



414 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

May 16, 2023

—Via Electronic Filing—

Mr. Will Seuffert  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
350 Metro Square Building  
121 Seventh Place East  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF NEED FOR THE  
PROPOSED 345 kV BROOKINGS COUNTY – LYON COUNTY AND HELENA –  
HAMPTON SECOND-CIRCUIT PROJECT, Docket No. E002 /CN-23-200

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy (the Applicant), submits this Notice Plan and Variance Request for approval by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) pursuant to Minn. R. 7829.2550. In accordance with Minn. R. 7829.2550, subp. 1, copies of this Notice Plan have been provided to the Minnesota Department of Commerce, the Minnesota Office of Attorney General Residential Utilities and Antitrust Division, and to persons listed on the “General List of Persons Interested in Power Plants and Transmission Lines” as maintained by the Commission under Minn. R. 7850.2100, subp. 1(A). Please contact me at [monsherra.s.blank@xcelenergy.com](mailto:monsherra.s.blank@xcelenergy.com) or 214-422-3672 if you have any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Monsherra S. Blank*

MONSHERRA S. BLANK  
DIRECTOR, REGULATORY AND STRATEGIC ANALYSIS

cc: Minnesota Department of Commerce  
Minnesota Office of Attorney General Residential Utilities and Antitrust Division  
Service List

**STATE OF MINNESOTA  
BEFORE THE  
MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Katie J. Sieben	Chair
Valerie Means	Commissioner
Matthew Schuerger	Commissioner
Joseph K. Sullivan	Commissioner
John A. Tuma	Commissioner

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION FOR  
A CERTIFICATE OF NEED FOR THE  
PROPOSED 345 KV BROOKINGS COUNTY –  
LYON COUNTY AND HELENA – HAMPTON  
SECOND-CIRCUIT PROJECT

MPUC Docket No. E002 /CN-23-200

**NOTICE PLAN PETITION AND  
VARIANCE REQUEST**

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**Public Comments on this Notice Plan Petition can be submitted to the  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission until 4:30 P.M. June 5, 2023.**

**Replies to Comments can be submitted to the Minnesota Public Utilities  
Commission until 4:30 P.M. June 26, 2023.**

**The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission’s address is: Minnesota Public  
Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55101-2147**

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy (Applicant), submits this Notice Plan for approval by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) pursuant to Minn. R. 7829.2550. Once implemented, this Notice Plan will provide notice to all persons reasonably likely to be affected by the Minnesota portion of the Brookings County – Lyon County and Helena – Hampton Second-Circuit Project (Project).

The Project involves installing a second 345 kiloVolt (kV) circuit on double-circuit-capable structures installed when the Brookings County – Hampton 345 kV transmission line was originally constructed. The Project will also require reconfiguring certain lines near substations, mostly within existing easements. As part of the Project, the Applicant will also upgrade the Brookings County, Lyon County, Helena, and Hampton substations with new 345 kV breakers. The Project will also require relay setting changes to the Steep Bank Lake and Hawks Nest Lake substations.

The Project will traverse Brookings County in South Dakota and Lincoln, Lyon, Scott, and Dakota counties in Minnesota. The proposed Project is shown on the attached **Figure 1**.

This Project will reduce energy costs by addressing one of the most electrically congested areas in Minnesota. Currently, low-cost energy generated in South Dakota and southern Minnesota faces congestion when flowing to load centers, like the Twin Cities. When this congestion occurs, the cost of electricity increases either due to congestion charges or because electricity must come from higher-cost generators in areas without transmission constraints. These higher-costs create inefficiencies in the wholesale energy market and increase costs for consumers. The Project is needed to relieve the current transmission congestion in this area and allow access to lower-cost generation, provide economic benefits, strengthen the regional grid, support wind generation facilities in Minnesota and South Dakota, and advance the State's energy policy. The Applicant estimates that the Project would provide \$277 million in production-cost and other quantifiable economic benefits on a present-value basis over 20 years, as well as significant progress toward carbon-emission reduction policy objectives.

Minnesota Rule 7829.2550 requires an applicant for a Certificate of Need to submit a Notice Plan for Commission approval at least three months before filing a Certificate of Need application for any high-voltage transmission line under Minn. Stat. § 216B.243. The Applicant therefore submits this Notice Plan for the Commission's approval.

## II. NOTICE PLAN PROPOSAL

This Notice Plan is prepared as an initial step in the Certificate of Need regulatory process. Preparation of a Notice Plan—and its review and approval by the Commission—will ensure that interested persons are aware of the proceeding and have the opportunity to participate. The area proposed to be included in notices under this proposal (Notice Area) is depicted in **Attachment A, Figure 1**. The Notice Area for the Project takes into account that the Project primarily involves stringing a second 345 kV circuit on existing transmission line structures, does not require significant new right-of-way, and is on its face less impactful than all potential alternatives that would provide the congestion relief benefits of this Project.

Consistent with the Applicant’s commitment in the Brookings County – Hampton Certificate of Need docket,<sup>1</sup> the Applicant intends to file a Certificate of Need Application for the Minnesota portion of the Brookings County – Lyon County and Helena – Hampton Second-Circuit Project pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216B.243 in 2023.

### A. Direct Mail Notice

**Attachment A** presents a letter that will be mailed to landowners, residents, local units of government, elected officials, and agencies in and around the Notice Area. **Attachment B** presents a letter that will be mailed to tribal contacts.

#### 1. Landowners

Minnesota Rule 7829.2550, subpart 3(A), requires an applicant for a Certificate of Need to provide direct mail notice to all landowners reasonably likely to be affected by the proposed transmission lines. The Applicant will compile landowner names and addresses within the Notice Area using tax records.

#### 2. Mailing Addresses

Minnesota Rule 7829.2550, subpart 3(B), requires an applicant for a Certificate of Need to provide direct mail notice to all mailing addresses in the area that are reasonably likely to be affected by the proposed transmission line. The Applicant will obtain a list of

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<sup>1</sup> *In re Great River Energy, Northern States Power Company (d/b/a Xcel Energy) and Others for Certificates Of Need For Three 345 kV Transmission Lines with Associated Sys. Connections*, Docket No. E002/CN-06-1115, Rebuttal Test. of Walter T. Grivna at 37:4-7 (June 16, 2008); *see* Docket No. E002/CN-06-1115, Order Granting Certs. of Need with Conditions at 28 (noting that approving the construction of double-circuit capable structures “would not alter a utility’s duty to acquire a Certificate of Need before installing the additional 345 kV line).

mailing addresses in the Notice Area and remove addresses common to the landowner list.

3. Local Governments

Minnesota Rule 7829.2550, subpart 3(C), requires an applicant to provide direct mail notice to governments of towns, statutory cities, home rule charter cities, and counties whose jurisdictions are reasonably likely to be affected by the proposed transmission line. The Applicant proposes to provide direct mail notice to lead administration personnel in the towns, statutory cities, home rule charter cities, and counties within the Notice Area. The Applicant will also provide notice to the elected officials of local units of government, State Senators, and State Representatives whose districts are within the Notice Area. A complete list of government recipients is included in **Attachment C**.

4. Tribal Governments

Minnesota Rule 7829.2550, subpart 3(C), requires an applicant for a Certificate of Need to provide direct mail notice to tribal governments whose tribes are reasonably likely to be affected by the proposed transmission line. The Applicant has assembled a list of tribal governments and tribal government officials reasonably likely to be affected by the proposed transmission line and this list is included in **Attachment C**.

**B. Newspaper Notice**

Minnesota Rule 7829.2550, subpart 3(D) requires an applicant to publish notice in newspapers in the areas reasonably likely to be affected by the transmission line. The proposed notice is provided in **Attachment D**. The Applicant proposes to place notice advertisements in the newspapers listed in **Table 1** below.

**Table 1. Newspaper Notice.**

Name of Newspaper	County in General Circulation
Star Tribune	Statewide
Hendricks Pioneer	Lincoln County
Ivanhoe Times	Lincoln County
Tyler Tribute	Lincoln County

Balaton Press Tribune	Lyon County
Cottonwood Tri-County News	Lyon County
Marshall Independent	Lyon County
Headlight Herald	Lyon County
The New Prague Times	Scott County
Jordan Independent	Scott County
Dakota County Tribune	Dakota County
Sun This Week	Dakota County

### C. Variance Request

The Applicant also requests two variances as part of this Notice Plan. First, the Applicant asks the Commission to vary the requirement that an applicant file a Certificate of Need no sooner than three months after filing a Notice Plan. Second, the Applicant asks the Commission to vary the requirement in Minn. R. 7829.2500, subp. 5, that requires an applicant to publish newspaper notice of the filing of the application in a newspaper of general circulation throughout the state.

The Commission will grant a variance under Minn. R. 7829.3200 if the applicant meets the following three requirements:

- A. enforcement of the rule would impose an excessive burden upon the applicant or others affected by the rule;
- B. granting the variance would not adversely affect the public interest; and
- C. granting the variance would not conflict with standards imposed by law.

#### 1. Application Timing

The Applicant requests a variance from Minn. R. 7829.2560, subp.1, which requires that a Notice Plan be filed three months before filing a Certificate of Need application.

Specifically, the Applicant requests that it be allowed to file its Certificate of Need application immediately upon approval of the Notice Plan.

Enforcement of this three-month requirement would impose an excessive burden upon the Applicant and the residents of Minnesota and neighboring states. A three-month lapse between filing the Notice Plan and the Certificate of Need Application will not allow the Project to meet its overall development schedule. Waiting just a few months will push the completion of construction out until the 2026 construction season. This delay will also mean that residents of Minnesota and neighboring states are unable to realize the economic benefits of alleviating chronic transmission congestion in southern Minnesota.

Granting the variance would not adversely affect the public interest because the public will still receive early notice of the Project and have ample opportunities to comment on the Project. Additionally, varying the three-month timeline will not conflict with other standards imposed by law. The Applicant notes the Commission has granted similar variances in the past.<sup>2</sup> Because all three factors are met here, the Commission should grant a variance to Minn. R. 7829.2560, subp.1.

## 2. Newspaper Notice of Filing

The Applicant also asks the Commission to vary the requirement that it file a newspaper notice upon the submission of the Application. After the filing of a Certificate of Need application, Minn. R. 7829.2500, subp. 5, requires the applicant to publish newspaper notice of the filing in a newspaper of general circulation throughout the state. If the Commission grants the application-timing variance discussed above, the Applicant will publish newspaper notice of the Certificate of Need proceeding contemporaneously with the filing of the Certificate of Need application in the newspapers of local, regional, and statewide circulation. Consequently, the Applicant requests a variance of Minn. R. 7829.2500, subp. 5, to remove this additional newspaper notice requirement.

All three requirements for a variance are met in this instance. Per the Applicant's proposed Notice Plan and requested variance to the application timing, notice of the Project will be published in a statewide newspaper contemporaneous with the filing of the Application. The rule would be an excessive burden on the Applicant because it

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<sup>2</sup> *In the Matter of the Application of Enbridge Energy, LP for a Certificate of Need for the Line 3 Replacement Project*, Docket No. PL-9/CN-14-916, Order Approving Notice Plan, Granting Variance Request, Approving Exemption Requests, and Approving and Adopting Orders for Protection (Jan. 27, 2015); *In the Matter of the Application of Prairie Rose Wind, LLC for a Certificate of Need for a 101 MW Wind Project and Related 115 kV Transmission Line in Rock County in Southwestern Minnesota*, Docket No. IP-6638/CN-10-80, Order Granting Variance and Approving Notice Plan (Apr. 12, 2010); *In the Matter of the Application for a Certificate of Need for a 161-kV Transmission Line in Jackson County, Minnesota*, MPUC Docket No. IP-6686/CN-08-944, Order Approving Notice Plan as Modified and Granting Variance (Oct. 8, 2008).

would require a duplicative newspaper notice to be provided after the Certificate of Need application is filed, which will be close in time to the newspaper notice provided as part of the proposed Notice Plan. The public interest will not be adversely affected because notice of the Project in a statewide newspaper will be provided prior to the filing of the Certificate of Need application as part of the implementation of the Notice Plan. Granting the variance will not conflict with any legal standards as notice of the Project will still be provided in a statewide newspaper. As all three factors are met here, the Commission should grant a variance to Minn. R. 7829.2500, subp. 5.

#### **D. Notice Content**

Minnesota Rule 7829.2550, subpart 4, requires notice packets to include several pieces of information including: a map; right-of-way requirements and statement of intent to acquire property rights; notice that the transmission upgrade cannot be constructed unless the Commission certifies that it is needed; Commission contact information; utility website information; a statement that the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) staff will prepare an environmental report; an explanation of how to get on the Project's mailing list; and a list of applicable regulatory laws and rules. As shown in the Example Notice Letters (**Attachments A and B**), the Applicant's notice letters will meet these requirements.

The notice letters will serve four purposes: 1) introduce and explain the need and location of the Project; 2) encourage potentially affected persons to participate in the regulatory process; 3) explain the environmental report process and opportunities for public participation; and 4) provide contact information for citizens and officials to obtain additional information about the Project and the regulatory process. The map (**Attachments A and B, Figure 1**) that will be included with the notice letters will depict the transmission line endpoints; existing substations; and counties, townships, and notable landmarks to aid in orientation.

#### **E. Distribution of Notice Plan Filing**

As required under Minn. R. 7829.2550, subp. 1, this Notice Plan filing has been sent to EERA, the Office of the Attorney General – Residential Utilities and Antitrust Division, and to those parties listed on the “General List of Persons Interested in Power Plants and Transmission Lines.”

### **III. CONCLUSION**

The Applicant respectfully requests that the Commission: (1) approve this Notice Plan and (2) grant the requested variances to Minn. R. 7829.2560, subp. 1, to allow the



Applicant to file the application immediately upon approval of the Notice Plan and Minn. R. 7829.2500, subp. 5, to vary the requirement to publish a duplicative newspaper notice.

Dated: May 16, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

**NORTHERN STATES POWER  
COMPANY**, a Minnesota corporation

*/s/ Ian Dobson*

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Ian Dobson

Lead Assistant General Counsel

401 Nicollet Mall, 8th Floor

Minneapolis, MN 55401

612-370-3578

[Ian.M.Dobson@xcelenergy.com](mailto:Ian.M.Dobson@xcelenergy.com)

**ATTORNEY FOR NORTHERN STATES  
POWER COMPANY d/b/a XCEL  
ENERGY**

*Example Notice Letter*

\_\_\_\_\_, 2023

*RE: Notice of Certificate of Need Application for the Proposed 345 kV Brookings County – Lyon County and Helena – Hampton Transmission Project*

MPUC Docket No. E002 /CN-23-200

This letter is intended to notify you of a proposed transmission line project and to provide the following information:

1. Project location and a description of the need for the Project;
2. Describe how you can participate in the regulatory process; and
3. Provide contact information to get additional information and to sign up for email and mailing lists.

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy (Applicant), proposes to add a second circuit to the portion of an existing 345 kiloVolt (kV) transmission line between Brookings County, South Dakota, and Lyon County, Minnesota, and between the Helena Substation, west of New Prague, Minnesota, and the Hampton Substation, north of Hampton, Minnesota (Project). When originally built, the project was referred to as the “CapX2020 Brookings County-Hampton project.”

A “second circuit” means the installation of an additional transmission circuit (three lines) on existing transmission towers that were designed to accommodate an additional circuit. The majority of the Project will not require changing the route of the existing transmission line or new infrastructure. The Brookings County – Lyons County portion of the Project, however, will require reconfiguring an existing line at the Steep Bank Lake Substation near Hendricks, Minnesota, to avoid the second circuit crossing the existing transmission line. The Helena – Hampton portion of the Project will also require routing the new circuit around the Chub Lake Substation, northeast of Elko New Market, which requires the construction of two new towers.

This notice is being provided to you because you fall into one of the categories listed below as they relate to the area shown in the attached “Notice Area” map:

- Landowners with property within the Notice Area,
- Residents living within the Notice Area,
- Local units of government in and around the Notice Area,
- State elected officials in and around the Notice Area, and/or
- Government agencies and offices.

### **Why is the Project needed?**

The Project is needed to reduce energy costs by addressing one of the most electrically congested areas in Minnesota. Currently, low-cost energy (primarily generated by wind) generated in South Dakota and southern Minnesota faces congestion when flowing to customers in eastern Minnesota, including the Twin Cities. This congestion increases the cost of electricity either due to additional charges imposed on transmitting electricity during times of high congestion or because electricity must come from higher-cost generators in areas without transmission constraints. These higher costs create inefficiencies in the wholesale energy market and increase costs for consumers. The Project is needed to relieve the current transmission congestion in this area and allow access to lower-cost generation, provide economic benefits, strengthen the regional grid, and support future wind generation facilities in Minnesota and South Dakota. The Applicant estimates the Project would provide \$277 million in production-cost benefits on a present value basis over 20 years, as well as significant progress toward carbon-emission reduction policy objectives.

### **What is the regulatory process for the Project?**

Before construction can begin on the Project, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) must determine whether the Project is needed in a Certificate of Need proceeding.

The Certificate of Need process includes opportunities for public involvement and analyzes the benefits and impacts the Project may have, including costs, electric needs, issues the Project will solve, and potential impacts on the environment and general area where the Project is located.

The Certificate of Need process is governed by Minnesota law, including Minnesota Statutes Section 216B.243, and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7829 and 7849. A copy of the

Certificate of Need application can be obtained by visiting the Commission's website at [www.mn.gov/puc/](http://www.mn.gov/puc/) in Docket No. E002/CN-23-200.

### **What will the Certificate of Need proceedings address?**

The Certificate of Need proceedings will address whether the Project is necessary to provide adequate, reliable, and efficient electric service to the Applicant's customers, and residents of Minnesota and neighboring states. The proceedings will also address whether any alternatives to the Project could meet these energy needs. Finally, the proceedings will assess the human and environmental impacts of the Project and how any negative impacts can be mitigated.

### **How will the human and environmental impacts of the Project be evaluated?**

As part of the Certificate of Need process, Minnesota Department of Commerce, Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) will prepare an environmental report as required by Minnesota Rule 7849.1200 (Environmental Report). The Environmental Report will describe the human and environmental impacts of the Project and methods to mitigate any anticipated adverse impacts.

### **What is the process for determining the scope of the Environmental Report?**

EERA will hold a public hearing on the scope of the Environmental Report. Before the hearing, EERA will give interested persons notice of the hearing. At the hearing, EERA will explain the process for preparing the Environmental Report. The hearing will also give the public the opportunity to ask questions, present comments, and suggest alternatives and possible impacts of the Project to be evaluated in the Environmental Report. EERA will accept written comments after the public hearing. After the close of the public comment period, EERA will issue a decision determining the alternatives and potential impacts to be addressed in the Environmental Report, the schedule for completion, and other matters to be included in the Environmental Report.

### **What additional opportunities are there for public participation?**

The Commission is still developing the process for soliciting public input. Nevertheless, the Applicant anticipates that, after EERA issues the Environmental Report, the Commission will invite written public comments on the Certificate of Need and Environmental Report. The Applicant also expects that the Commission will hold a public hearing to receive oral comments and give the public an opportunity to ask questions regarding the Environmental Report and Certificate of Need

application. The Commission will then decide whether the Environmental Report is adequate and whether to grant a Certificate of Need.

There may be other opportunities to participate in the proceedings. Members of the public wishing to be informed of opportunities to provide input should subscribe to the Certificate of Need docket, as described below.

**How will the Project’s route be selected?**

The Project involves installing a second circuit on existing transmission towers. Consequently, the route will largely follow the existing Brookings Line. The Applicant anticipates obtaining route approval through a minor alteration to the existing route permit for the Brookings Line. The minor-alteration process will overlap with the Certificate of Need process.

**What is the anticipated schedule for the Certificate of Need process?**

The table below provides a high-level summary of the major steps in the Certificate of Need process and estimated timing.

**Major Certificate of Need Process Steps and Summary Schedule**

Step	Approximate Date
Pre-Application stakeholder outreach	Late Second Quarter 2023/ Early Third Quarter 2023
Certificate of Need Application submitted to Commission	Late Second Quarter 2023/ Early Third Quarter 2023
Informational Meetings (public meeting and comment)	Third Quarter 2023
Environmental Report Issued	Fourth Quarter 2023
Public Hearings (public meeting and comment period)	First Quarter 2024
Commission Meeting (to determine the adequacy of the Environmental Report and whether to issue a Certificate of Need)	First Quarter 2024

Written Commission Decision	Second Quarter 2024
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### **Will the Applicant need to acquire new land rights for the Project?**

Because the Project primarily involves installing a second circuit on existing transmission towers, the Applicant does not anticipate requiring significant new land rights for the Project. Before beginning construction, the Applicant will attempt to acquire any new land rights through negotiations with the landowner for each parcel.

### **How can I obtain additional information about the Project?**

You may subscribe to the Project's Certificate of Need docket to receive email notifications when information is filed in that docket, please visit [www.edockets.state.mn.us](http://www.edockets.state.mn.us), click on the "Subscribe to a Docket" button, enter your email address and select "Docket Number" from the Type of Subscriptions dropdown box, then select "23" from the first Docket number drop down box and enter "200" in the second box before clicking on the "Add to List" button. You must then click the "Save" button at the bottom of the page to confirm your subscription to the Project's Certificate of Need docket.

To be placed on the Project Certificate of Need mailing list (MPUC Docket No. E002/CN-23-200), mail, fax, or email Robin Benson at Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place E., Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55101-2147, Fax: 651-297-7073 or [robin.benson@state.mn.us](mailto:robin.benson@state.mn.us).

If you have questions about the state regulatory process, you may contact the Minnesota state regulatory staff listed below:

#### **Minnesota Public Utilities Commission**

Michael Kaluzniak  
121 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 350  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101  
651.201.2257  
800.657.3782  
Email: [mike.kaluzniak@state.mn.us](mailto:mike.kaluzniak@state.mn.us)  
Website: [www.mn.gov/puc/](http://www.mn.gov/puc/)

#### **Minnesota Department of Commerce EERA**

Suzanne Steinhauer  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 280  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101  
651.539.1843  
800.657.3602  
Email: [suzanne.steinhauer@state.mn.us](mailto:suzanne.steinhauer@state.mn.us)  
Website: <https://apps.commerce.state.mn.us/eera/web/page/home>

Please visit the Project website at: [www.Brookings2ndCircuit.com](http://www.Brookings2ndCircuit.com) for more information. Project phone numbers and e-mail addresses are:

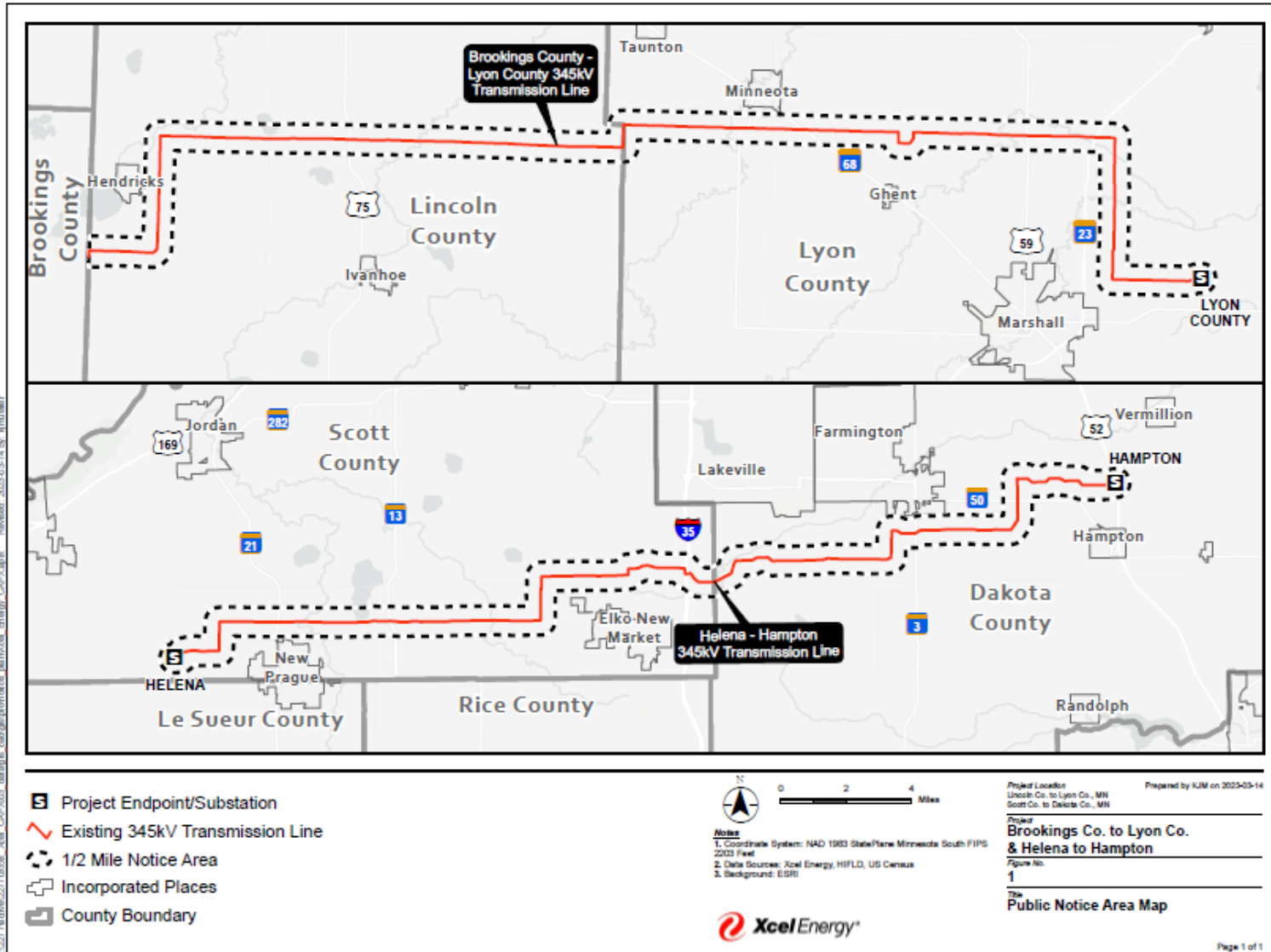
Project Phone Numbers: 800.367.7414

Project e-mail addresses: [Brookings2ndcircuit@xcelenergy.com](mailto:Brookings2ndcircuit@xcelenergy.com)

**How do I learn more about other transmission projects and the transmission planning process in Minnesota?**

You may access reports that provide information about the transmission planning process used by utilities in the state of Minnesota and information about other transmission line projects at [www.minnelectrans.com](http://www.minnelectrans.com). These reports are prepared pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 216B.2425, which requires each electric transmission owning utility in the state to file a biennial transmission planning report with the Commission in the fall of odd-numbered years.

Figure 1



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Disclaimer: This document has been prepared based on information provided by others as cited in the Notes section. Stantec has not verified the accuracy and/or completeness of this information and shall not be responsible for any errors or omissions which may be incorporated herein as a result. Stantec assumes no responsibility for data supplied in electronic format, and the recipient accepts full responsibility for verifying the accuracy and completeness of the data.



*Example Tribal Notice Letter*

\_\_\_\_\_, 2023

*RE: Notice of Certificate of Need Application for the Proposed 345 kV Brookings County – Lyon County and Helena – Hampton Transmission Project*

MPUC Docket No. E002 /CN-23-200

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1. Project location and a description of the need for the Project;
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A “second circuit” means the installation of an additional transmission circuit (three lines) on existing transmission towers that were designed to accommodate an additional circuit. The majority of the Project will not require changing the route of the existing transmission line or new infrastructure. The Brookings County – Lyons County portion of the Project, however, will require reconfiguring an existing line at the Steep Bank Lake Substation near Hendricks, Minnesota, to avoid the second circuit crossing the existing transmission line. The Helena – Hampton portion of the Project will also require routing the new circuit around the Chub Lake Substation, northeast of Elko New Market, which requires the construction of two new towers.

This notice is being provided to you as a tribal government in the region.

## **Why is the Project needed?**

The Project is needed to reduce energy costs by addressing one of the most electrically congested areas in Minnesota. Currently, low-cost energy (primarily generated by wind) generated in South Dakota and southern Minnesota faces congestion when flowing to customers in eastern Minnesota, including the Twin Cities. This congestion increases the cost of electricity either due to additional charges imposed on transmitting electricity during times of high congestion or because electricity must come from higher-cost generators in areas without transmission constraints. These higher costs create inefficiencies in the wholesale energy market and increase costs for consumers. The Project is needed to relieve the current transmission congestion in this area and allow access to lower-cost generation, provide economic benefits, strengthen the regional grid, and support future wind generation facilities in Minnesota and South Dakota. The Applicant estimates the Project would provide \$277 million in production-cost benefits on a present-value basis over 20 years, as well as significant progress toward carbon-emission reduction policy objectives.

## **What is the regulatory process for the Project?**

Before construction can begin on the Project, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) must determine whether the Project is needed in a Certificate of Need proceeding.

The Certificate of Need process includes opportunities for tribal involvement and analyzes the benefits and impacts the Project may have, including costs, electric needs, issues the Project will solve, and potential impacts on the environment and general area where the Project is located.

The Certificate of Need process is governed by Minnesota law, including Minnesota Statutes Section 216B.243, and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7829 and 7849. A copy of the Certificate of Need application can be obtained by visiting the Commission's website at [www.mn.gov/puc/](http://www.mn.gov/puc/) in Docket No. E002/CN-23-200.

**What will the Certificate of Need proceedings address?** The Certificate of Need proceedings will address whether the Project is necessary to provide adequate, reliable, and efficient electric service to the Applicant's customers, and residents of Minnesota and neighboring states. The proceedings will also address whether any alternatives to the Project could meet these energy needs. Finally, the proceedings will assess the human and environmental impacts of the Project and how any negative impacts can be mitigated.

## **How will the human and environmental impacts of the Project be evaluated?**

As part of the Certificate of Need process, Minnesota Department of Commerce, Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) will prepare an environmental report as required by Minnesota Rule 7849.1200 (Environmental Report). The Environmental Report will describe the human and environmental impacts of the Project and methods to mitigate any anticipated adverse impacts.

## **What is the process for determining the scope of the Environmental Report?**

EERA will hold a hearing on the scope of the Environmental Report. Before the hearing, EERA will give interested persons notice of the hearing. At the hearing, EERA will explain the process for preparing the Environmental Report. The hearing will also give interested parties the opportunity to ask questions, present comments, and suggest alternatives and possible impacts of the Project to be evaluated in the Environmental Report. EERA will accept written comments after the hearing. After the close of the comment period, EERA will issue a decision determining the alternatives and potential impacts to be addressed in the Environmental Report, the schedule for completion, and other matters to be included in the Environmental Report.

## **What additional opportunities are there for tribal participation?**

The Commission is still developing the process for soliciting input. Nevertheless, the Applicant anticipates that, after EERA issues the Environmental Report, the Commission will invite written comments on the Certificate of Need and Environmental Report. The Applicant also expects that the Commission will hold a hearing to receive oral comments and give interested parties an opportunity to ask questions regarding the Environmental Report and Certificate of Need application. The Commission will then decide whether the Environmental Report is adequate and whether to grant a Certificate of Need.

There may be other opportunities to participate in the proceedings. Tribes wishing to be informed of opportunities to provide input should subscribe to the Certificate of Need docket, as described below.

## **How will the Project's route be selected?**

The Project involves installing a second circuit on existing transmission towers. Consequently, the route will largely follow the existing Brookings Line. The Applicant anticipates obtaining route approval through a minor alteration to the existing route

permit for the Brookings Line. The minor-alteration process will overlap with the Certificate of Need process.

**What is the anticipated schedule for the Certificate of Need process?**

The table below provides a high-level summary of the major steps in the Certificate of Need process and estimated timing.

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Environmental Report Issued	Fourth Quarter 2023
Hearings and Comment Period	First Quarter 2024
Commission Meeting (to determine the adequacy of the Environmental Report and whether to issue a Certificate of Need)	First Quarter 2024
Written Commission Decision	Second Quarter 2024

**How can tribes obtain additional information about the Project?**

Tribes may subscribe to the Project’s Certificate of Need docket to receive email notifications when information is filed in that docket, please visit [www.edockets.state.mn.us](http://www.edockets.state.mn.us), click on the “Subscribe to a Docket” button, enter the appropriate email address and select “Docket Number” from the Type of Subscriptions dropdown box, then select “23” from the first Docket number drop down box and enter “200” in the second box before clicking on the “Add to List” button. You must then click the “Save” button at the bottom of the page to confirm your subscription to the Project’s Certificate of Need docket.

To be placed on the Project Certificate of Need mailing list (MPUC Docket No. E002/CN-23-200), mail, fax, or email Robin Benson at Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place E., Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55101-2147, Fax: 651-297-7073 or [robin.benson@state.mn.us](mailto:robin.benson@state.mn.us).

If you have questions about the state regulatory process, you may contact the Minnesota state regulatory staff listed below:

**Minnesota Public Utilities Commission**

Michael Kaluzniak  
121 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 350  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101  
651.201.2257  
800.657.3782  
Email: [mike.kaluzniak@state.mn.us](mailto:mike.kaluzniak@state.mn.us)  
Website: [www.mn.gov/puc/](http://www.mn.gov/puc/)

**Minnesota Department of Commerce EERA**

Suzanne Steinhauer  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 280  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101  
651.539.1843  
800.657.3602  
Email: [suzanne.steinhauer@state.mn.us](mailto:suzanne.steinhauer@state.mn.us)  
Website: <https://apps.commerce.state.mn.us/eera/web/page/home>

Please visit the Project website at: [www.Brookings2ndCircuit.com](http://www.Brookings2ndCircuit.com) for more information. Project phone numbers and e-mail addresses are:

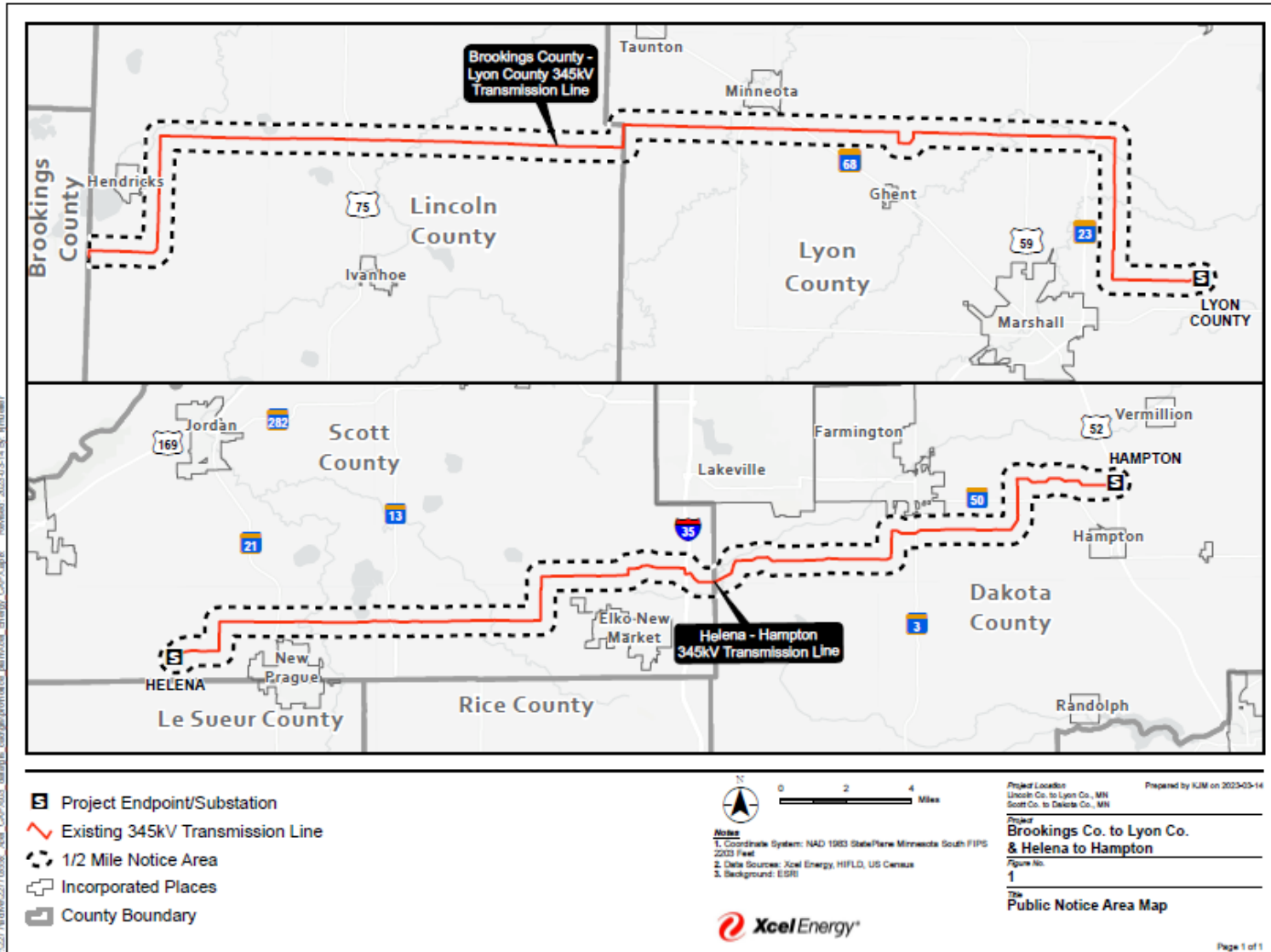
Project Phone Numbers: 800.367.7414

Project e-mail addresses: [Brookings2ndcircuit@xcelenergy.com](mailto:Brookings2ndcircuit@xcelenergy.com)

**How do tribes learn more about other transmission projects and the transmission planning process in Minnesota?**

Tribes may access reports that provide information about the transmission planning process used by utilities in the state of Minnesota and information about other transmission line projects at [www.minnelectrans.com](http://www.minnelectrans.com). These reports are prepared pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 216B.2425, which requires each electric transmission owning utility in the state to file a biennial transmission planning report with the Commission in the fall of odd-numbered years.

Figure 1



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Disclaimer: This document has been prepared based on information provided by others as cited in the Notes section. Stantec has not verified the accuracy and/or completeness of this information and shall not be responsible for any errors or omissions which may be incorporated herein as a result. Stantec assumes no responsibility for data supplied in electronic format, and the recipient accepts full responsibility for verifying the accuracy and completeness of the data.

Type	Tribe Name	Title	Name	Address	City	State	Zip
Tribe	Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians of the Bad River Reservation, Wisconsin	THPO	Edith Leoso	PO Box 39	Odanah	WI	54861
Tribe	Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Oklahoma	THPO	Max Bear	700 Black Kettle Blvd	Concho	OK	73022
Tribe	Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe of South Dakota	THPO	Garrie Kills A Hundred	PO Box 283	Flandreau	SD	57028
Tribe	Fond du Lac Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe	THPO	Evan Schroeder	1720 Big Lake Rd	Cloquet	MN	55720
Tribe	Fort Belknap Indian Community of the Fort Belknap Reservation of Montana	THPO	Michael Blackwolf	656 Agency Main Street	Harlem	MT	59526-9455
Tribe	Grand Portage Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe	THPO	Maryann Gagnon	PO Box 428	Grand Portage	MN	55605
Tribe	Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska	THPO	Lance Foster	3345 B Thrasher Rd.	White Cloud	KS	66094
Tribe	Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Michigan	THPO	Alden Connor	16429 Beartown Rd.	Baraga	MI	49908
Tribe	Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Michigan	THPO	Daisy McGeshick	P.O. Box 249	Watersmeet	MI	49969
Tribe	Lower Sioux Indian Community in the State of Minnesota	THPO	Cheyenne St. John	PO Box 308	Morton	MN	56270
Tribe	Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe (The Mille Lacs Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe)	THPO	Terry Kemper	43408 Oodena Drive	Onamia	MN	56359
Tribe	Minnesota Chippewa Tribe	THPO	Rob Hull	P.O. Box 482	Grand Portage	MN	55605.0
Tribe	Prairie Island Indian Community in the State of Minnesota	THPO	Noah White	5636 Sturgeon Lake Road	Welch	MN	55089
Tribe	Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin	THPO	Marvin DeFoe	88385 Pike Road, Highway 13	Bayfield	WI	54814
Tribe	Santee Sioux Nation, Nebraska	THPO	Misty Frazier	425 Frazier Ave. N. Suite 2	Niobrara	NE	68760.0
Tribe	Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation, South Dakota	THPO	Dianne Desrosiers	P.O. Box 907	Sisseton	SD	57262-0509
Tribe	Spirit Lake Tribe, North Dakota	THPO	Erich Longie	P.O. Box 76	Fort Totten	ND	58335-0359
Tribe	Upper Sioux Community, Minnesota	THPO	Samantha Odegard	PO Box 147	Granite Falls	MN	56241-0147
Tribe	White Earth Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe	THPO	Jaime Arsenault	PO Box 418	White Earth	MN	56591
Tribe	Apache Tribe of Oklahoma	Chairman	Bobby Komardley	PO Box 1330	Anadarko	OK	73005
Tribe	Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of the Lac du Flambeau Reservation of Wisconsin	THPO	Melinda Young	PO Box 67	Lac du Flambeau	WI	54538
Tribe	Leech Lake Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe	THPO	Amy Burnette	190 Sailstar Drive NE	Cass Lake	MN	56633
Tribe	Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin	THPO	David Grignon	PO Box 910	Keshena	WI	54135-0910
Tribe	Sokaogon Chippewa Community, Wisconsin	Chairperson	Garland McGeshick	3051 Sand Lake Road	Crandon	WI	54520

County	Municipality/Township/State Electoral District	First	Last	Title	Address	City	State	Zip
Lincoln	Hendricks (City)	Julie	Hogie	Mayor	PO Box 86	Hendricks	MN	56136
Lincoln	Limestone Township	Judy	Leibfried	Clerk	3278 Co. Hwy 8	Taunton	MN	56291
Lincoln	Royal Township	Michelle	Rybinski	Clerk	3037 170th Ave	Ivanhoe	MN	56142
Lincoln	Hendricks Township	Robin	Nuese	Clerk	3258 State Hwy 271	Hendricks	MN	56136
Lyon	Lucas Township	Allison	Vandelanotte	Clerk	3125 350th St	Cottonwood	MN	56229
Lyon	Grandview Township	Dan	Vandendriessche	Clerk	3038 State Hwy 68	Marshall	MN	56258
Lyon	Stanley Township	Bruce	Bitker	Clerk	3161 Co. Rd 11	Cottonwood	MN	56229
Lyon	Fairview Township	Sean	Carmody	Clerk/Treasurer	2636 300th St	Marshall	MN	56258
Lyon	Eidsvold Township	Laurie	Laleman	Clerk	3976 140th Ave	Taunton	MN	56291
Lyon	Vallers Township	Derek	Louwagie	Clerk	3495 State Hwy 23	Cottonwood	MN	56229
Lyon	Nordland Township	Deb	Johnson	Clerk	1356 310th St.	Minneota	MN	56264
Lyon	Westerhei Township	Rick	Bot	Clerk	3723 220th Ave	Minneota	MN	56264
Lincoln	DNR Wildlife (Bossuyt WMA)	Dave	Trauba	Regional Wildlife Manager	21371 State Highway 15	New Ulm	MN	56073
Lyon	District 15	Gary	Dahms	Senator	95 University Avenue W. Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2219	St. Paul	MN	55155
Lincoln	District 21	Bill	Weber	Senator	95 University Avenue W. Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2211	St. Paul	MN	55155
Lyon	District 15A	Chris	Swedzinski	Representative	100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Minnesota State Office Bldg., Room 245	St. Paul	MN	55155
Lincoln	District 21A	Joe	Schomacker	Representative	100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Minnesota State Office Bldg., Room 209	St. Paul	MN	55155
Lincoln	District 3	Dean	Nielsen	County Commissioner	1449 Terrace	Lake Benton	MN	56149
Lincoln	District 4	Joe	Drietz	County Commissioner	412 E. Ashby Street	Ivanhoe	MN	56142
Lincoln	District 5	Steve	Hauswedell	County Commissioner	2042 County Hwy 7	Tyler	MN	56178
Lyon	County	Loren	Stomberg	County Administrator	607 West Main Street	Marshall	MN	56258
Lyon	District 1	Thomas	Andries	County Commissioner	603 Van Buren St.	Marshall	MN	56258
Lyon	District 4	Gary	Crowley	County Commissioner	2994 210th Ave	Marshall	MN	56258
Dakota	Castle Rock Township	Molly	Weber	Clerk	2537 240th Street West	Farmington	MN	55024
Dakota	Eureka Township	Liz	Atwater	Clerk/Treasurer	25043 Cedar Avenue	Farmington	MN	55024
Dakota	Farmington (City)	Joshua	Hoyt	Mayor	430 Third St.	Farmington	MN	55024
Dakota	Empire (City)	Trent	Larson	Mayor	3385 197th Street	Farmington	MN	55024
Dakota	Vermillion Township	Cynthia	Ladzun	Clerk	P.O. Box 16	Vermillion	MN	55085
Scott	New Market Township	Mary	Stazak	Clerk	8950 230th Street East	Lakeville	MN	55044
Scott	Belle Plaine Township	Peggy	Devoto	Clerk	PO Box 124	Belle Plaine	MN	56011
Scott	Cedar Lake Township	Tery	Mahowald	Clerk	24425 Old Hwy 13 Blvd	Jordan	MN	55352
Scott	Helena Township	Heather Taylor	DuCharme	Clerk	PO Box 386	New Prague	MN	56071
Scott	DNR Wildlife (Spartina WMA)	Gretchen	Miller	Regional Wildlife Manager	1200 Warner Road	St. Paul	MN	55106
Scott	Scott County (Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park)	Patty	Freeman	Parks Program Manager	200 Fourth Avenue West	Shakopee	MN	55379
Scott	District 22	Rich	Draheim	Senator	95 University Avenue W. Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2225	St. Paul	MN	55155
Scott/Dakota	District 57	Zach	Duckworth	Senator	95 University Avenue W. Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2229	St. Paul	MN	55155
Scott/Dakota	District 58	Bill	Lieske	Senator	95 University Avenue W. Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2327	St. Paul	MN	55155
Scott	District 22B	Brian	Pfarr	Representative	100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Minnesota State Office Bldg., Room 351	St. Paul	MN	55155



<i>County</i>	<i>Municipality/Township/State Electoral District</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Last</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Zip</i>
Scott/Dakota	District 57A	Jon	Koznick	Representative	100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Minnesota State Office Bldg., Room 281	St. Paul	MN	55155
Scott	District 58A	Kristi	Pursell	Representative	100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Minnesota State Office Bldg., Room 523	St. Paul	MN	55155
Dakota	District 58B	Pat	Garofalo	Representative	100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Minnesota State Office Bldg., Room 295	St. Paul	MN	55155
Dakota	Dakota County	Matt	Smith	County Administrator	1590 Highway 55	Hastings	MN	55033
Dakota	District 1	Mike	Slavik	County Commissioner	1590 Highway 55	Hastings	MN	55033
Scott	Scott County	Lezlie	Vermillion	County Administrator	200 Fourth Avenue West	Shakopee	MN	55379
Scott	District 1	Barb	Weckman Brekke	County Commissioner	200 Fourth Avenue West	Shakopee	MN	55379
Scott	District 2	Tom	Wolf	County Commissioner	200 Fourth Avenue West	Shakopee	MN	55379

# PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is intended to notify you of a proposed transmission line project and to provide the following information:

1. Project location and a description of the need for the Project;
2. Describe how to participate in the regulatory process; and
3. Provide contact information to get additional information and to sign up for email and mailing lists.

Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy (Applicant), proposes to add a second circuit to the portion of an existing 345 kiloVolt (kv) transmission line between Brookings County, South Dakota and Lyon County, Minnesota, and between the Helena Substation, west of New Prague, Minnesota, and the Hampton Substation, north of Hampton, Minnesota (Project). When originally built, the project was referred to as the "CapX2020 Brookings County-Hampton project."

A "second circuit" means the installation of an additional transmission circuit (three lines) on existing transmission towers that were designed to accommodate an additional circuit. The majority of the Project will not require changing the route of the existing transmission line or new infrastructure. The Brookings County – Lyons County portion of the Project, however, will require reconfiguring an existing line at the Steep Bank Lake Substation near Hendricks, Minnesota, to avoid the second circuit crossing the existing transmission line. The Helena – Hampton portion of the Project will also require routing the new circuit around the Chub Lake Substation, northeast of Elko New Market, which requires the construction of two new towers.

This notice is being provided this area falls into one of the categories listed below as they relate to the area shown in the attached "Notice Area" map:

- Landowners with property within the Notice Area,
- Residents living within the Notice Area,
- Local units of government in and around the Notice Area,
- State elected officials in and around the Notice Area; and/or,
- Government agencies and offices.

## Why is the Project needed?

The Project is needed to reduce energy costs by addressing one of the most electrically congested areas in Minnesota. Currently, low-cost energy (primarily generated by wind) generated in South Dakota and southern Minnesota faces congestion when flowing to customers in eastern Minnesota, including the Twin Cities. This congestion increases the cost of electricity either due to additional charges imposed on transmitting electricity during times of high congestion or because electricity must come from higher-cost generators in areas without transmission constraints. These higher costs create inefficiencies in the wholesale energy market and increase costs for consumers. The Project is needed to relieve the current transmission congestion in this area and allow access to lower-cost generation, provide economic benefits, strengthen the regional grid, and support future wind generation facilities in Minnesota and South Dakota. The Applicant estimates the Project would provide \$277 million in production-cost benefits on a present value basis over 20 years, as well as significant progress toward carbon-emission reduction policy objectives.

## What is the regulatory process for the Project?

Before construction can begin on the Project, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) must determine whether the Project is needed in a Certificate of Need proceeding.

The Certificate of Need process includes opportunities for public involvement and analyzes the benefits and impacts the Project may have, including costs, electric needs, issues the Project will solve, and potential impacts on the environment and general area where the Project is located.

The Certificate of Need process is governed by Minnesota law, including Minnesota Statutes Section 216B.243, and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7829 and 7849. A copy of the Certificate of Need application can be obtained by visiting the Commission's website at [www.mn.gov/puc/](http://www.mn.gov/puc/) in Docket No. E002/CN-23-200.

## What will the Certificate of Need proceedings address?

The Certificate of Need proceedings will address whether the Project is necessary to provide adequate, reliable, and efficient electric service to the Applicant's customers, and residents of Minnesota and neighboring states. The proceedings will also address whether any alternatives to the Project could meet these energy needs. Finally, the proceedings will assess the human and environmental impacts of the Project and how any negative impacts can be mitigated.

## How will the human and environmental impacts of the Project be evaluated?

As part of the Certificate of Need process, Minnesota Department of Commerce, Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) will prepare an environmental report as required by Minnesota Rule 7849.1200 (Environmental Report). The Environmental Report will describe the human and environmental impacts of the Project and methods to mitigate any anticipated adverse impacts.

## What is the process for determining the scope of the Environmental Report?

EERA will hold a public hearing on the scope of the Environmental Report. Before the hearing, EERA will give interested persons notice of the hearing. At the hearing, EERA will explain the process for preparing the Environmental Report. The hearing will also give the public the opportunity to ask questions, present comments, and suggest alternatives and possible impacts of the Project to be evaluated in the Environmental Report. EERA will accept written comments after the public hearing. After the close of the public comment period, EERA will issue a decision determining the alternatives and potential impacts to be addressed in the Environmental Report, the schedule for completion, and other matters to be included in the Environmental Report.

## What additional opportunities are there for public participation?

The Commission is still developing the process for soliciting public input. Nevertheless, the Applicant anticipates that, after EERA issues the Environmental Report, the Commission will invite written public comments on the Certificate of Need and Environmental Report. The Applicant also expects that the Commission will hold a public hearing to receive oral comments and give the public an opportunity to ask questions regarding the Environmental Report and Certificate of Need application. The Commission will then decide whether the Environmental Report is adequate and whether to grant a Certificate of Need.

There may be other opportunities to participate in the proceedings. Members of the public wishing to be informed of opportunities to provide input should subscribe to the Certificate of Need docket, as described below.

## How will the Project's route be selected?

The Project involves installing a second circuit on existing transmission towers. Consequently, the route will largely follow the existing Brookings Line. The Applicant anticipates obtaining route approval through a minor alteration to the existing route permit for the Brookings Line. The minor-alteration process will overlap with the Certificate of Need process.

## What is the anticipated schedule for the Certificate of Need process?

The table below provides a high-level summary of the major steps in the Certificate of Need process and estimated timing.

Step	Approximate Date
Pre-Application stakeholder outreach	Late Second Quarter 2023/ Early Third Quarter 2023
Certificate of Need Application submitted to Commission	Late Second Quarter 2023/ Early Third Quarter 2023
Informational Meetings (public meeting and comment)	Third Quarter 2023
Environmental Report Issued	Fourth Quarter 2023
Public Hearings (public meeting and comment period)	First Quarter 2024
Commission Meeting (to determine the adequacy of the Environmental Report and whether to issue a Certificate of Need)	First Quarter 2024
Written Commission Decision	Second Quarter 2024

## Will the Applicant need to acquire new land rights for the Project?

Because the Project primarily involves installing a second circuit on existing transmission towers, the Applicant does not anticipate requiring significant new land rights for the Project. Before beginning construction, the Applicant will attempt to acquire any new land rights through negotiations with the landowner for each parcel.

## How can I obtain additional information about the Project?

You may subscribe to the Project's Certificate of Need docket to receive email notifications when information is filed in that docket, please visit [www.edockets.state.mn.us](http://www.edockets.state.mn.us), click on the "Subscribe to a Docket" button, enter your email address and select "Docket Number" from the Type of Subscriptions dropdown box, then select "23" from the first Docket number drop down box and enter "200" in the second box before clicking on the "Add to List" button. You must then click the "Save" button at the bottom of the page to confirm your subscription to the Project's Certificate of Need docket.

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St. Paul, Minnesota 55101  
651-201-2257  
800-657-3782  
Email: [mike.kaluzniak@state.mn.us](mailto:mike.kaluzniak@state.mn.us)  
Website: [www.mn.gov/puc/](http://www.mn.gov/puc/)

**Minnesota Department of Commerce EERA**  
Suzanne Steinhauer  
85 7th Place East, Suite 280  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101  
651-539-1843  
800-657-3602  
Email: [suzanne.steinhauer@state.mn.us](mailto:suzanne.steinhauer@state.mn.us)  
Website: <https://apps.commerce.state.mn.us/eera/web/page/home>

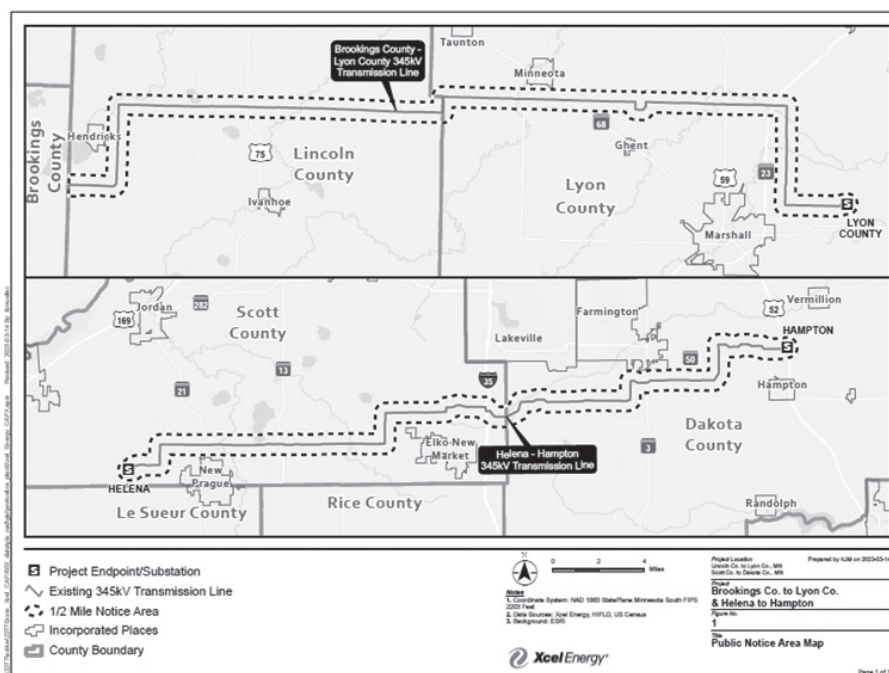
Please visit the Project websites at: [www.Brooking2ndCircuit.com](http://www.Brooking2ndCircuit.com) for more information. Project phone numbers and e-mail addresses are:

Project Phone Numbers: 800-367-7414

Project e-mail addresses: [Brookings2ndcircuit@xcelenergy.com](mailto:Brookings2ndcircuit@xcelenergy.com)

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION  
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF NEED FOR THE  
PROPOSED 345 kV BROOKINGS COUNTY  
– LYON COUNTY AND HELENA –  
HAMPTON SECOND-CIRCUIT PROJECT

MPUC Docket No. E002 /CN-23-200

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Ashley Kehoe certifies that on the 16th day of May, 2023, on behalf of Applicants, she filed a true and correct copy of the **Notice Plan Petition** via eDockets ([www.edockets.state.mn.us](http://www.edockets.state.mn.us)) by uploading the same in the above-referenced docket. Said document was also served as designated on the attached Service List(s) on file with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission; said document also was sent to the Minnesota Department of Commerce and the Minnesota Office of Attorney General Residential Utilities and Antitrust Division via email.

*/s/ Ashley Kehoe* \_\_\_\_\_  
Ashley Kehoe

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Jay	Anderson	jaya@cmpas.org	Central Minnesota Municipal Power Agency	7550 Corporate Way Suite 100 Eden Prairie, MN 55344	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
James J.	Bertrand	james.bertrand@stinson.com	STINSON LLP	50 S 6th St Ste 2600  Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
David	Birkholz	david.birkholz@state.mn.us	MN Department of Commerce	Suite 500 85 7th Place East St. Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
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	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
B. Andrew	Brown	brown.andrew@dorsey.com	Dorsey & Whitney LLP	Suite 1500 50 South Sixth Street Minneapolis, MN 554021498	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
Christina	Brusven	cbrusven@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson Byron	200 S 6th St Ste 4000  Minneapolis, MN 554021425	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
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	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
Bill	Cook	bcook@rpu.org	Rochester Public Utilities	4000 East River Road NE  Rochester, MN 55906	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
John	Crane	johncranefishing@gmail.com	Fishing	1250 Wee Gwaus DR SW  Bemidji, MN 56601	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
George	Crocker	gwillc@nawo.org	North American Water Office	5093 Keats Avenue  Lake Elmo, MN 55042	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Thomas	Davis	atdavis1972@outlook.com	-	1161 50th Ave Sherburn, MN 56171	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
Mike	DellaPenna	mdellapenna@google.com		N/A	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
John E.	Drawz	jdrawz@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.	Suite 4000 200 South Sixth Street Minneapolis, MN 554021425	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
Cory	Dutcher	cory.dutcher@ge.com	GE Power and Water	1 River Rd. Bldg. 37-413  Schenectady, NY 12345	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
Kristen	Eide Tollefson	healingsystems69@gmail.com	R-CURE	28477 N Lake Ave  Frontenac, MN 55026-1044	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
Karen A	Gebhardt	kageb1@gvtel.com		43901 253rd Ave  Leonard, MN 56652-4026	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
Larry	Hartman	Larry.Hartman@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place East, Suite 280  St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
Valerie	Herring	vherring@taftlaw.com	Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP	2200 IDS Center 80 S. Eighth Street Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
Scott	Johnson	Scott.Johnson@ci.medina.mn.us	City of Medina	2052 County Road 24  Medina, MN 55340-9790	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
Michael	Kaluzniak	mike.kaluzniak@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	Suite 350 121 Seventh Place East St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Tom	Karas	tomskaras@gmail.com		3171 309th Ave NW  Cambridge, MN 55008	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
Bruce	King	Brenda@ranww.org	Realtors, Association of Northwestern WI	Suite 3 1903 Keith Street Eau Claire, WI 54701	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
Stacy	Kotch Egstad	Stacy.Kotch@state.mn.us	MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	395 John Ireland Blvd.  St. Paul, MN 55155	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
Andrew	Moratzka	andrew.moratzka@stoel.com	Stoel Rives LLP	33 South Sixth St Ste 4200  Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
Colleen	Mueller	N/A		22186 State Hwy 4  Paynesville, MN 56362	Paper Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
Dan	Nelson	Dan.Nelson@ISGinc.com	I&S Group	115 E Hickory St Ste 300  Mankato, MN 56001	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
Carol A.	Overland	overland@legalectric.org	Legalelectric - Overland Law Office	1110 West Avenue  Red Wing, MN 55066	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
Kevin	Peterson	kjp@ibew160.org	IBEW Local 160	1109 Northway Lane NE  Rochester, MN 55906	Electronic Service	No	SPL_SL__PPSA General List
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First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
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First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
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Generic Notice	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400 St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	GEN_SL_Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy-Elec_Xcel Miscl Electric
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Generic Notice	Residential Utilities Division	residential.utilities@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	1400 BRM Tower 445 Minnesota St St. Paul, MN 551012131	Electronic Service	No	GEN_SL_Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy-Elec_Xcel Miscl Electric
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Will	Seuffert	Will.Seuffert@state.mn.us	Public Utilities Commission	121 7th PI E Ste 350 Saint Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	No	GEN_SL_Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy-Elec_Xcel Miscl Electric
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David	Bell	david.bell@state.mn.us	Department of Health	POB 64975  St. Paul, MN 55164	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_23-200_CN-23-200
Generic Notice	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400  St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_23-200_CN-23-200
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Todd	Green	Todd.A.Green@state.mn.us	Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry	443 Lafayette Rd N  St. Paul, MN 55155-4341	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_23-200_CN-23-200
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Generic Notice	Residential Utilities Division	residential.utilities@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	1400 BRM Tower 445 Minnesota St St. Paul, MN 551012131	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_23-200_CN-23-200
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