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## CapX2020 UPDATE

JANUARY 2012

**We want to hear from you.**  
Contact us at [www.capx2020.com](http://www.capx2020.com) or:

**Brookings County-Hampton**

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# CapX2020 UPDATE

JANUARY 2012

### Key Facts:

- Certificate of Need approved in 2009
- Route Permit approved in 2010-2011
- 250 mile project
- Construction scheduled from 2012-2015
- Provides reliable electric service and access to new generation sources, including wind resources in southern and western Minnesota and South Dakota

## Brookings County-Hampton project news

The CapX2020 transmission line projects will help deliver reliable electric service to customers throughout Minnesota, provide outlet for new generation sources and serve growing communities in the region.

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MN PUC) approved the route for the final segment of the Brookings County-Hampton transmission line in early 2011, and the CapX2020 utilities have been working on the detailed design, engineering and procurement activities required before construction can begin. Additionally, land rights agents have begun working with landowners to purchase easements between the Helena Substation in Scott County and the Cedar Mountain Substation in Renville County, where construction activities will kick off in April.



Structures similar to the tower pictured here will be spaced between 800 and 1,000 feet apart.

### DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PROCESS

CapX2020 staff began by developing detailed designs for each section of the transmission line. The MN PUC originally approved a 600 to 1,000-foot wide route for the line and eight new or expanded substations where the line will connect. Engineers identify the best locations within the approved route to place structures to ensure the line will operate safely and to minimize land use impacts. This information is included in a "Plan and Profile" document that is filed with the MN PUC.

Land rights agents use the Plan and Profile to explain to landowners specifically how the project will relate to their property, including proposed alignment and pole locations. This information creates the basis for the compensation offer.

### Construction process

The CapX2020 projects use single-pole structures that do not require guy wires. The poles are generally spaced between 800 and 1,000 feet apart, depending on terrain. To build structures, workers dig a hole between 40 and 60 feet deep, insert a rebar cage, which is then filled with concrete. In some areas, pilings may be driven for the foundation. Poles and wires will be installed using cranes; in some cases, helicopters may be used to install equipment or wires.

Land will be restored after equipment is moved out to lessen compaction issues from heavy equipment.

A video detailing the construction process is available at [www.CapX2020.com](http://www.CapX2020.com)

# Brookings County-Hampton project schedule

The project will be built in segments, beginning with the portion between the Helena Substation in Scott County and the Cedar Mountain Substation in Renville County.

## PROJECT SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE:

<b>Helena Substation (Scott County)-Cedar Mountain Substation</b> (Renville County)	
<b>2012</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalize easement agreements with landowners</li> <li>Begin construction</li> </ul>
<b>2013</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete construction activities and remove equipment</li> </ul>
<b>Lyon County Substation (near Marshall)-Cedar Mountain Substation</b>	
<b>2012</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalize Plan and Profile</li> <li>Work with landowners to secure easements</li> <li>Begin construction fall 2012</li> </ul>
<b>2013</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete construction and remove equipment (winter)</li> </ul>
<b>Cedar Mountain Substation-Franklin Substation 115 kV project</b> (Renville County)	
<b>2012</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Plan and Profile</li> </ul>
<b>2013</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with landowners to secure easements</li> <li>Begin construction (late spring)</li> </ul>
<b>2014</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete construction and remove equipment (early fall)</li> </ul>
<b>Helena Substation-Chub Lake Substation</b> (adjacent to Lake Marion Substation near I-35 in Scott County)	
<b>2012</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Plan and Profile</li> <li>Work with landowners to secure easements</li> </ul>
<b>2013</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Begin construction activities (late spring)</li> </ul>
<b>2014</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete construction (fall)</li> </ul>
<b>Chub Lake Substation-Hampton Substation</b> (Dakota County)	
<b>2013</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Plan and Profile</li> <li>Work with landowners to secure easements</li> <li>Begin construction activities (summer)</li> <li>Complete construction (winter)</li> </ul>
<b>Lyon County Substation-Brookings County Substation</b> (eastern South Dakota)	
<b>2013</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Plan and Profile</li> <li>Work with landowners to secure easements</li> <li>Begin construction activities (fall)</li> </ul>
<b>2014</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete construction (summer)</li> </ul>

## Lyon County Substation-Hazel Creek Substation

 (Yellow Medicine County)

- 2013**
- Develop Plan and Profile
  - Work with landowners to secure easements
- 
- 2014**
- Begin construction activities (winter)
  - Complete construction (summer)

## Hazel Creek Substation-Minnesota Valley Substation

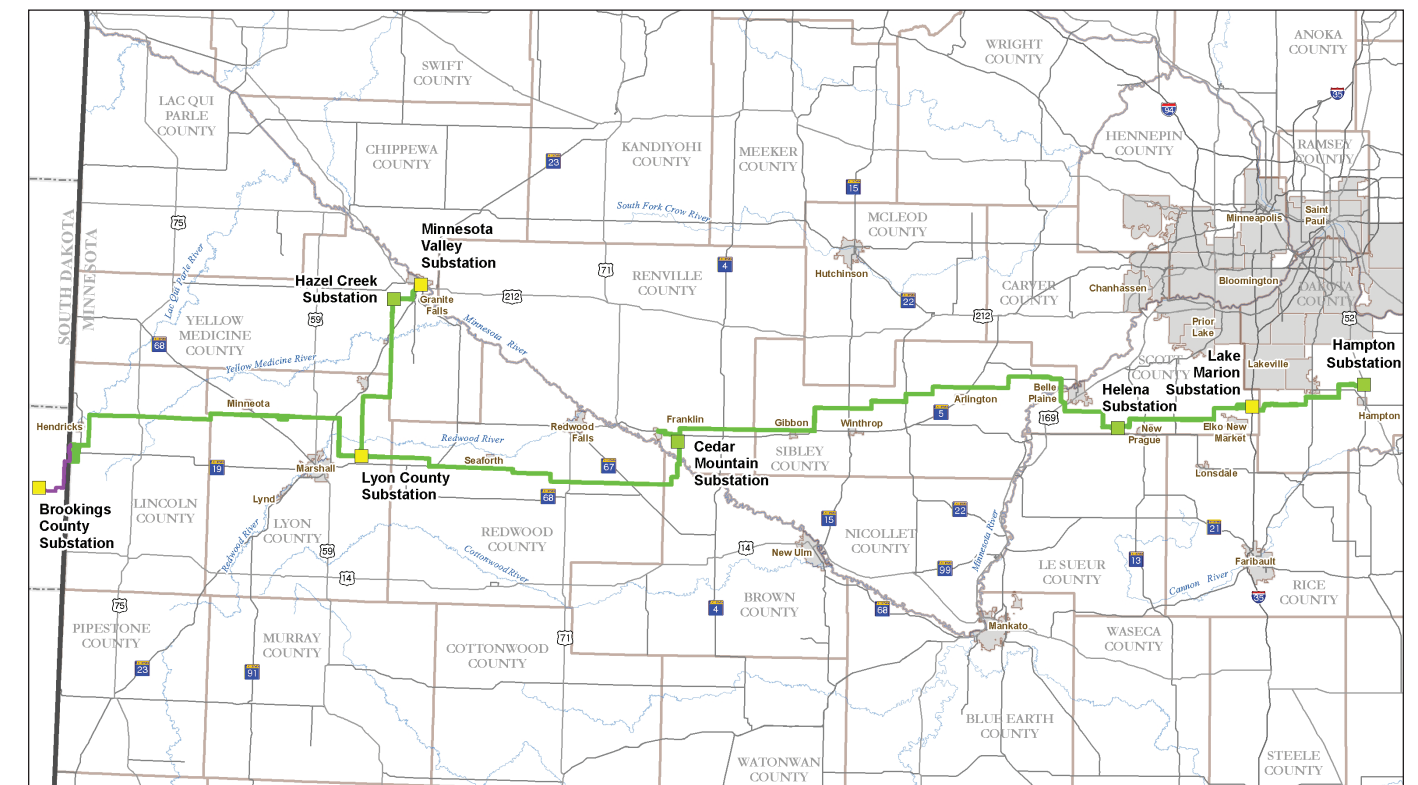
 (Yellow Medicine County)

- 2013**
- Develop Plan and Profile
  - Work with landowners to secure easements
- 
- 2014**
- Begin construction activities (summer)
  - Complete construction (winter)

## 2015 Last segment of line energized

CapX2020 will send periodic updates to landowners and local governments to keep everyone informed of project details and developments. Land rights agents will contact landowners to explain the Plan and Profile as part of the easement process.

This newsletter was sent to all landowners who had been previously notified about CapX2020 projects. To review maps detailing the final route, and for additional project information, please visit [www.CapX2020.com](http://www.CapX2020.com).



The map above details the route approved by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for the CapX2020 Brookings County-Hampton project in 2011. Construction is scheduled to begin in April 2012.

