The CapX 2020 utilities are hosting an open house on September 9 at Rochester Public Utilities’ main office at 4000 East River Road NE to provide information on the proposed electric transmission line between the SE Twin Cities, Rochester and La Crosse. Utility representatives will answer questions about the proposed 345-kV line and substations as well as give a brief presentation.

As project notices were mailed to landowners at different times – about 2,200 additional landowners, including some in north Rochester along 75th Street, were noticed in May 2008, while about 17,000 landowners along the entire project study corridor were noticed in July 2007 – CapX 2020 utilities want to provide an update and answer questions that most recently noticed landowners may have about the project.

Tuesday, September 9
6 – 8 p.m., presentation at 7 p.m.
Rochester Public Utilities
4000 East River Road NE
Rochester, MN 55906

www.capx2020.com
CapX 2020 Project update

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MN PUC) must approve two permit applications before transmission lines can be built: a Certificate of Need (CON) and a Route Permit. The CON application for the three CapX 2020 345-kV transmission lines – filed August 17, 2007 – continues to progress through the Minnesota regulatory process. The application examines whether the proposed lines are necessary and what the appropriate size, configuration and timing of the project should be. Administrative Law Judge Beverly Heydinger extended the public comment period on the CON to September 26. The MN PUC’s decision on the CON is expected in early 2009.

Please note that the CON focuses on project need only, not route, which will be considered in a separate regulatory proceeding. The CapX 2002 SE Twin Cities–Rochester–La Crosse project team plans to file a Minnesota Route Permit with the MN PUC in early 2009.

There will be many more opportunities for public participation. The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), a federal agency, will host several public meetings along the project study corridor this fall. CapX utilities may hold additional public meetings prior to filing the Minnesota Route Permit application. The MN PUC will host additional public input meetings after the Route Permit application is received.

The regulatory process in Wisconsin combines the need and routing into one permit, a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN), which will be filed with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) in early 2009. The PSCW and the MN PUC make the final decision on whether the line is needed and the route.

For additional information on the regulatory process:

Minnesota Department of Commerce – www.commerce.state.mn.us
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission – www.puc.state.mn.us
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin – www.psc.wi.gov

Contact information

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