

**EXAMPLE AGENCY CONTACT LETTER  
NOVEMBER 2007**



November 27, 2007

Todd Kolander  
Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources  
261 Hwy 15 South  
New Ulm, MN 56073

RE: CapX 2020 345 kV Transmission Line, Brookings County to southeast Twin Cities Project  
Brookings County, South Dakota; Lincoln, Lyon, Redwood, Yellow Medicine, Renville, Brown, McLeod, Chippewa, Sibley, Le Sueur, Rice, Carver, Scott and Dakota counties, Minnesota

Dear Todd Kolander:

On behalf of the CapX 2020 Utilities, HDR Engineering, Inc. (HDR) requests your review of the above-mentioned project for potential effects on natural resources. The Brookings County to southeast Twin Cities Project (Project) is in the preliminary stages of planning and design; exact route locations have not yet been established. HDR is currently gathering data on behalf of the CapX 2020 Utilities for the preparation of a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) in accordance with the full permitting process under Minnesota Rule 7849.5200. We plan to meet with agencies and the public several times before our route is finalized. This letter is intended to inform you of the likely areas affected and to give you the opportunity to voice any concerns you may have at this preliminary stage of information gathering.

The proposed Project would involve construction of a 345 kV transmission line between the existing Brookings County, South Dakota, Substation and a new Hampton Corner Substation in central Dakota County, Minnesota (Figure 1 and attached Tables). The 200-mile transmission line would be comprised of single or double circuit structures running between existing and new substations. To the extent practicable, the transmission line would be within or parallel to existing rights-of-way that include transmission lines and transportation corridors. The Project also includes a 30-mile, 345 kV transmission line, running from the Lyon County Substation near Marshall, MN north to the proposed Hazel Creek Substation southwest of Granite Falls. From this point a 230 kV transmission line would run for approximately ten miles to the existing Minnesota Valley Substation on the easterly side of the Minnesota River.

This proposed Project's electrical system configuration features three Minnesota River crossings. There would be two 345 kV crossings; the first would likely occur south of Franklin, MN and the other generally between the communities of Belle Plaine, MN and Le Sueur, MN. The third crossing would be a 230 kV crossing in the Granite Falls area. In each case, a crossing would be selected to minimize impacts to the river channel and riparian corridor.

An alternative electrical system configuration would eliminate the transmission line connection between the Lyon County Substation and the proposed substation located approximately ten miles west of New Prague, Minnesota. In this case, the transmission line would cross the Minnesota River near Granite Falls and run east, parallel to the existing Granite Falls to Black Dog 230 kV transmission line, generally along Trunk Highway 212 to the West Waconia Substation located southwest of Waconia, MN. From there, the transmission line would run south, crossing the Minnesota River near Belle Plaine. After crossing the river the line would run east along the proposed route to the new Hampton Corner Substation. Under this configuration, only two river crossings would be necessary.

Because this project is multi-dimensional in scope, we would like the opportunity to speak with you in person about your issues and concerns. We will contact you soon to schedule meetings and to give you an overview of the Project scope and schedule. If you require further information or have questions regarding this matter, please call me at (763) 591-5478. We look forward to working with you through the route selection process.

Sincerely,

**HDR Engineering, Inc.**



Angela Piner  
Environmental Scientist

Enclosures: Project Location Map  
Township and Range Tables

cc: Craig Poorker, Great River Energy  
Carole Schmidt, Great River Energy

**Table 1. Proposed Brookings to Twin Cities Route location, CapX 2020 Utilities Project**

County	Township Name	Township (N)	Range (W)
Brookings	Lake Hendricks	112	47
	Richland	111	47
Lincoln	Hendricks	112	46
	Shaokatan	111	46
	Royal	112	45
	Ash Lake	111	45
	Limestone	112	44
	Lake Stay	111	44
	Lyon	Nordland	112
Island Lake		111	43
Grandview		112	42
Lynd		111	42
Fairview		112	41
Lake Marshall		111	41
Lucas		113	40
Stanley		112	40
Clifton		111	40
Yellow Medicine		Hazel Run	115
	Sandnes	114	40
	Minnesota Falls	115	39
	Wood Lake	114	39
	Posen	113	39
Redwood	Underwood	112	39
	Vesta	112	38
	Sheridan	112	37
	Redwood Falls	112	36
	Paxton	112	35
	Sherman	112	34
Renville	Birch Cooley	113	34
	Bandon	113	33
	Camp	112	33
	Wellington	113	32
	Cairo	112	32
Sibley	Moltke	113	31
	Severance	112	31
	Bismarck	113	30
	Cornish	112	30
	Transit	113	29
	Alfsborg	112	29
	Dryden	113	28
	Sibley	112	28

County	Township Name	Township (N)	Range (W)
	Arlington	113	27
	Kelso	112	27
	Washington Lake	114	26
	Jessenland	113	26
	Henderson	112	26
	Faxon	114	25
Le Sueur	Tyrone	112	25
	Derrynane	112	24
	Lanesburgh	112	23
Scott	Blakeley	113	25
	Belle Plaine	113	24
	Helena	113	23
	Cedar Lake	113	22
	New Market	113	21
Rice	Wheatland	112	22
	Webster	112	21
Dakota	Eureka	113	20
	Greenvale	112	20
	Empire	114	19
	Castle Rock	113	19
	Waterford	112	19
	Vermillion	114	18
	Hampton	113	18

**Table 2. Alternative Brookings to Twin Cities Route location, CapX 2020 Utilities Project**

County	Township Name	Township (N)	Range (W)
Brookings	Lake Hendricks	112	47
	Richland	111	47
Lincoln	Hendricks	112	46
	Shaokatan	111	46
	Royal	112	45
	Ash Lake	111	45
	Limestone	112	44
	Lake Stay	111	44
	Lyons	Nordland	112
Island Lake		111	43
Grandview		112	42
Lynd		111	42
Fairview		112	41
Lake Marshall		111	41
Lucas		113	40
Stanley		112	40
Clifton		111	40
Yellow Medicine	Hazel Run	115	40
	Sandnes	114	40
	Minnesota Falls	115	39
	Wood Lake	114	39
	Posen	113	39
Chippewa	Granite Falls	116	39
Renville	Wang	116	38
	Hawk Creek	115	38
	Ericson	116	37
	Sacred Heart	115	37
	Crooks	116	36
	Emmet	115	36
	Winfield	116	35
	Troy	115	35
	Kingman	116	34
	Bird Island	115	34
	Osceola	116	33
	Melville	115	33
	Brookfield	116	32
	Hector	115	32
	Boon Lake	116	31
Preston Lake	115	31	

County	Township Name	Township (N)	Range (W)
McLeod	Lynn	116	30
	Collins	115	30
	Hassan Valley	116	29
	Sumter	115	29
	Rich Valley	116	28
	Glencoe	115	28
	Bergen	116	27
	Helen	115	27
Carver	Camden	116	26
	Young America	115	26
	Waconia	116	26
	Benton	115	25
	Laketown	116	24
	Dahlgren	115	24
Sibley	Washington Lake	114	26
	Jessenland	113	26
	Henderson	112	26
	Faxon	114	25
Le Sueur	Tyrone	112	25
	Derrynane	112	24
	Lanesburg	112	23
Scott	St. Lawrence	114	26
	Blakeley	113	25
	Belle Plaine	113	24
	Helena	113	23
	Cedar Lake	113	22
	New Market	113	21
Rice	Wheatland	112	22
	Webster	112	21
Dakota	Eureka	113	20
	Greenvale	112	20
	Empire	114	19
	Castle Rock	113	19
	Waterford	112	19
	Vermillion	114	18
	Hampton	113	18