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).

The next issue will be distributed in October 2011.

PROJECT UPDATES

Power line construction work along I-94 between Monticello and St. Cloud to start in August

The CapX2020 utilities will begin using helicopters for work on the project in August. Helicopters will be flying in close proximity to the new transmission structures along I-94 between Monticello and St. Cloud. A helicopter will assist in the stringing of transmission conductor (wire) from structure to structure. Implosive connectors will also be used in the line construction to splice transmission conductor joints. The split second detonation creates a flash and a loud boom near the top of the structure. Motorists are reminded that stopping or slowing on I-94 is illegal and unsafe.

Brookings County-Hampton 345 kV project

The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (SD PUC) unanimously approved the project’s Facility Permit on June 14. Landowner contacts are scheduled to begin in late July.

On June 16, the Midwest ISO granted the project conditional approval as a multi-value project (MVP) status. The MVP designation is a new tariff that enables projects that meet one of three criteria to be financed by all MISO member utilities in 12 states and Manitoba. Final MVP designation is expected in December.
The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MN PUC) approved the project’s final route. It generally follows the preferred route along Interstate 94 from the North Dakota border south of Fargo to the Alexandria Switching Station. From Alexandria, the line will continue east mostly along I-94 to Sauk Centre where it heads south along county and township roads near Albany, Collegeville and St. Joseph to the new Quarry Substation west of St. Cloud. View detailed aerial maps here. Land management representatives have begun easement acquisition discussion with landowners.

**Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV project**

Public hearings on the Minnesota Route Permit application took place June 14-16 in Plainview, Pine Island and Cannon Falls. Evidentiary hearings were June 20-21 and 25 in St. Paul. The administrative law judge’s route recommendation is expected in the fall, with the MN PUC’s route decision by the end of the year.

**Bemidji-Grand Rapids 230 kV project**

Winter tree clearing is complete. Construction is expected to start in August.

Landowner outreach and right-of-way work continues.

**Monticello-St. Cloud 345 kV project**

Only four of 157 transmission poles remain to be installed. Poles start at the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant and head west generally paralleling Interstate 94 to the new Quarry Substation northwest of St. Cloud.

Native vegetation in the Bel Claire Marsh near St. Cloud is reestablishing less than six months after a structure was constructed for the Monticello-St. Cloud project.

**Fargo-St. Cloud-Monticello 345 kV project**

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MN PUC) approved the project’s final route. It generally follows the preferred route along Interstate 94 from the North Dakota border south of Fargo to the Alexandria Switching Station. From Alexandria, the line will continue east mostly along I-94 to Sauk Centre where it heads south along county and township roads near Albany, Collegeville and St. Joseph to the new Quarry Substation west of St. Cloud. View detailed aerial maps here. Land management representatives have begun easement acquisition discussion with landowners.

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