
November 30, 2023**Pilot Knob to Burnsville project**

To: Persons Interested in the Proposed Construction of a 115-kV High Voltage Transmission Line in Dakota County, Minnesota to Replace 8.75 miles of Existing 69-kV Transmission Lines Currently Located in Eagan, Burnsville, and Apple Valley in Dakota County, Minnesota; the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Energy Facilities General List; Local Officials; Tribes; and Property Owners

Re: Notice of Filing of Route Permit Application with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC Docket No. ET2/TL 23-410)

Great River Energy ("Applicant") is proposing to rebuild and upgrade portions of its 69-kilovolt ("kV") transmission lines within the cities of Eagan, Burnsville, and Apple Valley with approximately 8.75 miles of 115-kV high voltage transmission line ("HVTL"), referred to as the Pilot Knob to Burnsville Rebuild and Upgrade Project ("Project"). Applicant submitted an application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") for a route permit for the Project (Docket No. ET2/TL 23-410) pursuant to the alternative permitting process contained in Minnesota Rules parts 7850.2800 to 7850.3900, and Minnesota Statutes, section 216E.04.

Project Description

The Project will include rebuilding and upgrading three sections of the transmission lines between the following existing substations: (1) between the Pilot Knob and Deerwood substations, (2) between the Deerwood and River Hills substations, and (3) between the River Hills and Burnsville substations. The Project would also involve upgrades and modifications at the Burnsville Substation. The Project occurs within the cities of Eagan, Burnsville, and Apple Valley in Dakota County, Minnesota. See attached map.

Route Permit Process

A Route Permit from the Commission is required before the Project can be constructed. The Power Plant Siting Act (Minnesota Statutes Chapter 216E) and Minnesota Rules parts 7850.1000 to 7850.5600 establish the requirements for submitting and processing a Route Permit application. The statutes and rules also establish notice requirements for various stages of the process. The Route Permit application will be considered by the Commission under the alternative permitting process in Minnesota Statutes section 216E.04 and Minnesota Rules parts 7850.2800 to 7850.3900. The Commission has up to six months from the time the application is accepted as complete to process and make a decision on the Route Permit according to Minnesota Statutes section 216E.04, subd. 7, and Minnesota Rule 7850.3900, subp. 1. The Commission may extend this time limit for up to three months for just cause or upon agreement of the Applicant.

Within 60 days after the Commission accepts the application as complete, the Commission and the Department of Commerce, Energy Environmental Review and Analysis ("EERA") unit will hold a public information and scoping meeting to provide information and seek comments from the public. At this meeting, members of the public may propose additional route alternatives for consideration in the environmental assessment that the EERA will prepare. Once the public meeting is scheduled, notice of the meeting will be provided to persons whose names are on the Project contact list and will be published in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the Project area. After the environmental assessment has been completed, a public hearing will be held on the application. Any person may speak at the public hearing, present documentary evidence, ask questions of Applicants' representatives and EERA staff and submit comments.

If the Commission issues a Route Permit for the Project, Applicant may, if necessary, exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire land necessary for the Project (Minn. Stat. § 216E.12; Minn. Stat. Ch. 117).

Certificate of Need

Minnesota Statutes section 216B.243, subdivision 2 states that "[n]o large energy facility shall be sited or constructed in Minnesota without the issuance of a certificate of need by the [Public Utilities Commission]". A large energy facility is defined as "any high-voltage transmission line with a capacity of 100 kilovolts or more with more than ten miles of its length in Minnesota or that crosses a state line." The proposed Project is less than 10 miles in length and does not cross a state line; therefore, a certificate of need is not required.

How to Learn More

For more information about the regulatory process or to have your name included on the Project mailing lists, contact:

Minnesota Department of Commerce

Richard Davis, Environmental Review Manager
85 7th Place East, Suite 280
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
richard.davis@state.mn.us
651-539-1846
mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

Trevor Culbertson, Principal Energy Planner
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147
trevor.culbertson@state.mn.us
651-201-2200
mn.gov/puc

There are two options for citizens, landowners, and interested persons to receive Project information:

1. **Sign up for the Project Mailing List.** To sign up to receive notices about Project milestones and opportunities to participate (meetings, comment periods, etc.) email eservice.admin@state.mn.us or call 651-201-2246 with the docket number (23-410), your name, mailing address and email address. You may request to receive notices by email or U.S. Mail.
2. **Subscribe to the Docket.** To receive email notifications when new documents are filed in the Route Permit docket visit: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling>, select *Subscribe to eDockets* and follow the prompts.

Note - subscribing may result in a large number of emails.

Current information about the Project and Route Permit Application is available online at https://greatriverenergy.com/transmission_project/pilot-knob-burnsville-transmission-line-rebuild-project/.

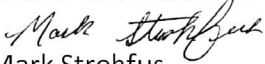
A copy of the Route Permit Application is also available for review at:

- Burnhaven Public Library, 1101 County Rd 42 W, Burnsville, MN 55306, and
- Wescott Library, 1340 Wescott Road, Eagan, MN 55123-1029

Additional information may be obtained by calling Mark Strohfus at Great River Energy: 1-888-521-0130 ext. 5210, direct 763-445-5210 or by email at mstrohfus@greenergy.com.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY


Mark Strohfus

Project Manager, Transmission Permitting

mstrohfus@greenergy.com

D: 763-445-5210