

Environmental Review & Permitting Process

Certificate of Need (CN) and
Route Permit Applications
Accepted by the Commission



The Minnesota Department of Commerce (Commerce) is responsible for preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Line 3 project. Commerce is preparing the EIS in coordination with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resource (DNR) and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA).

To prepare the EIS, Commerce, DNR, and MPCA have solicited input from state and federal agencies, tribes, local units of government, and citizens. This input ensures that the EIS appropriately describes and analyzes the potential impacts of the Line 3 project and possible mitigation measures.

The EIS will be used to inform the decisions of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and other decision-makers regarding the project.

Scoping Meetings
and Public Comment Period

The Public can comment on scope of the EIS
What do we need to know about potential impacts of the project and how can they might be mitigated?



Scoping Decision



Draft EIS Prepared
and Issued



Draft EIS Public
Meetings and Comment Period

The Public can comment on the Draft EIS
What is unclear in the draft EIS? What is missing?
What needs to be added?



Final EIS Prepared
and Issued for Public Comment

The Public can comment on the Final EIS
Is the final EIS adequate? Does it address the impact and alternatives in the scoping decision and respond to comments on the draft EIS?



Adequacy Determination
for Final EIS



Public Hearings and Public
Comment

The Public can comment during the Public Hearing
Should a CN be granted for the project? Why or why not? With any conditions?
If a CN is granted, what is the most appropriate route for the pipeline?
Why? What conditions should be placed on a route permit for the project?



Administrative Law
Judge's Report



CN and Route Permit Decisions
by the Commission