

## **Appendix A - Application Completeness Checklist**

**Otto Tap 115-kV Transmission Line Project in Otter Tail County, MN**

**Docket No. ET2/TL-25-269**

**Appendix A: Application Completeness Checklist**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>EIP Act MS § 216I</b>	<b>Text from Statute or Rule</b>	<b>Location in Document</b>
Project ownership	216I.05, subd. 3(b)(1)	a statement of proposed ownership of the facility at the time of filing the application and after commercial operation	1.2
Permittee name	216I.05, subd. 3(b)(2)	the name of any person or organization initially named as permittee or permittees and the name of any other person to whom the permit may be transferred if transfer of the permit is contemplated	1.3
Project description	216I.05, subd. 3(b)(3)	a description of the proposed large energy infrastructure facility and all associated facilities, including size, type, and timing of the facility	1.5; 3.1; 3.2; 3.4
Environmental Information, generally	216I.05, subd. 3(b)(4)	the environmental information required under subdivision 4;	1.7; Ch. 6
Identification of Property Owners	216I.05, subd. 3(b)(5)	the names of each owner described under subdivision 8;	Appendix F
Maps	216I.05, subd. 3(b)(6)	United States Geological Survey topographical maps, or other maps acceptable to the commission, that show the entire proposed large energy infrastructure facility	Appendix B
Existing ROWs	216I.05, subd. 3(b)(7)	a document that identifies existing utility and public rights-of-way along or near the large energy infrastructure facility	3.1.2; 3.1.3; Appendix B, Map 1
Project design, including required ancillary facilities	216I.05, subd. 3(b)(8)	the engineering and operational design at each of the proposed sites for the proposed large energy infrastructure facility, and identify transportation, pipeline, and electrical transmission systems that are required to construct, maintain, and operate the facility	3.1; 3.2; 5.1; 5.2
Project cost	216I.05, subd. 3(b)(9)	a cost analysis of the proposed large energy infrastructure facility, including the costs to construct, operate, and maintain the facility	3.3

<b>Topic</b>	<b>EIP Act MS § 216I</b>	<b>Text from Statute or Rule</b>	<b>Location in Document</b>
Design for expansion	216I.05, subd. 3(b)(10)	a description of possible design options to accommodate the large energy infrastructure facility's future expansion	3.1.12
Site or ROW acquisition, construction, maintenance, & restoration	216I.05, subd. 3(b)(11)	the procedures and practices proposed to acquire, construct, maintain, and restore the large energy infrastructure facility's right-of-way or site	3.6; 3.7; 5.1; 5.2
Other Permits	216I.05, subd. 3(b)(12)	a list and brief description of federal, state, and local permits that may be required for the proposed large energy infrastructure facility	2.4
CN Requirement	216I.05, subd. 3(b)(13)	a discussion regarding whether a certificate of need application is required and, if a certificate of need application is required, whether the certificate of need application has been submitted	2.1
Other sites or routes considered	216I.05, subd. 3(b)(14)	a discussion regarding any other sites or routes that were considered and rejected by the applicant	4.1; 4.2; 4.3
Additional information required by rule	216I.05, subd. 3(b)(15)	any information the commission requires pursuant to an administrative rule	Not applicable
Tribal coordination	216I.05, subd. 3(b)(16); 216I.05, subd. 5(2)	a discussion regarding coordination with Minnesota Tribal governments, as defined under section 10.65, subdivision 2, by the applicant, including but not limited to the notice required under subdivision 5 of this section	1.8.2; 2.3.2; 6.7; Appendix D
Preapplication Coordination (LGUs)	216I.05, subd. 5(1)	At least 30 days before filing an application with the commission, an applicant must provide notice to: (1) each local unit of government within which a site or route may be proposed	1.8.2; 2.3.2; Appendix C
Preapplication Coordination (State Technical Resource Agencies)	216I.05, subd. 5(3)	At least 30 days before filing an application with the commission, an applicant must provide notice to: (3) the state technical resource agencies	1.8.2; 2.3.2; Appendix C
Environmental information, generally	216I.05, subd. 4(a)	An applicant for a site or route permit must include in the application environmental information for each proposed site or route. The	Ch. 6

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		environmental information submitted must include:	
Environmental setting	216I.05, subd. 4(a)(1)	a description of each site or route's environmental setting	6.3
Human settlement, generally	216I.05, subd. 4(2)	description of the effects the facility's construction and operation has on human settlement, including but not limited to public health and safety, displacement, noise, aesthetics, socioeconomic impacts, environmental justice impacts, cultural values, recreation, and public services	6.4
Public health & safety including EMF	216I.05, subd. 11(b)(1) (Decision Criteria)		3.1.7; 6.5
Displacement	216I.05, subd. 4(2)		6.4.3
Noise	216I.05, subd. 4(2)		6.4.6
Aesthetics	216I.05, subd. 4(2) 216I.19		6.4.1
Socioeconomic Impacts	216I.05, subd. 4(2); 216I.05, subd. 11(b)(14)		6.4.9
Environmental Justice Impacts	216I.05, subd. 4(2); 216I.05, subd. 11(a)(3)		6.4.4
Cultural Values	216I.05, bud. 4(2)		6.4.2
Recreation	216I.05, subd. 4(2)		6.4.8
Public Services	216I.05, subd. 4(2)		6.4.7
Land Use	216I.05, subd. 11(a) (2) (Decision Criteria)		The commission's site and route permit determinations must (1) be guided by the state's goals to conserve resources; (2) minimize environmental impacts, and minimize human settlement and other land use conflicts;

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Land-based economics, generally	216I.05, subd. 4(3)	a description of the facility's effects on land-based economies, including but not limited to agriculture, forestry, tourism, and mining	6.6
Agriculture	216I.05, subd. 4(3); see also Minn. R. 7850.4400, subp. 4.	<b>Minn. R. 7850.4400, subp. 4. Prime farmland exclusion.</b> No large electric power generating plant site may be permitted where the developed portion of the plant site, excluding water storage reservoirs and cooling ponds, includes more than 0.5 acres of prime farmland per megawatt of net generating capacity, or where makeup water storage reservoir or cooling pond facilities include more than 0.5 acres of prime farmland per megawatt of net generating capacity, unless there is no feasible and prudent alternative. Economic considerations alone do not justify the use of more prime farmland. "Prime farmland" means those soils that meet the specifications of Code of Federal Regulations 1980, title 7, section 657.5, paragraph (a). These provisions do not apply to areas located within home rule charter or statutory cities; areas located within two miles of home rule charter or statutory cities of the first, second, and third class; or areas designated for orderly annexation under Minnesota Statutes, section <a href="#">414.0325</a> .	6.6.1
Forestry	216I.05, subd. 4(3)	a description of the facility's effects on land-based economies, including but not limited to agriculture, forestry, tourism, and mining	6.6.2
Tourism	216I.05, subd. 4(3)		6.6.4
Mining	216I.05, subd. 4(3)		6.6.3
Archaeological & historic resources	216I.05, subd. 4(4)	a description of the facility's effects on archaeological and historic resources	6.7
Natural environment impacts - generally	216I.05, subd. 4(5)	a description of the facility's effects on the natural environment, including	6.8

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Air quality	216I.05, subd. 4(5)	effects on air and water quality resources, flora, and fauna	6.8.1
Geology and Groundwater	216I.05, subd. 4(5) 216I.05, subd. 11(b)(1)	<b>Minn. R. 7850.4400, Subp. 5. Sufficient water supply required.</b> No site may be designated that does not have reasonable access to a proven water supply sufficient for plant operation. No use of groundwater may be permitted where removal of groundwater results in material adverse effects on groundwater, groundwater dependent natural resources, or higher priority users in and adjacent to the area, as determined in each case. The use of groundwater for high consumption purposes, such as cooling, must be avoided if a feasible and prudent alternative exists.	6.8.4; 6.8.9
Soils	216I.05, subd. 11(b)(1) and subd. 11(b)(5)	a description of the facility's effects on the natural environment, including effects on air and water quality resources, flora, and fauna	6.8.6
Surface waters (including stormwater, floodplains, and wetlands)	216I.05, subd. 4(5); 216I.05, subd. 11(b)(1)		6.8.8
Vegetation	216I.05, subd. 4(5)		6.8.7
Wildlife	216I.05, subd. 4(5)		6.8.10
Rare & unique resources	subd. 4(8)		a description of the facility's effects on rare and unique natural resources
Greenhouse gases	216I.05, subd. 4(6)	a description of the greenhouse gases associated with constructing and operating the facility	6.8.3
Climate change resilience	216I.05, subd. 4(7)	a description of the facility's climate change resilience	6.8.2
Unavoidable Impacts	216I.05, subd. 4(9)	a list that identifies human and natural environmental effects that are	6.9

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		unavoidable if the facility is approved at a specific site or route	
Irretrievable and Irreversible Impacts	216I.05, subd. 11(b)(11)	evaluating irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources if the proposed site or route is approved	6.10
Mitigation Measures	216I.05, subd. 4(10)	a description of (i) measures that might be implemented to mitigate the potential human and environmental impacts identified in clauses (1) to (7), and (ii) the estimated costs of the potential mitigative measures	Ch. 6

**Recommended Application Content not Specified in Statute or Rule**

Item	Description	Location in Document
Decommissioning Plan	The PUC may require any reasonable conditions in a site or route permit that are necessary to protect the public interest and maintains jurisdiction over site and route permits and any conditions in those permits. In practice site permits issued by the PUC require permittees to provide a decommissioning plan to assure that the permittee is responsible for decommissioning a facility at the end of its useful life. Staff recommends permittees include a draft decommissioning plan as an appendix to the application to allow for review during the permitting process.	Not applicable
Vegetation Management Plan	The PUC may require any reasonable conditions in a site or route permit that are necessary to protect the public interest and maintains jurisdiction over site and route permits and any conditions in those permits. In practice, site and route permits issued by the PUC require permittees to develop a Vegetation Management Plan to detail how a site or route will be vegetated, maintained, and monitored over time. Staff recommends that a draft version of the vegetation management plan be included as an appendix to the application to allow for review during the permitting process.	Appendix G