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Public invited to open houses for MR-C transmission line's potential routes

DULUTH, Minn. – Minnesota Power, Otter Tail Power Company, and Great River Energy are hosting open houses in March to provide an opportunity for the public to ask questions and provide feedback on potential routes for the Maple River – Cuyuna 345 kV Transmission Project.

The proposed MR-C Transmission Project is a new, approximately 160- to 180-mile-long, single-circuit 345 kV transmission line on double-circuit capable structures from Minnesota Power's Cuyuna Substation near Riverton, Minnesota, to Otter Tail Power's Maple River Substation near Fargo, North Dakota. Approximately 95% of the project will be in Minnesota.

The MR-C Project is one in a portfolio of transmission projects approved by the regional grid operator, Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), in its 2024 Long-Range Transmission Planning. As a part of this larger portfolio, the MR-C Transmission Project will:

- Enhance regional transfer capability and grid reliability in the Upper Midwest, providing flexibility as grid operating conditions become more variable.
- Increase economic efficiency and relieve congestion as energy is transferred from where it is produced to where it is needed.
- Support load growth, fleet transition, and electrification as the demand for reliable clean energy increases across the region.

Using community input gathered during public open houses in June and October 2025, and through coordination with federal and state agencies, local officials, and Tribal governments, the three companies refined the initial study area by identifying routing opportunities based on existing transmission lines and then developed several preliminary routes.

Input received during this third round of open houses will help Minnesota Power, Otter Tail Power and Great River Energy identify the future proposed route to be submitted to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission during the state's route permitting process. The companies anticipate identifying a proposed route in mid-2026.

The open house schedule is below. Project displays and detailed maps will be available for review, and project team members will be on hand to answer questions.

Monday, March 23	**Tuesday, March 24**
	Noon-2:00 PM Historic Holmes Theatre 806 Summit Ave Detroit Lakes, MN 56501 **5:30-7:30 PM** Historic Holmes Theatre 806 Summit Ave, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
5:30-7:30 PM TAK Music Venue 1710 Center Ave W Dilworth, MN 56529	
Wednesday, March 25	**Thursday, March 26**
Noon-2:00 PM American Legion Post 212 900 1st St E Park Rapids, MN 56470 **5:30-7:30 PM** Pelican Lakes Conservation Club and Community Center 8922 Thrane Dr Breezy Point, MN 56472	**Noon-2:00 PM** Taconite Canteen and Event Center 240 Curtis Ave Ironton, MN 56455

For more information about the project and to view a map of the preliminary routes, visit https://mrctransmissionproject.com.

To ask a question, leave a comment, or be added to the project mailing list, email connect@mrctransmissionproject.com or call the project hotline at 1-888-419-5670.

About Minnesota Power
Minnesota Power provides electric service within a 26,000-square-mile area in northeastern Minnesota, supporting comfort, security and quality of life for 150,000 customers, 14 municipalities and some of the largest industrial customers in the United States. More information can be found at www.mnpower.com.

About ALLETE, Inc.
ALLETE, Inc. is an energy company headquartered in Duluth, Minnesota. In addition to its electric utilities, Minnesota Power and Superior Water, Light and Power of Wisconsin, ALLETE owns ALLETE Clean Energy, based in Duluth, Minnesota; BNI Energy in Bismarck, North Dakota; and New Energy Equity, headquartered in Annapolis, Maryland; and has an 8% equity interest in the American Transmission Co. More information about ALLETE is available at www.allete.com.

ALLETE calculates and reports carbon emissions based on the GHG Protocol. Details in ALLETE's Corporate Sustainability Report.

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