

September /October
2007 CapX 2020
open houses for the
Fargo-Monticello line

Open houses: 9

Total attendance: 582

Submitted comment
cards: 182

www.capx2020.com

CapX 2020 Utilities Host Public Meetings In Your Area

The CapX 2020 utilities are holding another round of open houses in late March in seven communities to provide information on the proposed electric transmission line between Fargo, Alexandria, St. Cloud and Monticello. Utility representatives will be available to answer questions about the proposed 345 kilovolt (kV) line and substations and to discuss and collect information in the ongoing route development process. The open houses will include maps that display revised corridors from the original notice corridor that was presented last fall.

The Fargo-Monticello line is one of three 345-kV lines being proposed by CapX 2020, a joint initiative of 11 transmission-owning utilities in Minnesota and the surrounding region. The initiative is designed to expand the electricity infrastructure to ensure continued reliable service, meet the growth in electricity demand and support renewable energy expansion. If approved, the proposed Fargo-Monticello line would be built in phases to accommodate the needs of the region. The projected in-service dates are:

- Monticello to St. Cloud, 2011
- St. Cloud to Alexandria, 2013
- Alexandria to Fargo, 2015

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MN PUC) must approve two permit applications before the lines can be built: a Certificate of Need (CON) and a Route Permit. The CON application, which was filed on Aug. 16, 2007, examines whether the proposed facilities are necessary and what the appropriate size, configuration and timing of the projects should be. In a separate Route Permit proceeding, the MN PUC determines the route and design of the line. The CapX 2020 utilities plan to file a Route Permit application with the MN PUC in late summer or fall 2008.

The CapX 2020 utilities also are involved in similar proceedings for new transmission lines with the North Dakota Public Utilities Commission (see inside story).

[Open house schedule inside](#)

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To help the CapX 2020 project teams gather local information that will be used to develop refined corridors for the three proposed 345-kV lines, the utilities hosted 20 public routing work group meetings since January. Landowners, local government officials, representatives from agriculture, state and federal agencies, and environmental groups participated in the meetings. Additional work groups will be scheduled in late spring and early summer. To participate, visit www.capx2020.com and click the Contact Us link.

CapX2020 UPDATE

Minnesota Certificate of Need Update

The Certificate of Need application for the three CapX 2020 345-kV transmission lines continues to progress through the Minnesota regulatory process. Administrative Law Judge Beverly Heydinger has been assigned the case and has set the following schedule:

March—Environmental Report published

April-June—Direct testimony and rebuttal testimony of all parties

June—Public hearings (held throughout project corridors; public can make comments directly to Judge Heydinger for the public record)

July-August—Evidentiary hearings

September-October—Post-hearing briefs

November—Administrative Law Judge report

Early 2009—Public Utilities Commission hearings and decision

To view all documents filed with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission go to the MN PUC's Web site at www.puc.state.mn.us, click on E-dockets on the left-hand side, click on Search Documents and search for docket 06-1115. In the search field, "06" stands for the year 2006 (when the first CapX 2020 document was filed). Use "06" for the year and "1115" in the second field, then press the search button. All filings in the CapX 2020 E-Docket will be listed. You can also visit www.CapX2020.com/learn.html and click on the link "Minnesota Regulatory Process Fact Sheet."

Stay Informed about the Regulatory Process

Just as the MN PUC makes final decisions on the need and routes for the proposed CapX 2020 transmission lines in Minnesota, similar review and approval processes are required by regulators in North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin for the portions of the lines in those states.

North Dakota

The North Dakota Public Service Commission (ND PSC) requires three permits – a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN), a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and a Route Permit. The CapX 2020 utilities plan to file the CPCN application in the spring of 2008 and the Corridor Compatibility and Route Permit applications in late 2008. Contact the ND PSC at www.psc.state.nd.us or 1-701-328-2400 for further information.

South Dakota

The CapX 2020 utilities are required to obtain a Facilities Permit from the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (SD PUC) for the proposed Brookings, S.D.-SE Twin Cities line. The utilities plan to file an application with the SD PUC in late 2008 that will begin an approximately one-year process. In March, the utilities plan to send informational letters on the proposed project to about 400 South Dakota landowners. Additional information can be obtained from the SD PUC at www.puc.sd.gov or by calling 1-800-332-1782.

Wisconsin

The regulatory process in Wisconsin combines need and routing into one permit. The Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) application will be filed with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) later this year. The PSCW makes the final decision on whether the line is needed and for the route. For more information on the Wisconsin process visit www.psc.wi.gov or call 1-888-816-3831.

Open House Schedule

Fargo-Alexandria-St. Cloud-Monticello

Monday, March 17

3-7 p.m.
Eagle Trace Golfers Club
1100 NW Main St
Clearwater, MN 55320

Tuesday, March 18

3-7 p.m.
American Legion
265 County Road 173
Melrose, MN 56352

Wednesday, March 19

3-7 p.m.
Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center
2100 Arrowwood Lane NW
Alexandria, MN 56308

Thursday, March 20

3-7 p.m.
Barrett Community Center
109 Barrett Ave
Barrett, MN 56311

Tuesday, March 25

3-7 p.m.
Best Western Bigwood Event Center
925 Western Avenue
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Wednesday, March 26

3-7 p.m.
Best Western Doublewood Inn
3333 13th Ave S
Fargo, ND 58103

Thursday, March 27

3-7 p.m.
St. Mary's School gymnasium
221 North 4th Street
Breckenridge, MN 56520



Despite shrinking families and increasing costs for construction and energy, the average new house has grown by nearly 400 square feet to 2,434 square feet. The average household size has shrunk slightly since 1990, to about 2.6 people. (Associated Press)

Contact information for the three 345-kV projects:

Brookings, SD – SE Twin Cities
(888) 473-2279
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