

NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION AND PUBLIC INFORMATION AND SCOPING MEETINGS

Issued: January 22, 2026

In the Matter of the Application of Minnesota Power and American Transmission Company, LLC for a Certificate of Need and Route Permit for the Iron Range – St. Louis County – Arrowhead 345 kV Transmission Project.

Docket Number: E015/CN-25-111; E015/TL-25-112

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) will hold public information and scoping meetings for the Iron Range – St. Louis County – Arrowhead 345 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Project (Project) on the following dates:

In-Person Meetings

Duluth Tuesday February 10, 2026	Floodwood Wednesday February 11, 2026	Grand Rapids Wednesday February 11, 2026
5:00 p.m. Open House 6:00 p.m. Meeting Aad Shrine Meeting and Event Center 5152 Miller Trunk Hwy Hermantown, MN 55811	11:00 a.m. Open House 12:00 p.m. Meeting Downtown Fair Center 107 W. 7th Ave Floodwood, MN 55736 US	5:00 p.m. Open House 6:00 p.m. Meeting Timberlake Lodge 144 SE 17 th Street Grand Rapids, MN 55744

For all meetings -- the meeting ends when all attendees have commented or two hours after the meeting begins, whichever comes first. Please arrive at the start time to ensure participation.

Doors will open 60 minutes prior to the meeting to provide attendees an opportunity to review the application, maps, and other materials for the proposed project and ask questions of state staff and the applicant. ***During this time, comments made by attendees will become a part of the record for Commission consideration only if the attendee submits the comment in writing.*** Forms will be available for this purpose.

Note: If there is inclement weather for one or more of the scheduled meetings, and the Commission postpones meeting(s), we have scheduled the following backup meetings. If needed due to inclement weather, we will hold meetings one week later, same locations, times, and dates except the Grand Rapids meeting would be held on Monday, February 16.

Inclement Weather Backup Dates

Grand Rapids Monday February 16, 2026	Duluth Tuesday February 17, 2026	Floodwood Wednesday February 18, 2026
5:00 PM Open House 6:00 PM Meeting	5:00 PM Open House 6:00 PM Meeting	11:00 AM Open House 12:00 PM Meeting
Timberlake Lodge 144 SE 17 th Street Grand Rapids, MN 55744	Aad Shrine Meeting and Event Center 5152 Miller Trunk Hwy Hermantown, MN 55811	Downtown Fair Center 107 W. 7th Ave Floodwood, MN 55736 US

This notice serves as the notice for all meetings on February 10 and 11, 2026, as well as any necessary back-up meetings on February 16, 17, and 18, 2026. For clarity, we will only conduct back-up meeting(s) if one or more of the originally scheduled meetings cannot occur due to inclement weather. To find out if a meeting is canceled due to bad weather or other reason call 1-855-731-6208 or visit mn.gov/puc.

Online Meeting via WebEx

Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026

Time: Begins at 6:00 pm and ends when all attendees have commented or at 8:00 pm, whichever comes first. Please arrive at the start time to ensure participation.

Join by WebEx (Webinar) Link:

<https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/j.php?MTID=m480e38554653552ee9290f7dab8949f5>

Webinar Number: 2486 574 7269

Webinar Password: MnPUC! (667820 when dialing from a phone or video system)

Join by Phone: 1-855-282-6330

Access Code: 2486 574 7269

If you are joining the meeting via WebEx and would like to ask a question or make a comment during the designated portion of the meeting, use the chat or raised-hand functions to send a message to the meeting moderator. If you are joining the meeting by phone, press *3 on your

phone. When it is your turn to speak, your line will be unmuted, and you will be able to ask questions and provide comments.

Additional information and instructions are available at:
<https://mn.gov/puc/activities/meetings/webex/>

Project Information

The applicants propose to construct approximately 67.5 miles of transmission line from Minnesota Power's Iron Range Substation near Grand Rapids, Minnesota to Minnesota Power's St. Louis County Substation near Hermantown, Minnesota, with a connection to American Transmission Company's nearby Arrowhead Substation along portions of Itasca and St. Louis Counties. The route proposed is located along, and in some cases replaces, existing high-voltage transmission lines for 92 percent of its length. New transmission lines will be required to connect the existing substations in Grand Rapids and Hermantown. The proposed Project would also include modifications to the Iron Range Substation, St. Louis County Substation, and the ATC Arrowhead Substation.

The Project requires a certificate of need (CN) and a route permit from the Commission before it can be constructed. The applicants submitted a joint CN and route permit application on January 5, 2026. The Commission has determined that the joint application is complete. You may find information on the Project, including the application and the environmental assessment prepared by the applicants, on the Commission's website: <https://puc.eip.mn.gov/web/project/25112>. You may find additional documents and information on eDockets: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/documents> (enter Docket #25-111 or #25-112 and search).

Public Meeting Information

Commission staff will facilitate the meetings. The purpose of the meetings as outlined in Minnesota Rule Chapter 7849 and Minnesota Statute Chapter 216I, include the following:

1. Provide information about the proposed project and the state's permitting process, and present major issues. Commission staff will begin the meeting by presenting information on the permitting and environmental review process. Applicants will provide an overview of the proposed project and the potential human and environmental impacts and mitigation measures to minimize impacts that are presented in the environmental assessment (EA) included in the application.
2. Accept public comments on the scope of the environmental report (ER) that is required by Minnesota Rule 7849.1200. The Commission will prepare this report and it must contain the information outlined in Minnesota Rule 7849.1500, including the potential

human and environmental impacts of the proposed project as well as projects of a different size or type or with a different timing. To help the Commission determine the projects that it will analyze in the ER, please consider providing information to help answer the following question:

- a. Are there other ways to meet the stated need for the project, instead of the proposed transmission line? If so, what alternatives to the project should be studied in the ER?
3. Accept public comments on the need for and scope of an addendum to the EA included in the application. To help the Commission decide whether it needs to prepare an addendum to the EA, please consider providing information to help answer the following questions:
 - a. Are there potential human and environmental impacts or unique characteristics of the proposed project that are not addressed in the EA (see [Appendix E including maps](#)) prepared by the applicant?
 - b. Are there any methods to mitigate potential impacts of the proposed project that require further evaluation?
 - c. Are there any other alternative routes or route segments that should be considered to mitigate potential impacts associated with the project?
4. Describe the sample route permit for high voltage transmission line projects and explain how the applicants will be required to construct and operate the project in accordance with all conditions of the permit, if issued. The Commission can consider the addition of special conditions to a permit to address specific project concerns or impacted resources in the project area. The Commission will accept comments from the public on the need for and type of special conditions that may be appropriate to include in a permit. To help the Commission decide if it should consider special conditions, please consider providing information to help answer the following questions:
 - a. Are there potential human and environmental impacts of the project for which adequate measures, including mitigation, have not been proposed to reduce or offset those impacts?
 - b. If yes, describe special condition(s) the Commission might include in a permit to offset these impacts.
5. Respond to questions raised by the public. Any verbal comments you make at the public meetings will become a part of the record. You may also submit written comments for the record.

If any reasonable accommodation is needed to enable you to fully participate in these meetings, please contact the Commission at 651-296-0406 or 1-800-657-3782 at least one week in advance of the meeting.

Comment Period

Written comments will be accepted through **Thursday, February 26, 2026, by 4:30 p.m.** Please include docket number CN-25-111 or TL-25-112 in all communications. Comments received after the close of the comment period may or may not be considered by the Commission.

Note: If there is inclement weather for one or more of the scheduled meetings, and the Commission postpones a meeting, the deadline for accepting written comments will be extended to **Thursday, March 5, by 4:30 p.m.**

Submit Comments

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

Email: Emily.Johnson1@state.mn.us

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

The Commission will make submitted comments 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.

Additional Information

Minnesota Statutes and Rules. This project is being reviewed under Minnesota Rules, chapter 7849, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 216I and Minnesota Rules 7850.4000, 7850.4300, and 7850.4400. The rules and statutes are available for review at: revisor.mn.gov.

Review Process. Information on the review processes for large energy infrastructure facilities is available on the Commission's website at: 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 (eFiling). All parties, participants, and interested persons are also encouraged to use eFiling: edockets.state.mn.us, select *Sign In/Register* and follow the prompts.

Full Case Record. See all documents filed in this matter via the Commission's website at: edockets.state.mn.us, select *Search Documents*, enter the docket number (25-111) or (25-112), and select *Search*.

Subscribe to the Docket. To receive email notification when new documents are filed in this matter visit: edockets.state.mn.us, 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 (25-111) or (25-112), your name, mailing address, and email address.

Project Website: <https://puc.eip.mn.gov/web/project/25112>

Contacts

Public Utilities Commission

Saarah Maxon, Energy Facilities Planner, sarah.maxon@state.mn.us or 651-201-2200
Emily Johnson, Environmental Review Manager, Emily.Johnson1@state.mn.us or 651-539-1023
Craig Janezich, Public Advisor, craig.janezich@state.mn.us or 651-201-2203

Minnesota Power

Drew Janke, Environmental Compliance Specialist, djanke@minnesotapower.com or 218-355-3569

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.

Project Overview Map