

*1/30 New Rockford*

**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 FILING AND NO-  
TICE 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

**BeefTalk: \$1.43 short**

**By Kris Ringwall,  
Beef Specialist,  
NDSU Extension Service**

Have you ever been shorted by \$1.43? It is quite irritating, especially if one is not talking candy bars.

Spending money on bulls is a time to ponder. No one wants to part with hard-earned dollars, and it seems like it is easier to pay those outside one's industry than the neighbor. Perhaps there is the rationalization that one has no control over those suppliers that are not cow-calf based. In contrast, while purchasing within the beef business, one would hope that at least some acknowledgement of the low-cost principle in the beef business would happen.

Producers buying replacement bulls and heifers realize that, even within the industry, costs are increasing. As hard as calf dollars are to generate, the dollars do not tend to remain in the producer's hands for long.

As input prices climb, the impacts hit hard. Perhaps there is some consolation that product value also is going up. The increasing value of beef and the general tendency for increased input prices, along with being shorted by \$1.43, are the main points of this story. One can be frustrated when one feels shortchanged.

The story starts with the calves born in 1996 at the Dickinson Research Extension Center. At that time, the center started to retain ownership of all the calves that were produced and then followed them through the harvest chain. This process continues today.

The carcass data, like all data, tends to wait for evaluation and reporting. However, occasionally, a piece of data rolls by that simply cannot go unnoticed. The latest set of center steers was harvested Jan. 4. One had to

look twice at the check after it arrived because it was short by \$1.43.

Granted, I was thinking faster than I was reading, but the top steer in the lot brought \$1,998.57, which was \$1.43 short of \$2,000. How could a company deny one the right to claim a \$2,000 steer on the rail?

Perhaps other producers already have had this experience, but the center has not. As the sun sets, the center still has not had the opportunity to claim a \$2,000 steer on the rail. The center still has cattle on feed, so waiting for the season's final home run is worth waiting for.

In reviewing the data, the steer brought \$210.82 per hundredweight and graded out as certified Angus choice. Two steers graded prime and actually brought more per hundredweight than the top-dollar steer.

The prime price was \$219.82 per hundredweight. Those steers brought \$1,925.62 and \$1,732.18.

We all live in the world of "what ifs." If the 948-pound carcass had graded prime, the carcass value would have been \$2,083.89, but that did not happen. However, at \$2.11 per pound, if the carcass had weighed 949 pounds, the carcass value would have been \$2,000.68, so it was only a pound shy. Granted, wishful thinking does not pay the bills, but the value on the rail for this lot of steers was impressive.

The whole lot of steers averaged 851 pounds on the rail. The average carcass value was \$207.03 per hundredweight for an average total of \$1,760.94 per steer. The beef business remains a low-input, cost-conscious business, but the dollars exchanged are getting larger.

Back to the original thought of how much one should pay for a bull or replacement females. At least growing up, the budget was kind of sketchy. To be honest, I don't think there was a budget. However, there was a saying that a new bull should be worth three steers. Right or wrong, this principle is not up for debate, so the new bull should be worth \$5,282.82.

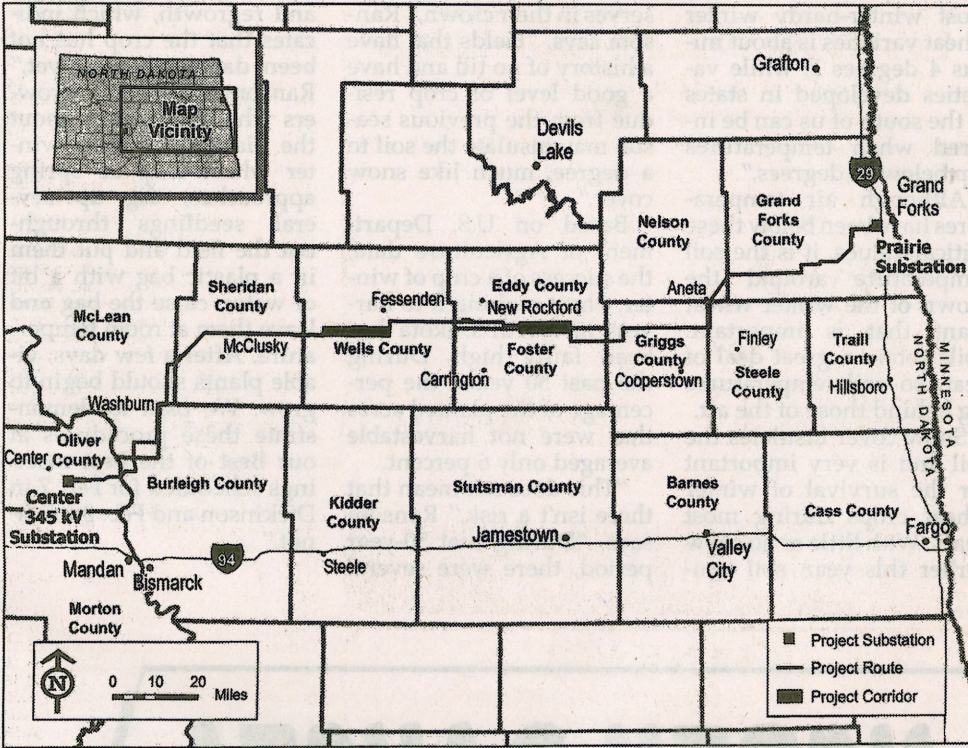
Of course, those producers who sell early may have a different equation. Regardless, as the price of cattle goes up, the price of bulls and replacements will follow. The real message is the same: Make sure one buys the right bull. The need to bid a little higher is evident, but so should the need to understand what one is buying.

In this set of steers, there were various premiums and discounts. The ability to avoid discounts is managerially driven. On the other hand, the opportunity to obtain premiums is a function of genetically driven growth and the ability to marble. Once a steer is harvested, the high-dollar meat industry needs quality, so the industry is very quality driven.

The ability to hang large carcasses that grade choice or prime is very lucrative when the market is seeking high-quality meat.

What has not been calculated with this set of steers is total profit, but having the ability to bring home significant premiums certainly adds more dollars to the pot when the bills are paid. Many an agricultural opportunity has been passed by waiting for one more penny that never gets here.

Happiness still comes even without the \$1.43. The next bull sale will see a few more nods to the auctioneer, so take care of the new bulls because the expectations are getting larger.



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Place your classified ad in every North Dakota Newspaper for as low as **\$150**  
Contact this newspaper for details.

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**STEELE COUNTY MUSEUM** is seeking a museum director. For details call Homer Wennerstrom (701) 945-2312, send resume to Box 215, Hope, ND 58046 or email schs@midco.net

**WISHEK COMMUNITY HOSPITAL & CLINICS** is seeking an experienced individual to serve as Administrator/CEO. WCHC is a 24-bed critical access facility, level five trauma center with four rural health clinics. Will need ND Administrators License. Send resumes: WCHC, c/o Shar, PO Box 647, Wishek, ND 58495.

**EXPERIENCED LUMBER YARD SALES:** Front Street Millwork & Lumber, Inc.; an "employee-owned company" is seeking a Contractor Sales Professional. This position requires experience in estimating, sales and an in-depth knowledge of construction and building materials. Please send resume to 1416 E. Front Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58504

**HELP WANTED: BUILDING Inspector** for the City of Tioga, ND. Salary DOE. Responsibilities include but are not limited to enforcing the ND Building Codes. Contact (701) 664-2807 for more information. Position closes 02-21-2012.

**HELP WANTED: PART time office assistant** for the City of Tioga, ND. Salary DOE. Customer service skills required. Contact City Hall for more information at (701) 664-2807. Position closes 02-21-2012.

**ATTN: COMPUTER WORK.** Work from anywhere 24/7. Up to \$1,500 Part Time to \$7,500/mo. Full Time. Training provided. www.KTPGlobal.com or call (888) 304-2847.

**TECHNICIAN-BELLE FOURCHE, SD,** JD dealership looking for equipment diagnostics and repair technician. JD experience preferred but not required. Full-time, top pay, benefits. Call (605) 892-2621.

**MCLEAN COUNTY HIGHWAY Department** will fill one Equipment Operator II position based in Butte, ND. Call (701) 462-8818 or e-mail lfoss@nd.gov for more information.

an immediate opening! Excellent pay, benefits, vacation time. We pull a variety of hopper bottoms in several U.S. states and Canadian provinces. Drivers must be able to haul to Canada. Contact Chad, (701) 793-7382 or visit www.freightsolutionsnd.com if you are interested in this great opportunity!

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**MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**

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**ND MEDIA GUIDE:** Names, addresses, phone numbers, e-mails of all ND newspapers, radio/TV stations, specialty publications. Only \$25. ND Newspaper Association, (701) 223-6397.

**GET COMPLETE COVERAGE** in every North Dakota newspaper with your 25-word classified ad for only \$150. Contact this newspaper for details.

**AUCTIONS**

**TOWNER COUNTY, ND Land Auction.** 11am Feb. 15, Egeland, ND. 480 tillable & expiring CRP acres in Lansing Twship. Edward Baumgartner Etal, owners. Call Amy Nikolaisen, Cando Auctions, (701) 968-4305, www.candoauctions.com.

**ROLETTE COUNTY, ND Land Auction.** 10am Feb. 16, Bisbee, ND. 320 tillable, pasture & recreational acres in Island Lake Twship. Jason & Crystal Martodam, owners. Call Amy Nikolaisen, Cando Auctions, (701) 968-4305, www.candoauctions.com.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/PERSONALS**

**PELVIC/TRANSVAGINAL MESH?** Did you undergo transvaginal placement of mesh for pelvic organ prolapse or stress urinary incontinence between 2005 and present time? If the patch required removal due to complications, you may be entitled to compensation. Call Johnson Law and speak with female staff members. (800) 535-5727.

**Deadline for advertising, news items & correspondent news is Tuesday at 5:00 p.m.**

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