

Oral Public Meeting Comments Received on the  
Northwest Maple Grove 115 kV Transmission  
Line Project  
Docket No. TL-24-427

**Public Meetings**

1. April 14, 2026 – Maple Grove, Minnesota, 6:00 p.m.
  - Five speakers.
2. April 15, 2026 – Virtual, On-Line Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
  - One speaker.

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SCOPING & INFORMATIONAL MEETING - 24-427  
MAPLE GROVE - APRIL 14, 2026 - 6:00 P.M.  
BEFORE THE COURT OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS  
FOR THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application of Xcel Energy for a  
Route Permit for the Northwest Maple Grove 115 kV  
Transmission Project in the City of Maple Grove, Hennepin  
County, Minnesota

MPUC DOCKET NO: E002/TL-24-427

Maple Grove Community Center  
12951 Weaver Lake Road  
Maple Grove, Minnesota 55369

April 14, 2026

COURT REPORTER: Christine Simons, RMR, RPR

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1 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Hello, good evening.  
2 My name is Craig Janezich, and I work with the  
3 Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. Welcome to  
4 the public information and scoping meeting for the  
5 Northwest --

6 Can everybody hear me okay? A little bit  
7 closer?

8 UNIDENTIFIED: Yeah.

9 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Okay. Perfect.

10 We're here for the Northwest Maple Grove  
11 115-kV transmission line project. We are going to  
12 have an in-person meeting, obviously, here today,  
13 and we'll have one tomorrow online. It was part of  
14 the notice, but we can get that information to you  
15 as well if you'd like to attend that one. In either  
16 case, the same information will be presented by us.  
17 It's just another opportunity or avenue for people  
18 to participate.

19 So we'll start off with introductions,  
20 with, obviously, myself, Craig Janezich. We'll hear  
21 a description of the project from Xcel, we'll hear  
22 about the permit application review from Logan  
23 Hicks, and then we'll get into questions and  
24 comments that you may have.

25 Just some ground rules about the meeting,

1 please be respectful of others, the presenters and  
2 others here. Also, please take turns. We have a  
3 court reporter here, and it would be hard to have  
4 cross-talk for her to make a record and have that  
5 information for the Commission to make a decision.

6 The purpose of the meeting is for us to  
7 receive -- the Commission to collect public  
8 information from landowners, local units of  
9 government, anybody who may be interested in wanting  
10 to submit comments. We're here to help develop that  
11 record for the Commissioners to make a decision.

12 We're here for you to ask questions, to  
13 review the process, you can ask the Applicants  
14 questions about the project, and to share your oral  
15 and written comments with us. There was a comment  
16 form out on the desk describing the different ways  
17 in which you can participate in the process, if you  
18 didn't get those on your way in.

19 The Public Utilities Commission will be  
20 permitting the project, and they regulate electric,  
21 natural gas, and landline telephones, and set rates  
22 and service standards for investor-owned utilities.  
23 We also issue site permit and route permits for  
24 large energy facilities. Those would include power  
25 plants, you know, natural gas, wind, solar, battery,

1 high-voltage transmission line.

2 And the Commission, the folks who will  
3 actually be making the decision on the permit  
4 itself, is -- there's a board of five Commissioners.  
5 They are appointed by the Governor and approved by  
6 the Senate, and they are the ones, obviously, that  
7 decide on rates and permits.

8 This is our anticipated schedule. Again,  
9 as you came in, we asked that you give us comments  
10 by April 27th, 2026. We -- the Commission will  
11 issue a draft route permit in June or July. So  
12 based on the feedback we get in this meeting, the  
13 Commission will look at a draft route permit, vote  
14 on that. And we'll come back, and we'll have a  
15 public hearing and another comment period. So we'll  
16 be here again in late spring/summer 2026 for you to  
17 provide your comments again for us.

18 We anticipate a report -- the public  
19 hearing report in late spring/summer 2026, and then  
20 a Commission decision in summer and fall of 2026.  
21 Just to kind of give you a general timeline of how  
22 things may proceed.

23 I'm going to go ahead and hand over the  
24 presentation to the Applicants so they can describe  
25 their project for you and provide some detail.

1           MR. CASEY STOREY: Hello, everyone. My  
2 name is Casey Storey. I work for Xcel Energy. I'm  
3 a siting and land rights agent. I'm not a technical  
4 expert in all the categories and questions you may  
5 have, but we have some of those folks here. So if  
6 you have questions, we might be able to address  
7 those.

8           My role is really to facilitate the  
9 permit process with the State and to work with our  
10 consultants to bring the information to the State.  
11 And, then, eventually hopefully build the project  
12 and work on our other permitting regulatory  
13 requirements. So I'll give you -- we'll talk about  
14 the project, talk a little bit about the schedule,  
15 and then there'll be a question and answer session.

16           Just to get to the basics, the project  
17 purpose: The purpose is to have a transmission line  
18 connect an existing substation to a new substation.  
19 The new substation is needed because the existing  
20 substation is at capacity, and it's to meet  
21 demand -- growing demand and reliability in the  
22 region.

23           Aaron Mielke, from Barr Engineering, is  
24 going to step through the project details, how  
25 things were routed to come to this route that we're

1 proposing, and we'll give you a little bit of  
2 background information on what was considered and  
3 kind of what the routing process looks like.

4 MR. AARON MIELKE: Thank you, Casey.

5 Again, my name is Aaron Mielke with Barr  
6 Engineering. We were hired by Xcel Energy to help  
7 with the routing process, to identify the route, and  
8 then also write and prepare the route permit  
9 application.

10 So the project, as proposed, is a  
11 1.9-mile, new 115-kV double-circuit transmission  
12 line. The right-of-way for that transmission line  
13 is 100 feet, so 50 feet on each side of the center  
14 line. That new transmission line will connect the  
15 West Maple Grove substation, which is located on the  
16 west side of I-94, and it will connect to an  
17 existing tap point along an existing line, and  
18 that's along County Highway 81. Structures are  
19 between 80 and 150 feet tall, and the span lengths  
20 between those poles are -- is between 400 and  
21 600 feet.

22 The proposed substation on the west side  
23 of I-94 sits on a property that's 13.5 acres.  
24 That -- that parcel was purchased by Xcel Energy  
25 from the city of Maple Grove. The actual substation

1 portion will be between three and four acres. So  
2 it's a fenced-in section -- or a fenced-in area that  
3 will house the equipment, it will be three to  
4 four acres within that 13-acre parcel.

5 On that parcel, there'll also be a  
6 regional stormwater pond. That pond will support  
7 runoff and serve for runoff from the substation  
8 site, but also other regional development in the  
9 area. Also, within that property, there'll be  
10 natural vegetation and screening planted around the  
11 substation.

12 So how did we get here? This routing  
13 process and identifying the route began early in  
14 2025. As I already mentioned, we identified our two  
15 connection points: The substation and the tap point  
16 along the existing line. As part of the routing  
17 process, we followed the routing criteria presented  
18 here.

19 So we look to minimize impacts to human  
20 resources, minimize impacts to natural resources,  
21 and we prioritize following existing corridors,  
22 things like road right-of-way or existing  
23 transmission line and rail line.

24 Lastly, we looked at engineering and  
25 practical feasibility. We asked questions like, Can

1 the line be safely constructed? Is it practical?  
2 We tried to minimize zigging and zagging across the  
3 landscape. We tried to make a direct -- as direct  
4 or straight a line as possible.

5 So we spent the next six months of early  
6 2025 gathering information. We sent letters out for  
7 input from state and federal technical agencies,  
8 agencies like the DNR, MnDOT, the State Historical  
9 Preservation Office. We sent letters to and reached  
10 out to local government units, including the city of  
11 Maple Grove, Hennepin County, and we also talked to  
12 Tribal leaders to learn and ask them about known  
13 cultural resources.

14 About a year ago, April of 2025, we  
15 hosted a public open house in this exact location,  
16 asking for input on our initial routes, and if you  
17 look at our map, these were our initial routes that  
18 we had. We had a green line going kind of north  
19 where the proposed route is, and we also had a  
20 pink/purple line coming around the south side, and  
21 then some options of where we would connect.

22 So at that first round of open houses, we  
23 presented -- presented these routes, gathered input,  
24 including the location of residences, future  
25 projects and land development, and Xcel's engineers

1 reviewed the route for constructability.

2 So this process brought us to where we  
3 are today with a single route shown here. We've  
4 already described it, it's 1.9 miles long total.  
5 This route follows existing road right-of-way for  
6 100 percent of its length, so it's following an  
7 existing right-of-way. So the line goes north from  
8 the West Maple Grove substation and follows the I-94  
9 right-of-way going north there for about a half a  
10 mile.

11 It then crosses over I-94 and goes east  
12 along 105th Avenue or Arbor Ridge Parkway, crossing  
13 over an existing transmission line, crossing over  
14 the railroad tracks, and then it goes southeast  
15 along County Highway 81 to the tap -- the tap  
16 location.

17 So now I'm just going to talk a little  
18 bit about the regulatory requirement and where Xcel  
19 is at with that. So, Minnesota Rule says that no  
20 person may construct a high-voltage transmission  
21 line without a route permit from the Commission and  
22 only within a route approved by the Commission.

23 With a route identified, we've worked  
24 on -- over the last year, we prepared a route  
25 application. So as part of this route permit

1 application, the Applicants also were required to  
2 prepare an environmental assessment of the proposed  
3 route.

4 The environmental assessment describes  
5 the potential impacts of the project on both the  
6 human and natural environment. The environmental  
7 assessment, or EA, also describes the scale of the  
8 potential impacts and how these impacts may be  
9 mitigated.

10 So the EA describes potential impacts to  
11 both -- to -- and we looked at several different  
12 categories and evaluated these, including human  
13 settlement, so homes, businesses, aesthetics,  
14 utilities, transportation; human health and safety;  
15 land use, like recreation or zoning capability and  
16 agricultural; land-based economies; property value;  
17 greenhouse gases, greenhouse gas emission, and  
18 climate change; natural resources, so wetlands,  
19 waterways, floodways; soil, geology, groundwater;  
20 and then we also looked at cultural resources.

21 The EA is a document that is used by the  
22 Commission to help make a decision on granting a  
23 route permit, and there are copies available here.  
24 We have hardcopies. I think there's one out front,  
25 we have one up here, there's a copy at the Maple

1 Grove Library, and we also have digital copies on  
2 thumb drives here.

3 So that brings us to -- the last slide  
4 here is kind of the schedule. So to recap, we spent  
5 most of the first half of 2025 developing a route,  
6 identifying a route to try to minimize impacts. The  
7 second half of 2025 was spent developing a permit  
8 application and the environmental assessment. We  
9 submitted the -- a draft application in October of  
10 2025, and we filed our permit application with the  
11 Public Utilities Commission in February of this  
12 year.

13 So now we're on the last box there, under  
14 Q1, Q2, public meetings. That's where we are here  
15 today, gathering comments and input on the permit  
16 application and the environmental assessment. We  
17 anticipate the route permit will be issued sometime  
18 in 2026. We're looking to begin construction at the  
19 substation in 2027, with an anticipated inservice  
20 date of 2028.

21 MR. LOGAN HICKS: All right. That brings  
22 things to my portion. As Craig said earlier, my  
23 name is Logan Hicks. I'd just like to start off  
24 thanking everyone for taking the time to be here  
25 tonight. Your guys' input is very valuable to the

1 Commission, so you being here is a really great  
2 thing, so thank you.

3 I'm going to discuss a little bit about  
4 the process going forward from here in terms of what  
5 it's going to look like for you guys to participate  
6 and how your voice is going to be heard and  
7 implemented into the process.

8 So there are few things that the  
9 Commission does consider in terms -- there's a lot  
10 of things they consider, but in terms of human and  
11 environmental impacts, as you can see here, I won't  
12 read through them all, but there's a laundry list of  
13 themes that the Commission does look at.

14 They also look at ways to reduce those  
15 impacts by mitigation, avoidance, anything like  
16 that, and they put that into compliance through  
17 standard or special permit conditions. And the  
18 draft -- and in the sample permit that is available  
19 on the table back there, we will be filling that out  
20 throughout the process using your guys' input.

21 So this is how you can help us is by  
22 either tonight having -- you know, saying your  
23 verbal piece, or you can write something down and  
24 get it on the record. And then the Commission will  
25 review that and take into consideration your guys'

1 input.

2 So as I was saying earlier, there's a  
3 sample permit back there. This is a very barebones,  
4 meat and potatoes sample permit that has very  
5 standard permit conditions. It's kind of a starting  
6 point. So with your guys' input tonight, we can  
7 maybe tailor it a little bit better and maybe put  
8 some special permit conditions in there that would  
9 make sense and mitigate any sort of impacts that  
10 aren't explicitly discussed in the permit.

11 So after tonight and after the close of  
12 the comment period on April 27th, the Commission  
13 will fill out a draft permit. We'll take that  
14 sample permit and fill in the blanks and add extra  
15 conditions, and we will distribute that to you guys,  
16 and then we will hold another public meeting in the  
17 area. So you'll get a notice again similar to this  
18 one, saying, Here's the draft permit. You guys can  
19 review it before the meeting, and then have another  
20 meeting and we can discuss that as well.

21 So this is just a quick visual. So right  
22 now we're at the sample permit. After this meeting,  
23 we'll move to the draft permit with any of the  
24 conditions that, you know, we would like to put in  
25 there. And then after that meeting, after we hear

1 everybody's -- their decision if there will be a  
2 final permit or not.

3 So the Applicant, as they said earlier,  
4 wrote an EA, an environmental assessment. It's  
5 Section 7 of their application back there. It's a  
6 pretty robust document that goes over all of the  
7 minutia that we talked about. The list of impacts,  
8 human and environmental, they discuss all of that in  
9 their EA.

10 However, this is everything that is  
11 standard in terms of that. If there's anything in  
12 there that is local to the area that you guys know  
13 because you guys live there, live around here, we'd  
14 love to hear about it. Say that they didn't cover a  
15 body of water or something that they would be  
16 crossing, we would love to hear that from you guys  
17 and so we can mitigate impacts to those natural  
18 resources. Or if there's any human impacts, if  
19 there's something that you feel wasn't quite  
20 addressed in the EA, let us know.

21 Other things to think about are route  
22 alternatives. Route alternatives, I will go ahead  
23 and say, you would need -- it has to -- there has to  
24 be an impact to be mitigated to suggest a route  
25 alternative. You know, it's unfortunate to say, Not

1 in my backyard, but, you know, the idea is that you  
2 don't want to put that impact on somebody else.  
3 Then you're just moving it, not mitigating it,  
4 right? So if you do suggest a route alternative,  
5 please make sure that there's impacts to be  
6 mitigated. So thank you for that consideration.

7 So some of the topics for comment  
8 tonight, if anybody would like to speak after this  
9 or anything that you can think of in your written  
10 comments on that form: Are there potential human  
11 and environmental impacts, unique characteristics,  
12 or mitigation measures, including those route  
13 alternatives, that you would like to be proposed for  
14 the project?

15 If you guys put this together and we  
16 decide that, hey, you know what, we need to look  
17 into this, we will write what we call an addendum to  
18 the environmental assessment, and we will post that,  
19 along with the draft permit that we were discussing  
20 about earlier. So we will look into it and decide  
21 if an EA addendum is needed, and if so, we will be  
22 distributing that before that next public meeting.  
23 Another thing to think about are practical methods  
24 to mitigate, minimize, or void impacts in the  
25 project area.

1 All right. So as I said earlier, we're  
2 going to think about that EA addendum, is it  
3 necessary? What should be included in the draft  
4 permit? Once that's all decided, you'll get a  
5 notice for the next meeting with dates and times,  
6 and there'll be another comment period as well. So  
7 this is -- this is the first option you guys have to  
8 get your voices heard, and there'll be another  
9 option -- there'll be another opportunity as well.

10 So I've talked to a lot of you guys about  
11 this already, about the different ways to comment.  
12 You can do it verbally at the end here. We'll have  
13 time to come up and say your piece verbally for the  
14 court reporter to put into the record in their  
15 transcript.

16 You can also submit that comment sheet  
17 that I talked about that's on the table. Like I  
18 said, via -- you can leave it here, drop it on the  
19 table here, send it via mail. You can also write an  
20 email, you can see that email address right there.  
21 There's also an online comment form, and the link is  
22 there as well.

23 And just, again, a reminder, please have  
24 those in to us by April 27th by 4:30 p.m. We do --  
25 I mean, if you get it in at 5:00, I'm not going to

1 be mad at you, but just, you know, try to get it in  
2 sooner rather than later.

3 So some additional information is that  
4 the -- if you would like to see the full case  
5 record, the full record for this exact docket, you  
6 can go to this website that you see up here. It's  
7 the eFiling website. And if you go to that website  
8 and you enter the Docket Number TL-24-427 -- that is  
9 the specific docket for this project -- you can see  
10 the full record of -- you'll see the Applicant's  
11 application on there, you'll see the notice that you  
12 guys all got in the mail. That's all part of it.

13 We also have, I think, a couple comments  
14 on there already. So you guys can view that, and  
15 that's the best way to see how -- to make sure that  
16 everything that you said gets in the record. And if  
17 anything you say -- say you fill out a form and you  
18 don't see it on there in a couple days, give me or  
19 Craig a call.

20 So commenting etiquette, we're about to  
21 do some -- we're about to invite everybody up to  
22 speak if they would like. So just some rules, we  
23 don't have anybody signed up to speak, so raise your  
24 hand, and I'll come to you with the microphone. One  
25 speaker at a time so our court reporter can make

1 sure that it's a clean and clear record.

2 We ask that you please state and spell  
3 your name so they can have that on the record, and  
4 we also -- initial comments, please limit to just a  
5 couple minutes. If you have more to say, we'll  
6 definitely give you the time. You know, we're here  
7 until 9:00, we have the room until 9:00. So if you  
8 have more to say, please -- you know, take your  
9 time, but we just ask that your initial comments,  
10 just keep them to a couple minutes so everybody can  
11 get their say, you know, before they want to go out  
12 and get some dinner.

13 And always, always, always maintain  
14 respect for others. People have different opinions,  
15 and we're here to give everyone a voice and to  
16 respect that they have the option to have that  
17 voice, right? So just please maintain respect for  
18 everyone.

19 These are the topics for comments that I  
20 had up earlier, so if you guys want to take a read.

21 We will actually open it up to the  
22 comments now. Like I said, there's -- no one has  
23 signed up to speak, but if anybody would like to,  
24 I'll come bring you the microphone.

25 MR. ROBERT ALEXANDER: It's more of a

1 question than a comment. I don't know if anybody --

2 MR. LOGAN HICKS: Can you speak in --

3 MR. ROBERT ALEXANDER: Sorry. I don't  
4 know if everybody else in their packet --

5 MR. LOGAN HICKS: Say your name.

6 MR. ROBERT ALEXANDER: Robert Alexander,  
7 sorry.

8 There seems to be -- one of your slides  
9 that you covered up there, that you said you could  
10 go to such and such address for the complete court  
11 report, or whatever you said, I don't see it in the  
12 handout. It looks like you skipped pages.

13 MR. LOGAN HICKS: Yes. That slide, in  
14 particular, was not included in the printout. I can  
15 get you that. I can get that for you.

16 MR. ROBERT ALEXANDER: Okay.

17 MR. LOGAN HICKS: Anybody else have any  
18 comments or questions for us or the Applicants?

19 I would just also like to say, if you  
20 don't feel that you need to speak tonight, there's  
21 plenty of time between now and April 27th. Email  
22 me, send me a -- send me mail. I love getting mail,  
23 so feel free to send me that in the mail as well.  
24 And like I said, you can also drop it up here on the  
25 table if you want to have anything written down.

1 Yes.

2 MR. PAT OBINGER: Pat Obinger, Falon  
3 Trust. I talked to a few of the guys here tonight  
4 about pole location. And we kind of ran it out on  
5 the map over there, and it looks like there's going  
6 to be a pole right in front of my place that --  
7 right in front of my living room window.

8 And there -- I think I talked to you a  
9 little bit about it, it sounds like there's some  
10 variance you can do in there?

11 MR. AARON MIELKE: Yes. So the span  
12 length, or distance between poles, is between 400  
13 and 600 feet, so there is some flexibility there.  
14 And at the time, when -- you know, if a route permit  
15 is issued, land agents will come out and work with  
16 landowners to identify locations for those poles,  
17 along with engineering.

18 THE REPORTER: And, Pat, can you spell  
19 your last name, please?

20 MR. PAT OBINGER: O-B-I-N-G-E-R.

21 THE REPORTER: Thank you.

22 MR. LOGAN HICKS: Thank you very much.

23 Okay. Are there any other questions,  
24 anything anybody would like to just comment to us or  
25 the Applicants?

1 MS. JOANNA GELLERMAN: I might want to.  
2 Joanna Gellerman, and it's G-E-L-L-E-R-M-A-N.

3 I'm just curious about the -- the power  
4 surges that come off those poles and everything, is  
5 there noise that goes with that, or, you know, any  
6 other concerns?

7 MR. CASEY STOREY: There can be noise  
8 with rain events or other precipitation contacts  
9 with those poles -- or those lines, those circuits.  
10 But I think, you know, in dry conditions, it's  
11 imperceptible.

12 I don't know, Aaron --

13 MR. AARON MIELKE: Yeah. So noise and  
14 EMF is discussed in the route permit application  
15 under the human health and safety section. I think  
16 it's 7.4. So I don't have all the details right off  
17 the top of my head, but we can -- if you want to  
18 stick around, we can take a look at it after, or you  
19 can take a copy of the document with you. So both  
20 sound -- or noise and EMF are discussed in the  
21 document.

22 MS. JOANN GELLERMAN: Thank you.

23 MR. CHUCK LATIA: Chuck Latia, L-A-T-I-A,  
24 5800 Arbor Ridge Parkway.

25 And so that was -- I read online about

1 what they're saying, but it's in very general terms,  
2 and once the poles are up, then we're on with it,  
3 right? Then it's permanent, there's no trial and  
4 error. I mean, that was one of my concerns, was we  
5 won't know until the poles are actually there if  
6 they disturb over-the-air reception, like for  
7 digital transmission over the air.

8 And I just wondered if anybody had any  
9 experience with other residents that said, after the  
10 poles were installed, did they have to stream  
11 everything, or could they still receive over-the-air  
12 transmission for digital television?

13 MR. AARON MIELKE: I don't have any  
14 personal experience with anyone having problems  
15 with, you know, satellite TV or antenna from an  
16 electric transmission line, and I -- the document  
17 states that, that there won't be any interference.

18 It does talk about interference to AM  
19 radio --

20 MR. CHUCK LATIA: Yes, yes.

21 MR. AARON MIELKE: -- which is something  
22 that can happen.

23 MR. CHUCK LATIA: We definitely have  
24 that. We've got the lines behind our house now and  
25 we can get WCCO, but everything is really

1 strong set -- not that -- you know, that's kind of a  
2 thing of the past, the AM, but I'm more concerned  
3 about the digital television, right? That's a newer  
4 thing. It's supposed to be more impervious to that,  
5 but the question came up, so I figured, now is the  
6 time, right?

7 MR. LOGAN HICKS: Yeah, thank you. Just  
8 a little bit more on that, I'd have to go and read  
9 what they say in the document, and I believe there's  
10 also -- the permit assesses transmission  
11 interference. So let me double check that, and just  
12 meet with me afterwards and we can discuss that.

13 MR. CHUCK LATIA: Oh, okay, okay.

14 MR. LOGAN HICKS: All right. Anybody  
15 else?

16 MS. JOANNA GELLERMAN: The last one would  
17 be -- not the last one, but one I've heard is that  
18 it devalues your home when these poles are put up so  
19 close. I'm concerned about that. You know, I've  
20 got a beautiful piece of property, and, you know,  
21 hate to think about that. I'd like to pass it on to  
22 my children, you know, and not give them junk.

23 MR. LOGAN HICKS: Yeah, absolutely. The  
24 property values is assessed in their EA that they  
25 have written. I don't know if you have that pulled

1 up currently or not. There is -- I can't -- I won't  
2 speak to it because I don't know it off the top of  
3 my head, but it is discussed in their EA. And I'm  
4 not sure what the mitigations are for that  
5 currently, but we could look at that afterwards as  
6 well.

7 MS. KATHERINE SIMONSON: I have a  
8 comment.

9 MR. LOGAN HICKS: Yes.

10 MS. KATHERINE SIMONSON: My name is  
11 Katherine Simonson, S-I-M-O-N-S-O-N. Excuse me, I  
12 would just second the concern about property values.  
13 I'm very concerned about that. In my opinion, I do  
14 not want to live right by power lines. And I'm in a  
15 townhome community, where the very last units down  
16 on Weston Way already have power monopoles right  
17 there, and so I chose not to pick out one of  
18 those for that specific reason. So that's -- I've  
19 seen other people feel the same way, and now I'm  
20 having another project right in front of -- across  
21 the street from me.

22 So I'm concerned about declining property  
23 value, and if there is a way that you folks have any  
24 input into that subject with the city assessor --  
25 because they don't seem to have a big concern about

1           it at all, as of yesterday's phone call with them,  
2           so...

3                         MR. LOGAN HICKS: Thank you for that.

4                         All right. Seeing no more hands, I'm  
5 going to help a couple people out here afterwards.  
6 So if you guys have anything, wave me down. Xcel  
7 will probably be packing up their stuff, but they  
8 might be able to. So I won't testify for them, but  
9 they're nodding, so there we go.

10                        If you guys have any questions, like I  
11 said, feel free to reach out to me or Craig about  
12 the process. Get your comments into us in any way  
13 possible. And, once again, thank you guys for  
14 coming out. Your participation is paramount to this  
15 process, so I thank you very much for that.

16                        All right. Thank you, guys.

17                        (End of public comment.)

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SCOPING & INFORMATIONAL MEETING - 24-427

VIRTUAL - APRIL 15, 2026 - 6:00 P.M.

BEFORE THE COURT OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

FOR THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application of Xcel Energy for a  
Route Permit for the Northwest Maple Grove 115 kV  
Transmission Project in the City of Maple Grove, Hennepin  
County, Minnesota

MPUC DOCKET NO: E002/TL-24-427

Hearing held remotely via:

Webex & Telephone

April 15, 2026

COURT REPORTER: Christine Simons, RMR, RPR

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1 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Hello, good evening.  
2 My name is Craig Janezich. Welcome to the public  
3 information and scoping meeting for the Northwest  
4 Maple Grove 115-kV transmission line project. This  
5 is the second meeting. The first meeting, of  
6 course, we had in Maple Grove yesterday evening.

7 Just a general background of the meeting  
8 and what we anticipate to happen today: I'll  
9 provide some brief introductory remarks about the  
10 Public Utilities Commission. We'll hear about the  
11 project from Xcel, we'll hear about the project --  
12 or the permit application review from Logan Hicks  
13 from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, and  
14 then we'll get into questions and comments for those  
15 attending.

16 Just some ground rules: We just ask that  
17 folks be respectful of one another, and, of course,  
18 don't talk over each other. We need to get an  
19 accurate record for the -- for the Commission, and  
20 to make the court reporter's job a little bit  
21 easier.

22 The purpose of today's meeting is to  
23 receive input and compile the record for the  
24 Commission's permit decision. It's an opportunity  
25 for folks to ask staff about the process and ask the

1 Applicants about the proposed project.

2 Please share your oral and written  
3 comments. There'll be more information on how to  
4 provide written comments later in the presentation,  
5 as well as to seek -- or find additional information  
6 about the project.

7 The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
8 regulates electrical, natural gas, and landline  
9 telephone utilities. It sets rates and standards  
10 for investor-owned utilities. They issue route  
11 permit and site permits for large energy facilities,  
12 power plants -- that includes natural gas, wind,  
13 solar -- battery energy storage, transmission lines,  
14 and certain pipelines. The Commission is made up of  
15 five Commissioners appointed by the Governor and  
16 approved by the Senate.

17 This is a general overview of the  
18 anticipated schedule. We expect to have a draft  
19 route permit and the decision on the need for an  
20 addendum in July and July -- June or July of 2026.  
21 We anticipate an addendum, if necessary, in the  
22 summer of 2026.

23 We anticipate public hearings and a  
24 comment period in late spring and summer of 2026.  
25 So folks will have another opportunity to provide

1 comments. At which point, there'll be a public  
2 hearing report in late spring/summer 2026. The  
3 Commission decision is anticipated to be in the  
4 summer or fall of 2026.

5 Now, I'll hand it over to the Applicant  
6 so they can present on their project.

7 MR. CASEY STOREY: Thanks, Craig.

8 Hi, everybody. My name is Casey Storey.  
9 I'm a siting and land rights agent for Xcel Energy,  
10 and I'll be describing a little bit about our  
11 project today. We do have a couple technical  
12 experts joining us that may be able to answer any  
13 questions you have at the end of the presentation.

14 Go ahead, Craig. You can move the slide.

15 So I'll go over a little project  
16 information, give an overview of the project as  
17 we've proposed it in our route permit application,  
18 also talk about the process we took to get to that  
19 proposed route, and go a little bit into the  
20 schedule, which Craig has more or less laid out  
21 already. And then we'll have the discussion --  
22 discussion and question session. Logan will step  
23 through some PUC activities for commenting after our  
24 presentation.

25 Next slide.

1           So just to give you an overview of our  
2 project purpose, the purpose of our project is to  
3 connect an existing substation -- the Elm Creek  
4 substation -- to a proposed new substation in Maple  
5 Grove. The intent is to improve electricity supply,  
6 system reliability, and to meet growing demand for  
7 electricity consumption, and just general growth  
8 from a business and residential standpoint in areas,  
9 particularly west of Interstate 94. As I'll show  
10 you in the following slides, the new substation is  
11 proposed west of 94.

12           Go ahead, next slide.

13           So our current project, as proposed, is  
14 the transmission line going from -- well, it's in  
15 Maple Grove, Hennepin County. It's approximately  
16 1.9 miles long, 115-kV double-circuit transmission  
17 line, accompanied by a 100-foot right-of-way, so  
18 50 feet on either side of center. The project also  
19 proposes a new West Maple Grove substation. That's  
20 shown in the green box in the southwest corner of  
21 the graphic there.

22           From the new West Maple Grove substation,  
23 we would move up north with the transmission line  
24 along Interstate 94, then head east connecting --  
25 or, well, going underneath an existing transmission

1 line, paralleling -- or crossing the railroad  
2 tracks, paralleling the railroad tracks, and  
3 transiting down to a tap endpoint to an existing  
4 line to eventually connect to a substation, the  
5 existing substation.

6 The structures generally for this project  
7 are going to be in the range of 80 to 150 feet in  
8 height, and span anywhere between 400 to 600 feet  
9 depending on the topography and the need for  
10 crossing things like the interstate there and other  
11 turning points and that sort of thing.

12 Next slide.

13 Here's more of an inset of the proposed  
14 West Maple Grove substation. Xcel owns this parcel,  
15 having purchased it from the city of Maple Grove.  
16 It's 13 and a half acres, but of that, about three  
17 to four acres will be the fenced portion of what you  
18 typically associate with the substation.

19 The other portions of the parcel will be  
20 a little bit of open space, just, you know, room; a  
21 stormwater pond for treating some impervious area,  
22 and some fencing and natural vegetative screening,  
23 as well as an access road or access point. And then  
24 there'll be area for -- room for other  
25 infrastructure to be installed, distribution lines

1 and other equipment.

2 Next slide.

3 So to give you an overview, you know,  
4 we've brought to the Commission a route permit  
5 application that has a single route shown on it, but  
6 we have considered a number of routes and segments  
7 for routes during our selection process.

8 We started the routing process in early  
9 2025 by first beginning with our two endpoints. So  
10 knowing we needed to get west of 94 and knowing our  
11 tap point needed to be somewhere along State  
12 Route 81, we followed the, you know, general routing  
13 criteria, which is to minimize impacts to human  
14 resources, so homes, businesses, recreational areas,  
15 and planned future development, both commercial and  
16 residential. Also, minimizing impacts to natural  
17 resources, like wetlands, special habitats, and  
18 cultural resources, like archeological resources and  
19 historic structures.

20 Our criteria also, you know, makes us  
21 look at road right-of-way, basically already  
22 developed corridors as much as possible, including  
23 existing transmission lines. And then we also  
24 evaluate the constructability and feasibility of the  
25 alignment.

1           So in some instances you just may not be  
2           able to get to where you want to go, even if other  
3           portions of the route might be viable. So looking  
4           at these different colored routes here, these are  
5           some of the segments that were looked at. You know,  
6           we've come to the final, you know, conclusion that  
7           we've proposed here with that blue route in the  
8           upper portion connected to the green route, so  
9           that's our proposed route corridor.

10           And, again, the route is the transmission  
11           line, but we're proposing a 500-foot-wide corridor  
12           to give flexibility during construction. That's  
13           what goes to the Commission and what's in our  
14           application and what the public can view through a  
15           number of means.

16           Next slide.

17           Just a little further into our evaluation  
18           process, so we did have about six months of  
19           gathering information. We sent out letters to the  
20           public, to state and federal resource agencies,  
21           local government units. We hosted an open house in  
22           the spring of last year, and, you know, we continue  
23           to get feedback from folks.

24           But we received feedback from a number of  
25           people and a number of organizations and government

1 agencies in the community. The city of Maple Grove  
2 wrote a letter in support of our proposed route, and  
3 other folks, business owners and residents, have  
4 given us input on the route as we've gone through  
5 this process.

6 Next slide.

7 So, yeah, we've ended up with a proposed  
8 route. Which I'm just reiterating again, the blue  
9 line is not set in stone, but the blue line is a  
10 probable location within our route corridor. So the  
11 route corridor in this graphic is depicted by the  
12 red shape there of the outline. So there's room to  
13 move that blue line within it, you know, based on  
14 things that we come across, or having to avoid  
15 various structures or other infrastructure that  
16 comes about in this -- in the construction and  
17 planning process.

18 The right-of-way, as I mentioned before,  
19 is 100 feet; 50 feet on either side of the line. A  
20 route is 500 feet wide. You know, and we could  
21 continue to gain input from property owners and the  
22 public on, you know, readjustments in that area.  
23 And really, as Logan will go into, you can comment  
24 really on any facet of this project.

25 Our route does go along 105th, which has

1 another name. It's been renamed. I apologize, I'm  
2 forgetting it -- oh, it's Arbor Ridge Parkway. So a  
3 route goes from the West -- the proposed West Maple  
4 Grove substation, north about a half mile to the  
5 west side of 94, crosses over 94, follows Arbor  
6 Ridge Parkway, goes to a point where it crosses  
7 underneath an existing transmission line along State  
8 Route 81, and then goes to a tap point connecting to  
9 an existing transmission line. Again, parallel to  
10 the railroad tracks and along 81.

11 Next slide.

12 This is to give you just a little  
13 background on what we've gone through and what we're  
14 required to do as we present materials to the PUC  
15 and the public. So, you know, any person or entity  
16 is prohibited from constructing a high-voltage  
17 transmission line without getting a route permit, so  
18 that's where we've come to this point of proposing a  
19 route permit.

20 As part of the route permit application,  
21 the Applicant has to prepare an environmental  
22 assessment, which is Section 7 of our application  
23 materials, which you can view online and in print.  
24 The environmental assessment is a comprehensive  
25 document that looks at potential impacts of the

1 project on the human and natural environment. It  
2 also gets into some details and analysis of scale of  
3 those impacts -- potential impacts on different  
4 resource categories and how the project would  
5 propose to mitigate those impacts.

6 Next slide.

7 The categories that are evaluated are  
8 listed here, and I don't have to run down through  
9 all of them. But, you know, the EA goes on to  
10 describe potential impacts to human settlement,  
11 basically human and natural environment. So human  
12 settlement, human health and safety, land use  
13 compatibility, land-based economies, you know,  
14 property value, impacts to property values,  
15 greenhouse gas -- gases and climate change, natural  
16 resources, cultural resources, and, you know, other  
17 facets and categories, agriculture, soil, soil  
18 resources, and other topics.

19 The copies, like I mentioned, are  
20 available for your review, but there's a copy of the  
21 document, the application and the EA, at the Maple  
22 Grove Library. You can also download it from the  
23 PUC's website, and Logan will have some information  
24 in the link to that location later on in this  
25 presentation.

1                   Next slide.

2                   Finally, with our overall schedule --  
3                   again, Craig has shown the schedule, their process  
4                   at the PUC. As I mentioned, we had a spring open  
5                   house in April last year. From June through  
6                   November, we engaged with a number of agencies  
7                   like -- so MnDOT, the city of Maple Grove, other  
8                   entities that communicated with us after receiving  
9                   notifications about the project.

10                  From July to October of last year, we  
11                  assembled a draft application, submitted that in,  
12                  and received some input from the PUC on the draft.  
13                  And then we filed the application to the PUC in  
14                  February of this year.

15                  So going on to the PUC process, we're in  
16                  the -- we've gone through the completeness review,  
17                  and the public meeting, so that's the stage we're at  
18                  right now. Sometime this year we expect a permit  
19                  issuance to come towards -- to us.

20                  After that, we'd go through easement  
21                  acquisitions and what we call downstream permits.  
22                  So once we've got the state approval to move forward  
23                  with the project, we then need to do final design,  
24                  proposed final design, and start getting permits  
25                  from -- for, you know, potential -- or, yeah,

1 short-term impacts, wetland resources, you know,  
2 local road use, those sorts of things. And we have  
3 a tentative start date to begin construction in the  
4 third quarter of 2027, with the project being  
5 completed and in service and functioning in Q4 of  
6 2028.

7 That's the last slide for me, and I think  
8 Logan from the PUC will take it from here. Thanks.

9 MR. LOGAN HICKS: Yeah, absolutely.  
10 Thank you, Casey, for the explanation.

11 So, yeah, welcome to anyone attending.  
12 As they said, my name is Logan Hicks. I work at the  
13 Public Utilities Commission with Craig. So I'm  
14 going to kind of explain a little bit about how --  
15 the process is going to look like going forward in a  
16 little bit more detail. We saw the timelines, but  
17 this is kind of like the nuts and bolts of  
18 everything.

19 So there's certain things that the  
20 Commission needs to consider when deciding if  
21 they're going to grant a route permit, and the  
22 things that, you know, they consider are potential  
23 human and environmental impacts, as Casey discussed,  
24 right?

25 So, you know, you're talking about your

1       soils, your human and health issues, everything they  
2       discuss there. And then to think about ways that we  
3       can reduce those impacts, and then, of course,  
4       there's ways that we can make the Applicants comply  
5       with these mitigations through standard or special  
6       permit conditions. And then, you know, there's, of  
7       course, a complaint process which involves the  
8       public as well.

9               So today we're having this meeting to  
10       inform you of the -- not only just the project, but  
11       ways that you can participate. And so we are  
12       interested in the public's input on different  
13       environmental aspects, whether it be human or  
14       natural. Because you guys live in the area, you  
15       guys understand the area better than we do, right?

16               So we want to hear from you on, you know,  
17       things that -- that are important to you, things  
18       that would impact you differently than maybe that --  
19       their environmental assessment and their application  
20       stated.

21               Next slide, Craig.

22               So in the process, we start with a sample  
23       permit. This is a very generic, no-filled-out sort  
24       of permit for high-voltage transmission lines that  
25       has very standard permit conditions. You know, very

1 generic things that we've developed over the years  
2 that we find that they have to mitigate: Here are  
3 impacts that are going to happen and you have to  
4 mitigate them. Whether that be like damaging a  
5 property during installation or communication  
6 interference through, like, television waves, things  
7 like that, they are required to mitigate those, and  
8 those are all standard conditions.

9 We're here today to talk about, maybe,  
10 some special permit conditions. Things that, you  
11 know, are interested -- that you guys, as the local  
12 populous, are interested in, things that, you know,  
13 we may not understand.

14 So we're reaching out to you to help  
15 develop what we call a draft permit. So we take our  
16 sample route permit, the very barebones with all the  
17 standard conditions, and we input it and fill it in.  
18 And then we input special permit conditions, if they  
19 are -- if they're deemed necessary, and we can have  
20 the Applicant comply with those if the -- if the  
21 Commission grants that permit with those special  
22 conditions.

23 Now, so we're going to develop this draft  
24 permit. And we're going to put it out to you guys,  
25 and we're going to have another public meeting.

1 This is only the very first round of public meetings  
2 in which you can discuss what's going on. So you  
3 tell us what you would like for the Applicant to  
4 mitigate in terms of construction of the project, we  
5 would put it in the permit. We'd release that  
6 permit, and we'd give you notice so we can meet  
7 again and discuss any other options with that draft  
8 permit.

9 Next slide real quick, Craig.

10 So here's just a quick diagram. So we're  
11 at the sample permit stage, and we are getting your  
12 guys' input. That's where the arrow is right now,  
13 we're in that arrow between "sample" and "draft  
14 permit." So we're trying to get any important  
15 issues to you -- for you guys, and we will -- if  
16 they can be mitigated and it is an appropriate  
17 mitigation, we'll put it in that draft permit.

18 With that draft permit, we will also  
19 decide if there is an EA addendum that is required,  
20 which we will kind of go a little bit more into here  
21 in a bit. But after that draft permit has been  
22 issued, we will meet again, and that's that other  
23 arrow. And then we will eventually land on a final  
24 permit before the Commission makes its decision on,  
25 you know, if it wants to approve that permit or not.

1                   Next slide, Craig.

2                   So I mentioned an EA addendum. So the  
3                   environmental assessment that was conducted by the  
4                   Applicant is included in their application. It has  
5                   been reviewed, and it has been found to be complete  
6                   through statutory, you know, obligations, right?  
7                   However, maybe it's missing something that is  
8                   important to you folks or it's not discussing a  
9                   certain mitigation that, you know, is ample, right?

10                  So you guys want to discuss that and  
11                  comment that on here. We take your comments, and  
12                  we, you know, look into them. And then we will  
13                  decide, as the Commission, if an EA addendum is  
14                  necessary. I mean, if we have to look into  
15                  something, you know, maybe a water body was missed  
16                  in the original environmental assessment, you know,  
17                  and that's just a made-up example. But the idea is  
18                  that we would look at this again and decide if we  
19                  need to create a little bit more of an environmental  
20                  assessment record.

21                  And so there are things that, you know,  
22                  we're asking of you today. So one of the -- are  
23                  there any potential human or environmental impacts  
24                  that are missing from the EA and the application?  
25                  Are there any more -- are there any additional

1 mitigation measures that we need to evaluate, and  
2 are there any route alternatives?

3 That route alternative is -- I'm going to  
4 explain that a little bit more. So you can, as the  
5 public, offer route alternatives, and with that  
6 route alternative, it has to mitigate an impact, an  
7 identified impact.

8 So, you know, if you don't want it  
9 spanning a water body, you could say, I would prefer  
10 it not do that, let's go this route because it  
11 wouldn't cross any water bodies. That's a mitigated  
12 impact. Saying you don't like the way it looks and  
13 you want it to go -- you don't like it here, I want  
14 it to go somewhere else is not really an impact  
15 mitigation. It's -- you know, you're just shifting  
16 that impact from one place to another, if that makes  
17 sense. So if you're going to do a route  
18 alternative, please make sure that it is mitigating  
19 an identified impact.

20 Next slide, please.

21 So there's topic for comments today, the  
22 things that -- you know, these are just a couple  
23 questions we wanted you guys to think about when  
24 presenting your comments to us today, it's: Are  
25 there any potential or environmental impacts, unique

1 characteristics, or mitigation measures -- that's  
2 including those route alternatives -- for the  
3 proposed project needing further development in an  
4 EA addendum? And we also want to know, Are there  
5 any other practical methods to minimize, mitigate,  
6 or avoid any of those impacts that we should  
7 consider and put into that draft permit?

8 Next topic, please.

9 And answering those questions that you  
10 guys will provide and any sort of comments, we will  
11 take a look to see if an EA is necessary, and if it  
12 is, the Commission themselves will write it. And  
13 then what other conditions we should include in the  
14 draft permit, and that -- those -- the EA addendum  
15 decision and the draft permit -- will come out  
16 around the same time. If we do have to have an EA  
17 addendum, the draft permit will come out with that  
18 addendum. So there might be a little bit of a gap,  
19 but they should come out close to the same time.

20 Next slide, Craig.

21 So there is a few different ways to  
22 comment. We can -- you can provide verbal comments  
23 today at the end of this little slide presentation  
24 we have. We will call for people to comment if they  
25 would like. There is an online comment form.

1 There's a comment sheet that is a hardcopy, but this  
2 is a virtual forum, so that doesn't help us here.  
3 But if you go online, there is a website under the  
4 PUC, and if you go to that --

5 It's not showing up here, Craig, which  
6 might be an issue, but it should be a link there,  
7 and I do not have it off the top of my head.

8 But if you go to the Public Utilities  
9 Commission's website and there's a "Get Involved"  
10 button, and you can click that and then you can file  
11 a comment using the website online. And if all that  
12 fails, you can just send me mail to the address  
13 listed right there.

14 My email address is also not showing up,  
15 which is strange, but you can email at Logan,  
16 L-O-G-A-N, M, as in Matthew, Hicks,  
17 H-I-C-K-S@state.mn.us. That's my email address for  
18 anybody who wants to give me their comments. Now,  
19 we ask that all comments be turned in by April 27th  
20 at 4:30 p.m.

21 Next slide, please.

22 So all of this is going to be -- is on  
23 what is called an official case record. It's a  
24 docket, an eDocket if you will, and that is what the  
25 Commission bases the decision on. It is everything

1 that is on the record. They can't base it on  
2 anything that's ex parte, so they do not look at  
3 anything that is not in the record. To get an idea  
4 of what is in the record, you can go to that website  
5 that you see there and type in 24-427, and you will  
6 see the full case record there, that includes the  
7 Applicant's full application with the environmental  
8 assessment attached.

9 It also -- it covers -- it will have the  
10 notice that you guys got for this exact project, and  
11 it will also have the decision of an environmental  
12 assessment addendum and the draft permit once those  
13 are complete. So if you go to that website, it will  
14 have everything there.

15 You can also sign up for the mailing list  
16 by going to that website as well, or you can email  
17 eservice.admin@state.mn.us. Or you can even call,  
18 if you give them that docket number, 24-427, they  
19 will add you to the mailing list. You can also  
20 subscribe electronically on that same website.

21 Next slide, Craig.

22 So commenting etiquette, we're about to  
23 open that up to anybody who wants to speak. One  
24 speaker at a time. That's going to be pretty easy  
25 because we can control if you're muted or not. When

1 you do come on, we ask that you please state and  
2 spell your name for the court reporter because this  
3 will be on the record. And we also ask that you  
4 limit your comments to just a couple minutes. If  
5 you have more to say, we'll come back around to you.  
6 We just want to make sure that everybody has a  
7 chance to speak in a timely manner, and, as always,  
8 please maintain respect for others.

9 Next slide, Craig.

10 This is just a quick reminder for anybody  
11 who wants to comment. The questions we are looking  
12 at are potential human and environmental impacts,  
13 and methods to minimize, mitigate, or avoid those  
14 impacts.

15 So, yeah, with that being said, next  
16 slide, Craig.

17 A little bit more of a -- you know, to do  
18 here, presentation of comments.

19 Next slide.

20 Awesome. Yeah. So we're about to open  
21 it up, and we will call on you. So if you would  
22 like to speak and if you have a -- if you're on the  
23 Webex webinar, you can use the chat function or  
24 raise your hand function, because that's a thing  
25 now. And then we will call on you, and you can

1 unmute yourself, and we'll be able to get you going.  
2 If you are on the telephone, I believe it's -- which  
3 one is that? \*3, yes.

4 So with that, we will open it up to  
5 comments that people may have. Feel free to raise  
6 your hand, hit \*3, send a chat in. Whatever you  
7 would like to do, let us know.

8 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Just for folks that  
9 are attending virtually and not over the phone, in  
10 the chat I put Logan's email address, and I also  
11 created a link to the project website so people can  
12 see that.

13 Again, if you want -- if you're a caller  
14 and you'd like to chat or you'd like to provide a  
15 comment, press \*3. That will indicate to us that  
16 you'd like to make a comment on the docket.

17 Otherwise, for people who would like  
18 to -- who are attending virtually, there's a chat  
19 icon in the lower right-hand corner of the screen  
20 that says "Chat," and that will just let us know  
21 that you would like to talk and we'll unmute you.

22 Oh, Diane has just raised her hand.  
23 Diane, I'm going to unmute you, hold on one second.  
24 Diane, can you hear us?

25 MS. DIANE FEIST: Yes, I can. Can you

1 hear me?

2 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Perfectly, yeah. We  
3 all can hear you. So go ahead and ask your question  
4 or make your comment, please.

5 MS. DIANE FEIST: Sure. I got on just a  
6 few minutes late, I just caught the tail end of the  
7 project map.

8 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Sure.

9 MS. DIANE FEIST: Is there a way to put  
10 that back up again?

11 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Absolutely.

12 MS. DIANE FEIST: I wanted to see where  
13 our -- my husband and my address is in relation to  
14 that project map, because the mailing -- the mailer  
15 we got, it was pretty faded as far as where we're  
16 located at.

17 Okay. I'm seeing the -- okay. So the  
18 dotted purple, because it's different than what the  
19 mailer is, that's just a notice area; is that  
20 correct? The purple little dashes that go all the  
21 way around.

22 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Not --

23 MS. DIANE FEIST: Or is that the actual  
24 route?

25 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: The purple dot, I

1 think, is to just focus in -- I'll defer to Xcel on  
2 this, but I think the purple area is just kind of an  
3 outline of the idea -- like, the general area of  
4 the -- of where we're looking to put the route. But  
5 I'd hate to speak for Xcel, this is their map, so  
6 I'll --

7 MS. DIANE FEIST: Okay.

8 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: -- I'll defer to  
9 them, and they can help you answer that question.

10 MS. DIANE FEIST: Okay. My question  
11 is -- my question is this, because it looks like if  
12 I look right up on the top --

13 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Yeah.

14 MS. DIANE FEIST: -- it looks like the  
15 dash -- the purple dashes are going right through  
16 the middle of our property, and I'm concerned  
17 because Elm Creek Park Reserve runs in our backyard.

18 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Right.

19 MS. DIANE FEIST: And is that going to  
20 take -- I don't know what kind of equipment they're  
21 putting up or how that works or where that's going  
22 to be. Because I'm a little, to be honest, naive to  
23 all this, but I'm wondering, are they taking any of  
24 our land for this or --

25 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: I think to, maybe,

1 help narrow down the map just -- if you look at the  
2 blue line and --

3 MS. DIANE FEIST: Uh-huh.

4 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: -- not the purple  
5 line, but the blue line that runs along 105th Avenue  
6 North and then travels south sort of along 694 [sic]  
7 there --

8 MS. DIANE FEIST: Um-hmm.

9 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: -- that's where the  
10 proposed route that the Applicants are proposing to  
11 the PUC; that's their proposed route.

12 MS. DIANE FEIST: Okay. So it looks to  
13 me that -- if I'm looking at this correctly, is that  
14 then south of Territorial then, correct?

15 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Xcel, do you want  
16 to --

17 MS. DIANE FEIST: Because I live on  
18 Territorial Road.

19 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Yeah, I'm going to  
20 defer to Xcel on that and let them answer your  
21 question.

22 MS. DIANE FEIST: Okay. Thank you.

23 MR. CASEY STOREY: Yeah. Hi, Diane.  
24 This is --

25 MS. DIANE FEIST: Hi.

1 MR. CASEY STOREY: -- Casey Storey with  
2 Xcel. Yeah, so the purple area is just the overview  
3 of the study area that was evaluated for the general  
4 environment. But, yes, it -- the project's going to  
5 be south of -- as proposed, just south of 81 --  
6 State Route 81, so south of Territorial.

7 MS. DIANE FEIST: Okay. All right.  
8 Good. So that won't affect our property or the Elm  
9 Creek that goes through our backyard, okay.

10 MR. CASEY STOREY: Correct, not as  
11 proposed.

12 MS. DIANE FEIST: Okay. Thank you.

13 THE REPORTER: Diane, this is Christine.  
14 I'm the court reporter. Can I get your last name,  
15 please?

16 MS. DIANE FEIST: Sure. It's Feist, F as  
17 in Frank, E-I-S-T.

18 THE REPORTER: Thank you so much.

19 MS. DIANE FEIST: Sorry about that, I  
20 forgot to include that.

21 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: And I'll just say,  
22 Diane, this is -- yeah, just to really clarify the  
23 point that this is the Applicant's proposed route.  
24 There is a chance a landowner could possibly propose  
25 an alternative route. In which case, you would be

1 notified again of that change, but this is the --  
2 the route that the Applicant has proposed to date,  
3 so does that --

4 MS. DIANE FEIST: Okay. I was just very  
5 concerned --

6 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Yeah.

7 MS. DIANE FEIST: -- because the purple  
8 dashes or blue, or whatever that color is that is  
9 showing at your end --

10 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Yeah.

11 MS. DIANE FEIST: -- looks like it's  
12 going right through our house and through our whole  
13 property; we have 16 acres.

14 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Okay. Yeah.

15 MS. DIANE FEIST: Okay. All right.  
16 Thank you. That's all for me.

17 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Yeah, just raise  
18 your hand if something comes to you and we'll call  
19 you back.

20 MS. DIANE FEIST: Okay.

21 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: So I'm going to go  
22 back to the slide that gives folks directions on how  
23 to participate if they want, but I will repeat  
24 the -- or talk about the slide for those that are  
25 attending via phone. If you're interested in making

1 a comment, press \*3. That will signify to us that  
2 you're interested in making a comment, and we can --  
3 we can either answer it or listen -- just listen to  
4 what you have to say.

5 MR. LOGAN HICKS: All right. Well, I'm  
6 not hearing anything so far, Craig. I think  
7 that's -- we just have one more phone caller. If  
8 the person on the phone, if you would like to speak,  
9 remember to hit \*3.

10 Other than that, if we're not -- if we  
11 don't hear anything in the next 30 seconds or so, I  
12 think we could wrap up.

13 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: That sounds good.

14 And just for the individual that is  
15 calling in, of course, you can send us an email or  
16 use the comment -- written comment form. This isn't  
17 your only opportunity to ask us -- ask us questions  
18 or submit comments. We'd just ask that you do that  
19 by April, I believe, it's 20th.

20 Is that right, Logan?

21 MR. LOGAN HICKS: April 27th.

22 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: 27th.

23 MR. LOGAN HICKS: 4:30 p.m.

24 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Yeah.

25 MR. LOGAN HICKS: Well, I'm not seeing

1 anything else. I think we can wrap it up there, if  
2 everybody -- if you're okay with that, Craig?

3 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Yeah, that sounds  
4 good.

5 MR. LOGAN HICKS: Awesome. Well, thank  
6 you, everyone, for coming out. We really appreciate  
7 your attendance.

8 MR. CRAIG JANEZICH: Have a good evening,  
9 everybody.

10 (Public comment concluded.)

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	<b>alternative (4)</b> 19:3,6,18;28:25	<b>assessment (8)</b> 11:22,24;15:19; 18:3,16,20;22:8,12	<b>8:15</b>	<b>click (1)</b> 21:10
*	<b>alternatives (3)</b> 19:2,5;20:2	<b>associate (1)</b> 7:18	<b>box (1)</b> 6:20	<b>climate (1)</b> 12:15
<b>*3 (5)</b> 24:3,6,15;30:1,9	<b>always (1)</b> 23:7	<b>attached (1)</b> 22:8	<b>brief (1)</b> 3:9	<b>close (1)</b> 20:19
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