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Notice of Filings and Hearing

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION
Minnkota Power Coop, Inc.
345 kV Transmission Line -
Center to Grand Forks
Siting Application
Cas No. PU-09-670
NOTICE OF FILING AND
NOTICE OF HEARINGS
January 18, 2011**

On September 7, 2011 the Commission issued Corridor Certificate No. 121 to Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc. (Minnkota) designating a 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.

On December 2, 2011 Minnkota filed applications for a modification to the designated corridor, a waiver of procedures and time schedules, and a transmission facility route to be designated within the modified corridor as shown on the attached map.

Minnkota requests the Commission waive requirements under N.D.C.C. chapter 49-22 that separate hearings be held concerning the waiver request, the corridor modification and the route permit.

Three separate public hearings will be held with each covering an overview of the project, but focusing on specific portions of the project in the specific areas of each hearing. A Public Hearing on the application will be held:

February 22, 2012, 9:00 a.m. at Memorial Hall, 805 Main Ave. Washburn, ND 58577. This hearing will focus primarily on portions of the project in Burleigh, McLean, Oliver and western Sheridan Counties.

February 27, 2012, 9:00 a.m. in the Baker Courtroom at the UND School of Law, 215 Centennial Drive Stop 9003, Grand Forks, ND 58201. This hearing will focus primarily on portions of the project in Grand Forks, Nelson and Steele Counties.

March 1, 2012, 9:00 a.m. at

the Chieftain Conference Center Tepee Room, 60 4th Ave.S, Carrington, ND 58204. This hearing will focus primarily on portions of the project in Eddy, Foster, Griggs, eastern Sheridan and Wells Counties.

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

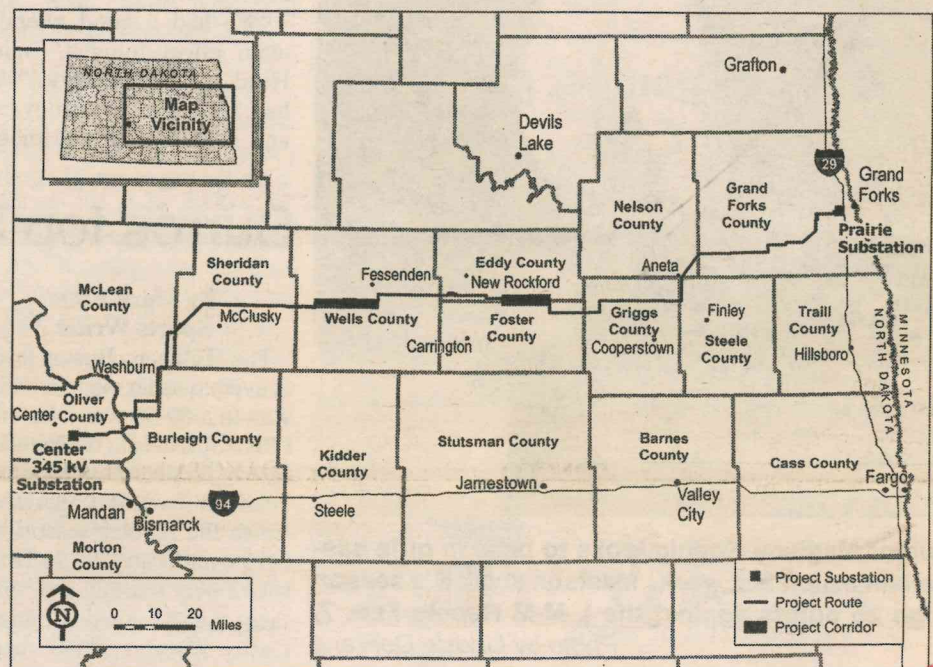
and ensuring that energy needs are met and fulfilled in an orderly and timely fashion?

4. Is it appropriate for the Commission to 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
SCP Jan. 27 & Feb. 17, 2012/
#195872



WS

rt that shared his story riding his bicycle America. They were Vermont and his travels Jim through Hope, this er. He was a double ee, he had lost one arm art of the other in a accident he shared the hospitality and iness he received stopping in Hope. one made sure he had to electricity so he operate his computer. ever you are in Hope, low accomplished his ross American and he eated what you did for hanks. Small town lity. ell and Pam Walcker d the Fingal Wildlife r Friday. They were ght guests at Brett and Kapauns, Tower City. lso visited Joan and Halland, Kindred and Kapaun, Valley City. nd Russell enjoyed a Fargo Saturday with Beilke.

