

**NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD ON
THE MERITS OF THE CERTIFICATE OF NEED APPLICATION**

Issued: April 2, 2024

In the Matter of the Application for a Certificate of Need for the Proposed 345 kV Brookings County to Lyon County and Helena to Hampton Second-Circuit Project in Lincoln, Lyon, Scott, and Dakota Counties

Docket Number: E-002/CN-23-200

Comment Period: Initial comment period closes **April 18, 2024**, at 4:30 p.m.
Reply comment period closes **April 25, 2024**, at 4:30 p.m.

Please include the docket number in all communications. Comments received after the close of the comment period may or may not be considered by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission).

Topics for Comment

- Are there any contested issues of fact with respect to the representations made in the certificate of need application?
- Should the Commission grant a certificate of need for the proposed project?
- Are there other issues or concerns related to this matter?

Submit Comments

Online: mn.gov/puc/consumers/public-comments

Email: consumer.puc@state.mn.us

U.S. Mail: Consumer Affairs Office
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
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 does not edit or delete personal identifying information from submissions.

Background. On August 15, 2023, Xcel Energy filed with the Commission an application for a certificate of need for the proposed 345-kV Brookings County—Lyon County and Helena—Hampton Second-Circuit Project. Xcel Energy has requested that the Commission approve a certificate of need to install a second circuit on the existing double-circuit capable structures of the 345 kV Brookings County—Hampton transmission line and upgrade existing substations.

The application is being reviewed under the Commission’s informal process (Minn. R. 7829.1200). A copy of the application is available on the Commission’s eDocket System at: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/edockets/searchDocuments.do?method=eDocketsResult&docketYear=23&docketNumber=200>.

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, 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, select *Go to eDockets*, enter the year (23) and the docket number (200), 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> and select *Subscribe to Dockets*.

Questions about these dockets or Commission process and procedure? Contact Commission staff, Scott Ek at scott.ek@state.mn.us or 651-539-1070.

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 for assistance.

Project Overview Map



- Legend**
- Substation Location
 - Eastern Segment
 - Western Segment
 - Lyon County – Helena Segment
 - Minnesota River
 - Major Road
 - County Boundary
 - State Boundary

Title
Project Overview Map

Notes
 1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Minnesota South FIPS 2203 Feet
 2. Data Sources: Xcel Energy, MnDOT, MnDNR, USGS

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Leesa Norton, 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 COMMENT PERIOD ON THE MERITS OF THE CERTIFICATE OF NEED
APPLICATION**

Docket Number: **E-002/CN-23-200**

Dated this 2nd day of April 2024

/s/ Leesa Norton

| First Name | Last Name | Email | Company Name | Address | Delivery Method | View Trade Secret | Service List Name |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|--------------------|-------------------|---|
| Sarah | Beimers | sarah.beimers@state.mn.us | Department of Administration - State Historic Preservation Office | 50 Sherburne Avenue Suite 203 St. Paul, MN 55155 | Electronic Service | No | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| Brian | Bell | bell.brian@dorsey.com | Dorsey & Whitney LLP | 50 South Sixth St. Suite 1500 Minneapolis, MN 55402 | Electronic Service | No | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| David | Bell | david.bell@state.mn.us | Department of Health | POB 64975 St. Paul, MN 55164 | Electronic Service | No | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| 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_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| Randall | Doneen | randall.doneen@state.mn.us | Department of Natural Resources | 500 Lafayette Rd, PO Box 25 Saint Paul, MN 55155 | Electronic Service | No | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |
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| Annie | Felix Gerth | annie.felix-gerth@state.mn.us | | Board of Water & Soil Resources 520 Lafayette Rd Saint Paul, MN 55155 | Electronic Service | No | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| 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_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| Todd | Green | Todd.A.Green@state.mn.us | Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry | 443 Lafayette Rd N St. Paul, MN 55155-4341 | Electronic Service | No | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |

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| Kari | Howe | kari.howe@state.mn.us | DEED | 332 Minnesota St, #E200 1ST National Bank Bldg St. Paul, MN 55101 | Electronic Service | No | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| Ray | Kirsch | Raymond.Kirsch@state.mn.us | Department of Commerce | 85 7th Place E Ste 500 St. Paul, MN 55101 | Electronic Service | No | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| Chad | Konickson | chad.konickson@usace.army.mil | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers | 180 5th St # 700 Saint Paul, MN 55101 | Electronic Service | No | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| Stacy | Kotch Egstad | Stacy.Kotch@state.mn.us | MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | 395 John Ireland Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55155 | Electronic Service | No | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| Dawn S | Marsh | dawn_marsh@fws.gov | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | Minnesota-Wisconsin Field Offices 4101 American Blvd E Bloomington, MN 55425 | Electronic Service | No | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| Christa | Moseng | christa.moseng@state.mn.us | Office of Administrative Hearings | P.O. Box 64620 Saint Paul, MN 55164-0620 | Electronic Service | Yes | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| 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_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| Stephan | Roos | stephan.roos@state.mn.us | MN Department of Agriculture | 625 Robert St N Saint Paul, MN 55155-2538 | Electronic Service | No | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| Christine | Schwartz | Regulatory.records@xcelenergy.com | Xcel Energy | 414 Nicollet Mall FL 7 Minneapolis, MN 554011993 | Electronic Service | No | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| Will | Seuffert | Will.Seuffert@state.mn.us | Public Utilities Commission | 121 7th Pl E Ste 350 Saint Paul, MN 55101 | Electronic Service | Yes | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |

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| Jen | Tyler | tyler.jennifer@epa.gov | US Environmental Protection Agency | Environmental Planning & Evaluation Unit 77 W Jackson Blvd. Mailstop B-19J Chicago, IL 60604-3590 | Electronic Service | No | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| Cynthia | Warzecha | cynthia.warzecha@state.mn.us | Minnesota Department of Natural Resources | 500 Lafayette Road Box 25 St. Paul, MN 55155-4040 | Electronic Service | No | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| Alan | Whipple | sa.property@state.mn.us | Minnesota Department Of Revenue | Property Tax Division 600 N. Robert Street St. Paul, MN 551463340 | Electronic Service | No | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |
| Jonathan | Wolfgram | Jonathan.Wolfgram@state.mn.us | Office of Pipeline Safety | 445 Minnesota St Ste 147 Woodbury, MN 55125 | Electronic Service | No | OFF_SL_23-200_Official CC Service List |

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| Decock | Robert | robertdecock@yahoo.com | | 1351 Water Street Sauk City, WI 53583 | Electronic Service | No | SPL_SL_23-200_Project Contact List |
| Brent | Starr | starrbv10@gmail.com | | N/A | Electronic Service | No | SPL_SL_23-200_Project Contact List |

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| Chris | Green | Chris.Green@state.mn.us | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency | 504 Fairgrounds Rd Suite 200 Marshall, MN 56258 | Electronic Service | No | SPL_SL__Agency Reps |
| Chad | Konickson | chad.konickson@usace.army.mil | U.S.Army Corps of Engineers | 180 5th St # 700 Saint Paul, MN 55101 | Electronic Service | No | SPL_SL__Agency Reps |
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| Dawn S | Marsh | dawn_marsh@fws.gov | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | Minnesota-Wisconsin Field Offices 4101 American Blvd E Bloomington, MN 55425 | Electronic Service | No | SPL_SL__Agency Reps |
| John | Reynolds | John.Reynolds@state.mn.us | Minnesota Indian Affairs Council | 161 St. Anthony Avenue, Ste. 940 St. Paul, MN 55103 | Electronic Service | No | SPL_SL__Agency Reps |
| Stephan | Roos | stephan.roos@state.mn.us | MN Department of Agriculture | 625 Robert St N Saint Paul, MN 55155-2538 | Electronic Service | No | SPL_SL__Agency Reps |

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| Cynthia | Warzecha | cynthia.warzecha@state.mn.us | Minnesota Department of Natural Resources | 500 Lafayette Road Box 25 St. Paul, MN 55155-4040 | Electronic Service | No | SPL_SL__Agency Reps |
| Alan | Whipple | sa.property@state.mn.us | Minnesota Department Of Revenue | Property Tax Division 600 N. Robert Street St. Paul, MN 551463340 | Electronic Service | No | SPL_SL__Agency Reps |
| Jonathan | Wolfgram | Jonathan.Wolfgram@state.mn.us | Office of Pipeline Safety | 445 Minnesota St Ste 147 Woodbury, MN 55125 | Electronic Service | No | SPL_SL__Agency Reps |

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| Rob | Hull | thpo@grandportage.com | Grand Portage Band of Ojibwe | PO Box 428 Grand Portage, MN 55605 | Electronic Service | No | SPL_SL__Tribal Historic Preservation Offices |
| Samantha J | Odegard | samanthao@uppersiouxcommunity-nsn.gov | Upper Sioux Tribal Community | PO Box 147 Granite Falls, MN 56241 | Electronic Service | No | SPL_SL__Tribal Historic Preservation Offices |
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