



Appendix B

Project Correspondence

In accordance with Minnesota Rules, part 7829.0500, and Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13, Dairyland has designated portions of Appendix B as **NONPUBLIC DATA–NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE** because it contains sensitive cultural resource and natural heritage information. The Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Manual for Archaeological Projects in Minnesota provides for restricted access to sensitive cultural resource information. Similarly, the natural heritage information is nonpublic under Minnesota Statutes § 84.0872. Given the need to include nonpublic information, Dairyland has prepared and is electronically filing both **NONPUBLIC** and public versions of Appendix B.

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PROJECT INTRODUCTION NOTIFICATION



December 18, 2023

[Name]
[Title]
[Agency]
[Address]
[City, State, Zip Code]
[Email Address]

**Re: In the Matter of the Application of Dairyland Power Cooperative to Relocate an Existing 161-kV Transmission Line in Wabasha County, Minnesota
MPUC Docket Nos. ET3/CN-23-504 and ET3/TL23-388**

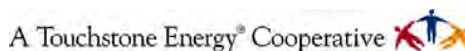
Dear [Name]:

Dairyland Power Cooperative (Dairyland) is proposing to relocate approximately 13.3 miles of 161-kilovolt (kV) high voltage transmission line (HVTL) and construct a new substation in Wabasha County, Minnesota (the Wabasha Relocation Project, or the Project). The Project starts in Plainview Township, northeast of the Town of Plainview, and traverses northeast through Highland, Watopa, and Greenfield Townships, ending east of the City of Kellogg near the Mississippi River.

The Project is a reroute of approximately 10.4 miles of the existing Dairyland LQ34 161-kV transmission line which is presently located on the existing CapX2020 Hampton-Rochester-LaCrosse 345-kV structures. In July 2020, the Midwest Independent System Operator (MISO) approved a long-range transmission portfolio including a new Wilmarth-North Rochester-Tremval transmission line. This new 345-kV line would utilize the double circuit capability of the CapX2020 system between North Rochester and Alma, Wisconsin. Therefore, Dairyland's existing 161-kV transmission line must be removed from the existing CapX2020 structures and relocated to make room for the new 345-kV circuit on the CapX2020 structures.

The Project would involve installation of 70- to 110-foot-high steel monopoles placed 400 to 800 feet apart within a 100-foot-wide right-of-way, and construction of a new substation east of the City of Kellogg, Minnesota. The enclosed Project Fact Sheet provides additional information on the Project, including a map of the Project area and proposed route.

Dairyland plans to file a joint Certificate of Need and Route Permit application (Application) with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) in March 2024. Dairyland would appreciate any input you may have on the Project and the proposed route. This letter, and any responses received, will be submitted along with Dairyland's Application. There will also be numerous public input opportunities as part of the Commission's Certificate of Need and Route Permit process.



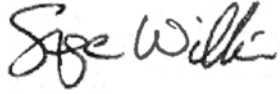
3200 East Ave. S. • PO Box 817 • La Crosse, WI 54602-0817 • 608-788-4000 • 608-787-1420 fax • www.dairylandpower.com

Dairyland Power Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you regarding the proposed Project. If you would like to request a meeting, please contact me at 608-791-2993 or Sage.Williams@Dairylandpower.com.¹ We also welcome written comments, and I am available to answer any questions you have.

Sincerely,

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sage Williams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sage Williams
Manager, Transmission Operations and Development

Cc: [Name]

Encl: Project Fact Sheet

¹ This letter is intended to serve as notice of the opportunity for a pre-application consultation meeting under Minn. Stat. § 216E.03, subd. 3a.



Dairyland Power Cooperative
Manager, Transmission Operations and Development
3200 East Avenue South
P.O. Box 817
La Crosse, WI 54602-0817

Wabasha Relocation Project

Project Overview

Dairyland Power Cooperative (Dairyland) is proposing to relocate approximately 13.3 miles of 161-kilovolt (kV) high voltage transmission line (HVTL) in Wabasha County (the Project). The Project will make room for a second 345-kV circuit to be attached to the existing CapX Hampton-Rochester-LaCrosse (CapX) structures, which extend diagonally northeast from the Town of Plainview to the City of Kellogg, Minnesota. The Project will allow Dairyland to maintain its transmission system, supply the Wabaco Substation, and provide power to the Town of Plainview and neighboring areas. Once the 161-kV transmission line has been relocated to the new right of way, the existing transmission circuit located on the CapX 2020 345-kV structures will be transferred to Xcel Energy. Structures would consist of 70- to 110-foot steel monopoles with spans of 400 to 800 feet apart. Dairyland will seek a 100-foot-wide right-of-way – 50 feet on each side of the centerline.

This Project also includes the construction of a new substation proposed near the City of Kellogg. This substation is required because the new CapX 345-kV circuit across the Mississippi River will eliminate Dairyland's existing 69-kV transmission line crossing and connection to the Alma Station in Wisconsin. The new Kellogg Substation will supply power to Dairyland's existing north-south 69-kV transmission line supplying the Weaver Substation, which provides power to communities within the southeast Minnesota area.

Permitting and Public Involvement

Dairyland plans to submit a Certificate of Need and Route Permit Application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) in March 2024. During this process, the public and regulatory agencies will have several opportunities to review and provide input on the Project, including public meetings hosted by the Commission and the Department of Commerce Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (DOC-EERA). DOC-EERA will also prepare an environmental assessment for the Project that will be available for public review. Once the Commission issues a decision, Dairyland will finalize the Project route and obtain any additional permits needed from federal, state, and local agencies.

Landowner Coordination and Easement Negotiation

After Dairyland submits the Certificate of Need and Route Permit application to the Commission, a representative from Dairyland will contact property owners to discuss access to the Proposed Route and the process for acquisition of easements. Dairyland will continue to engage with landowners throughout the permitting process to answer any questions they may have regarding the easement process or the Project, including those with respect to construction or operation of the transmission line.

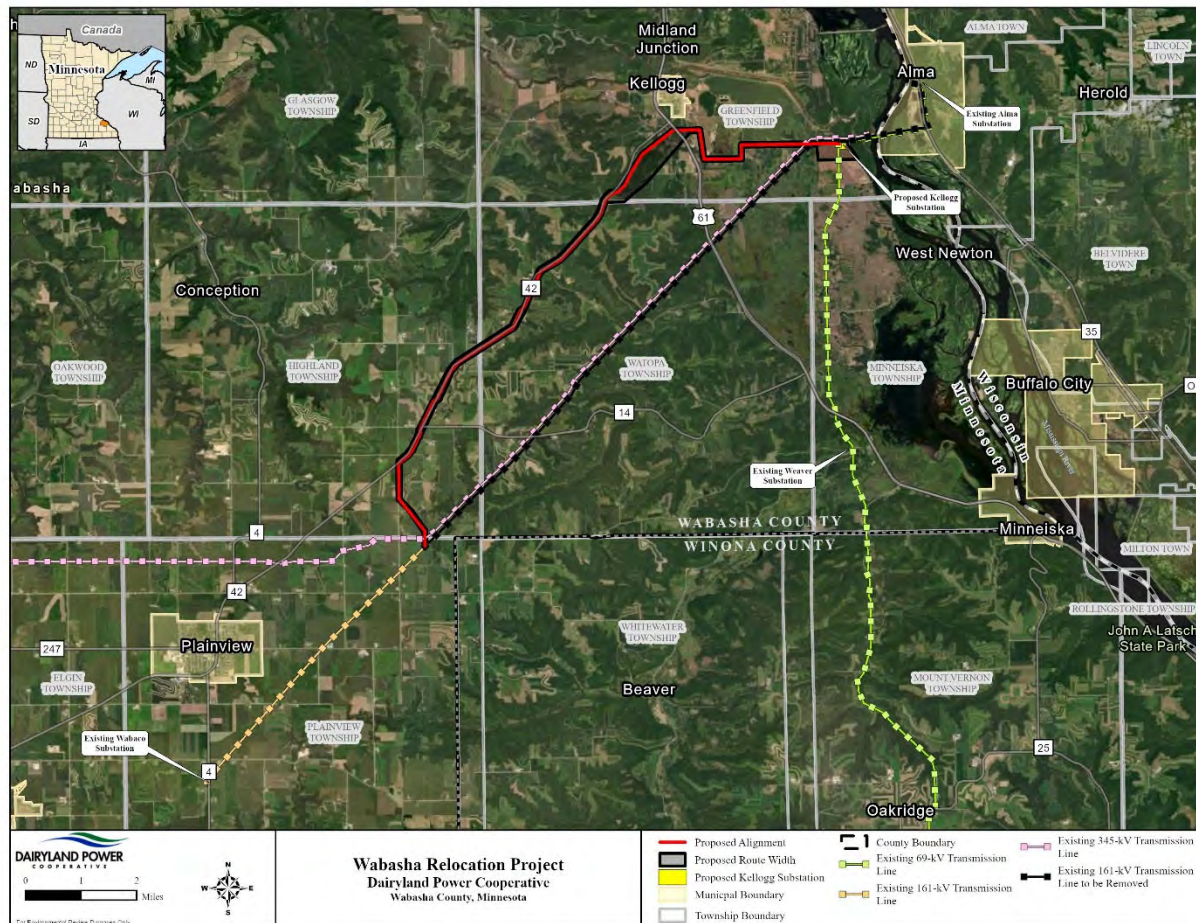
About Dairyland

Dairyland is a Touchstone Energy Cooperative formed in December 1941 and based in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Dairyland provides wholesale electrical requirements to more than 700,000 people through its 24 distribution cooperatives and 27 municipals in a four-state area including Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois.



Dairyland Power Cooperative
 Manager, Transmission Operations and Development
 3200 East Avenue South
 P.O. Box 817
 La Crosse, WI 54602-0817

Project Schedule	
Timeframe	Project Phase/Activity
November 2023	Notifications and Open Houses
Winter 2024 – Summer 2025	Certificate of Need and Route Permit
Summer/Fall 2025	Survey/Design
Winter 2025 – Fall 2025	Easements/Additional Permits
Spring 2026 – Summer 2027	Construction
Summer 2028	Energization



Dairyland Representatives	
Jessica Sandry	Sage Williams
Jessica Sandry, Real Estate and Right-of-Way	Project Manager, Transmission Operations and Development
608-792-3359	608-791-2993
Jessica.Sandry@DairylandPower.com	Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com

Table B-1. Recipients Sent and Copied on the Project Introduction Notification Letter

Agency	Department/District/Division	Contact Name	Address	Email	Intro Letter Sent
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	St. Paul District - Regulatory and Permits	Raelene Hegge	332 Minnesota St., Ste. E1500, St. Paul, MN 55101	Raelene.Hegge@usace.army.mil	Primary addressee
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Upper Mississippi River Pool 5 Dredged Material Management Site (Rolling Prairie Site)	Paul Machajewski	332 Minnesota St., Ste. E1500, St. Paul, MN 55101	Paul.R.Machajewski@usace.army.mil	Copied on letter to R. Edstrom (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Upper Mississippi River Pool 5 Dredged Material Management Site (Rolling Prairie Site)	Robert Edstrom	332 Minnesota St., Ste. E1500, St. Paul, MN 55101	Robert.K.Edstrom@usace.army.mil	Primary addressee
U.S. Department of Agriculture	Natural Resources Conservation Service	Elizabeth Dawson	430 3rd Street, Suite 250 Farmington, MN 55024	elizabeth.dawson@usda.gov	Primary addressee
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Minnesota Ecological Services Field Office	Betsy Gailbraith	2661 Scott Tower Drive New Franken, WI 54229	betsy_galbraith@fws.gov	Primary addressee
Federal Aviation Administration	Air Traffic, Specialist/Crane Specialist	Fred Souchet		fred.souchet@faa.gov	Copied on letter to R. Kiser (Federal Aviation Administration)
Federal Aviation Administration	Air Traffic, Technician	Robert Kiser	1701 Columbia Ave. College Park, GA 30337	Robert.K-CTR.Kiser@faa.gov	Primary addressee
Bois Forte Band of Chippewa	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	Jaylen Strong	1500 Bois Forte Road, Tower, MN 55790	jaylen.strong@boisfortensn.gov	Primary addressee
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	Evan Schroeder	28 University Rd., Cloquet, MN 55720	EvanSchroeder@FDLREZ.COM	Primary addressee
Grand Portage Band of Ojibwe	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	Rob Hull	PO Box 428, Grand Portage, MN 55605	thpo@grandportage.com	Primary addressee
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	Amy Burnette	15756 State 371 NW, Cass Lake, MN 56633	amy.burnette@llojibwe.net	Primary addressee
Lower Sioux Indian Community	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	Cheyenne St. John	39527 Reservation Highway 1, Morton, MN 56270	cheyanne.stjohn@lowsio ux.com	Primary addressee
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	Mike Wilson	43408 Oodena Drive, Onamia, MN 56359	mike.wilson@millelacsband.com	Primary addressee
Prairie Island Indian Community	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	Noah White	5636 Sturgeon Lake Road, Welch, MN 55089	noah.white@piic.org	Primary addressee
Red Lake Nation	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	Kade Ferris	15484 Migizi Drive, Red Lake, MN 56671	kade.ferris@redlakenation.org	Primary addressee

Agency	Department/District/Division	Contact Name	Address	Email	Intro Letter Sent
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	Leonard Wabasha	2330 Sioux Trail NW, Prior Lake, MN 55372	leonard.wabasha@shakope edakota.org	Primary addressee
Upper Sioux Community	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	Samantha Odegard	PO Box 147, 5722 Travers Lane, Granite Falls, MN 56241	samanthao@uppersiouxco mmunity-nsn.gov	Primary addressee
White Earth Nation	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	Jaime Arsenault	PO Box 418, White Earth, MN 56591-0418	Jaime.Arsenault@whiteear t-nsn.gov	Primary addressee
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	Ecological and Water Resources - Environmental Review Program	Melissa Collins	1200 Warner Road, St. Paul, MN 55106	melissa.collins@state.mn.u s	Primary addressee, combined letter with C. Warzecha (Minnesota Department of Natural Resources)
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	Environmental Review Coordinator	Cynthia Warzecha		Cynthia.Warzecha@state.m n.us	Primary addressee, combined letter with M. Collins (Minnesota Department of Natural Resources)
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	Lands & Minerals	Martha Vickery	1200 Warner Road, St. Paul, MN 55106	martha.vickery@state.mn.u s	Copied on letter to C. Warzecha and M. Collins (Minnesota Department of Natural Resources)
Minnesota Department of Transportation	Land Management	Stacy Kotch Egstad	395 John Ireland Blvd, Mailstop 678, St. Paul, MN 55155	stacy.kotch@state.mn.us	Primary addressee
Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Ag Marketing & Development	Stephan Roos	625 Robert Street North, St. Paul, MN 55155-2538	stephan.roos@state.mn.us	Primary addressee
Minnesota Department of Health	Environmental Health Division - Southeast (Central), Hydrologist	Lauren Larkin		lauren.larkin@state.mn.us	Copied on letter to S. Hanson (Minnesota Department of Health)
Minnesota Department of Health	Environmental Health Division - Southeast (Central), Planner	Scott Hanson	625 Robert Street N, P.O. Box 64975, St. Paul, MN 55164-0975	scott.j.hanson@state.mn.us	Primary addressee
Minnesota Department of Health	Environmental Health Division - Surface Water Protection Program	Danielle Nielsen		danielle.nielsen@state.mn. us	Copied on letter to S. Hanson (Minnesota Department of Health)

Agency	Department/District/Division	Contact Name	Address	Email	Intro Letter Sent
Minnesota Department of Health	Environmental Health Division - Surface Water Protection Program	Dereck Richter		dereck.richter@state.mn.us	Copied on letter to S. Hanson (Minnesota Department of Health)
Minnesota Indian Affairs Council	Section 106 / MN Cultural Resources Review	Dylan Goetsch	161 St. Anthony Ave, Ste. 919, St. Paul, MN 55103	dylan.goetsch@state.mn.us	Copied on letter to M. Cerda (Minnesota Indian Affairs Council)
Minnesota Indian Affairs Council	Section 106 / MN Cultural Resources Review	Melissa Cerda	161 St. Anthony Ave, Ste. 919, St. Paul, MN 55103	melissa.cerda@state.mn.us	Primary addressee
Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources	Wetland Conservation Act	Jed Chesnut	500 Lafayette Rd., Box 25, St. Paul, MN 55155	jed.chesnut@state.mn.us	Copied on letter to M. Kempinger (Wabasha County Soil & Water Conservation District)
Mississippi River Parkway Commission	State Highway 61 Scenic Byway	Chris Miller	56 33rd Ave S, #283 St. Cloud, MN 56301	chris@togpartners.com	Primary addressee
Office of the State Archaeologist	Section 106 / MN Cultural Resources Review	Amanda Gronhovd	328 W. Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55102	Amanda.Gronhovd@state.mn.us	Primary addressee
Wabasha County	Invasive Species Management (Terrestrial and Aquatic)	Kayla Haberkorn	625 Jefferson Avenue Wabasha, MN 55981	khaberkorn@co.wabasha.mn.us	Primary addressee
Wabasha County	Highway Department	Dietrich Flesch	821 Hiawatha Drive West Wabasha, MN 55981	dflesch@co.wabasha.mn.us	Primary addressee
Wabasha County	Planning & Zoning	Joseph Kaltenbach	625 Jefferson Avenue Wabasha, MN 55981	jkaltenbach@co.wabasha.mn.us	Primary addressee
Wabasha County Soil & Water Conservation District	Wetland Conservation Act	Matt Kempinger	611 Broadway Avenue, Ste. 10 Wabasha, MN 55981	Matthew.Kempinger@mn.nacdnet.net	Primary addressee

ADDITIONAL AGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Section 404

From: [Britta Bergland](#)
To: [USACE_Requests_MN](#)
Cc: [Sage Williams](#); Matthew.Kempinger@mn.nacdnet.net; [Hegge, Raelene J CIV USARMY CEMVP \(USA\)](#); [Chesnut, Jed \(BWSR\)](#)
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: MVP-2023-01630-RMH (Wabasha Relocation Project Dairyland)
Date: Friday, December 22, 2023 12:27:00 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)

Good afternoon,

Thank you - we appreciate the guidance and will contact Raelene with any questions or project updates.

Britta

Britta Bergland

612.746.3673 direct
612.220.9692 mobile
britta.bergland@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660
www.merjent.com

From: USACE_Requests_MN <USACE_Requests_MN@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2023 11:45 AM
To: Britta Bergland <britta.bergland@merjent.com>
Cc: Sage Williams <Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com>; Matthew.Kempinger@mn.nacdnet.net; Hegge, Raelene J CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Raelene.Hegge@usace.army.mil>; Chesnut, Jed (BWSR) <jed.chesnut@state.mn.us>
Subject: EXTERNAL: MVP-2023-01630-RMH (Wabasha Relocation Project Dairyland)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Hello,

Attached please find the subject document. A hard copy will not be sent. If you wish to receive a hard copy of this letter, please respond to this email. If you have any other questions, please contact the project manager indicated in the letter.

Sincerely,

Molly Stansberry
(she/her/hers)
Office Automation Assistant

Regulatory Division, St. Paul District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
332 Minnesota Street, Suite E1500
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Information on Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program status during the COVID-19 pandemic can be found at: <https://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/missions/regulatory>

We are pleased to introduce our new paperless communication procedures in Minnesota & Wisconsin. Requests for action (pre-application consultations, permit applications, requests for delineation concurrences, requests for jurisdictional determinations, and mitigation bank proposals) should be sent directly to the following email: (in MN) usace_requests_mn@usace.army.mil (in WI) usace_requests_wi@usace.army.mil. Please include the county name in the subject line of the email (e.g. Washington County). These changes will improve efficiency, reduce costs and reduce the environmental footprint. Additional information can be found in our public notice located here: <http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx>



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, ST. PAUL DISTRICT
332 MINNESOTA STREET, SUITE E1500
ST. PAUL, MN 55101-1323

12/21/2023

Regulatory File No. MVP-2023-01630-RMH

THIS IS NOT A PERMIT

Britta Bergland
Merjent, Inc.
1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414

To: Britta Bergland:

We have received your submittal described below. You may contact the Project Manager with questions regarding the evaluation process. The Project Manager may request additional information necessary to evaluate your submittal.

File Number: MVP-2023-01630-RMH

Applicant: Sage Williams

Project Name: Wabasha Relocation Project Dairyland

Project Location: Section 8 of Township 109 N, Range 10 W, Wabasha County, Minnesota (Latitude: 44.2598048624875; Longitude: -92.0111965703457)

Received Date: 12/18/2023

Project Manager: Raelene Hegge
(651) 290-5355
Raelene.Hegge@usace.army.mil

Additional information about the St. Paul District Regulatory Program can be found on our web site at <http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/missions/regulatory>.

Please note that initiating work in waters of the United States prior to receiving Department of the Army authorization could constitute a violation of Federal law. If you have any questions, please contact the Project Manager.

Thank you.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
St. Paul District
Regulatory Branch

Britta Bergland

From: Hegge, Raelene J CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Raelene.Hegge@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 8:18 AM
To: Sage Williams
Cc: Britta Bergland; Matthew.Kempinger@mn.nacdnet.net
Subject: EXTERNAL: 2023-01630-RMH 20240105 PREAPP.pdf
Attachments: 2023-01630-RMH 20240105 PREAPP.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Please find attached the signed letter with all attachments for CORPS 2023-01630-RMH for your records.

Should you have any questions, please contact me directly at Raelene.Hegge@usace.army.mil or 651-502-1226.

Thank you.

Raelene Hegge
USACE Regulatory Specialist
St. Paul District Office
332 Minnesota Street, Suite E1500
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1323
(651) 502-1226
Raelene.Hegge@usace.army.mil



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, ST. PAUL DISTRICT
332 MINNESOTA STREET, SUITE E1500
ST. PAUL, MN 55101-1323

January 4, 2024

Regulatory File No. MVP-2023-01630-RMH

Dairyland Power Cooperative
c/o: Sage Williams
3200 East Avenue South
PO Box 817
La Crosse, WI 54602-0817
Sage.Williams@Dairylandpower.com

Dear Sage Williams:

This letter is in response to correspondence we received from Britta Bergland of Merjent, Inc. regarding the Wabasha Relocation Project. The project site begins in Plainview Township, northeast of the Town of Plainview, and traverses northeast through Highland, Watopa, and Greenfield Townships, all located in Wabasha County, Minnesota.

Without detailed plans, we cannot provide specific comments regarding the effects the proposed activity would have on jurisdictional waters of the United States or whether a Department of the Army Permit would be required. In lieu of a specific response, please consider the following general information concerning our regulatory program that may apply to the proposed project.

If the proposal involves activity in navigable waters of the United States, it may be subject to the Corps of Engineers' jurisdiction under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (Section 10). Section 10 prohibits the construction, excavation, or deposition of materials in, over, or under navigable waters of the United States, or any work that would affect the course, location, condition, or capacity of those waters, unless the work has been authorized by a Department of the Army permit.

If the proposal involves discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, it may be subject to the Corps of Engineers' jurisdiction under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA Section 404). Waters of the United States include navigable waters, their tributaries, and adjacent wetlands (33 CFR § 328.3). CWA Section 301(a) prohibits discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, unless the work has been authorized by a Department of the Army permit under Section 404. Information about the Corps permitting process can be obtained online at <http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/regulatory>.

The Corps evaluation of a Section 10 and/or a Section 404 permit application involves multiple analyses, including (1) evaluating the proposal's impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (33 CFR part 325), (2) determining whether the proposal is contrary to the public interest (33 CFR § 320.4), and (3) in the case of a Section 404 permit, determining whether the proposal complies with the Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines (Guidelines) (40 CFR part 230).

Regulatory Branch (File No. MVP-2023-01630-RMH)

If the proposal requires a Section 404 permit application, the Guidelines specifically require that “no discharge of dredged or fill material shall be permitted if there is a practicable alternative to the proposed discharge which would have less adverse impact on the aquatic ecosystem, so long as the alternative does not have other significant adverse environmental consequences” (40 CFR § 230.10(a)). Time and money spent on the proposal prior to applying for a Section 404 permit cannot be factored into the Corps’ decision whether there is a less damaging practicable alternative to the proposal.

If an application for a Corps permit has not yet been submitted, the project proposer may request a pre-application consultation meeting with the Corps to obtain information regarding the data, studies or other information that will be necessary for the permit evaluation process. A pre-application consultation meeting is strongly recommended if the proposal has substantial impacts to waters of the United States, or if it is a large or controversial project.

If you have any questions, please contact Raelene Hegge in our St. Paul office at (651) 290-5355 or Raelene.Hegge@usace.army.mil. In any correspondence or inquiries, please refer to the Regulatory file number shown above.

Sincerely,

Raelene Hegge
Regulatory Specialist

cc:

Matthew Kempinger, LGU (Matthew.Kempinger@mn.nacdnet.net)

Raymond Kirsch, Minnesota Department of Commerce (raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us)

Britta Bergland, Merjent, Inc. (britta.bergland@merjent.com)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Channels and Harbors

From: [Kristin Lenz](#)
To: [Edstrom, Robert K CIV USARMY CEMVP \(USA\)](#)
Cc: [Machajewski, Paul R CIV USARMY CEMVP \(USA\)](#); [Sage Williams](#); [Flesch, Dietrich](#); [Oates, Travis M](#); [Britta Bergland](#); [Dupey, Stephanie T CIV USARMY CEMVP \(USA\)](#)
Subject: RE: Dairyland Power Transmission Project
Date: Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:48:00 AM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[DPC_Webster - Edstrom USACE.pdf](#)
[DPC_Proposed Route - Edstrom - 20231017.zip](#)

Good morning Robert,

Attached please find a map of the proposed Project's crossing of USACE properties along County Road 84.

I've also attached a shapefile of the Proposed Alignment.

Please let us know what dates/times may work for you to meet and further discuss.

Thank you,
Kristin

Kristin Lenz
Senior Project Manager
612.924.3962 direct
763.913.4740 mobile
kristin.lenz@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660
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From: Edstrom, Robert K CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Robert.K.Edstrom@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2023 11:06 AM
To: Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>
Cc: Machajewski, Paul R CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Paul.R.Machajewski@usace.army.mil>; Sage Williams <Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com>; Flesch, Dietrich <dflesch@co.wabasha.mn.us>; Oates, Travis M <travis.m.oates@sargentlundy.com>; Britta Bergland <britta.bergland@merjent.com>; Dupey, Stephanie T CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <stephanie.t.dupey@usace.army.mil>
Subject: RE: Dairyland Power Transmission Project

Thank you. Do you have a more detailed map by chance of the areas overlapping your proposed project and our properties? It's tough to determine impacts from the map provided.

From: Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2023 11:14 AM
To: Edstrom, Robert K CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Robert.K.Edstrom@usace.army.mil>

Cc: Machajewski, Paul R CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Paul.R.Machajewski@usace.army.mil>; Sage Williams <Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com>; Flesch, Dietrich <dflesch@co.wabasha.mn.us>; Oates, Travis M <travis.m.oates@sargentlundy.com>; Britta Bergland <britta.bergland@merjent.com>; Dupey, Stephanie T CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <stephanie.t.dupey@usace.army.mil>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Dairyland Power Transmission Project

Good morning Robert,

Attached please find a Project Fact Sheet and map with a few more details.

Regarding your question on possible renewable energy source – no, that is not proposed as part of this Project. There will be a substation associated with the Project, which we are proposing to site on the eastern end of County Road 84 as shown in the attached map.

Let us know what dates/times work best for you for a meeting.

Thanks again,
Kristin

Kristin Lenz
Senior Project Manager
612.924.3962 direct
763.913.4740 mobile
kristin.lenz@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660
www.merjent.com

From: Edstrom, Robert K CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Robert.K.Edstrom@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Friday, October 6, 2023 8:44 AM

To: Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>

Cc: Machajewski, Paul R CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Paul.R.Machajewski@usace.army.mil>; Tom Hillstrom (Contractor) <tom.hillstrom@merjent.com>; Sage Williams <Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com>; Flesch, Dietrich <dflesch@co.wabasha.mn.us>; Oates, Travis M <travis.m.oates@sargentlundy.com>; Britta Bergland <britta.bergland@merjent.com>; Dupey, Stephanie T CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <stephanie.t.dupey@usace.army.mil>

Subject: RE: Dairyland Power Transmission Project

Kristin,

Thanks for reaching out. A map of where you might need to utilize our property would be critical. I cannot speak for my entire team and district, so I want to caveat this statement, but it might be a simple real estate agreement that foregoes a 408 in this case depending on impacts, needed

acreage, path chosen, etc. In the next couple weeks, I can generally be available and move things around if need be on my calendar. Please set something up and we will make it work.

Will we also be discussing other potential uses of our property? I believe there was some talk behind the scenes about a possible renewable energy source (solar/wind?) in conjunction with our site or nearby properties. Is that still being proposed? If so, I can make sure the right folks are on the call, and for that level of effort, it might be different/additional folks than the transmission line question. If that is now abandoned or not fleshed out enough to discuss, I understand that, too.

Thanks,

Bob

--

Robert Edstrom, PMP
Project Manager
United States Army Corps of Engineers, Saint Paul District
332 Minnesota Street, Suite E1500
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101-1323
Office: 651-290-5026
Cell: 651-368-3973
robert.k.edstrom@usace.army.mil

From: Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>

Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2023 3:21 PM

To: Edstrom, Robert K CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Robert.K.Edstrom@usace.army.mil>

Cc: Machajewski, Paul R CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Paul.R.Machajewski@usace.army.mil>; Tom Hillstrom (Contractor) <tom.hillstrom@merjent.com>; Sage Williams <Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com>; Flesch, Dietrich <dflesch@co.wabasha.mn.us>; Oates, Travis M <travis.m.oates@sargentlundy.com>; Britta Bergland <britta.bergland@merjent.com>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Dairyland Power Transmission Project

Good afternoon Robert,

We have progressed the initial design of the Dairyland Power Cooperative's 161-kV Transmission Line Relocation and we have also followed up with Deitrich Flesch with the Wabasha County Highway Department regarding potential improvements along County Road 84.

As currently contemplated, the Proposed Alignment would be outside of the County Road ROW. We'd like to further discuss with the USACE what it would entail to obtain an authorization to cross the recently purchased properties for the dredge spoil beneficial reuse. I assume that this is a Section 408 civil works process and that the USACE review and authorization may be via that

process? We are still early in the planning process and we have not yet filed the Route Permit application with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission – we are planning on filing an application this winter.

Would you and your team have availability in the next couple of weeks to discuss further? I can also provide a map of the route prior to the meeting. Let us know what dates/times may work for you.

Thank you!

Kristin

Kristin Lenz

Senior Project Manager

612.924.3962 direct

763.913.4740 mobile

kristin.lenz@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300

Minneapolis, MN 55414

612.746.3660

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From: Edstrom, Robert K CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Robert.K.Edstrom@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 9:48 AM

To: Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>

Cc: Machajewski, Paul R CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Paul.R.Machajewski@usace.army.mil>; Tom Hillstrom (Contractor) <tom.hillstrom@merjent.com>; Sage Williams <Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com>; Flesch, Dietrich <dflesch@co.wabasha.mn.us>

Subject: RE: Dairyland Power Transmission Project

Kristin,

Are you staying in the County Road 84 ROW? If so, this would be strictly a Wabasha County question for Mr. Dietrich Flesch (copied), their Highway Engineer. It should also be noted at some point in the future, there is a proposal to soften the "S" curve on CR84. If you need to extend outside of the County ROW, we would need to engage our Real Estate Office on next steps.

Thanks,

Bob

From: Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>

Sent: Friday, August 11, 2023 4:11 PM

To: Edstrom, Robert K CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Robert.K.Edstrom@usace.army.mil>

Cc: Machajewski, Paul R CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Paul.R.Machajewski@usace.army.mil>; Tom Hillstrom (Contractor) <tom.hillstrom@merjent.com>; Sage Williams <Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com>

Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] RE: Dairyland Power Transmission Project

Good afternoon Robert,

Dairyland Power Cooperative (Dairyland) is in the planning process to reroute approximately 10.4 miles of their existing 161-kilovolt (kV) transmission line that is currently located on the CapX 2020 Hampton-Rochester-LaCrosse (CapX) structures that extend from the Plainview, Minnesota area northeast toward the Mississippi River east of Kellogg, Minnesota. This existing 161-kV circuit must be removed to make room for a new 345-kV circuit on the existing CapX 2020 structures. Dairyland must build a new transmission line to continue to provide power to their existing infrastructure and customers and therefore are in the process of evaluating feasible routes in this area. One of the routes that is in consideration would start at the existing CapX structures near Plainview, Minnesota and would parallel County Highway 42 northeast until crossing Highway 61 southwest of Kellogg. The route would then continue east following County Road 84 to tie-in with existing infrastructure on the west side of the Mississippi River. I've attached a snip of a preliminary potential route through this area where the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers may have made recent land purchases.

We are currently trying to identify environmental constraints and potential permitting needs in order to evaluate the feasibility of this route. Dairyland will be preparing a Route Permit application for the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) and these considerations would be discussed within that application. We would appreciate any information that you may have on the USACE ownership and the permitting pathway that may be required for Dairyland to route the transmission line through these properties (e.g., Section 408 authorization?).

Thank you – and please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Kristin

Kristin Lenz
Senior Project Manager
612.924.3962 direct
763.913.4740 mobile
kristin.lenz@merjent.com



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Minneapolis, MN 55414
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From: Edstrom, Robert K CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Robert.K.Edstrom@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 3:26 PM

To: Tom Hillstrom (Contractor) <tom.hillstrom@merjent.com>

Cc: Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>; Machajewski, Paul R CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Paul.R.Machajewski@usace.army.mil>

Subject: EXTERNAL: RE: Dairyland Power Transmission Project



CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Tom,

Can you send me a brief synopsis of your proposal/needs in the Kellogg area? I want to make sure I get it right when transferring these questions to our Real Estate group. I am working on getting a map of our properties now.

Thanks,

Bob

--

Robert Edstrom, PMP
Project Manager
United States Army Corps of Engineers, Saint Paul District
332 Minnesota Street, Suite E1500
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101-1323
Office: 651-290-5026
Cell: 651-368-3973
robert.k.edstrom@usace.army.mil

From: Tom Hillstrom (Contractor) <tom.hillstrom@merjent.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 2:34 PM
To: Edstrom, Robert K CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Robert.K.Edstrom@usace.army.mil>
Cc: Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Dairyland Power Transmission Project

Hi Bob,

Thanks for talking to me today. I'll look forward to seeing whatever information you can send pertaining to the recent Corps land purchase.

We'll be in touch.

Tom Hillstrom
612 584 8783 mobile
tom.hillstrom@merjent.com



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Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Channels & Harbors
Project Introduction Meeting
November 6, 2023

Participants: Robert Edstrom (USACE, St. Paul District), Paul Machajewski (USACE – Channels & Harbors), Dan Devani (USACE – Channels & Harbors), Bob Stanick (USACE – Channels & Harbors), Sage Williams (Dairyland), Travis Oates (S&L), Matt Thompsen (S&L), Andrew Zorn (S&L), Kristin Lenz (Merjent)

Oates presented the Project's Proposed Alignment crossing of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) properties on Google Earth. Oates explained that the new 161-kilovolt (kV) transmission line will parallel the CapX lines near the Mississippi River and a new substation will be installed on the east side of County Road 84. Dairyland met with Dakota County Highway Department and are aware that the County eventually plans to soften the curves on the road; however, no formal plans are in place at this time.

The USACE inquired on any work restrictions that may be in place under the transmission lines. USACE will be bringing in dredge spoils and will develop a "rolling prairie" habitat in this area. Want to understand type of clearances required under the transmission lines. Oates explained that the structures will either be direct bury or concrete foundations, so would not able to place fill over those foundations because it can cause corrosion. Dairyland would need to coordinate with the USACE on potential grade to build into the design planning. The homestead to the southeast has been removed and USACE has installed a public access area. The USACE plans on having a stockpile of sand near the road and driveway with berms to soften the look of the driveway. Want to make sure offsets/clearances are sufficient. Driveway will likely maintain same grade, but berms on both east and west side of driveway along County Road 84 will be at higher elevation (see general location of berms below).



The USACE shared maps from their Land Use Plan showing the "Beneficial Reuse" area where the public can come in and take sand for beneficial reuse on their own properties. The plan is a 100-year plan that shows how the USACE intends to manage the site as sand is brought in over time. The USACE will provide this plan over email. The plan is currently conceptual.

Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Channels & Harbors
Project Introduction Meeting
November 6, 2023

Oates inquired on any set back requirements for the toe of berm; Dairyland planning to set structures right outside of the County Road 84 road ROW with overhang on the USACE property. USACE doesn't have details yet on the berm setbacks, but will work off the information provided by Dairyland. Oates also inquired if there is special equipment that will be used. USACE indicated typically excavators and loaders will be used.

Edstrom indicated that he thought this would not be a Section 408 permit process but rather a Real Estate agreement. Lenz indicated that the Project is in the early stages of Project planning and Dairyland is still working on refining the proposed route and route width, which may still be refined based on input from federal and state agencies and landowners. Dairyland plans to file a Route Permit application with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in February 2024 and will include a write-up on the USACE properties and dredge spoil project. Meeting notes will also be included. The USACE can also provide comments on the Project during this process. Edstrom wanted to ensure that Dairyland was aware of the USACE's Regulatory branch, which may have other permitting requirements. Lenz indicated that Dairyland will be sending an introduction letter to the USACE Section 404 permitting division for a Project number and PM assignment and will likely require some form of Section 404 permit (likely regional general permit).

Edstrom inquired if Dairyland had acquired the property for the substation; Dairyland has only initiated contacting landowners in this area at this time.

Edstrom also inquired if Dairyland may need material during the construction of the transmission line; Oates responded likely would not need sand, but the Project has not identified material needs at this point.

Dairyland will set up additional meetings in the future with the USACE to discuss final design to ensure sufficient clearances and to establish the real estate process.

From: [Kristin Lenz](#)
To: [Machajewski, Paul R CIV USARMY CEMVP \(USA\)](#)
Cc: [Edstrom, Robert K CIV USARMY CEMVP \(USA\)](#); [Sage Williams](#); [Oates, Travis M](#); [Britta Bergland](#)
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Project Intro Meeting with USACE
Date: Wednesday, December 6, 2023 9:40:00 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

Hi Paul and Bob,

Following the open houses, we have made some adjustments to the Proposed Alignment and were hoping that we could meet again to review the revised route with you. We also have some follow-up on your questions below.

Would there be any good dates/times for your team before the holidays?

Thank you,
Kristin

Kristin Lenz
Senior Project Manager
612.924.3962 direct
763.913.4740 mobile
kristin.lenz@merjent.com



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From: Machajewski, Paul R CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Paul.R.Machajewski@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 1:03 PM
To: Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>
Cc: Edstrom, Robert K CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Robert.K.Edstrom@usace.army.mil>
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Project Intro Meeting with USACE

Hi Kristin,

Bob Edstrom asked a question yesterday about a potential pipeline route for moving our river sand but I misinterpreted what he was talking about. Per the attached Land Use Plan map (see area circled in red) we have plans 5+ years down the road to possibly bring our river sand on to our property via a 24" HDPE pipeline. We intend to work within the County Road 84 ROW but now see your line will also parallel CR 84.

Would it be possible to run our pipeline, on the surface of the earth, under your powerlines? Will there be safety concerns running under or paralleling your lines?

We've had preliminary talks with Xcel about following the powerline corridor though the trees down

to the Mississippi River shoreline.

Bob and I can be available for another call regarding this issue if needed.

Sorry again for not discussing this yesterday,

Paul Machajewski
Dredged Material Manager, St. Paul District

From: Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>
Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 4:56 PM
To: Machajewski, Paul R CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Paul.R.Machajewski@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Project Intro Meeting with USACE

Thank you Paul, received!

Kristin Lenz
Senior Project Manager
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763.913.4740 mobile
kristin.lenz@merjent.com



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From: Machajewski, Paul R CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Paul.R.Machajewski@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 4:42 PM
To: Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>
Subject: EXTERNAL: RE: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Project Intro Meeting with USACE

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

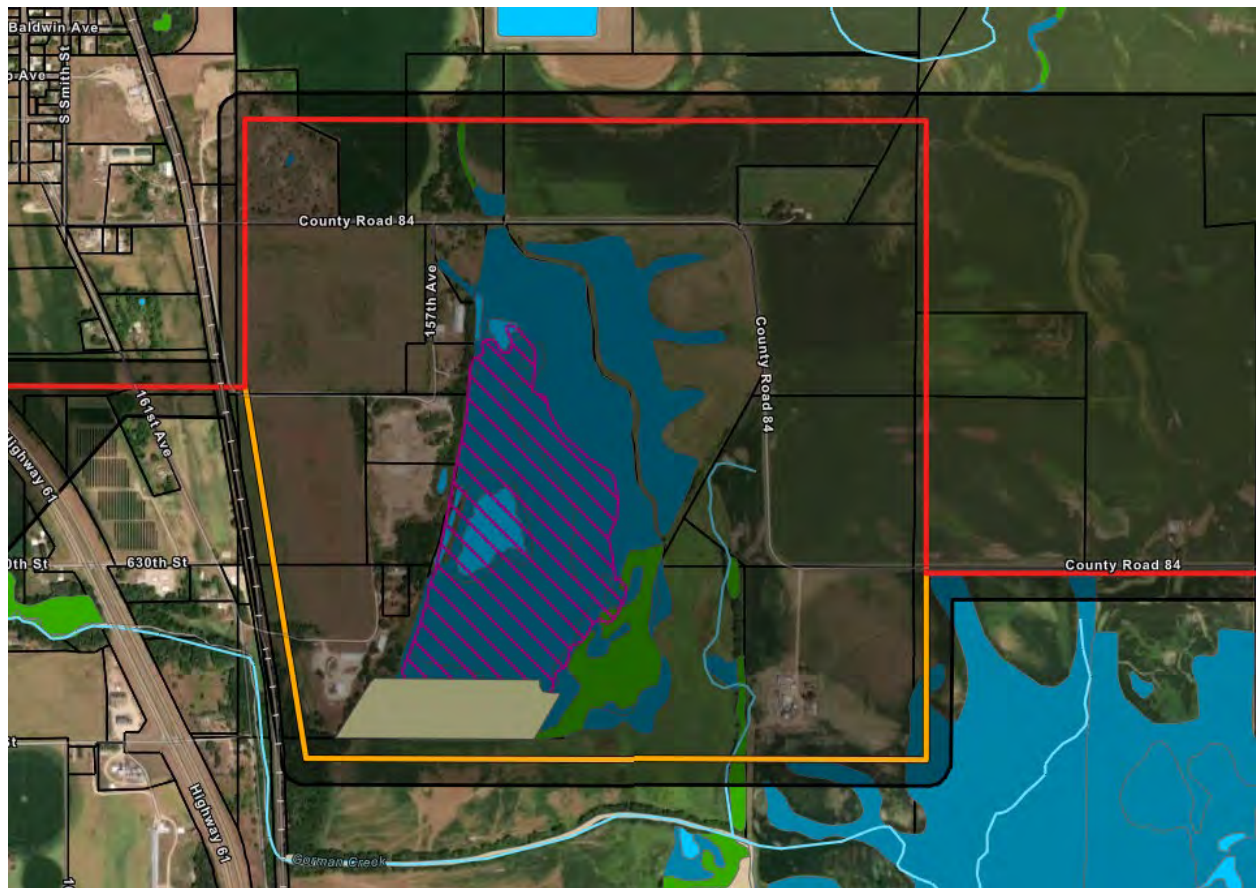
Hi Kristin,

As discussed, here's our DRAFT Land Use Plan for your reference sorry it's 20MB

Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Channels & Harbors
Project Introduction Meeting
December 12, 2023

Participants: Robert Edstrom (USACE, St. Paul District), Paul Machajewski (USACE – Channels & Harbors), Sage Williams (Dairyland), Travis Oates (S&L), Kristin Lenz (Merjent), Britta Bergland (Merjent)

Lenz presented the northern and southern route segment options that Dairyland has been reviewing after receiving feedback from landowners at the November open houses. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) expressed concern with the northern route segment option (red) because their long-term plan is to use the dredged sand to create rolling hills from 0 to 30 feet elevation. The northern segment option would go directly through the heart of this area. USACE requested the clearance requirements to see if they can design the plan to accommodate. Oates indicated clearance requirements from ground to wire are standardized and Dairyland could modify the structures to allow for additional fill in the future. Oates indicated clearance needs to be 26 feet from the wires to the ground. Dairyland to provide email with the clearances and maps of the locations in question. Williams also indicated that Dairyland could increase the height on the structures if needed.



USACE indicated a preference for the southern route segment (yellow) as that route would not impact the rolling hill area. The USACE has removed the homestead from the property that was purchased at the southern corner of County Road 84, and this will be a parking lot for the public to visit this site. The area south of the old homestead will be restored as wetlands and the USACE will also be doing restoration work along the tributary to Gorman Creek. The USACE recommended that the route be moved to the west along the Gusa and USACE boundary, on the USACE property, which is higher

Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Channels & Harbors
Project Introduction Meeting
December 12, 2023

elevation. There is an historic access road that also extends to the south to Gorman Creek. USACE indicated that Dairyland should also let them know if they will want permanent access to the line (perhaps along the existing road).

USACE inquired on the ability to temporarily install an HDPE sand pipeline from the Mississippi River west along the transmission line corridor. The pipe would be installed temporarily as needed directly on the ground to transport sand to the dredge disposal area. Williams and Oates indicated that this would not be an issue from an induction perspective because the pipes would be made from plastic; and would be unlikely to be a clearance concern either. Edstrom indicated others have indicated concern over the sand/water slurry causing a static electricity issue. Oates will follow-up on the clearance and static electricity issue as well.

USACE will be meeting January 18, 2024 to further discuss this area; requested that Dairyland provide any update prior to that meeting so they can further discuss.

From: [Kristin Lenz](#)
To: robert.k.edstrom@usace.army.mil; [Machajewski, Paul R CIV USARMY CEMVP \(USA\)](#)
Cc: [Sage Williams](#); [Oates, Travis M](#); [Britta Bergland](#)
Subject: RE: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Follow-up with USACE
Date: Friday, December 15, 2023 11:22:00 AM
Attachments: [DPC USACE Project Summary Notes 20231212.pdf](#)
[image.png](#)

Hi Paul and Bob,

Attached are notes from our meeting on Tuesday – please let us know if you have any edits.

We are working to follow up on the questions on the HDPE pipeline.

As an aside, we have revised the Proposed Route to go along that southern segment with the revisions discussed during the meeting. You'll receive a formal project introductory email with a fact sheet that includes that revised route soon.

Thank you!

Kristin

Kristin Lenz
Senior Project Manager
612.924.3962 direct
763.913.4740 mobile
kristin.lenz@merjent.com



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Britta Bergland

From: Kristin Lenz
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 8:41 AM
To: Britta Bergland
Subject: FW: EXTERNAL: RE: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Follow-up with USACE

Kristin Lenz

Senior Project Manager
612.924.3962 direct
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kristin.lenz@merjent.com



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From: Marinan, Raymond P CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Raymond.P.Marinan@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 8:14 AM
To: Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>
Cc: Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com
Subject: EXTERNAL: RE: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Follow-up with USACE

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Folks,

I have been assigned to this project from our real estate point of view. I will be preparing the necessary paperwork i.e. lease documents as this moves forward. As I wasn't sure who my POC should be, I am reaching out to both of you. Please just let me know who that will be, and if there was a KMZ file of the proposed routes I would love to get it. More to come I'm sure. Thanks for the assistance.

Ray Marinan
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
St. Paul District Realty Specialist
Field located at:
1114 South Oak St.
La Crescent, MN 55947-1560
651-290-5896

Britta Bergland

From: Kristin Lenz
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 9:37 AM
To: Marinan, Raymond P CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)
Cc: Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com; Britta Bergland
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Follow-up with USACE
Attachments: DPC Proposed Alignment_20231213.kmz; 2023-01630-RMH-20231221-ACK.pdf

Good morning Ray,

Sage Williams is the Company Project Manager and decision maker, but Britta Bergland and I can help facilitate information needs during the process. I've attached the current proposed alignment. Dairyland will be filing a Certificate of Need and Route Permit application with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in early spring of this year. Through that process, there may be changes to the proposed alignment, and the Commission will ultimately select the final route. Based on our current schedule, we would not expect that the Commission issues the Order and Route Permit until summer/fall 2025.

We do anticipate requiring a Section 404 permit for this Project and we did reach out to that office – I've attached their response which assigns the File Number and Project Manager in case you need to coordinate.

Let us know if you need anything else and we look forward to working with you!
 Kristin

Kristin Lenz
Senior Project Manager
 612.924.3962 direct
 763.913.4740 mobile
 kristin.lenz@merjent.com



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 Minneapolis, MN 55414
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From: Marinan, Raymond P CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Raymond.P.Marinan@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 8:14 AM
To: Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>
Cc: Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com
Subject: EXTERNAL: RE: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Follow-up with USACE

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Ray Marinan

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
St. Paul District Realty Specialist
Field located at:
1114 South Oak St.
La Crescent, MN 55947-1560
651-290-5896



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, ST. PAUL DISTRICT
332 MINNESOTA STREET, SUITE E1500
ST. PAUL, MN 55101-1323

12/21/2023

Regulatory File No. MVP-2023-01630-RMH

THIS IS NOT A PERMIT

Britta Bergland
Merjent, Inc.
1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414

To: Britta Bergland:

We have received your submittal described below. You may contact the Project Manager with questions regarding the evaluation process. The Project Manager may request additional information necessary to evaluate your submittal.

File Number: MVP-2023-01630-RMH

Applicant: Sage Williams

Project Name: Wabasha Relocation Project Dairyland

Project Location: Section 8 of Township 109 N, Range 10 W, Wabasha County, Minnesota (Latitude: 44.2598048624875; Longitude: -92.0111965703457)

Received Date: 12/18/2023

Project Manager: Raelene Hegge
(651) 290-5355
Raelene.Hegge@usace.army.mil

Additional information about the St. Paul District Regulatory Program can be found on our web site at <http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/missions/regulatory>.

Please note that initiating work in waters of the United States prior to receiving Department of the Army authorization could constitute a violation of Federal law. If you have any questions, please contact the Project Manager.

Thank you.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
St. Paul District
Regulatory Branch

Britta Bergland

From: Marinan, Raymond P CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Raymond.P.Marinan@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 8:15 AM
To: Kristin Lenz
Cc: Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com; Britta Bergland
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Follow-up with USACE
Attachments: SF-299 OMB.pdf

Kristin,

Thanks very much for the info. I've attached a standard gov't form I'll need filled out for the project. Please return to me once it's filled out.

Ray

From: Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 9:37 AM
To: Marinan, Raymond P CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Raymond.P.Marinan@usace.army.mil>
Cc: Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com; Britta Bergland <britta.bergland@merjent.com>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Follow-up with USACE

Good morning Ray,

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We do anticipate requiring a Section 404 permit for this Project and we did reach out to that office – I've attached their response which assigns the File Number and Project Manager in case you need to coordinate.

Let us know if you need anything else and we look forward to working with you!

Kristin

Kristin Lenz
Senior Project Manager
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Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 8:14 AM
To: Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>

Cc: Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com

Subject: EXTERNAL: RE: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Follow-up with USACE

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Folks,

I have been assigned to this project from our real estate point of view. I will be preparing the necessary paperwork i.e. lease documents as this moves forward. As I wasn't sure who my POC should be, I am reaching out to both of you. Please just let me know who that will be, and if there was a KMZ file of the proposed routes I would love to get it. More to come I'm sure. Thanks for the assistance.

Ray Marinan
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
St. Paul District Realty Specialist
Field located at:
1114 South Oak St.
La Crescent, MN 55947-1560
651-290-5896

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STANDARD FORM 299

APPLICATION FOR TRANSPORTATION, UTILITY SYSTEMS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND FACILITIES
ON FEDERAL LANDS AND PROPERTYFORM APPROVED
OMB Control Number: 0596-0249
Expiration Date: 02/28/2023

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY

NOTE: Before completing and filing the application for an authorization (easement, right-of-way, lease, license or permit), the applicant should completely review this package, including instructions, and schedule a pre-application meeting with representatives of the agency responsible for processing the application. Each agency may have specific and unique requirements to be met in preparing and processing the application. Many times, with the help of the agency representative, the application can be completed at the pre-application meeting.

Application Number

Date Filed

1. Name and address of applicant

2. Name and address of authorized agent if
different from item 13. Applicant telephone number and
email:Authorized agent telephone number
and email:4. As applicant are you? *(check one)*

- a. ☐ Individual
b. ☐ Corporation*
c. ☐ Partnership/Association*
d. ☐ State Government/State Agency
e. ☐ Local Government
f. ☐ Federal Agency

* If checked, complete supplemental page

5. Specify what application is for: *(check one)*

- a. ☐ New authorization
b. ☐ Renewing existing authorization number
c. ☐ Amend existing authorization number
d. ☐ Assign existing authorization number
e. ☐ Existing use for which no authorization has been received *
f. ☐ Other*

* If checked, provide details under item 7

6. If an individual, or partnership, are you a citizen(s) of the United States? ☐ Yes ☐ No

7. Project description (describe in detail): (a) Type of use or occupancy, (e.g., canal, pipeline, road, telecommunications); (b) related structures and facilities; (c) physical specifications (Length, width, grading, etc.); (d) term of days/years needed; (e) time of year of use or operation; (f) Volume or amount of product to be transported; (g) duration and timing of construction; and (h) temporary work areas needed for activity/construction (Attach additional sheets, if additional space is needed.)

8. Attach a map covering area and show location of project proposal.

9. State or Local government approval: ☐ Attached ☐ Applied for ☐ Not Required10. Nonrefundable application fee: ☐ Attached ☐ Not required ☐ To be determined by agency11. Does project cross international boundary or affect international waterways? ☐ Yes ☐ No (if "yes," indicate on map)

12. Give statement of your technical and financial capability to construct, operate, maintain, and terminate system for which authorization is being requested.

13a. Describe other alternative locations considered.

b. Why were these alternatives not selected?

c. Give explanation as to why it is necessary to use or occupy Federal assets (lands or buildings).

14. List authorizations and pending applications filed for similar projects which may provide information to the authorizing agency. (*Specify number, date, code, or name*)

15. Provide statement of need for project, including the economic feasibility and items such as: (a) cost of proposal (construction, operation, and maintenance); (b) estimated cost of next best alternative; and (c) expected public benefits.

16. Describe probable effects on the population in the area, including the social and economic aspects, and the rural lifestyles.

17. Describe likely environmental effects that the proposed project will have on: (a) air quality; (b) visual impact; (c) surface and ground water quality and quantity; (d) the control or structural change on any stream or other body of water; (e) existing noise levels; and (f) the surface of the land, including vegetation, permafrost, soil, and soil stability; and, (g) historic or archaeological resources or properties.

18. Describe the probable effects that the proposed project will have on (a) populations of fish, plant life, wildlife, and marine life, including threatened and endangered species; and (b) marine mammals, including hunting, capturing, collecting, or killing these animals.

19. State whether any hazardous material, as defined in this paragraph, would be used, produced, transported or stored on or in a federal building or federal lands or would be used in connection with the proposed use or occupancy. "Hazardous material" shall mean (a) any hazardous substance under section 101(14) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14); (b) any pollutant or contaminant under section 101(33) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(33); (c) any petroleum product or its derivative, including fuel oil, and waste oils; and (d) any hazardous substance, extremely hazardous substance, toxic substance, hazardous waste, ignitable, reactive or corrosive materials, pollutant, contaminant, element, compound, mixture, solution or substance that may pose a present or potential hazard to human health or the environment under any applicable environmental laws. The holder shall not store any hazardous materials at the site without prior written approval from the authorized officer. This approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. If the authorized officer provides approval, this permit shall include (or in the case of approval provided after this permit is issued, shall be amended to include) specific terms addressing the storage of hazardous materials, including the specific type of materials to be stored, the volume, the type of storage, and a spill plan. Such terms shall be proposed by the holder and are subject to approval by the authorized officer.

20. Name all the Federal Department(s)/Agency(ies) where this application is being filed.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I am of legal age and authorized to do business in the State and that I have personally examined the information contained in the application and believe that the information submitted is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Applicant	Date
------------------------	------

Title 18, U.S.C. Section 1001, makes it a crime for any person knowingly and willfully to make to any department or agency of the United States any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations as to any matter within its jurisdiction.

GENERAL INFORMATION
ALASKA NATIONAL INTEREST LANDS

This application will be used when applying for a right-of-way, permit, license, lease, or certificate for the use of Federal lands which lie within conservation system units and National Recreation or Conservation Areas as defined in the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. Conservation system units include the National Park System, National Wildlife Refuge System, National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, National Trails System, National Wilderness Preservation System, and National Forest Monuments.

Transportation utility systems telecommunication installations facility uses for which the application may be used are:

1. Canals, ditches, flumes, laterals, pipes, pipelines, tunnels, and other systems for the transportation of water.
2. Pipelines and other systems for the transportation of liquids other than water, including oil, natural gas, synthetic liquid and gaseous fuels, and any refined product produced therefrom.
3. Pipelines, slurry and emulsion systems, and conveyor belts for transportation of solid materials.
4. Systems for the transmission and distribution of electric energy.
5. Wired and wireless systems for transmission or reception of radio, television, telephone, telegraph, and other electronic signals, and other means of communications.
6. Improved right-of-way for snow machines, air cushion vehicles, and all-terrain vehicles.
7. Roads, highways, railroads, tunnels, tramways, airports, landing strips, docks, and other systems of general transportation.

This application must be filed simultaneously with each Federal department or agency requiring authorization to establish and operate your proposal.

In Alaska, the following agencies will help the applicant file an application and identify the other agencies the applicant should contact and possibly file with:

Department of Agriculture
Regional Forester, Forest Service (USFS)
P.O. Box 21628
Juneau, Alaska 99802-1628
Telephone: (907) 586-7847 (or a local Forest Service Office)

Department of the Interior
Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)
Alaska Regional Office
709 West 9th Street
Juneau, Alaska 99802
Telephone: (907) 586-7177

Department of the Interior
Alaska State Office
Bureau of Land Management
222 West 7th Avenue #13
Anchorage, Alaska 99513
Public Room: 907-271-5960
FAX: 907-271-3684
(or a local BLM Office)

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS)
Office of the Regional Director 1011
East Tudor Road Anchorage, Alaska
99503 Telephone: (907) 786-3440

National Park Service (NPS)
Alaska Regional Office
240 West 5th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Telephone: (907) 644-3510

Note - Filings with any Interior agency may be filed with any office noted above or with the Office of the Secretary of the Interior, Regional Environmental Officer, P.O. Box 120, 1675 C Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99513.

Department of Transportation
Federal Aviation Administration
Alaska Region AAL-4, 222 West 7th Ave., Box 14
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7587
Telephone: (907) 271-5285

NOTE - The Department of Transportation has established the above central filing point for agencies within that Department. Affected agencies are: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Coast Guard (USCG), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).

OTHER THAN ALASKA NATIONAL INTEREST LANDS

Use of this form is not limited to National Interest Conservation Lands of Alaska.

Individual department/agencies may authorize the use of this form by applicants for transportation, utility systems, telecommunication installations and facilities on other Federal lands outside those areas described above.

For proposals located outside of Alaska, applications will be filed at the local agency office or at a location specified by the responsible Federal agency.

SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

(Items not listed are self-explanatory)

- 7 Attach preliminary site and facility construction plans. The responsible agency will provide instructions whenever specific plans are required.
- 8 Generally, the map must show the section(s), township(s), and range(s) within which the project is to be located. Show the proposed location of the project on the map as accurately as possible. Some agencies require detailed survey maps. The responsible agency will provide additional instructions.
- 9, 10, and 12 The responsible agency will provide additional instructions.
- 13 Providing information on alternate locations in as much detail as possible, discussing why certain locations were rejected and why it is necessary to use Federal assets will assist the agency(ies) in processing your application and reaching a final decision. Include only reasonable alternate locations as related to current technology and economics.
- 14 The responsible agency will provide instructions.
- 15 Generally, a simple statement of the purpose of the proposal will be sufficient. However, major proposals located in critical or sensitive areas may require a full analysis with additional specific information. The responsible agency will provide additional instructions.
- 16 through 19 Providing this information with as much detail as possible will assist the Federal agency(ies) in processing the application and reaching a decision. When completing these items, you should use a sound judgment in furnishing relevant information. For example, if the project is not near a stream or other body of water, do not address this subject. The responsible agency will provide additional instructions.

Application must be signed by the applicant or applicant's authorized representative.

EFFECT OF NOT PROVIDING INFORMATION

Disclosure of the information is voluntary. If all the information is not provided, the proposal or application may be rejected.

DATA COLLECTION STATEMENT

The Federal agencies collect this information from proponents and applicants requesting a right-of-way, permit, license, lease, or certification for use of Federal assets. The Federal agencies use this information to evaluate a proponent's or applicant's proposal to use Federal assets.

BURDEN STATEMENT

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0596-0249. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 8 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The authority to collect this information is derived from 47 U.S.C. 1455(c)(3) and 16 U.S.C. 3210.

USDA NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (voice). TDD users can contact USDA through local relay or the Federal relay at (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (relay voice). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) and the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) govern the confidentiality to be provided for information received by the Forest Service.

SUPPLEMENTAL

NOTE: The responsible agency(ies) will provide instructions	CHECK APPROPRIATE BLOCK	
I - PRIVATE CORPORATIONS	ATTACHED	FILED*
a. Articles of Incorporation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Corporation Bylaws	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. A certification from the State showing the corporation is in good standing and is entitled to operate within the State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Copy of resolution authorizing filing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The name and address of each shareholder owning 3 percent or more of the shares, together with the number and percentage of any class of voting shares of the entity which such shareholder is authorized to vote and the name and address of each affiliate of the entity together with, in the case of an affiliate controlled by the entity, the number of shares and the percentage of any class of voting stock of that affiliate owned, directly or indirectly, by that entity, and in the case of an affiliate which controls that entity, the number of shares and the percentage of any class of voting stock of that entity owned, directly or indirectly, by the affiliate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. If application is for an oil or gas pipeline, describe any related right-of-way or temporary use permit applications, and identify previous applications.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. If application is for an oil and gas pipeline, identify all Federal lands by agency impacted by proposal.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
II - PUBLIC CORPORATIONS		
a. Copy of law forming corporation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Proof of organization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Copy of Bylaws	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Copy of resolution authorizing filing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. If application is for an oil or gas pipeline, provide information required by item "I - f" and "I - g" above.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
III - PARTNERSHIP OR OTHER UNINCORPORATED ENTITY		
a. Articles of association, if any	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. If one partner is authorized to sign, resolution authorizing action is	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Name and address of each participant, partner, association, or other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. If application is for an oil or gas pipeline, provide information required by item "I - f" and "I - g" above.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*If the required information is already filed with the agency processing this application and is current, check block entitled "Filed." Provide the file identification information (e.g., number, date, code, name). If not on file or current, attach the requested information.

Britta Bergland

From: Machajewski, Paul R CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Paul.R.Machajewski@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2024 4:28 PM
To: Kristin Lenz; Edstrom, Robert K CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)
Cc: Sage Williams; Oates, Travis M; Britta Bergland
Subject: EXTERNAL: RE: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Follow-up with USACE

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Excellent, thanks for following up, Kristin!

Paul

From: Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 4:38 PM
To: Edstrom, Robert K CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Robert.K.Edstrom@usace.army.mil>; Machajewski, Paul R CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Paul.R.Machajewski@usace.army.mil>
Cc: Sage Williams <Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com>; Oates, Travis M <travis.m.oates@sargentlundy.com>; Britta Bergland <britta.bergland@merjent.com>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Follow-up with USACE

Hi Rob and Paul,

Travis followed up regarding induction of the HDPE pipe and staff have indicated it is possible for an HDPE pipeline to have induction due to the transmission lines; however, the induction can be mitigated. The level of induction and mitigation measures would depend on many factors like: presence of metallic tracer wire, metallic supports, the distance it runs parallel to the transmission line, the size of the pipe, the distance from the transmission line wires, etc.

As we know more regarding both the transmission line and pipeline design, we will continue to work with you to better understand the amount of potential induction, and if safe limits are exceeded, will work with you to identify the appropriate, mitigation such as grounding.

Let us know if you have any questions or concerns on the above – otherwise, we'll continue to reach out!

Thanks,
Kristin

Kristin Lenz
Senior Project Manager
612.924.3962 direct
763.913.4740 mobile
kristin.lenz@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660
www.merjent.com

From: Kristin Lenz

Sent: Friday, December 15, 2023 11:22 AM

To: robert.k.edstrom@usace.army.mil; Machajewski, Paul R CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA)

<Paul.R.Machajewski@usace.army.mil>

Cc: Sage Williams <Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com>; Oates, Travis M <travis.m.oates@sargentlundy.com>; Britta Bergland <britta.bergland@merjent.com>

Subject: RE: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Follow-up with USACE

Hi Paul and Bob,

Attached are notes from our meeting on Tuesday – please let us know if you have any edits.

We are working to follow up on the questions on the HDPE pipeline.

As an aside, we have revised the Proposed Route to go along that southern segment with the revisions discussed during the meeting. You'll receive a formal project introductory email with a fact sheet that includes that revised route soon.

Thank you!

Kristin

Kristin Lenz

Senior Project Manager

612.924.3962 direct

763.913.4740 mobile

kristin.lenz@merjent.com



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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

From: [Galbraith, Betsy M](#)
To: [Sage Williams](#)
Cc: [Britta Bergland](#)
Subject: EXTERNAL: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Request for additional information
Date: Wednesday, December 20, 2023 8:40:43 AM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[Outline - Dairyland](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Thank you!

[Betsy Galbraith](#) [she/her](#)

Acting Project Leader - Nov & Dec
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
MN-WI Ecological Services Field Office
(920) 866-1753 (preferred)



From: Sage Williams <Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2023 8:18 AM
To: Galbraith, Betsy M <betsy_galbraith@fws.gov>
Cc: Britta Bergland <britta.bergland@merjent.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Request for additional information

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Good morning Betsy,
We will not be using any federal funding for this project.
Thanks,

SAGE WILLIAMS
DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

From: Galbraith, Betsy M <betsy_galbraith@fws.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2023 2:57 PM
To: Sage Williams <Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com>
Subject: [EXT] Request for additional information

Hi Sage,

Please identify the federal funding source for this project.

Thanks,

Betsy

Betsy Galbraith [she/her](#)

Acting Project Leader - Nov & Dec

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

MN-WI Ecological Services Field Office

(920) 866-1753 (preferred)



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"Zero By Choice - Everyone Home Safe Every Day"

From: [Britta Bergland](#)
To: [Galbraith, Betsy M](#)
Cc: [Sage Williams](#); [Kristin Lenz](#)
Subject: RE: Dairyland Power - Wabasha Relocation Project in Wabasha County, MN
Date: Friday, December 22, 2023 12:41:00 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[image.png](#)

Hi Betsy –

Thank you for the prompt response to Dairyland's December 18, 2023 letter. We will utilize the IPaC system and Determination Keys to obtain USFWS' initial technical assistance. Should we need additional information we will be sure to contact your office.

Take care,

Britta

Britta Bergland

612.746.3673 direct
612.220.9692 mobile
britta.bergland@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660
www.merjent.com

From: Galbraith, Betsy M <betsy_galbraith@fws.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2023 3:20 PM
To: Sage.Williams@Dairylandpower.com; Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>
Subject: EXTERNAL: Re: [EXTERNAL] Dairyland Power - Wabasha Relocation Project in Wabasha County, MN

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Because of current workload management, we are not able to provide the level of initial technical assistance you are requesting. We now rely on available web-based tools to provide initial technical assistance.

You can obtain information on federally listed species that could occur in your project area through our [Information for Planning and Consultation \(IPaC\) system](#). Through IPaC, you will be able to enter geographic and activity details for your project to generate an Official Species List, a list of federally listed species and designated critical habitat that may be impacted by your project. The species list will also include any species proposed for listing and any areas proposed as critical habitat that overlap with the project area. The Official Species List provided through IPaC is considered a technical assistance tool intended to be used by the project proponent to determine whether project activities could impact federal trust resources and, therefore, require further consultation with the Service.

The species list includes links to species-specific project-design guidelines and survey recommendations to help you determine whether your project may affect the species and, if so, how to avoid or minimize those effects. After reviewing the species list and applicable links, if you determine that further consultation is required with the Service, please contact me for further assistance.

[Betsy Galbraith](#) [she/her](#)

Acting Project Leader - Nov & Dec

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

MN-WI Ecological Services Field Office

(920) 866-1753 (preferred)



From: Marquardt, Shauna R <Shauna_Marquardt@fws.gov>

Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 3:31 PM

To: Galbraith, Betsy M <betsy_galbraith@fws.gov>

Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Dairyland Power - Wabasha Relocation Project in Wabasha County, MN

Shauna Marquardt ([she/her](#))

Acting Assistant Regional Director, National Wildlife Refuge System, Midwest Region

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Field Office Supervisor

Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office

mobile: 573-239-3293

The Vision of the Minnesota-Wisconsin Field Office is to foster a sustainable and just environment for future generations through science, collaboration, and stewardship.



From: Britta Bergland <britta.bergland@merjent.com>
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 3:28 PM
To: Marquardt, Shauna R <Shauna_Marquardt@fws.gov>
Cc: Sage Williams <Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com>; Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Dairyland Power - Wabasha Relocation Project in Wabasha County, MN

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Dear Shauna Marquardt:

Dairyland Power Cooperative (Dairyland) is proposing to relocate approximately 13.3 miles of 161-kilovolt (kV) high voltage transmission line and construct a new substation in Wabasha County, Minnesota (the Wabasha Relocation Project, or the Project). The Project starts in Plainview Township, northeast of the Town of Plainview, and traverses northeast through Highland, Watopa, and Greenfield Townships, ending east of the City of Kellogg near the Mississippi River. More information on the Project, along with a Project map, is available in the attached fact sheet.

Dairyland plans to file a joint Certificate of Need and Route Permit application with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in March 2024. Dairyland would appreciate any input you may have on the Project. Please reach out to Sage Williams with Dairyland at 608-791-2993 or Sage.Williams@Dairylandpower.com with questions, written comments, or a request for a meeting.

Thank you –

Britta Bergland [on behalf of Sage Williams, Dairyland Power Cooperative]

Britta Bergland

612.746.3673 direct

612.220.9692 mobile

britta.bergland@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300

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United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office
3815 American Blvd East
Bloomington, MN 55425-1659
Phone: (952) 858-0793 Fax: (952) 646-2873



In Reply Refer To:

January 02, 2024

Project Code: 2024-0027345

Project Name: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Federal

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

This response has been generated by the Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) system to provide information on natural resources that could be affected by your project. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) provides this response under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543), the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668-668d), the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703-712), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661 *et seq.*).

Threatened and Endangered Species

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirement for obtaining a Technical Assistance Letter from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

Consultation Technical Assistance

Please refer to our [Section 7 website](#) for guidance and technical assistance, including [step-by-step instructions](#) for making effects determinations for each species that might be present and for specific guidance on the following types of projects: projects in developed areas, HUD, CDBG, EDA, USDA Rural Development projects, pipelines, buried utilities, telecommunications, and requests for a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) from FEMA.

We recommend running the project (if it qualifies) through our **Minnesota-Wisconsin Federal Endangered Species Determination Key (Minnesota-Wisconsin ("D-key"))**. A [demonstration video](#) showing how-to access and use the determination key is available. Please note that the Minnesota-Wisconsin D-key is the third option of 3 available d-keys. D-keys are tools to help Federal agencies and other project proponents determine if their proposed action has the potential to adversely affect federally listed species and designated critical habitat. The Minnesota-Wisconsin D-key includes a structured set of questions that assists a project proponent in determining whether a proposed project qualifies for a certain predetermined consultation outcome for all federally listed species found in Minnesota and Wisconsin (except for the northern long-eared bat- see below), which includes determinations of “no effect” or “may affect, not likely to adversely affect.” In each case, the Service has compiled and analyzed the best available information on the species’ biology and the impacts of certain activities to support these determinations.

If your completed d-key output letter shows a "No Effect" (NE) determination for all listed species, print your IPaC output letter for your files to document your compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

For Federal projects with a “Not Likely to Adversely Affect” (NLAA) determination, our concurrence becomes valid if you do not hear otherwise from us after a 30-day review period, as indicated in your letter.

If your d-key output letter indicates additional coordination with the Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office is necessary (i.e., you get a “May Affect” determination), you will be provided additional guidance on contacting the Service to continue ESA coordination outside of the key; ESA compliance cannot be concluded using the key for “May Affect” determinations unless otherwise indicated in your output letter.

Note: Once you obtain your official species list, you are not required to continue in IPaC with d-keys, although in most cases these tools should expedite your review. If you choose to make an effects determination on your own, you may do so. If the project is a Federal Action, you may want to review our section 7 step-by-step instructions before making your determinations.

Using the IPaC Official Species List to Make No Effect and May Affect Determinations for Listed Species

1. If IPaC returns a result of “There are no listed species found within the vicinity of the project,” then project proponents can conclude the proposed activities will have **no effect** on any federally listed species under Service jurisdiction. Concurrence from the Service is not required for **no effect** determinations. No further consultation or coordination is required. Attach this letter to the dated IPaC species list report for your records.
 2. If IPaC returns one or more federally listed, proposed, or candidate species as potentially present in the action area of the proposed project – other than bats (see below) – then project proponents must determine if proposed activities will have **no effect** on or **may affect** those species. For assistance in determining if suitable habitat for listed, candidate, or proposed species occurs within your project area or if species may be affected by project activities, you can obtain [Life History Information for Listed and Candidate Species](#) on our office website. If no impacts will occur to a species on the IPaC species list (e.g., there is no habitat present in the project area), the appropriate determination is **no effect**. No further consultation or coordination is required. Attach this letter to the dated IPaC species list report for your records.
-

3. Should you determine that project activities **may affect** any federally listed, please contact our office for further coordination. Letters with requests for consultation or correspondence about your project should include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header. Electronic submission is preferred.

Northern Long-Eared Bats

Northern long-eared bats occur throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin and the information below may help in determining if your project may affect these species.

This species hibernates in caves or mines only during the winter. In Minnesota and Wisconsin, the hibernation season is considered to be November 1 to March 31. During the active season (April 1 to October 31) they roost in forest and woodland habitats. Suitable summer habitat for northern long-eared bats consists of a wide variety of forested/wooded habitats where they roost, forage, and travel and may also include some adjacent and interspersed non-forested habitats such as emergent wetlands and adjacent edges of agricultural fields, old fields and pastures. This includes forests and woodlots containing potential roosts (i.e., live trees and/or snags ≥ 3 inches dbh for northern long-eared bat that have exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, and/or hollows), as well as linear features such as fencerows, riparian forests, and other wooded corridors. These wooded areas may be dense or loose aggregates of trees with variable amounts of canopy closure. Individual trees may be considered suitable habitat when they exhibit the characteristics of a potential roost tree and are located within 1,000 feet (305 meters) of forested/wooded habitat. Northern long-eared bats have also been observed roosting in human-made structures, such as buildings, barns, bridges, and bat houses; therefore, these structures should also be considered potential summer habitat and evaluated for use by bats. If your project will impact caves or mines or will involve clearing forest or woodland habitat containing suitable roosting habitat, northern long-eared bats could be affected.

Examples of unsuitable habitat include:

- Individual trees that are greater than 1,000 feet from forested or wooded areas,
- Trees found in highly developed urban areas (e.g., street trees, downtown areas),
- A pure stand of less than 3-inch dbh trees that are not mixed with larger trees, and
- A monoculture stand of shrubby vegetation with no potential roost trees.

If IPaC returns a result that northern long-eared bats are potentially present in the action area of the proposed project, project proponents can conclude the proposed activities **may affect** this species **IF** one or more of the following activities are proposed:

- Clearing or disturbing suitable roosting habitat, as defined above, at any time of year,
- Any activity in or near the entrance to a cave or mine,
- Mining, deep excavation, or underground work within 0.25 miles of a cave or mine,
- Construction of one or more wind turbines, or
- Demolition or reconstruction of human-made structures that are known to be used by bats based on observations of roosting bats, bats emerging at dusk, or guano deposits or stains.

If none of the above activities are proposed, project proponents can conclude the proposed activities will have **no effect** on the northern long-eared bat. Concurrence from the Service is not required for **No**

Effect determinations. No further consultation or coordination is required. Attach this letter to the dated IPaC species list report for your records.

If any of the above activities are proposed, and the northern long-eared bat appears on the user's species list, the federal project user will be directed to either the range-wide northern long-eared bat D-key or the Federal Highways Administration, Federal Railways Administration, and Federal Transit Administration Indiana bat/Northern long-eared bat D-key, depending on the type of project and federal agency involvement. Similar to the Minnesota-Wisconsin D-key, these d-keys help to determine if prohibited take might occur and, if not, will generate an automated verification letter.

Please note: On November 30, 2022, the Service published a proposal final rule to reclassify the northern long-eared bat as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. On January 26, 2023, the Service published a 60-day extension for the final reclassification rule in the Federal Register, moving the effective listing date from January 30, 2023, to March 31, 2023. This extension will provide stakeholders and the public time to preview interim guidance and consultation tools before the rule becomes effective. When available, the tools will be available on the Service's northern long-eared bat website (<https://www.fws.gov/species/northern-long-eared-bat-myotis-septentrionalis>). Once the final rule goes into effect on March 31, 2023, the 4(d) D-key will no longer be available (4(d) rules are not available for federally endangered species) and will be replaced with a new Range-wide NLEB D-key (range-wide d-key). For projects not completed by March 31, 2023, that were previously reviewed under the 4(d) d-key, there may be a need for reinitiation of consultation. For these ongoing projects previously reviewed under the 4(d) d-key that may result in incidental take of the northern long-eared bat, we recommend you review your project using the new range-wide d-key once available. If your project does not comply with the range-wide d-key, it may be eligible for use of the Interim (formal) Consultation framework (framework). The framework is intended to facilitate the transition from the 4(d) rule to typical Section 7 consultation procedures for federally endangered species and will be available only until spring 2024. Again, when available, these tools (new range-wide d-key and framework) will be available on the Service's [northern long-eared bat website](#).

Whooping Crane

Whooping crane is designated as a non-essential experimental population in Wisconsin and consultation under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act is only required if project activities will occur within a National Wildlife Refuge or National Park. If project activities are proposed on lands outside of a National Wildlife Refuge or National Park, then you are not required to consult. For additional information on this designation and consultation requirements, please review "[Establishment of a Nonessential Experimental Population of Whooping Cranes in the Eastern United States](#)."

Other Trust Resources and Activities

Bald and Golden Eagles - Although the bald eagle has been removed from the endangered species list, this species and the golden eagle are protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Should bald or golden eagles occur within or near the project area please contact our office for further coordination. For communication and wind energy projects, please refer to additional guidelines below.

Migratory Birds - The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) prohibits the taking, killing, possession, transportation, and importation of migratory birds, their eggs, parts, and nests, except when specifically authorized by the Service. The Service has the responsibility under the MBTA to proactively prevent the

mortality of migratory birds whenever possible and we encourage implementation of [recommendations that minimize potential impacts to migratory birds](#). Such measures include clearing forested habitat outside the nesting season (generally March 1 to August 31) or conducting nest surveys prior to clearing to avoid injury to eggs or nestlings.

Communication Towers - Construction of new communications towers (including radio, television, cellular, and microwave) creates a potentially significant impact on migratory birds, especially some 350 species of night-migrating birds. However, the Service has developed [voluntary guidelines for minimizing impacts](#).

Transmission Lines - Migratory birds, especially large species with long wingspans, heavy bodies, and poor maneuverability can also collide with power lines. In addition, mortality can occur when birds, particularly hawks, eagles, kites, falcons, and owls, attempt to perch on uninsulated or unguarded power poles. To minimize these risks, please refer to [guidelines](#) developed by the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee and the Service. Implementation of these measures is especially important along sections of lines adjacent to wetlands or other areas that support large numbers of raptors and migratory birds.

Wind Energy - To minimize impacts to migratory birds and bats, wind energy projects should follow the Service's [Wind Energy Guidelines](#). In addition, please refer to the Service's [Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance](#), which provides guidance for conserving bald and golden eagles in the course of siting, constructing, and operating wind energy facilities.

State Department of Natural Resources Coordination

While it is not required for your Federal section 7 consultation, please note that additional state endangered or threatened species may also have the potential to be impacted. Please contact the Minnesota or Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for information on state listed species that may be present in your proposed project area.

Minnesota

[Minnesota Department of Natural Resources - Endangered Resources Review Homepage](#)

Email: Review.NHIS@state.mn.us

Wisconsin

[Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources - Endangered Resources Review Homepage](#)

Email: DNRERReview@wi.gov

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. Please feel free to contact our office with questions or for additional information.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
 - USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
 - Bald & Golden Eagles
 - Migratory Birds
 - Wetlands
-

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office

3815 American Blvd East

Bloomington, MN 55425-1659

(952) 858-0793

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0027345
Project Name: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Federal
Project Type: Transmission Line - New Constr - Above Ground
Project Description: Transmission Line
Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@44.24308155,-92.06752581909959,14z>



Counties: Wabasha County, Minnesota

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 8 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Whooping Crane <i>Grus americana</i> Population: U.S.A. (AL, AR, CO, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NC, NM, OH, SC, TN, UT, VA, WI, WV, western half of WY) No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758	Experimental Population, Non- Essential

CLAMS

NAME	STATUS
Higgins Eye (pearlymussel) <i>Lampsilis higginsii</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5428	Endangered
Sheepnose Mussel <i>Plethobasus cyphus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6903	Endangered
Spectaclecase (mussel) <i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7867	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate
Rusty Patched Bumble Bee <i>Bombus affinis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9383 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/3QJIPMEFBFG6RIWHVKILYFLAPI/documents/generated/5967.pdf	Endangered

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act¹ and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats³, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the ["Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles"](#).

-
1. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
 2. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
 3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

There are bald and/or golden eagles in your project area.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31
Golden Eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds elsewhere

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read ["Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles"](#), specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31
Black Tern <i>Chlidonias niger</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3093	Breeds May 15 to Aug 20
Black-billed Cuckoo <i>Coccyzus erythrophthalmus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9399	Breeds May 15 to Oct 10
Bobolink <i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9454	Breeds May 20 to Jul 31
Canada Warbler <i>Cardellina canadensis</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9643	Breeds May 20 to Aug 10
Chimney Swift <i>Chaetura pelagica</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9406	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25
Eastern Whip-poor-will <i>Antrostomus vociferus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10678	Breeds May 1 to Aug 20
Golden Eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds elsewhere
Henslow's Sparrow <i>Ammodramus henslowii</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3941	Breeds May 1 to Aug 31

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Lesser Yellowlegs <i>Tringa flavipes</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679	Breeds elsewhere
Pectoral Sandpiper <i>Calidris melanotos</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9561	Breeds elsewhere
Red-headed Woodpecker <i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9398	Breeds May 10 to Sep 10
Ruddy Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres morinella</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10633	Breeds elsewhere
Rusty Blackbird <i>Euphagus carolinus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9478	Breeds elsewhere
Short-billed Dowitcher <i>Limnodromus griseus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9480	Breeds elsewhere
Wood Thrush <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9431	Breeds May 10 to Aug 31

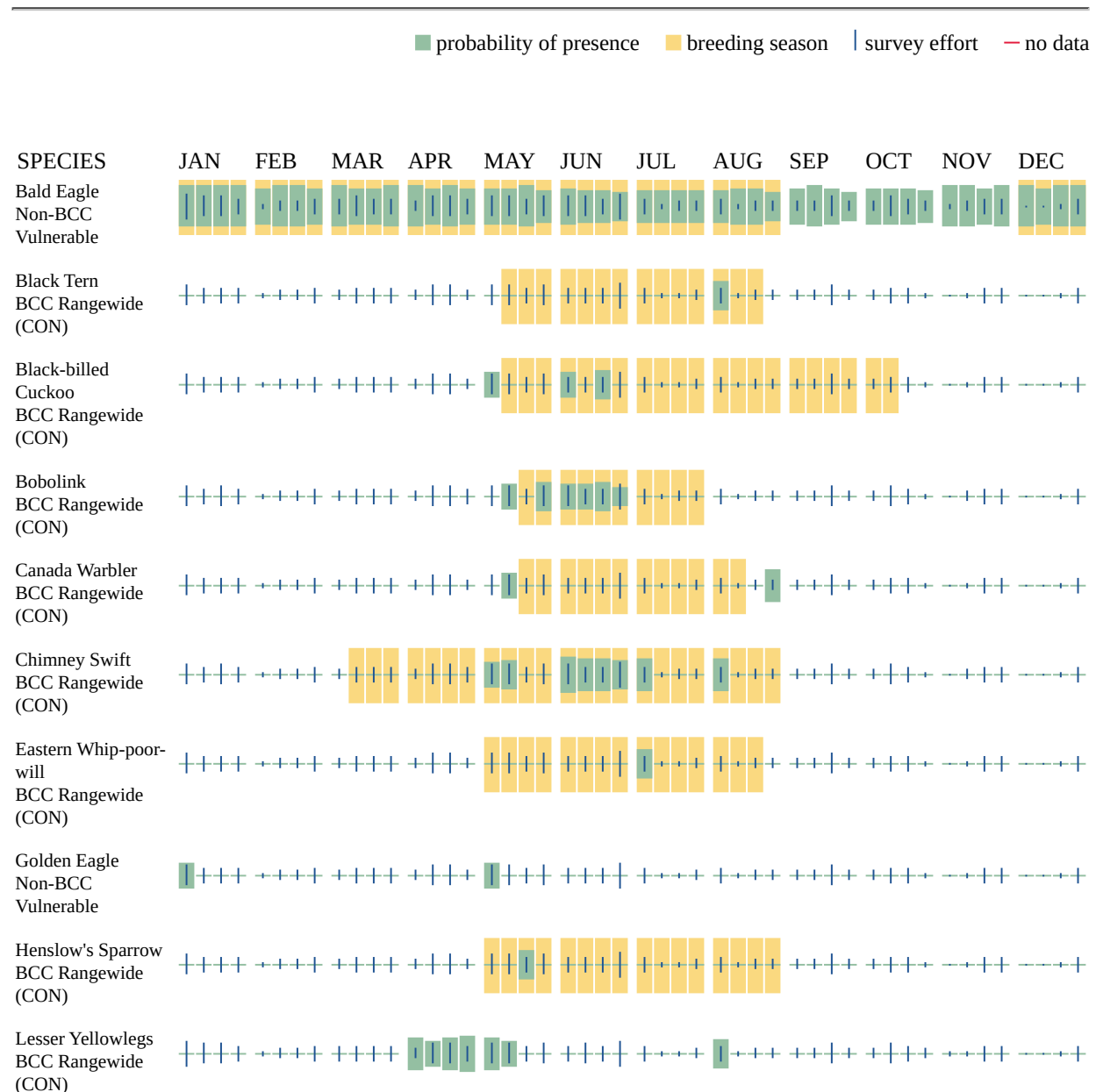
PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

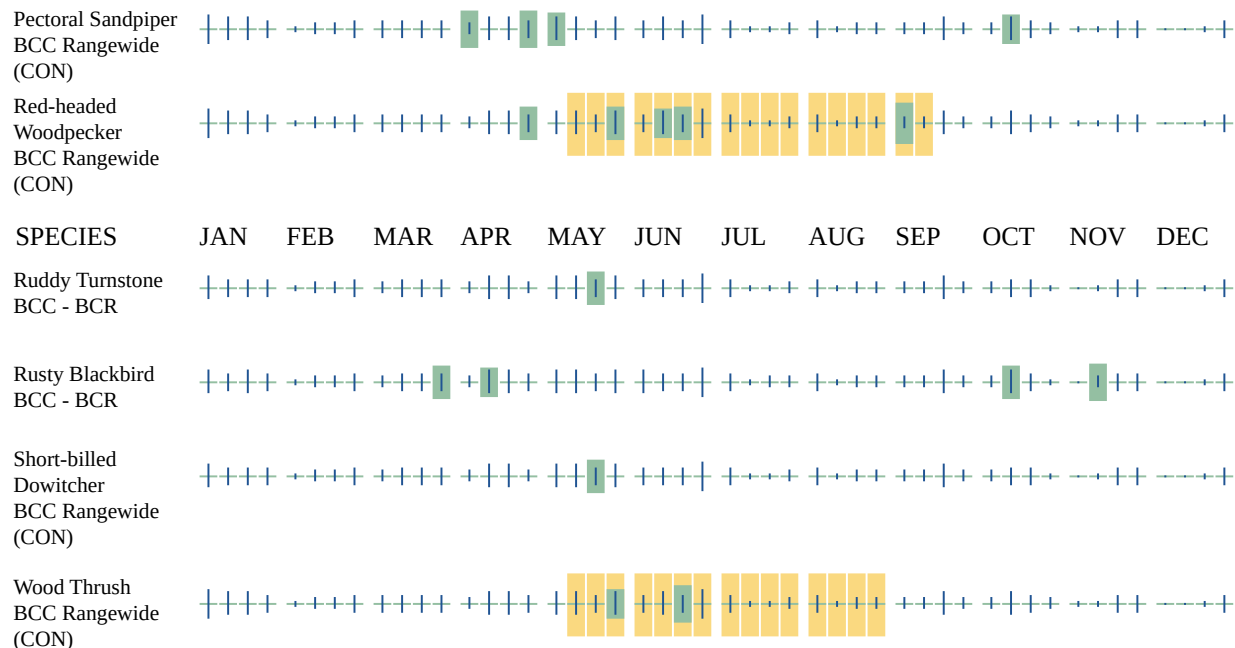
The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read ["Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles"](#), specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)





Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action>

WETLANDS

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND

- PEM1F
- PEM1C

- PEM1A
- PEM1Ch
- PEM1Af

RIVERINE

- R2UBG
- R4SBC

FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND

- PFO1A
- PFO1Ah

FRESHWATER POND

- PUBFh
-

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Merjent Inc.

Name: Mandy Bohnenblust

Address: 1 Main St SE, Suite 300

City: Minneapolis

State: MN

Zip: 55414

Email: mandy.bohnenblust@merjent.com

Phone: 6127463677

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Army Corps of Engineers



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office
3815 American Blvd East
Bloomington, MN 55425-1659
Phone: (952) 858-0793 Fax: (952) 646-2873



In Reply Refer To:

January 04, 2024

Project code: 2024-0027345

Project Name: Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Federal

Federal Nexus: yes

Federal Action Agency (if applicable): Army Corps of Engineers

Subject: Technical assistance for 'Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Federal'

Dear Mandy Bohnenblust:

This letter records your determination using the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) on January 04, 2024, for 'Dairyland Wabasha Relocation Project - Federal' (here forward, Project). This project has been assigned Project Code 2024-0027345 and all future correspondence should clearly reference this number. **Please carefully review this letter. Your Endangered Species Act (Act) requirements are not complete.**

Ensuring Accurate Determinations When Using IPaC

The Service developed the IPaC system and associated species' determination keys in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA; 87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and based on a standing analysis. All information submitted by the Project proponent into IPaC must accurately represent the full scope and details of the Project.

Failure to accurately represent or implement the Project as detailed in IPaC or the Northern Long-eared Bat Rangewide Determination Key (Dkey), invalidates this letter. ***Answers to certain questions in the DKey commit the project proponent to implementation of conservation measures that must be followed for the ESA determination to remain valid.***

Determination for the Northern Long-Eared Bat

Based upon your IPaC submission and a standing analysis, your project is not reasonably certain to cause incidental take of the northern long-eared bat. Unless the Service advises you within 15 days of the date of this letter that your IPaC-assisted determination was incorrect, this letter verifies that the Action is not likely to result in unauthorized take of the northern long-eared bat.

Other Species and Critical Habitat that May be Present in the Action Area

The IPaC-assisted determination for the northern long-eared bat does not apply to the following ESA-protected species and/or critical habitat that also may occur in your Action area:

- Higgins Eye (pearlymussel) *Lampsilis higginsii* Endangered
- Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* Candidate
- Rusty Patched Bumble Bee *Bombus affinis* Endangered
- Sheepnose Mussel *Plethobasus cyphus* Endangered
- Spectaclecase (mussel) *Cumberlandia monodonta* Endangered
- Tricolored Bat *Perimyotis subflavus* Proposed Endangered
- Whooping Crane *Grus americana* Experimental Population, Non-Essential

You may coordinate with our Office to determine whether the Action may cause prohibited take of the animal species listed above. Note that if a new species is listed that may be affected by the identified action before it is complete, additional review is recommended to ensure compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

Next Step

Consultation with the Service is necessary. The project has a federal nexus (e.g., Federal funds, permit, etc.), but you are not the federal action agency or its designated (in writing) non-federal representative. Therefore, the ESA consultation status is incomplete and no project activities should occur until consultation between the Service and the Federal action agency (or designated non-federal representative), is completed.

As the federal agency or designated non-federal representative deems appropriate, they should submit their determination of effects to the Service by doing the following.

1. Log into IPaC using an agency email account and click on My Projects, click "Search by record locator" to find this Project using **806-136451650**. (Alternatively, the originator of the project in IPaC can add the agency representative to the project by using the Add Member button on the project home page.)
2. Review the answers to the Northern Long-eared Bat Range-wide Determination Key to ensure that they are accurate.
3. Click on Review/Finalize to convert the 'not likely to adversely affect' consistency letter to a concurrence letter. Download the concurrence letter for your files if needed.

If no changes occur with the Project or there are no updates on listed species, no further consultation/coordination for this project is required for the northern long-eared bat. However, the Service recommends that project proponents re-evaluate the Project in IPaC if: 1) the scope, timing, duration, or location of the Project changes (includes any project changes or amendments); 2) new information reveals the Project may impact (positively or negatively) federally listed species or designated critical habitat; or 3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat designated. If any of the above conditions occurs, additional coordination with the

Service should take place before project implements any changes which are final or commits additional resources.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or need further assistance, please contact the Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office and reference Project Code 2024-0027345 associated with this Project.

DETERMINATION KEY RESULT

Based on the answers provided, the proposed Action is consistent with a determination of “may affect, but not likely to adversely affect” for the Endangered northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*).

QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. Does the proposed project include, or is it reasonably certain to cause, intentional take of the northern long-eared bat or any other listed species?

Note: Intentional take is defined as take that is the intended result of a project. Intentional take could refer to research, direct species management, surveys, and/or studies that include intentional handling/encountering, harassment, collection, or capturing of any individual of a federally listed threatened, endangered or proposed species?

No

2. The action area does not overlap with an area for which U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service currently has data to support the presumption that the northern long-eared bat is present. Are you aware of other data that indicates that northern long-eared bats (NLEB) are likely to be present in the action area?

Bat occurrence data may include identification of NLEBs in hibernacula, capture of NLEBs, tracking of NLEBs to roost trees, or confirmed NLEB acoustic detections. Data on captures, roost tree use, and acoustic detections should post-date the year when white-nose syndrome was detected in the relevant state. With this question, we are looking for data that, for some reason, may have not yet been made available to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

No

3. Does any component of the action involve construction or operation of wind turbines?

Note: For federal actions, answer ‘yes’ if the construction or operation of wind power facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for a federal agency action (federal permit, funding, etc.).

No

4. Is the proposed action authorized, permitted, licensed, funded, or being carried out by a Federal agency in whole or in part?

Yes

5. Is the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), or Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding or authorizing the proposed action, in whole or in part?

No

6. Are you an employee of the federal action agency or have you been officially designated in writing by the agency as its designated non-federal representative for the purposes of Endangered Species Act Section 7 informal consultation per 50 CFR § 402.08?

Note: This key may be used for federal actions and for non-federal actions to facilitate section 7 consultation and to help determine whether an incidental take permit may be needed, respectively. This question is for information purposes only.

No

7. Is the lead federal action agency the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or Federal Communications Commission (FCC)? Is the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or Federal Communications Commission (FCC) funding or authorizing the proposed action, in whole or in part?

No

8. Is the lead federal action agency the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)?

No

9. Have you determined that your proposed action will have no effect on the northern long-eared bat? Remember to consider the [effects of any activities](#) that would not occur but for the proposed action.

If you think that the northern long-eared bat may be affected by your project or if you would like assistance in deciding, answer “No” below and continue through the key. If you have determined that the northern long-eared bat does not occur in your project’s action area and/or that your project will have no effects whatsoever on the species despite the potential for it to occur in the action area, you may make a “no effect” determination for the northern long-eared bat.

Note: Federal agencies (or their designated non-federal representatives) must consult with USFWS on federal agency actions that may affect listed species [50 CFR 402.14(a)]. Consultation is not required for actions that will not affect listed species or critical habitat. Therefore, this determination key will not provide a consistency or verification letter for actions that will not affect listed species. If you believe that the northern long-eared bat may be affected by your project or if you would like assistance in deciding, please answer “No” and continue through the key. Remember that this key addresses only effects to the northern long-eared bat. Consultation with USFWS would be required if your action may affect another listed species or critical habitat. The definition of [Effects of the Action](#) can be found here: <https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions>

No

10. [Semantic] Is the action area located within 0.5 miles of a known northern long-eared bat hibernaculum?

Note: The map queried for this question contains proprietary information and cannot be displayed. If you need additional information, please contact your State wildlife agency.

Automatically answered

No

11. Does the action area contain any caves (or associated sinkholes, fissures, or other karst features), mines, rocky outcroppings, or tunnels that could provide habitat for hibernating northern long-eared bats?

Yes

12. Have you conducted, or will you conduct, a voluntary Phase 1 habitat assessment for potentially suitable hibernacula in accordance with the guidance in Appendix H of the USFWS' current Range-wide Indiana bat and Northern long-eared bat Survey Guidelines?

Note: The survey guidelines can be found at: <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/range-wide-indiana-bat-and-northern-long-eared-bat-survey-guidelines>.

No

13. Will the proposed action result in the cutting or other means of knocking down, bringing down, or trimming of any trees suitable for northern long-eared bat roosting?

Note: Suitable northern long-eared bat roost trees are live trees and/or snags ≥ 3 inches dbh that have exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, and/or cavities.

Yes

PROJECT QUESTIONNAIRE

Enter the extent of the action area (in acres) from which trees will be removed - round up to the nearest tenth of an acre. For this question, include the entire area where tree removal will take place, even if some live or dead trees will be left standing.

14.4

In what extent of the area (in acres) will trees be cut, knocked down, or trimmed during the inactive (hibernation) season for northern long-eared bat? **Note:** Inactive Season dates for spring staging/fall swarming areas can be found here: <https://www.fws.gov/media/inactive-season-dates-swarming-and-staging-areas>

0

In what extent of the area (in acres) will trees be cut, knocked down, or trimmed during the active (non-hibernation) season for northern long-eared bat? **Note:** Inactive Season dates for spring staging/fall swarming areas can be found here: <https://www.fws.gov/media/inactive-season-dates-swarming-and-staging-areas>

14.4

Will all potential northern long-eared bat (NLEB) roost trees (trees ≥ 3 inches diameter at breast height, dbh) be cut, knocked, or brought down from any portion of the action area greater than or equal to 0.1 acre? If all NLEB roost trees will be removed from multiple areas, select 'Yes' if the cumulative extent of those areas meets or exceeds 0.1 acre.

Yes

Enter the extent of the action area (in acres) from which all potential NLEB roost trees will be removed. If all NLEB roost trees will be removed from multiple areas, entire the total extent of those areas. Round up to the nearest tenth of an acre.

14.4

For the area from which all potential northern long-eared bat (NLEB) roost trees will be removed, on how many acres (round to the nearest tenth of an acre) will trees be allowed to regrow? Enter '0' if the entire area from which all potential NLEB roost trees are removed will be developed or otherwise converted to non-forest for the foreseeable future.

10

Will any snags (standing dead trees) ≥ 3 inches dbh be left standing in the area(s) in which all northern long-eared bat roost trees will be cut, knocked down, or otherwise brought down?

Yes

Will all project activities be completed by April 1, 2024?

No

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Merjent Inc.

Name: Mandy Bohnenblust

Address: 1 Main St SE, Suite 300

City: Minneapolis

State: MN

Zip: 55414

Email: mandy.bohnenblust@merjent.com

Phone: 6127463677

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Army Corps of Engineers

Federal Aviation Administration

From: [Britta Bergland](#)
To: [Kiser, Robert K-CTR \(FAA\)](#); [Souchet, Fred \(FAA\)](#)
Cc: [Sage Williams](#); [Kristin Lenz](#)
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Dairyland Power - Wabasha Relocation Project in Wabasha County, MN
Date: Friday, December 22, 2023 1:56:00 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[image.png](#)

Hi Robby and Fred –

Thank you for your prompt response. We appreciate the guidance on the future permitting needs for the Project and would be happy to meet with you in the new year. We have availability on January 4, 5, or 12, is there a time that would work best for you?

Take care –

Britta

Britta Bergland

612.746.3673 direct
612.220.9692 mobile
britta.bergland@merjent.com



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Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660
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From: Kiser, Robert K-CTR (FAA) <Robert.K-CTR.Kiser@faa.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 2:19 PM
To: Britta Bergland <britta.bergland@merjent.com>
Cc: Souchet, Fred (FAA) <Fred.Souchet@faa.gov>; Sage Williams <Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com>; Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>
Subject: EXTERNAL: RE: Dairyland Power - Wabasha Relocation Project in Wabasha County, MN

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Good afternoon,

The FAA would look forward to discussing this with you further should you like. I know the meeting will most likely need to be scheduled after the Christmas and New Year holiday season. I know that many of us are going to be on leave and not back until after the New Year. One thing to begin thinking about, is that when you go from township to township, you will need to indicate that on the 7460-2. You should be able to file for them all at once thus keeping sequential order and easier to review. Additionally, if you will be replacing existing structures that have aeronautical study numbers (ASN's) on them, please list those as prior studies to the new filings. I have also included my Specialist, Fred Souchet, so that he may add input to this as well, especially if any public comments are needed/warranted.

I look forward to working with you on this project going forward.

With Kind Regards, I Am,

Robby Kiser

Federal Aviation Administration
AJV-A51/Obstruction Evaluation Group
Air Traffic Specialist III / FAA OEG – NAVTAC Support
1701 Columbia Ave. College Park, GA 30337
Telephone: Work: 404-305-6616
Email: robert.k-CTR.kiser@faa.gov

Level III Technician for the states of Michigan, Minnesota, South Carolina and Rhode Island

"Email is the fastest way to reach me"



- 1) To see if your structure is required to file with FAA, please go to:
<https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaa/external/gisTools/gisAction.jsp?action=showNoNoticeRequiredToolForm>
- 2) OEAAA.faa.gov Filing Instructions:
<https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaa/external/content/instructions.jsp>
- 3) General FAQs: <https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaa/external/searchAction.jsp?action=generalFAQs>
- 4) DOT/FAA Obstruction Marking & Lighting Advisory Circular (AC 70/7460-1M):
https://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/advisory_circulars/index.cfm/go/document.information/documentID/1030047
- 5) Light Outage Reporting: <https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaa/external/content/lightOutageReporting.jsp>
- 6) Helpdesk (System Issues/Support): 202-580-7500/Email: oeaaa_helpdesk@cghtech.com

From: Britta Bergland <britta.bergland@merjent.com>

Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 1:29 PM

To: Kiser, Robert K-CTR (FAA) <Robert.K-CTR.Kiser@faa.gov>

Cc: Souchet, Fred (FAA) <Fred.Souchet@faa.gov>; Sage Williams <Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com>; Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>

Subject: Dairyland Power - Wabasha Relocation Project in Wabasha County, MN

Dear Robert Kiser:

Dairyland Power Cooperative (Dairyland) is proposing to relocate approximately 13.3 miles of 161-kilovolt (kV) high voltage transmission line and construct a new substation in Wabasha County, Minnesota (the Wabasha Relocation Project, or the Project). The Project starts in Plainview Township, northeast of the Town of Plainview, and traverses northeast through Highland, Watopa, and Greenfield Townships, ending east of the City of Kellogg near the Mississippi River. More information on the Project, along with a Project map, is available in the attached fact sheet.

Dairyland plans to file a joint Certificate of Need and Route Permit application with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in March 2024. Dairyland would appreciate any input you may have on the Project. Please reach out to Sage Williams with Dairyland at 608-791-2993 or Sage.Williams@Dairylandpower.com with questions, written comments, or a request for a meeting.

Thank you –

Britta Bergland [on behalf of Sage Williams, Dairyland Power Cooperative]

Britta Bergland

612.746.3673 direct

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britta.bergland@merjent.com



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Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community

From: [Britta Bergland](#)
To: [Leonard Wabasha \(TO\)](#)
Cc: [Sage Williams](#); [Kristin Lenz](#)
Subject: RE: Dairyland Power - Wabasha Relocation Project in Wabasha County, MN
Date: Friday, December 22, 2023 12:53:00 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[image.png](#)

Good afternoon –

Thank you for your prompt response to Dairyland's December 18, 2023 letter. We are in the process of completing a file search and Phase IA Cultural Resources Assessment in support of the Project to provide to the MN SHPO. Once this is complete, we would be happy to provide you with a copy.

Please let me know if you we can provide any additional information.

Take care –

Britta

Britta Bergland

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612.220.9692 mobile
britta.bergland@merjent.com



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Minneapolis, MN 55414
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From: Leonard Wabasha (TO) <leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org>
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2023 6:32 AM
To: Britta Bergland <britta.bergland@merjent.com>
Cc: Sage Williams <Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com>; Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>
Subject: EXTERNAL: RE: Dairyland Power - Wabasha Relocation Project in Wabasha County, MN

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Good Morning All

Has there been any archaeological work/investigation performed for the project as yet? If so can you please share information from the desktop literature study, Thanks...



LEONARD WABASHA

Director of Cultural Resources • Cultural Resources
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
d: 952.496.6120
shakopeedakota.org
Leonard.Wabasha@shakopeedakota.org

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community is a federally recognized, sovereign Indian tribe located southwest of Minneapolis/St. Paul. With a

focus on being a good neighbor, good steward of the earth, and good employer, the SMSC is committed to charitable donations, community partnerships, a healthy environment, and a strong economy.

From: Britta Bergland <britta.bergland@merjent.com>

Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 2:19 PM

To: Leonard Wabasha (TO) <leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org>

Cc: Sage Williams <Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com>; Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>

Subject: Dairyland Power - Wabasha Relocation Project in Wabasha County, MN

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Dear Leonard Wabasha:

Dairyland Power Cooperative (Dairyland) is proposing to relocate approximately 13.3 miles of 161-kilovolt (kV) high voltage transmission line and construct a new substation in Wabasha County, Minnesota (the Wabasha Relocation Project, or the Project). The Project starts in Plainview Township, northeast of the Town of Plainview, and traverses northeast through Highland, Watopa, and Greenfield Townships, ending east of the City of Kellogg near the Mississippi River. More information on the Project, along with a Project map, is available in the attached fact sheet.

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Thank you –

Britta Bergland [on behalf of Sage Williams, Dairyland Power Cooperative]

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## Britta Bergland

---

**From:** Britta Bergland  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2024 10:26 AM  
**To:** Leonard Wabasha (TO)  
**Cc:** Sage Williams; Kristin Lenz  
**Subject:** RE: Dairyland Power - Wabasha Relocation Project in Wabasha County, MN  
**Attachments:** DPC\_Wabasha\_Phase IA\_Letter Report\_20240206.pdf

Good morning!

Merjent recently submitted the results of our file search and Phase IA Cultural Resources Assessment in support of Dairyland's Wabasha Relocation Project. Please see attached for a copy and let us know if you have any questions regarding the project.

Take care –

Britta

## Britta Bergland

612.746.3673 direct  
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britta.bergland@merjent.com



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Minneapolis, MN 55414  
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---

**From:** Britta Bergland  
**Sent:** Friday, December 22, 2023 12:53 PM  
**To:** Leonard Wabasha (TO) <leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org>  
**Cc:** Sage Williams <Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com>; Kristin Lenz <kristin.lenz@merjent.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Dairyland Power - Wabasha Relocation Project in Wabasha County, MN

Good afternoon –

Thank you for your prompt response to Dairyland's December 18, 2023 letter. We are in the process of completing a file search and Phase IA Cultural Resources Assessment in support of the Project to provide to the MN SHPO. Once this is complete, we would be happy to provide you with a copy.

Please let me know if you we can provide any additional information.

Take care –

Britta

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**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2023 6:32 AM  
**To:** Britta Bergland <[britta.bergland@merjent.com](mailto:britta.bergland@merjent.com)>  
**Cc:** Sage Williams <[Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com](mailto:Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com)>; Kristin Lenz <[kristin.lenz@merjent.com](mailto:kristin.lenz@merjent.com)>  
**Subject:** EXTERNAL: RE: Dairyland Power - Wabasha Relocation Project in Wabasha County, MN

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Good Morning All

Has there been any archaeological work/investigation performed for the project as yet? If so can you please share information from the desktop literature study, Thanks...



**LEONARD WABASHA**  
Director of Cultural Resources • Cultural Resources  
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community  
d: 952.496.6120  
[shakopeedakota.org](http://shakopeedakota.org)  
[Leonard.Wabasha@shakopeedakota.org](mailto:Leonard.Wabasha@shakopeedakota.org)

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**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2023 2:19 PM  
**To:** Leonard Wabasha (TO) <[leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org](mailto:leonard.wabasha@shakopeedakota.org)>  
**Cc:** Sage Williams <[Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com](mailto:Sage.Williams@DairylandPower.com)>; Kristin Lenz <[kristin.lenz@merjent.com](mailto:kristin.lenz@merjent.com)>  
**Subject:** Dairyland Power - Wabasha Relocation Project in Wabasha County, MN

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Dear Leonard Wabasha:

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Thank you –

Britta Bergland [on behalf of Sage Williams, Dairyland Power Cooperative]

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Note: The attached Phase 1A Cultural Resources Assessment report has been removed as non-public information.

**Minnesota Department of Natural Resources**