



GREAT RIVER
ENERGY®

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May 23, 2005

WO #53811

Mr. Robert Schroeder, Chair
MN Environmental Quality Board
658 Cedar St., RM 300
St. Paul, MN 55155



SUBJECT: Hancock 115 kV Substation

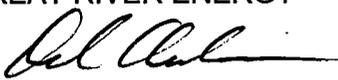
Dear Mr. Schroeder:

In accordance with the Power Plant Siting Act, this letter serves as the required notice to the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Chair that Agralite Electric Cooperative (AEC) has elected to seek local approval for the construction of a new 115 kV substation. Great River Energy (wholesale power supplier to AEC) will assist AEC and Stevens County with the permitting process. A Conditional Use Permit application was delivered to Stevens County on May 18, 2005. Stevens County has been informed that they have 60 days to refer the permitting process to the EQB.

The proposed substation would be located in Moore Township south of the City of Hancock in Stevens County. The new facility will meet the growing electrical demand and improve the service and reliability of electric facilities in the area. A fact sheet that provides more detail on the project is enclosed.

Questions regarding this project should be directed to James Thoreen, Stevens County Coordinator at 320-589-7417. I may be reached at 763-241-2229. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
GREAT RIVER ENERGY


Dale Aukee
Field Representative

Enclosure

CC: EQB General List of Interested Persons – w/encl.
Tom Hoffman, AEC – w/encl.
James Thoreen, Stevens County – w/encl.

DA:jh\subs\Hancock\countypermitleqblocalreview\tr.doc

Direct Dial (763) 241-2229

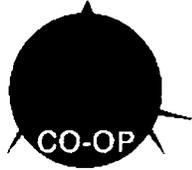
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www.GreatRiverEnergy.com

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Hancock 115 kV Substation and Transmission Line Tap



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Project Need and Goal

Agralite Electric Cooperative's (Agralite) existing 41,600 volt (41.6 kV) Hancock Substation is inadequate from a reliability and voltage standpoint. This substation has seasonal voltage swings that are nearly outside the capability of the substation's voltage regulators. A local consumer will soon have a need for an additional 1.2 megawatts of power to operate an expanding operation. This new demand will exceed the capacity of the existing substation. Agralite is proposing to construct a new 115 kV substation next to Great River Energy's (GRE) 115 kV transmission line. The new substation will accommodate the demand and benefit the entire area's electric reliability and service.

Substation

Agralite will own and build the new substation on the northeast corner of Minnesota State Highway 9 and 300th Street just south of Hancock in Stevens County, Minnesota. (see map on back) The new substation will be built next to GRE's existing 115 kV transmission line and contain a 115 kV transformer to lower the voltage to distribution levels. The new location is one mile east of the existing substation that will be retired upon completion of the new substation.

Transmission Line Tap

Great River Energy, Agralite's power supplier will own and construct the 115 kV transmission line tap. The tap will consist of a two-way switch pole placed in-line with the existing transmission line (see photo). The switch pole will be 70-80 feet high with a single span to the substation.

Schedule

Land acquisition and construction will commence upon approval of a Stevens County conditional use permit and completion of an environmental assessment required for projects over 100 kV. The in-service date is scheduled for Spring 2006.

Contacts

If you have any questions about this proposed project, please contact Tom Hoffman of Agralite Electric Cooperative at 1-800-950-8375 or Dale Aukee of Great River Energy at 1-800-442-3013, ext. 2229.



PROJECT MAP

