Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Route Permit application filed
Landowners encouraged to stay involved

The CapX2020 utilities met a major milestone for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV transmission line project with the January 19 filing of a Route Permit application with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. Landowners owning property within one of two route options were mailed an informational packet.

**Wisconsin route options will be developed and the required regulatory permits filed in 2010.**

The proposed project includes approximately 120 to 140 miles of 345 kV transmission line between a new Hampton Substation north of Hampton, Minnesota and a new substation north of La Crosse, Wisconsin. Approximately 80 to 90 miles of transmission line would be located in Dakota, Rice, Goodhue, Olmsted and Wabasha counties in Minnesota; the remainder would be located in Wisconsin. The proposed Project also includes approximately 15 miles of 161 kV line to connect a new substation near Pine Island, Minnesota with the existing Northern Hills Substation north of Rochester. The Minnesota Route Permit application includes the portion of the Project between the Hampton Substation and the Mississippi River crossing near Alma, Wisconsin.

Pole heights for the 345 kV line would range from 130 to 170 feet and 70 to 105 feet for the 161 kV line. Typical right-of-way width would be 150 feet and 80 feet for the 345 kV and 161 kV lines, respectively.

State law requires at least two route alternatives be proposed and that a preferred route be selected. Landowners and others will have the opportunity to provide alternative route options for consideration. The Commission will determine the final route after a comprehensive review that includes preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, public meetings held by the Department of Commerce, Office of Energy Security, and public hearings held by the Commission and overseen by an administrative law judge.

CapX2020 encourages all landowners, regardless if they have property within a route option, to continue attending meetings and participating in the public process. There have been instances in Minnesota where the Commission certified routes not proposed in the utilities’ Route Permit application.

If you have questions about the Route Permit application or current project status, please call 1-800-238-7968 or email lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com. If you would like to receive written notices of project milestones regarding the environmental review process, including availability notice of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, please sign up for the project contact list at http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/ or by contacting:

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The Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV transmission line project preferred and alternate routes detailed in the map below were filed in a Minnesota Route Permit application on January 19, 2010. The route options were developed based on a review of required routing criteria and information compiled from landowners, local government officials, state and federal agencies, and other interested stakeholders. A Route Permit from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission is required before the project can be constructed. The Commission determines the transmission line’s final route and design. Please continue to be involved with this important project.

Wisconsin route options will be developed and the required regulatory permits filed in 2010.

Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse route options

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