
After reviewing the record, including public comments, the ALJ recommended a route detailed on the enclosed map, including crossing the Cannon River at the Byllesby Dam and the Zumbro River at the Zumbro Dam.

Although the ALJ recommended a route in her report, it is not the final route. Other route options are not exempt from consideration by the MN PUC when making its final decision on the Route Permit application.

The MN PUC will review the record and consider the ALJ’s recommendation at a meeting this spring. The commission makes the final decision on the transmission line’s final route.

About the project

The Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV transmission line will improve reliability for the Twin Cities, the Rochester and La Crosse areas, and the surrounding rural areas, as well as improve access to generation in the south and east part of Minnesota. The double circuit capable 345 kV line will run between a new substation near Hampton, a new substation north of Pine Island and continue on to cross the Mississippi River near Alma. A single circuit 345 kV line is proposed from Alma to a new substation in the La Crosse area. A new 161 kV line will be built between the new North Rochester Substation (between Pine Island and Zumbrota) and the existing North Hills Substation in northwest Rochester.
Minnesota route recommended by judge