



MINNESOTA ENERGY CONNECTION TRANSMISSION LINE PROPOSAL

2022

Project proposal

- Continue Minnesota's clean energy transition
- Replace coal with renewable energy
- Re-use existing grid connections at Sherco power plant
- Deliver reliable, affordable energy
- Meet PUC direction to file application for transmission line
- Further carbon-free energy vision by 2050



Project description

Double-circuit 345-kV transmission line (approx. 160-180 miles) between Southwest Minnesota and retiring Sherco power plant near Becker



MINNESOTA REGULATORY PROCESS

- **Minnesota Public Utilities Commission approvals required**
 - Certificate of Need
 - Route Permit



CERTIFICATE OF NEED

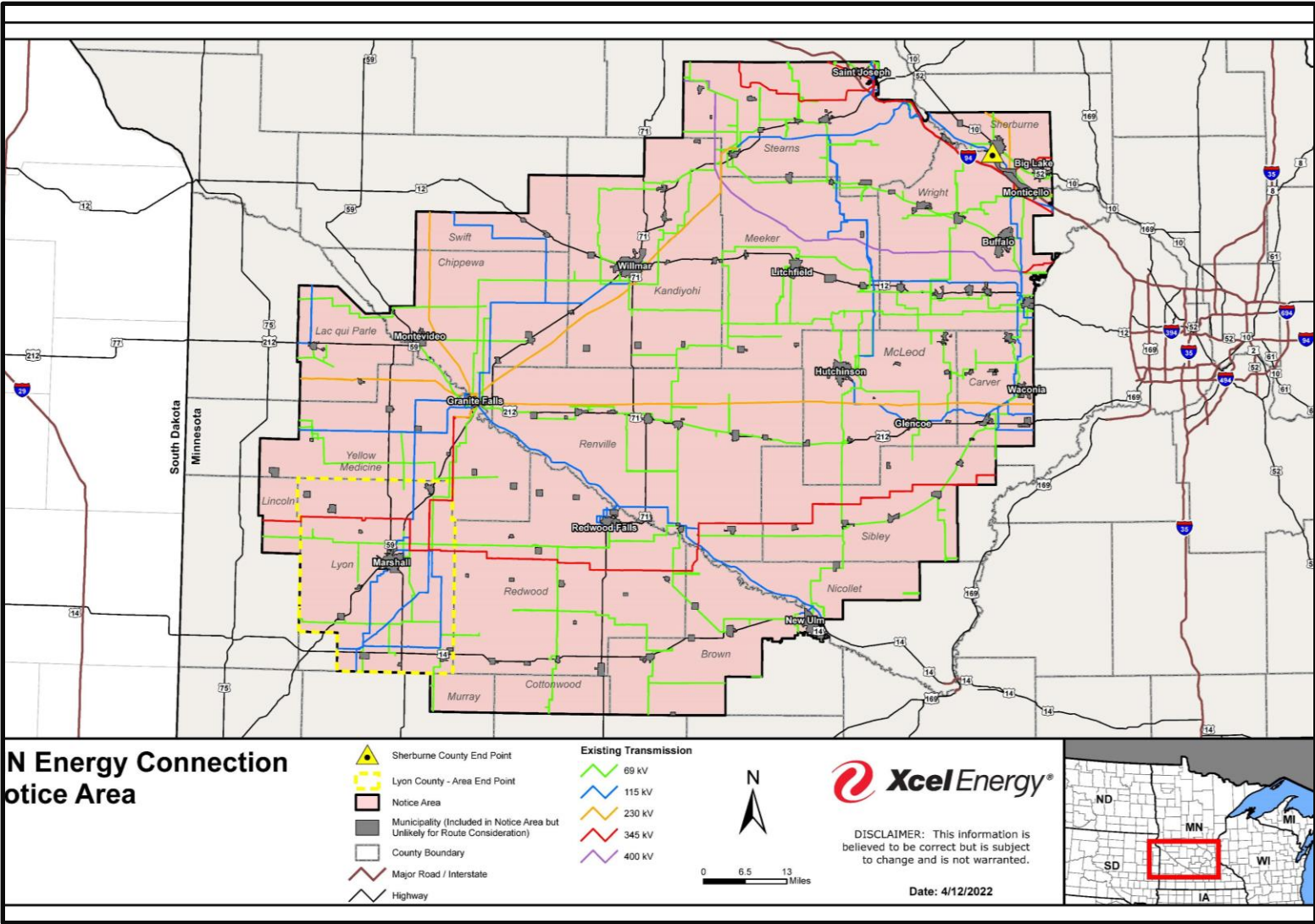
- Describes needs the transmission line will address
 - Includes evaluation of size, type and timing of project
 - Energy forecasts, costs and alternatives
- Public process with opportunity for input and involvement
- Visit: [MN.Gov/PUC](https://mn.gov/puc) for information (click on 'edockets' and search docket number 22-131)



Notice area map

Notified landowners and local governments where project may be built, based on July 2022 information

We expect to refine areas in early 2023 prior to open houses being scheduled



ROUTE PERMIT APPLICATION

- Minnesota Public Utilities Commission must approve a Route Permit application prior to construction
- Route development just beginning
- Open houses and opportunities for input in early 2023
- Identify at least two route options
- Commission may select one option or combination of options identified



ROUTE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

- Narrow Notice Area to Study Corridors and Route Segments
- Evaluate Study Corridors and identify route alternative opportunities
- Continued refinement and opportunities for input
- Expect to file Route Permit Application in late summer/early fall 2023



KEYS TO ROUTE DEVELOPMENT

- Identify river crossing locations (Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers)
- Review land use (existing, planned and expected) with local government officials including road use agencies
- Work with state and federal agencies to meet regulations
- Engage landowners for input and feedback (open houses expected in early 2023)



CONTACT US

- Project information available at:
 - [Web: www.MNEnergyConnection.com](http://www.MNEnergyConnection.com)
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Questions?

- Please submit questions in chat function

