



Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SCOPING MEETINGS**

Issued October 22, 2024

**In the Matter of the Application of Dairyland Power Cooperative for a Route Permit for the  
Beaver Creek 161 kV Transmission Line in Fillmore County, Minnesota**

**Docket Number:** ET3/TL-24-95

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) and Minnesota Department of Commerce will hold public information and environmental assessment scoping meetings on Dairyland Power Cooperative's (Dairyland) application for a route permit for the Beaver Creek Transmission Line Project.

The proposed project would be new construction of an approximately 3.5-mile 161 kilovolt (kV) high voltage transmission line and associated facilities. The applicant is requesting a 500-foot-wide proposed route, with some portions consisting of a 1,320-foot-wide route to accommodate existing buildings and features. The proposed project would start at the intersection of the existing 161 kV LQ8A Harmony to Beaver Creek transmission line and 171st Avenue in York Township in Fillmore County, Minnesota, travel south and cross the Minnesota-Iowa border at the southern border of York Township, continue westerly and southerly through Howard County, Iowa and terminate at a new proposed 161 kV switchyard to be constructed in Chester Township, Howard County, Iowa. The Minnesota portion of the proposed project would be approximately 3.5 miles long and will be located entirely in York Township in Fillmore County, Minnesota.

Dairyland would use single-pole steel structures, with pole heights ranging from 75 to 140 feet above ground and spans between poles from 300 to 1,000 feet. The proposed project is co-located with other road or utility rights-of-way for the entirety of its length. MiEnergy, a distribution cooperative serving members in the area, has existing overhead distribution lines within the proposed project route width. Dairyland plans to coordinate with MiEnergy in regard to burying these lines where they are overtaken by the proposed project, rather than under build them on the new 161 kV structures.

**In-Person Meetings**

**Date:** November 12, 2024 (Tuesday)  
**Time:** 5:00 PM (open house), 6:00 PM (public meeting)  
**Location:** LeRoy Community Center  
204 West Main Street, LeRoy, MN 55951  
[Link to Google Map](#)

The purpose of the meeting is to: (1) provide information about the proposed project and the state's permitting process; and (2) provide the public with an opportunity to participate in developing the scope of the environmental assessment.

Doors will open one hour prior to the meeting to provide attendees an opportunity to review the application, project maps, and other materials for the proposed project and ask questions of state staff and the applicant. ***During this time, comments made by attendees will become a part of the record for Commission consideration only if the attendee submits the comment in writing.*** Forms will be available for this purpose.

State staff and the applicant will both make presentations during the meeting. State staff will explain the permitting and environmental review processes, and the applicant will provide an overview of the proposed project. Following the presentations, attendees will have the opportunity to offer oral and written comments for the record. The meetings will end when all attendees have had the opportunity to comment, and all other business has been concluded. The information presented will be the same at all in-person and online meetings.

If any reasonable accommodation is needed to enable you to fully participate in these meetings, please contact the Commission at 651-296-0406 or 1-800-657-3782 at least one week in advance of the meeting. To find out if a meeting is canceled due to bad weather or other call 1-855-731-6208 or visit [mn.gov/puc](https://mn.gov/puc).

### Online Meeting via WebEx

**Date:** November 13, 2024 (Wednesday)

**Time:** 6:00 PM

**Join by WebEx (Webinar) Link:**

<https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/j.php?MTID=mfb5dcb53eb78d3d6c110da3aeda6b001>

**Webinar Number:** 2485 570 5842

**Webinar Password:** Energy2024 (2485 570 5842 from phones)

**Join by Phone:** 1-855-282-6330 Toll Free      **Access Code:** 2485 570 5842

If you are joining the meeting via WebEx and would like to ask a question or make a comment during the designated portion of the meeting, use the chat or raised-hand functions to send a message to the meeting moderator. If you are joining the meeting by phone, press \*3 on your phone. When it is your turn to speak, your line will be unmuted, and you will be able to ask questions and provide comments.

Additional information and instructions are available at:

<https://mn.gov/puc/activities/meetings/webex/>

### Comment Period

Written comments will be accepted through **December 3, by 4:30 p.m.** Please include the docket number (24-95) in all communications. Comments received after the close of the comment period may or may not be considered by the Commission.

**Please focus your comments on information that will help answer the following questions:**

- What potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project should be studied in the environmental assessment?
- Are there methods to minimize, mitigate, or avoid these impacts that should be studied in the environmental assessment?
- Are there any alternative routes or route segments that should be studied to mitigate potential impacts associated with the proposed project?
- Are there any unique characteristics of the proposed route or the project that should be considered?
- Are there other ways to meet the stated need for the project, instead of the proposed transmission line, e.g., a different size or type of facility? If so, what alternatives to the project should be studied in the environmental assessment?

### Submit Comments

**Online:** <https://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/#comment>  
**Email:** [larry.hartman@state.mn.us](mailto:larry.hartman@state.mn.us)  
**U.S. Mail:** Larry Hartman  
Minnesota Department of Commerce  
85 7th Place East, Suite 280  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Comments will be made available to the public via the Commission's website, except in limited circumstances consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. The Commission and the Department of Commerce do not edit or delete personal identifying information from submissions.

### Additional Information

**Minnesota Statutes and Rules.** This project is being reviewed under the alternative permitting process in Minn. Stat. § 216E.04 and Minn. R. parts 7850.2800 to 7850.3900. The rules and statutes are available for review at: [www.revisor.mn.gov](http://www.revisor.mn.gov)

**Review Process.** Information on the review processes for certificates of need and site and route permits for large electric power facilities is available on the Commission's website at: <https://mn.gov/puc/activities/energy-facilities/>

**Filing Requirements.** Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are required to file documents using the Commission's electronic filing system (eFiling). All

parties, participants, and interested persons are also encouraged to use eFiling: [mn.gov/puc/edockets](https://mn.gov/puc/edockets), select *Go to eDockets* and follow the prompts.

**Full Case Record.** See all documents filed in this matter via the Commission's website at [mn.gov/puc/edockets](https://mn.gov/puc/edockets), select *Go to eDockets*, enter the year (24) and the docket number (95), and select *Search*.

**Subscribe to the Docket.** To receive email notification when new documents are filed in this matter visit: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling>, select *Subscribe to Dockets*.

**Project Mailing List.** Sign up to receive notices about project milestones and opportunities to participate or change your mailing preference. Email [eservice.admin@state.mn.us](mailto:eservice.admin@state.mn.us) or call 651-201-2246 with the docket number (24-95), your name, mailing address, and email address.

**Department of Commerce Website:**

<https://eera.web.commerce.state.mn.us/web/project/15707>

**Route Permit Application.** Copies of the route permit application are available at: Spring Valley Public Library, 121 W. Jefferson St., Spring Valley, MN 55975

## Contacts

**Public Utilities Commission**

Trevor Culbertson, Energy Facilities Planner, [trevor.culbertson@state.mn.us](mailto:trevor.culbertson@state.mn.us) or 651.201.2203  
Cezar Panait, Public Advisor, [cezar.panait@state.mn.us](mailto:cezar.panait@state.mn.us) or 651.201.2207

**Department of Commerce**

Larry Hartman, Environmental Review Manager, [larry.hartman@state.mn.us](mailto:larry.hartman@state.mn.us) or 651.539.1839

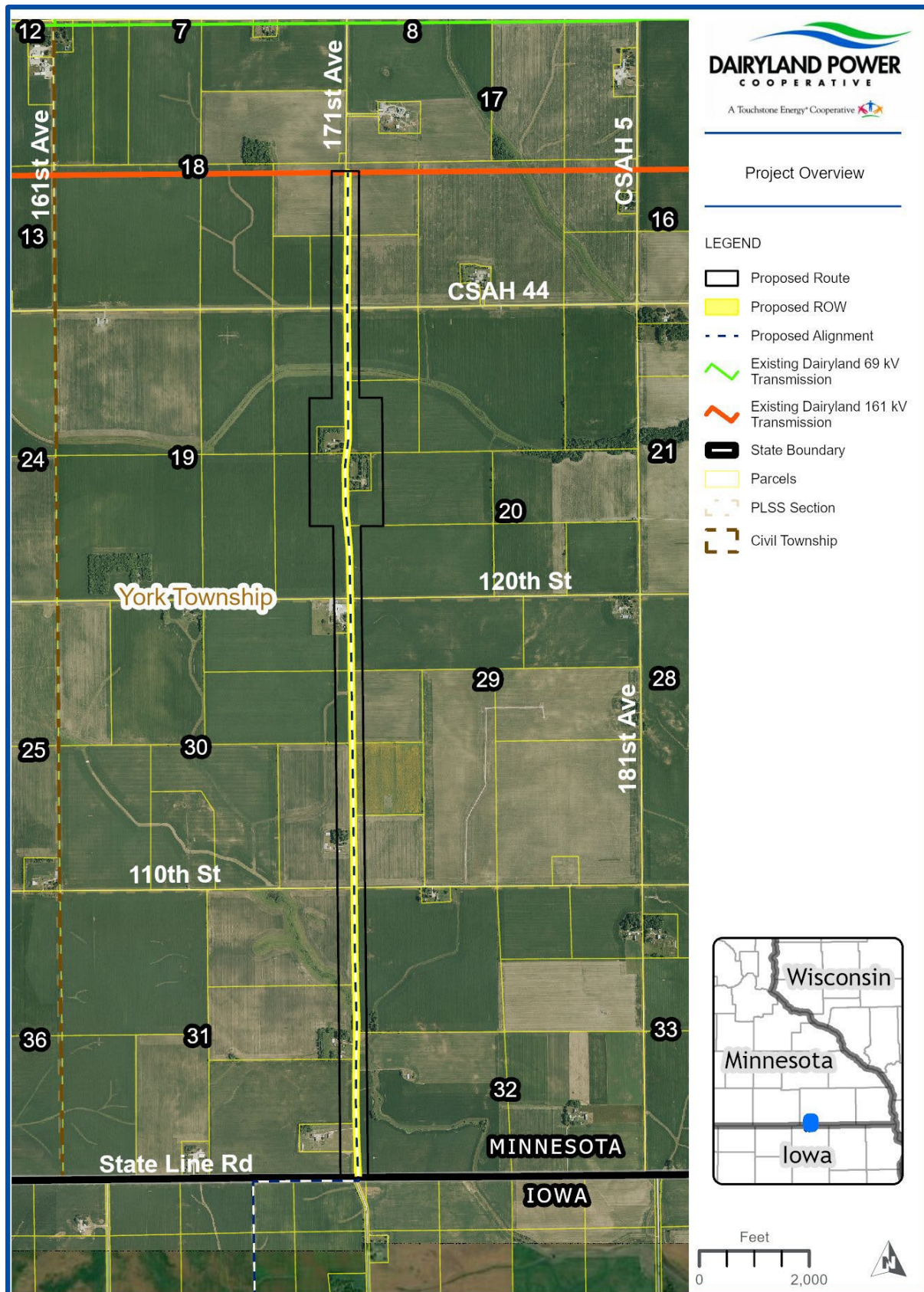
**Dairyland Power Cooperative**

Caleb Hefti, Project Manager, [caleb.hefti@DairylandPower.com](mailto:caleb.hefti@DairylandPower.com) or 608.790.5495

To request this document in another format such as large print or audio, call 651-296-0406 (voice). Persons with a hearing or speech impairment may call using their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service or email [consumer.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:consumer.puc@state.mn.us) for assistance.



## Project Overview Map



## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Mai Choua Xiong, hereby certify that I have this day, served a true and correct copy of the following document to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list by electronic filing, electronic mail, courier, interoffice mail or by depositing the same enveloped with postage paid in the United States mail at St. Paul, Minnesota.

**Minnesota Public Utilities Commission**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION AND SCOPING MEETINGS**

Docket Number **ET3/TL-24-95**

Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2024

/s/ Mai Choua Xiong

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company Name	Address	Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
Justin	Chasco	jchasco@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.	44 E. Mifflin Street Suite 1000 Madison, WI 53703	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_24-95_TL-24-95
Generic Notice	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-DOC	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400  St. Paul, MN 55101	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_24-95_TL-24-95
Bridget	Duffus	bduffus@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.	60 S Sixth St Ste 1500  Minneapolis, MN 55402-4400	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_24-95_TL-24-95
Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us	Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 280  Saint Paul, MN 551012198	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_24-95_TL-24-95
Caleb J	Hefti	Caleb.Hefti@DairylandPower.com	Dairyland Power Cooperative	3200 East Ave. S. PO Box 817 La Crosse, WI 54602-0817	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_24-95_TL-24-95
Breann	Jurek	bjurek@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson & Byron PA	60 S Sixth St Ste 1500  Minneapolis, MN 55402	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_24-95_TL-24-95
Generic Notice	Residential Utilities Division	residential.utilities@ag.state.mn.us	Office of the Attorney General-RUD	1400 BRM Tower 445 Minnesota St St. Paul, MN 551012131	Electronic Service	Yes	OFF_SL_24-95_TL-24-95
Jessica A.	Sandry	Jessica.Sandry@DairylandPower.com	Dairyland Power Cooperative	3200 East Ave. S. PO Box 817 La Crosse, WI 54602-0817	Electronic Service	No	OFF_SL_24-95_TL-24-95
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