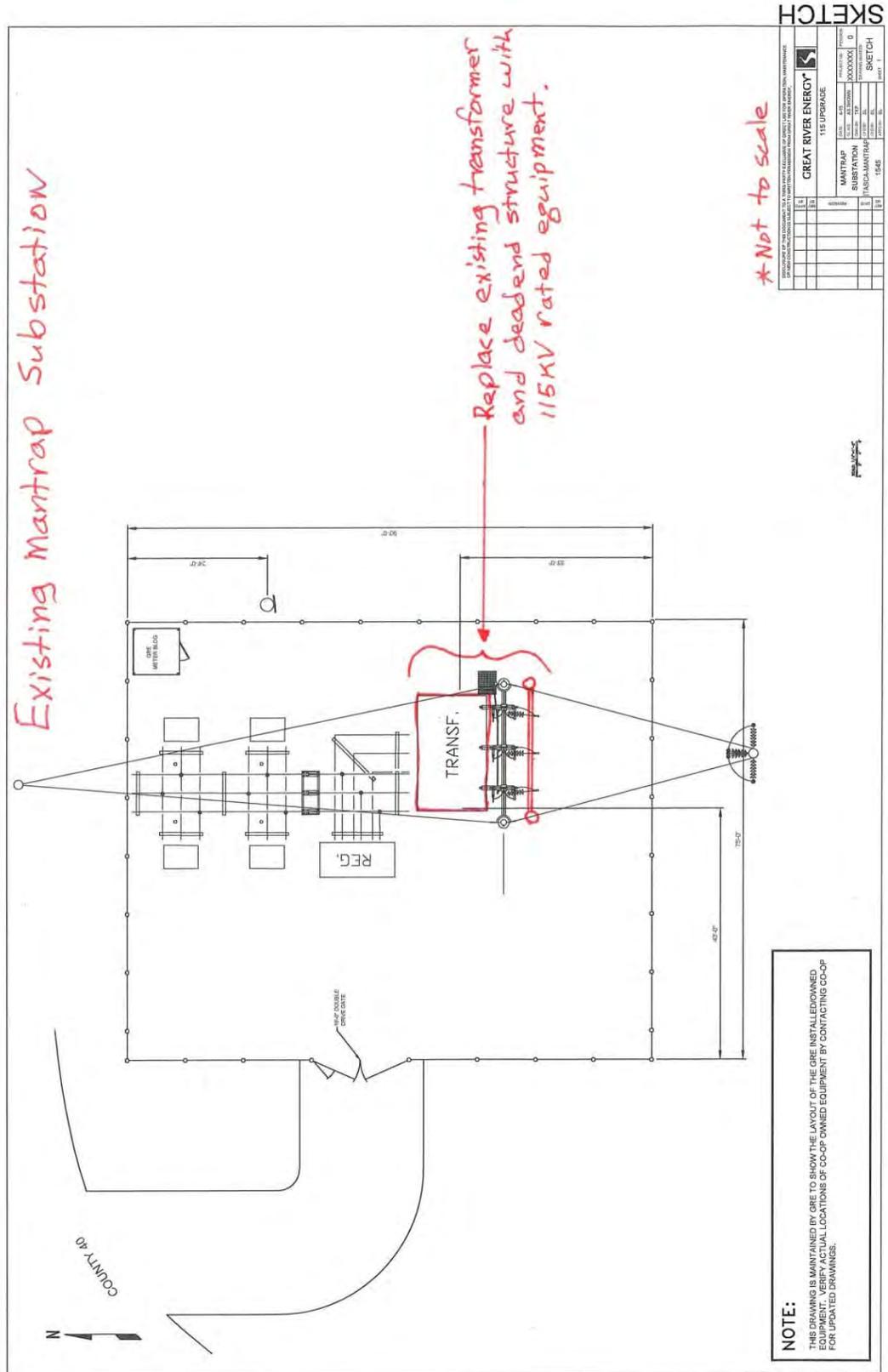
From the Long Lake Substation up to State Highway 34, 115 kV conductor will be placed on the existing insulators and no changes will be made to the existing transmission line poles. From State Highway 34 to the Mantrap Substation, the proposed transmission line will be located approximately 10 to 15 feet offset from the current transmission right-of-way (ROW) in most areas. Pole locations will have adequate setbacks from field access roads and driveways.

The project will include:

- Conducting 0.50 miles of Great River Energy's existing "IM-BL" 34.5 line, already built to double-circuit standard with a new 115 kV circuit (**Figure 3-2 A**);
- Overtaking 1.25 miles of Minnesota Power's existing 34.5/19.9 kV line and rebuilding it to 115 kV with 34.5 kV underbuild, and placing the 19.9 kV circuit underground (**Figure 3-2 B**);
- Replacing Great River Energy's 4.75 mile long existing 34.5 kV "PM" line with the new 115 kV line (**Figure 3-2 C**);
- Replacing the existing 34.5 kV transformer at the Mantrap Substation with a new 115 kV transformer; and
- Installing a 115 kV breaker and deadend structure at the Long Lake Substation (**Figure 3-3**).

The line will follow the existing alignment of power lines in the area, except in cases where it may need to be moved to accommodate construction and/or engineering practices. The proposed transmission line will start at Great River Energy's existing Long Lake Substation (south of State Highway 34), run north over State Highway 34 and continue along CSAH 4 for approximately 4.5 miles. The line will continue to follow the existing ROW that leaves CSAH 4 and runs cross country for 2 miles and crosses CSAH 4 again to the existing Mantrap Substation located east of the intersection of CSAHs 4 and 40.

Figure 3-1 Proposed Mantrap Substation Upgrades



**FIGURE 3-2 PROPOSED STRUCTURES**



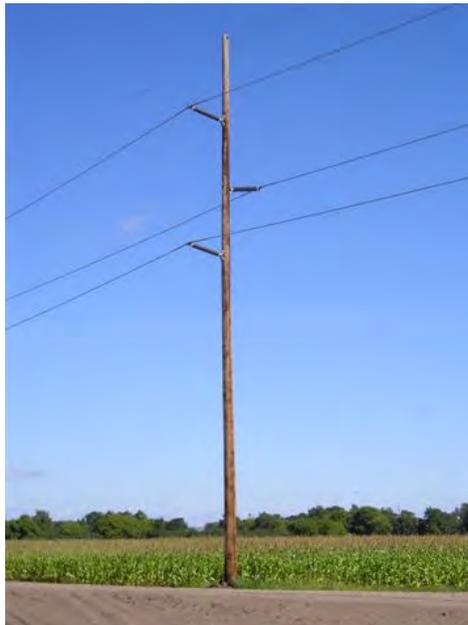
**A) Double-circuit 115 kV structure with distribution underbuild**

- **Between Long Lake Substation and Minnesota State Highway 34**



**B) Single-circuit 115 kV structure with Minnesota Power 34.5 kV underbuild**

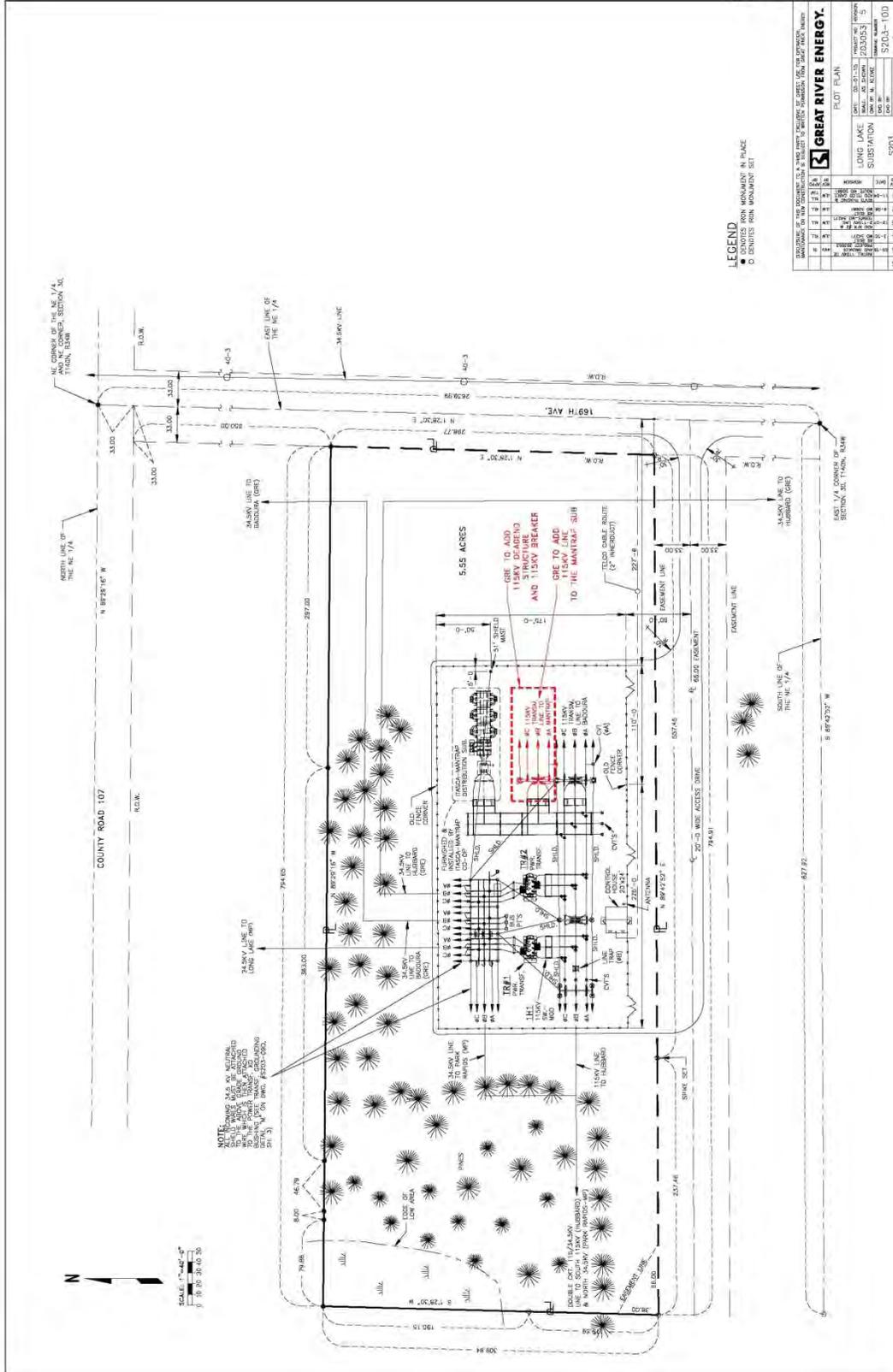
- **Between Minnesota State Highway 34 and CSAH 81**



**C) Single-circuit 115 kV structure**

- **Between CSAH 81 and Mantrap Substation**

Figure 3-3 Proposed Long Lake Substation Installations



The line will be constructed using primarily single pole wood structures with horizontal post insulators. The poles will range in height from 60 to 80 feet above ground and they will be spaced approximately 300 to 350 feet apart. Structures, pole heights and spans may vary somewhat depending upon topography and environmental constraints (such as road crossings, stream crossings, and required angle structures). The single circuit structures will have three single conductor phase wires and one shield wire. The phase wires will be 477 thousand circular mil Aluminum Conductor Steel Reinforced (ACSR) with seven steel core strands and 26 outer aluminum strands. The shield wire will be optical ground wire.

Angles in the line will require guying (the use of anchors and support cables) or specialty structures. Where guying is not practicable, direct embedded laminated wood poles or steel poles on drilled pier concrete foundations will be utilized.

The transmission line will be designed to meet the National Electric Safety Code (NESC) and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) standards. The NESC recommends minimum strength and safety standards for clearances over roadways, buildings, signs, light standards, and other facilities.

Great River Energy has company standards that meet or exceed the NESC requirements. Clearances over highways and roadways will be a minimum of 24.1 feet, which exceeds the requirements of the NESC and may be increased by Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) or local county highway permitting. Although the existing standards give recommended clearances over buildings, Great River Energy generally does not locate transmission lines directly over a building unless it cannot be avoided. Horizontal clearances to buildings, signs, light standards, and other installations will be determined by calculating the blowout of the wire, structure deflection, and safe electrical clearance from the line.

### **3.3 Right-of-Way Acquisition**

After project approvals to rebuild the transmission line project are secured from the local governing authorities, landowners will be contacted by a Great River Energy representative to begin direct negotiations to acquire new or replacement easements in most areas for the transmission line conversion. The total easement area needed is a 100 foot wide corridor, 50 feet on each side of the transmission centerline. In some areas, the transmission line easement will overlap existing road ROW and the easement will only include the land outside of road ROW. Road ROW occupation permits will be obtained for poles located within road ROW. Adequate easements already exist on all parcels south of State Highway 34, so no new easements will be required.

Once easements and permits have been acquired, and immediately prior to construction, individual property owners will be notified of construction schedules, access to the site and vegetation clearing required for the project. It will be necessary to clear vegetation to 50 feet on each side of the transmission centerline to enable the safe

construction, operation and maintenance of the line. Wood from the clearing operation will be offered to the landowner or removed from the site. Brush will be chipped and disposed of on the ROW, if allowed by the landowner. It is standard practice to remove any vegetation species that would be a danger to the line when at a mature height. Also, any vegetation that is in the way of construction equipment may have to be removed.

Some structure locations may require soil analysis to assist with the design of the line. Soil borings would be conducted to determine the soil properties for engineering analysis. An independent geotechnical testing company would take and analyze these borings. Site access would be required and landowners would be contacted for permission.

In addition to the ROW required for adequate clearance of the proposed transmission line, temporary construction easements may be obtained from landowners for the duration of construction. These construction easements would be limited to special construction access needs or any additional staging or laydown areas required outside of the proposed transmission line ROW. Where possible, staging and laydown areas would be located at existing substations on the project or within the ROW and limited to previously disturbed or developed areas. Upon completion of construction activities, ROW restoration will be completed and landowners will be contacted to determine if any additional restoration due to construction damage is necessary.

### **3.4 Construction Procedures**

The proposed 115 kV transmission line conversion would be constructed at grade elevations; therefore, no pole locations would require grading unless it is necessary to provide a level area for construction access and activities. Construction would comply with the latest industry standards regarding clearance to ground, clearance to crossing utilities, clearance to buildings, ROW widths, erecting power poles, and stringing of transmission line conductors.

Typical pole structures would require a drilled hole 10 to 15 feet deep and 3 to 4 feet in diameter for each pole. Pole structures in wet environments or angle structures may require additional foundation support, typically consisting of a concrete foundation or placement of the pole base inside a vertical galvanized steel culvert. Erosion control methods would be implemented to minimize runoff during construction. Great River Energy or approved contractors would perform transmission line construction in compliance with local, state, NESC, IEEE, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and industry standards.

Poles would be delivered to either the staked location or a staging and laydown area. If the poles were delivered to a staked site, they would be placed on the ROW out of the clear zone of any adjacent roadways or designated pathways. Insulators and other hardware would typically be attached while the pole was on the ground. The pole would then be lifted, placed and secured on the foundation by a bucket truck or crane.

Once the structures have been erected, conductors would be installed by establishing stringing setup areas within the ROW. The stringing setup areas would usually be established every two miles along the project route. Conductor stringing operations also require brief access to each structure to secure the conductor wire to the insulators or to install shield wire clamps once final sag is established. Temporary guard or clearance poles would be installed, as needed, over existing distribution or communication lines, streets, roads, highways, railways or other obstructions after any necessary notifications were made or permits obtained. This ensures that conductors would not obstruct traffic or contact existing energized conductors or other cables. In addition, the conductors would be protected from damage.

### **3.5 Restoration/Maintenance Procedures**

During construction, limited ground disturbance at the structure sites may occur. Disturbed areas would be restored to their original condition to the maximum extent practicable and as negotiated with the landowner. Post-construction reclamation activities include:

- Removing and disposing of debris;
- Removing all temporary facilities (including staging and laydown areas);
- Employing appropriate erosion control measures;
- Reseeding and mulching areas disturbed by construction activities with vegetation similar to that which was removed; and
- Restoring the areas to their original condition to the extent possible.

In cases where soil compaction has occurred in cropland areas, the construction crews or a restoration contractor will use various methods to alleviate the compaction as negotiated with landowners.

Great River Energy will periodically use the transmission line ROW to perform inspections, maintain equipment, and repair any damage. Regular route maintenance for weed control and removal of undesired vegetation will also be conducted in accordance with terms of the easements and any state or local permitting requirements.

## **4.0 Assessment of Environmental Impacts and Mitigation**

Impacts to the environment are expected to be minimal and short-term, with little mitigation required. Great River Energy will minimize environmental impacts during construction of the project.

Correspondence relative to environmental conditions in the project area and responses received from state and federal agencies that reviewed the project are provided in **Appendix C**.

### **4.1 Description of Environmental Setting**

The project area is characterized by lakes, forest and grassland with scattered areas of agricultural land.

The proposed transmission line corridor is located in areas that are zoned Residential, Agricultural, Commercial/Business and Industrial (see Land Use and Zoning Maps, **Figures 4-1, 4-2, 4-3**). Land use in the project area is mainly Residential and Agricultural.

### **4.2 Impacts on Human Settlement**

There are a few residences close to the ROW that will be affected by the project. Great River Energy will work with the landowners to minimize those impacts. Pole placement will be reviewed and discussed with each landowner to minimize tree loss and visual impacts in those areas close to homes.

#### **4.2.1 Socioeconomics**

The majority of the Hubbard County workforce is employed by education, health, social industries and retail industries. The resident population has slightly increased since the last census.

Approximately 15-25 workers will be required for construction of the project. During construction, there would be a small impact on the local community due to revenue created from expenditures of the construction crew (local community services, hotels, restaurants, construction materials). No permanent jobs will be created by this project.

**FIGURE 4-1 HUBBARD COUNTY ZONING / LAND USE**

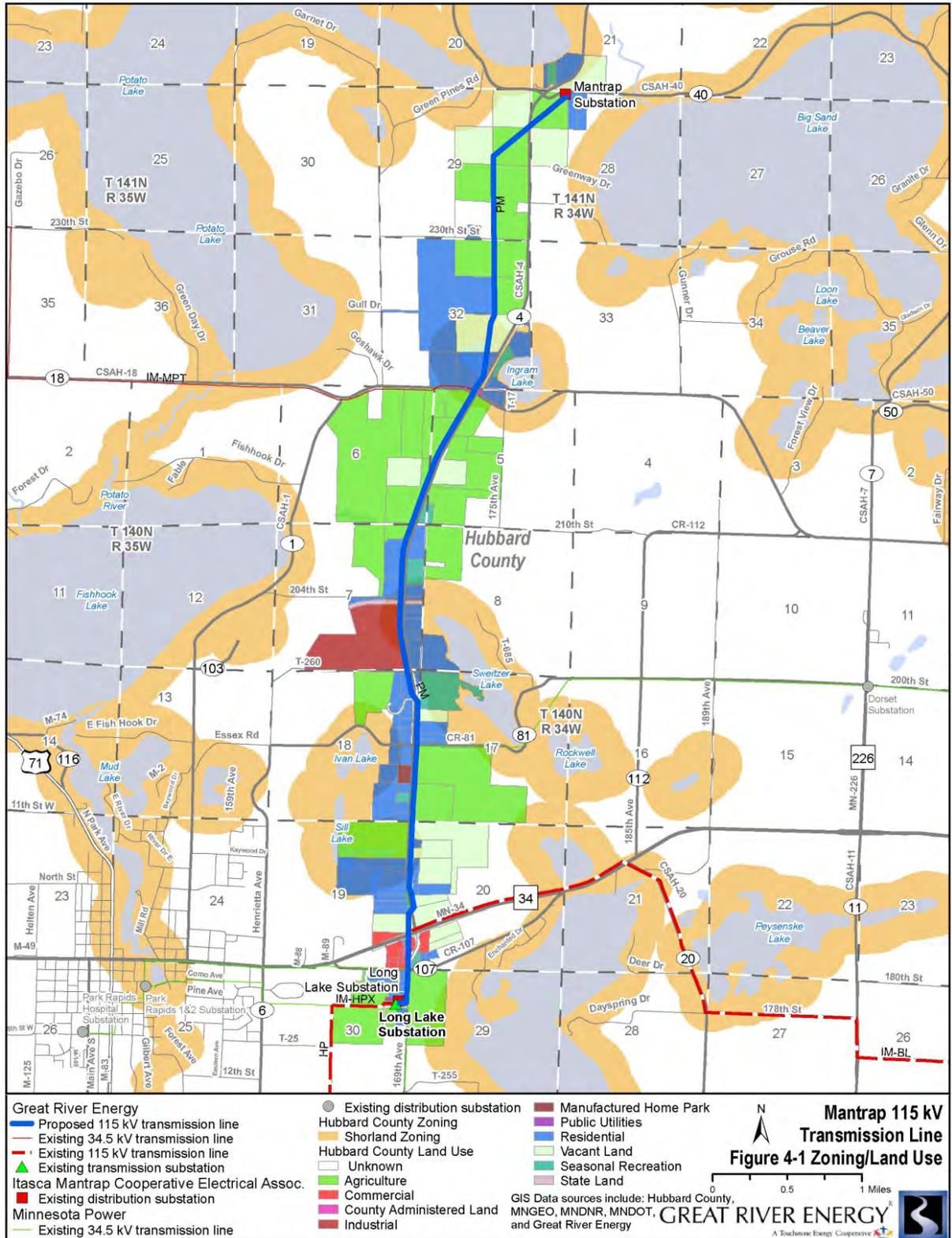


FIGURE 4-2 HENRIETTA TOWNSHIP ZONING MAP

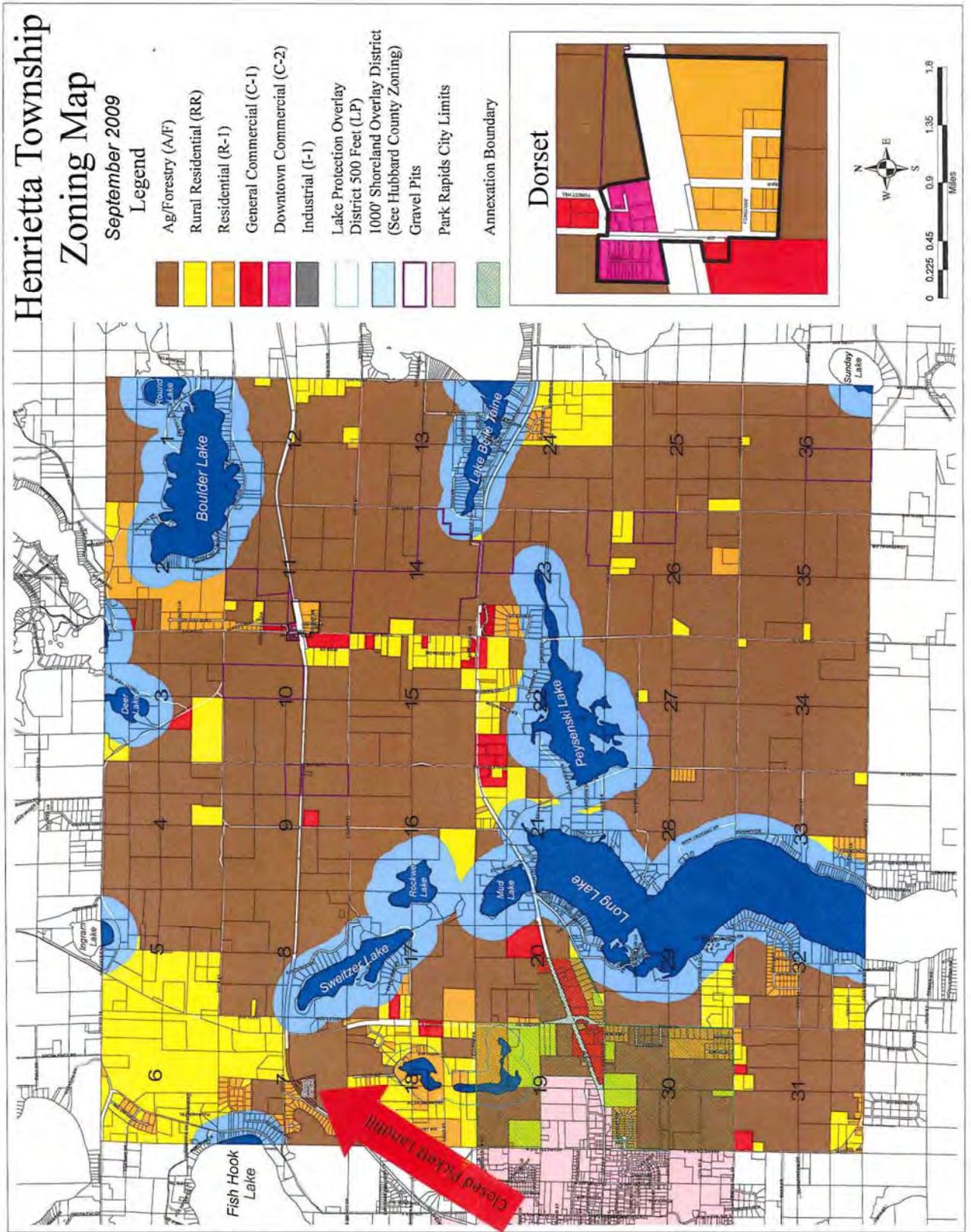
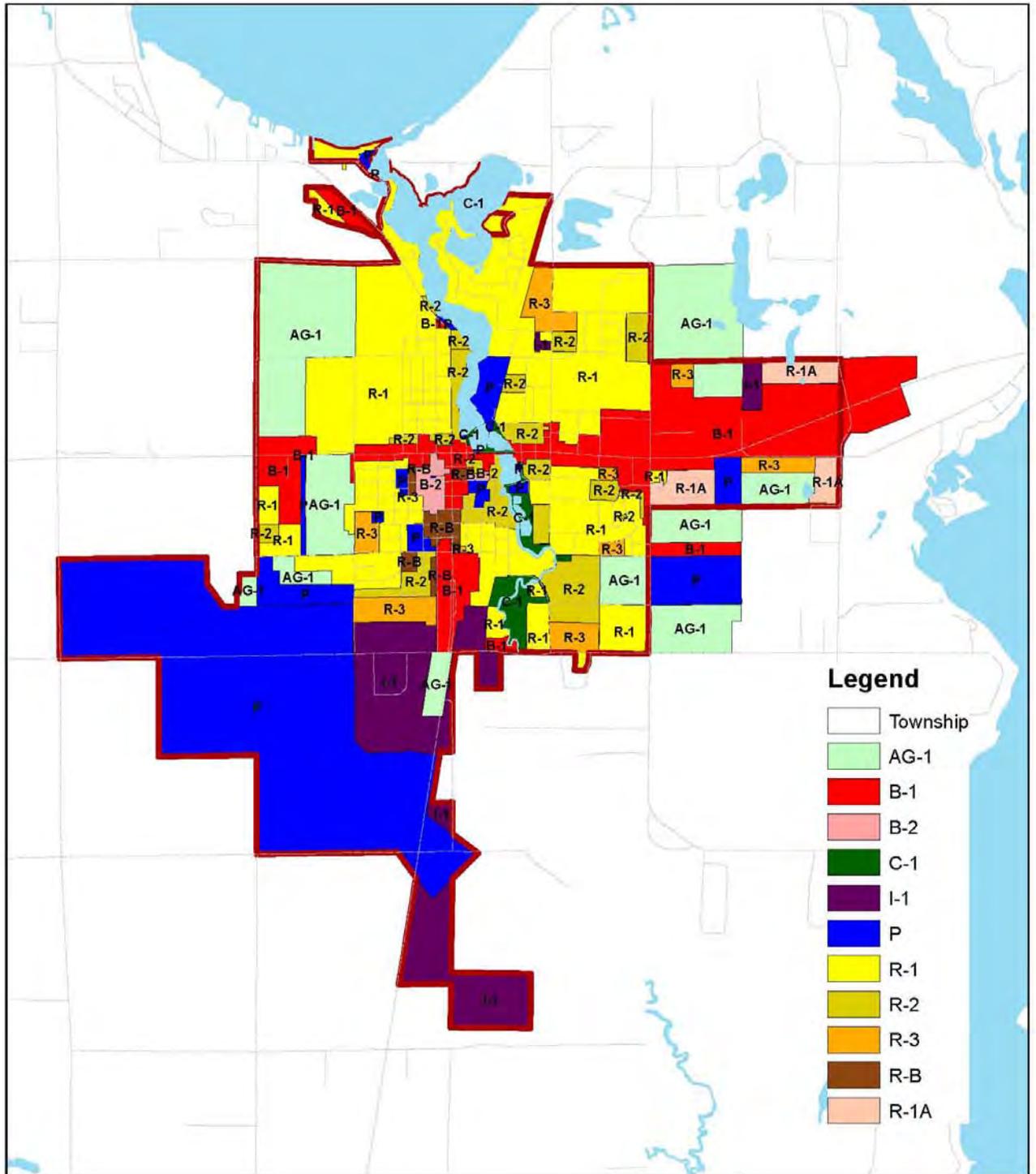


Figure 4-3 City of Park Rapids Zoning Map



Zoning Map  
4/14/2015



#### 4.2.2 Displacement

Construction of the transmission line will not cause displacement of any residence and will not affect any public services.

#### 4.2.3 Noise

Noise is composed of a variety of sounds of different intensities across the entire frequency spectrum. Humans perceive sound when sound pressure waves encounter the auditory components in the ear. These components convert these pressure waves into perceivable sound. Transmission conductors produce noise under certain conditions. The level of noise or its loudness depends on conductor conditions, voltage level, and weather conditions.

Noise is measured in units of decibels (dB) on a logarithmic scale. Because human hearing is not equally sensitive to all frequencies of sound, certain frequencies are given more "weight." The A-weighted scale (dBA) corresponds to the sensitivity range for human hearing. Noise levels capable of being heard by humans are measured in dBA, the A-weighted sound level recorded in units of decibels. A noise level change of 3 dBA is barely perceptible to human hearing. A 5-dBA change in noise level, however, is clearly noticeable. A 10-dBA change in noise levels is perceived as a doubling of noise loudness, while a 20-dBA change is considered a dramatic change in loudness.

**Table 4-1** shows noise levels associated with common, everyday sources. Noise levels for a 115 kV transmission line would typically be between 0 and 20 dBA, depending on the weather.

**TABLE 4-1 COMMON NOISE LEVELS AND SOURCES**

Sound Pressure Level (dB)	Typical Sources
120	Jet aircraft takeoff at 100 feet
110	Jet aircraft at 400 feet
90	Motorcycle at 25 feet
80	Garbage disposal
70	City street corner
60	Conversational speech
50	Typical office
40	Living room (without TV)
30	Quiet bedroom at night

Source: Environmental Impact Analysis Handbook, ed. By Rau and Wooten, 1980

In Minnesota, state rules have been established to regulate noise levels by land use types. The most stringent noise limit is assigned to places with a Noise Area Classification (NAC) of 1, which generally applies to areas where people may normally be expected to sleep. The various NACs are described in the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) noise regulations and the applicable limits for each NAC are shown in **Table 4-2**.

**TABLE 4-2 NOISE AREA CLASSIFICATIONS**

NAC	Day (0700-2200)		Night (2200-0700)	
	L <sub>50</sub>	L <sub>10</sub>	L <sub>50</sub>	L <sub>10</sub>
1	60	65	50	55
2	65	70	65	70
3	75	80	75	80

Transmission Line

Noise emission from a transmission line increases during heavy rain and wet conductor conditions. In foggy, damp, or rainy weather conditions, power lines can create a crackling sound due to the small amount of electricity ionizing the moist air near the wires. During heavy rain, the general background noise level is usually greater than the noise from the transmission line and few people would be out near the transmission line. As a result, people do not normally notice audible noise from a transmission line during heavy rain. This is confirmed by calculated levels during a heavy rain (one inch per hour) that show noise levels for a 115 kV line at less than 25% of the most sensitive state NAC (NAC 1). During light rain, dense fog, snow, and other times when there is moisture in the air, transmission lines will produce audible noise at approximately household background levels. During dry weather, audible noise from transmission lines is barely perceptible.

Substation

Noise associated with substations includes the operation of transformers and switchgear. The transformers produce a constant low-frequency humming noise while the switchgear produces an impulsive or short duration noise during infrequent activation of the circuit breakers. Due to the infrequent operation of the switchgear, the noise generated would be considered temporary in nature and not predicted to exceed the MPCA Noise Limits.

The upgraded Mantrap Substation will be designed to comply with Minnesota Noise standards (Minnesota Rules part 7030). The controlling limit for the substation is the nighttime Noise Area 1 Classification (**Table 4-2**). Under this classification, noise levels are limited to 50 dBA during nighttime hours at the nearest location where a person is reasonably expected to sleep.

For the Mantrap Substation, the nearest noise receptor is a single family home located approximately 300 feet east of the proposed substation.

Typical noise levels from the type of transformer that will be used in the Mantrap Substation are 71 dBA when the transformer cooling fans are not running and 73 dBA when the fans are running (measured 0.3 meter (0.98 feet) from the equipment). To conservatively predict future noise levels and compliance with the 50-dBA limit, the 73 dBA noise level was treated as a point source at the transformer and modeled to determine the distance where the noise levels would be reduced to 50 dBA.

A simplified, conservative model<sup>1</sup> was used to determine the distance at which the noise would attenuate to 50 dBA. Noise propagation through the outdoor atmosphere typically decreases in level with increasing distance between the source and the receiver. The noise attenuation is the result of several mechanisms, including geometrical spreading of the sound waves, shielding provided by physical structures, atmospheric absorption of the acoustic energy and ground effects on the sound waves. In general, the noise or sound pressure levels emitted from the substation will decrease approximately 6 dB for each doubling of distance from the source to the receiver. The simplified model was prepared based on this 6-dB reduction with a doubling of distance. The model is conservative in that it does not factor in any attenuation from shielding or ground effects.

The substation will not create noise levels at the nearest NAC 1 in exceedance of the 50 dBA limit. The substation noise level would attenuate to the 50 dBA noise limit at a distance of approximately 41 feet from the transformer. The nearest residence is approximately 300 feet east of the substation, and at this distance, the predicted noise level would be approximately 33 dBA.

#### 4.2.4 Aesthetics

The project will have limited impact on aesthetics of the area. The proposed transmission line conversion will be visible along the road that it crosses. Homes within 500 feet of the line will be the most likely to have their viewshed affected by construction of the transmission line.

The proposed 115 kV transmission line structures will have a narrow profile that is designed to be less intrusive than other types of structures in the area.

Although the proposed transmission line conversion will be a contrast to surrounding land uses, Great River Energy will work with landowners to identify

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<sup>1</sup> The simplified model is based off the following formula:  $S_2 = S_1 - 20 * \text{Log}(d_2/d_1)$ .  $S_2$  = Noise level at distance  $d_2$  (dBA),  $S_1$  = Measured sound level at  $d_1$  (dBA),  $D_1$  = Distance from noise source to  $S_1$  noise measurement (ft), and  $D_2$  = Distance from noise source at which  $S_2$  is calculated (ft).

concerns related to the proposed transmission line, using the following strategies:

- Location of structures, right-of-way and other disturbed areas will be determined by considering input from landowners or land management agencies to minimize visual impacts.
- Care will be used to preserve the natural landscape; construction and operation will be conducted to prevent any unnecessary destruction of the natural surroundings in the vicinity of the work.
- To the extent practicable, new transmission lines will parallel existing transmission lines and other rights-of-way, to the extent that such actions do not violate sound engineering principles or system reliability criteria.
- Structures will be placed at the maximum feasible distance from highway, trail and water crossings, within limits of structure design.
- Landowners will be compensated for removal of mature yard trees, either through easement negotiations or on a separate basis.

#### 4.2.5 Human Health and Safety

No threats to public health and safety are anticipated for this project. All facilities will be constructed in accordance with all applicable standards, including the NESC and other industry standards. Construction personnel will be required to follow OSHA regulations. Other safety measures such as warning signs, fencing, and gates will be utilized as needed.

#### Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF)

The term electromagnetic fields (EMF) refers to electric and magnetic fields that are coupled together, such as in high frequency radiating fields. For the lower frequencies associated with power lines, EMF should be separated into electric fields and magnetic fields. For any specific line design, the height of the set of phase conductors above ground has a marked influence on the maximum electric and magnetic fields.

Voltage on a wire produces an electric field in the area surrounding the wire. The voltage on the conductors of a transmission line generates an electric field extending from the energized conductors to other nearby objects, such as the ground, towers, vegetation, buildings, and vehicles. The intensity of electric fields, measured in kilovolts/meter (kV/m), is proportional to the voltage of the line and the magnitude of the electric field rapidly decreases with distance from the transmission line conductors. The presence of trees, buildings, or other solid structures nearby can also significantly reduce the magnitude of the electric field.

Electric fields of transmission lines above ground are designated by the difference in voltage between two points (usually one meter).

Magnetic fields arise from the flow of electricity (current) in the transmission line. The intensity of the magnetic field is related to the current flow through the conductors. The magnetic field associated with the transmission line surrounds the conductor and rapidly decreases as the distance from the conductor increases. Magnetic field density is expressed in the unit of gauss or milligauss.

Considerable research has been conducted in recent decades to determine whether exposure to power-frequency (60 hertz) electric and magnetic fields can cause biological responses and adverse health effects. The multitude of epidemiological and toxicological studies has shown at most a weak association (i.e., no statistically significant association) between EMF exposure and health risks.

In 1999, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) issued its final report on "Health Effects from Exposure to Power-Line Frequency Electric and Magnetic Fields" in response to the Energy Policy Act of 1992. In the report, the NIEHS concluded that the scientific evidence linking EMF exposures with health risks is weak and that this finding does not warrant aggressive regulatory concern. However, in light of the weak scientific evidence supporting some association between EMF and health effects and the fact that exposure to electrical systems is common in the United States, the NIEHS stated that passive regulatory action, such as providing public education on reducing exposures, is warranted.<sup>2</sup>

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) comes to a similar conclusion about the link between adverse health effects, specifically childhood leukemia, and power-frequency EMF exposure. On its website, the EPA states:

*Many people are concerned about potential adverse health effects. Much of the research about power lines and potential health effects is inconclusive. Despite more than two decades of research to determine whether elevated EMF exposure, principally to magnetic fields, is related to an increased risk of childhood leukemia, there is still no definitive answer. The general scientific consensus is that, thus far, the evidence available is weak and is not sufficient to establish a definitive cause-effect relationship.<sup>3</sup>*

Minnesota, California, and Wisconsin have each conducted their own literature reviews or research to examine this issue. In 2002, Minnesota formed an Interagency Working Group to evaluate the research and develop policy recommendations to protect the public health from any potential problems arising

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<sup>2</sup> Report is available at <http://www.niehs.nih.gov/health/topics/agents/emf/>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.epa.gov/radtown/power-lines.html>

from EMF effects associated with HVTLs. The Minnesota Department of Health published the Working Group's findings in *A White Paper on Electric and Magnetic Field (EMF) Policy and Mitigation Options*. The Working Group summarized its findings as follows:

*Research on the health effects of EMF has been carried out since the 1970s. Epidemiological studies have mixed results – some have shown no statistically significant association between exposure to EMF and health effects, some have shown a weak association. More recently, laboratory studies have failed to show such an association, or to establish a biological mechanism for how magnetic fields may cause cancer. A number of scientific panels convened by national and international health agencies and the United States Congress have reviewed the research carried out to date. Most researchers concluded that there is insufficient evidence to prove an association between EMF and health effects; however many of them also concluded that there is insufficient evidence to prove that EMF exposure is safe.<sup>4</sup>*

Based on findings like those of the Working Group and NIEHS, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission has consistently found that “there is insufficient evidence to demonstrate a causal relationship between EMF exposure and any adverse human health effects.”<sup>5</sup> This conclusion was further justified in the recent Route Permit proceedings for the Brookings County – Hampton 345 kV Project (“Brookings Project”). In the Brookings Project Route Permit proceedings, the Applicants (Great River Energy and Xcel Energy) and one of the intervening parties both provided expert evidence on the potential impacts of electric and magnetic fields on human health. The administrative law judge (ALJ) in that proceeding evaluated written submissions and a day-and-a-half of testimony from the two expert witnesses. The ALJ concluded: “there is no demonstrated impact on human health and safety that is not adequately addressed by the existing State standards for [EMF] exposure.”<sup>6</sup> The Commission adopted this finding on July 15, 2010.<sup>7</sup>

There is no federal standard for transmission line electric fields. The maximum electric field for the proposed Mantrap project is 1.409 kV/m, which is well under

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<sup>4</sup> Minnesota Department of Health. 2002. *A White Paper on Electric and Magnetic Field (EMF) Policy and Mitigation Options*

<sup>5</sup> See, for example, *In the Matter of the Application for a HVTL Route Permit for the Tower Transmission Line Project*, Docket No. ET-2, E015/TL-06-1624, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order Issuing a Route Permit to Minnesota Power and Great River Energy for the Tower Transmission Line Project and Associated Facilities (August 1, 2007).

<sup>6</sup> *In the Matter of the Route Permit Application by Great River Energy and Xcel Energy for a 345 kV Transmission Line from Brookings County, South Dakota to Hampton, Minnesota*, Docket No. ET-2/TL-08-1474, ALJ Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Recommendation at Finding 216 (April 22, 2010 and amended April 30, 2010).

<sup>7</sup> *In the Matter of the Route Permit Application by Great River Energy and Xcel Energy for a 345 kV Transmission Line from Brookings County, South Dakota to Hampton, Minnesota*, Docket No. ET-2/TL-08-1474, Order Granting Route Permit (September 14, 2010).

the maximum limit of 8 kV/m that has been a permit condition imposed by the EQB in other transmission line routing proceedings.

#### 4.2.6 Public Services

Impacts to other utilities (gas, telephone, electric, water, sewer) will be avoided or minimized. Public services would not be affected by the construction and operation of the proposed transmission line.

#### 4.2.7 Transportation

The 6.5 mile transmission line will cross existing State Highway 34, and CSAH 4. Temporary road closures or lane reductions may be necessary during construction. Operation of the proposed transmission line will not affect the major roads in the area.

There are no airports in the vicinity of the proposed project (Park Rapids Municipal-Konshok Field Airport is approximately 2.6 miles away).

The MnDOT Office of Aeronautics was contacted regarding any potential impacts to airports in the vicinity. In a reply email dated May 4, 2015 (**Appendix C**), the Office of Aeronautics indicated they did not have any concerns related to the proposed project.

### **4.3 Impacts on Land-based Economies**

#### 4.3.1 Recreation/Tourism

There are a number of trails in the Park Rapids area. The project will cross the Heartland State Trail that is south of 240<sup>th</sup> Street. The Heartland State Trail caters to horseback riders, hikers, in-line skaters, bicyclists and snowmobilers (Trail 287). There is also a snowmobile trail (276) that runs along CSAH 4. There are ATV trails in the Park Rapids area; however, there are none known in the project area.

The project is not expected to affect long term recreational or tourism opportunities in the area.

#### 4.3.2 Agriculture

The proposed project does cross agricultural land in Section 28 and 29 of Lake Emma Township.

#### 4.3.3 Mining and Forestry

There is a mining operation in Section 20 of Henrietta Township.

Approximately 60% of Hubbard County is forested. Although most of Hubbard County was originally covered with forest, much of the remaining woodland is in small tracts and wood production is limited.

The project will require widening of the existing transmission ROW. Great River Energy will replace or compensate for trees removed, as determined through negotiations with individual landowners.

#### **4.4 Archaeological and Historic Resources**

Mergent, Inc. conducted a cultural resources literature review (see letter dated January 13, 2015, **Appendix C**) for the project. “Mergent recommends that there will be no adverse impact on known or suspected cultural resources as a result of this project. Mergent recommends that no additional archaeological review is appropriate for this project.”

The Minnesota Historical Society (MHS) was contacted to obtain comments regarding cultural resources in the project area. In a reply letter dated April 22, 2015 (**Appendix C**), MHS “conclude[s] that there are no properties listed in the National or State Registers of Historic Places, and no known or suspected archaeological properties in the area will be affected by this project.”

#### **4.5 Natural Environment**

##### **4.5.1 Air Quality**

The only potential air emissions from a transmission line result from corona, which may produce ozone and oxides of nitrogen. This can occur when the electric field intensity exceeds the breakdown strength of the air. For a 115 kV transmission line, the conductor surface gradient is typically below the air breakdown level. As such, it is unlikely that any measurable emissions would occur from the conductor surface.

During construction of the proposed transmission lines, there would be emissions from vehicles and other construction equipment and fugitive dust from ROW clearing. Temporary air quality impacts caused by the proposed construction-related emissions would be expected to occur during this phase of activity. The magnitude of these emissions is influenced heavily by weather conditions and the specific construction activity taking place. Adverse impacts to the surrounding environment would be minimal because of the short and intermittent nature of the emission and dust-producing construction phases. Appropriate dust control measures will be implemented.

## 4.5.2 Water Resources, Wetlands and Soils

### Streams and Lakes

Sound water and soil conservation practices will be maintained during construction and operation of the project to protect topsoil and adjacent water resources and minimize soil erosion. These practices may include:

- Containment of stockpiled material away from lake shorelines
- Stockpiling and re-spreading topsoil
- Reseeding and re-vegetating disturbed areas
- Implementing erosion and sediment controls

### Wetlands

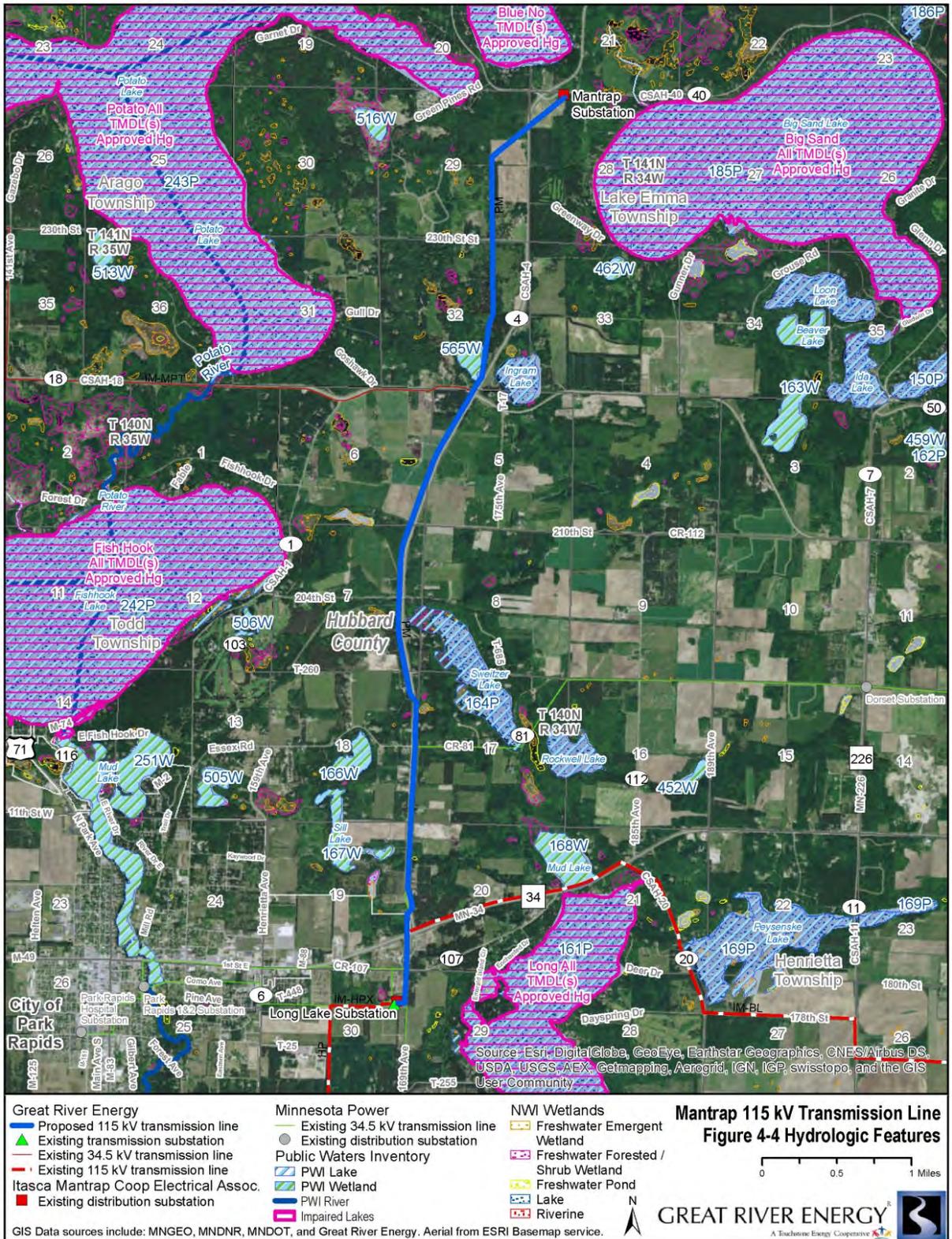
Wetlands are important resources for flood abatement, wildlife habitat, and water quality. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) produced maps of wetlands based on aerial photographs and Natural Resources Conservation Service soil surveys. These wetlands are known as the National Wetland Inventory (NWI). Wetlands listed on the NWI may be inconsistent with current wetland conditions; however, NWIs are the most accurate and readily available database of wetland resources in the vicinity of the project and were therefore used to identify wetlands along the proposed transmission line route. Wetlands in the project area are shown on **Figure 4-4**.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) was contacted requesting information on the possible effects of the proposed project on floodplains, waters, and wetlands. The USACE typically only provides a general response on a project until it receives a jurisdictional determination request and/or a permit application. In a reply letter dated April 15, 2015 (**Appendix C**), the USACE did address its' regulatory jurisdiction and permitting requirements.

Although it will be possible to span some of the wetland areas along the route, a small amount of fill material will be discharged into wetland areas due to pole installation. If the discharge exceeds permitting thresholds, Great River Energy will apply for a Regional General Permit from the USACE under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act once design details are available.

Wetland impacts will be minimized and mitigated, disturbed soil will be restored to previous conditions or better, and the amount of land area converted to an impervious surface will be very small.

**FIGURE 4-4 HYDROLOGIC FEATURES**



## Soils

Soils in the project corridor are dominated by Outwash plains (Bootlake-Graycalm Complex) well-drained complexes (Sugarbush-Two Inlets and Gray-Calm Menahga) and somewhat excessively drained sands and complexes (Sanburn very stoney loamy sand, Verndale-Nymore Complex and Graycalm-Menahga). Slopes generally range from 1-8 percent closer to the Long Lake Substation. Slopes nearer the Mantrap Substation are generally 8-15 percent, with some areas 15-30%.

The soil type at the Long Lake Substation site is Verndale-Nymore Complex and the soil type at the Mantrap Substation site is Bootlake-Graycalm and GrayCalm-Bootlake Complexes.

The Bootlake-Graycalm and Verndale-Nymore Complexes are considered soils with state significance; however, they are not considered prime farmland.

Potential impacts of construction are compaction of the soil and exposing the soils to wind and water erosion. Impacts to physiographic features should be minimal during and after installation and/or removal of transmission line structures, and these impacts will be short term. There should be no long-term impacts resulting from this Project.

Erosion control methods and Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be utilized to minimize runoff during line construction. If over an acre of soil will be disturbed during the construction of the transmission line, Great River Energy will obtain a NPDES construction stormwater permit from the MPCA and will prepare a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

### 4.5.3 Vegetation and Wildlife/Rare and Unique Natural Resources

The DNR and the USFWS were contacted regarding vegetation and wildlife resources in the vicinity of the project.

The DNR Rare Features database indicates that there are four rare features in the vicinity of the proposed project (**Figure 4-5**). In an email response dated April 29, 2015 (**Appendix C**), the DNR reviewed Great River Energy's assessment and indicated Blanding's Turtles (*Emydoidea blandingii*) in the vicinity of the proposed project.

Great River Energy will follow the DNR recommendations to avoid and minimize impacts to Blanding's Turtles.

In an email response dated April 7, 2015 (**Appendix C**), the USFWS indicated that there are "no known records for federally listed or proposed species and/or

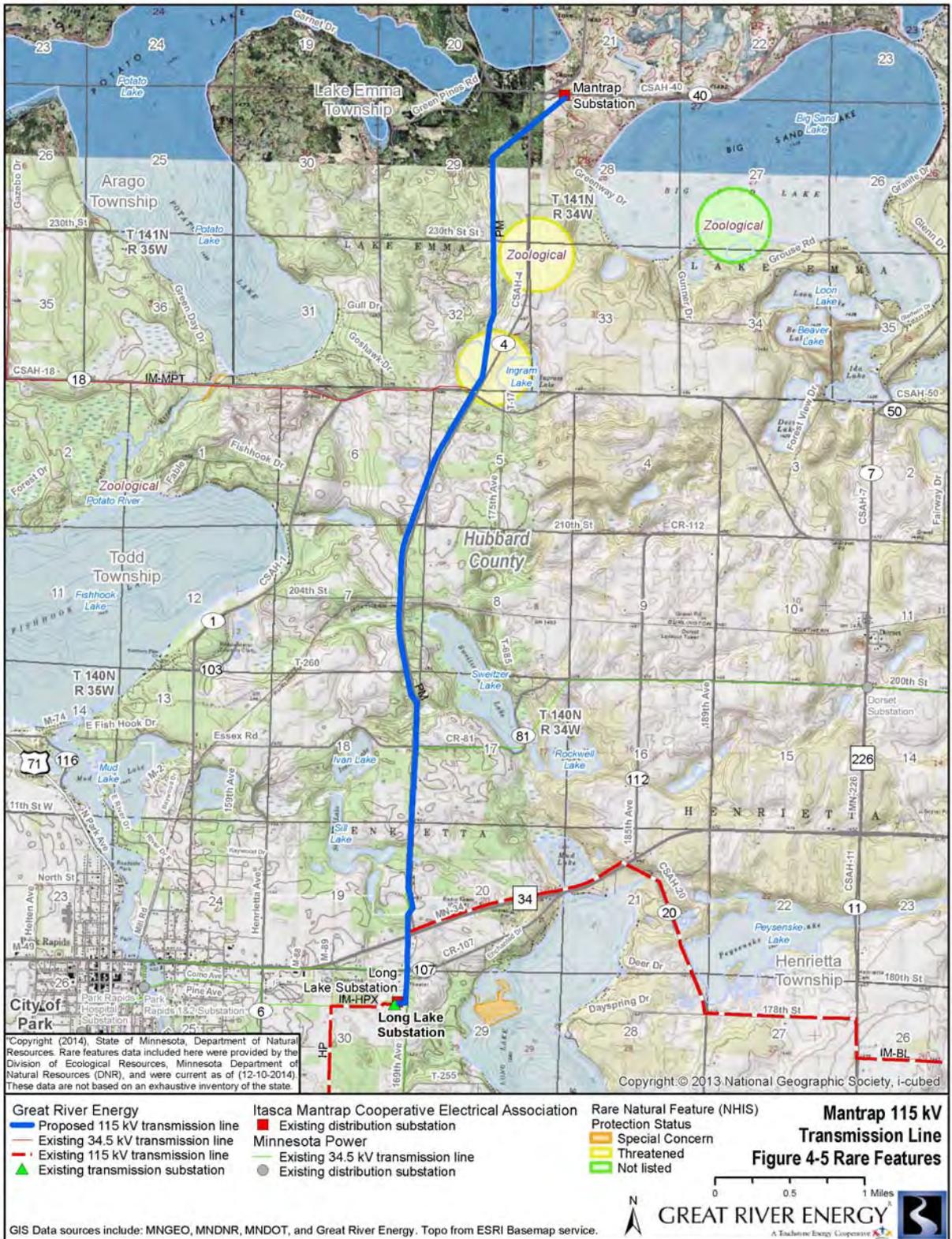
designated or proposed critical habitat within the action area, however suitable summer roosting habitat may be present for the northern long-eared bat [*Myotis septentrionalis*].” The USFWS “recommend that any tree removal at this location be conducted outside the summer roost period for the species. Between the months of October 1<sup>st</sup> and March 30<sup>th</sup>, [USFWS] would not anticipate the northern long-eared bat to be present in the action area.”

The USFWS “also recommend[s] the use of bird deflectors in the southeast corner of Section 32, Township 141N Range 34W where the project crosses between two small wetlands in the event that any migratory birds may be utilizing the area.”

Great River Energy will follow USFWS’s Northern long-eared bat recommendation for tree removal. No tree removal will occur between April 1<sup>st</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Bird diverters will be placed on the shield wire between the two identified wetlands.

Figure 4-5 Rare Features



## 5.0 Regulatory Permits and Approvals Required

Permit requirements or approvals anticipated for this project and the status of each are shown below in **Table 5-1**.

**TABLE 5-1 REGULATORY PERMITS AND APPROVALS REQUIRED**

Government Unit	Type of Approval	Regulated Activity	Status
US Dept. of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Threatened and Endangered Species Review	Review of records for federally threatened or endangered species that may exist at or near the proposed transmission facilities	Northern Long-eared bat ( <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> ) is listed on the threatened list. USFWS recommends that all tree clearing be conducted outside of the species' summer roost season. Tree clearing will follow the recent USFWS interim rule on the listed species. Also, bird deflectors are recommended where the project crosses between two wetlands. (email of 04/07/15).
US Dept. of the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	Wetland and Waterways Review	Review navigable water and the dredging or filling of US waters including wetlands	A Section 404 permit will likely not be required for the project (letter of 4/15/15). If required, Great River Energy will apply for a permit once design details are available.
MN Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR)	Environmental Review – Wetlands, Water, Trails, Threatened and Endangered Species	Comprehensive review of transmission line impacts	Blanding's Turtles ( <i>Emydoidea blandingii</i> ) may be adversely affected. DNR recommendations will be followed to avoid and minimize impacts (email of 4/29/15).
MN Historical Society State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)	SHPO Review of Nationally Registered Historic Places	Historic preservation	MHS concludes no properties listed, known or suspected will be affected by the project (letter of 4/22/15).
Minnesota Department of Transportation-Aeronautics Division	Airspace Concerns	Public and private airports/airstrips	No effects on publicly-owned airports anticipated; no objection to the project (email of 5/4/15).
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and stormwater permit required for disturbance of $\geq$ one acre.	If soil disturbance will be $\geq$ one acre for the project, a SWPPP will be prepared and a stormwater permit obtained.
DNR Lands and Minerals	License to Cross Public Water	License required if project crosses DNR Public Waters	Great River Energy will apply to the DNR for a license to cross Public Waters.
Hubbard County Highway Department	County Highway Crossing Permit	Permit required prior to construction.	All required permits will be acquired for construction.
Henrietta Township	Conditional Use Permit	Construction of new facilities	The application was submitted and is in process.
Township		Construction of new facilities	

# **Exhibit A**

**Notice to PUC**

**Letter from PUC Confirming Local Review**





GREAT RIVER  
ENERGY®

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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12300 Elm Creek Boulevard • Maple Grove, Minnesota 55369-4718 • 763-445-5000 • 763-445-5050

April 20, 2015

Mr. Daniel P. Wolf  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
121 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 350  
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Line Upgrade

Dear Mr. Wolf:

In accordance with the Power Plant Siting Act, Minn. Stat. § 216E.05, subd. 3, this letter, filed via eFiling, serves as the required notice to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) that Great River Energy has elected to seek local approval to rebuild approximately 6.5 miles of existing 34.5 kilovolt (kV) line to 115 kV between Great River Energy's Long Lake Substation and Itasca-Mantrap Co-op Electrical Association's Mantrap Substation in Hubbard County, Minnesota.

The proposed Project will strengthen the northern Park Rapids electric transmission system, avoid future low voltage issues and improve the reliability of the area's power supply.

The proposed single circuit 115 kV transmission line will be located in the City of Park Rapids, Emma Township and Henrietta Township, in Sections 30, 19, 18, 7, 6 and 5, T140N, R34W and Sections 32, 29 and 28, T141N, R34W, in Hubbard County. A project description/site map is enclosed for your information.

On March 12, 2015, the Henrietta Township Board of Commissioners carried the motion to be the permitting authority for the Great River Energy Transmission Line Project and coordinate an environmental assessment. Great River Energy intends to permit the entire project through Henrietta Township.

A Conditional Use Permit application will be submitted to Henrietta Township in late April or May 2015. The township has been informed that it has 60 days after the application submittal to refer the permitting process to the Commission.

Mr. Daniel P. Wolf  
April 20, 2015  
Page 2

Questions regarding this project should be directed to Deborah Anderson, Township Clerk, Henrietta Township at (218) 732 - 4395; or Michelle Lommel of Great River Energy at (763) 445-5977; or me at (763) 445-5215. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marsha Parlow".

Marsha Parlow  
Transmission Permitting Analyst

Enclosure

cc: Affidavit of service on: General List of Interested Persons – w/encl.  
Deborah Anderson, Township Clerk, Henrietta Township – w/encl.  
Michelle Lommel, Great River Energy - w/encl.

# Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Line Upgrade



**GREAT RIVER ENERGY**  
 12300 Elm Creek Blvd  
 Maple Grove, MN 55369-4718  
 1-888-521-0130  
[www.greatriverenergy.com](http://www.greatriverenergy.com)



**ITASCA-MANTRAP COOPERATIVE ELECTRICAL ASSOCIATION**  
 16930 County Highway 6  
 P.O. Box 192  
 Park Rapids, MN 56470-0192  
 1-888-713-3377  
[www.itsca-mantrap.com](http://www.itsca-mantrap.com)

## Project Description/Need

Great River Energy, wholesale electric supplier to Itasca-Mantrap Co-op Electrical Association (I-M), is proposing to upgrade an existing 34.5 kilovolt (kV) transmission line between Great River Energy's Long Lake Substation and I-M's Mantrap Substation with a new 115 kV and 115/34.5 kV transmission line (see map on back). The existing 34.5 kV Mantrap Substation will be converted to 115 kV. This upgrade would:

- Strengthen the electric transmission system north of Park Rapids, as the existing 34.5 kV system serving the area is becoming outdated and reaching its maximum capacity, and
- Avoid future low voltage issues and improve the reliability of the area's power supply.

## Proposed Project

This project will include:

- Conducting 0.50 miles of Great River Energy's existing "IM-BL" 34.5 kV line, already built to double-circuit standard with a new 115 kV circuit (see top photo, right);
- Overtaking 1.25 miles of Minnesota Power's existing 34.5/19.9 kV line and rebuilding it to 115 kV with 34.5 kV underbuild and placing the 19.9 kV circuit underground (see center photo, right);
- Replacing Great River Energy's 4.75 mile long existing 34.5 kV "PM" line with the new 115 kV line (see bottom photo, right); and
- I-M will replace the existing 34.5 kV equipment at the Mantrap Substation with new 115 kV rated equipment.

The new 115 kV transmission line will primarily be single wood poles ranging 60-80 feet in height. Spacing between poles will range from 300 to 350 feet for the double-circuit and 115/34.5 kV underbuild sections, and 325 to 400 feet for the single-circuit section. The new transmission centerline may be offset from the existing line and crossing locations changed for design and construction purposes.

## Permitting

The project will be permitted through a local alternative process, with Henrietta Township taking the lead in the preparation of the Environmental Assessment (EA) and grant of the permit for the project. The public and regulatory agencies will have numerous opportunities to provide input on the proposed project. Construction of the project cannot begin until permit approval is obtained.

## Easements/Trees

Once the project has been approved, Great River Energy will contact landowners to present an easement and offer of compensation. At this time, information will be shared on tree removal, construction access and practices, and restoration of the right-of-way (ROW). Although the new line is proposed to be located on existing cleared ROW, it will be necessary to widen the ROW in most areas for the safe operation and maintenance of the 115 kV line.

## Project Schedule

Public contacts and/or notifications -----	Early 2015
Project permitting -----	Spring 2015 to Summer 2015
Survey/design -----	Summer 2015
Easement acquisition/right-of-way permits -----	Fall 2015 to early 2016
Transmission line construction -----	Starts early 2016
Energization -----	Fall 2016

## For project updates and information, visit [greatriverenergy.com/mantrap](http://greatriverenergy.com/mantrap) or contact:

Michelle Lommel  
 Sr. Field Representative  
 Great River Energy – Land Rights Department  
 (763) 445-5977 or 1-888-521-0130  
[mlommel@grenergy.com](mailto:mlommel@grenergy.com)

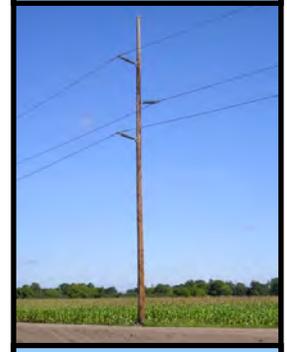
Tony Nelson  
 Engineering & Operations Manager  
 Itasca-Mantrap Co-op  
 Electrical Association  
 (218) 732-0695  
[tnelson@itasca-mantrap.com](mailto:tnelson@itasca-mantrap.com)



*Double-circuit  
 115 kV structure with  
 distribution underbuild*

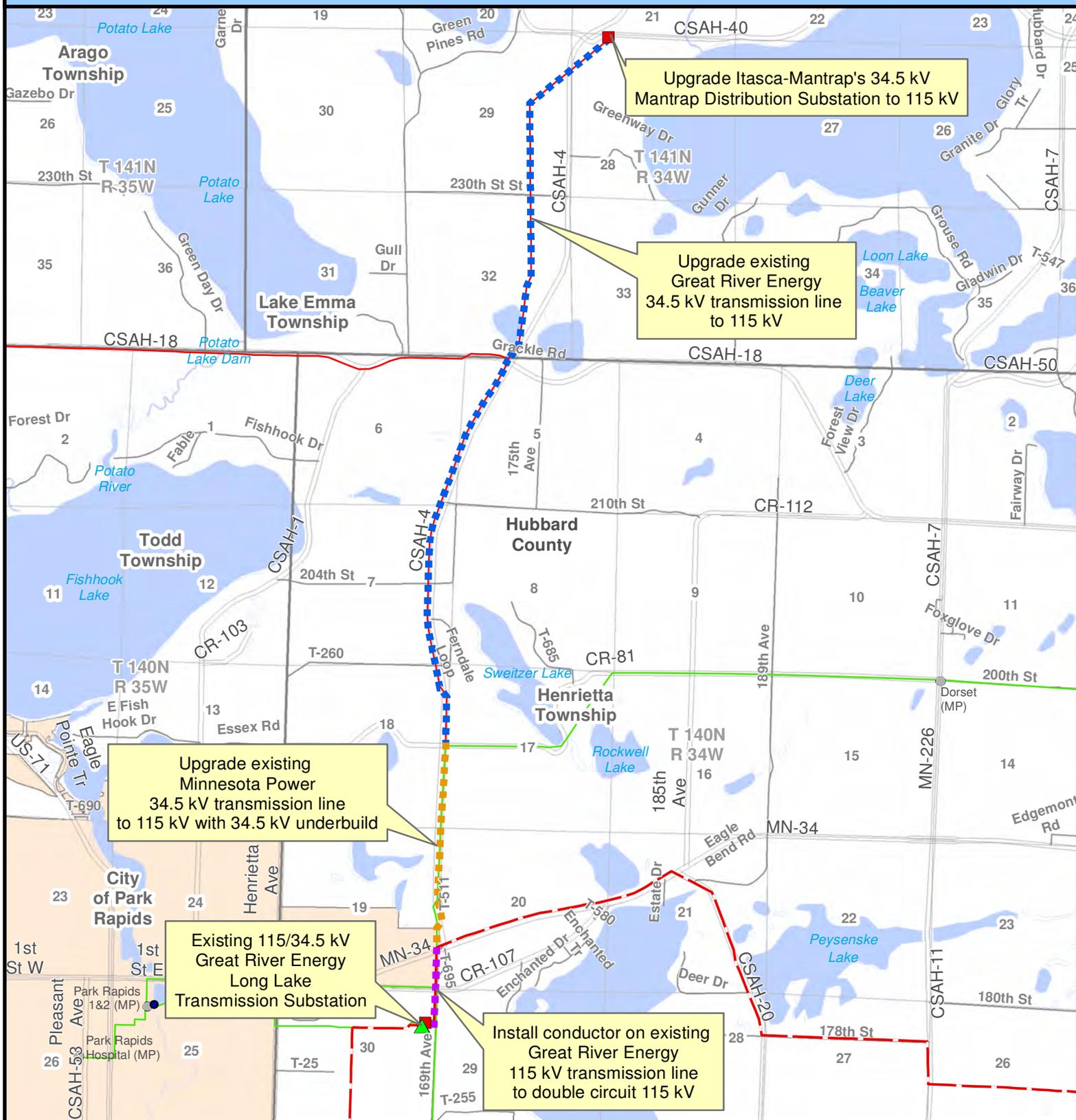


*Single-circuit  
 115 kV structure with  
 34.5 kV underbuild*



*Single-circuit  
 115 kV structure*

# Project Map



## Great River Energy

- Upgrade existing Great River Energy 34.5 kV line to 115 kV
- Upgrade existing Minnesota Power 34.5 kV line to 115 kV with 34.5 kV underbuild
- Upgrade existing Great River Energy 115 kV Line to double circuit 115 kV
- Existing 34.5 kV Transmission Line
- Existing 115 kV Transmission Line
- ▲ Existing Transmission Substation

## Itasca-Mantrap Cooperative Electrical Association

- Existing Distribution Substation
- Existing 34.5 kV Transmission Line
- Existing Distribution Substation

## Minnesota Power



GREAT RIVER ENERGY®

Date last revised: 3/26/2015

Special Service List: General List 7850.2100-1A

4-20-15

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret
James J.	Bertrand	james.bertrand@leonard.com	Leonard Street & Deinard	150 South Fifth Street, Suite 2300 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No
Josh	Bird	joshua.bird@ge.com	GE Power and Water	2025 49th Ave N Minneapolis, MN 55430	Electronic Service	No
David	Birkholz	david.birkholz@state.mn.us	MN Department of Commerce	Suite 500 85 7th Place East St. Paul, MN 55102198	Electronic Service	No
Michelle F.	Bissonnette	michelle.bissonnette@hdrinc.com	HDR Engineering, Inc.	Golden Hills Office Center 701 Xenia Ave S Ste 600 Minneapolis, MN 55416	Electronic Service	No
B. Andrew	Brown	brown.andrew@dorsey.com	Dorsey & Whitney LLP	Suite 1500 50 South Sixth Street Minneapolis, MN 554021498	Electronic Service	No
PUC	CAO	consumer.puc@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	Consumer Affairs Office 121 7th Place E Suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No
Bill	Cook	bcook@rpu.org	Rochester Public Utilities	4000 East River Road NE Rochester, MN 55906	Electronic Service	No
John	Crane	johncranefishing@gmail.com	Fishing	1250 Wee Gwaus DR SW Bemidji, MN 56601	Electronic Service	No
George	Crocker	gwillc@nawo.org	North American Water Office	PO Box 174 Lake Elmo, MN 55042	Electronic Service	No
Thomas	Davis	N/A	-	1161 50th Ave Sherburn, MI 56171	Paper Service	No
Patricia	DeBleeckere	tricia.debleeckere@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	Suite 350 121 Seventh Place East St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No
John E.	Drawz	jdrawz@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.	Suite 4000 200 South Sixth Street Minneapolis, MN 554021425	Electronic Service	No
Kristen	Eide Tollefson	HealingSystems@earthlink.net	R-CURE	28477 N Lake Ave	Paper Service	No

Special Service List: General List 7850.2100-1A

4-20-15

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret
				Frontenac, MN 55026-1044		
Scott	Ek	scott.ek@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th Place East Suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No
Annette	Fiedler	phydev@swrdc.org	Southwest Regional Development Comm.	2401 Broadway Ave Ste 1 Slayton, MN 56172	Electronic Service	No
Karen A	Gebhardt	kageb1@gvtel.com		43901 253rd Ave Leonard, MN 56652-4026	Electronic Service	No
Larry	Hartman	Larry.Hartman@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place East, Suite 500 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No
Charles	Healy	chuckh@electrotech-inc.com	ElectroTech, Inc	7101 Madison Ave Minneapolis, MN 55427	Electronic Service	No
Bill	Heaney	billheaney@billheaney.com	IBEW Minnesota State Council	940 44th Ave NE Unite 21067 Columbia Hts, MN 55421-3099	Electronic Service	No
Valerie	Herring	vherring@briggs.com	Briggs and Morgan, P.A.	2200 IDS Center 80 S. Eighth Street Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No
Tiffany	Hughes	Regulatory.Records@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy	414 Nicollet Mall FL 7 Minneapolis, MN 554011993	Electronic Service	No
Scott	Johnson	Scott.Johnson@ci.medina.mn.us	City of Medina	2052 County Road 24 Medina, MN 55340-9790	Electronic Service	No
Michael	Kaluzniak	mike.kaluzniak@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	Suite 350 121 Seventh Place East St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No
Bruce	King	bruce@ranww.org	Realtors, Association of Northwestern WI	Suite 3 1903 Keith Street Eau Claire, WI 54701	Electronic Service	No
Stacy	Kotch	Stacy.Kotch@state.mn.us	MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	395 John Ireland Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55155	Electronic Service	No

Special Service List: General List 7850.2100-1A

4-20-15

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret
Karen	Kromar	karen.kromar@state.mn.us	MN Pollution Control Agency	520 Lafayette Rd Saint Paul, MN 55155	Electronic Service	No
Kim	Lindquist	kim.lindquist@ci.rosemount.mn.us		2875 145th St W Rosemount, MN 55068	Electronic Service	No
Paula	Maccabee	Pmaccabee@justchangelaw.com	Just Change Law Offices	1961 Selby Ave Saint Paul, MN 55104	Electronic Service	No
Brian	Meloy	brian.meloy@stinsonleonard.com	Stinson, Leonard, Street LLP	150 S 5th St Ste 2300 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No
Kevin	Mixon	kevin.mixon@state.mn.us	Department of Natural Resources	261 HWY 15 S New Ulm, MN 56073	Electronic Service	No
Andrew	Moratzka	apmoratzka@stoel.com	Stoel Rives LLP	33 South Sixth Street Suite 4200 Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No
Colleen	Mueller	N/A		22186 State Hwy 4 Paynesville, MN 56362	Paper Service	No
Steven	Nyhus	swnyhus@flaherty-hood.com	Flaherty & Hood PA	525 Park St Ste 470 Saint Paul, MN 55103	Electronic Service	No
Kate	O'Connell	kate.oconnell@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	Suite 50085 Seventh Place East St. Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No
Carol A.	Overland	overland@legalectric.org	Legalelectric - Overland Law Office	1110 West Avenue Red Wing, MN 55066	Electronic Service	No
Kevin	Peterson	kjp@ibew160.org	IBEW Local 160	1109 Northway Lane NE Rochester, MN 55906	Electronic Service	No
Deborah	Pile	Deborah.Pile@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	Suite 50085 7th Place East St. Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No
Angela	Piner	angela.piner@hdrinc.com	HDR, Inc.	Suite 600 701 Xenia Avenue South Suite 600 Minneapolis, MN 55416	Electronic Service	No
Larry	Rebman	larryemls@hotmail.com	EMLS, Inc	PO Box 122 Appleton, MN 56208	Electronic Service	No

## Special Service List: General List 7850.2100-1A

4-20-15

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret
Margaret	Rheude	Margaret_Rheude@fws.gov	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Twin Cities Ecological Services Field Office 4101 American Blvd. E. Bloomington, MN 55425	Electronic Service	No
Jamie	Schrenzel	jamie.schrenzel@state.mn.us	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	500 Lafayette Road Saint Paul, MN 55155	Electronic Service	No
Rod	Schumacher	rod.schumacher@is-grp.com	I&S Group	115 E Hickry St Suite 300 Mankato, MN 56001	Electronic Service	No
David	Shaffer	david.shaffer@startribune.com		425 Portland Minneapolis, MN 55488	Electronic Service	No
Tom	Slukich	tom@nationalconductor.com	National Conductor Constructors	18119 Hwy 371 North Braiderd, MN 56401	Electronic Service	No
Tracy	Smetana	tracy.smetana@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th Place East Suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No
Adam	Sokolski	adam.sokolski@iberdrolaren.com	Iberdrola Renewables	701 fourth Avenue South Suite 1010 Minneapolis, MN 55415	Electronic Service	No
Mike	Steckelberg	msteckelberg@greenergy.com	Great River Energy	12300 Elm Creek Boulevard Maple Grove, MN 553694718	Electronic Service	No
Matt	Steinrueck	msteinrueck@cleanwater.org	Clean Water Action	330 Second Ave S Suite 420 Minneapolis, MN 55401	Electronic Service	No
Mark	Strohfus	mstrohfus@greenergy.com	Great River Energy	12300 Elm Creek Boulevard Maple Grove, MN 553694718	Electronic Service	No
Carl	Strohm	cjsmg@sbcglobal.net	SBC Global	105 East Edgewood Ave Indianapolis, IN 46227	Electronic Service	No
Tom	Swafford	tswafford@umsi.us	Utility Mapping Services, Inc	3947 E Calvary Rd Suite 103 Duluth, MN	Electronic Service	No

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret
				55803		
Eric	Swanson	eswanson@winthrop.com	Winthrop Weinstine	225 S 6th St Ste 3500 Capella Tower Minneapolis, MN 554024629	Electronic Service	No
Todd	Tadych	ttadych@atllc.com	American Transmission Company LLC	5303 Fen Oak Dr Madison, WI 53718	Electronic Service	No
Steve	Thompson	stevet@cmmpa.org	Central Minnesota Municipal Power Agency	459 S Grove St Blue Earth, MN 56013-2629	Electronic Service	No
Caren	Warner	caren.warner@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place East Suite 500 St. Paul, MN 55101-2198	Electronic Service	No
Brian	Zelenak	brian.r.zelenak@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy	414 Nicollet Mall FL 7 Minneapolis, MN 55401-1993	Electronic Service	No
Hans	van Lingen	hans.vanlingen@enel.com	Enel Green Power North America	1 Tech Drive Suite 220 Andover, MA 01810	Electronic Service	No



AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

STATE OF MINNESOTA            )  
  ) ss.   RE: Notice of Intent by Great River Energy to  
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN        )   seek local approval of the Mantrap 115kV  
  )   Transmission Upgrade Project in Hubbard  
  )   County

MPUC Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

I, Rachel Maki, hereby certify that on the 20th day of April 2015, I directed to be sent via U.S. Mail a true and correct copy of the following notice to all persons on the attached mailing list (those on the Special Service List – General List 7850.2100-1A requesting paper service), by depositing same, postage prepaid mail, in the United States mail:

**Notice by Great River Energy of Election to Seek Local Approval of the Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Upgrade Project in Hubbard County, Minnesota**

*Rachel Maki*

Subscribed and sworn to before me this  
20th day of April 2015.

*Victoria Ely*  
NOTARY PUBLIC



VICTORIA  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
MINNESOTA  
My Commission Expires Jan. 27, 2020

Thomas Davis  
1161 50<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Sherburn, MI 56171

Colleen Mueller  
22186 State Hwy 4  
Paynesville, MN 56362

Kristen Eide Tollefson  
R-CURE  
28477 N Lake Ave  
Frontenac, MN 55026-1044





RECEIVED  
APR 27 2015  
LAND RIGHTS

## STATE OF MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

April 22, 2015

Marsha Parlow  
Great River Energy  
12300 Elm Creek Boulevard  
Maple Grove, MN 55369-4718

Deborah Anderson  
Henrietta Township  
P.O. Box 81  
Park Rapids, MN 56470

RE: Local Review of Great River Energy's Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Line and Substation Upgrade Project in Hubbard County, Minnesota  
Docket No. ET-2/LR-15-367

Dear Ms. Parlow and Ms. Anderson:

This letter confirms that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) has received Great River Energy's (GRE) letter dated April 20, 2015, indicating that it has elected to pursue local review approval to rebuild approximately 6.5 miles of existing 34.5 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to 115 kV and upgrade the associated substation in Emma and Henrietta townships, Hubbard County, Minnesota.

Under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 216E, a route permit from the Commission is required for most high-voltage transmission lines that are greater than 100 kV. However, certain projects may be eligible for review and permitting by local units of government with jurisdiction instead of filing with the Commission. In this case, the transmission line and substation upgrade proposed by GRE is eligible for local review under Minn. Stat. § 216E.05.

GRE has indicated that: 1) Henrietta Township is the local government unit with jurisdiction to conduct environmental review and permit the proposed project; 2) the Henrietta Township Board of Commissioners passed a motion authorizing review of the project under its jurisdiction on

March 12, 2015; and 3) GRE will file a conditional use permit application for the project with Henrietta Township in late April or May 2015.

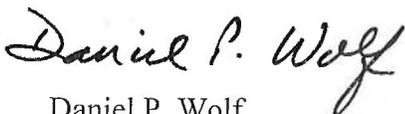
Under Minn. Stat. § 216E.05, subd. 1(b), a local unit of government may relinquish its jurisdiction by requesting the Commission to assume jurisdiction and make a decision on the permit. The request must be filed with the Commission within 60 days after an application for a project has been filed.

Under Minn. R. 7850.5300, subp. 5, an environmental assessment 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 10 days after the notice appears in the *EQB Monitor*. A copy of the environmental assessment and other relevant documents must be provided to the Commission upon completion. The environmental assessment may be filed using the Commission's electronic filing system (<https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling>).

This letter acknowledges that GRE has provided notice to those persons on the Commission's general notification list that a permit has been applied for from the local unit of government as required by Minn. Stat. § 216E.05, subd. 3, and Minn. R. 7850.5300, subp. 3.

If you have any questions, please direct them to Scott Ek of the Commission staff at 651-201-2255 or [scott.ek@state.mn.us](mailto:scott.ek@state.mn.us).

Sincerely,



Daniel P. Wolf  
Executive Secretary

Cc: Michelle Lommel, Great River Energy

# **Exhibit B**

## **Survey Letter and Responses**



April 20, 2015

Landowner

**RE: Survey on Proposed Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Upgrade Located in Henrietta Township, Arago Township and City of Park Rapids, Minnesota**

Dear \_\_\_\_\_ :

Great River Energy and Itasca-Mantrap Co-op Electrical Association (I-M) are proposing to upgrade an existing 34.5 kV (kV) transmission line between Great River Energy's Long Lake Substation and I-M's Mantrap Substation with a new 115 kV and 115/34.5 kV transmission line. The existing 34.5 kV Mantrap Substation will be converted to 115 kV. This upgrade would:

- Strengthen the electric transmission system north of Park Rapids, as the existing 34.5 kV system serving the area is becoming outdated and reaching its maximum capacity, and
- Avoid future low voltage issues and improve the reliability of the area's power supply.

This project will include:

- Conducting 0.50 miles of Great River Energy's existing "IM-BL" 34.5 kV line, already built to double-circuit standard with a new 115 kV circuit;
- Overtaking 1.25 miles of Minnesota Power's existing 34.5/19.9 kV line and rebuilding it to 115 kV with 34.5 kV underbuild and placing the 19.9 kV circuit underground;
- Replacing Great River Energy's 4.75 mile long existing 34.5 kV "PM" line with the new 115 kV line; and
- I-M will replace the existing 34.5 kV equipment at the Mantrap Substation with new 115 kV equipment.

The new line will be constructed with wood poles that will be 60 to 80 feet in height. The spacing between the new poles will be approximately 300 to 400 feet. The new 115 kV transmission centerline may be offset from the existing line and crossing locations changed for design and construction purposes.

Great River Energy is seeking approval for the project from Henrietta Township. As part of the permitting process, Henrietta Township must prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) on the project and afford the public an opportunity to participate in the development of the scope of the EA before it is prepared.

This survey is intended to allow the public to comment on the project and provide input on the content of the EA. A preliminary Table of Contents for the EA is attached as a starting point for what should be covered in the EA. We encourage you to provide comments on the project and additional topics you want to see addressed in the EA.

Great River Energy has requested environmental review of the project by several federal and state agencies. The status of those reviews is provided below:

**United States Corps of Engineers** – the agency has yet to respond with any comments or concerns related to the proposed project. Specific information will be provided to the agency, once design details are available.

**United States Fish and Wildlife Service** – reviewed the project and recommended all tree clearing outside of Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) roost season. The species is anticipated to not be present between the dates of October 1<sup>st</sup> to March 30th (email of 4/7/15).

**Minnesota Department of Natural Resources** – the agency has yet to respond with any comments or concerns related to the proposed project. It is anticipated that a DNR License will be required to cross one public water. Also, the Blanding Turtle has been documented in the proposed project area and will require special construction practices.

**Minnesota Historical Society** – the agency has yet to respond with any comments or concerns related to the proposed project.

**Minnesota Department of Transportation (aviation issues)** – the agency has yet to respond with any comments or concerns related to the proposed project.

Thank you for your input on this project. Please return your survey form by May 11, 2015 to the address listed at the top of this letter. As an alternative, you may email the survey form to [henriettatown@unitelc.com](mailto:henriettatown@unitelc.com).

Sincerely,  
Henrietta Township

Deborah Anderson  
Township Clerk

Enclosures

**SURVEY:**

Please fill out the survey and mail it by May 11, 2015. to Henrietta Township, PO Box 81, Park Rapids, MN 56470 or scan completed survey and email it to [henriettatown@unitelc.com](mailto:henriettatown@unitelc.com).

---

I have the following comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project: (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

I have No comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project

---

Name: Lake Emma Township  
Address: 40 Linne Erickson, Clerk  
19785 Entrepied Rd, Park Rapids  
Phone: 218-732-5578

Brian Benson }  
Trena Weiss } Board Members  
Tiffany Blatz }

**Deb Anderson, Clerk**

---

**From:** Lynne Erickson <lynne.k.erickson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2015 11:06 AM  
**To:** henriettatown@unitelc.com  
**Subject:** Survey  
**Attachments:** Henrietta Twp Survey.pdf

Hi--Lake Emma Town Board discussed this at our meeting last Tuesday and decided to return to you with " no comment". Sorry that we are a bit late!! See attached.

Lynne Erickson, Clerk  
Lake Emma Township

**SURVEY:**

Please fill out the survey and mail it by May 11, 2015, to Henrietta Township, PO Box 81, Park Rapids, MN 56470 or scan completed survey and email it to [henriettatown@unitelc.com](mailto:henriettatown@unitelc.com).

---

I have the following comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project: (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

I have No comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project

---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



**SURVEY:**

Please fill out the survey and mail it by May 11, 2015, to Henrietta Township, PO Box 81, Park Rapids, MN 56470 or scan completed survey and email it to [henriettatown@unitelc.com](mailto:henriettatown@unitelc.com).

---

I have the following comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project: (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

I have No comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project

---

Name: Mark Lehmeier % Hubbard Co. NRM

Address: 101 Crocus Hill St., Park Rapids

Phone: 218 732-4270

**SURVEY:**

Please fill out the survey and mail it by May 11, 2015, to Henrietta Township, PO Box 81, Park Rapids, MN 56470 or scan completed survey and email it to [henriettatown@unitelc.com](mailto:henriettatown@unitelc.com).

---

I have the following comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project: (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

I have No comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project

---

Name: Nicole Wenger

Address: PO Box 607 19302 Co 4

Phone: 732-3604

**SURVEY:**

Please fill out the survey and mail it by May 11, 2015, to Henrietta Township, PO Box 81, Park Rapids, MN 56470 or scan completed survey and email it to [henriettatown@unitelc.com](mailto:henriettatown@unitelc.com).

---

I have the following comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project: (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

I have No comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project

---

Name: Kenneth R. Koskela

Address: 16836 Eclipse Dr.

Phone: 732-7241

**SURVEY:**

Please fill out the survey and mail it by May 11, 2015, to Henrietta Township, PO Box 81, Park Rapids, MN 56470 or scan completed survey and email it to [henriettatown@unitelc.com](mailto:henriettatown@unitelc.com).

---

I have the following comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project: (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

I have No comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project

---

Name: Carl C Holmes

Address: 17320 Co 81

Phone: Park Rapids Minn

**SURVEY:**

Please fill out the survey and mail it by May 11, 2015, to Henrietta Township, PO Box 81, Park Rapids, MN 56470 or scan completed survey and email it to [henriettatown@unitelc.com](mailto:henriettatown@unitelc.com).

---

I have the following comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project: (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

I have No comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project

---

Name: Jane Dennis

Address: 17438 Grackle Rd. Park Rapids, Mn. 56470

Phone: 218-732-5093

**SURVEY:**

Please fill out the survey and mail it by May 11, 2015, to Henrietta Township, PO Box 81, Park Rapids, MN 56470 or scan completed survey and email it to [henriettatown@unitelc.com](mailto:henriettatown@unitelc.com).

---

I have the following comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project: (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

I have No comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project

---

Name: Vicky Henson

Address: 18954 Encore RD Park Rapids MN 56470

Phone: 218-732-3412

4-22-15

**Deb Anderson, Clerk**

---

**From:** Matt Dotta <mattdotta@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 22, 2015 9:27 PM  
**To:** henriettatown@unitelc.com  
**Subject:** Survey Response

I have NO comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project.

Matt Dotta  
26626 US 71  
Park Rapids, MN 56470  
218-616-2862

**SURVEY:**

Please fill out the survey and mail it by May 11, 2015, to Henrietta Township, PO Box 81, Park Rapids, MN 56470 or scan completed survey and email it to [henriettatown@unitelc.com](mailto:henriettatown@unitelc.com).

---

I have the following comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project: (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

I have No comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project

---

Name: Henrietta Mantrap CEA

Address: 10730 County 6, PO Box 142

Phone: 731-3377

**SURVEY:**

Please fill out the survey and mail it by May 11, 2015, to Henrietta Township, PO Box 81, Park Rapids, MN 56470 or scan completed survey and email it to [henriettatown@unitelc.com](mailto:henriettatown@unitelc.com).

---

I have the following comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project: (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

I have No comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project

---

Name: ED SMITH

Address: 10099 130<sup>TH</sup> ST PARK RAPIDS, MN 56470

Phone: 218-255-7019

**SURVEY:**

Please fill out the survey and mail it by May 11, 2015, to Henrietta Township, PO Box 81, Park Rapids, MN 56470 or scan completed survey and email it to [henriettatown@unitelc.com](mailto:henriettatown@unitelc.com).

---

I have the following comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project: (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

SEE ATTACHED SHEET

I have No comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project

---

Name: Mia + Steve Long

Address: 19626 LINDY RD 4 PARK RAPIDS

Phone: 218-732-0918

We own a business, the Ark Animal Hospital and reside behind it on County Rd 4.

Concerns we have are such:

Limit the cutting of the established trees such as the poplars and pines currently growing between the sand trail along Cnty 4 and the road itself. Visual aesthetics are important in this, a rural, resort based community. These trees provide a sound buffer for the residents that live along Cty 4 and for people who walk, horseback ride and bike on the old road bed, now referred to by us as the sand trail.

We have spent 21 years trying to grow trees by our clinic, to provide shade for our customers and their pets during the warm summer months when the western sun shines hot on the parking lot. Also these trees beautify and increase the appeal of our hard built enterprise. The prospect of cutting them down does not sit well with our goals at the clinic, and would not be welcome.

**SURVEY:**

Please fill out the survey and mail it by May 11, 2015, to Henrietta Township, PO Box 81, Park Rapids, MN 56470 or scan completed survey and email it to [henriettatown@unitelc.com](mailto:henriettatown@unitelc.com).

---

- I have the following comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project: (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

Any Compensation for all trees removed payable to Mary Jo Naska  
Address Below.

- I have No comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project
- 

Name: Mary Jo Naska

Address: 18408 Encore Rd. Park Rapids, MN 56470

Phone: 218-732-5151

**SURVEY:**

Please fill out the survey and mail it by May 11, 2014  
Rapids, MN 56470 or scan completed survey and ema



**Hubbard County  
Regional  
Economic  
Development  
Commission**

**David W. Collins**  
Executive Director  
301 Court Avenue  
Park Rapids, MN 56470  
dwc@hubbardcountyedc.com  
www.hubbardcountyedc.com  
(o) 218-732-2256  
(c) 218-255-2680  
(h) 218-732-1497  
(f) 218-732-3645

*Park Rapids • Hubbard County*

A PROGRESSIVE RESOURCE FOR A GROWING MISSISSIPPI HEADWATERS REGION

I have the following comments on the **Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project:** (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

*Get it done. This is needed  
infrastructure + has been in the  
planning stages forever.*

I have No comments on the **Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project**

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**SURVEY:**

Please fill out the survey and mail it by May 11, 2015, to Henrietta Township, PO Box 81, Park Rapids, MN 56470 or scan completed survey and email it to [henriettatown@unitelc.com](mailto:henriettatown@unitelc.com).

---

I have the following comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project: (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

I Am in favor of the upgraded service lines.

I have No comments on the Long Lake to Mantrap 115 kV Transmission Project

---

Name: Mark Delaney

Address: 19725 County 4 Park Rapids

Phone: 218-252-5381