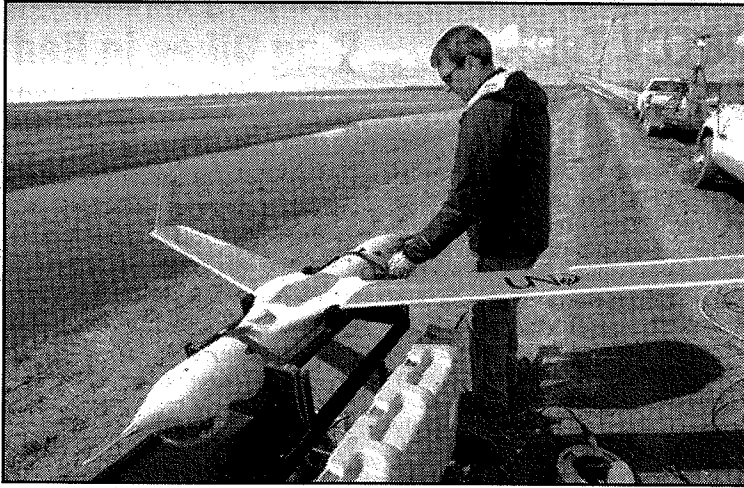


## Unmanned Aircraft Flies Over Oslo

From the Grand Forks Herald  
By: Ryan Bakken  
Joel Robberstad, crew chief of UND's ScanEagle prepares the UAS for Wednesday's flight over the flooded Oslo, Minn., area. photo by Eric Hylden



Unmanned aircraft system demonstrates its potential as tool to help fight floods. Open article link, then look down the page to see the video.

RURAL OSLO, Minn. — The aircraft with the 10-foot wingspan was launched from a slingshot-like apparatus, using pressurized air.

Within 12.5 feet, it was traveling at 60 miles per hour. And, within seconds, it was producing video of Red River flooding.

The prime mission of the ScanEagle, an unmanned aircraft system, was to communicate with other airborne planes in the region. However, as long as it was aloft, it also was taking footage of the high water, showcasing yet another potential use of the UAS.

Mark Hastings, the on-the-ground pilot for Wednesday's exercise, said that the aircraft and its camera are ideal for flood monitoring, perhaps even better than manned flight.

"It can stay up for 20 hours, starting at the same thing without getting bored," he said.

Mike Nelson, a UAS manager with the John D. Odegard School of Aerospace, said it's an effective tool for flood research and for flood search-and-rescue "spotting people who are stranded."

In 2009, Nelson said, UAS-produced images led to a decision to dynamite an ice jam.

The UAS is just scraping the surface of its potential, said Bruce Smith the Aerospace dean. "It will be involved in almost anything you can imagine," he said.

"In 15 years, this will be the airborne platform of choice for everything except passenger travel."

The ScanEagle is petite — weighing 45 pounds and 4.5 feet in length — and easy on gas, with 20 flight hours on its two gallons of gas. But it's not cheap, as the aircraft costs \$200,000 and the equipment that goes with it brings the total cost into the millions.

And it has a serious mission, providing surveillance and reconnaissance in the Middle East.

It requires no runway and is designed to be launched off small boats. It lands by hooking a rope with a wing. And it possibly will be coming to flood fights near you soon.

Reach Bakken at (701) 780-1125; (800) 477-6572, ext. 125; or send e-mail to rbakken@gfherald.com.

## Delegation Announces \$2.9 Million Grant for West Nile Research

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Senators John Hoeven and Kent Conrad and Congressman Rick Berg today announced that the University of North Dakota (UND) will receive a \$2.9 million competitive grant from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for research into treatments to combat the West Nile virus.

DOE's investment allows UND, in partnership with Avianax and the Mayo Clinic, to continue work to develop treatments and diagnostic products that use goose antibodies to fight the West Nile virus. Antibodies from geese have shown promise in treating patients infected with the virus, and this funding will advance pre-clinical studies to assess the safety and efficacy of the products against the West Nile virus. The project, which is also funded by the UND Center of Excellence for Passive Therapeutics, will also develop methods to increase the production of the goose antibodies to create the therapies.

"The strategic partnerships we're creating through our state's Centers of Excellence programs not only help to create good jobs and attract federal investments to our state, but also create prod-

ucts that some of our challenges" s  
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**Trade at Home** for your own sake! and community progress

### 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, Teepee 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?

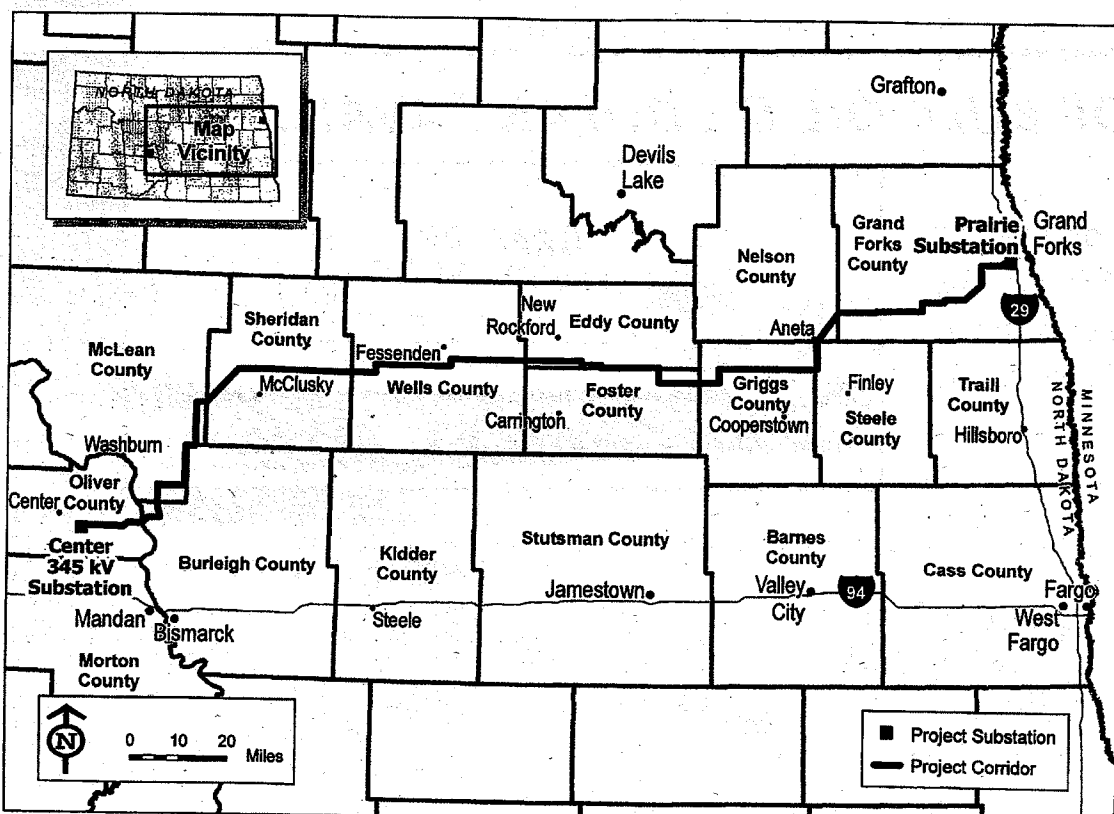
3. Will the proposed facility locations minimize adverse human and environmental impact while ensuring continuing system reliability and integrity and ensuring that energy needs are met and fulfilled in an orderly and timely fashion?

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

4/29 in Michigan



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