Stay Informed


Minnesota PUC: To view CapX 2020 filings, go to the PUC’s Web site at www.puc.state.mn.us, click on E-documents on the left-hand side, click on Search documents, and search for docket 06-1115. In the search field, “06” stands for the year 2006 (when the first CapX 2020 document was filed). Use “06” for the year and “1115” in the second field, then press the search button.

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**Fargo-Alexandria-St. Cloud-Monticello 345-kV Project Timeline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4th Quarter</td>
<td>1st Quarter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CapX 2020 Routing Work Groups Meeting #1</td>
<td>Head End at Fargo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CapX 2020 Routing Work Groups Meeting #2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CapX 2020 Public Meetings Phase II</td>
<td>Head End at Estherville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CapX 2020 Public Meetings Phase III</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CapX 2020 Public Meetings Phase IV</td>
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</tbody>
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**State public hearings on Certificate of Need**

Two major approvals must be obtained from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) before a high voltage transmission line can be built: a Certificate of Need (CON) and a Route Permit. The CapX 2020 utilities filed a CON application with the PUC for its three 345 kilovolt (kV) lines in August 2007, including a line from Fargo to Monticello. As part of the CON process, the PUC is hosting 19 public hearings from June 17 to July 2 (see insert).

The PUC public hearings, which will take place in 13 cities, will be presided over by an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ). The purpose of the hearings is to determine whether the proposed transmission lines are needed and in the public interest. Testimony has been submitted to the ALJ recommending that the size of the Fargo - Monticello line be increased (higher voltage or double circuit). The question of line size will be determined in the CON hearing process.

Anyone can present testimony and express opinions concerning the utility proposal or alternatives on the Certificate of Need. The CapX 2020 utilities urge all interested citizens to attend a hearing in their area.

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**Contact information for the three 345-kV projects:**

Brookings, SD – SE Twin Cities
(888) 473-2279
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Fargo – Alexandria – St. Cloud – Monticello
(866) 876-2869
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When the CapX 2020 utilities filed their Minnesota Certificate of Need application they included broad ‘notice corridors’ that extended between the general areas proposed for the beginning and end-points of each proposed line. Over the past 10 months the three project teams have met with landowners, local and state officials, community leaders, agencies, and environmental and other interested parties to collect input for the development of route options that will be included in a Minnesota Route Permit.

The Fargo – Monticello project team is moving toward filing a Route Permit for St. Cloud to Monticello this summer and another for Fargo to St. Cloud in late fall. Similar review, permit and approval processes are required by the North Dakota Public Service Commission. The state regulatory agencies will make the final determination on the routes.