Maple River – Cuyuna 345 kV Transmission Project

minnesota power
AN ALLETE COMPANY

OTTER TAIL POWER COMPANY

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

Virtual Open House

Thank you for joining us online today. We greatly appreciate your input in helping us as we identify preliminary routes for the Project. On the following slides you'll learn more about the project, review maps, and have the opportunity to provide input about the initial study area.

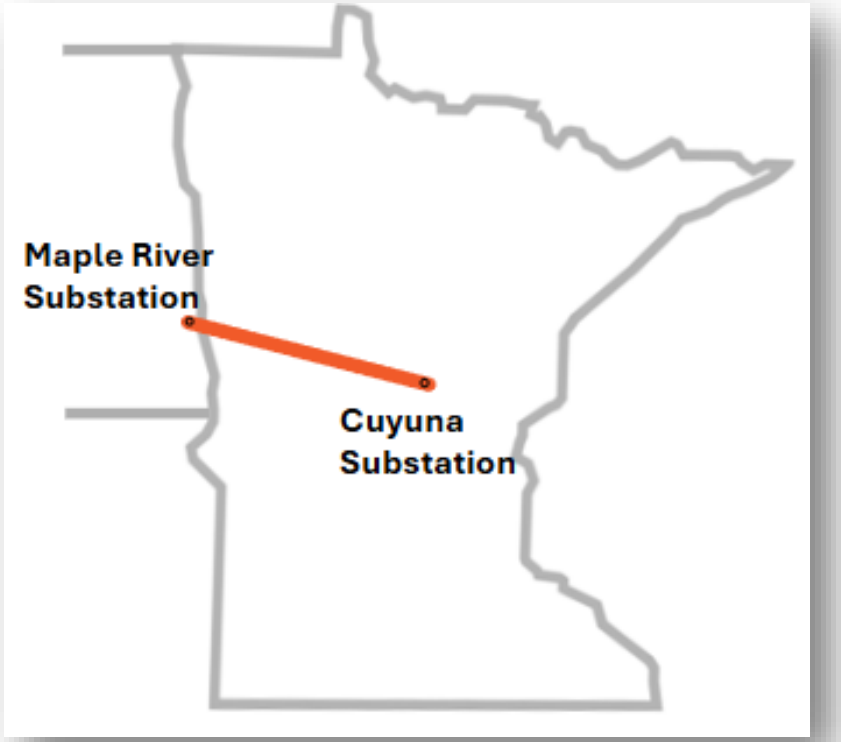
Who We Are

Minnesota Power provides electric service within a 26,000-square-mile area in northeastern Minnesota, supporting comfort, security and quality of life for 150,000 customers, 15 municipalities and some of the largest industrial customers in the United States.

Otter Tail Power Company is an investor-owned electric utility that provides electricity to approximately 133,700 customers in 422 communities across 70,000 square miles in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

Great River Energy is a not-for-profit wholesale electric power cooperative and provides reliable, cleaner electricity while maintaining affordable rates for 1.7 million people

About the Project

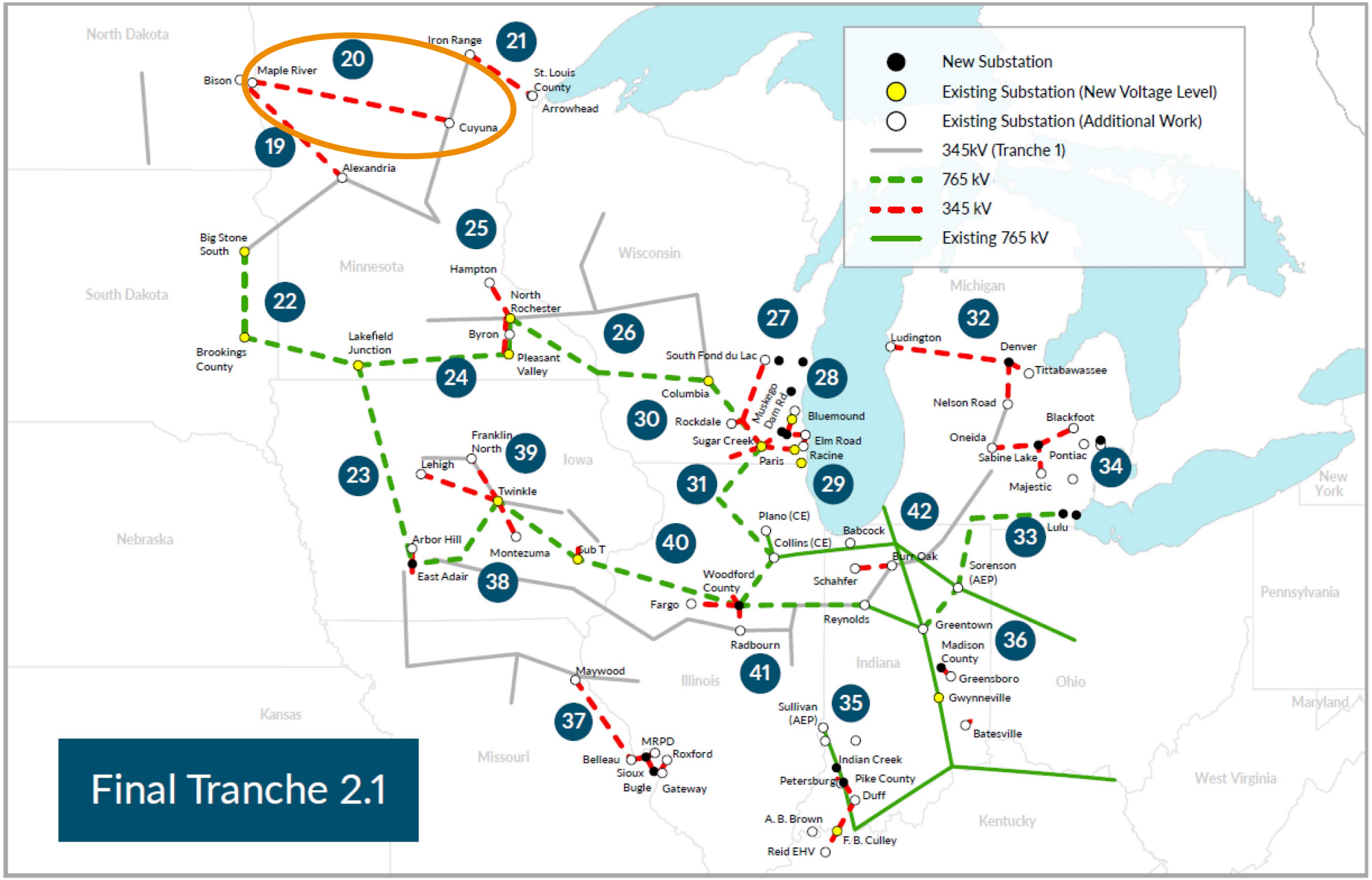


Minnesota Power, Otter Tail Power Company, and Great River Energy are proposing to construct an approximately 160-mile-long, single-circuit 345 kV transmission line on double-circuit capable structures from Minnesota Power's Cuyuna Substation near Riverton, Minnesota to Otter Tail Power Company's Maple River Substation in eastern North Dakota.

The Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), the regional grid operator, approved this project (#20) as part of a regional plan

Learn more at

misoenergy.org



Project Need

Enhance the reliability of the regional transmission system as the way we produce and use electricity changes

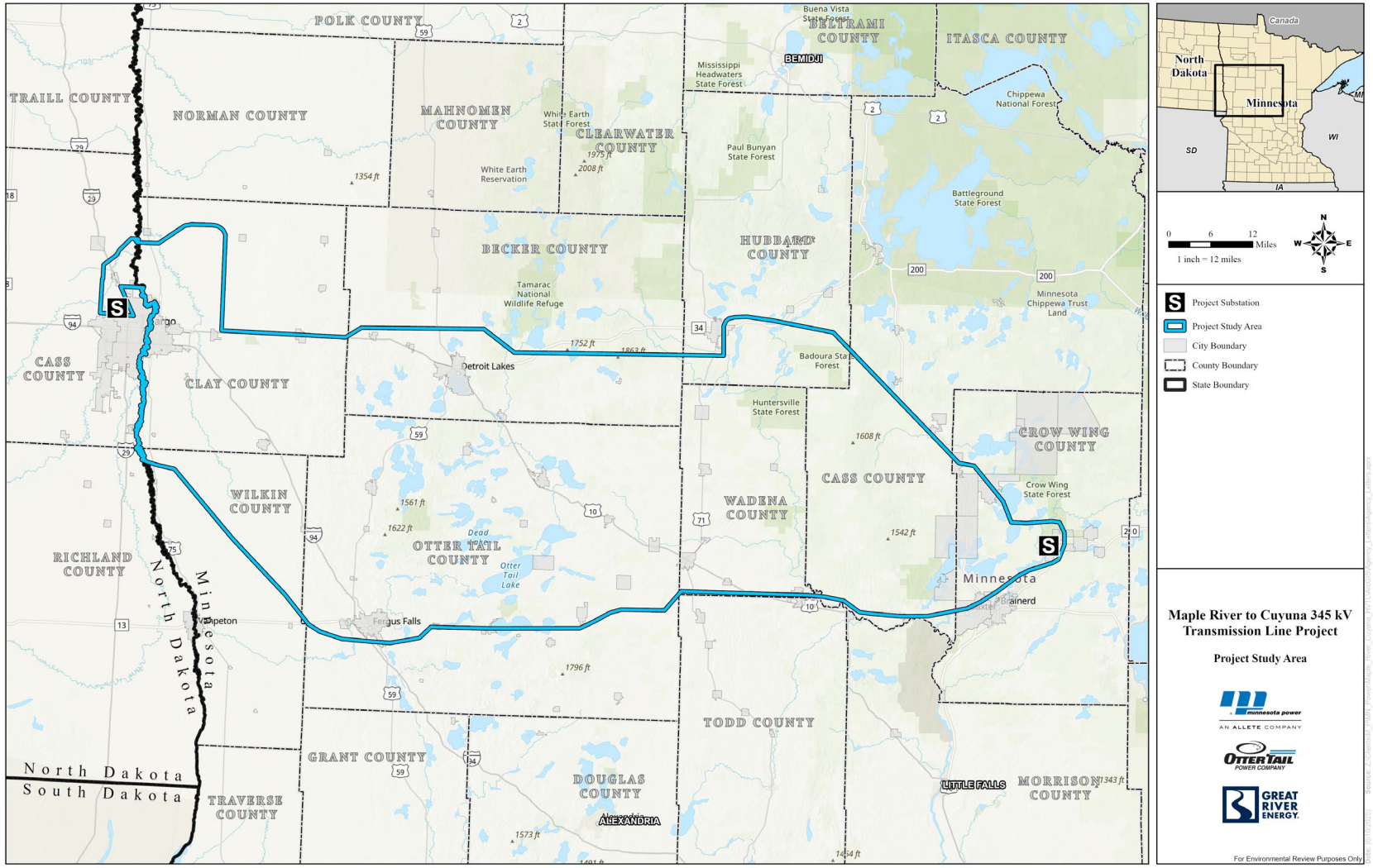
Increase transmission system capacity to reliably deliver energy from where it's produced to where it's used

Meet growing electrical demand and enhance resiliency during extreme weather events

Enable cost-effective regional energy transfers supporting economical grid operations

Project Study Area

The Project Study Area will be evaluated for potential routing opportunities based on stakeholder feedback



Project Components

Construction of approximately 160 miles of new single-circuit 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line, built on double-circuit capable structures, and utilizing existing transmission line corridors to greatest extent reasonable

Upgrade of the existing Maple River Substation, located near Fargo, ND, and the Cuyuna Substation, located near Riverton, MN and modifications of some existing transmission line corridors, where needed, to bring this project into service

Project Timeline

2025

Stakeholder engagement and routing

2026-2028

Permitting, engineering, environmental surveys, ROW acquisition, and public engagement

2029-2032

Construction

2033

Anticipated in-service

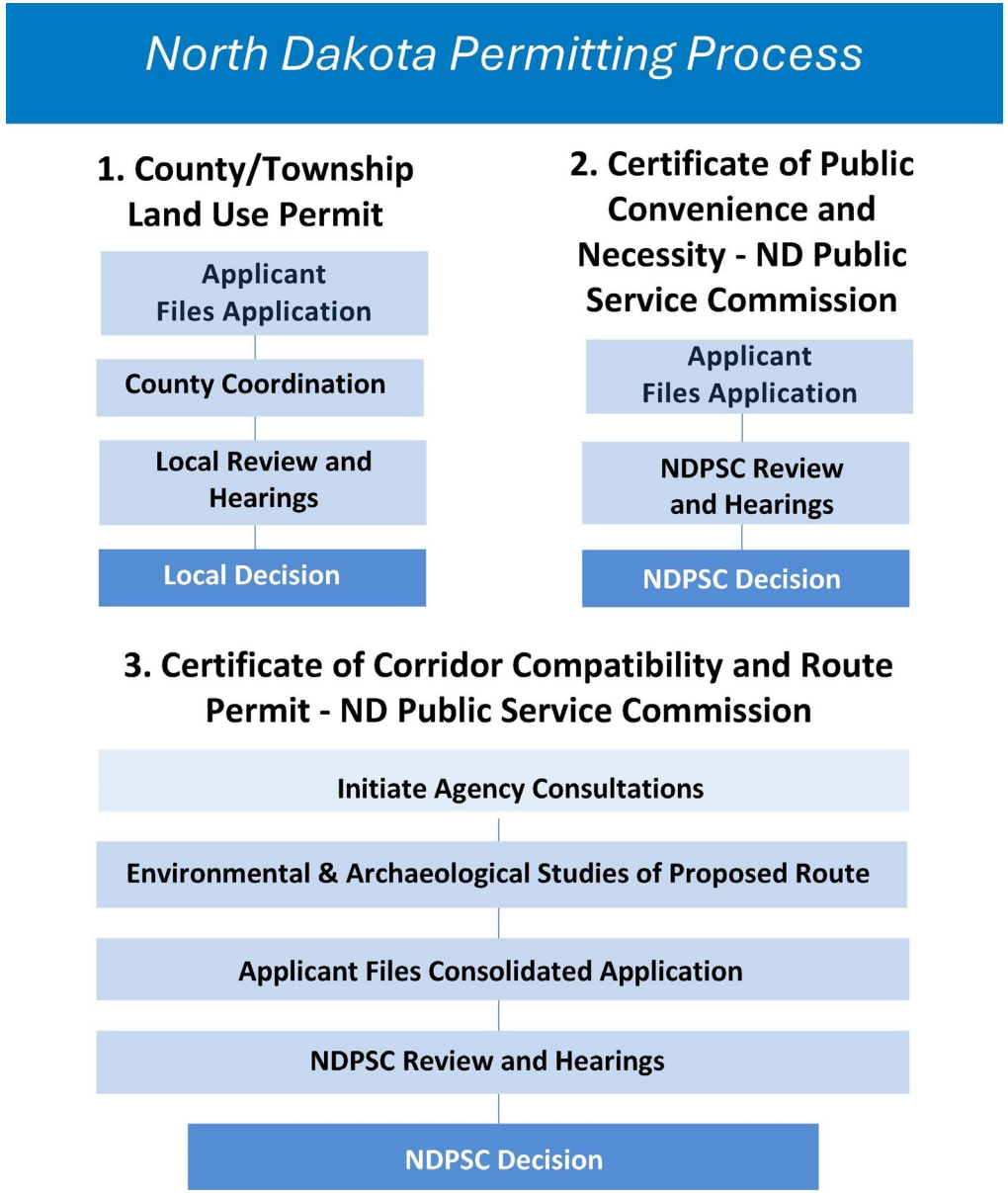
Minnesota Permitting Process

MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

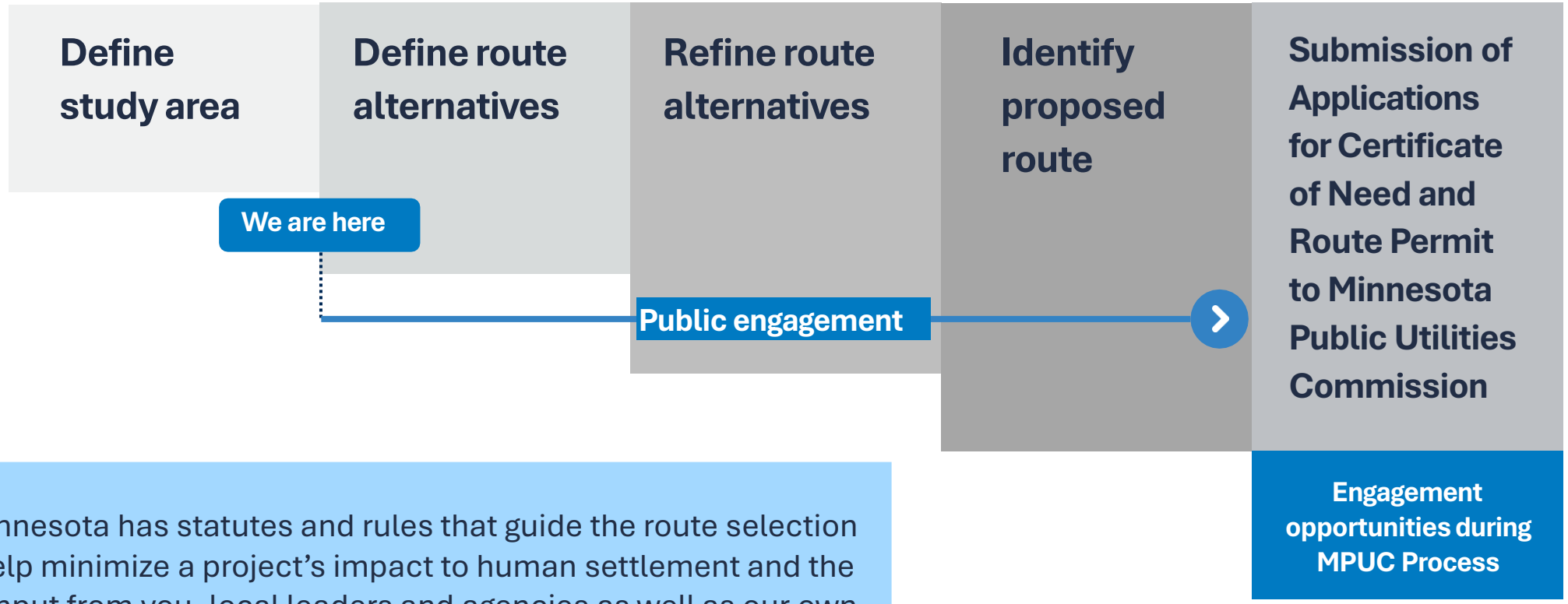
High Voltage Transmission Line Permitting Process

North Dakota Permitting Process

NORTH Dakota Be Legendary.™
Public Service Commission



Minnesota Routing Process & Input Opportunities



The state of Minnesota has statutes and rules that guide the route selection process and help minimize a project's impact to human settlement and the environment. Input from you, local leaders and agencies as well as our own expertise is critical as we develop and finalize a route.

Routing Process Considerations

The criteria for route development are set by Minnesota and North Dakota statute and guides our routing process. To route a project, we consider:

- Opportunities
- Constraints
- Engineering and construction considerations

Anticipated Studies

Field surveys allow the Project team to verify or collect new information to help minimize impacts for construction of the transmission line. Studies may include:

- Geotechnical
- Biological
- Cultural resources
- Wetland and waterbodies
- Invasive species
- Protected species
- Raptor nests

345 kV Transmission Line Right-of-Way

What is a right-of-way?

A right-of-way, or ROW, is a strip of land used for a specific purpose such as the construction, operation and maintenance of a road or transmission line. A right-of-way is typically secured as an easement on a property.

What is an easement?

An agreement between the utility and the landowner allowing the utility the right to construct, operate and maintain a transmission line and other associated infrastructure on a property.

Our Right-of-Way Acquisition Process

When there is a proposed route, landowners are contacted to begin the ROW acquisition process.

An easement is presented to a landowner. An offer based on fair market value is presented.

We work closely with the landowner to resolve concerns and reach an agreement. An easement is recorded.

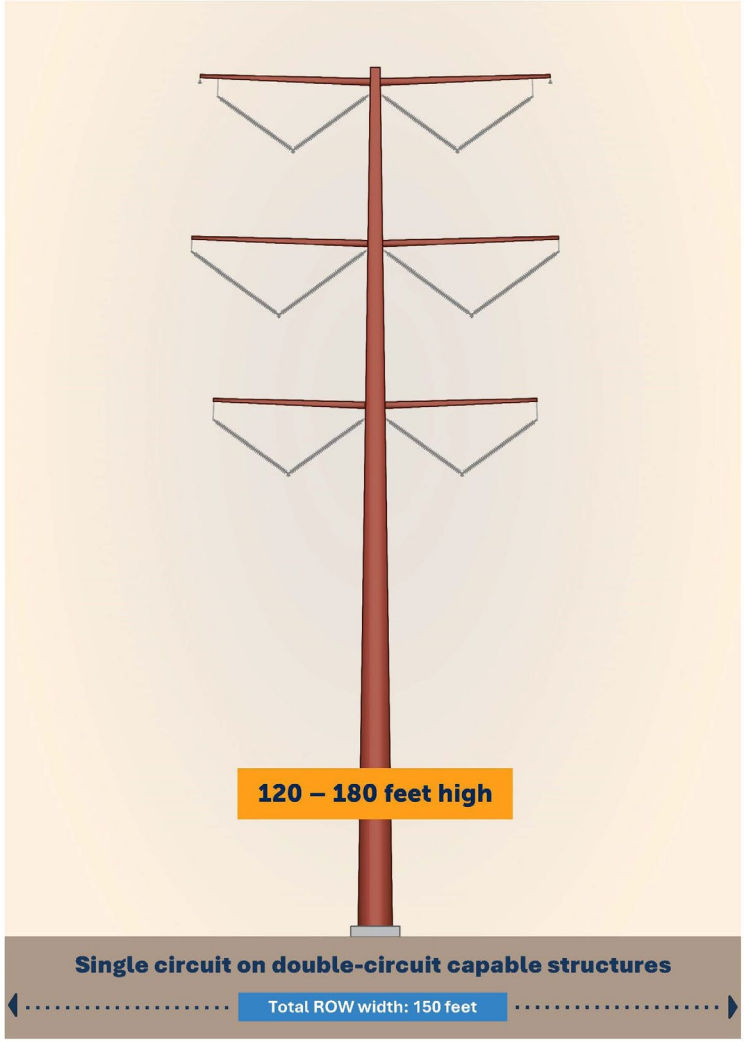
The Project owners construct, operate, and maintain the transmission line within the ROW.

Typical Design

Structure type factors:

- Land use/land cover
- Topography
- Water/wetlands
- Soil types

Right-of-Way (ROW) Typical Construction



Typical Preconstruction and Construction Activities

Initial surveying, right-of-way clearing and access routes

Structure staking, surveying and soils investigations as needed

Foundation installation

Foundation type may vary depending on structure

Assemble and set structures

Wire installation

Cleanup and restoration

Connect with Us!

- Email the project team: **connect@MRCTransmissionProject.com**
- Call the project hotline: **1-888-419-5670**
- Sign up to receive project updates or submit a comment: **MRCTransmissionProject.com/contact-us**

You can also sign up to receive updates from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.
Visit **edockets.state.mn.us/documents** and enter the docket number:

- Certificate of Need docket number 25-109

Thank you!