The Big Stone South-Brookings County project is a 70-mile, 345 kV transmission line between a new Big Stone South Substation near Big Stone City, S.D., and the Brookings County Substation near Brookings, S.D. Xcel Energy and Otter Tail Power Company are joint owners of the transmission line and CapX2020 partners.

The Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) granted the project approval as a multi-value project (MVP) in December 2011. The MVPs will help expand and enhance the region’s transmission system, reduce congestion, provide access to affordable energy sources, as well as meet public policy requirements, including renewable energy mandates. The MVP designation is a new tariff that enables an eligible project to be financed by all MISO member utilities in 15 states and Manitoba.

Construction on the project is expected to start in late 2015 or early 2016. The targeted in-service date is 2017.

Single pole steel structures will primarily be used to reduce land impacts; some locations may require two pole structures. Poles are between 140 and 170 feet tall and will be about 1,000 feet apart. Typically, a 150-foot wide right-of-way will be required.

About CapX2020

CapX2020 is a joint initiative of 11 transmission-owning utilities in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin formed to upgrade and expand the electric transmission grid to ensure continued reliable and affordable service.

We want to hear from you.

Contact us at www.CapX2020.com or:
Joe Samuel, Project Manager
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1-800-238-7968
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CapX2020 and its contractor, will conduct survey work and soil borings along the proposed transmission route in early 2014. Land agents will contact landowners to gain permission to access private property where necessary. Precautions will be taken when accessing these areas to minimize any disturbance or inconvenience to property owners.

### Northern segment

The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission granted a Facility Permit in January 2007 and recertified the permit in April 2013 for approximately 35 miles of double circuit capable 345 kV transmission line from just west of Big Stone City to just east of Gary, S.D. To view Facility Permit documents, visit the SD PUC website at [http://www.puc.sd.gov/](http://www.puc.sd.gov/) and search for EL12-063.

### Southern segment

CapX2020 filed a Facility Permit application in June 2013 for an additional 42 miles from just north of Gary to the Brookings County Substation near Brookings, S.D. The SD PUC held a public hearing on the project in Brookings on July 31, 2013. A revised route alignment was approved in October 2013 in the Gilley’s Grove area. The SD PUC is evaluating the CapX2020 Facility Permit application and a decision is anticipated in 2014. You can read the filing on the SD PUC website [http://www.puc.sd.gov/](http://www.puc.sd.gov/) and search for EL13-020.