

CapX2020 UPDATE

CapX 2020 Web Site is Useful Information Tool

Please visit the CapX 2020 Web site at www.capx2020.com for information and updates. The site includes an overview of the projects, maps of proposed line corridors, information on regulatory processes, and a glossary of transmission and electricity terms. Visit the Web site for photos of transmission line and wind turbine construction, a calendar of upcoming open houses and public meetings, and to contact CapX 2020 with any questions or feedback on the projects.

www.capx2020.com

CapX 2020 to Organize Work Groups for Community Involvement

In early 2008 the three 345-kV CapX 2020 project managers will hold a series of meetings where small groups of community representatives will come together to discuss the individual projects. The work groups will be comprised of stakeholders representing various parties with an interest in the routing process. These meetings will help to ensure that the project managers receive community input about the proposed routes. Local government officials, representatives from agriculture, state and federal agencies, and environmental groups, among others, will be invited to join these work groups.

The work groups will be asked to participate in a series of meetings over the next six months to help identify and confirm some of the criteria used in proposing routes, evaluate local routing issues and provide feedback on initial ideas the utilities have developed for narrowed corridor and route options. This input will assist in the development of refined corridors that will be presented at a second round of CapX 2020 open houses in Spring 2008.

If you are interested in participating in a routing work group, please contact us through the Web site at www.capx2020.com or call one of the toll-free project phone numbers. Work group meeting summaries will be posted on the CapX 2020 Web site.



The CapX 2020 utilities hosted 24 open houses in September and October to provide information on the proposed high voltage lines and to answer questions

CapX2020

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Permit No. 3302

CapX 2020 Group 1 proposed project study corridors



Contact information

E-mail addresses and toll-free numbers for the three projects:

Brookings, SD – SE Twin Cities
(888) 473-2279 • brookingsinfo@capx2020.com

Fargo – Alexandria – St. Cloud – Monticello
(866) 876-2869 • fargoinfo@capx2020.com

SE Twin Cities – Rochester – La Crosse
(800) 238-7968 • lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com



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Regulatory and Permitting Process

Two major approvals must be obtained from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) before a high voltage transmission line can be built: a Certificate of Need and a Route Permit. The Certificate of Need proceeding examines whether the proposed facilities are necessary and what the appropriate size, configuration and timing of the project should be. In August 2007 the CapX 2020 utilities filed a Certificate of Need application for three 345 kilovolt (kV) lines with the PUC. In October, the PUC found the 345-kV Certificate of Need application to be complete and referred the application to an Administrative Law Judge to schedule public hearings. In a separate Route Permit proceeding, the PUC determines the route and design of the line. The utilities expect to file a Route Permit with the PUC in 2008.

The CapX 2020 utilities are involved in similar review, permit and approval processes for the proposed 345-kV lines from the regulatory

New Fact Sheet Highlights Regulatory Process

A new fact sheet titled "Minnesota Regulatory Process for High Voltage Transmission Lines" is now available on the CapX 2020 Web site (www.capx2020.com/learn.html). The fact sheet provides an overview of the regulatory process associated with the major approvals necessary before a high voltage transmission line can be built in Minnesota.

commissions in North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin..

North Dakota Public Service Commission

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
Certificate of Corridor Compatibility
Transmission Facility Permit

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

Facilities Permit

10 Public Meetings

Minnesota Department of Commerce Public Meetings

Monday, December 10

12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
Courtyard by Marriot
1080 28th Ave. S.
Moorhead, MN 56560

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Best Western Events Center
921 Western Ave.
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Tuesday, December 11

12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
Alexandria City Hall
Council Chambers
704 Broadway
Alexandria, MN 56308

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
American Legion
505 Pine St.
Clearwater, MN 55320

Thursday, December 13

12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
Riverport Inn
900 Bruski Drive
Winona, MN 55987

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Heritage Suites
2829 43rd St. NW
Rochester, MN 55901

Monday, December 17

12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
Best Western Marshall Inn
1500 East College Drive
Marshall, MN 56258

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Max's Grill
1325 West Lincoln Ave.
Olivia, MN 56277

Tuesday, December 18

12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
Arlington Community Center
204 Shamrock Drive
Arlington, MN 55307

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Grandpa's Event Center
31846 65th Ave.
Cannon Falls, MN 55009

Department of Commerce to Address CapX 2020 Projects at December Public Meetings

In December, the Minnesota Department of Commerce (DOC) will host 10 public meetings to gather input from the public concerning the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed CapX 2020 345-kilovolt transmission line projects. Information provided by the public will be used by the DOC to help generate an environmental scoping document. The meetings also will give citizens an opportunity to ask questions and to learn more about the proposed transmission projects. We encourage you to participate in these meetings.

Scoping Document/Environmental Report

The DOC will use the scoping document to frame important human and environmental considerations in the proposed project areas. Based on this document, the DOC commissioner will issue an order identifying the alternatives to be analyzed, potential impacts to be addressed, the schedule for completion of the environmental report and any other matters that are to be included in the environmental review. The final product, known as an Environmental Report, will be submitted to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission as part of the public record that will be compiled during the Certificate of Need process. The report will help the commission determine whether to grant the CapX 2020 utilities a Certificate of Need for the projects.

Public Input

The December meetings will be informal and will include a brief presentation by DOC staff members and from representatives of the CapX 2020 utilities. Citizens will have an opportunity to comment and ask questions. Citizens are encouraged to make suggestions regarding alternatives to the proposed projects and to provide input on impacts

that should be reviewed. Comments can be made either orally or in writing. They must be submitted to the DOC by Jan. 14, 2008.

Additional Information

If you are unable to attend one of the meetings or if you prefer to mail your comments, please send them to Mr. David Birkholz, Energy Facility Permitting, Minnesota Department of Commerce, 85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101. If you would like additional information about the DOC meetings or the Certificate of Need or permitting processes, contact Mr. Birkholz or go to <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?id=19120>. If you would like additional information about the CapX2020 projects, contact Mark Suel at (612) 330-6750 or visit the project Web site at www.capx2020.com.



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Compact fluorescent bulbs cost more to buy than comparable incandescent bulbs, but less to use

	15-watt fluorescent	60-watt conventional
Retail price	\$3.50	\$0.50
Lifetime hours	12,000	1,000
Lifetime cost*	\$18	\$92

* Includes energy and maintenance costs in addition to the initial retail purchase price. Based on an electricity rate of \$0.101 per kilowatt hour. Sources: Environmental Protection Agency; Department of Energy.