

## Hamre, John G.

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**From:** -Info-Public Service Commission  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 21, 2011 11:51 AM  
**To:** Hamre, John G.  
**Subject:** FW: Merricourt-Ellendale, 230kV, TL151 Preconstruction Notes  
**Attachments:** Pre-Construction Notes - 9-21-11.docx

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**From:** Crary, Tom [tom.crary@mdu.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 21, 2011 11:30 AM  
**To:** -Info-Public Service Commission  
**Cc:** Lein, Jerry R.; Aberle, Tamie; Ford, Henry; Seibel, Tanner  
**Subject:** Merricourt-Ellendale, 230kV, TL151 Preconstruction Notes

See the attached for the Pre-Construction Meeting Notes as required in paragraph 2 of the "Certification Relating to Order Provisions – Transmission Facility Siting". These notes also serve as the notice to start construction as required in paragraph 5.

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## Merricourt to Ellendale, 230kV, TL151

### Preconstruction Meeting Notes

The meeting was held on Tuesday, September 13, 2011 at the Harvest Inn in Ellendale, North Dakota beginning at 9AM for the 30 mile transmission line, and continued at 1:30 PM on Wednesday, September 14, 2011 at MDU's office in Bismarck for the Merricourt Interconnect Substation. Attendees at the Tuesday meeting for the line were Tom Crary (MDU Representative), Ken Fisher (HDR Construction Supervisor), Jerry Lein (PSC Representative – by phone), Wayne Bauer (HDR Project Manager), Zane Brink (Brink Construction), Aaron Hatley (Brink Construction), and Seth Scott (Brink Construction). Attendees at the Wednesday meeting for the substation were Tanner Seibel (MDU representative), Tom Crary (MDU Construction Supervisor), and Jerry Lein (PSC Representative – by phone).

At the September 13 meeting, following introductions, Jerry Lein reviewed the PSC Order of July 13, 2011. The following items were discussed in detail (all of the "Certification Relating to Order Provisions – Transmission Facility Siting" was read):

- Jerry asked if MDU had acquired SHPO concurrence with the recommendation of "no historic properties affected". Tom Crary replied it has been acquired.
- The clear cut through wooded areas will be limited to 120', rather than 50'
- If MDU wishes to construct a different line in the same corridor that was approved, MDU will need a new route permit
- Underground utility locates are required. If underground facilities are damaged, work is to be suspended and the PSC is to be notified ASAP.
- The corridor certificate and route permit may be revoked for non-compliance with the conditions of the order.
- MDU is required to submit a tree mitigation plan, and as part of the plan any trees removed need to be replaced on a 2 to 1 ratio with a 75% survival rate at three years. HDR is making up the replacement plan. Letters have been sent to the landowners asking their preference on the tree replacement types and locations.
- The highway crossing permits have not yet been obtained. When they are, MDU needs to submit them to the PSC
- This meeting and these notes serve as notice to the PSC that MDU plans to start construction of the 30 mile transmission line on Thursday, September 15.
- MDU will supply the PSC with the P&P sheets and structure drawings
- If a structure is moved from the approved location, MDU needs to notify the PSC

- MDU will file the drawings and weekly reports in an 8-1/2" x 11" format or an 11" x 17" format that can be folded to 8-1/2" x 11". The drawings will be sent in paper and electronic formats. The weekly reports will be only sent electronically. The electronic information to be sent to [ndpsc@nd.gov](mailto:ndpsc@nd.gov) with a copy to [jlein@nd.gov](mailto:jlein@nd.gov). The paper copies to be sent to Jerry Lein at the PSC office.

At the September 14 meeting, following introductions, Jerry Lein reviewed the PSC Order of July 13, 2011. The following items were discussed in detail (all of the "Certification Relating to Order Provisions – Transmission Facility Siting" was read):

- MDU needs to submit a separate filing detailing the dirt work and any construction to date on the substation
- Jerry asked if MDU had acquired SHPO concurrence with the recommendation of "no historic properties affected" for the substation. Tom Crary replied it has been acquired.
- Jerry asked if there are any trees in the substation area that need to be replaced. There are none.
- Underground utility locates are required. If underground facilities are damaged, work is to be suspended and the PSC is to be notified ASAP.
- This meeting, these notes, and the separate filing noted above serve as notice to the PSC of the construction of the substation.
- MDU will follow the reclamation practices required in paragraph 15 of the "Certification Relating to Order Provisions – Transmission Facility Siting"
- MDU will file the drawings and weekly reports in an 8-1/2" x 11" format or an 11" x 17" format that can be folded to 8-1/2" x 11". The drawings will be sent in paper and electronic formats. The weekly reports will be only sent electronically. The electronic information to be sent to [ndpsc@nd.gov](mailto:ndpsc@nd.gov) with a copy to [jlein@nd.gov](mailto:jlein@nd.gov). The paper copies to be sent to Jerry Lein at the PSC office.

Tom Crary  
September 21, 2011