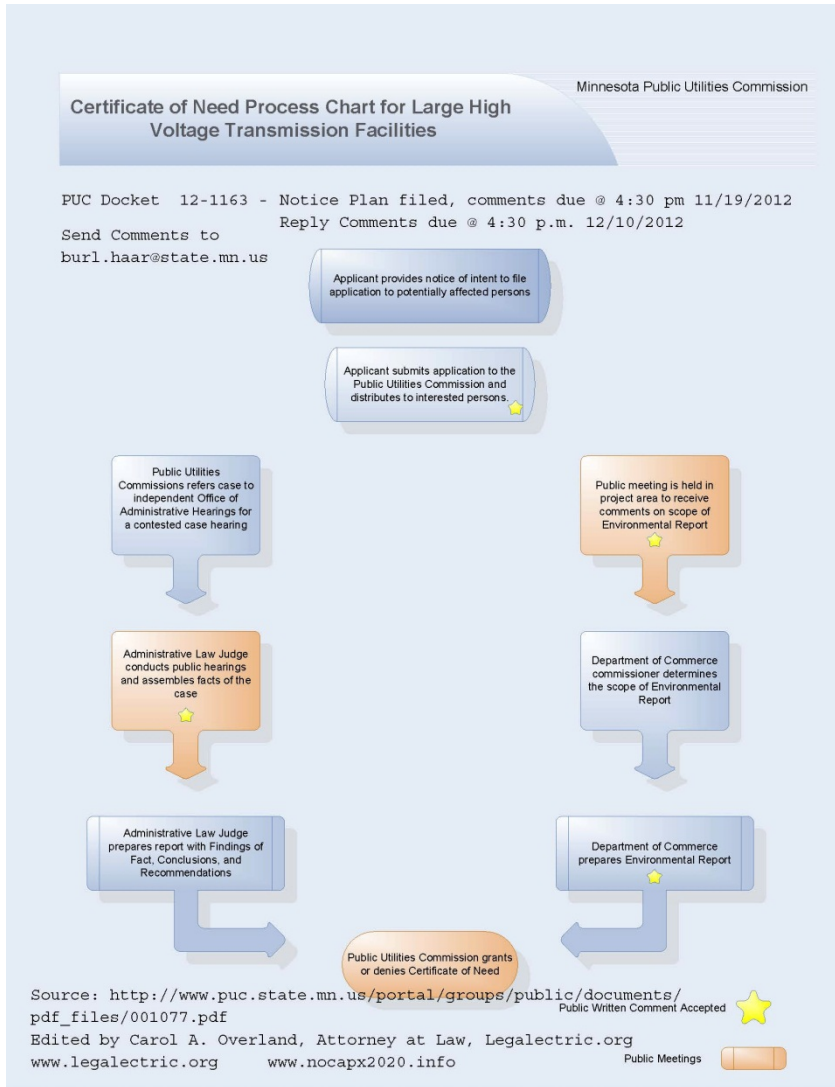
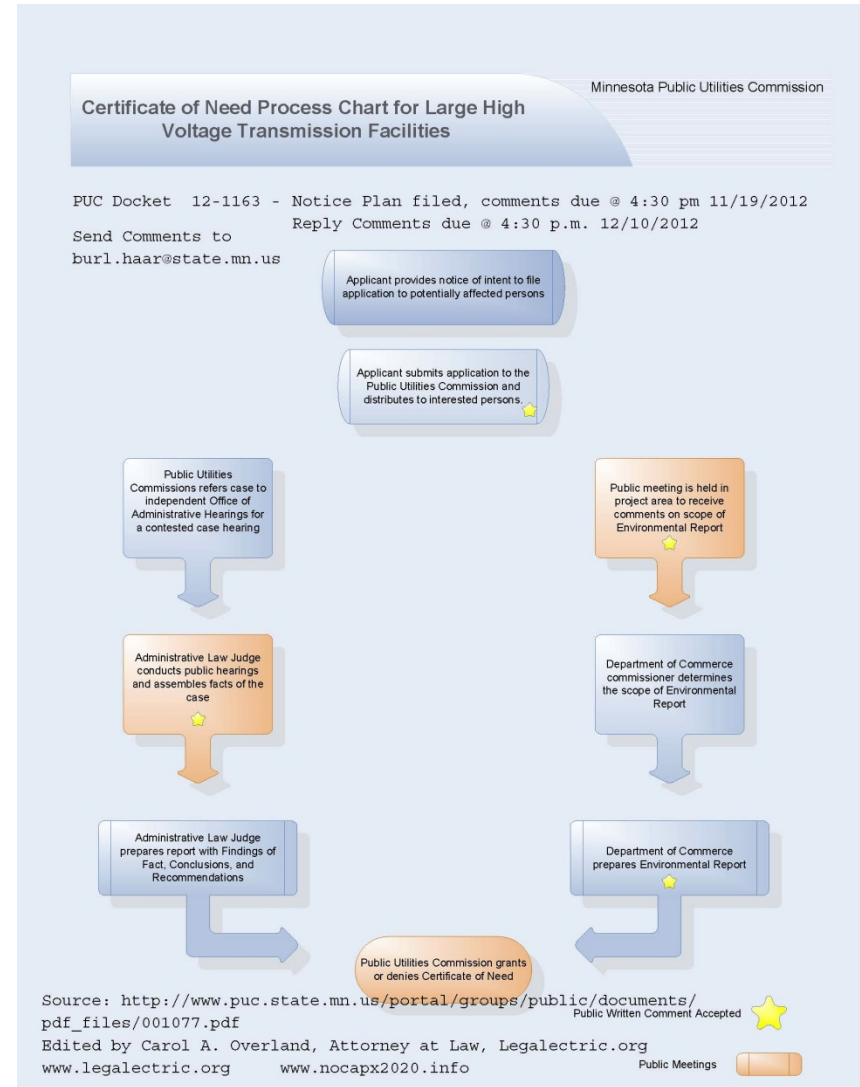


WARNING: Weigh in and participate at Certificate of Need stage, because if Certificate of Need is granted, it's "needed" and then a routing docket will determine WHERE it goes, not IF it goes! **NOW'S THE TIME!!!**

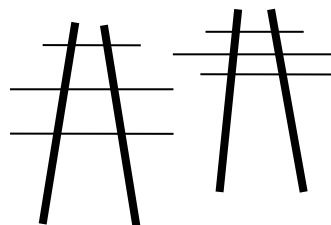


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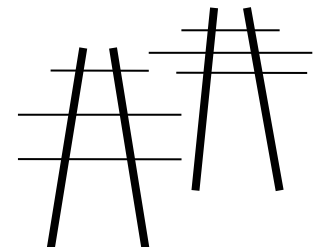
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This is “Certificate of Need” docket 12-1163, where our Public Utilities Commission determines if this transmission project is needed under statutory criteria. Minn. Stat. §216B.243 (PUC process chart on reverse side). Now is the time to weigh in.

Criteria includes long-range demand forecasts, needs, conservation and efficiency, “regional reliability” and deliverability and cost. There will be both public and evidentiary hearings, and you may participate or intervene as a party. It’s very complicated, “big picture” energy issues, but the only way you can have an influence in the Commission’s determination is to show up!

Subscribe to PUC Docket 12-1163, write robin.benson@state.mn.us to get on service list, get a copy of the Application from Minnesota Power, file comments on whether the Application is complete, and consider intervening to have a place at table as a full party. You can find updates at www.legalelectric.org, search for **Great Northern Transmission Line**.

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Powerline targeting your land? Consider the “BUY THE FARM” option

Minn. Stat. § 216E.12 EMINENT DOMAIN POWERS; POWER OF CONDEMNATION

Subd. 4. **Contiguous land.** When private real property that is an agricultural or nonagricultural homestead, nonhomestead agricultural land, rental residential property, and both commercial and noncommercial seasonal residential recreational property... is proposed to be acquired for the construction of a site or route for a high-voltage transmission line with a capacity of 200 kilovolts or more by eminent domain proceedings, the fee owner... shall have the option to require the utility to condemn a fee interest in any amount of contiguous, commercially viable land which the owner or vendee wholly owns... and elects in writing to transfer to the utility within 60 days after receipt of the notice of [condemnation] filed pursuant to section [117.055](#)....

The enactment of §216E.04 subd. 4 (f/k/a 116C.63) reflects a creative legislative response to a conflict between rural landowners and utilities concerning HVTL right-of-ways. Opponents of the utilities, resisting further encroachments upon the rural landscape and fearing the effects upon the rural environment and public health, not only challenge the placement and erection of high voltage transmission lines, but question whether the rural community’s sacrifice to the commonweal serves a greater social good. See *Cooperative Power Ass’n ex rel. Bd. Of Dirs. v. Assand*, 288 N.W. 2d 697, 698 (Minn. 1980).

The “Buy the Farm” option is under siege – utilities are trying to restrict landowner rights, and the Supreme Court has taken up this case, briefs are due over the next two months. Carol A. Overland, Esq., has permission to file an Amicus Brief in this case on behalf of transmission routing clients. For updates, visit www.nocapx2020.info and search “Buy the Farm.”

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