

APPROVED

DATE: 6-19-08
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MOTION

June 19, 2007

**Basin Electric Power Cooperative
230 kV Transmission Line/Stark to Bowman Ctys
Siting Application**

Case No. PU-07-169

I move the Commission deem the applications complete conditioned on receiving proposed transmission line structure locations on or before July 22, 2008 and issue a Notice of Filing and Notice of Hearing in the applications of Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. for a waiver of procedures and time schedules, a corridor certificate and a route permit to construct approximately 74 miles of 230 kV transmission line within a transmission facility corridor proposed in Bowman, Hettinger, Stark and Slope Counties of North Dakota, Case No. PU-07-169.

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STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Basin Electric Power Coop Inc.
230 kV Transmission Line/Stark to Bowman Counties
Siting Application

Case No. PU-07-169

NOTICE OF FILING AND NOTICE OF HEARING

June 19, 2008

On April 18, 2008, Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. (Basin Electric) filed an application for a waiver of procedures and time schedules and a consolidated application for a certificate of corridor compatibility and route permit to authorize construction of approximately 74 miles of 230 kV electric transmission line and associated facilities extending from an existing Belfield substation to a proposed new substation south of Rhame, North Dakota. The proposed transmission line corridor and route are located in Bowman, Hettinger, Slope and Stark Counties as shown on the attached map. The Commission finds the applications are complete conditioned on Basin Electric filing a map detailing proposed final transmission line structure locations on or before July 22, 2008.

Basin Electric requests the Commission waive procedures and time schedules set forth in North Dakota Century Code chapter 49-22 and North Dakota Administrative Code article 69-06 to allow for a single consolidated application for corridor certificate and route permit and to hold one consolidated hearing on the waiver request and application for corridor certificate and route permit.

A **Public Hearing** on the application for a waiver and consolidated application for transmission line corridor and route is scheduled to begin **July 29, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. MDT at Memorial Hall, 925 Main Street, New England, ND 58647**

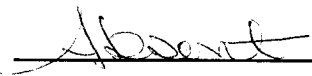

The issues to be considered are:

1. Will the location, construction, and operation of the proposed facilities produce minimal adverse effects on the environment and upon the welfare of the citizens of North Dakota?
2. Are the proposed facilities compatible with the environmental preservation and the efficient use of resources?
3. Will the proposed facility locations minimize adverse human and environmental impact while ensuring continuing system reliability and integrity and ensuring that energy needs are met and fulfilled in an orderly and timely fashion?

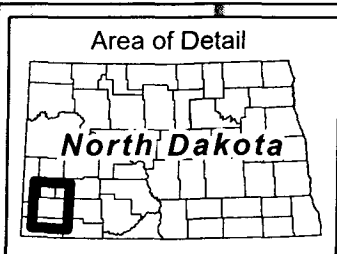
4. Is it appropriate for the Commission to waive procedures and time schedules as requested, including the request for a single consolidated application for corridor certificate and route permit?

For more information contact the Public Service Commission, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505, 701-328-2400; or Relay North Dakota 1-800-366-6888 TTY. If you require any auxiliary aids or services, such as readers, signers, or braille materials please notify Illona A. Jeffcoat-Sacco, Executive Director, at least 24 hours in advance.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

		
Tony Clark Commissioner	Susan E. Wefald President	Kevin Cramer Commissioner

Belfield to Rhame Overview



B I L L I N G S

S T A R K

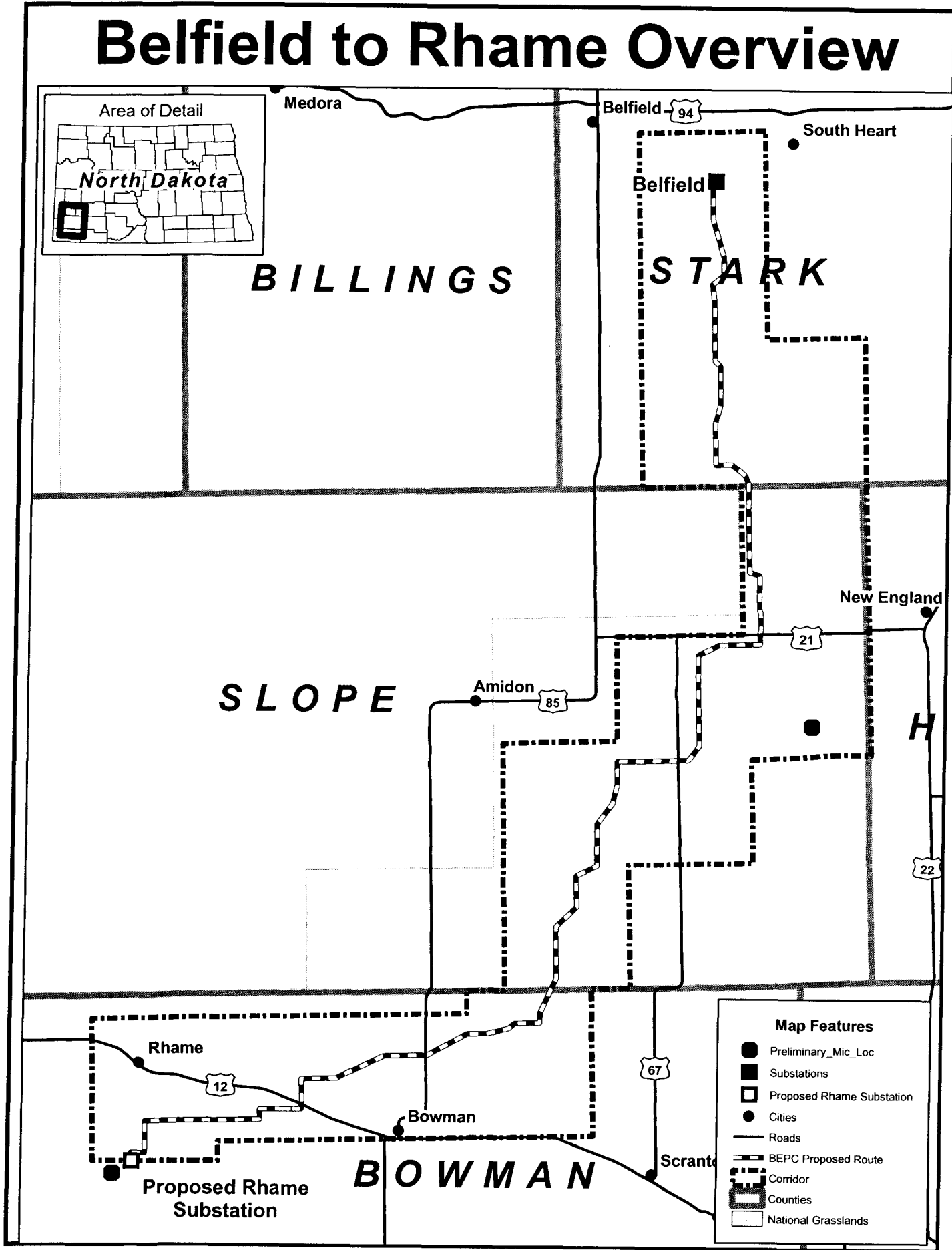
S L O P E

H

B O W M A N

Map Features

- Preliminary_Mic_Loc
- Substations
- Proposed Rhame Substation
- Cities
- Roads
- - - BEPC Proposed Route
- ▤ Corridor
- ▭ Counties
- ▭ National Grasslands



MEMORANDUM

To: Commissioners Wefald, Cramer and Clark

Fr: Jerry Lein and Annette Bendish

Da: June 18, 2008

Re: 6-19-08 Agenda Item SW-1: Basin Electric Belfield to Rhame 230 kV
Transmission line, Case No. PU-07-169

Review of Basin Electric Power Cooperative's applications indicates that the requirements in the Commission's application guidelines have been addressed. Therefore, we recommend the application be deemed complete. However, there are some activities still underway:

1. Design Data Report: BEPC will provide a Design Data Report to the commission separately, which provides detailed information regarding the size and design of the proposed transmission line.
2. Environmental Assessment: Western is completing an EA for the proposed project, which provides detailed information regard the affected environment and potential impacts that may occur because of the proposed project.
3. Biological surveys: A qualified biologist will conduct prairie dog town, black-footed ferret, and burrowing owl occurrence surveys prior to construction activities to identify any suitable black-footed ferret and burrowing owl habitat within the project area. (B.2.6.1)
4. Final Transmission Structure Siting: Final structure locations have not been determined yet.

**NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Inc.
230 kV Transmission Line/Stark to Bowman Ctys
Siting Application**

Case No. PU-07-169

**Summary Sheet
June 19, 2008**

Facility: Approximately 74 miles of 230 kV Electric Transmission line between an existing Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) substation located east of Belfield to a proposed new substation to be located south of Rhame, North Dakota.

Company: Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Inc.

Purpose: The proposed transmission line would deliver power from the WAPA transmission grid to meet load growth in southwestern North Dakota.

Cost estimate: Approximately \$33 million

Schedule: Construction is expected to begin this fall and be completed by December 2009.

History Basin Electric filed a letter of intent on April 26, 2007 and a combined application for waiver of procedures and time schedules, corridor certificate and route permit on April 18, 2008

Today's Action: The Commission will vote whether to issue a Notice of Filing and Notice of Hearing, scheduling a public hearing for July 29, 2008 in New England, ND.

JRL