

PUBLIC NOTICE

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Minnkota Power Coop, Inc.
345 kV Transmission Line - Center to
Grand Forks
Siting Application
Case No. PU-09-670
NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED
HEARINGS
April 20, 2011**

On February 18, 2011, Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc. (Minnkota) filed an application for a Certificate of Site Compatibility for Transmission Facility Corridor for approximately 260 miles of 345 kV transmission line and associated facilities to be constructed from the Center Substation near Center, North Dakota to the Prairie Substation near Grand Forks, North Dakota, as shown on the attached map.

Minnkota requests the Commission approve a 1,000 foot-wide corridor under N.D. Admin. Code section 69-06-04-02(b). If a corridor certificate is granted then a separate route permit application and

hearing is required before designating a transmission line route within the approved corridor.

On March 24, 2011 the Commission issued a Notice of Filing and Notice of Hearing, scheduling three separate public hearings for May 3, 4, and 13, 2011. The Commission has since received several requests to postpone the hearings until after the spring planting season. Therefore, please take notice that Public Hearings on the application are rescheduled to be held:

June 16, 2011, 10:00 a.m. at the Northwood High School, 300 35th St. NE, Northwood, ND 58267.

June 17, 2011, 10:00 a.m. at the Chieftain Conference Center, Tepee Room, 60 4th Ave. S, Carrington, ND 58204.

June 24, 2011, 10:00 a.m. at Memorial Hall, 805 Main Ave., Washburn, ND 58577.

The issues to be considered are:

1. Will the location, construction, and operation of the proposed facilities produce minimal adverse effects on the en-

vironment 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 approve a 1,000 foot-wide corridor as requested in the application?

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 the Commission.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Kevin Cramer, Commissioner
Tony Clark, Chairman
Brian P. Kalk, Commissioner

Funding Available for Ring Dikes in Red River Valley

In an effort to improve water quality in flood prone areas, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is targeting \$500,000 in financial assistance through the Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP) for installation or enhancement of ring dikes around farmsteads.

These funds will go a long way in helping to protect many North Dakota farmsteads from future flooding, says Lance Yohe, Executive Director for the Red River Basin Substation, a partner in this effort. The Commission is very pleased that the NRCS has chosen to target flood mitigation in North Dakota. It's good for both rural residents and the health of the region's environment.

The period to sign-up for the funding will conclude on May 20, 2011. Interested agricultural producers should submit applications at their local NRCS field office. Agricultural producers will be eligible to receive up to 75 percent of the cost of building the dike to protect their farmstead. Beginning, limited resource, and

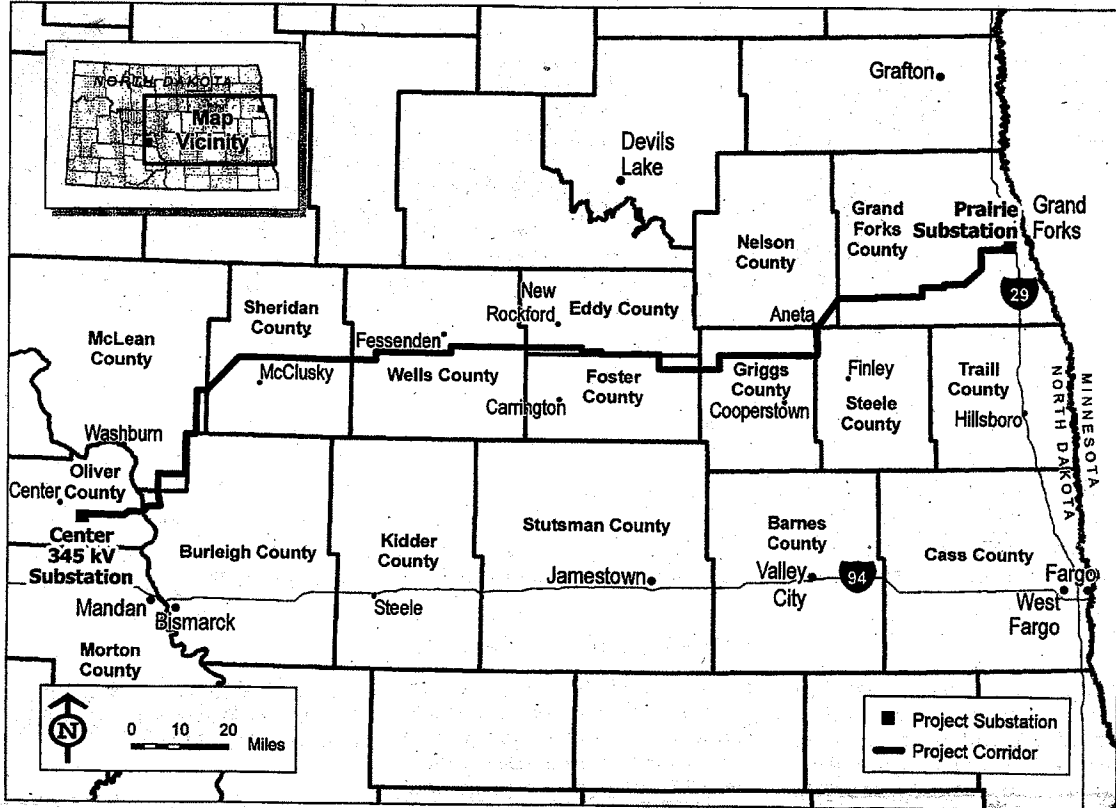
socially disadvantaged farmers are eligible to receive up to 90 percent of the cost of dike installation.

Ring dikes are earthen structures that protect the farmstead from overland flooding, hence reducing potential chemical, hydrocarbons, and ag wastes from entering flood waters, and therefore, impairing water quality, says NRCS Acting State Conservationist Jack Russell. Technical assistance is also available for engineering the design and implementation of the dikes.

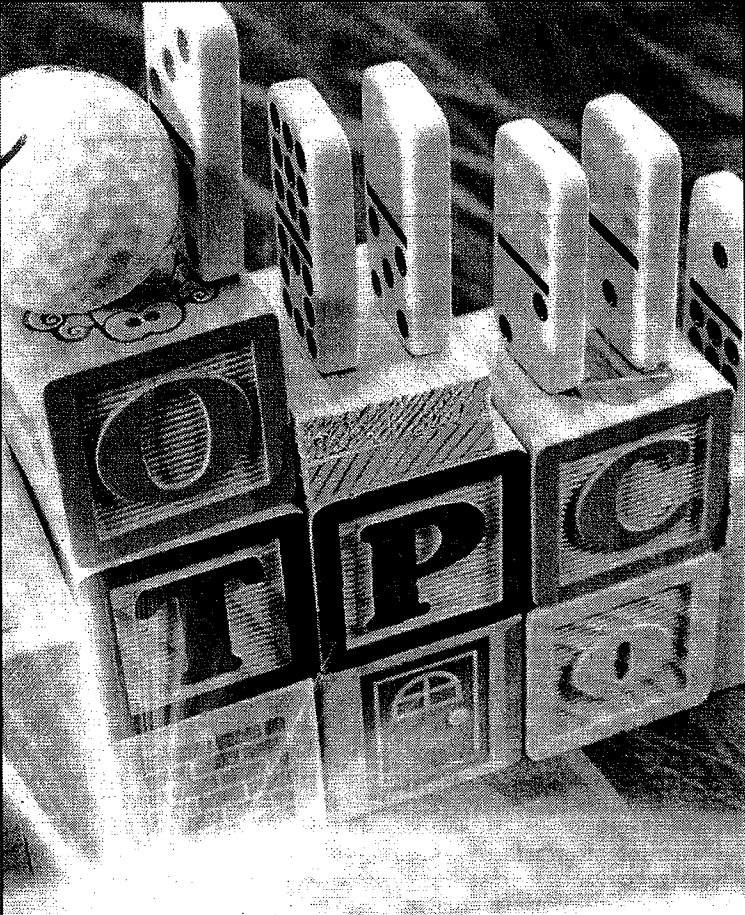
Voluntary programs like AWEP, which provide financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers, are the key to helping producers meet their conservation goals & to provide the public with important benefits such as cleaner water, improved air quality, healthy soils and abundant wildlife. AWEP has been reauthorized in the 2008 Farm Bill.

For additional information about AWEP, contact your local NRCS office or visit http://www.nd.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/AWEP/11_AWEP.html.

4/29
Aneta



*Cherish
Yesterday, Dream
Tomorrow, Live Today*



EXT
Thought You Should Know
By Lucas Walter
Nelson County Extension Agent
NDSU Extension Service

Spring melting has caused a lot of flooding issues across the state. North Dakotans whose homes have been affected in any way by water this spring (even major basement seepage, not just true flooding) need to report it for the state to have any chance of full federal declarations and reimbursements.

The North Dakota Department of Emergency Services has set up a hotline for North Dakota citizens who have sustained damage to private residences because of

this spring's flooding. The purpose of the hotline is to find out the scale of flood damaged homes in North Dakota.

The call center number is toll free: 1-877-212-0316. Hotline hours are 7:00am to 7:00 pm (CT).

Callers will be directed through a series of simple questions. The call should only take a few minutes. Those impacted will also be referred to volunteer agencies that are providing assistance if necessary.

OBSERVE THE WARNING SIGNS

If you have chest pain lasting two minutes or more, see a doctor.

American Heart Association
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Six Months	\$17.00

**Naas Scholarship
Deadline
Is May 1st**

The deadline to apply for the Mavis Naas Memorial Scholarship is May 1, 2011. This scholarship is made available through the generosity of Mavis's family and friends. Mavis's family member will review the applications and select the recipient.

Individuals that will be furthering their education and pursuing a career in the Health Care field are eligible to reply. High School Seniors as well as others who are residents of Nelson County and who have been accepted into an Accredited Program may apply. Applicants should submit an essay stating why they are pursuing a career in the Health Care field and one Letter of Reference to NCHSF PO Box 506, McVile, ND 58254.

On for you

Teamwork. Like a well-engineered machine, Otter Tail Power Company employees have worked behind the scenes to deliver affordable, reliable energy for more than 100 years. With our focus on the future, we're increasing efficiency, promoting conservation, and supporting jobs and the communities we serve.

Check out the video to see how it all works together at www.otpc.com.