

**NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD ON
REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM CERTAIN CERTIFICATE OF NEED
APPLICATION CONTENT REQUIREMENTS**

Issued: August 29, 2025

In the Matter of the Application for a Certificate of Need for the Bison to Alexandria Second Circuit 345 kV Transmission Line Project.

PUC Docket Number: E002, ET2, E015, E017, ET6135/CN-25-116

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) is accepting comments on Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy, Great River Energy, Minnesota Power, Otter Tail Power Company, and Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (collectively, the Applicants) request for exemptions from certain certificate of need information requirements for the certificate of need application for the Bison – Alexandria 345 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Project (Project).

The Project would involve adding a new 345 kV transmission circuit on existing double-circuit capable transmission line structures from the existing Bison Substation near Fargo, North Dakota to the existing Alexandria Substation near Alexandria, Minnesota. The proposed 345 kV transmission line will traverse Wilkin, Otter Tail, Grant, Douglas, and Clay counties.

Comment Period: Initial comment period closes **September 19, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.**
Reply comment period closes **September 26, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.**
Supplemental comment period closes **October 3, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.**

Comments received after the close of the comment period may or may not be considered by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

Topics for Comment

- Should the Commission grant the exemptions to the certificate of need application content requirements as requested by the Applicants' in their August 15, 2025 filing (Document ID: [20258-222169-01](#))?

Submit Comments

Online: mn.gov/puc/get-involved/public-comments

Email: consumer.puc@state.mn.us

U.S. Mail: Consumer Affairs Office
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Comments will be made available to the public via the Commission's website except in limited circumstances consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. The Commission does not edit or delete personal identifying information from submissions. Please include the docket number (25-116) in all communications.

Review Process. Information on the review processes for certificates of need and site and route permits for large electric power facilities is available on the Commission's website at:

<https://puc.eip.mn.gov/>

Filing Requirements. Utilities, telecommunications carriers, official parties, and state agencies are required to file documents using the Commission's electronic filing system (eDockets) at <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us>. All parties, participants, and interested persons are also encouraged to use eDockets.

Full Case Record. To see all documents filed in this matter, visit eDockets at <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/documents>, enter the docket number (25-116), and select Search.

Subscribe to the Docket. To receive email notification when new documents are filed in this matter visit: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling> and select *Subscriptions*.

Project Mailing List. Sign up to receive notices about project milestones and opportunities to participate or change your mailing preference. Email eservice.admin@state.mn.us or call 651-201-2246 with the docket number (25-116), your name, mailing address, and email address.

Questions about these dockets or Commission process and procedure? Contact Commission staff, Saarah Maxon at saarah.maxon@state.mn.us or 651-201-2200.

To request this document in another format such as large print or audio, call 651-296-0406 (voice). Persons with a hearing or speech impairment may call using their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service or email consumer.puc@state.mn.us for assistance.