

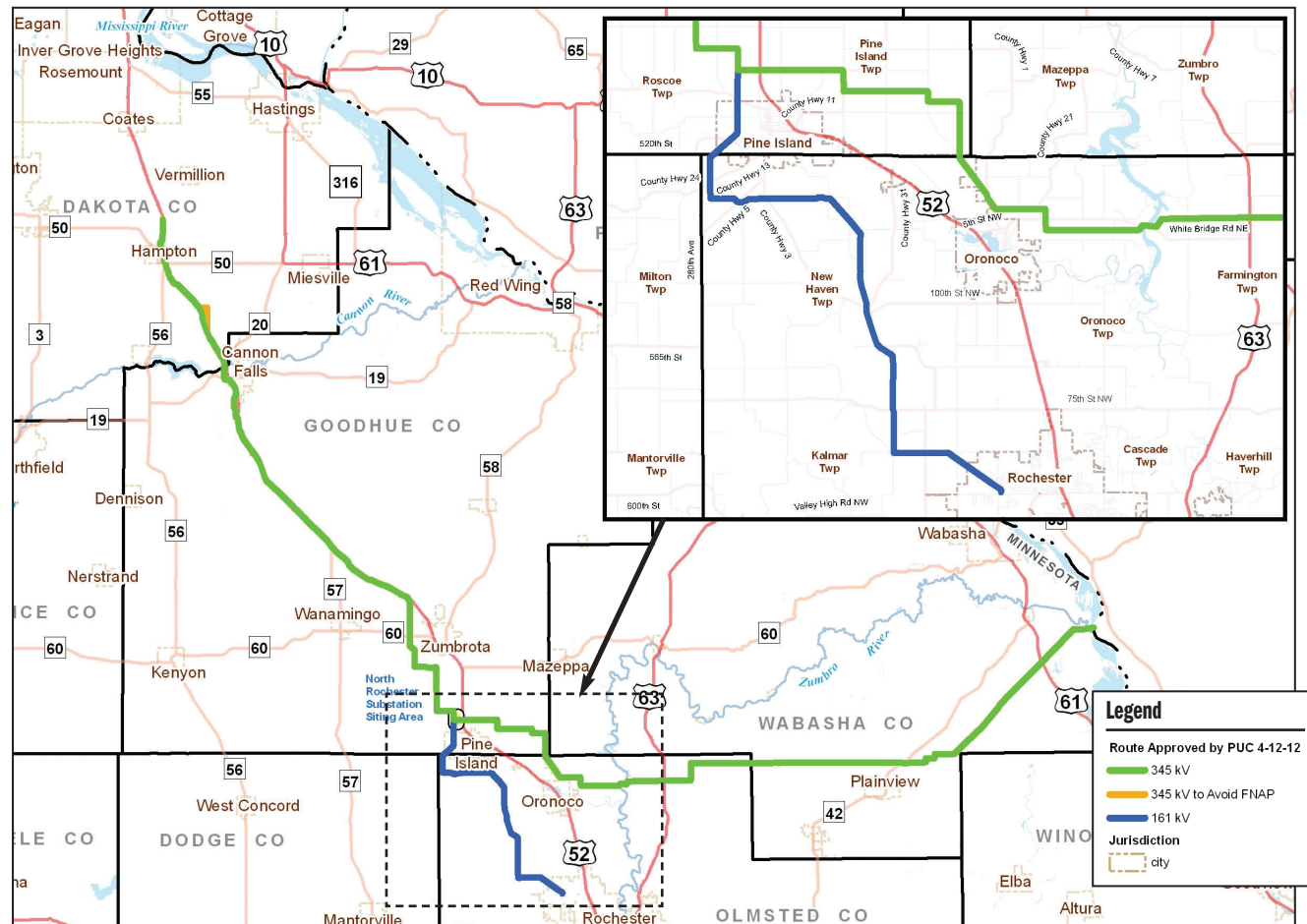
# MN PUC selects final Minnesota route for Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV line

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission approved the Route Permit application for the CapX2020 Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV transmission line on April 12, 2012. The 80-mile route runs between Hampton and Rochester to the Minnesota border near Alma, Wisconsin. View detailed Minnesota route maps at [www.CapX2020.com/lacrosse](http://www.CapX2020.com/lacrosse).

The approved route follows the modified preferred route, including Highway 52 in the Cannon Falls area and the Zumbro River crossing at White Bridge Road. The administrative law judge had recommended a western bypass of the Cannon Falls area, with a crossing at Lake Byllesby Dam, as well as a crossing at the Zumbro River dam. The Commission also approved CapX2020's alternate route for the approximate 18-mile 161 kV line between a new substation at Pine Island and the Northern Hills Substation northwest of Rochester.

*The green line designates the approved 345 kV route, while the blue designates the approved 161 kV route.*

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# CapX UPDATE

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## What's next

Permit approval for the 345 kV line in Wisconsin is expected on or before June 4, 2012. The federal Environmental Impact Statement, which covers the entire project, is expected to be issued in June. Permit approval for the 161 kV line between the North Rochester Substation and the Chester Substation east of Rochester is expected in summer 2012. Construction is expected to start in Minnesota in early 2013. The Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse project, including the route in Wisconsin, is expected to be energized in 2015. The overall project cost is \$490 million.

## We want to hear from you.

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