CapX2020 partners, renewable energy advocates, state officials and legislators gathered near St. Cloud and Fargo on Monday, May 4 to celebrate the energization of two new 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission lines, which help ensure continued reliability of electric service in the region and provide additional ways to bring renewable energy to the market. The recently energized projects are the 240-mile Fargo-St. Cloud-Monticello and 250-mile Brookings County-Hampton projects, which represent a $1.3 billion investment. Events were held at the Quarry Substation in St. Cloud, Minnesota, and the Bison Substation in Mapleton, North Dakota.

Xcel Energy was the project manager on the Fargo-St. Cloud-Monticello project, and Great River Energy took the lead on Brookings County-Hampton. With these two lines, and the CapX2020 Bemidji-Grand Rapids 230 kV project which was completed in 2012, the CapX2020 expansion has added nearly 600 miles of new transmission lines in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.

N.D. Congressman Kevin Cramer: “This serves as a testament, as a leading economic indicator of the diversity and the robustness of this economy in the Red River Valley, so it creates jobs as well as supplies jobs.”

N.D. PSC Comm. Julie Fedorchak: “On time and on budget is something we can all celebrate and I really appreciate that.”

Wind on the Wires Director Beth Soholt: “These projects deliver a backbone for clean energy.” Fresh Energy’s Michael Noble also attended the Quarry Substation event.
Crews will finish installing interphase spacers between June and September on the Brookings County-Hampton project between the Helena Substation west of New Prague and the Lyon County Substation northeast of Marshall. Interphase spacers are devices that help prevent “galloping”, or movement of the conductors during certain weather conditions.

CapX2020 partners realize the planning and construction of the transmission projects is a lengthy process. We want to thank the landowners, businesses and residents along the routes for their patience and understanding.

Twitter Chatter

Fargo-Monticello & Brookings County-Hampton: By the Numbers

2,911 structures
300,000 cubic yards of concrete
21 million feet of wire

View videos about the CapX2020 projects.
Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse project

Construction on the 150-mile Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345/161 kV transmission line in Minnesota and Wisconsin started in Minnesota in February 2013. The 161 kV segment northwest of Rochester was energized May 15, 2014. A 90-mile 345 kV segment is expected to be energized in the fall of 2015, including 50 miles in Wisconsin, and 40 miles between the Mississippi River and Pine Island, Minn. Foundation installation is underway on the final 345 kilovolt project segment between the Hampton Substation in Hampton, Minn. and the North Rochester Substation near Pine Island, Minn. The entire project is scheduled to be completed in 2016.

Big Stone South-Brookings County project

Tree clearing and road access improvements are scheduled to begin in August on the 70-mile 345 kilovolt Big Stone South-Brookings County transmission line. Foundation construction will also begin in late 2015. The project will run between a new Big Stone South Substation near Big Stone City, S.D., to the Brookings County Substation near Brookings, S.D. The project will help expand and enhance the region’s transmission system, reduce congestion, provide access to affordable energy sources and meet public policy requirements, including renewable energy mandates.
Central Minnesota Municipal Power Agency • Dairyland Power Cooperative • Great River Energy
Minnesota Power • Minnkota Power Cooperative • Missouri River Energy Services • Otter Tail Power Company
Rochester Public Utilities • Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency • WPPI Energy • Xcel Energy

SPRING 2015

CapX QUARTERLY

About the CapX Quarterly
The CapX Quarterly is a quarterly newsletter to inform and update interested stakeholders about CapX2020 project status and milestones. For more information about CapX2020, please visit the project website at www.capx2020.com.

The CapX Quarterly is primarily distributed via e-mail. Sign up for future issues at www.capx2020.com. If you do not have internet access, please call 612-330-5701 to receive a printed version (if you have previously called, you will continue to receive the printed version).

We want to hear from you.
Contact us at www.capx2020.com or:

Fargo-St. Cloud-Monticello
Jerry Chezik, Project Manager
Tom Hillstrom, Routing Lead
1.866.876.2869
fargoinfo@capx2020.com

Brookings County-Hampton
Dan Lesher, Routing Lead
Lori Buffington, Communications Specialist
1.888.473.2279
brookingsinfo@capx2020.com

Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse
Grant Stevenson, Project Manager
Tim Lisson, Real Estate
1.800.238.7968
lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com

Big Stone South-Brookings County
Joe Samuel, Project Manager
Tom Hillstrom, Routing Lead
1.800.238.7968
bssinfo@capx2020.com

@capx2020