

## Notice of Site Permit Proceedings and Additional Comment Period

### Project Description

Mankato Energy Center II, LLC (MEC II), wholly-owned subsidiary of Calpine Corporation (Calpine), is proposing a 345 Megawatt (MW) Expansion to the existing Mankato Energy Center located at 1 Fazio Lane in Mankato, Minnesota. The Expansion Project involves the planned completion of the existing Mankato Energy Center, through the addition of one natural gas-fired combustion turbine generator (CTG), an additional heat recovery steam generator (HRSG), and related ancillary equipment. The construction and operation of the Expansion Project will take place within the fence line of the existing Mankato Energy Center.

### Process Information

The Commission must approve a site permit before the Expansion Project can be built. This project has been proceeding under Commission Docket No. IP-6949/GS-15-620. The Expansion Project is considered a Large Electrical Generating Facility and requires a Site Permit from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) under Minnesota Statute § 216E.01 and the permit application is undergoing review under the provisions of Minnesota Rule parts 7850.1000 to 7850.5600. This project does not require a Certificate of Need authorization from the Commission as it was exempted under to Minn. Stat. § 216.2422, Subd. 5(b). Calpine does not have the authority of eminent domain for this project and the Expansion Project is to be located within the fence line of the existing facility.

The Site Permit application was accepted as complete in October 2015. The Department of Commerce (DOC) prepared an environmental assessment reviewing the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed Expansion Project which was published in February 2016. A Public Hearing for the Site Permit Application was held in Mankato, Minnesota in March 2016. A decision on the Site Permit for the Expansion Project is anticipated to be heard before the Commission in June 2016.

### Project Notifications

As part of the Commission's Site Permit process there are required steps requiring notice of the proceedings and opportunities for public comment to facilitate public participation and involvement in building the record. Calpine filed the required letter of intent to submit a Site Permit Application with the Commission via eDockets on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and submitted the Site Permit Application to the Commission on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

At the time of the submission of the Site Permit Application to the Commission, Calpine as the Applicant, inadvertently omitted a notice of the submission of the Site Permit Application. The notice is required to be provided under Minnesota Rules (7850.2100, subpart 2) to parties on the Commission's general service list, local officials, and adjacent property owners when a site permit application is submitted to the Commission. This would include a mailing of the notice to these identified parties as well as publication of the notice in the local newspaper.

Notifications of the proceedings for this project as required under Minnesota Rules were completed at the following instances:

- On August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 a notice of public comment on the completeness of the Site Permit Application was published by the Commission.

- On September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015 a notice of the public information and environmental assessment scoping meeting was published by the Commission. Additionally, this meeting notice was provided to parties on the project service list, general service list, local officials, and adjacent land owners via US mail or electronic mail
- On September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 a notice of the public information and environmental assessment scoping meeting was published in the Mankato Free Press. This publication was certified by an affidavit of publication provided by the Applicant to the Commission on October 6, 2015.
- The Public Information and Environmental Assessment Scoping Meeting for the Site Permit Application was held in the project area on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015.
- The notice of the information and scoping meeting included identification of a public comment period from September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 to October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015.
- On February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 a notice of the public hearing for the application for a Site Permit was published in the Mankato Free Press. This publication was certified by an affidavit of publication provided by the Applicant to the Commission on February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016.
- On February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 a notice of the public hearing for the application for a Site Permit was published by the Commission. Additionally, this meeting notice was provided to parties on the project service list, general service list, local officials, and adjacent land owners via US mail or electronic mail.
- The notice of the public hearing included identification of a public comment period from February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 through March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016.
- On February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 notice of availability of the Environmental Assessment for the Expansion Project was published by the Department of Commerce.
- On February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016 availability of the Environmental Assessment for the Expansion Project was published in the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board Monitor.
- The Public Hearing for the Site Permit Application was held in the project area on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

### Notification and Additional Comment Period

Calpine is providing this notice of the Site Permit Application process for the expansion of the Mankato Energy Center to satisfy requirements under Minnesota Rules 7850.2100, subpart 2 and also publishing the notice within the Mankato Free Press to satisfy requirements under subpart 4 of this rule.

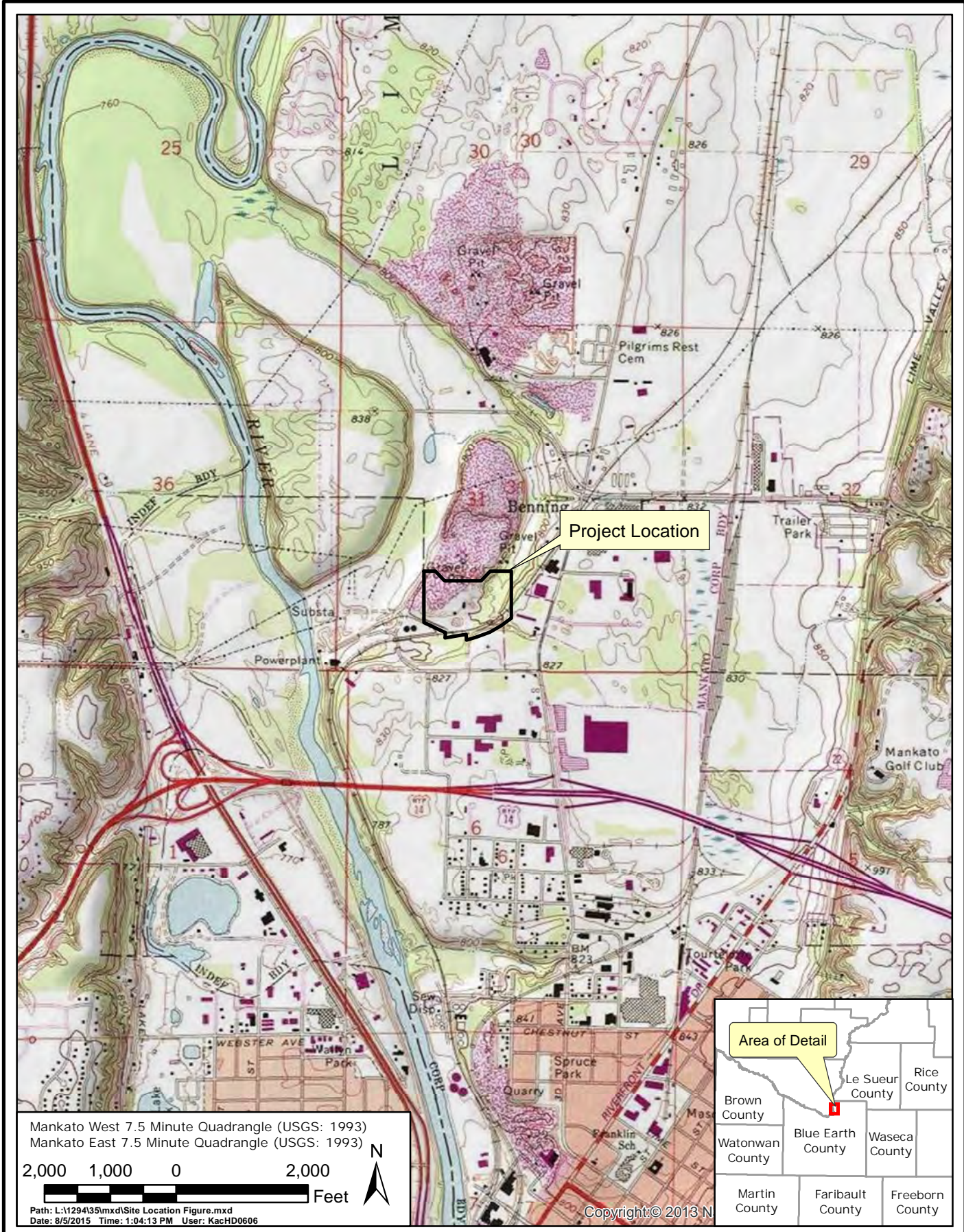
This notice includes an additional 10-day comment period from May 7<sup>th</sup> through May 17<sup>th</sup> for this project record to ensure all parties who wish to comment on Calpine's Application for a Site Permit for Expansion Project have received adequate and appropriate opportunity to participate in the project record.

The copy of the Site Permit Application is available by request from [John.Flummerfelt@calpine.com](mailto:John.Flummerfelt@calpine.com) and is available for review at the following community location:

- Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main Street, Mankato.

If you have questions, wish to be placed on the project contact list, or wish to provide comments regarding these proceedings under this docket or on the proposed Expansion Project, comments can be submitted to the following contact.

- **Public Utilities Commission Energy Facilities Planner**  
Tricia DeBleekere at [Tricia.Debleeckere@state.mn.us](mailto:Tricia.Debleeckere@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2254  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
121 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 350  
St Paul, MN 55101



# MANKATO ENERGY CENTER

## Site Location Map



AUG 2015

Figure 1