

Siting of Energy Conversion and Transmission Facilities

North Dakota Century Code
Chapter 49-22

Energy Transmission Facilities

- PSC designates sites for transmission pipelines and electric power lines with voltages >115 kV
- Two step permitting process
 - Corridor Certificate
 - Route Permit

Transmission Facility Corridor Certificate

- Utility selects study area and performs studies of environmental and other factors prior to filing an application
- PSC reviews studies and holds public hearings to designate a corridor within which the facility will be routed.

Transmission Facility Route Permit

- Utility performs detailed studies prior to filing a second application for a specific route within the designated corridor
- PSC reviews the studies and holds hearings to designate a route within the designated corridor
- When issuing permit, the PSC may impose terms and conditions for facility construction and operation

Energy Conversion Facility Siting

- The PSC sites any new plant or plant addition capable of:
 - Generating 100,000 kW or more of electricity
 - Manufacturing or refining 100 million cubic feet or more of gas per day
 - Manufacturing or refining 50,000 bpd or more of liquid hydrocarbon products per day
 - Enriching uranium

Single Step Process

- Certificate of Site Compatibility is the only permit issued by the PSC

Local Jurisdiction

- Site certificate does not supersede local land use, zoning or building regulations
- Route permits may supersede local land use, zoning or building regulations if the PSC finds the regulations are unreasonably restrictive in view of:
 - existing technology
 - factors of cost or economics
 - needs of consumers

Notice to Local Officials

- PSC rules require siting notices be mailed to county and city officials and local legislators in the area of the application
- Notices are also published in newspapers, mailed to parties in the case and to other state and federal officials

Contact Information

- PSC Website: www.psc.state.nd.us
- Email: ndpsc@nd.gov
- Phone: 701-328-2400