

## Appendix A. Notice of Intent

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and the original wooden bridge stringers and deck are beginning to fall into the stream channel. Constructing the bridge so the structure does not impede water flow, particularly during periods of high water, will be beneficial to the aquatic habitats. As part of the proposed action the West Fork Blacks Fork bridge will be replaced to provide access to salvage the lodgepole pine stands in Section 18, which are heavily infested by mountain pine beetles. Over the long term, it would provide access for the private property owner while allowing fire access, and other types of administrative uses on the National Forest by the Forest Service. This road has been gated for many years and this would continue if the bridge were replaced. The road would be periodically maintained to prevent erosion and deterioration of the road prism. The execution of easements would establish legal access and also provide for future maintenance.

There are five basic techniques that will be used to contain prescribed fire in the treatment units. Fire will be used alone or in conjunction with commercial timber harvest to achieve a mosaic of burned and unburned patches within some of the units. Specific methods of line control will be specified in the burn plan. Construction of line will use the minimum necessary disturbance. The following estimates of miles of each kind of fire line are approximate, but represent the upper end (most line construction) for control lines. It is likely that firing techniques will be utilized more and constructed lines less than the estimates given.

At least 3.9 miles of unit perimeter will utilize terrain features in conjunction with the firing patterns to selectively burn portions of the units. Natural features such as rock outcrops, openings, and wet riparian/stream corridors, will serve as anchors for utilizing firing techniques. In particular, Blacks Fork will function as the west fireline for most of the eastern burn unit. Created features such as areas where timber has been harvested may also be appropriate for control lines, depending on fuel conditions.

Up to about 0.3 miles of handline (averaging 24 to 36 inches wide and cleared to mineral soil) will be built and rehabilitated. Where vegetation is short and light, such as in sage and grass, fireline constructed by hand will be used to anchor the burning. Line will be appropriately rehabilitated (by mulching, seeding, and/or water barring, as needed) following completion of the burning to prevent erosion.

Approximately 1.0 miles of machine line could be used. Heavy equipment will be used to construct fireline where fuels are larger than feasible for handline, and natural features/firing techniques are not adequate for control. Line will average 72 to 96 inches in width and be cleared to mineral soil. Possible equipment includes (but is not limited to) bulldozers, rubber tired skidders, trail cats, and tracked excavators. Following burning, the lines will be rehabilitated (seeded and water barred as needed, and where available woody debris may be scattered along for microsite protection).

Approximately 0.9 miles of skid trails (including incidental machine line) will be used as fire containment lines. In timber sale units that have burning as secondary treatments skid trails for log removal will be placed along the perimeter and used also for containment of the fire. Skid trails are generally about 96 inches in width and have mineral soil exposed throughout much of their surface. As in the machine line, these will be rehabilitated following burning to prevent erosion. In small portions where it is not feasible to skid along the boundary then machine line will be built.

Approximately 4.1 miles of Forest System Road will be used for fire containment. Where existing roads coincide with burn unit boundaries these will be used as fire lines, such as along the eastern boundary of the eastern burn unit.

#### Possible Alternatives

In addition to the Proposed Action, a no action alternative will be considered. This alternative would simply continue current management without the actions of this proposal. Other alternatives may be developed in response to issues generated during the scoping process.

#### Responsible Official

Evanston-Mountain View District Ranger.

#### Nature of Decision To Be Made

The decision to be made is whether or not to implement vegetation treatments in the Blacks Fork project area, and if so, to what degree and where.

#### Preliminary Issues

Preliminary issues are the effects of treatments on wildlife habitat, and the effects of insect and disease outbreaks on current forest health.

#### Scoping Process

This notice of intent initiates the scoping process, which guides the

development of the environmental impact statement.

It is important that reviewers provide their comments at such times and in such manner that they are useful to the agency's preparation of the environmental impact statement. Therefore, comments should be provided prior to the close of the comment period and should clearly articulate the reviewer's concerns and contentions. The submission of timely and specific comments can affect a reviewer's ability to participate in subsequent administrative appeal or judicial review.

Dated: May 19, 2009.

**Stephen M. Ryberg,**

*District Ranger.*

[FR Doc. E9-12124 Filed 5-27-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

#### **Dairyland Power Cooperative, Inc.: Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold Public Scoping Meetings**

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold Public Scoping Meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and hold public scoping meetings and in connection with possible impacts related to a project proposed by Dairyland Power Cooperative in the CapX 2020 Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project. The proposal consists of the construction of a 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and associated infrastructure between Hampton, Minnesota and the La Crosse area in Wisconsin. The project also includes construction of new 161-kV transmission lines and associated facilities in the area of Rochester, Minnesota. The total length of 345-kV and 161-kV transmission lines associated with the proposed project will be approximately 150 miles. Proposed and alternate transmission segments and locations for proposed and alternate associated facilities have been identified by Dairyland Power Cooperative. Dairyland Power Cooperative is requesting RUS to provide financing for its portion of the proposed project.

**DATES:** RUS will conduct six public scoping meetings in an open-house format followed by a discussion period:

June 16, 2009, Plainview-Elgin-Millville High School, 500 West Broadway, Plainview, Minnesota; June 17, 2009, Wanamingo Community Center, 401 Main Street, Wanamingo, Minnesota; June 18, 2009, City of St. Charles Community Meeting Room, 830 Whitewater Avenue, St. Charles, Minnesota; June 23, 2009, La Crescent American Legion, 509 N. Chestnut, La Crescent, Minnesota; June 24, 2009, Centerville/Town of Trempealeau Community Center, W24854 State Road 54/93, Galesville, Wisconsin; and June 25, 2009, Cochrane-Fountain City High School, S2770 State Road 35, Fountain City, Wisconsin. All meetings will be held between 6–8:00 PM local time. Comments regarding the proposed project may be submitted (orally or in writing) at the public scoping meetings or in writing to RUS at the address listed in this notice no later than June 29, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** To send comments or for further information, contact Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA, Rural Utilities Service, Engineering and Environmental Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250–1571, telephone: (202) 720–0468 or e-mail: [stephanie.strength@usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@usda.gov).

An Alternative Evaluation Study (AES) and Macro Corridor Study (MCS), prepared by Dairyland Power Cooperative, will be presented at the public scoping meetings. The reports are available for public review at the RUS address provided in this notice and at Dairyland Power Cooperative, 3251 East Avenue, South, La Crosse, WI 54602. In Addition, the reports will be available at RUS' Web site, <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm> and at the following repositories:

Alma Public Library, 312 North Main Street, Alma, WI 54610, Phone: 608–685–3823.

Arcadia Public Library, 406 E Main Street, Arcadia, WI 54612, Phone: 608–323–7505.

Blair-Preston Library, 122 Urberg Street, Blair, WI 54616, Phone: 608–989–2502.

Campbell Library, 2219 Bainbridge Street, La Crosse, WI 54603, Phone: 608–783–0052.

Cannon Falls Library, 306 West Mill Street, Cannon Falls, MN 55009, Phone: 507–263–2804.

Dairyland Power Cooperative, 500 Old State Highway 35, Alma, WI 54610, Phone: 608–685–4497.

Galesville Public Library, 16787 South Main Street, Galesville, WI 54630, Phone: 608–582–2552.

Hokah Public Library, 57 Main Street, Hokah, MN 55941, Phone: 507–894–2665.

Holmen Area Library, 16787 South Main Street, Galesville, WI 54630, Phone: 608–526–4198.

Kenyon Public Library, 709 2nd Street, Kenyon, MN 55946, Phone: 507–789–6821.

Riverland Energy Cooperative, N28988 State Road 93, Arcadia, WI 54612, Phone: 608–323–3381.

Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd Street SE., Rochester, MN 55963, Phone: 507–328–2309.

Shirley M. Wright Memorial Library, 11455 Fremont Street, Trempealeau, WI 54650, Phone: 608–534–6197.

St. Charles Public Library, 125 W 11th Street, St. Charles, MN 55927, Phone: 507–932–3227.

Tri-County Electric, 31110 Cooperative Way, Rushford, MN 55971, Phone: 507–864–7783.

La Crescent Public Library, 321 Main Street, La Crescent, MN 55947, Phone: 507–895–4047.

La Crosse Public Library, 800 Main Street, La Crosse, WI 54601, Phone: 608–789–7109.

Onalaska Public Library, 741 Oak Avenue, South, Onalaska, WI 54650, Phone: 608–781–9568.

People's Cooperative Services, 3935 Hwy 14 E, Rochester, MN 55903, Phone: 507–288–4004.

Plainview Public Library, 115 SE 3rd Street, Pine Island, MN 55963, Phone: 507–534–3425.

Van Horn Public Library, 115 SE 3rd Street, Pine Island, MN 55963, Phone: 507–356–8558.

Winona Public Library, 151 West 5th Street, Winona, MN 55987, Phone: 507–452–4582.

Xcel Energy, 5050 Service Drive, Winona, MN 55987, Phone: 800–422–0782.

Xcel Energy, 1414 West Hamilton Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54701, Phone: 715–839–2621.

Zumbrota Public Library, 100 West Avenue, Zumbrota, MN 55992, Phone: 507–732–5211.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Preliminary proposed transmission line corridors and siting areas for substations have been identified. The EIS will address the construction, operation, and management of the proposed project, which includes a 345-kV transmission line and associated infrastructure between Hampton, Minnesota and the La Crosse area of Wisconsin; 161-kV transmission lines in the vicinity of Rochester, Minnesota; construction and maintenance of access roads for all proposed transmission lines;

construction of up to three new substations, and expansion of up to three existing substations. Total length of the transmission lines for the proposed project will be approximately 150 miles. The project study area includes part or all of the following counties in Minnesota: Dakota, Goodhue, Wabasha, Winona, Houston, Olmsted, Rice, and Dodge. In Wisconsin, the project area includes parts of the following counties: La Crosse, Trempealeau, and Buffalo.

Among the alternatives RUS will address in the EIS is the No Action alternative, under which the project would not be undertaken. In the EIS, the effects of the proposed project will be compared to the existing conditions in the area affected. Alternative transmission line corridors and substation locations will be refined as part of the EIS scoping process and will be addressed in the Draft EIS. RUS will carefully study public health and safety, environmental impacts, and engineering aspects of the proposed project and all related facilities.

RUS will use input provided by government agencies, private organizations, and the public in the preparation of the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS will be available for review and comment for 45 days. A Final EIS that considers all comments received will subsequently be prepared. The Final EIS will be available for review and comment for 30 days. Following the 30-day comment period, RUS will prepare a Record of Decision (ROD). Notices announcing the availability of the Draft EIS, the Final EIS, and the ROD will be published in the **Federal Register** and in local newspapers.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations and completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in the RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR part 1794).

Dated: May 22, 2009.

**Mark S. Plank,**

*Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff, USDA/Rural Utilities Service.*

[FR Doc. E9–12407 Filed 5–27–09; 8:45 am]

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Appendix B.  
Public Meeting Newspaper Notices

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# Commentary

## School board is wise to hire talented minority leaders

By Fred Daly

Accusations of improper behavior in pay and promotion practices in our school district have made the front page of the newspaper. It is time to explain how the system works.

The school board hires the superintendent and negotiates his or her wage. This is the only position the entire board interviews. The wages of most employees are determined by labor contracts and a classification system called "banding and grading," which determines the value of the positions based on the jobs' duties and responsibilities.

A task analysis, banding and grading, and a salary range is on file in the Human Resources Office for every position in the district. The salary range represents the job's worth to the district, and indicates to all applicants what the district is willing to pay. This is public information.

The jobs are posted for a period of time and applications accepted. Then all the applications are reviewed and the strongest candidates are offered interviews. Higher level jobs such as principals and district administrators have two sets of interviews. The first interview is with a committee consisting of staff,

community members, and usually a school board member to determine the top candidates.

These candidates get a second interview with the appropriate cabinet member, the school board chair or other designated school board representative, and the superintendent. After this interview the qualifications and references are checked and a job offer will be made including a salary within the posted range. If no candidate is accepted or some defect in the process is discovered, the job will be reposted and the process starts all over again.

Once the candidate has accepted the job and salary is agreed upon, the hiring becomes part of a board meeting as a means to announce the leadership change to the community. All employment actions are included in the Human Resources Consent Agenda. In addition, positions considered leadership become individual action items. A discussion of salary range and qualifications is not proper at the board table. That process has already been completed. The offer has been made and accepted. Board members can vote to accept or not accept the candidate.

If there are questions regarding

salary or range of certain positions, board members can request this information before the position is posted. Again, the salary range is what the position is worth to the district based on analysis of tasks, skills, knowledge, ability, roles and responsibility of the position.

Individuals applying for the position with lower experience than preferred could be offered a salary at the lower end of the range. More experienced candidates may qualify for a salary higher on the range.

In my seven years on the board, we have welcomed many people into their new jobs in this way. The board members all know that the successful candidates have been through the extensive interview process, background and reference checks, and have been chosen as the top candidate.

Four candidates were confirmed at the May 19 meeting — three school principals and the Human Resources Director. Three had been interim in those positions for a year and the other was being promoted from assistant principal. Three were accepted without question, but some board members challenged the Human Resources Director on experience, even though her HR experience exceeded that of the two

**Our minority population is here to stay. They are talented, smart, and many are potential leaders. It's time we give them the same opportunities we were given.**



Daly

previous Human Resources Directors when they were offered their positions.

Ms. Glass' offer was the only salary questioned. Three are white males. She is a black female.

Our city is always talking about being inclusive, but our actions show the true intent. The population is now about one-third minorities, but leadership is almost exclusively white. This is true in both business and government. I am often contacted by people who start their conversation with "I am not racist but ..." as if this excuses them from what comes after the disclaimer.

I have lived all my life in a society that looks at the color of a person's skin and comes up with reasons to keep them in "their place" in society. We say we are open-minded but instinctively protect white privilege. Our minority population is here to stay. They are talented, smart, and many are potential leaders. It's time we give them the same opportunities we were given. It's time we judge people by the content of their character instead of the color of their skin.

*Fred Daly is a member of the Rochester School Board.*

## Minnesota is ready for wholesale election reform



**HILL BOYNE**  
letters@postbulletin.com

After struggling through one of the state's longest election campaigns in the Minnesota Senate race, we still don't have a final solution.

Many obviously effective reforms have been proposed, but they have not yet attracted sufficient support for decisive action.

Here are some of the most critical reforms, all of which would lead to

a stronger and more equitable election system:

**1. Eliminate the voter registration problems by registering voters automatically.** Everyone reaching the age of 18 would be registered to vote. Most other countries use this system. It would add about 50 million potential voters and would avoid the problems that occur when there is a huge increase in voter registrations just prior to an election.

**2. Elect a president based on the**

**popular vote, not on the Electoral College vote.** If this had been done in the 2000 election, the winner would have been Al Gore, who was far better qualified than George Bush. The Electoral College is a superfluous addition to the election system that actually reduces its efficiency. All we need to know is which candidate is the first choice of a majority of the nation's voters.

**3. Adopt Ranked Choice Voting,** in which voters indicate their preferences by stating their first choice, second choice, third choice and so forth. The candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated and the votes cast for that candidate are counted

for the remaining candidates, based on the retiring candidate's second and third choices.

This process is continued until one candidate has a majority of votes and is elected. This process is favored by Fair Vote Minnesota, Post Office Box 19440, Minneapolis MN 55415-0040. The organization's e-mail address is [www.fairvotemn.org](http://www.fairvotemn.org). The plan is similar to a system called Instant Runoff Voting (IRV).

**4. Strict requirements should be established for voting machines.** Voting machines should not be subject to manipulation and they must have an automatic recount audit comparing the electronic vote total

with the voter-verified paper record.

It is estimated that these reforms — taken together — would reduce election costs by \$1 million and would result in a substantial increase in voter participation.

In addition, strict regulations governing elections would encourage a greater number of qualified candidates to seek office.

With all the advantages resulting from an efficient election system, there should be no delay in adopting the necessary reforms.

*Bill Boyne is a retired publisher and editor of the Post-Bulletin. His column appears every Wednesday.*

### ~ PUBLIC NOTICE ~



## PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT CAPX2020 HAMPTON-ROCHESTER-LA CROSSE 345-KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RUS), Dairyland Power Cooperative and other CapX2020 utilities invite you to attend a public scoping meeting to discuss the proposed Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission system improvement proposal.

Serving as the lead federal agency, RUS is responsible for completing any requirements with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), including preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Dairyland Power Cooperative is requesting RUS provide financing for its portion of the proposed project. The public scoping meetings provide an opportunity for you to discuss project details with agency and company representatives and for your comments to be incorporated into the planning process and development of an EIS.

RUS will use input provided by government agencies, private organizations and the public in the preparation of the Draft EIS, which will be available for review and comments for 45 days. A Final EIS that considers all comments received will subsequently be prepared.

### PROPOSAL

The CapX2020 utilities are proposing to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line and associated facilities between Hampton and Rochester, Minnesota, and the La Crosse, Wisconsin area. The proposal includes the proposed 345 kV transmission line from a substation near Hampton to a proposed substation in north Rochester and to a new or existing substation near La Crosse. The proposal also includes construction of a new 161-kV transmission line and associated facilities in the Rochester area.

The proposed facilities are needed to improve regional reliability, enhance local load serving needs and provide generation outlet support. CapX2020 is a joint initiative of 11 electric transmission-owning utilities in Minnesota, Wisconsin and the surrounding region to expand the electric transmission grid to meet the increasing demand for power.

Xcel Energy is the lead utility for the proposal. Dairyland Power Corporation has requested financial assistance from RUS for Dairyland's anticipated 11 percent ownership interest in the proposal. Other anticipated owners of the proposed facilities include WPPI Energy, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency, and Rochester Public Utilities. Before the proposal can be built, the CapX2020 utilities must obtain approval from state and federal agencies. Proposal approval also involves NEPA processes and the NEPA implementation guidance of RUS.

### DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY & REQUESTS

Two documents have been prepared for the proposal and are available for review prior to the agency and public scoping meetings in June 2009. The Alternative Evaluation Study (AES) explains the proposal's need, discusses the alternative methods that have been considered to meet that need, and which alternative is considered the best for fulfilling the need. The Macro Corridor Study (MCS) defines the proposal study area and shows the proposal's end points. Within the proposal study area, macro-corridors have been developed based on environmental, engineering, economic, land use and permitting constraints. Both documents are available at the libraries detailed in the attached list. If you are interested in receiving copies of either of these documents, please contact [Stephanie.strength@usda.gov](mailto:Stephanie.strength@usda.gov) or (202) 720-0468.

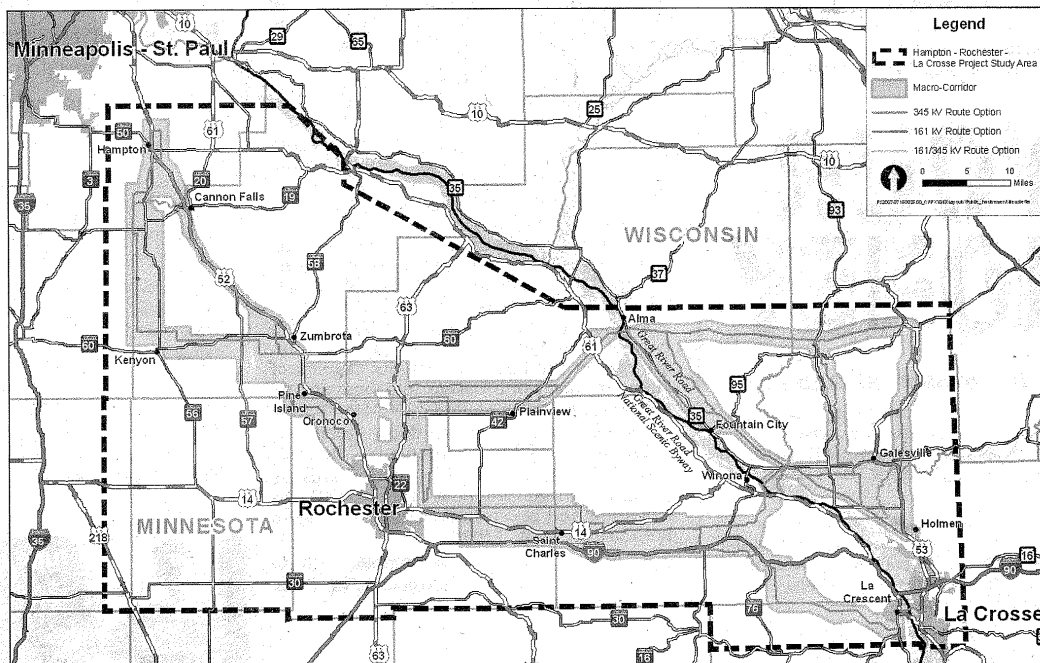
### For more information, please contact:

Stephanie Strength  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service  
Engineering and Environmental Staff  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 1571  
Washington, DC 20250-1571  
Phone: (202) 720-0468  
Email: [stephanie.strength@usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@usda.gov)

Or, contact Tom Hillstrom or Chuck Thompson at [lacroseinfo@capx2020.com](mailto:lacroseinfo@capx2020.com) or 1-800-238-7968 or visit [www.capx2020.com](http://www.capx2020.com) for additional project information and detailed project maps.

### PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

<p><b>June 16</b> 6 - 8 p.m. Plainview-Elgin-Millville High School Cafeteria 500 West Broadway Plainview, MN 55964</p>	<p><b>June 17</b> 6 - 8 p.m. Wanamingo Community Center 401 Main Street Wanamingo, MN 55983</p>	<p><b>June 18</b> 6 - 8 p.m. City of St. Charles Community Meeting Room 830 Whitewater Avenue St. Charles, MN 55972</p>	<p><b>June 23</b> 6 - 8 p.m. La Crescent American Legion 509 North Chestnut La Crescent, MN 55947</p>	<p><b>June 24</b> 6 - 8 p.m. Centerville/Town of Trempealeau Community Center W24854 State Road 54/93 Galesville, WI 54630</p>	<p><b>June 25</b> 6 - 8 p.m. Cochrane-Fountain City High School S2770 State Road 35 Fountain City, WI 54629</p>
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## Legals

**Action:** Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold Public Scoping Meetings.

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**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Preliminary proposed transmission line corridors and siting areas for substations have been identified. The EIS will address the construction, operation, and management of the proposed project, which includes a 345-kV transmission line and associated infrastructure between Hampton, Minnesota and the La Crosse area of Wisconsin; 161-kV transmission lines in the vicinity of Rochester, Minnesota; construction and maintenance of access roads for all proposed transmission lines; construction of up to three new substations, and expansion of up to three existing substations. Total length of the transmission lines for the proposed project will be approximately 150 miles. The project study area includes part or all of the following counties in Minnesota: Dakota, Goodhue, Wabasha, Winona,

## Legals

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Dated: May 28, 2009

/s/ Mark S. Plank  
Mark S. Plank, Director

Engineering and  
Environmental Staff  
USDA/Rural  
Utilities Service

(6/3)

**ADDRESSES:** To send comments or for further information, contact Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA, Rural Utilities Service, Engineering and Environmental Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone: (202) 720-0468 or e-mail: [stephanie.strength@usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@usda.gov).

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306 West Mill Street  
Cannon Falls, MN 55009  
Phone: 507-263-2804

Dairyland Power  
Cooperative  
500 Old State  
Highway 35  
Alma, WI 54610  
Phone: 608-685-4497

Houston, Olmsted, Rice, and Dodge. In Wisconsin, the project area includes parts of the following counties: LaCrosse, Trempealeau, and Buffalo.

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Memorial Library  
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Trempealeau, WI 54650  
Phone: 608-534-6197

St. Charles Public Library  
125 W 11th Street  
St. Charles, MN 55927  
Phone: 507-932-3227

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

**Dairyland Power Cooperative, Inc.:**  
Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold Public Scoping Meetings

**Agency:**  
Rural Utilities Service

Rochester Post-Bulletin

# AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

State of Minnesota  
County of Olmsted

Sue Lovejoy, being duly sworn, on oath that she is the publisher or authorized agent and employee of the publisher of the newspaper known as the Post-Bulletin, and has full knowledge of the facts which are stated below:

(A) The newspaper has complied with all the requirements constituting qualifications as a legal newspaper, as provided by Minnesota Statute 331A.02, 331A.07 and other applicable laws, as amended.

(B) The printed notice

Which is attached was cut from the columns of said newspaper, and was printed and published 1 times for 1 weeks; it was first published on Wednesday, the 3rd day of June, 2009; and was thereafter printed and published on

Wednesday, the 3rd day of June, 2009, and printed below is a copy of the lower case alphabet from a to z, both inclusive, which is hereby acknowledged as being the size and kind of type used in the composition and publication of the notice:

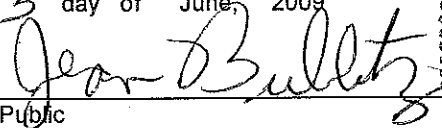
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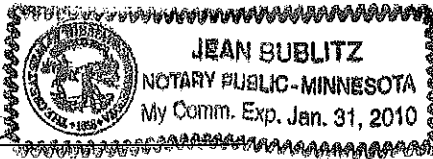
POST-BULLETIN COMPANY L.L.C.

BY: 

TITLE: Classified Manager

Subscribed and sworn to me on  
This 3 day of June, 2009

  
Notary Public



## RATE INFORMATION

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| 1) Lowest classified rate paid by commercial user<br>For comparable space | \$<br>(Line rate) |
| 2) Publication Fee  | \$                |



# Public Notices

## Wabasha-Kellogg School Board Meeting April 15, 2009

- Called to order
  - Approved amended agenda
  - Approved Consent Agenda
  - Approval of 3-18-09 and 4-6-09 Minutes
  - District Bills
  - Cash and Investments
  - New Hire: Becky Reich, Spring Musical
  - Contract Adjustment: Ron Sanders
  - Retirement: Sharon Reeser
  - Volunteer: Jacob Halloran, Baseball Approved
  - National Honor Society Field Trip to Wisconsin Dells
  - Resolution Stating the Intention of the School Board to Issue General Obligation Capital Facilities Bonds to Finance Certain Capital Projects; Covenantee and Obligating the District to be Bound by and to Use the Provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.55 to Guarantee the Payment of Principal and Interest on the Bonds (Boiler Replacement Project)
  - First Readings of Policies 204, 206, 210, 212, 531, 619, 624, 705, 720, 802, 904
  - Second Readings of Policies 612-1, 613, 618, 623
  - Resolution for Membership in the MSHL for the 2009-2010 SY
  - Summer 2009 Kids Clubhouse Parent Handbook
  - Change in starting time of May 20, 2009 School Board Meeting
  - Donations
  - Adjourned
- June 3, 2009

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**Rural Utilities Service**  
**Dairyland Power Cooperative, Inc.:** Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold Public Scoping Meetings  
**Agency:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA  
**Action:** Notice of Intent to

Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold Public Scoping Meetings

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and hold public scoping meetings and in connection with possible impacts related to a project proposed by Dairyland Power Cooperative in the CapX 2020 Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project. The proposal consists of the construction of a 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and associated infrastructure between Hampton, Minnesota and the La Crosse area in Wisconsin. The project also includes construction of new 161-kV transmission lines and associated facilities in the area of Rochester, Minnesota. The total length of 345-kV and 161-kV transmission lines associated with the proposed project will be approximately 150 miles. Proposed and alternate transmission segments and locations for proposed and alternate associated facilities have been identified by Dairyland Power Cooperative. Dairyland Power Cooperative is requesting RUS to provide financing for its portion of the proposed project.

**DATES:** RUS will conduct six public scoping meetings in an open-house format followed by a discussion period: June 16, 2009, Plainview-Elgin-Millville High School, 500 West Broadway, Plainview, Minnesota; June 17, 2009, Wanamingo Community Center, 401 Main Street, Wanamingo, Minnesota; June 18, 2009, City of St. Charles Community Meeting Room, 830 Whitewater Avenue, St. Charles, Minnesota; June 23, 2009, La Crescent American Legion, 509 N. Chestnut, La Crescent, Minnesota; June 24, 2009, Centerville/Town of Trempealeau Community Center, W24854 State Road 54/93, Galesville, Wisconsin; and June 25, 2009, Cochrane-Fountain City High School, S2770 State Road 35, Fountain City, Wisconsin. All meetings will be held between 6-

8:00 PM local time. Comments regarding the proposed project may be submitted (orally or in writing) at the public scoping meetings or in writing to RUS at the address listed in this notice no later than June 29, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** To send comments or for further information, contact Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA, Rural Utilities Service, Engineering and Environmental Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone: (202) 720-0468 or e-mail: [stephanie.strength@usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@usda.gov).

An Alternative Evaluation Study (AES) and Macro Corridor Study (MCS), prepared by Dairyland Power Cooperative, will be presented at the public scoping meetings. The reports are available for public review at the RUS address provided in this notice and at Dairyland Power Cooperative, 3251 East Avenue South, La Crosse, WI 54602. In addition, the reports will be available at RUS' website, <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/eas/eis.htm> and at the following repositories:

- Alma Public Library  
312 North Main Street  
Alma, WI 54610  
Phone: 608-685-3823
- Arcadia Public Library  
406 E Main Street  
Arcadia, WI 54612  
Phone: 608-323-7505
- Blair-Preston Library  
122 Urberg Street  
Blair, WI 54616  
Phone: 608-989-2502
- Campbell Library  
2219 Bainbridge Street  
La Crosse, WI 54603  
Phone: 608-783-0052
- Cannon Falls Library  
306 West Mill Street  
Cannon Falls, MN 55009  
Phone: 507-263-2804
- Dairyland Power Cooperative  
500 Old State Highway 35  
Alma, WI 54610  
Phone: 608-685-4497
- Galesville Public Library  
16787 South Main Street  
Galesville, WI 54630

- Phone: 608-582-2552
- Hokah Public Library  
57 Main Street  
Hokah, MN 55941  
Phone: 507-894-2665
- Holmen Area Library  
16787 South Main Street  
Galesville, WI 54630  
Phone: 608-526-4198
- Kenyon Public Library  
709 2nd Street  
Kenyon, MN 55946  
Phone: 507-789-6821
- Riverland Energy Cooperative  
N28988 State Road 93  
Arcadia, WI 54612  
Phone: 608-323-3381
- Rochester Public Library  
101 2nd Street SE  
Rochester, MN 55963  
Phone: 507-328-2309
- Shirley M. Wright Memorial Library  
11455 Fremont Street  
Trempealeau, WI 54650  
Phone: 608-534-6197
- St. Charles Public Library  
125 W 11th Street  
St. Charles, MN 55927  
Phone: 507-932-3227
- Tri-County Electric  
31110 Cooperative Way  
Rushford, MN 55971  
Phone: 507-864-7783
- La Crescent Public Library  
321 Main Street  
La Crescent, MN 55947  
Phone: 507-895-4047
- La Crosse Public Library  
800 Main Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601  
Phone: 608-789-7109
- Onalaska Public Library  
741 Oak Avenue South  
Onalaska, WI 54650  
Phone: 608-781-9568
- People's Cooperative Services  
3935 Hwy 14 E  
Rochester, MN 55903  
Phone: 507-288-4004
- Plainview Public Library  
115 SE 3rd Street  
Pine Island, MN 55963  
Phone: 507-534-3425
- Van Horn Public Library  
115 Se 3rd Street  
Pine Island, MN 55963  
Phone: 507-356-8558
- Winona Public Library  
151 West 5th Street  
Winona, MN 55987  
Phone: 507-452-4582

- Xcel Energy  
5050 Service Drive  
Winona, MN 55987  
Phone: 800-422-0782
- Xcel Energy  
1414 West Hamilton Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Phone: 715-839-2621
- Zumbrota Public Library  
100 West Avenue  
Zumbrota, MN 55992  
Phone: 507-732-5211

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Preliminary proposed transmission line corridors and siting areas for substations have been identified. The EIS will address the construction, operation, and management of the proposed project, which includes a 345-kV transmission line and associated infrastructure between Hampton, Minnesota and the La Crosse area of Wisconsin; 161-kV transmission lines in the vicinity of Rochester, Minnesota; construction and maintenance of access roads for all proposed transmission lines; construction of up to three new substations, and expansion of up to three existing substations. Total length of the transmission lines for the proposed project will be approximately 150 miles. The project study area includes part or all of the following counties in Minnesota: Dakota, Goodhue, Wabasha, Winona, Houston, Olmsted, Rice, and Dodge. In Wisconsin, the project area includes parts of the following counties: La Crosse, Trempealeau, and Buffalo. Among the alternatives RUS will address in the EIS is the No Action alternative, under which the project would not be undertaken. In the EIS, the effects of the proposed project will be compared to the existing conditions in the area affected. Alternative transmission line corridors and substation locations will be refined as part of the EIS scoping process and will be addressed in the Draft EIS. RUS will carefully study public health and safety, environmental impacts, and engineering aspects of the proposed project and all related facilities.

RUS will use input provided by government agencies, private organizations, and the public in the preparation of the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS will be available for review and comment for 45 days. A Final EIS that considers all comments received will subsequently be prepared. The Final EIS will be available for review and comment for 30 days. Following the 30-day comment period, RUS will prepare a Record of Decision (ROD). Notices announcing the availability of the Draft EIS, the Final EIS, and the ROD will be published in the *Federal Register* and in local newspapers.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations and completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in the RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1794).

Dated: May 28, 2009

Mark S. Plank, Director  
Engineering and Environmental Staff  
USDA/Rural Utilities Service  
[FR Doc. E9-12407 Filed 5-27-09; 8:45 am]  
June 3, 2009

## WABASHA PUBLIC LIBRARY

168 Alleghany Ave. - Wabasha, MN 55981  
Tel/Tdd/Fax 651-565-3927

HOURS	
Monday	10 a.m.-7 p.m.
Tuesday	10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Wednesday	10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Thursday	10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Friday	10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday	9 a.m.-12 p.m.

## ~ PUBLIC NOTICE ~



# PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT CAPX2020 HAMPTON-ROCHESTER-LA CROSSE 345-KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RUS), Dairyland Power Cooperative and other CapX2020 utilities invite you to attend a public scoping meeting to discuss the proposed Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission system improvement proposal.

Serving as the lead federal agency, RUS is responsible for completing any requirements with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), including preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Dairyland Power Cooperative is requesting RUS provide financing for its portion of the proposed project. The public scoping meetings provide an opportunity for you to discuss project details with agency and company representatives and for your comments to be incorporated into the planning process and development of an EIS.

RUS will use input provided by government agencies, private organizations and the public in the preparation of the Draft EIS, which will be available for review and comments for 45 days. A Final EIS that considers all comments received will subsequently be prepared.

### PROPOSAL

The CapX2020 utilities are proposing to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line and associated facilities between Hampton and Rochester, Minnesota, and the La Crosse, Wisconsin area. The proposal includes the proposed 345 kV transmission line from a substation near Hampton to a proposed substation in north Rochester and to a new or existing substation near La Crosse. The proposal also includes construction of a new 161-kV transmission line and associated facilities in the Rochester area.

The proposed facilities are needed to improve regional reliability, enhance local load serving needs and provide generation outlet support. CapX2020 is a joint initiative of 11 electric transmission-owning utilities in Minnesota, Wisconsin and the surrounding region to expand the electric transmission grid to meet the increasing demand for power.

Xcel Energy is the lead utility for the proposal. Dairyland Power Corporation has requested financial assistance from RUS for Dairyland's anticipated 11 percent ownership interest in the proposal. Other anticipated owners of the proposed facilities include WPPI Energy, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency, and Rochester Public Utilities. Before the proposal can be built, the CapX2020 utilities must obtain approval from state and federal agencies. Proposal approval also involves NEPA processes and the NEPA implementation guidance of RUS.

### DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY & REQUESTS

Two documents have been prepared for the proposal and are available for review prior to the agency and public scoping meetings in June 2009. The Alternative Evaluation Study (AES) explains the proposal's need, discusses the alternative methods that have been considered to meet that need, and which alternative is considered the best for fulfilling the need. The Macro Corridor Study (MCS) defines the proposal study area and shows the proposal's end points. Within the proposal study area, macro-corridors have been developed based on environmental, engineering, economic, land use and permitting constraints. Both documents are available at the libraries detailed in the attached list. If you are interested in receiving copies of either of these documents, please contact Stephanie.strength@usda.gov or (202) 720-0468.

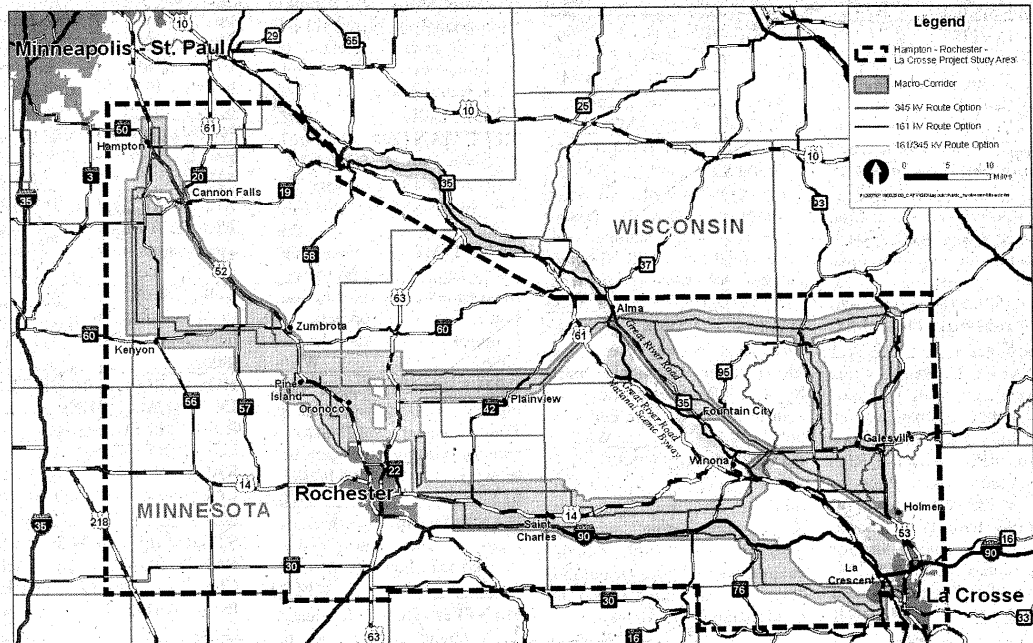
### For more information, please contact:

Stephanie Strength  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service  
Engineering and Environmental Staff  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 1571  
Washington, DC 20250-1571  
Phone: (202) 720-0468  
Email: [stephanie.strength@usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@usda.gov)

Or, contact Tom Hillstrom or Chuck Thompson at [lacroscinfo@capx2020.com](mailto:lacroscinfo@capx2020.com) or 1-800-238-7968 or visit [www.capx2020.com](http://www.capx2020.com) for additional project information and detailed project maps.

### PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <p><b>June 16</b><br/>6 - 8 p.m.<br/>Plainview-Elgin-Millville High School<br/>Cafeteria<br/>500 West Broadway<br/>Plainview, MN 55964</p> | <p><b>June 18</b><br/>6 - 8 p.m.<br/>City of St. Charles<br/>Community Meeting Room<br/>830 Whitewater Avenue<br/>St. Charles, MN 55972</p> | <p><b>June 24</b><br/>6 - 8 p.m.<br/>Centerville/Town of Trempealeau<br/>Community Center<br/>W24854 State Road 54/93<br/>Galesville, WI 54630</p> |
| <p><b>June 17</b><br/>6 - 8 p.m.<br/>Wanamingo Community Center<br/>401 Main Street<br/>Wanamingo, MN 55983</p>                            | <p><b>June 23</b><br/>6 - 8 p.m.<br/>La Crescent American Legion<br/>509 North Chestnut<br/>La Crescent, MN 55947</p>                       | <p><b>June 25</b><br/>6 - 8 p.m.<br/>Cochrane-Fountain City High School<br/>S2770 State Road 35<br/>Fountain City, WI 54629</p>                    |



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DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE**

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Rochester, MN 55963  
Phone: 507-328-2309  
Shirley M. Wright  
Memorial Library  
11455 Fremont Street  
Trempealeau, WI 54650  
Phone: 608-534-6197  
St. Charles Public Library  
125 W 11th Street  
St. Charles, MN 55927  
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La Crosse, WI 54601  
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Onalaska Public Library  
741 Oak Avenue South  
Onalaska, WI 54650  
Phone: 608-781-9568  
People's Cooperative Services  
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Rochester, MN 55903  
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Phone: 507-356-8558  
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Winona, MN 55987  
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5050 Service Drive  
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Wabasha County Harold



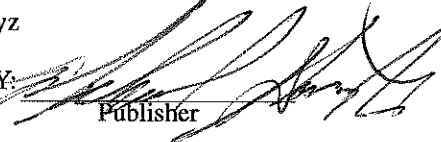
AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION  
THE WABASHA COUNTY HERALD

State of Minnesota }  
County of Wabasha } ss.


Gary D. Stumpf, Michael T. Stumpf and Daniel J. Stumpf being duly sworn, on oath say that they are the publishers of the newspaper known as THE WABASHA COUNTY HERALD, and have full knowledge of the facts which are stated below: (A) The newspaper has complied with all of the requirements constituting qualification as a qualified newspaper, as provided by Minnesota Statute 331A.02, 331A.07, and other applicable laws, as amended. (B) The printed Public Notice - United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Utilities Service Dairyland Power Cooperative

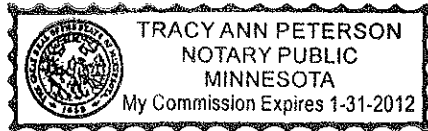
which is attached was cut from the columns of said newspaper, and was printed and published once each week, for 1 successive weeks, it was first published on Wednesday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2009, and was thereafter printed and published on every Wednesday to and including Wednesday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2009; and printed below is a copy of the lower case alphabet from A to Z which is hereby acknowledged as being the size and kind of type used in the composition and publication of the notice:

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz




BY:   
Publisher

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2009.

  
Notary Public,  
Wabasha, Minnesota



RATE INFORMATION

- 1) Lowest classified rate paid by commercial users for comparable space 
- 2) Maximum rate allowed by law for the above matter 
- 3) Rate actually charged for the above matter 

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Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations and completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in the RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1794).  
Dated: May 28, 2009

Mark S. Plank, Director  
Engineering and Environmental Staff  
USDA/Rural Utilities Service  
[FR Doc. E9-12407 Filed 5-27-09; 8:45 am]  
June 3, 2009

**FARM**  
R33-ft  
\$268  
nice spring cloths. 715-926-  
in Mondovi, WI have lots of  
**THE AREA THRIFT SHOP**  
R35ft  
LCC INC.  
tic, Can Deliver. 507-258-0458  
Top Set, Brand New Still in Plas-  
**FOR SALE: \$165 Queen Pillow**  
507-258-0458, LCC Inc. R35ft  
SET \$135. New & Deliverable  
mattress Set, \$265, FULL SIZE  
**FOR SALE: King Pillow Top**

**FOR RENT-ALMA 1 & 2 BD**  
R25-ft  
EHO  
Call Amy at 715-235, 7376  
sewer, garage and storage unit.  
picnics, includes heat, water,



## Emerald Ash Borer lunch and learn June 11

Emerald Ash Borer, an invasive beetle from China that has the potential to kill all of Minnesota's native ash trees, has been in the news a lot recently. This class will be at the Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd St. SE, Rochester, in the auditorium from noon - 1:00 pm on Thursday, June 11, 2009. Credit for the Woodland Advisor Program and continuing education credit for Master Gardeners is provided. This program is FREE, but please BRING your own lunch, food will NOT be provided; pre-registration appreciated. To register and for directions contact Mary Jane Stearns at 888-241-4536 for mstearns@umn.edu. For information contact Angela Gupta 507-280-2869.

## DNR's Forest Stewardship strategic plan available for public comment through June 12

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announced that public comments on the five-year strategic plan for the Forest Stewardship Program will be collected through June 12.

The plan addresses the status and accomplishments of the Forest Stewardship Program and the emerging opportunities for family forest stewardship in the state.

The draft plan has been developed with the participation of a diverse advisory committee that includes representatives from the USDA Forest Service, Minnesota DNR, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Minnesota Forestry Association, Minnesota Forest Resources Council, University of Minnesota Extension, Trout Unlimited, Minnesota Association of Consulting Foresters and DoveTail Partners.

The draft plan can be downloaded at [www.mndnr.gov/grants/forestmgmt/stewardship.html](http://www.mndnr.gov/grants/forestmgmt/stewardship.html) or viewed in person by visiting the DNR office at 500 Lafayette Road in St. Paul.

Comments can be submitted to Andrew Arends by e-mail at [andrew.arends@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:andrew.arends@dnr.state.mn.us) or by mail to Andrew Arends, Minnesota DNR, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4044.

### DNR QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Q: It is recommended that public and private landowners refrain from mowing in roadside ditches until Aug. 1. Why?

A: Roadside ditches, which make up approximately half-million acres of the state's total land area, are highly productive nesting sites for more than 40 kinds of birds and animals that nest on the ground or in low vegetative cover. Wildlife that nest in these areas include pheasants, gray partridge, rabbits, waterfowl and songbirds. Because each species has its own nesting habits - when and how many times per year they rear young - this habitat type receives continuous use from spring until late summer. Unfortunately, thousands of nest and nest sites are destroyed annually in southern and western Minnesota due to mowing, off-highway vehicle traffic, agriculture encroachment and blanket spraying. These disturbances can occur at any time, but they have the most impact during the month of June when hens are on the nest raising young. Planting native vegetation would help alleviate nest disturbances because a ditch would not need to be hayed until crops are harvested at the end of the nesting season. Native plants once established reduce the presence of weeds and are better suited for producing wildlife.

## High voltage power line impacts on Winona area

Attend presentation June 8

The Bluff Land Environment Watch (BLEW) and the Citizens Energy Task Force (CETF-[www.cetf.us](http://www.cetf.us)) will inform residents about the impacts the CAPX2020 high voltage power line may have on the Winona area. The presentation will begin a public discussion to understand the lack of need for this huge power line and about options to prevent these 170 ft. towers from affecting the Winona area.

The information will be presented at the Wilson town meeting on Monday, June 8, at 7 p.m. at the Wilson Town Hall on Highway 43 and County Rd 12 near I-90 exit #252.

On May 22, 2009, the MN Public Utilities Commission released its Order approving the Certificate of Need for construction of the CAPX2020 power line in Minnesota. Possible routes for the high voltage lines go through the townships of Wilson, Homer and Wiscoy including Pleasant and Homer valleys and the East end of the city of Winona before crossing the Mississippi into Wisconsin.

Problems and concerns which will be addressed include: Destruction of scenery, damage to wildlife in the Upper Miss. Wildlife Refuge, use of eminent domain to take private property, environmental & health effects, economic impacts, property devaluation, and the role efficiency can play in decreasing the need for electricity, as well as alternatives to this power line.

The presentation is free and open to the public. All interested people are welcome to attend to find out how this power line will affect their life for many decades to come. For more information contact Dave DeLano at 507.452.8239.



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SEM10062WNP-BV

## ~ PUBLIC NOTICE ~



### PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT CAPX2020 HAMPTON-ROCHESTER-LA CROSSE 345-KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RUS), Dairyland Power Cooperative and other CapX2020 utilities invite you to attend a public scoping meeting to discuss the proposed Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission system improvement proposal.

Serving as the lead federal agency, RUS is responsible for completing any requirements with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), including preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Dairyland Power Cooperative is requesting RUS provide financing for its portion of the proposed project. The public scoping meetings provide an opportunity for you to discuss project details with agency and company representatives and for your comments to be incorporated into the planning process and development of an EIS.

RUS will use input provided by government agencies, private organizations and the public in the preparation of the Draft EIS, which will be available for review and comments for 45 days. A Final EIS that considers all comments received will subsequently be prepared.

#### PROPOSAL

The CapX2020 utilities are proposing to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line and associated facilities between Hampton and Rochester, Minnesota, and the La Crosse, Wisconsin area. The proposal includes the proposed 345 kV transmission line from a substation near Hampton to a proposed substation in north Rochester and to a new or existing substation near La Crosse. The proposal also includes construction of a new 161-kV transmission line and associated facilities in the Rochester area.

The proposed facilities are needed to improve regional reliability, enhance local load serving needs and provide generation outlet support. CapX2020 is a joint initiative of 11 electric transmission-owning utilities in Minnesota, Wisconsin and the surrounding region to expand the electric transmission grid to meet the increasing demand for power.

Xcel Energy is the lead utility for the proposal. Dairyland Power Corporation has requested financial assistance from RUS for Dairyland's anticipated 11 percent ownership interest in the proposal. Other anticipated owners of the proposed facilities include WPPI Energy, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency, and Rochester Public Utilities. Before the proposal can be built, the CapX2020 utilities must obtain approval from state and federal agencies. Proposal approval also involves NEPA processes and the NEPA implementation guidance of RUS.

#### DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY & REQUESTS

Two documents have been prepared for the proposal and are available for review prior to the agency and public scoping meetings in June 2009. The Alternative Evaluation Study (AES) explains the proposal's need, discusses the alternative methods that have been considered to meet that need, and which alternative is considered the best for fulfilling the need. The Macro Corridor Study (MCS) defines the proposal study area and shows the proposal's end points. Within the proposal study area, macro-corridors have been developed based on environmental, engineering, economic, land use and permitting constraints. Both documents are available at the libraries detailed in the attached list. If you are interested in receiving copies of either of these documents, please contact [Stephanie.strength@usda.gov](mailto:Stephanie.strength@usda.gov) or (202) 720-0468.

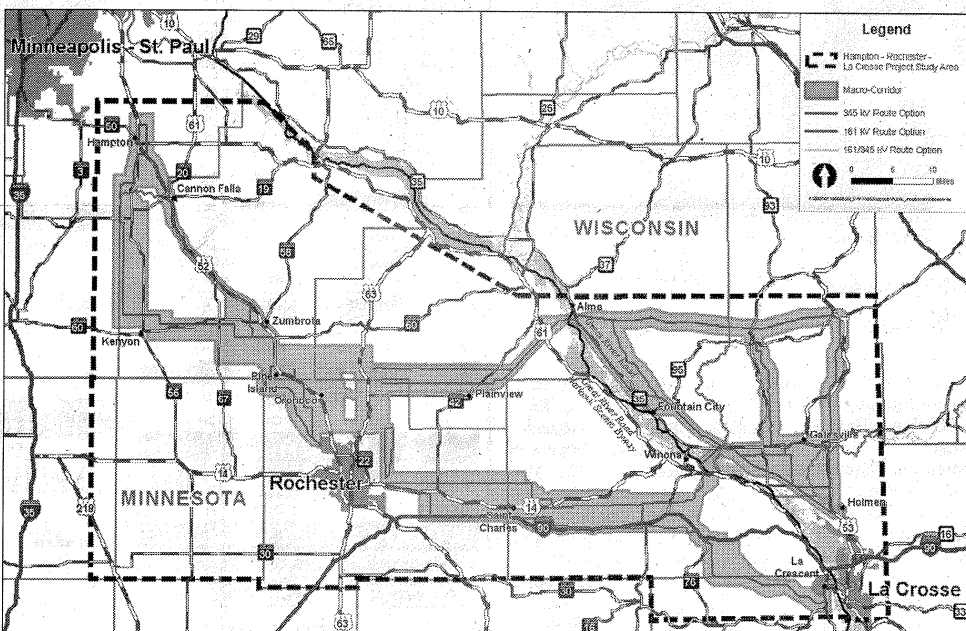
#### For more information, please contact:

Stephanie Strength  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service  
Engineering and Environmental Staff  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 1571  
Washington, DC 20250-1571  
Phone: (202) 720-0468  
Email: [stephanie.strength@usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@usda.gov)

Or, contact Tom Hillstrom or Chuck Thompson at [lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com](mailto:lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com) or 1-800-238-7968 or visit [www.capx2020.com](http://www.capx2020.com) for additional project information and detailed project maps.

#### PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

<b>June 16</b> 6 - 8 p.m. Plainview-Elgin-Millville High School Cafeteria 500 West Broadway Plainview, MN 55964	<b>June 18</b> 6 - 8 p.m. City of St. Charles Community Meeting Room 830 Whitewater Avenue St. Charles, MN 55972	<b>June 24</b> 6 - 8 p.m. Centerville/Town of Trempealeau Community Center W24854 State Road 54/93 Galesville, WI 54630
<b>June 17</b> 6 - 8 p.m. Wanamingo Community Center 401 Main Street Wanamingo, MN 55983	<b>June 23</b> 6 - 8 p.m. La Crescent American Legion 509 North Chestnut La Crescent, MN 55947	<b>June 25</b> 6 - 8 p.m. Cochrane-Fountain City High School S2770 State Road 35 Fountain City, WI 54629



# AFFIDAVIT of PUBLICATION

## TITLE OF CASE

Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold Public Scoping Meetings

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and hold public scoping meetings and in connection with possible impacts related to a project proposed by Dairyland Power Cooperative in the CapX 2020 Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project. The proposal consists of the construction of a 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and associated infrastructure between Hampton, Minnesota and the La Crosse area in Wisconsin. The project also includes construction of new 161-kV transmission lines and associated facilities in the area of Rochester, Minnesota. The total length of 345-kV and 161-kV transmission lines associated with the proposed project will be approximately 150 miles. Proposed and alternate transmission segments and locations for proposed and alternate associated facilities have been identified by Dairyland Power Cooperative. Dairyland Power Cooperative is requesting RUS to provide financing for its portion of the proposed project.

**DATES:** RUS will conduct six public scoping meetings in an open-house format followed by a discussion period: June 16, 2009, Plainview-Elgin-Millville High School, 500 West Broadway, Plainview, Minnesota; June 17, 2009, Wanamingo Community Center, 401 Main Street, Wanamingo, Minnesota; June 18, 2009, City of St. Charles Community Meeting Room, 830 Whitewater Avenue, St. Charles, Minnesota; June 23, 2009, La Crescent American Legion, 509 N. Chestnut, La Crescent, Minnesota; June 24, 2009, Centerville/Town of Trempealeau Community Center, W24854 State Road 54/93, Galesville, Wisconsin; and June 25, 2009, Cochrane-Fountain City High School, S2770 State Road 35, Fountain City, Wisconsin. All meetings will be held between 6-8:00 PM local time. Comments regarding the proposed project may be submitted (orally or in writing) at the public scoping meetings or in writing to RUS at the address listed in this notice no later than June 29, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** To send comments or for further information, contact Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA, Rural Utilities Service, Engineering and Environmental Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone: (202) 720-0468 or e-mail: HY-

PERLINK "mailto:stephanie.strength@usda.gov" stephanie.strength@usda.gov

An Alternative Evaluation Study (AES) and Macro Corridor Study (MCS), prepared by Dairyland Power Cooperative, will be presented at the public scoping meetings. The reports are available for public review at the RUS address provided in this notice and at Dairyland Power Cooperative, 3251 East Avenue South, La Crosse, WI 54602. In addition, the reports will be available at RUS' website, HYPERLINK "http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm" http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm and at the following locations:

Alma Public Library  
312 North Main Street  
Alma, WI 54610  
Phone: 608-685-3823  
Arcadia Public Library  
406 E Main Street  
Arcadia, WI 54612  
Phone: 608-323-7505  
Blair-Preston Library  
122 Urberg Street  
Blair, WI 54616  
Phone: 608-989-2502  
Campbell Library  
2219 Bainbridge Street  
La Crosse, WI 54603  
Phone: 608-783-0052  
Cannon Falls Library  
306 West Mill Street  
Cannon Falls, MN 55009  
Phone: 507-263-2804  
Dairyland Power Cooperative  
500 Old State Highway 35  
Alma, WI 54610  
Phone: 608-685-4497  
Galesville Public Library  
16787 South Main Street  
Galesville, WI 54630  
Phone: 608-582-2552  
Hokah Public Library  
57 Main Street  
Hokah, MN 55941  
Phone: 507-894-2665  
Holmen Area Library  
16787 South Main Street  
Galesville, WI 54630  
Phone: 608-526-4198  
Kenyon Public Library  
709 2nd Street  
Kenyon, MN 55946  
Phone: 507-789-6821  
Riverland Energy Cooperative  
N28988 State Road 93  
Arcadia, WI 54612  
Phone: 608-323-3381  
Rochester Public Library  
101 2nd Street SE  
Rochester, MN 55963  
Phone: 507-328-2309  
Shirley M. Wright Memorial Library  
11455 Fremont Street  
Trempealeau, WI 54650  
Phone: 608-534-6197  
St. Charles Public Library  
125 W 11th Street  
St. Charles, MN 55927  
Phone: 507-932-3227  
Tri-County Electric  
31110 Cooperative Way  
Rushford, MN 55971  
Phone: 507-864-7783  
La Crescent Public Library  
321 Main Street

La Crescent, MN 55947  
Phone: 507-895-4047  
La Crosse Public Library  
800 Main Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601  
Phone: 608-789-7109  
Onalaska Public Library  
741 Oak Avenue South  
Onalaska, WI 54650  
Phone: 608-781-9568  
People's Cooperative Services  
3935 Hwy 14 E  
Rochester, MN 55903  
Phone: 507-288-4004  
Plainview Public Library  
115 SE 3rd Street  
Pine Island, MN 55963  
Phone: 507-534-3425  
Van Horn Public Library  
115 SE 3rd Street  
Pine Island, MN 55963  
Phone: 507-356-8558  
Winona Public Library  
151 West 5th Street  
Winona, MN 55987  
Phone: 507-452-4582  
Xcel Energy  
5050 Service Drive  
Winona, MN 55987  
Phone: 800-422-0782  
Xcel Energy  
1414 West Hamilton Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Phone: 715-839-2621  
Zumbrota Public Library  
100 West Avenue  
Zumbrota, MN 55992  
Phone: 507-732-5211

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Preliminary proposed transmission line corridors and siting areas for substations have been identified. The EIS will address the construction, operation, and management of the proposed project, which includes a 345-kV transmission line and associated infrastructure between Hampton, Minnesota and the La Crosse area of Wisconsin; 161-kV transmission lines in the vicinity of Rochester, Minnesota; construction and maintenance of access roads for all proposed transmission lines; construction of up to three new substations, and expansion of up to three existing substations. Total length of the transmission lines for the proposed project will be approximately 150 miles. The project study area includes part or all of the following counties in Minnesota: Dakota, Goodhue, Wabasha, Winona, Houston, Olmsted, Rice, and Dodge. In Wisconsin, the project area includes parts of the following counties: La Crosse, Trempealeau, and Buffalo.

Among the alternatives RUS will address in the EIS is the No Action alternative, under which the project would not be undertaken. In the EIS, the effects of the proposed project will be compared to the existing conditions in the area affected. Alternative transmission line corridors and substation locations will be refined as part of the

EIS scoping process and will be addressed in the Draft EIS. RUS will carefully study public health and safety, environmental impacts, and engineering aspects of the proposed project and all related facilities.

RUS will use input provided by government agencies, private organizations, and the public in the preparation of the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS will be available for review and comment for 45 days. A Final EIS that considers all comments received will subsequently be prepared. The Final EIS will be available for review and comment for 30 days. Following the 30-day comment period, RUS will prepare a Record of Decision (ROD). Notices announcing the availability of the Draft EIS, the Final EIS, and the ROD will be published in the Federal Register and in local newspapers.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations and completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in the RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1794).

Dated: May 28, 2009

Mark S. Plank, Director  
Engineering and Environmental Staff  
USDA/Rural Utilities Service  
[FR Doc. E9-12407 Filed 5-27-09; 8:45 am]

**First Publication Date**  
**Wednesday, May 20, 2009**  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
FFP Project 34, LLC Project No. 13337-000

Notice of Preliminary Permit Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comment, Motions to Intervene, and Competing Applications (May 14, 2009)

On November 24, 2008, FFP Project 34, LLC filed an application, pursuant to section 4(f) of the Federal Power Act, proposing to study the feasibility of the Mississippi River Lock and Dam No. 7 Water Power Project (Lock & Dam 7 Project), to be located at River Mile 702.5 on the Mississippi River in Winona County, Minnesota, and near the town of La Crescent, MN. Also, the reservoir runs through a portion of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge.

The proposed Lock & Dam 7 Project would be integral with: (1) the existing U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Lock & Dam No. 7 comprised of a 940-foot-long gated dam section with 5 roller gates and 11

tainter gates, a 600-foot-long lock, and a 8,100-foot-long earth dike, and; (2) an existing 21-square-mile reservoir at a normal pool elevation of 639.0 feet mean sea level and 79,000 acre-feet of storage.

The proposed project would consist of: (1) 25 Very Low Head (VHL) generating units and 75 hydrokinetic generating units totaling 14.5 megawatts (MW) installed capacity; (2) a new 69-kilovolt transmission line connected to an existing above ground local distribution system; and (3) appurtenant facilities. The project would have an estimated average annual generation of 73,600 megawatt-hours.

Applicant Contact: Mr. Daniel R. Irvin, Free Flow Power Corporation, 33 Commercial Street, Gloucester, MA 01930, phone (978) 252-7631.

FERC Contact: Patrick Murphy, (202) 502-8755. Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, competing applications (without notices of intent), or notices of intent to file competing applications: 60 days from the issuance of this notice. Comments, motions to intervene, notices of intent, and competing applications may be filed electronically via the Internet. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a) (1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's website under the "e-Filing" link. If unable to be filed electronically, documents may be paper-filed. To paper-file, an original and eight copies should be mailed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20426. For more information on how to submit these types of filings please go to the Commission's website located at HYPERLINK <http://www.ferc.gov/filing-comments.asp> <http://www.ferc.gov/filing-comments.asp>. More information about this project can be viewed or printed on the "eLibrary" link of Commission's website at HYPERLINK <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp> <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp>. Enter the docket number (P-13337) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, call toll-free 1-866-208-3372.

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Project No. 13337-000

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Winona Post



# AFFIDAVIT of PUBLICATION

State of Minnesota }  
County of Winona } SS.

Winona Post Inc

being duly sworn, on oath, says he/she is and during all the times herein stated has been foreman of the printer and the printer in charge of the WINONA POST and has full knowledge of the facts herein stated as follows:

- (1) Said newspaper is printed in the English language in newspaper format and in column and sheet form equivalent in printed space to at least 1,200 square inches;
- (2) Said newspaper is a weekly distributed at least once each week for 52 weeks each year.
- (3) Said newspaper in at least half of its issues each year has no more than 75 percent of its printed space comprised of advertising material and paid legal notices; and in all of its issues each year has 50 percent of its news columns devoted to news of local interest to the community which it purports to serve, but not more than 25 percent of its total nonadvertising column inches in any issue wholly duplicates any other publication unless the duplicated material is from recognized general news services;
- (4) Said newspaper is circulated in and near the municipality which it purports to serve, and has at least 500 copies regularly distributed without charge to local residents;
- (5) Said newspaper has its known office of issue established in the county in which lies, in whole or in part, the municipality which the newspaper purports to serve;
- (6) Said newspaper files a copy of each issue immediately with the State Historical Society;
- (6a) Said newspaper is available at single or subscription prices to any person, corporation, partnership or other unincorporated association requesting the newspaper and making the applicable payment, and is distributed without charge to local residents;
- (7) Said newspaper has complied with all the foregoing conditions of this subdivision for at least one year last past;
- (8) Said newspaper has published and submitted to the Secretary of State a statement of ownership and circulation verified by a recognized independent circulation auditing agency.

He/she further states on oath that the printed notice hereto attached as a part hereof was cut from the columns of said newspaper, and was printed and published therein in the English language once twice each week, for one successive weeks.


That said notice was first inserted, printed and published on Wed, the 3rd day of June, 2009, and was printed and published in said newspaper on each and every Wed thereafter until and including Wed, the 3rd day of June, 2009.

That the following is a printed copy of the lower case alphabet from A to Z, both inclusive, and is hereby acknowledge as being the size and kind of type used in the composition and publication of said notice, to wit:

Johnson  
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of June, 2009

Dana Cierzan  
(Notarial Seal)

 DANA CIERZAN  
NOTARY PUBLIC - MINNESOTA  
My Commission Expires Jan 31, 2011

# Trempealeau changes its policy on the public use of village's community room

by Terry Thompson  
Staff writer

The village hall's community room rental policy was the subject of discussion at the Trempealeau Village's General Government meeting, Monday.

Speaking of the use the room gets, Trempealeau Village Administrator Travis Cooke

said, "It's getting busier and busier. In light of that, we need to get more firm with our policy."

He presented a policy that the village office had come up with and asked the committee to recommend additions or changes.

Cindy Wegner, committee chair recommended a few changes.

Essentially, this is the policy they agreed upon. The room is available for use on a reservation basis for meetings, classes and events of community groups.

If it is used to promote a product or service for profit,

prior approval is necessary. The room cannot be used for gambling unless an exception is made on a case-by-case basis. The village can approve or deny rental to any group.

The room is available on a first-come, first-serve basis with reservations being taken for the following year beginning Oct. 1 of the current year.

The room is not available during Catfish Days.

For room availability, contact the village office, complete a rental agreement and the village staff will confirm dates and key pick up times.

Fees are \$5 an hour, Monday through Thursday, not to

exceed \$25 a day. Friday through Sunday, fees are \$50 a day regardless of hours.

Fees will be waived for non-profit community groups at the discretion of the village office.

A \$50 cleaning deposit is necessary if food and beverages are served.

Any cancellations must be reported as soon as possible. Only one refund a year is possible.

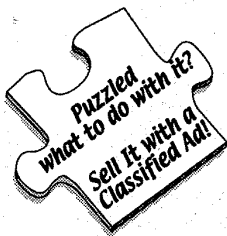
Rolling reservations are limited to 90 days with renewal upon approval and by coordination with competing groups. Preference is given to paying groups.

"So if someone really wants it, they can pay for it," Wegner said, "that's the most fair we can be."

Then Wegner added, "I'm happy with it."

Kathy Peterson at the village office is the contact person.

"This is the policy we will use," Cooke said, "I just wanted to run it past the committee."



**Farmers Market**  
Every Saturday  
8:30 a.m. - Noon  
On the Square  
Galesville

## ~ PUBLIC NOTICE ~



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#### For more information, please contact:

Stephanie Strength  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Rural Utilities Service  
Engineering and Environmental Staff  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 1571  
Washington, DC 20250-1571  
Phone: (202) 720-0468  
Email: stephanie.strength@usda.gov

Or, contact Tom Hillstrom or Chuck Thompson at lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com or 1-800-238-7968 or visit www.capx2020.com for additional project information and detailed project maps.

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6 - 8 p.m.  
Plainview-Elgin-Millville High School  
Cafeteria  
500 West Broadway  
Plainview, MN 55964

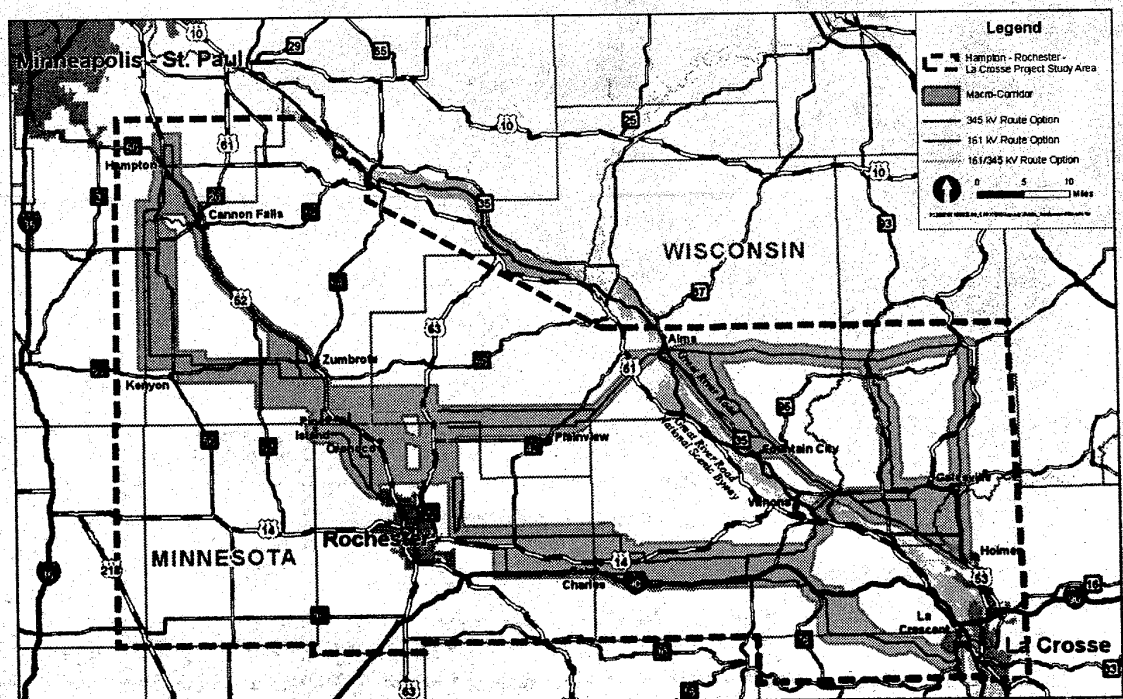
**June 17**  
6 - 8 p.m.  
Wanamingo Community Center  
401 Main Street  
Wanamingo, MN 55983

**June 18**  
6 - 8 p.m.  
City of St. Charles  
Community Meeting Room  
830 Whitewater Avenue  
St. Charles, MN 55972

**June 23**  
6 - 8 p.m.  
La Crescent American Legion  
509 North Chestnut  
La Crescent, MN 55947

**June 24**  
6 - 8 p.m.  
Centerville/Town of Trempealeau  
Community Center  
W24854 State Road 54/93  
Galesville, WI 54630

**June 25**  
6 - 8 p.m.  
Cochrane-Fountain City High School  
S2770 State Road 35  
Fountain City, WI 54629



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Rural Utilities Service**

**Dairyland Power Cooperative, Inc.**  
Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold Public Scoping Meetings

**Agency:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.  
**Action:** Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold Public Scoping Meetings

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and hold public scoping meetings and in connection with possible impacts related to a project proposed by Dairyland Power Cooperative in the CapX 2020 Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project. The proposal consists of the construction of a 345-kilovolt (KV) transmission line and associated infrastructure between Hampton, Minnesota and the La Crosse area in Wisconsin. The project also includes construction of new 161-kV transmission lines and associated facilities in the area of Rochester, Minnesota. The total length of 345-kV and 161-kV transmission lines associated with the proposed project will be approximately 150 miles. Proposed and alternate transmission segments and locations for proposed and alternate associated facilities have been identified by Dairyland Power Cooperative. Dairyland Power Cooperative is requesting RUS to provide financing for its portion of the proposed project.

**DATES:** RUS will conduct six public scoping meetings in an open-house format followed by a discussion period: June 16, 2009, Plainview-Elgin-Millville High School, 500 West Broadway, Plainview, Minnesota; June 17, 2009, Wanamingo Community Center, 401 Main Street, Wanamingo, Minnesota; June 18, 2009, City of St. Charles

Community Meeting Room, 830 Whitewater Avenue, St. Charles, Minnesota; June 23, 2009, La Crescent American Legion, 509 N. Chestnut, La Crescent, Minnesota; June 24, 2009, Centerville/Town of Trempealeau Community Center, W24854 State Road 54/93, Galesville, Wisconsin; and June 25, 2009, Cochrane-Fountain City High School, S2770 State Road 35, Fountain City, Wisconsin. All meetings will be held between 6-8:00 PM local time. Comments regarding the proposed project may be submitted (orally or in writing) at the public scoping meetings or in writing to RUS at the address listed in this notice no later than June 29, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** To send comments or for further information, contact Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA, Rural Utilities Service, Engineering and Environmental Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone: (202) 720-0468 or e-mail: stephanie.strength@usda.gov. An Alternative Evaluation Study (AES) and Macro Corridor Study (MCS), prepared by

Dairyland Power Cooperative, will be presented at the public scoping meetings. The reports are available for public review at the RUS address provided in this notice and at Dairyland Power Cooperative, 3251 East Avenue South, La Crosse, WI 54602. In addition, the reports will be available at RUS' website, <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm> and at the following repositories:

Alma Public Library  
312 North Main Street  
Alma, WI 54610  
Phone: 608-685-3823

Arcadia Public Library  
406 E Main Street  
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Phone: 608-323-7505

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Phone: 715-839-2621

Zumbrotta Public Library  
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Zumbrotta, MN 55992  
Phone: 507-732-5211

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Preliminary proposed transmission line corridors and siting areas for substations have been identified. The EIS will address the construction, operation, and management of the proposed project, which includes a 345-kV transmission line and associated infrastructure between Hampton, Minnesota and the La Crosse area of Wisconsin; 161-kV transmission lines in the vicinity of Rochester, Minnesota; construction and maintenance of access roads for all proposed transmission lines; construction of up to three new substations, and expansion of up to three existing substations. Total length of the transmission lines for the proposed project will be approximately 150 miles. The project study area includes part or all of the following counties in Minnesota: Dakota, Goodhue, Wabasha, Winona, Houston, Olmsted, Rice, and Dodge. In Wisconsin, the project area includes parts of the following counties: La Crosse, Trempealeau, and Buffalo. Among the alternatives RUS will address in the EIS is the No Action alternative, under which the project would not be undertaken. In the EIS, the effects of the proposed project will be compared to the existing conditions in the area affected. Alternative transmission line corridors and substation locations will be refined as part of the EIS scoping process and will be addressed in the Draft EIS. RUS will carefully study public health and safety, environmental impacts, and engineering aspects of the proposed project and all related facilities.

RUS will use input provided by

government agencies, private organizations, and the public in the preparation of the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS will be available for review and comment for 45 days. A Final EIS that considers all comments received will subsequently be prepared. The Final EIS will be available for review and comment for 30 days. Following the 30-day comment period, RUS will prepare a Record of Decision (ROD). Notices announcing the availability of the Draft EIS, the Final EIS, and the ROD will be published in the Federal Register and in local newspapers. Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations and completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in the RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1794).

Dated: May 28, 2009

Mark S. Plank, Director  
Engineering and Environmental Staff  
USDA/Rural Utilities Service  
(FR Doc. E9-12407 Filed 5-27-09; 8:45 am)  
(June 4)

Red wing Republican Eagle

No invoice will follow. Please pay from this affidavit. Thank you!

**AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION**

State of Minnesota

SS

County of Goodhue

**Peri Williams** being duly sworn, on oath says that he/she is the publisher or authorized agent and employee of the publisher of the newspaper known as the Republican Eagle, and has full knowledge of the facts which are stated below:

(A) The newspaper has complied with all of the requirements constituting qualification as a legal newspaper, as provided by Minnesota Statute 331A.02, 331A.07 and other applicable laws, as amended.

(B) The printed **UNITED STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

which is attached was cut from the columns of said newspaper, and was printed and published **1** time(s) for **1** week(s). It was first published on **JUNE THURSDAY** the **4TH** day of **JUNE** and was thereafter printed and published:

AND INCLUDING

REPUBLICAN EAGLE

BY: Peri Williams

TITLE: **LEGAL NOTICE CLERK**

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this **11TH** DAY OF **JUNE**

[Signature]  
Notary Public



**KAREN M. GEORGAKAS**

Notary Public-Minnesota

My Commission Expires Jan 31, 2012

**RATE INFORMATION**

- 1) Lowest classified rate paid by commercial users for comparable space (Line or inch rate)
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- 4) Publication Fee

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**STATE**

The Associated Press

**> "VAMPIRE" ADMITS TO HARASSING TEEN** — ROCHESTER, Minn. — Two days before his trial was to begin, a man who calls himself a vampire and once ran for Minnesota governor has admitted to harassing a Rochester teen by e-mail. Jonathon Sharkey, 45, pleaded guilty Monday to two counts of gross-misdemeanor harassment in Olmsted County. Sharkey is also pending extradition to Indiana to face two felony charges.

**> WISCONSIN ASSEMBLY TO TAKE UP BUDGET NEXT WEEK** — MADISON, Wis. — The Wisconsin Assembly plans to vote on the state budget next week. Assembly Speaker Mike Sheridan, a Janesville Democrat, said Democrats who control the chamber plan to review the two-year spending plan and possible changes starting Thursday. They then plan to convene on the floor for a vote on Wednesday of next week.

**> JUDGE ALLOWS COMMENCEMENT AT CHURCH** — MILWAUKEE — A federal judge will allow a public school district in a Milwaukee suburb to hold its graduation ceremonies in a church. U.S. District Judge Charles Clevert issued his ruling Tuesday in a lawsuit brought by Americans United for Separation of Church and State. The Elmbrook School District plans to use Elmbrook Church for Brookfield Central and East high schools' commencement ceremonies. Judge Clevert says a "ceremony in the church does not necessarily constitute a church ceremony."

**> WORTHINGTON AMMONIA LEAK SICKENS DOZENS** — WORTHINGTON, Minn. — About 40 workers at a pork processing plant in Worthington were taken to the hospital after an ammonia leak made them sick. Officials say the leak happened about 10:20 a.m. Tuesday at JBS, formerly Swift and Co.

# Judge Sonia Sotomayor addresses bias suspicions

## Poll: Half of Americans favor confirmation



Sotomayor

WASHINGTON (AP) — Judge Sonia Sotomayor on Tuesday countered Republican charges that she would let her background dictate her rulings as Americans signaled a favorable first impression of President Barack Obama's first Supreme Court choice.

A new Associated Press-GfK poll suggested that Americans have a more positive view of her than they did of any of former President George W. Bush's nominees to the high court. Half backed her confirmation.

As Sotomayor made her Senate debut with a series of private meetings, Republicans said they would prefer holding hearings on her nomination in September, which could cloud the speedy summertime confirmation Obama wants.

Sotomayor, who would be the high court's first Hispanic and its third woman, told senators she would follow the law as a judge without letting her life experiences inappropriately influence her decisions.

"Ultimately and completely, a judge has to follow the law no matter what their upbringing has been," Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., the Judiciary Committee chairman, quoted the nominee as saying in their closed-door session. Sen. Jeff Sessions of Alabama, the top Republican on the committee, said Sotomayor used similar words with him as well, but he appeared to come away from the meetings unconvinced about her approach and whether she would be an "activist" who tried to set policy from the bench.

"We talked about the idea and the concept of personal feelings and ... how that influences a decision, and how it should not," Sessions said, declining to elaborate on the private discussion.

In the new poll, half said she should be seated on the court while 22 percent opposed her confirmation. About a third had a favorable view of Sotomayor while 18 percent viewed her unfavorably. Questioned about affirmative action, 63 percent support it for women and fewer, 56 percent, favor affirmative action for racial or ethnic minorities. The poll did not define affirmative action.

# Tracks found in Pepin County believed to be cougar's

By Tribune staff

EAU CLAIRE, Wis. — Tracks of a large cat that experts say probably was a cougar have been found in Pepin County, the state Department of Natural Resources reported.

The prints in rain-moistened soil first were noticed early last Wednesday near a livestock pen on a large town of Lima dairy farm. The farmer said his son told him a bear had been nearby so he checked the tracks.

"I said, 'That's not a bear, that's cat-like,'" he

**The DNR asks that people who spend time outdoors in west-central Wisconsin watch for cougar tracks.**

Biologist Adrian Wydeven, the DNR's leading cougar expert, examined photographs of the tracks and concluded they clearly belong to a large cat

— three lobes at the back of the foot pad and a stride longer than 3 feet.

While the tracks are convincing, additional information is needed to confirm if it is a wild cougar, Wydeven said.

The DNR will try to monitor the animal and asks that people who spend time outdoors in west-central Wisconsin watch for cougar tracks and other signs. Finding more tracks, in addition to offering clues to the animal's movements, could lead to collecting scat, hair or urine for DNA analysis.

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## ~ PUBLIC NOTICE ~

# PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

### CAPX2020 HAMPTON-ROCHESTER-LA CROSSE 345-KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RUS), Dairyland Power Cooperative and other CapX2020 utilities invite you to attend a public scoping meeting to discuss the proposed Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission system improvement proposal.

Serving as the lead federal agency, RUS is responsible for completing any requirements with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), including preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Dairyland Power Cooperative is requesting RUS provide financing for its portion of the proposed project. The public scoping meetings provide an opportunity for you to discuss project details with agency and company representatives and for your comments to be incorporated into the planning process and development of an EIS.

RUS will use input provided by government agencies, private organizations and the public in the preparation of the Draft EIS, which will be available for review and comments for 45 days. A Final EIS that considers all comments received will subsequently be prepared.

**PROPOSAL**

The CapX2020 utilities are proposing to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line and associated facilities between Hampton and Rochester, Minnesota, and the La Crosse, Wisconsin area. The proposal includes the proposed 345 kV transmission line from a substation near Hampton to a proposed substation in north Rochester and to a new or existing substation near La Crosse. The proposal also includes construction of a new 161-kV transmission line and associated facilities in the Rochester area.

The proposed facilities are needed to improve regional reliability, enhance local load serving needs and provide generation outlet support. CapX2020 is a joint initiative of 11 electric transmission-owning utilities in Minnesota, Wisconsin and the surrounding region to expand the electric transmission grid to meet the increasing demand for power.

Xcel Energy is the lead utility for the proposal. Dairyland Power Corporation has requested financial assistance from RUS for Dairyland's anticipated 11 percent ownership interest in the proposal. Other anticipated owners of the proposed facilities include WPPI Energy, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency, and Rochester Public Utilities. Before the proposal can be built, the CapX2020 utilities must obtain approval from state and federal agencies. Proposal approval also involves NEPA processes and the NEPA implementation guidance of RUS.

**DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY & REQUESTS**

Two documents have been prepared for the proposal and are available for review prior to the agency and public scoping meetings in June 2009. The Alternative Evaluation Study (AES) explains the proposal's need, discusses the alternative methods that have been considered to meet that need, and which alternative is considered the best for fulfilling the need. The Macro Corridor Study (MCS) defines the proposal study area and shows the proposal's end points. Within the proposal study area, macro-corridors have been developed based on environmental, engineering, economic, land use and permitting constraints. Both documents are available at the libraries detailed in the attached list. If you are interested in receiving copies of either of these documents, please contact Stephanie.strength@usda.gov or (202) 720-0468.

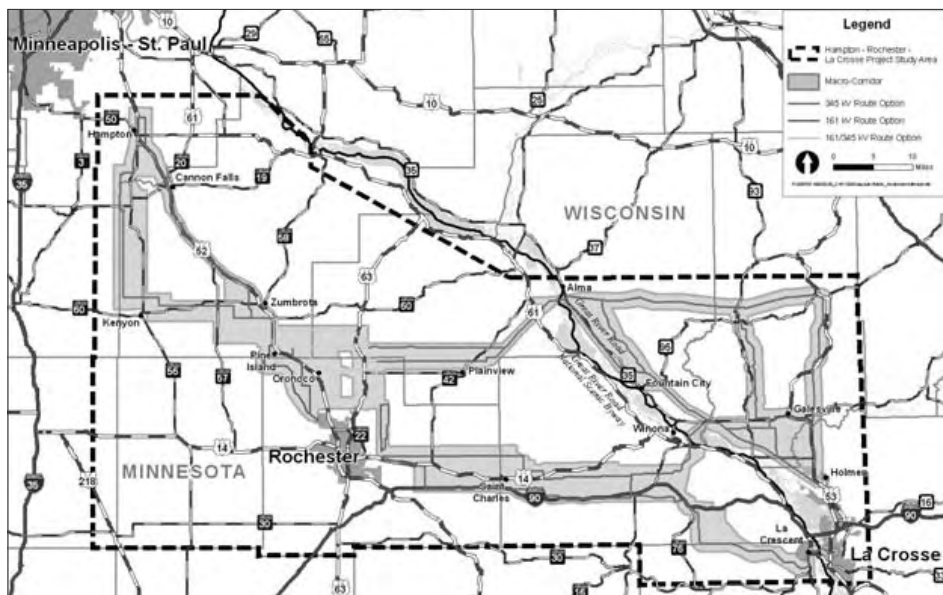
**For more information, please contact:**

Stephanie Strength  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Rural Utilities Service  
Engineering and Environmental Staff  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 1571  
Washington, DC 20250-1571  
Phone: (202) 720-0468  
Email: stephanie.strength@usda.gov

Or, contact Tom Hillstrom or Chuck Thompson at lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com or 1-800-238-7968 or visit www.capx2020.com for additional project information and detailed project maps.

**PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:**

- June 16**  
6 – 8 p.m.  
Plainview-Elgin-Millville High School Cafeteria  
500 West Broadway  
Plainview, MN 55964
- June 17**  
6 – 8 p.m.  
Wanamingo Community Center  
401 Main Street  
Wanamingo, MN 55983
- June 18**  
6 – 8 p.m.  
City of St. Charles  
Community Meeting Room  
830 Whitewater Avenue  
St. Charles, MN 55972
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N. Chestnut, La Crescent, Minnesota; June 24, 2009, Centerville/Town of Trempealeau Community Center, W24854 State Road 54/93, Galesville, Wisconsin; and June 25, 2009, Cochrane-Fountain City High School, S2770 State Road 35, Fountain City, Wisconsin. All meetings will be held between 6-8:00 PM local time. Comments regarding the proposed project may be submitted (orally or in writing) at the public scoping meetings or in writing to RUS at the address listed in this notice no later than June 29, 2009.

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RUS will use input provided by government agencies, private organizations, and the public in the preparation of the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS will be available for review and comment for 45 days. A Final EIS that considers all comments received will subsequently be prepared. The Final EIS will be available for review and comment for 30 days. Following the 30-day comment period, RUS will prepare a Record of Decision (ROD). Notices announcing the availability of the Draft EIS, the Final EIS, and the ROD will be published in the Federal Register and in local newspapers.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations and completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in the RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1794).

Dated: May 28, 2009  
Mark S. Plank, Director  
Engineering & Environmental Staff  
USDA/Rural Utilities Service  
[FR Doc. E9-12407 Filed 5-27-09;  
8:45 am]



# AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF WISCONSIN, }  
La Crosse County. } ss.

Lisa Zobeck, being duly sworn, says that she is the principal clerk of THE LA CROSSE TRIBUNE, a public daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in the City of La Crosse, in the county and State aforesaid, and that the notice of which the annexed is printed copy taken from the paper in which the same was published, was inserted and published in the said newspaper on the 03 day of Jun, 2009

and thereafter on the following dates, to wit:

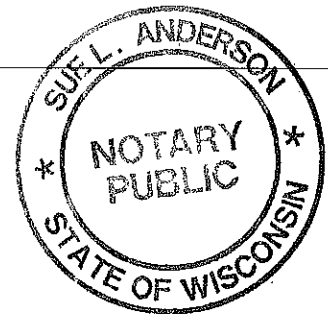
being at least once in each week for \_\_\_\_\_ successive weeks.

*Lisa Zobeck*

Sworn before me this 3 day of Jun, A.D. 2009

*Sue Anderson*  
Notary Public, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

12912



6/3 5192892  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE  
RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE  
Dairyland Power Cooperative,  
Inc.: Notice of Intent to Prepare an  
Environmental Impact Statement  
and Hold Public Scoping Meetings  
Agency: Rural Utilities Service,  
USDA

Action: Notice of Intent to Prepare  
an Environmental Impact Statement  
and Hold Public Scoping Meetings

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities  
Service (RUS) intends to prepare an  
Environmental Impact Statement  
(EIS) and hold public scoping meet-  
ings and in connection with possible  
impacts related to a project pro-  
posed by Dairyland Power Cooper-  
ative in the CapX 2020 Hampton-  
Rochester-La Crosse Transmission  
Line Project. The proposal consists  
of the construction of a 345-kilovolt  
(kV) transmission line and associ-  
ated infrastructure between  
Hampton, Minnesota and the La  
Crosse area in Wisconsin. The pro-  
ject also includes construction of  
new 161-kV transmission lines and  
associated facilities in the area of  
Rochester, Minnesota. The total  
length of 345-kV and 161-kV trans-  
mission lines associated with the  
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mately 150 miles. Proposed and al-  
ternate transmission segments and  
locations for proposed and alternate  
associated facilities have been  
identified by Dairyland Power Cooper-  
ative. Dairyland Power Cooper-  
ative is requesting RUS to provide fi-  
nancing for its portion of the pro-  
posed project.

DATES: RUS will conduct six  
public scoping meetings in an open-  
house format followed by a discus-  
sion period: June 16, 2009,  
Plainview-Elgin-Millville High  
School, 500 West Broadway, Plain-  
view, Minnesota; June 17, 2009,  
Wanamingo Community Center,  
401 Main Street, Wanamingo, Min-  
nesota; June 18, 2009, City of St.  
Charles Community Meeting Room,  
830 Whitewater Avenue, St.  
Charles, Minnesota; June 23, 2009,  
La Crescent American Legion, 509

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Fountain City, Wisconsin. All meet-  
(EIS) ings will be held between 6-8:00 PM  
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impacts related to a project pro-  
posed by Dairyland Power Cooper-  
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identified by Dairyland Power Cooper-  
ative. Dairyland Power Cooper-  
ative is requesting RUS to provide fi-  
nancing for its portion of the pro-  
posed project.

DATES: RUS will conduct six

## NBA FINALS

## Magic players: All-Star Nelson will return

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Orlando Magic players say Jameer Nelson will play in the NBA finals, even though the All-Star point guard and his coach remain publicly pessimistic.



Nelson

Nelson participated in a full team practice Tuesday for the first time since tearing the labrum in his right shoulder Feb. 2. While Nelson and coach Stan Van Gundy still said the point guard's status won't be determined until game day, players said Nelson looked "terrific" and expect him to be on the court against the Los Angeles Lakers.

"I expect to see him out there at some point in the series," backup point guard Anthony Johnson said.

Nelson had what was then called season-ending surgery Feb. 19.

Nelson's rehabilitation was supposed to take at least another two months.

Game 1 of the finals is Thursday night in Los Angeles, and healed or not, Nelson wants to play.

"I'm not saying I'm any tougher or stronger than anybody, but I've been known to do some amazing things sometimes," Nelson said Tuesday, again lobbying for playing time.

Magic general manager Otis Smith had repeatedly said Nelson will not play again this season. But he recanted his comments Monday and said a quicker recovery and the chance of winning a championship has forced him to at least take a look at Nelson.

"It's still no in my mind," Smith said. "There's a very smidgen of a chance he can play."

That "smidgen" seems to be growing.

Nelson has been playing full-court games and practicing in non-contact drills for the last two weeks. Tuesday, he participated in every drill.

Players said Nelson wasn't in his All-Star form, but even not completely healthy, he was better than most NBA point guards.

"He was terrific," Magic forward Mickael Pietrus said. "Hopefully, he will play and can help us win."

Starting point guard Rafer Alston expressed similar optimism.

"I was going to try to run him ragged out there, but I didn't want to cross him over," Alston said. "He did cross me over a couple times."

Orlando was 2-0 against the Lakers this season. Nelson was Orlando's leading scorer in both those games, averaging 27.5 points.

"I'm a competitor. I want to play," Nelson said Tuesday.

## FRENCH OPEN



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russia's Maria Sharapova serves the ball to Slovakia's Dominika Cibulkova during their quarterfinal match Tuesday in Paris.

## Sharapova dominated

PARIS (AP) — The final score of Maria Sharapova's stunning loss in the French Open quarterfinals Tuesday did not look quite as embarrassing as it nearly did: Her opponent led 6-0, 5-0.

That Sharapova saved a match point in the 12th game and wound up delaying her defeat for 15 minutes was of no consolation, of course. All that mattered was that her bid to complete a career Grand Slam this year ended when she was beaten 6-0, 6-2 by 20th-seeded Dominika Cibulkova.

"I don't really care about numbers. It's either a 'W' or an 'L,'" Sharapova said, "and I prefer 'W'."

All of that time on court at the French Open, and all of that time away before it, finally caught up to her, resulting in her most lopsided loss at a major tournament.

"You can only ask your body to do so much," said Sharapova, who had right shoulder surgery in October and had played four three-set matches at

Roland Garros in her first major tournament in nearly a year. "Everything fell a little short today. The pace wasn't there on my strokes, and, you know, I was five steps slower."

Now the 5-foot-3 Cibulkova faces the current No. 1, Dinara Safina, who overcame a shaky start to defeat No. 9 Victoria Azarenka of Belarus 1-6, 6-4, 6-2.

Robin Soderling stretched his career-best winning streak to eight matches by easily handling Nikolay Davydenko 6-1, 6-3, 6-1. Never before a Grand Slam semifinalist — or quarterfinalist or even fourth-round participant — Soderling will be a French Open finalist if he can beat No. 12 Fernando Gonzalez of Chile.

"I always knew that I could play really, really good tennis," Soderling said.

Gonzalez, the 2007 Australian Open runner-up, reached his first semifinal at Roland Garros with a 6-3, 3-6, 6-0, 6-4 victory over No. 3 Andy Murray.

## Van Gundy seeking title he can call his own

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Stan Van Gundy never wears the championship ring from Miami's 2006 title. He coached the Heat for the first 21 games that season but can't say for sure where he put the jewelry.

His best guess is it's in storage somewhere collecting dust.

"It really does not mean anything," the Orlando Magic coach said.

"I was not part of that," Van Gundy said. "I don't feel a part of that. I don't feel any sense of accomplishment from that at all."

Van Gundy walked away from the Heat after a slow start to the 2005-06 season, and Pat Riley returned to the sideline to lead Miami to the title.

He arrived in Orlando in 2007 and now has a chance to win a ring that would mean something to him. The Magic begin the finals Thursday night against the Los Angeles Lakers.

"He talks about winning a championship every day," Magic general manager Otis Smith said. "So really, he deserves the credit for raising the bar, that just getting to the playoffs is not good enough."

Van Gundy is four wins away from his own championship.



AP FILE PHOTO

Since March 4, 2004, Stan Van Gundy's record is 198-90 in regular-season games, a winning percentage of .688.

One that he will have earned despite being criticized, questioned and second-guessed perhaps more than any successful coach this season.

Van Gundy's past (Shaquille O'Neal) and present (Dwight Howard) superstar centers have taken swipes at him. O'Neal called him the "master of panic," and Howard publicly criticized his coaching strategy.

Van Gundy's approach is unorthodox by NBA standards.

He doesn't wear a tie with his jacket. His face is often unshaved and scruffy. He seems to live and die with each play. He'll cover his face, pull his hair, stomp his foot and scream at players in that high-pitched tone — which Howard loves to mock — for even the smallest detail. Sometimes he'll do it all on the same play.

"Me and Stan have had our ups and downs, but he is a great motivator," Howard said. "Even when he's yelling and screaming, throughout all that, he finds a way to put in just an ounce of something to get us fired up."

Rafer Alston's favorite Van Gundy moment this season came in April.

The Magic point guard, who also played a season under Van Gundy in Miami, had a late turnover against Cleveland and was ripped by Van Gundy on the sideline. The Magic were blowing out the Cavaliers.

"I said, 'What could you possibly be yelling about? We're up by 40,'" Alston said, adding that he loves Van Gundy's passion.

But in the end, Van Gundy's teams win.

### ~ PUBLIC NOTICE ~



## PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT CAPX2020 HAMPTON-ROCHESTER-LA CROSSE 345-KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RUS), Dairyland Power Cooperative and other CapX2020 utilities invite you to attend a public scoping meeting to discuss the proposed Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission system improvement proposal.

Serving as the lead federal agency, RUS is responsible for completing any requirements with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), including preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Dairyland Power Cooperative is requesting RUS provide financing for its portion of the proposed project. The public scoping meetings provide an opportunity for you to discuss project details with agency and company representatives and for your comments to be incorporated into the planning process and development of an EIS.

RUS will use input provided by government agencies, private organizations and the public in the preparation of the Draft EIS, which will be available for review and comments for 45 days. A Final EIS that considers all comments received will subsequently be prepared.

### PROPOSAL

The CapX2020 utilities are proposing to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line and associated facilities between Hampton and Rochester, Minnesota, and the La Crosse, Wisconsin area. The proposal includes the proposed 345 kV transmission line from a substation near Hampton to a proposed substation in north Rochester and to a new or existing substation near La Crosse. The proposal also includes construction of a new 161-kV transmission line and associated facilities in the Rochester area.

The proposed facilities are needed to improve regional reliability, enhance local load serving needs and provide generation outlet support. CapX2020 is a joint initiative of 11 electric transmission-owning utilities in Minnesota, Wisconsin and the surrounding region to expand the electric transmission grid to meet the increasing demand for power.

Xcel Energy is the lead utility for the proposal. Dairyland Power Corporation has requested financial assistance from RUS for Dairyland's anticipated 11 percent ownership interest in the proposal. Other anticipated owners of the proposed facilities include WPPI Energy, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency, and Rochester Public Utilities. Before the proposal can be built, the CapX2020 utilities must obtain approval from state and federal agencies. Proposal approval also involves NEPA processes and the NEPA implementation guidance of RUS.

### DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY & REQUESTS

Two documents have been prepared for the proposal and are available for review prior to the agency and public scoping meetings in June 2009. The Alternative Evaluation Study (AES) explains the proposal's need, discusses the alternative methods that have been considered to meet that need, and which alternative is considered the best for fulfilling the need. The Macro Corridor Study (MCS) defines the proposal study area and shows the proposal's end points. Within the proposal study area, macro-corridors have been developed based on environmental, engineering, economic, land use and permitting constraints. Both documents are available at the libraries detailed in the attached list. If you are interested in receiving copies of either of these documents, please contact Stephanie.strength@usda.gov or (202) 720-0468.

### For more information, please contact:

Stephanie Strength  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Rural Utilities Service  
Engineering and Environmental Staff  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 1571  
Washington, DC 20250-1571  
Phone: (202) 720-0468  
Email: stephanie.strength@usda.gov

Or, contact Tom Hillstrom or Chuck Thompson at lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com or 1-800-238-7968 or visit [www.capx2020.com](http://www.capx2020.com) for additional project information and detailed project maps.

### PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

**June 16**  
6 - 8 p.m.  
Plainview-Elgin-Millville High School  
Cafeteria  
500 West Broadway  
Plainview, MN 55964

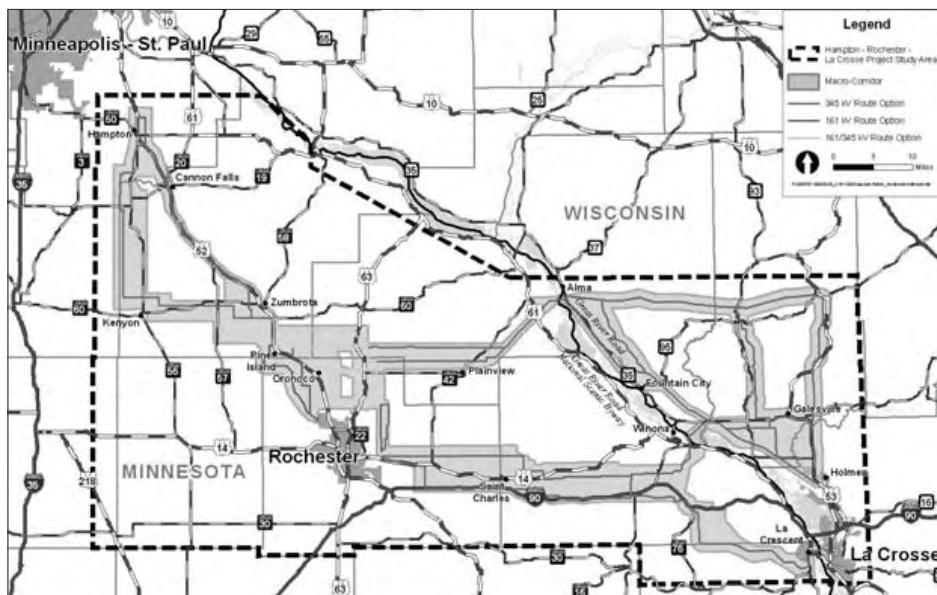
**June 17**  
6 - 8 p.m.  
Wanamingo Community Center  
401 Main Street  
Wanamingo, MN 55983

**June 18**  
6 - 8 p.m.  
City of St. Charles  
Community Meeting Room  
830 Whitewater Avenue  
St. Charles, MN 55972

**June 23**  
6 - 8 p.m.  
La Crescent American Legion  
509 North Chestnut  
La Crescent, MN 55947

**June 24**  
6 - 8 p.m.  
Centerville/Town of Trempealeau  
Community Center  
W24854 State Road 54/93  
Galesville, WI 54630

**June 25**  
6 - 8 p.m.  
Cochrane-Fountain City High School  
S2770 State Road 35  
Fountain City, WI 54629



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Dairyland Power Cooperative, Inc.  
Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold Public Scoping Meetings

Agency: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

Action: Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold Public Scoping Meetings

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and hold public scoping meetings and in connection with possible impacts related to a project proposed by Dairyland Power Cooperative in the CapX 2020 Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse Transmission Line Project. The proposal consists of the construction of a 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and associated infrastructure between Hampton, Minnesota and the La Crosse area in Wisconsin. The project also includes construction of new 161-kV transmission lines and associated facilities in the area of Rochester, Minnesota. The total length of 345-kV and 161-kV transmission lines associated with the proposed project will be approximately 150 miles. Proposed and alternate transmission segments and locations for proposed and alternate associated facilities have been identified by Dairyland Power Cooperative. Dairyland Power Cooperative is requesting RUS to provide financing for its portion of the proposed project.

**DATES:** RUS will conduct six public scoping meetings in an open-house format followed by a discussion period: June 16, 2009, Plainview-Elgin-Milville High School, 500 West Broadway, Plainview, Minnesota; June 17, 2009, Wanamingo Community Center, 401 Main Street, Wanamingo, Minnesota; June 18, 2009, City of St. Charles Community Meeting Room, 830 Whitewater Avenue, St. Charles, Minnesota; June 23, 2009, La Crescent American Legion, 509 N. Chestnut, La Crescent, Minnesota; June 24, 2009, Centerville/Town of Trempealeau Community Center, W24854 State Road 54/93, Galesville, Wisconsin; and June 25, 2009, Cochran-Fountain City High School, S2770 State Road 35, Fountain City, Wisconsin. All meetings will be held between 6-8:00 PM local time. Comments regarding the proposed project may be submitted (orally or in writing) at the public scoping meetings or in writing to RUS at the address listed in this notice no later than June 29, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** To send comments or for further information, contact Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA, Rural Utilities Service, Engineering and Environmental Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone: (202) 720-0468 or e-mail: stephanie.strength@usda.gov. An Alternative Evaluation Study (AES) and Macro Corridor Study (MCS), prepared by Dairyland Power Cooperative, will be presented at the public scoping meetings. The reports are available for public review at the RUS address provided in this notice and at Dairyland Power Cooperative, 3251 East Avenue South, La Crosse, WI 54602. In addition, the reports will be available at RUS' website, <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/eis/eis.htm> and at the following repositories:

Alma Public Library  
312 North Main Street  
Alma, WI 54610  
Phone: 608-685-3823  
Arcadia Public Library  
406 E Main Street  
Arcadia, WI 54612  
Phone: 608-323-7505  
Blair-Preston Library  
122 Urberg Street  
Blair, WI 54616  
Phone: 608-989-2502  
Campbell Library  
2219 Balnbridge Street  
La Crosse, WI 54603  
Phone: 608-783-0052

Cannon Falls Library  
306 West Mill Street  
Cannon Falls, MN 55009  
Phone: 507-263-2804

Dairyland Power Cooperative  
500 Old State Highway 35  
Alma, WI 54610  
Phone: 608-685-4497

Galesville Public Library  
16787 South Main Street  
Galesville, WI 54630  
Phone: 608-582-2552

Hokah Public Library  
57 Main Street  
Hokah, MN 55941  
Phone: 507-894-2665

Holmen Area Library  
16787 South Main Street  
Galesville, WI 54630  
Phone: 608-526-4198

Kenyon Public Library  
709 2nd Street  
Kenyon, MN 55946  
Phone: 507-789-6821

Riverland Energy Cooperative  
N28988 State Road 93  
Arcadia, WI 54612  
Phone: 608-323-3381

Rochester Public Library  
101 2nd Street SE  
Rochester, MN 55963  
Phone: 507-328-2309

Shirley M. Wright Memorial Library  
11455 Fremont Street  
Trempealeau, WI 54650  
Phone: 608-534-6197

St. Charles Public Library  
125 W 11th Street  
St. Charles, MN 55927  
Phone: 507-932-3227

Tri-County Electric  
31110 Cooperative Way  
Rushford, MN 55971  
Phone: 507-864-7783

La Crescent Public Library  
321 Main Street  
La Crescent, MN 55947  
Phone: 507-895-4047

La Crosse Public Library  
800 Main Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601  
Phone: 608-789-7109

Onalaska Public Library  
741 Oak Avenue South

Onalaska, WI 54650  
Phone: 608-781-9568  
People's Cooperative Services  
3935 Hwy 14 E  
Rochester, MN 55903  
Phone: 507-288-4004

Plainview Public Library  
115 SE 3rd Street

Pine Island, MN 55963  
Phone: 507-534-3425  
Van Horn Public Library  
115 SE 3rd Street

Pine Island, MN 55963  
Phone: 507-356-8558  
Winona Public Library  
151 West 5th Street

Winona, MN 55987  
Phone: 507-452-4582

Xcel Energy  
5050 Service Drive  
Winona, MN 55987  
Phone: 800-422-0782

Xcel Energy  
1414 West Hamilton Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Phone: 715-839-2621

Zumbrot Public Library  
100 West Avenue  
Zumbrot, MN 55992  
Phone: 507-732-5211

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Preliminary proposed transmission line corridors and siting areas for substations have been identified. The EIS will address the construction, operation, and management of the proposed project, which includes a 345-kV transmission line and associated infrastructure between Hampton, Minnesota and the La Crosse area of Wisconsin; 161-kV transmission lines in the vicinity of Rochester, Minnesota; construction and maintenance of access roads for all proposed transmission lines; construction of up to three new substations, and expansion of up to three existing substations. Total length of the transmission lines for the proposed project will be approximately 150 miles. The project study area includes part or all of the following counties in Minnesota: Dakota, Goodhue, Wabasha, Winona, Houston, Olmsted, Rice, and Dodge. In Wisconsin, the project area includes parts of the following counties: La Crosse, Trempealeau, and Buffalo. Among the alternatives RUS will address in the EIS is the No Action alternative, under which the project would not be undertaken. In the EIS, the effects of the proposed project will be compared to the existing conditions in the area affected. Alternative transmission line corridors and substation locations will be refined as part of the EIS scoping process and will be addressed in the Draft EIS. RUS will carefully study public health and safety, environmental impacts, and engineering aspects of the proposed project and all related facilities.

RUS will use input provided by government agencies, private organizations, and the public in the preparation of the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS will be available for review and comment for 45 days. A Final EIS that considers all comments received will subsequently be prepared. The Final EIS will be available for review and comment for 30 days. Following the 30-day comment period, RUS will prepare a Record of Decision (ROD). Notices announcing the availability of the Draft EIS, the Final EIS, and the ROD will be published in the *Federal Register* and in local newspapers.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations and completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in the RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1794).

Dated: May 28, 2009

Mark S. Plank, Director

Engineering & Environmental Staff  
USDA/Rural Utilities Service

[FR Doc. E9-12407 Filed 5-27-09; 8:45 am]

STATE OF MINNESOTA )  
 )ss.  
COUNTY OF WINONA )

**AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION**

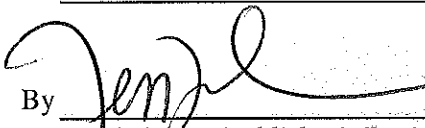
Tess Thruman, being first duly sworn on oath states, or affirms, that s/he is the publisher of the newspaper known as the Winona Daily News, or the publisher's designated agent, and has full knowledge of the facts stated below:

A. The newspaper has complied with all of the requirements constituting qualification as a qualified newspaper, as provided by Minn. Stat. §331A.02, §331A.07, and other applicable laws, as amended.

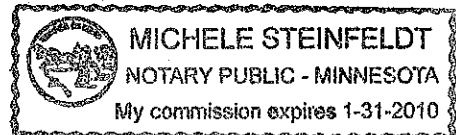
B. The printed public notice that is attached was published in the newspaper on the following dates:

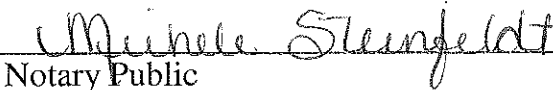
Wednesday, June 3, 2009  
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\_\_\_\_\_

By   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Publisher or Publisher's Designated Agent

Subscribed and sworn to or affirmed before me  
on this 3rd day of June, 2009



  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

RATE INFORMATION

Lowest classified rate paid by  
commercial users for comparable space: \_\_\_\_\_ per line

Appendix C.  
Newsletter/Public Mailer

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# INVITATION TO PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

## FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT



### CAPX2020 HAMPTON-ROCHESTER-LA CROSSE 345-KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

#### PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

**June 16**

6 – 8 p.m.  
Plainview-Elgin-Millville High  
School Cafeteria  
500 West Broadway  
Plainview, MN 55964

**June 17**

6 – 8 p.m.  
Wanamingo Community Center  
401 Main Street  
Wanamingo, MN 55983

**June 18**

6 – 8 p.m.  
City of St. Charles  
Community Meeting Room  
830 Whitewater Avenue  
St. Charles, MN 55972

**June 23**

6 – 8 p.m.  
La Crescent American Legion  
509 North Chestnut  
La Crescent, MN 55947

**June 24**

6 – 8 p.m.  
Centerville/Town of Trempealeau  
Community Center  
W24854 State Road 54/93  
Galesville, WI 54630

**June 25**

6 – 8 p.m.  
Cochrane-Fountain City High School  
S2770 State Road 35  
Fountain City, WI 54629

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RUS), Dairyland Power Cooperative and other CapX2020 utilities invite you to attend a public scoping meeting to discuss the proposed Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission system improvement proposal.

Serving as the lead federal agency, RUS is responsible for completing any requirements with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), including preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Dairyland Power Cooperative is requesting RUS provide financing for its portion of the proposed project. The public scoping meetings provide an opportunity for you to discuss project details with agency and company representatives and for your comments to be incorporated into the planning process and development of an EIS.

RUS will use input provided by government agencies, private organizations and the public in the preparation of the Draft EIS, which will be available for review and comments for 45 days. A Final EIS that considers all comments received will subsequently be prepared.

#### PROPOSAL

The CapX2020 utilities are proposing to construct a 345 kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line and associated facilities between Hampton and Rochester, Minnesota, and the La Crosse, Wisconsin area. The proposal includes the proposed 345 kV transmission line from a substation near Hampton to a proposed substation in north Rochester and to a new or existing substation near La Crosse. The proposal also includes construction of a new 161-kV transmission line and associated facilities in the Rochester area. (Detailed project map on back.)

The proposed facilities are needed to improve regional reliability, enhance local load serving needs and provide generation outlet support. CapX2020 is a joint initiative of 11 electric transmission-owning utilities in Minnesota, Wisconsin and the surrounding region to expand the electric transmission grid to meet the increasing demand for power.

Xcel Energy is the lead utility for the proposal. Dairyland Power Corporation has requested financial assistance from RUS for Dairyland's anticipated 11 percent ownership interest in the proposal. Other anticipated owners of the proposed facilities include WPPI Energy, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency, and Rochester Public Utilities. Before the proposal can be built, the CapX2020 utilities must obtain approval from state and federal agencies. Proposal approval also involves NEPA processes and the NEPA implementation guidance of RUS.

#### DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY & REQUESTS

Two documents have been prepared for the proposal and are available for review prior to the agency and public scoping meetings in June 2009. The Alternative Evaluation Study (AES) explains the proposal's need, discusses the alternative methods that have been considered to meet that need, and which alternative is considered the best for fulfilling the need. The Macro Corridor Study (MCS) defines the proposal study area and shows the proposal's end points. Within the proposal study area, macro-corridors have been developed based on environmental, engineering, economic, land use and permitting constraints. Both documents are available at the libraries detailed in the attached list. If you are interested in receiving copies of either of these documents, please contact [Stephanie.strength@usda.gov](mailto:Stephanie.strength@usda.gov) or (202) 720-0468.

#### For more information, please contact:

Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist  
United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service  
Engineering and Environmental Staff  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 1571  
Washington, DC 20250-1571  
Phone: (202) 720-0468  
Email: [stephanie.strength@usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@usda.gov)

Or, contact Tom Hillstrom or Chuck Thompson at [lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com](mailto:lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com) or 1-800-238-7968 or visit [www.capx2020.com](http://www.capx2020.com) for additional project information and detailed project maps.







## Appendix D. Agency Letters

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Appendix D1.  
Federal and State Agency Letter and List of Recipients

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United States Department of Agriculture  
Rural Development  
Washington, DC

May 29, 2009

First Last  
Title  
Agency  
Address  
City, State Zip

Subject: Proposed Hampton–Rochester–La Crosse 345 kV Transmission System  
Improvement Project  
Agency and Public Scoping Meetings Notification

Dear Sir or Madam:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RUS), Dairyland Power Cooperative, and other CapX2020 utilities are holding agency and public scoping meetings to discuss the proposed Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kilovolt (kV) Transmission System Improvement Project (the Proposal). Serving as the lead Federal agency, RUS is responsible for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The agency scoping meeting provides an opportunity for you to discuss project details with RUS acting as the lead agency for NEPA compliance, and utility representatives. Comments received will be incorporated into the planning process and used to develop the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The purpose of this letter is to invite you to upcoming agency and public scoping meetings and to notify you of the upcoming Federal Register Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS.

#### Description of Proposal

CapX2020 is a joint initiative of 11 electric transmission-owning utilities in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and the surrounding region to expand the electric transmission grid to meet the increasing demand for power. The proposed facilities are needed to improve regional reliability, enhance local load serving needs, and provide generation outlet support. Xcel Energy Inc., acting as operating companies Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation (NSPM), and Northern States Power Company, a Wisconsin corporation (NSPW) (collectively, Xcel Energy) is the lead utility for the Proposal. Dairyland has requested financial assistance from the RUS for its anticipated 11 percent ownership interest. Other anticipated owners of the proposed facilities include WPPI Energy, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMMPA), and Rochester Public Utilities (RPU).

Committed to the future of rural communities.

"USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender."  
To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.,  
Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800)795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

The CapX2020 utilities listed above are proposing to construct a 345 kV electric transmission line and associated facilities between Hampton, Minnesota; Rochester, Minnesota; and the La Crosse, Wisconsin area. The Proposal includes the 345 kV transmission line from a substation near Hampton, Minnesota, to a proposed new substation in north Rochester, to a new or existing substation near La Crosse, Wisconsin, in addition to the construction of new 161-kV transmission lines and associated facilities in the Rochester, Minnesota area.

#### Document Availability & Requests

In preparation for scoping, the CapX2020 utilities have prepared two documents to support the Proposal. These two documents are intended to provide agencies and the public with a general understanding of the proposed project. The Alternative Evaluation Study (AES) explains the Proposal's need, discusses the alternative methods that have been considered to meet that need, and which alternative is considered the best for fulfilling the need. The Macro Corridor Study (MCS) defines the study area and shows the Proposal's end points. Within the study area, macro-corridors have been developed based on environmental, engineering, economic, land use, and permitting constraints. These documents will be available for review prior to the agency and public scoping meetings to be held in June 2009. Please refer to the NOI in the Federal Register (<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis>).htm for a list of repositories where the documents will be available for review, or if you are interested in receiving copies of either of these documents please contact [Stephanie.Strength@usda.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Strength@usda.gov) or 202-720-0468. These documents will also be posted on the RUS website at <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis>.htm.

#### Agency Scoping and Public Scoping Meetings

You are invited to attend agency and public scoping meetings at the locations listed below:

##### Agency Scoping Meetings:

<b>Location</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Date and Time</b>
Wanamingo, MN	Wanamingo Community Center 401 Main Street Wanamingo, MN 55983	June 17, 2009 10 - 12pm
La Crosse, WI	Radisson Hotel La Crosse 200 Harborview Plaza La Crosse, WI 54601	June 23, 2009 10 - 12pm

Public Scoping Meetings:

<b>Location</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Date and Time</b>
Plainview, MN	Plainview-Elgin-Millville High School Cafeteria 500 West Broadway Plainview, MN 55964	June 16, 2009  6 - 8pm
Wanamingo, MN	Wanamingo Community Center 401 Main Street Wanamingo, MN 55983	June 17, 2009  6 - 8pm
St. Charles, MN	City of St. Charles Community Meeting Room 830 Whitewater Avenue St. Charles, MN 55972	June 18, 2009  6 - 8pm
La Crescent, MN	La Crescent American Legion 509 North Chestnut La Crescent, MN 55947	June 23, 2009  6 - 8pm
Galesville, WI	Centerville/ Town of Trempealeau Community Center W24854 State Rd. 54/93 Galesville, WI 54630	June 24, 2009  6 - 8pm
Fountain City, WI	Cochrane-Fountain City High School S2770 State Road 35 Fountain City, WI 54629	June 25, 2009  6 - 8pm

We appreciate the opportunity to discuss the Proposal and address any of your questions or concerns. To RSVP to an agency scoping meeting with the project team, please contact [Stephanie.Strength@usda.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Strength@usda.gov) or 202-720-0468. We look forward to your participation in the process.

Thank you,



MARK S. PLANK  
Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff

Additional Project Contacts:

Chuck Thompson  
Manager, Siting and Regulatory Affairs  
Dairyland Power Cooperative  
P.O. Box 9437  
Minneapolis, MN 55440-9437  
800-787-1432  
lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com

Tom Hillstrom  
Routing Lead  
Xcel Energy  
P.O. Box 9437  
Minneapolis, MN 55440-9437  
800-787-1432  
lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com





First Name	Last Name	Title	Agency Name
		Eastern States Office	Bureau of Land Management
Marcia	Sieckman	Supervisor, Natural Resources	Bureau of Land Management, Milwaukee Field Office
Larry	Morrin	Acting Director	Bureau of Indian Affairs, Minneapolis Area Office
Joel	Smith	Acting Director	Bureau of Indian Affairs, Minnesota Agency
Seth	Kirshenberg	Executive Director	Energy Communities Alliance
Duane	Castaldi	Region V Regional Management Center	Federal Emergency Management Agency
Jo Ann	Kyral		National Park Service
Glendon	Deal	Engineering and Environmental Staff Director	Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Kevin	Baumgard	Assistant Chair of Operations Division	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Tamara	Cameron	Regulatory Branch Lead Project Mgr.	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Jeff	DeLellan	Project Manager	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Jeff	Gulan	Locks & Dams	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Dan	Krumholz	Operations Manager	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Paul	Machajewski	Channel Maintenance Coordinator	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Bill	Meier	Channel Maintenance Coordinator	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Dick	Otto	Operations Manager	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Steve	Tapp	Channels & Harbors Operations Manager	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Lisa J.	Lund	River Resources Forum	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
David	Studenski		U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Kelley	Dentrey	Chief	U.S. Coast Guard
Lloyd	Lorenzi		U.S. Dept. of Energy
Carol	Borstrom	Director of NEPA Policy Compliance	U.S. Dept. of Energy
Timothy	Walz	Minnesota District 01 Representative	United States Congress
John	Kline	Minnesota District 02 Representative	United States Congress
Erik	Paulsen	Minnesota District 03 Representative	United States Congress
Betty	McCollum	Minnesota District 04 Representative	United States Congress
Keith	Ellison	Minnesota District 05 Representative	United States Congress
Michele	Bachmann	Minnesota District 06 Representative	United States Congress
Ron	Kind	Wisconsin District 03 Representative	United States Congress
David	Obey	Wisconsin District 07 Representative	United States Congress
Barry	Worthington	Executive Director	United States Energy Association
Amy	Klobuchar	United States Senator for Minnesota	United States Senate
		United States Senator for Minnesota	United States Senate
Herbert	Kohl	United States Senator for Wisconsin	United States Senate
Russ	Feingold	United States Senator for Wisconsin	United States Senate
Norman	Niedergang	Regional Administrator, Deputy, Acting	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

First Name	Last Name	Title	Agency Name
Barbara	Britton		USDA Rural Utilities Service
James	Fortner	Environmental Compliance Manager	USDA, Farm Service Agency
Mark	Planck	Director	USDA, Rural Utilities Services
Gary	Wege	Biologist	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Mary	Stefanski		U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bill	Throne		U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Vickie	Hirschboeck	Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Laurie	Fairchild	Biologist	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Don	Hultman	Refuge Manager, Upper Miss. River Nat'l Wildlife	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Rudie	Spitzer	Area 7 Director	Area 7 (Winona ) Soil & Water Conservation District
Mary Liz	Holberg	District 36A House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Tara	Mack	District 37A House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Phillip	Sterner	District 37B House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Sandra	Masin	District 38A House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Mike	Obermueller	District 38B House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Rick	Hansen	District 39A House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Joe	Atkins	District 39B House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Will	Morgan	District 40A House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Sharon	Erickson Ropes	District 31 Senator	Minnesota State Senate
Kevin	Dahle	District 25 Senator	Minnesota State Senate
Dick	Day	District 26 Senator	Minnesota State Senate
Steve	Murphy	District 28 Senator	Minnesota State Senate
Dave	Senjem	District 29 Senator	Minnesota State Senate
Ann	Lynch	District 30 Senator	Minnesota State Senate
Pat	Pariseau	District 36 Senator	Minnesota State Senate
Chris	Gerlach	District 37 Senator	Minnesota State Senate
Jim	Carlson	District 38 Senator	Minnesota State Senate
James	Metzen	District 39 Senator	Minnesota State Senate
John	Doll	District 40 Senator	Minnesota State Senate
Michael	Sullivan		Environmental Quality Board
Pat	Garofalo	District 36B House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Greg	Davids	District 31B House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Meg	Otten	Chair, Board of Directors	Mill Towns State Trail
Jim	Haertel		Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
Britta	Bloomberg		Minnesota Historical Society
Norm	Coleman	United States Senator-Minnesota	

First Name	Last Name	Title	Agency Name
Sheryl	Corrigan	Commissioner	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Susan	Heffron		Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Norman	Senjem	Rochester Office	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Perry	Aasness	State Executive Director	Minnesota State Farm Service Agency
Kathleen	Roer	Chair	Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources
Gene	Hugoson	Commissioner	Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Bob	Patton		Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Glenn	Wilson	Commissioner	Minnesota Department of Commerce
Sharon	Ferguson	Docket Coordinator	Minnesota Department of Commerce
Jeff	Freeman	Minnesota Public Facilities Authority	Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development
Douglas	Benson		Minnesota Department of Health
Sanne	Magnan	Commissioner	Minnesota Department of Health
Tony	Lorusso	Executive Director	Minnesota Department of Trade & Economic Development
Michael	Campion	Commissioner	Minnesota Dept of Public Safety
Adam	Sokolsky		Minnesota Department of Commerce
Elaine	Feikema	Park Manager, Nerstrand Big Woods	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Scot	Johnson	Hydrologist	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Joe	Kurcinka	Regional Director	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Matthew	Langan	Environmental Planner	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Gene	Merriam	Commissioner	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Courtland	Nelson	Director	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Rebecca	Wooder	Waters	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Dick	Lambert	Ports & Waterways	Minnesota Department of Transportation
Tod	Sherman		Minnesota Department of Transportation
Gerald	Larson		Minnesota Department of Transportation, District 6
Chris	Moates	Planning Director	Minnesota Department of Transportation, District 6
Carol	Molnau	Commissioner	Minnesota Department of Transportation, District 6
Scott	Ek		Minnesota DOC
		State Historic Preservation Office	Minnesota Historical Society
Britta	Bloomberg	Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer	Minnesota Historical Society
Judy	Mader	Water Quality	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Placida	Venegas	Policy & Planning	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
David	Boyd	Chair	Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
Bob	Cupit	Energy Facilites Permitting	Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
Tricia	DeBleekere		Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
Bob	Cupit		Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Agency Name</b>
Peter	Waskiw	District 6	Minnesota Department of Transportation
Art	Dunn	Director	Office of Environmental Assistance
Matthew	Grosser		Office of Senate Counsel & Research
Tim	Pawlenty	Governor	Office of the Governor
Randy	Demmer	District 29A House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Kim	Norton	District 29B House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Tina	Liebling	District 30A House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Terry	Helbig	Park Manager	RJD Memorial Hardwood Forest
Jacqui	Cavanagh		Senate Counsel Research and Fiscal Analysis Office, Minnesota Senate
Linda	Dahle	Executive Director	Southeast Minnesota Water Resources Board
Patti	Fritz	District 26B House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Kory	Kath	District 26A House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Tim	Kelley	District 28A House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Andy	Welti	District 30B House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Gary	Barvels	Park Manager	Whitewater State Park
Gene	Pelowski Jr.	District 31A House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Steve	Drazkowski	District 28B House Representative	Minnesota House of Representatives
Randal	Larson	Economic Development Planner	Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission
B.	Jancik		Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center UW-La Crosse
Jim	Doyle	Governor	Office of the Governor
Scott	Cullen	Chief Engineer	Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
Bill	Fannucchi		Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
Cheryl	Laatsch		Water Mgt. Specialist, WDNR Office of Energy
Tom	Lovejoy		Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Nick	Schaff		Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Ron	Benjamin		Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Gretchen	Benjamin		Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Greg	Edge		Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Dave	Siebert		Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Ron	Lichtie		Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Craig	Thompson	Regional Land Leader	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Joe	Olson	Director- SW Region	Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Don	Gutkowski	Director- NW Region	Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Jerry	Chasteen	Director	West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
Gretchen	Benjamin	Mississippi River Team Leader	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
David	Siebert	Director	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Agency Name</b>
Chris	Danou	Representative - 91st Assembly District	Wisconsin State Legislature
Kitty	Rhoades	Representative - 30th Assembly District	Wisconsin State Legislature
Jennifer	Shilling	Representative - 95th Assembly District	Wisconsin State Legislature
Kathleen	Vinehout	Senator - 31st Senate District	Wisconsin State Legislature
Dan	Kapanke	Senator -32nd Senate District	Wisconsin State Legislature
Sheila	Harsdorf	Senator -10th Senate District	Wisconsin State Legislature
John	Murtha	Representative - 29th Assembly District	Wisconsin State Legislature
Jeff	Smith	Representative - 93rd Assembly District	Wisconsin State Legislature
Michael	Huebsch	Representative - 94th Assembly District	Wisconsin State Legislature
Brian	Nicholls	Treasurer	Wisconsin Archeological Society
Susan	Burleigh	Community Outreach-Preparedness	Wisconsin Emergency Management Agency
Ellsworth	Brown	Society Director	Wisconsin Historical Society
Jim	Draeger	Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer	Wisconsin Historical Society
Sandy	Chalmers	Acting State Executive Director	Wisconsin State FSA Office

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Appendix D2.  
Local Governments Letter and List of Recipients

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United States Department of Agriculture  
Rural Development  
Washington, DC

May 29, 2009

First Last  
Title  
Agency  
Address  
City, State Zip

Subject: Proposed Hampton–Rochester–La Crosse 345 kV Transmission System  
Improvement Project  
Agency and Public Scoping Meetings Notification

Dear Sir or Madam:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RUS), Dairyland Power Cooperative, and other CapX2020 utilities are holding agency and public scoping meetings to discuss the proposed Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kilovolt (kV) Transmission System Improvement Project (the Proposal). Serving as the lead Federal agency, RUS is responsible for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The agency scoping meeting provides an opportunity for you to discuss project details with RUS acting as the lead agency for NEPA compliance, and utility representatives. Comments received will be incorporated into the planning process and used to develop the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The purpose of this letter is to invite you to upcoming agency and public scoping meetings and to notify you of the upcoming Federal Register Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS.

#### Description of Proposal

CapX2020 is a joint initiative of 11 electric transmission-owning utilities in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and the surrounding region to expand the electric transmission grid to meet the increasing demand for power. The proposed facilities are needed to improve regional reliability, enhance local load serving needs, and provide generation outlet support. Xcel Energy Inc., acting as operating companies Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation (NSPM), and Northern States Power Company, a Wisconsin corporation (NSPW) (collectively, Xcel Energy) is the lead utility for the Proposal. Dairyland has requested financial assistance from the RUS for its anticipated 11 percent ownership interest. Other anticipated owners of the proposed facilities include WPPI Energy, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMMPA), and Rochester Public Utilities (RPU).

Committed to the future of rural communities.

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Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800)795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

The CapX2020 utilities listed above are proposing to construct a 345 kV electric transmission line and associated facilities between Hampton, Minnesota; Rochester, Minnesota; and the La Crosse, Wisconsin area. The Proposal includes the 345 kV transmission line from a substation near Hampton, Minnesota, to a proposed new substation in north Rochester, to a new or existing substation near La Crosse, Wisconsin, in addition to the construction of new 161-kV transmission lines and associated facilities in the Rochester, Minnesota area.

#### Document Availability & Requests

In preparation for scoping, the CapX2020 utilities have prepared two documents to support the Proposal. These two documents are intended to provide agencies and the public with a general understanding of the proposed project. The Alternative Evaluation Study (AES) explains the Proposal's need, discusses the alternative methods that have been considered to meet that need, and which alternative is considered the best for fulfilling the need. The Macro Corridor Study (MCS) defines the study area and shows the Proposal's end points. Within the study area, macro-corridors have been developed based on environmental, engineering, economic, land use, and permitting constraints. These documents will be available for review prior to the agency and public scoping meetings to be held in June 2009. Please refer to the NOI in the Federal Register (<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>) for a list of repositories where the documents will be available for review, or if you are interested in receiving copies of either of these documents please contact [Stephanie.Strength@usda.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Strength@usda.gov) or 202-720-0468. These documents will also be posted on the RUS website at <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>.

#### Low Income and Minority Population Notification

The RUS would like to extend special notice if disproportionately high or adverse environmental or human health effects to identifiable low income and minority populations are anticipated by local officials. These populations can be identified through Census Bureau demographic data. It may be necessary to contact these groups of people directly by publishing notices in a second language, or providing a translator at the public meetings. If you are aware of any low income or minority populations in the project area that may be subject to disproportionately high or adverse environmental or human health effects please notify us and provide contact suggestions. RUS can make arrangements to contact the populations directly.

#### Agency and Public Scoping Meetings

You are invited to attend agency and public scoping meetings at the locations listed below:

Agency Scoping Meetings:

<b>Location</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Date and Time</b>
Wanamingo, MN	Wanamingo Community Center 401 Main Street Wanamingo, MN 55983	June 17, 2009  10 - 12pm
La Crosse, WI	Radisson Hotel La Crosse 200 Harborview Plaza La Crosse, WI 54601	June 23, 2009  10 - 12pm

Public Scoping Meetings:

<b>Location</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Date and Time</b>
Plainview, MN	Plainview-Elgin-Millville High School Cafeteria 500 West Broadway Plainview, MN 55964	June 16, 2009  6 - 8pm
Wanamingo, MN	Wanamingo Community Center 401 Main Street Wanamingo, MN 55983	June 17, 2009  6 - 8pm
St. Charles, MN	City of St. Charles Community Meeting Room 830 Whitewater Avenue St. Charles, MN 55972	June 18, 2009  6 - 8pm
La Crescent, MN	La Crescent American Legion 509 North Chestnut La Crescent, MN 55947	June 23, 2009  6 - 8pm
Galesville, WI	Centerville/ Town of Trempealeau Community Center W24854 State Rd. 54/93 Galesville, WI 54630	June 24, 2009  6 - 8pm
Fountain City, WI	Cochrane-Fountain City High School S2770 State Road 35 Fountain City, WI 54629	June 25, 2009  6-8pm

We appreciate the opportunity to discuss the Proposal and address any of your questions or concerns. To RSVP to an agency scoping meeting with the project team, please contact [Stephanie.Strength@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Strength@wdc.usda.gov) or 202-720-0468. We look forward to your participation in the process.

Thank you,



MARK S. PLANK  
Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff

Additional Project Contacts:  
Chuck Thompson  
Manager, Siting and Regulatory Affairs  
Dairyland Power Cooperative  
P.O. Box 9437  
Minneapolis, MN 55440-9437  
800-787-1432  
[lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com](mailto:lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com)

Tom Hillstrom  
Routing Lead  
Xcel Energy  
P.O. Box 9437  
Minneapolis, MN 55440-9437  
800-787-1432  
[lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com](mailto:lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com)



**Appendix D3.**  
**Tribal Representative and THPO Letter and List of Recipients**

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United States Department of Agriculture  
Rural Development  
Washington, DC

June 11, 2009

RE: Proposed Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV Transmission System  
Minnesota and Wisconsin

Dear

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) has received an application for financial assistance from Dairyland, one of the partner utilities of CapX2020, for the construction of a 345 kV electric transmission line and associated facilities to connect Hampton and Rochester, Minnesota with the La Crosse Wisconsin area. CapX2020 is a joint initiative of eleven electric transmission-owning utilities in Minnesota, Wisconsin and the surrounding region to expand the grid to meet the increasing demand for power. Dairyland anticipates an eleven percent ownership interest in the referenced proposal.

The application under consideration by RUS includes construction of a 345 kV transmission line connecting from a substation near Hampton, Minnesota, to a proposed new substation in north Rochester and ending at a new or existing substation near La Crosse, Wisconsin, in addition to the construction of new 161 kV transmission lines and associated facilities in the Rochester, Minnesota area. Dairyland, as well as the other CapX2020 utilities, believe the proposed facilities are needed to improve regional reliability, enhance local load serving needs, and provide generation outlet support.

RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is considering issuance of a permit under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act for this proposal to cross the Mississippi River, thereby making it an undertaking subject to Section 106 review. The USACE has agreed that RUS will be the lead federal agency for the purposes of Section 106 review in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.2(a)(2). RUS also is the lead federal agency responsible for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As such, RUS will coordinate compliance with Section 106 and its implementing procedures with the steps taken to satisfy its NEPA requirements.

To meet RUS requirements and provide general baseline information to support NEPA and Section 106 reviews, the CapX2020 utilities have prepared two documents. The *Alternative Evaluation Study* (AES) explains the need for the proposal, discusses the alternatives that have been considered to meet that need, and establishes the alternative that the CapX2020 utilities believe will best meet that need. In addition to the



United States Department of Agriculture  
Rural Development  
Washington, DC

AES, the CapX2020 utilities prepared a Macro Corridor Study (MCS) which describes the macro corridors that have been developed based on environmental, engineering, economic, land use, and permitting constraints. These documents along with the views of agencies, consulting parties, tribes, and the public will inform RUS's decision regarding which alternatives to carry forward to analysis in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). For an electronic version of these documents you may go to <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>, or if you are interested in receiving copies of either of these documents please contact the RUS project manager, Stephanie Strength at 202-720-0468 or at [Stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:Stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov).

Based on the MCS the following counties could be affected by this proposal – in Minnesota, Goodhue, Rice, Dakota, Winona, Wabasha, Olmsted, Dodge, and Houston; and in Wisconsin, Buffalo, Trempealeau, and La Crosse. As currently defined by RUS, the area of potential effects (APE) for the referenced undertaking includes a broad area encompassed by the macro corridors described in the MCS. RUS will refine the scope of the APE as Section 106 review proceeds and more specific information is gathered about likely effects to historic properties.

In 2008, the CapX2020 utilities conducted a background study to assess the likelihood for historic properties to be identified in the APE. A copy of this report can be made available upon request. Additional study of the APE is planned for the summer 2009. Because the alternatives to be considered consist of corridors and large land areas, RUS will phase the identification and evaluation of historic properties, and the application of the criteria of adverse effect, in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4(b)(2) and § 800.5(a)(3). Accordingly, RUS proposes to conclude Section 106 review with a Programmatic Agreement (PA) so that it may defer these steps until after a specific alignment has been selected.

By letter dated [provide date] to [name of the tribal leader], RUS invited the [name of the tribe] to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced undertaking. Please advise RUS in writing as soon as possible if the [name of the tribe] will participate in consultation so that your concerns and recommendations may be considered as early as possible in project development. If the [name of the tribe] decides to participate, a copy of the background survey will be sent to you for review. I ask that you provide RUS with your written comments on this study within thirty days of receipt. RUS is particularly interested in information that you might provide about historic properties to which your tribe attaches of religious and cultural significance that might be affected by this proposal, and recommendations about what steps should be taken to identify such historic properties. Your decision about consultation and recommendations should be sent to Stephanie Strength at 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 1571, Room 2244, Washington, D.C. 20250-1571 or via email to [Stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:Stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov).

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In order to get more information about this proposal, RUS also is inviting the [name of the tribe] to attend any of the following agency and public scoping meetings. RUS requests that you notify Stephanie Strength at [Stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:Stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov) in advance if you plan to attend an agency scoping meeting.

**Agency Scoping Meetings:**

Location	Address	Date and Time
Wanamingo, MN	Wanamingo Community Center 401 Main Street Wanamingo, MN 55983	June 17, 2009 10 - 12pm
La Crosse, WI	Radisson Hotel La Crosse 200 Harborview Plaza La Crosse, WI 54601	June 23, 2009 10 - 12pm

**Public Scoping Meetings:**

Location	Address	Date and Time
Plainview, MN	Plainview-Elgin-Millville High School Cafeteria 500 West Broadway Plainview, MN 55964	June 16, 2009 6 - 8pm
Wanamingo, MN	Wanamingo Community Center 401 Main Street Wanamingo, MN 55983	June 17, 2009 6 - 8pm
St. Charles, MN	City of St. Charles Community Meeting Room 830 Whitewater Avenue St. Charles, MN 55972	June 18, 2009 6 - 8pm
La Crescent, MN	La Crescent American Legion 509 North Chestnut La Crescent, MN 55947	June 23, 2009 6 - 8pm
Galesville, WI	Centerville/Town of Trempealeau Community Center W24854 State Rd. 54/93 Galesville, WI 54630	June 24, 2009 6 - 8pm
Fountain City, WI	Cochrane-Fountain City High School S2770 State Road 35 Fountain City, WI 54629	June 25, 2009 6 - 8pm

RUS is hopeful that the [name of the tribe] will work directly with the CapX2020 utilities and their representatives as review under Section 106 proceeds. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Stephanie Strength at 202-

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720-0468 or via email at [Stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:Stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov). RUS appreciates your attention to this matter.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at 202-720-1649. RUS appreciates your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark S. Plank". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark S. Plank, Director  
Engineering and Environmental Staff  
Water and Environmental Programs

cc: Stephanie Strength

A large, light blue silhouette of a rural landscape. It features a prominent water tower on the right side, with a house and other buildings to its left. The foreground consists of rolling green hills.

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