

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Issued: June 10, 2020

### In the Matter of the Application of Detroit Lakes Public Utilities for a 115-kilovolt High-Voltage Transmission Line Route Permit in Becker County

**PUC Docket Number:** E-229/TL-18-755

**OAH Docket Number:** 5-2500-36529

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) will hold a remote-access public hearing on the route permit application of Detroit Lakes Public Utilities (DLPU) for its proposed 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line and substation conversion project in Becker County, Minnesota. **Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission has suspended in-person meetings and hearings. The Commission is using remote-access technology to conduct meetings and hearings to ensure continued public participation and information sharing opportunities.** The remote-access public hearing will be held on the following date and time:

**Date:** Tuesday, June 30, 2020

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.\*

**Location:** Remote-Access Hearing (telephone and/or internet)

\*The hearing will end when all attendees have had the opportunity to comment and all other business has been concluded.

A portion of the public hearing will be reserved for taking questions and comments. To participate, follow the directions below to access the hearing over the telephone to listen or provide verbal comments (audio only). If you are also interested in accessing the video portion of the hearing, follow the directions below to view the presentation over the internet (video only – no audio). **You must at a minimum join the hearing by telephone if you are interested in listening to the hearing or in providing verbal comments on the proposed project.** Written comments may also be submitted during the comment period following the hearing using the methods described in this notice.

**Join the hearing by telephone**

Phone: 1-866-609-6127

Conference ID: 7073268

An operator will assist you.

**To view the presentation, join the hearing by internet (video only – no audio)**

Navigate on your computer to: <https://tinyurl.com/y9dc98lo>  
or <https://minnesota.webex.com>

Event Number: 146 204 3485

**Please join the hearing 5-10 minutes prior to the start time.**

Please contact Charley Bruce at 651-201-2251 or [charley.bruce@state.mn.us](mailto:charley.bruce@state.mn.us), if you have questions on how to participate or have trouble participating.

To find out if the hearing is canceled call 1-855-731-6208 or 651-201-2213 or visit [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc).

Information on the application review process and documents related to the proposed project including materials from the public hearing, the route permit application, and the environmental assessment are available on the Department of Commerce website at: <https://mn.gov/eera/web/project/13642/> and the Commission's website at [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc), select *eDockets*, enter the year (18) and the docket number (755), and select *Search*.

### **Project Description**

DLPU proposes to construct and operate approximately 2.2 miles of overhead 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line and substation south of Detroit Lakes in Becker County to address increasing loads and reliability concerns within its system. The northern terminus of the HVTL is the proposed substation near the intersection of US Highway 59 and CSAH 22. The southern terminus will tie-in to an existing 115 kV HVTL owned by Great River Energy located in Section 33, T138N, R41W of Lake View Township near US Hwy 59 and County Road 17.

The new transmission line would be placed within the existing right-of-way (ROW) along US Highway 59 owned by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). DLPU is requesting a 200 foot route width for the majority of the route based on the centerline of US Highway 59. The final right-of-way varies between 15-41 feet wide. Construction of the project is anticipated to begin in the fourth quarter of 2020.

### **Public Hearing and Process Information**

The purpose of the public hearing is to obtain public input on the proposed project and compile the record for the Commission to consider in making a final decision on the route permit application. Administrative Law Judge James Mortenson will administer the hearing and will provide the Commission with a summary of the public comments received during this proceeding. The public hearing and written comment period afford interested persons the opportunity to ask questions of the applicant and agency staff and to offer oral and written comments on the merits of the proposed project, on the environmental assessment, and on conditions to be considered for inclusion in a route permit. The public hearing is being conducted in accordance with the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 216E.04 and Minn. R. 7850.3800.

**Minnesota Statutes and Rules.** This project is being reviewed under Minnesota Statutes chapter 216E and Minnesota Rules chapter 7850. The rules and statutes are available for review at: [www.revisor.mn.gov](http://www.revisor.mn.gov).

### Written Comment Period

Written comments will be accepted through **July 14, 2020, by 4:30 p.m.** Please include the docket number (18-755) 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:

- Should the Commission grant a route permit for the proposed high-voltage transmission line?
- If granted, what additional conditions or requirements should be included in a route permit for the high-voltage transmission line?

#### Comments may be submitted via:

**Online:** Visit [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc), select *Comment* and follow the prompts.

**Email:** [publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us)

**U.S. Mail:** Public Advisor – Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
121 7th Place East, Suite 350  
St. Paul, MN 55101

**Important.** 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.

### Additional Information

**Filing Requirements.** Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are required to file documents using the Commission’s electronic filing system (eFiling): <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling>.

**Full Case Record.** See all documents filed in this docket via the Commission’s website at [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc), select *eDockets*, enter the year (18) and the docket number (755), 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* and follow the prompts.

**Project Mailing List.** Sign up to receive notices about project milestones and opportunities to participate or change your mailing preference. Email [docketing.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:docketing.puc@state.mn.us) or call Leesa Norton at 651-201-2246 with the docket number (18-755), your name, mailing address, and email address.

**Questions about these dockets or Commission process and procedure?** Contact Commission staff, Michael Kaluzniak at [mike.kaluzniak@state.mn.us](mailto:mike.kaluzniak@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2257 or Charley Bruce, Public Advisor, at [publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2251.

If any reasonable accommodation is needed to enable you to fully participate in this hearing, please contact the Commission at 651-296-0406 or 1-800-657-3782 at least one week in advance of the hearing.

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 Map

