

Hamre, John G.

From: -Info-Public Service Commission
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2012 9:39 AM
To: Hamre, John G.
Subject: FW: Case No. PU-09-670 Notice of intent to Start Construction
Attachments: Signed Copy of Notice for Start of Construction for PU-09-670.pdf; Minnkota_CGF_PreconstructionCall_MtgNotes_04.27.2012.docx; Const Key Contacts.pdf

From: Mike Hennes [<mailto:mhennes@minnkota.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2012 3:55 PM
To: -Info-Public Service Commission; Lein, Jerry R.
Cc: Smith, Mollie (msmith@fredlaw.com); Brian.Hunker@hdrinc.com; 'Duane Phillips (phillipsduane@stanleygroup.com)'; Gerad Paul
Subject: Case No. PU-09-670 Notice of intent to Start Construction

North Dakota Public Service Commission;

Please find attached for filling and official notification of the Start of Construction for the Center to Grand Forks 345 kV Transmission Line Project (PU-09-670) three files:

- 1.) Preconstruction meeting notes
- 2.) Notice for Start of Construction
- 3.) Project Key Contacts

Michael Hennes
System Projects Manager
Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc.
(701) 795-4352

VIA e-mail

NDPSC@nd.gov
Mr. Darrell Nitschke
Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

**RE: Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc.
345 kV Transmission Line – Center
to Grand Forks – Siting Application
Case No. PU-09-670**

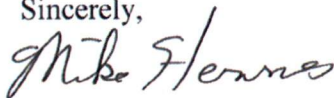
Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Enclosed herewith for filing in connection with the above-referenced matter are copies of the following notices relating to order provisions #2 and #5:

1. A preconstruction conference call was held at 10:30 AM on Friday April 27 as per order provision number 2. Minutes of this conference call are attached to this notice ;
2. Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc. is informing the Commission of its intent to start construction as of May 1, 2012 as per order provision number 5. Minnkota acknowledges the requirement for weekly updates as detailed in this provision.

Should you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Mike Hennes
System Projects Manager
Minnkota Power Cooperative
(701) 795-4352

Encl. Preconstruction Call Meeting Notes

cc: Mr. Jerry Lein (*w/ encl. – via e-mail*)
Mr. Brian Hunker (*w/o encl. – via e-mail*)
Ms. Mollie M. Smith (*w/o encl. – via e-mail*)

Subject:	Preconstruction Conference Call		
Client:	Public Service Commission / Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc.		
Project:	Center to Grand Forks Project	Project No:	110900
Meeting Date:	April 27, 2012	Meeting Location:	Conference Call
Notes by:	HDR Engineering, Inc.		

Attendees

Public Service Commission: Jerry Lien

Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc: John Graves, Mike Hennes

Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.: Mollie Smith

Stanley Consultants: Duane Phillips

Tri-State Drilling: Jim Melcher

Phillips & Jordan, Inc: Morgan Pierce

Michels Power: Randy Bassette

HDR: Brian Hunker, Jack McGuire

Meeting notes from the preconstruction conference call held prior to the commencement of any construction, in accordance with the North Dakota Public Service Commission's (Commission) Certification Relating to Order Provisions #2. The preconstruction conference call reviewed the Commission's Order and addressed any questions.

1. Conclusion of Law #9 – page 11

- Conclusion of Law #9 was read on the call
- Third-party inspector will be used during and post construction
- Post construction – verify that all cleanup was completed and the Project complies with the Commission's Order
- Commission will go through a request for qualification (RFQ) and vender selection process
- Third-party contractor is not on this conference call and Project will proceed with out the Third-party monitor
- Contact list of Project team will be provided to the Third-party monitor, as attached

2. Commission Order – page 12

- Order was read on the call
- Order 1 – no comments
- Order 2 – no comments
- Order 3 – no comments
- Order 4 – Cultural resource surveys must be completed. The survey report and SHPO concurrence must be filed before work in those areas. Surveys must be completed before tree clearing. One property remaining for survey in Wells and Sheridan Counties. Construction in that area won't take place until 2013, so there is time to complete the surveys.

- Order 5 – EA complete and filed with the Commission as Appendix D to the Certificate of Corridor Compatibility Application. FONSI is being delivered today.
- Order 6 – no comments

3. Certification relating to Order Provisions – Transmission Facility Siting

- Order Certifications were read on the call
- Certification 1 – no comments
- Certification 2 – HDR will take meeting notes as proof of the conference call. Notes and Notice of Construction will be emailed to Jerry Lien and the Commission’s filing address (NDPSC@nd.gov).
 - Permits emailed to Jerry Lien and Cc: Commission’s filing address (NDPSC@nd.gov)
 - Hand delivered hardcopy of permits to the Commission for the docket
- Certification 3 – Filing letter has a current list of county and township Conditional Use Permits. Minnkota has negotiated all county and township permits, but has not received the final permits
- Certification 4 – Some permits will be filed at a later date, such as the Nationwide Permit 12 and US Fish and Wildlife Service Special Use Permit. All necessary permits needed for construction activities are filed with the Commission.
- Certification 5 – No third-party inspector has been selected by the Commission. The Commission will have the Notice of Construction on file for the third-party inspector.
 - Weekly construction updates should be emailed to the third-party inspector, Jerry Lien, and the Commission’s filing address (NDPSC@nd.gov).
 - Commission has no template for the weekly updates
 - Commission will accept a summary page of construction progress or Minnkota can modify their construction reports for the Commission
 - The Commission requests that “unusual” items in the weekly reports are called out to the Commission staff
- Certification 6 – no comments
- Certification 7 – Keep and provide records to the third-party inspector
- Certification 8 – no comments
- Certification 9 – no comments
- Certification 10 – no comments
- Certification 11 – no comments
- Certification 12 – no comments
- Certification 13 – At this time, the Project does not anticipate open cutting roads.
- Certification 14 – no comments
- Certification 15 – no comments
- Certification 16 – Subsoil may be wanted by landowners. Subsoil may be provided to landowners as long as the work area is restored to pre-construction contour. Project contractors may haul subsoil to a landowner’s yard and what the landowner does with the subsoil is their business. Segregate topsoil at the work site and not where the landowner wants the contractor to place the subsoil.
- Certification 17 – no comments
- Certification 18 – no comments
- Certification 19 – no comments
- Certification 20 – no comments
- Certification 21 – no comments
- Certification 22 – no comments
- Certification 23 – no comments

- Certification 24 – no comments
- Certification 25 – no comments
- Certification 26 – no comments
- Certification 27 – Keyword is “necessary”
- Certification 28 – Keyword is “extraordinary.” If an injury occurs that requires medical attention, please call out to the Commission staff and not bury in the report
- Certification 29 – no comments
- Certification 30 – no comments
- Certification 31 – Plan and profile submitted at the Route Permit hearings
- Certification 32 – Protocol for modifying transmission facility plans.
 - Minor modifications, like a pole shift within the Corridor can be approved by Commission staff
 - Modification request should be emailed to Jerry Lien
 - Alternative contact is Pat Fahn
 - Call Jerry Lien’s cell phone (701-214-7993) first before contacting Pat Fahn
 - Jerry Lien will reply to email that serves as the written approval
 - Review timeline is one week
 - Major action would be a shift outside of the Corridor
 - Revising the Corridor could go to a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing
 - Discuss major modification with Commission
- Certification 33 – Commission has set of maps on the Corridor. Need GIS shapefiles.
- Certification 34 – As-builts will be ready in 2014 that would be 3 months after construction
- Certification 35 – no comments
- Certification 36 – Siting another facility within the Corridor would need a new Route Permit
- Certification 37 – Utilize North Dakota One-Call
 - If hit an underground line, then stop work at that area, and notify the PSC
- Certification 38 – Utilize North Dakota One-Call

4. Questions

- Attached are the Tree and Shrub Specifications
 - Inventory is needed and is underway
 - Native growth areas can be inventoried by a sampling methodology
 - A sampling plan needs to be filed and approved by the Commission
 - Minnkota filed a sampling plan with the Route Permit Application and is considered approved with the Route Permit
 - File replacement plan prior to replacement activities
 - If landowner doesn’t want trees then can offer to another landowner or parks
 - Currently, Minnkota is working with the State Forester
 - Don’t replace with noxious weeds
 - Questions on similar species – Commission recommends making landowner and Forest Service happy
 - Replacement plan should show tree removals, removed species count, replacement locations, and replacement species
- Topsoil segregation
 - Topsoil will be segregated from open trench areas and any area on which excavated subsoil will be placed must also be stripped of topsoil
 - Auger spoil will be set on cleared areas in the work area
 - Auger spoil will be trucked off-site, per landowner wishes
 - Topsoil will be spread on cleared work area
 - Work area returned to pre-construction contours
 - Use black dirt depth for depth of topsoil

Center to Grand Forks Project



Construction Key Contacts

Center – Grand Forks Transmission Project

Construction Management

Construction Manager

Duane Phillips
507.380.0565

Stanley Consultants, Inc.
phillipsduane@stanleygroup.com

Construction Assistant

Dominic Rademacher
218.443.3379

Kadrmass, Lee & Jackson
dominic.rademacher@kljeng.com

Survey

Survey Supervisor

Daniel Wagner
701.318.3606

Kadrmass, Lee & Jackson
daniel.wagner@kljeng.com

Tree Clearing & Fencing

Project Manager

Morgan Pierce
919.740.3250

Phillips & Jordan, Inc.
mpierce@pandj.com

Superintendent

Lloyd Cody (Junior)
865.202.6537

Phillips & Jordan, Inc.
lcody@pandj.com

Foundation

President

Jim Melcher
763.553.1234

Tri-State Drilling, Inc.
jmelcher@tristatedrilling.com

Superintendent

Chris Berthiaume
612.804.4657

Tri-State Drilling, Inc.
critttybird3883@msn.com

Transmission Line

Project Manager

Randy Bassette
920.539.7745

Michels
rbassett@michels.us

Superintendent

Mark Weems
206.713.7563

Michels
mweems@michels.us