
August 19, 2024

To: Persons Interested in the Proposed Construction of a 115-kV High Voltage Transmission Line and associated facilities in Carver County, Minnesota; the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Energy Facilities General List; Local Officials; Tribes; and Property Owners

Re: Notice of Filing of Route Permit Application with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC Docket No. ET2/TL 24-132)

Great River Energy and Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative (MVEC) (together, the “Applicants”) are proposing to build a new 4.3-mile 115-kilovolt (kV) double-circuit high voltage transmission line (HVTL or Transmission Line) in Laketown and Dahlgren Townships in Carver County, Minnesota, referred to as the Laketown 115-kV Transmission Line Project (“Project”). The Project also includes construction of a new MVEC substation (the “Laketown Substation”). The Applicants submitted an application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) for a route permit for the Project (Docket No. ET2/TL 24-132) pursuant to the alternative permitting process contained in Minnesota Rules parts 7850.2800 to 7850.3900, and Minnesota Statutes, section 216E.04.

Project Description

Great River Energy will build a new 4.3-mile 115-kV double-circuit HVTL between its existing 115-kV MV-VTT transmission line and the new Laketown Substation. MVEC will build the new Laketown Substation on approximately 1.5 acres of MVEC owned land at the corner of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 10 and Laketown Road. This Project will enable Great River Energy to provide 115-kV service to the Laketown Substation to meet long-term electricity planning needs.

Route Permit Process

A Route Permit from the Commission is required before the Project can be constructed. The Power Plant Siting Act (Minnesota Statutes Chapter 216E) and Minnesota Rules parts 7850.1000 to 7850.5600 establish the requirements for submitting and processing a Route Permit application. The statutes and rules also establish notice requirements for various stages of the process. The Route Permit application will be considered by the Commission under the alternative permitting process in Minnesota Statutes section 216E.04 and Minnesota Rules parts 7850.2800 to 7850.3900. The Commission has up to six months from the time the application is accepted as complete to process and make a decision on the Route Permit according to Minnesota Statutes section 216E.04, subd. 7, and Minnesota Rule 7850.3900, subp. 1. The Commission may extend this time limit for up to three months for just cause or upon agreement of the applicant.

Within 60 days after the Commission accepts the application as complete, the Commission and the Department of Commerce, Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (“EERA”) unit will hold a public information and scoping meeting to provide information and seek comments from the public. At this meeting, members of the public may propose additional route alternatives for consideration in the environmental assessment that the EERA will prepare. Once the public meeting is scheduled, notice of the meeting will be provided to persons whose names are on the Project contact list and will be published in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the Project area. After the environmental

assessment has been completed, a public hearing will be held on the application. Any person may speak at the public hearing, present documentary evidence, ask questions of Applicants' representatives and EERA staff and submit comments.

If the Commission issues a Route Permit for the Project, Applicant may, if necessary, exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire land necessary for the Project (Minn. Stat. § 216E.12; Minn. Stat. Ch. 117).

Certificate of Need

Minnesota Statutes section 216B.243, subdivision 2 states that "[n]o large energy facility shall be sited or constructed in Minnesota without the issuance of a certificate of need by the [Public Utilities Commission]". A large energy facility is defined as "any high-voltage transmission line with a capacity of 100 kilovolts or more with more than ten miles of its length in Minnesota." The proposed Project is less than 10 miles in length; therefore, a certificate of need is not required.

How to Learn More

For more information about the regulatory process or to have your name included on the Project mailing lists, contact:

Minnesota Department of Commerce

Logan Hicks, Environmental Review Manager
85 7th Place East, Suite 280
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
Logan.M.Hicks@state.mn.us
651-539-2712
mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

Jacques Harvieux, Principal Energy Planner
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147
Jacques.harvieux@state.mn.us
651-201-22333
mn.gov/puc

There are two options for citizens, landowners, and interested persons to receive Project information:

1. **Sign up for the Project Mailing List.** To sign up to receive notices about Project milestones and opportunities to participate (meetings, comment periods, etc.) email eservice.admin@state.mn.us or call 651-201-2246 with the docket number (24-132), your name, mailing address and email address. You may request to receive notices by email or U.S. Mail.
2. **Subscribe to the Docket.** To receive email notifications when new documents are filed in the Route Permit docket visit: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling>, select *Subscribe to eDockets* and follow the prompts.

Note - subscribing may result in a large number of emails.

Current information about the Project and Route Permit Application is available online at https://greatriverenergy.com/transmission_project/laketown-115-kv-transmission-line-project/.

A copy of the Route Permit Application is also available for review at:

Victoria Branch of the Carver County Public Library
1670 Stieger Lake Lane
Victoria, MN 55386

Additional information may be obtained by calling Michael Swenson at Great River Energy: 1-888-521-0130 ext. 5979, direct 763-445-5979 or by email at mswenson@greenergy.com.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Swenson", written in a cursive style.

Michael Swenson
Transmission Permitting Specialist

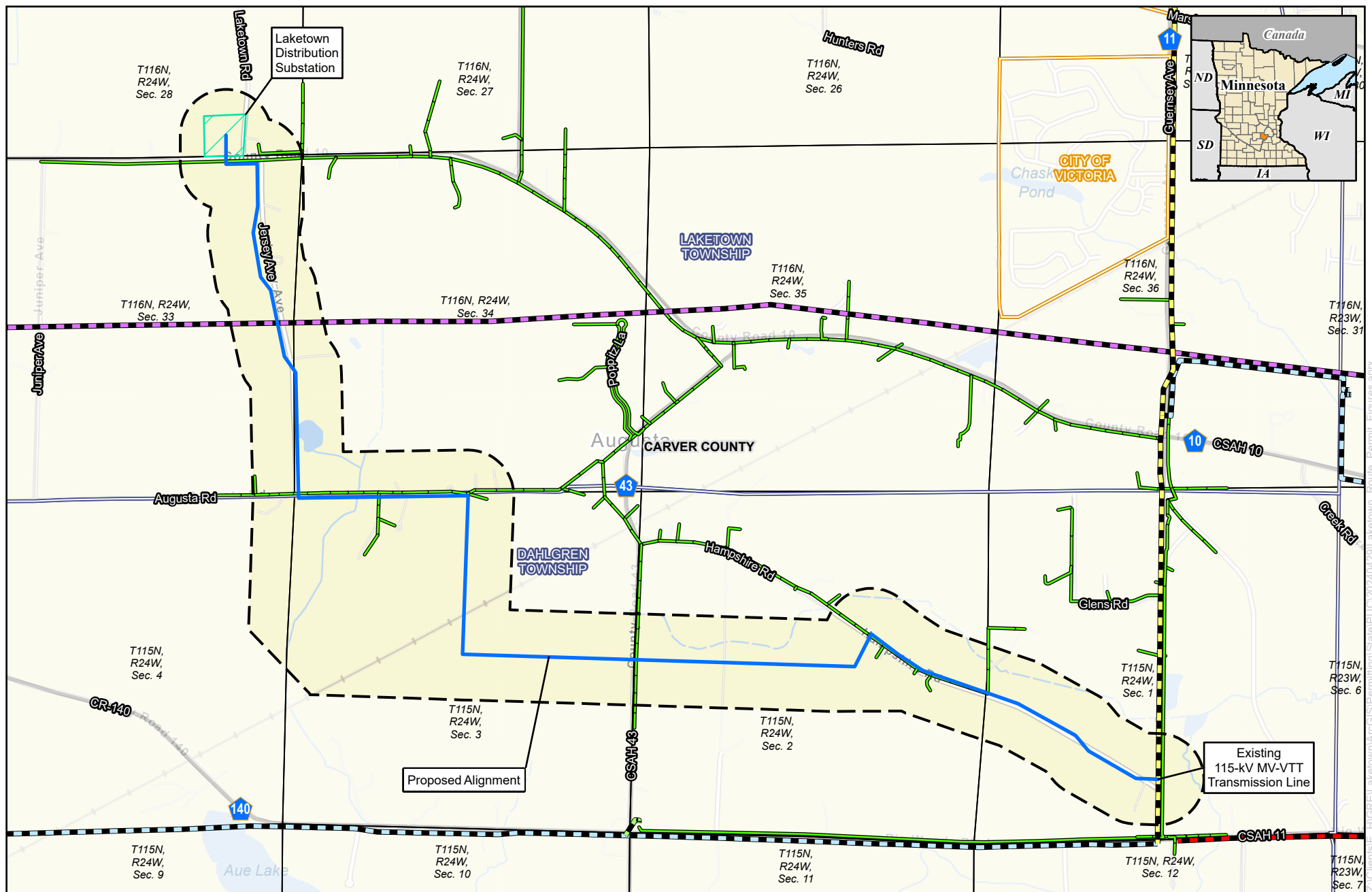


Figure 1-1
Laketown 115-kV Transmission Line Project
Proposed Route and Substation
Carver County, Minnesota

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| <p>Great River Energy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed Alignment Substation Parcel Boundary Proposed Route Width MV-AUT 115-kV Transmission Line MV-VTT 115-kV Transmission Line | <p>Non-GRE Transmission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 69-kV Transmission Line 115-kV Transmission Line 230-kV Transmission Line Minnesota Valley Distribution Line | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> County Highway Section Boundary City Boundary Township Boundary County Boundary |
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