

APPENDIX N
PUBLIC OUTREACH MATERIALS

Engagement Phase 1: Study Corridors

Mailings
Overview Summary Handout
Newspaper Ads and Affidavits of Service
Open House Website Pages

Stakeholder letter and Email

January 14, 2021

RE: The Duluth Loop Reliability Project Engagement Opportunities

Dear,

As a valued community member and customer – you may already be aware of Minnesota Power’s commitment to delivering reliable, affordable and cleaner energy to our customers. We have made significant changes to our generation mix, including the retirement of several small coal units, and now half of the energy we deliver comes from renewable sources. In order to maintain a continuous supply of safe and reliable electricity, we are investing in our transmission infrastructure to enhance the stability of our electric system in the communities we serve.

The Duluth Loop Reliability Project will enhance reliability by building an additional transmission source to serve communities in and around Duluth and along the North Shore. The attached overview handout outlines the three project components and includes a map of the Study Corridors within the Study Area.

Continued coordination and collaboration with federal, state and local agencies, local leaders, community organizations, and the public is critical to sharing data and gathering input to define routing opportunities and sensitivities within the Study Corridors and Study Area. Starting January 18, our project team will begin an inclusive public engagement process reaching people working and living within the Study Area by providing virtual and safe no-contact opportunities to learn about the project, talk with project team members, review maps and share input. We hope you will participate and encourage others to be part of the routing process.

Engagement opportunities available January 18 through February 5:

- **Visit the Virtual Open House** available through our website at duluthloop.com. Visit the open house webpage on your own time to learn full details about the project and submit your feedback. Project staff will be available for live 1:1 chats through the Virtual Open House during the following times:
 - Tuesday, January 26th from 12:00pm – 1:00pm
 - Wednesday, January 27th from 4:30pm – 6:00pm
 - Friday, January 29th from 7:30am – 9:00am
- **Receive an Information Packet**
 - Call our information line at 218-755-5512 to request mailed project information or email this request to connect@duluthloop.com.
 - A digital version of the packet is available at duluthloop.com.
- **Schedule a call with the project team** to discuss the project and your interests. To schedule a meeting call 218-755-5512, email us at connect@duluthloop.com.

(Over)

Mark Your Calendars for a Virtual Community Meeting on Thursday, January 28

- Join us virtually for a presentation and Q&A session. The same presentation is being offered at two times – 12:00pm and 7:00pm CST – to accommodate your schedule.
- Visit the project website for meeting details and registration. Registration is required.

Please visit the project website at duluthloop.com to learn more about these engagement opportunities, register for the virtual community meeting, and stay up to date on project developments.

Collaboration remains a top priority for Minnesota Power and we appreciate your participation. Thank you for your time and feedback as we develop this important energy project that will improve energy reliability for the Duluth area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim B. Atkinson".

Jim Atkinson
Environmental and Real Estate Manager
Minnesota Power
jbatkinson@allete.com

Duluth Loop RELIABILITY PROJECT

December 2020

Our Commitment to Reliable Energy

Under our EnergyForward strategy, we are committed to delivering reliable, affordable and cleaner energy to our customers. We have made significant changes to our generation mix, including the retirement of several small coal units, and now half of the energy we deliver comes from renewable sources. In order to maintain a continuous supply of safe and reliable electricity, we are investing in our transmission infrastructure to enhance the stability of our electric system in the communities we serve.

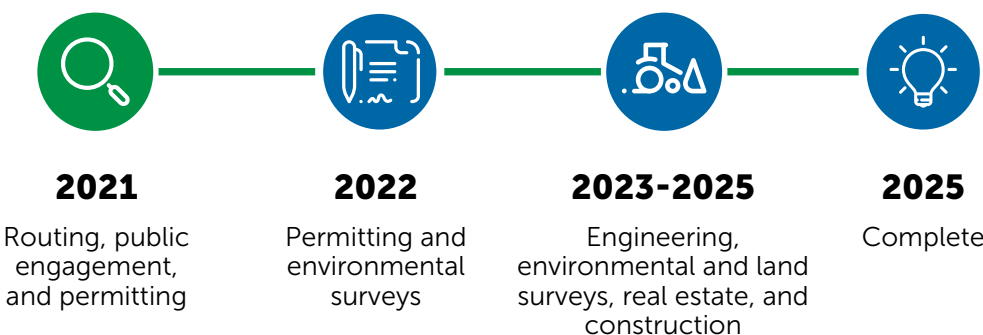
Project Overview

This project will **enhance reliability** by building an additional transmission source to communities in and around Duluth and along the North Shore.

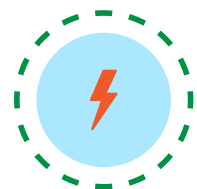
The Duluth Loop Reliability Project includes three components:

- construction of a new 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line between the Ridgeview and Hilltop substations,
- construction of approximately one-mile extension of an existing 230kV transmission line, connecting to the Arrowhead Substation,
- and upgrades to the Ridgeview, Hilltop, and Arrowhead substations.

Schedule

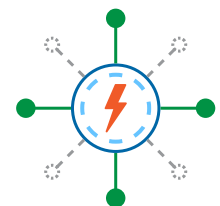


Benefits



ENHANCE ENERGY RELIABILITY

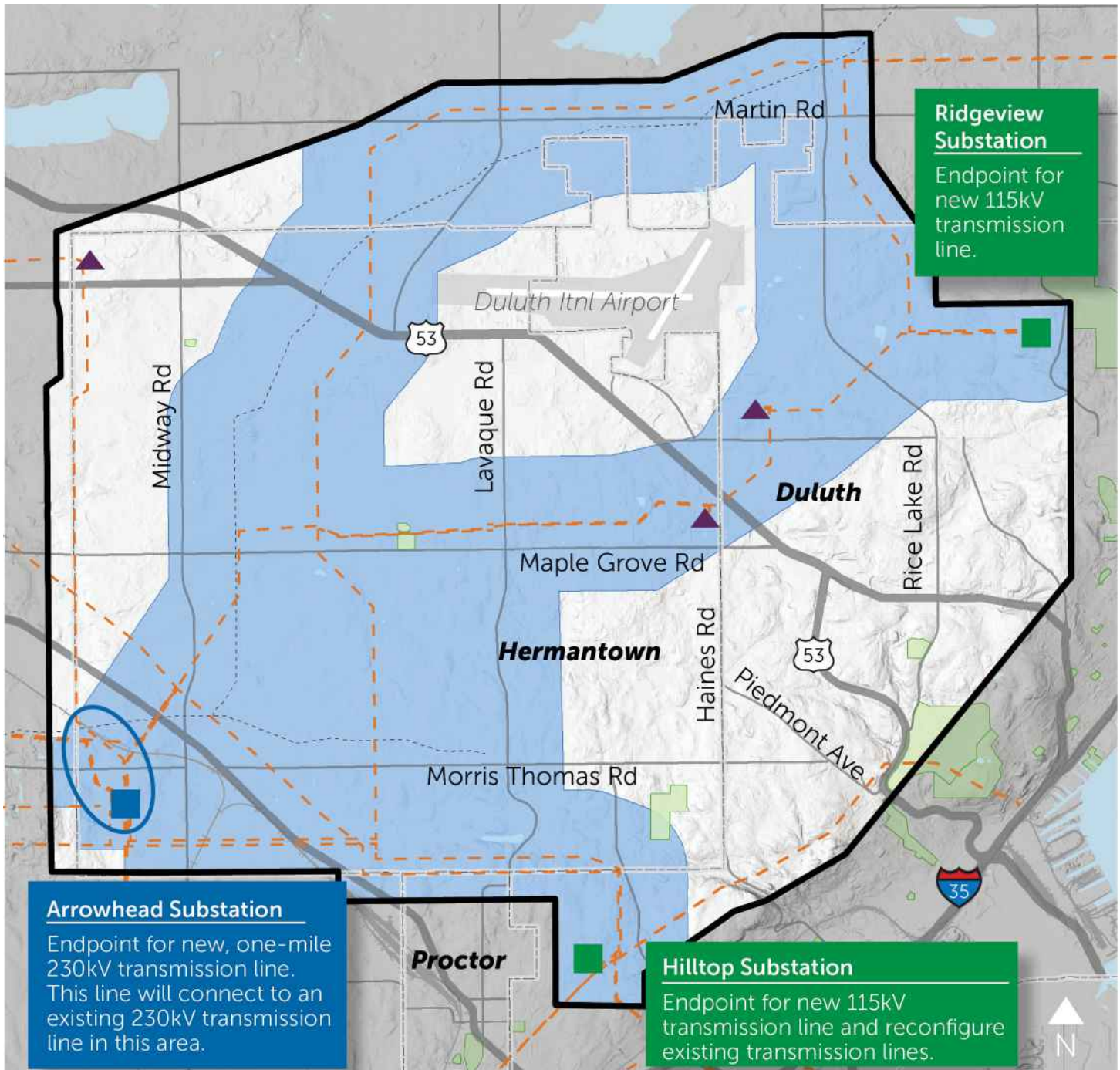
for communities in Duluth and the North Shore by adding transmission in the area.



REPLACE GRID STRENGTH AND STABILITY

Study Area & Study Corridors

Minnesota Power developed the Study Area and Study Corridors to meet the needs of the Project. The Study Area was delineated to include the project endpoints (project substations) and routing opportunity features found between the endpoints, such as existing transmission lines and other linear infrastructure. These existing features have been highlighted as Study Corridors. In March 2021, Route Alternatives will be developed within this Study Area and along the Study Corridors.



Postcard

Duluth Loop Reliability Project

VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

Due to COVID-19, we are taking action to keep you and the Minnesota Power team safe and healthy. We are hosting virtual meetings for you to learn about the project and ask our project team questions. Comments will be accepted from **January 18 to February 5** during the open house.



JOIN US

Thursday, January 28

for a presentation and Q&A session. The same presentation will be offered at two times to accommodate your schedule.

12 P.M. AND 7 P.M. CST



See meeting details at: **duluthloop.com**

Register today!



AN ALLETE COMPANY

DULUTH LOOP RELIABILITY PROJECT

30 W Superior St
Duluth, MN 55802



Duluth Loop Reliability Project



This project will **enhance reliability** by building an additional transmission source to communities in and around Duluth and along the North Shore.

THE DULUTH LOOP INCLUDES THREE COMPONENTS:

- Construction of a new 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line between the Ridgeview and Hilltop substations
- Construction of approximately one-mile extension of an existing 230kV transmission line, connecting to the Arrowhead Substation
- Upgrades to the Ridgeview, Hilltop, and Arrowhead substations

BENEFITS



ENHANCE ENERGY RELIABILITY

for communities in Duluth and the North Shore by adding transmission in the area.



REPLACE GRID STRENGTH AND STABILITY

that was once provided by local coal-fired generation.

PROJECT SCHEDULE



2021

Routing, public engagement, and permitting



2022

Permitting, engineering, surveys, and real estate



2023-2025

Construction



2025

Complete



Questions? We are here to help.

Email us at connect@duluthloop.com or give us a call at **218-755-5512**.

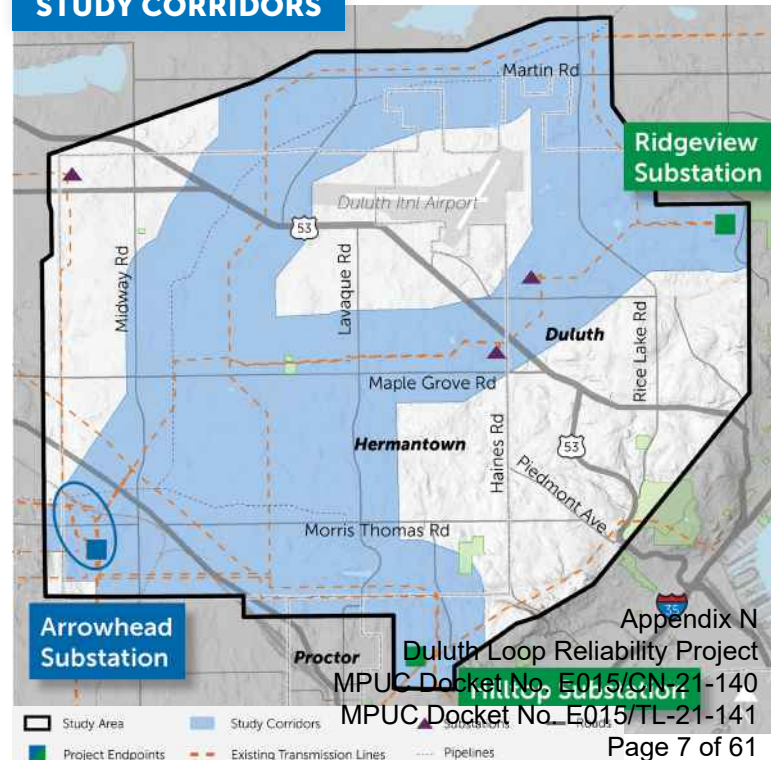
ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Virtual Community Meeting: **JANUARY 28**
- Virtual Open House: **JAN 18 – FEB 5**
- Call our information line to request a mailed project information packet
- Visit **DULUTHLOOP.COM** for full details
- Live chats: **TUES, JAN 26 | 12:00 - 1:00pm**

WED, JAN 27 | 4:30 - 6:00pm

FRI, JAN 29 | 7:30 - 9:00am

STUDY CORRIDORS



Appendix N
Duluth Loop Reliability Project
MPUC Docket No. E015/CN-21-140
MPUC Docket No. E015/TL-21-141

Officials make changes to vaccination sites

By Matthew Guerry
Forum News Service

ST. PAUL — Changes are coming to the vaccine clinics that opened across Minnesota last week in a bid to bring an earlier end to the coronavirus pandemic. Elderly residents are being given more time to sign up for appointments at the sites, one of which is set to relocate this week. A pop-up clinic just for Twin Cities teachers, school staff members and child care workers will also launch this week at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul.

Gov. Tim Walz said in a statement Monday morning that he is directing the changes so Minnesota has “the infrastructure in place to be ready when the federal government finally begins to send us more vaccine,” echoing the repeated calls he and state health officials have made for the federal government to produce and distribute greater quantities of vaccine doses.

“Every shot in the arm is another step toward crushing COVID and ending this pandemic. And we’re going to get the vaccine we do have into arms quickly in Minnesota — whether that’s a few thousand doses or many more,” Walz said.

Regionally and nationally, the demand for the COVID-19 vaccine has so far outstripped the supply. Approximately 529,375

doses have been shipped to Minnesota since mid-December, enough to account for the initial segment of the population that health officials are prioritizing.

That priority group consists mostly of health care workers and long-term care facility residents. Last week, vaccine eligibility was extended to Minnesotans age 65 or older, teachers, school staff members and child care workers for the launch of what officials are calling community vaccination clinics. Walz’s office on Monday said 13,300 newly eligible residents were vaccinated at the clinics between Jan. 21 and 23.

Minnesota Department of Health officials cautioned that because the state receives only about 60,000 doses of the vaccine each week, many of which are still being conserved for health care workers and nursing home residents, only a limited number can be set aside for the new clinics for the time being. But that didn’t stop residents from barraging the department’s clinic scheduling website and phone line, periodically disrupting both services.

Anticipating a similar level of demand, officials announced that seniors citizens can this week make clinic appointments through a lottery system instead of on a first-

come, first-served basis. Elderly residents can pre-register for their appointments at mn.gov/findmyvaccine beginning at 5 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 26, or by calling 833-431-2053 beginning at 9 a.m. Tuesday.

Elderly Minnesotans will have a full 24 hours to register online once the portal is activated. Educators and child care workers, meanwhile, will still be notified by their employers as to when they can visit the clinics, which do not accept walk-ins.

Residents who receive appointments will receive a follow-up with next-step instructions by text message, email or phone call. Officials said Monday that signing up early or later in the day won’t affect an individual’s chances of being selected for an appointment and recommended pre-registering online.

Older Minnesotans who don’t have computers or don’t know how to use them are able to ask their family members or close contacts for help registering online, Minnesota IT Services Commissioner Tarek Tomez said at a press conference Monday.

“One of the things that we would really recommend is that you have a family member, whether younger or older, a niece or nephew or uncle that can sign up for you that has access, the online registration is probably going to be your best opportunity,” Tomez said.

Minnesotans who registered for a clinic appointment last week were put on a waitlist and will automatically be entered for a chance to receive an appointment this week.

Clinics in Brooklyn Center, Fergus Falls, Mountain Iron, Thief

River Falls, Sartell, North Mankato, Rochester, Marshall and St. Paul will reopen again this week, however the clinic in Andover will move to Blaine. The Blaine and Brooklyn Center clinics will this week be open only to senior citizens.

Approximately 8,000 doses of vaccine will be set aside for the clinics this week, according to the governor’s office. An additional 15,000 will be deployed to the pop-up clinic in St. Paul, which is set to operate Thursday through Saturday, Jan. 28-30.

Like the smaller clinics that came before it, the clinic at the Xcel Energy Center is meant to be a model for future mass-vaccination efforts in Minnesota, the governor’s office said.

In another directive announced Monday, the governor’s office also put pressure on health care providers administering the vaccine to pick up the pace. Providers receiving doses of the vaccine will now have 72 hours to administer 90% of what they get, the governor’s office said, and administer the remainder within one week.

“If a provider does not meet the goals, they should anticipate potential changes to their vaccine allocations,” the governor’s office said in a news release.

So far, a total of 335,477 vaccine doses have been administered in Minnesota. Approximately 67,400 residents have received the requisite two doses of the vaccine, which are needed for maximum effectiveness.

An additional 266,985 residents have received at least one dose.

Contact Matthew Guerry at mguerry@forumcomm.com or 651-321-4314

BRIEF

\$1M lottery ticket sold in Superior

News Tribune
A \$1 million lottery ticket was sold in Superior on Saturday.

The ticket for Saturday’s Powerball draw was sold at the Kwik Trip at 2807 Tower Ave., according to the Wisconsin Lottery.

“Someone in Superior had a spectacular weekend,” the Wisconsin Lottery tweeted Monday morning.

The winning numbers for Saturday’s draw were 8, 5, 17, 28, 27 and 14.

CORRECTION

A story in Monday’s News Tribune, “Mining divides County Board” (Page A1), included an incorrect passage connecting a proposed state bill and Rep. Betty McCollum’s federal bill. The two bills, both aimed at moratoriums on copper-nickel mining, are not companions. A different state bill is a companion to McCollum’s.

The News Tribune regrets the error.

Report errors in today’s edition to Editor Rick Lubbers at 218-723-5301 or rlubbers@duluthnews.com.

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Northland at lowest daily COVID-19 count in 3 months

News Tribune

Health officials in Minnesota and Wisconsin reported Monday that 64 more people in the Northland have tested positive for COVID-19.

It’s the lowest number of reported daily cases across the 10-county region since Oct. 12, which also had 64 cases. At the peak of the surge, the daily COVID-19 cases reached 585 in the Northland on Nov. 19.

There were no new deaths from COVID-19 reported in the Northland on Monday.

New cases and seven-day averages in Northland counties:

- ▶ Aitkin — 2; 5.0.
- ▶ Carlton — 4; 7.1.
- ▶ Cook — 0; 0.3.
- ▶ Itasca — 5; 4.7.
- ▶ Koochiching — 2; 1.9.
- ▶ Lake — 1; 1.9.
- ▶ St. Louis — 35; 49.7.
- ▶ Ashland — 3; 5.0.
- ▶ Bayfield — 6; 4.3.
- ▶ Douglas — 6; 15.4.

The new cases were among 793 in Minnesota and 946 in Wisconsin. Minnesota reported a total of three new deaths and Wisconsin reported eight.

The number of staffed intensive care beds available in Northeastern Minnesota is 21.6%, according to state data that’s updated once every week with figures from the previous day.

The number of available non-ICU beds is 18.6%.

Another 413 Northeastern Minnesota residents have received their first shot of a COVID-19 vaccine, bringing the total number of people to more than 20,900 in the region. Of those people, more than 5,000 have completed their vaccine series of two doses.

The total percentage of vaccinated residents by county:

- ▶ Aitkin — 5.7%.
- ▶ Carlton — 7.4%.
- ▶ Cook — 13.2%.
- ▶ Itasca — 6.2%.
- ▶ Koochiching — 5.0%.
- ▶ Lake — 5.9%.
- ▶ St. Louis — 6.3%.

Minnesota updates its vaccine data every day with data numbers from a few days prior. Wisconsin updates its vaccine data weekly on Tuesday afternoons.

BYGONES

News Tribune, Jan. 26, 1921

▶ City of Duluth officials are considering the purchase of a site in Woodland to use as a temporary landing field for air mail service. The service has been promised to Duluth as soon as a landing field can be made available.

▶ Members of the Duluth City Council, along with Fire Chief Joseph Randall, yesterday inspected several sites in Woodland as potential locations for a fire hall. Members of the Woodland and Hunters Park Community Clubs have petitioned the council for a neighborhood fire hall.

▶ Preliminary skating events will be held tonight to determine who will represent the various rinks in the championship meet at the Curling Club Jan. 31 and Feb. 1. A boy and girl from each of Duluth’s 15 rinks will be selected.

▶ The Barbers’ Union of Superior will hold its annual banquet tonight at the Odd Fellows’ Hall. Bill Johnson’s Orchestra will furnish music for the evening, along with a Barber Shop Quartet composed of barbers Ray Kalligher, Axel Holmquist, Walter McCormick, and Joe Adams.

Bygones is researched and written by David Ouse, retired reference librarian from the Duluth Public Library. He can be contacted at djouse49@gmail.com.



Duluth parking:

The ODD side of the street.

DULUTH News Tribune

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The newspaper of the Northland since 1870

424 WEST FIRST STREET, DULUTH, MN 55802

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GENERAL INFORMATION

(218) 723-5281 / 7 A.M. - 4 P.M.

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NEWS STAFF AND SALES REPRESENTATIVES ARE AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

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Appendix N

Duluth Loop Reliability Project

MPUC Docket No. E015/CN-21-140

MPUC Docket No. E015/TL-21-141

Page 8 of 61

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www.mpecu.com

Duluth Loop Reliability Project



Online engagement opportunities are now available to provide input on the Duluth Loop Reliability Project. A new transmission line and a line extension are needed to enhance energy reliability and replace grid strength and stability. Study corridors are currently under review to determine a route for the new line.

Join us virtually for a presentation and Q&A session on Thursday, January 28. The same presentation will be offered at two times

12 p.m. and 7 p.m. CST

OTHER ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Virtual Open House: **JAN 18 – FEB 5**
- Live 1:1 chats with project team staff on the Virtual Open House:

JAN 26

JAN 27

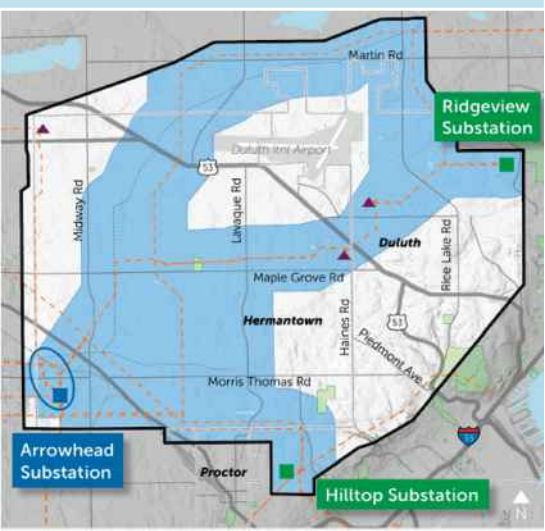
JAN 29

- Call our information line to request a mailed project information packet

Visit the project website to view materials presented during the virtual Webex meetings, explore the online meeting and leave your feedback on our online comment map.

Duluthloop.com

218-755-5512



connect@duluthloop.com

Despite trail conditions, Beargrease is a go

By John Myers
jmyers@duluthnews.com

Editor's note: This story was also published in the News Tribune's Sunday e-edition.

The John Beargrease Sled Dog Marathon board of directors has voted to move ahead with plans for their 2021 race starting Jan. 31 despite less-than-optimal trail conditions. Much of the region's snowmobile trail system — including the North Shore State Snowmobile Trail on which the Beargrease operates for much of the route — continues to suffer from a lack of snow in January and recent days with above-freezing temperatures and even some rain.

Some mushers had raised concerns about the ability of large dog teams to stop and hold without more snow to anchor in. But board members reviewed conditions and decided Friday night to move ahead.

"We reviewed detailed trail reports of the entire trail and determined that we have a safe trail," said Frank Moe, a Hovland musher, Beargrease board member and chairman of the board's COVID-19 planning committee.

Beargrease officials also met with state officials and received a state permit to proceed with the race with several changes made for COVID-19 precautions.

"We also had a meeting yesterday with several members of the state administration to review the Beargrease COVID plan and were complimented on our thoroughness," Moe said.

This year's race will seem familiar to mushers, traveling about 310 miles from the start at Billy's Bar just outside Duluth to the finish at Grand Portage. But the race will be held without spectators. No members of the public will be allowed at the start, checkpoints or finish.

Fans will be able to follow the race online, including updates at duluthnews Tribune.com.



Steve Kuchera / File / News Tribune

The lead dogs of John Beargrease racer Erin Schouweiler's team set the pace early in the Beargrease mid-distance race in January 2020. Race officials decided Friday night to move ahead with this year's race set to start Jan. 31.

BWCAW permits available beginning Jan. 27

By John Myers
jmyers@duluthnews.com

Editor's note: This story was also published in the News Tribune's Saturday e-edition.

The U.S. Forest Service is cracking down on bad behavior in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in 2021 after visitors in 2020 caused a rash of problems.

Superior National Forest officials on Friday announced they will require a mandatory, online "Leave No Trace" education program in 2021 before permits are issued.

The pre-visit BWCAW education videos — in pre-pandemic years, viewed when visitors picked up their permits — were made voluntary



Sam Cook / 2011 file / News Tribune

Boundary Waters permits will be available starting Jan. 27 at 9 a.m. online and via phone.

last year because of COVID-19 precautions. But the "Leave No Trace" message apparently was lost on many visitors, or skipped entirely. Campsites and portages

were trashed in many cases, with garbage left behind along with human waste and even some trees cut down apparently to improve views. In one case, an entire group had to be escorted out of the BWCAW near Ely due to unruly behavior.

Local law enforcement officials said the pandemic seemed to be encouraging more newbies to visit the BWCAW and other wild areas unaware of the norms and rules to be followed, or unwilling to follow them.

To ensure visitors to wilderness understand and follow BWCAW regulations and "Leave No Trace" principles, all permit holders will be required to watch three education videos and review

the BWCAW regulations and rules prior to receiving their permit. Permit holders are required to watch Part 1 and Part 2 of the series prior to the final step to securing their permit.

Video links are emailed to permit holders at the time of reservation and two weeks prior to their entry date. If a permit holder does not have access to the internet, they must call the Forest Service to complete the education requirement.

BWCAW quota permit reservations for the 2021 season will be available beginning at 9 a.m. Jan. 27 either at recreation.gov or by calling 877-444-6777.

For more information, go to fs.usda.gov/superior.

PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

A list of property transactions received from St. Louis County.	1209 104th Ave. W., Jeremie Benoit purchased from Kevin M. Boerboom for \$120,600, residential, 10/20.	717 N. Arlington Ave., Cara James purchased from Erik Findell for \$215,000, residential, 10/20.	3655 E. Fourth St., Jane G. and Jeffrey S. Adams purchased from Curtis L. and Ethel A. Nelson for \$393,000, residential, 10/20.	4856 Kingston St., Kirstin and Christian Baumgarten purchased from Thomas J. and Joanne R. Kozlowski for \$580,000, residential, 10/20.	922 Northland Ave., Taylor Guzzo purchased from Wade D. and Julie A. Kuart for \$288,500, residential, 10/20.
5114 Maple Grove Road, Steven and Beth Deneau purchased from Ann M. Lerette Trust Agreement for \$452,500, residential, 10/20.	621 N. 23rd Ave. W., Colton R. Campbell purchased from Amain Investments LLC for \$112,500, residential, 10/20.	1007 W. Arrowhead Road, Shana L. and Thomas A. Vesel purchased from Shane E. Grady for \$125,000, residential, 10/20.	3947 Haines Road, Donna J. and Michael D. Jorgensen purchased from David T. Archambault for \$250,000, residential, 10/20.	5647 Morris Thomas Road, Adolph Automotive LLC purchased from Mark Cosgriff for \$32,000, commercial (with buildings), 10/20.	4307 Regent St., Daniel Husknik purchased from Thomas Swanson for \$222,000, residential, 10/20.
5425 McDonnell Road, Sandra and John Warp purchased from James M. and Kellie Cosler for \$605,000, residential, 10/20.	101 N. 23rd Ave. W., Thu Huynh purchased from Dennis and Robin Dagger for \$130,000, residential, 10/20.	2715 Branch St., Heidi and Carl Barron purchased from James E. and Elizabeth Taylor for \$357,000, residential, 10/20.	2109 Hutchinson Road, April Peterson purchased from Judi L. and Ronald W. Scott for \$219,700, residential, 10/20.	11 W. Ninth St., Emma Schroeder purchased from Jennifer and Jeffrey Dexheimer for \$168,000, residential, 10/20.	4225 Robinson St., Lorin Black purchased from Stephen L. and Jamie L. Williams for \$220,000, residential, 10/20.
5237 Miller Trunk Highway, Mylottis Inc. purchased from 5237 Miller Trunk Highway LLC for \$449,500, commercial (with buildings), 10/20.	328 N. 40th Ave. W., One Roof Community Housing MN purchased from Daniel Hayden for \$110,000, residential, 10/20.	6110 Cody St., Ethan Shold purchased from Timothy P. Carroll for \$115,000, residential, 10/20.	421 Isanti St., Ashley and Dustin Hasselberger purchased from Greg and Teri Carlson for \$255,000, residential, 10/20.	2011 E. Ninth St., Sandra L. Nelson purchased from John J. and Toni T. Center for \$260,000, residential, 10/20.	2723 W. Skyline Parkway, Daniel P. and Tracie H. Smith purchased from Lloyd F. and Helen L. Nelson for \$177,700, residential, 10/20.
1311 E. Ninth St., Emily Caven purchased from Tiffany Smith for \$150,000, residential, 10/20.	804 N. 58th Ave. W., St. James Catholic Church purchased from Concorde Venture Corporation for \$1, residential, 10/20.	4530 Colorado St., Daniel J. and Valerie D. Thorp purchased from Jeffery and Jacqueline Heikkila for \$330,000, residential, 10/20.			
507 Park St., Nathanael Gaulker and Katie McNeils purchased from Matthew and Whitney Taray for \$229,900, residential, 10/20.	1510 N. Eighth Ave. E., Phillip Thoun purchased from Joel and Christine Post for \$163,500, residential, 10/20.	1918 E. Eighth St., Blumberg-Tarans LLC purchased from Erik D. and Ashley M. Cooper for \$217,000, residential, 10/20.			
5382 Roosevelt Drive, John N. and Sarah L. Marchand purchased from Dean Brickson for \$579,900, residential, 10/20.	830 E. 6th St., Lake View Land Co. LLC purchased from North Shore Land Company LLC for \$220,000, residential, 10/20.	2421 E. Fourth St., Jaime and Ken Jensen Jr. purchased from Do North Properties LLC for \$390,000, residential, 10/20.			
136 W. Winona St., Sean Victor purchased from Nicholas J. and Jana K. Winchell for \$193,600, residential, 10/20.	917 88th Ave. W., Dan Nelson purchased from John and Lesley Whitebird for \$15,000, residential, 10/20.				
Bare land, John and Shannon Christensen purchased from P. and D. Shelton et al.	421 W. Anoka St., Ryan Westenfield and Jillian Kurtz purchased from Benjamin and Whitney Jacobson for				

MARRIAGE APPLICATIONS

St. Louis County
December marriage license applications

Timothy Peterson, Duluth, and Staci Anderson, Duluth

Christina Weissel, Duluth, and Michael McMahon, Duluth

Meagan Aliff, Duluth, and Sean Granmo, Duluth

Jovanna Balquier, Duluth, and Benjamin Hanke, Duluth

Katherine Pease, Duluth, and Frank Pengal, Duluth

Tyler Waisanen, Side Lake, and Kayla Elg, Virginia

Isaac Seppanen, Lake Norden, South Dakota, and Alicia Limesand, Lake Norden, South Dakota

Daniel Schuler, Two Harbors, and Courtney Steele, Two Harbors

Rebecca Thompson, Moose Lake, and Brandon Eslinger, Moose Lake

Danielle Edin, Duluth, and Elizabeth Peppersack, Duluth

Elizabeth Simonet, Duluth, and Nirosh Wijesinghe, Duluth

Aiden Hemmila, Hibbing, and Ella Henderson, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota

Bradley Ziegler, Duluth, and Quinn Robertson, Duluth

Rebecca Scott, Duluth, and Josiah Sunderman, Duluth

Kristen Miinch, Hibbing, and

Bryan Lindsay, Hibbing

Amanda Chapman, Duluth, and Nicolas Schafter, Duluth

Jeffrey Hopke, Duluth, and Alyssa Farmer, Duluth

Dylan Peterson, Keewatin, and Gretchen Anderson, Keewatin

Matthew Koski, Lewisburg, West Virginia, and Jennifer Casey, Lewisburg, West Virginia

Kaitlin Graham, Duluth, and Benjamin Kasper, Duluth

Marith Stevenson, Duluth, and Calib Achartz, Duluth

Keith Singery, Ely, and Anna Slotala, Dusseldorf, Germany

Elizabeth Olson, Duluth, and Elizabeth Beattie, Duluth

Alisa Malzac, Duluth, and Lee Pittman, Duluth

Natalie Anderson, Langford, South Dakota, and Sky Cornelier, Eunice, Louisiana

Kariann Kolocek, Virginia, and Fnu Vishal, Minneapolis

Ezekiel Soler, Duluth, and Rebecca George, Duluth

Steven Cooper Jr., Duluth, and Rachel Messersmith, Duluth

Brandon Lawson, Two Harbors, and Kayla Simonson, Duluth

Darton Mattson, Wrenshall, and Madyson Crawford, Esko

Elias Bissonett, Duluth, and Paphanin Boonlorn, Duluth

Tevia Stromgren, Duluth, and Benjamin Calicott, Duluth

Kaylen Henricksen, Esko, and Kyle Haviland, Esko

Andrew Ramert, Superior, and Amber Yoch, North Branch, Minnesota

Emiline Jacobs, Duluth, and John Hutchinson, Seaham, United Kingdom

Matthew Johnston, Duluth, and Colleen Grotte, Superior

Tucker Nelson, Virginia, and Ashley Hendrickson, Virginia

Mary Brennan, Duluth, and Jack Kelly, St. Louis Park, Minnesota

Ashley Erbstoesser, Duluth, and James Allenburg, Duluth

Taylor Schreier, La Crosse, Wisconsin, and Jade Forshee, La Crosse, Wisconsin

Michael Lavalley, Duluth, and Josephine Houck, Duluth

Kaleb Quast, Duluth, and Karly Lunda, Duluth

Victor Foxx, Duluth, and Elizabeth Decatur, Duluth

THE NEWS TRIBUNE PUBLISHES MATTERS OF RECORD AS PART OF ITS OBLIGATION TO INFORM READERS ABOUT THE BUSINESS OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS AND TO SERVE AS A KEEPER OF THE LOCAL HISTORICAL RECORD.

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS LIST IS PROCESSED FROM AN ELECTRONIC COPY OF THE OFFICIAL RECORD, WHICH IS SUBMITTED BY THE ST. LOUIS COUNTY COURTHOUSE.

Duluth Loop Reliability Project

Join us virtually for a presentation and Q&A session on Thursday, January 28. The same presentation will be offered at two times

12 p.m. and 7 p.m. CST

OTHER ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Virtual Open House: **JAN 18 – FEB 5**
- Live 1:1 chats with project team staff on the Virtual Open House:

JAN 26

- Call our information line to request a mailed project information packet

JAN 27

Visit the project website to view materials presented during the virtual Webex meetings, explore the online meeting and leave your feedback on our online comment map.

JAN 29

Appendix N

Duluth Loop Reliability Project

MPUC Docket No. E015/CN-21-140

MPUC Docket No. E015/TL-21-141

Duluthloop.com

218-755-5512

connect@duluthloop.com

The Hermantown Star

PUBLIC NOTICE AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF MINNESOTA
County of St. Louis - ss

DIANE GIULIANI, 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 HERMANTOWN STAR, and has personal 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 print: Duluth Loop Reliability Project

Which is attached was cut from Two successive weeks. It was first published on THURSDAY, the 21st day of January, 2021 and was thereafter printed and published on every THURSDAY, to and including THURSDAY, the 28th day of January, 2021 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:

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 580.033 relating to the publication of mortgage foreclosure notices: The newspaper's known office of issue is located in St. Louis County. The newspaper complies with the conditions described in 580.033 subd. 1, clause (1) or (2). If the newspaper's known office of issue is located in a county adjoining the county where the mortgaged premises or some part of the mortgaged premises described in the latter are located, a substantial portion of the newspaper's circulation is in the latter county.

By Diane Giuliani

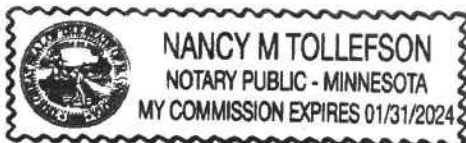
Title: OFFICE MANAGER

Subscribed and sworn to before me on
This 28th day of January, 2021

Nancy M Tollefson
Notary Public

RATE INFORMATION

- (1) Lowest Classified rate paid by Commercial users for comparable (Line, word or inch rate) \$ _____
- (2) Maximum rate allowed by law for The above matter (Line, word or inch rate) \$ _____
- (3) Rate actually charged for The above matter \$ 77.40 (Line, word or inch rate)



Duluth Loop Reliability Project



Online engagement opportunities are now available to provide input on the Duluth Loop Reliability Project. A new transmission line and a line extension are needed to enhance energy reliability and replace grid strength and stability. Study corridors are currently under review to determine a route for the new line.

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12 p.m. and 7 p.m. CST

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JAN 29

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Duluthloop.com

218-755-5512

connect@duluthloop.com

The Proctor Journal

PUBLIC NOTICE AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF MINNESOTA
County of St. Louis - ss

DIANE GIULIANI, 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 PROCTOR JOURNAL, and has personal 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.

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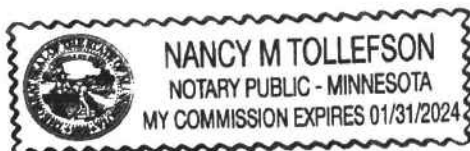
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This 21st day of January, 2021

Nancy M Tollefson
Notary Public

RATE INFORMATION

- | | |
|--|--|
| (1) Lowest Classified rate paid by Commercial users for comparable | \$ _____
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(Line, word or inch <u>rate</u>) |



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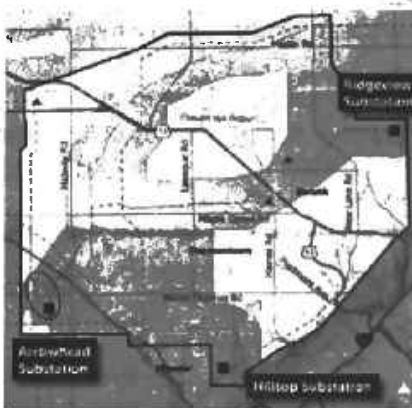
JAN 27

JAN 29

- Call our information line to request a mailed project information packet

Visit the project website to view materials presented during the virtual Webex meetings, explore the online meeting and leave your feedback on our online comment map.

Duluthloop.com
 218-755-5512



Study Area Study Corridor Substation Road
 Project Boundary Existing Transmission Line Pipeline
connect@duluthloop.com

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- » Engagement Opportunities
- » Our Commitment to Reliable Energy
- » Project Overview
- » Local and Regional Benefits
- » Project Timeline
- » Routing Process
- » Routing Considerations
- » Input Opportunity - Sensitivities
- » Study Corridors
- » Input Opportunity - Comment on the Corridors
- » Detailed Study Corridor Maps
- » Structure Design

WELCOME

The meeting will begin shortly.

Today's Presenters



Jim Atkinson
Minnesota Power



Amy Rutledge
Minnesota Power



Brian Hunker
HDR



Emily Hyland
HDR

Meeting Notes

 Unmute

You are muted and your video is disabled upon entry.

Virtual Open House

Glossary



Engagement Opportunities

Virtual Community Meeting

Thursday, January 28 at 12:00pm or 7:00pm

- Watch the project team give a brief presentation followed by a Q&A session
- Full details at duluthloop.com
- [Register for the 12:00pm Meeting](#)
- [Register for the 7:00pm Meeting](#)

Live Chats

Project team staff will be available for live 1:1 chats in this Virtual Open House during the following times:

- Tuesday, January 26th from 12:00pm – 1:00pm
- Wednesday, January 27th from 4:30pm – 6:00pm
- Friday, January 29th from 7:30am – 9:00am

Information Packets

Call 218-755-5512 or email connect@duluthloop.com to request mailed project information packet. Packets can also be found at [DuluthLoop.com](https://duluthloop.com)

Schedule a Call

Discuss the project and your interests with the project team. To schedule call 218-755-5512 or email connect@duluthloop.com.

To prevent the further spread of COVID-19, Minnesota Power has indefinitely postponed all in-person public meetings and events. Public engagement remains a top priority for our project team and we appreciate you joining us online to learn more about this project.

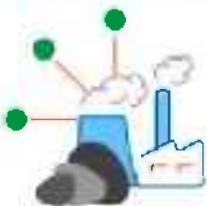
- » WELCOME
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Our Commitment to Reliable Energy

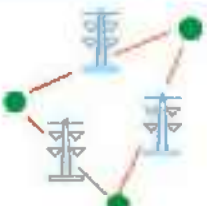
Minnesota Power has made significant changes to our generation mix including the retirement of several small coal units. In order to maintain a continuous supply of safe and reliable electricity, we are investing in transmission infrastructure to enhance the stability of our electric system in our communities.

Click on the items below to learn more about energy reliability.

+ What happens when we reduce coal generation?



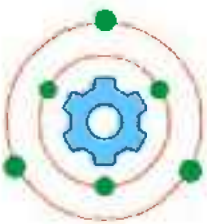
+ What do we mean by redundancy?



+ How do we maintain reliability?



+ Why the Duluth Loop Reliability Project?



- » WELCOME
- » Engagement Opportunities
- » Our Commitment to Reliable Energy
- » Project Overview
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- » Routing Process
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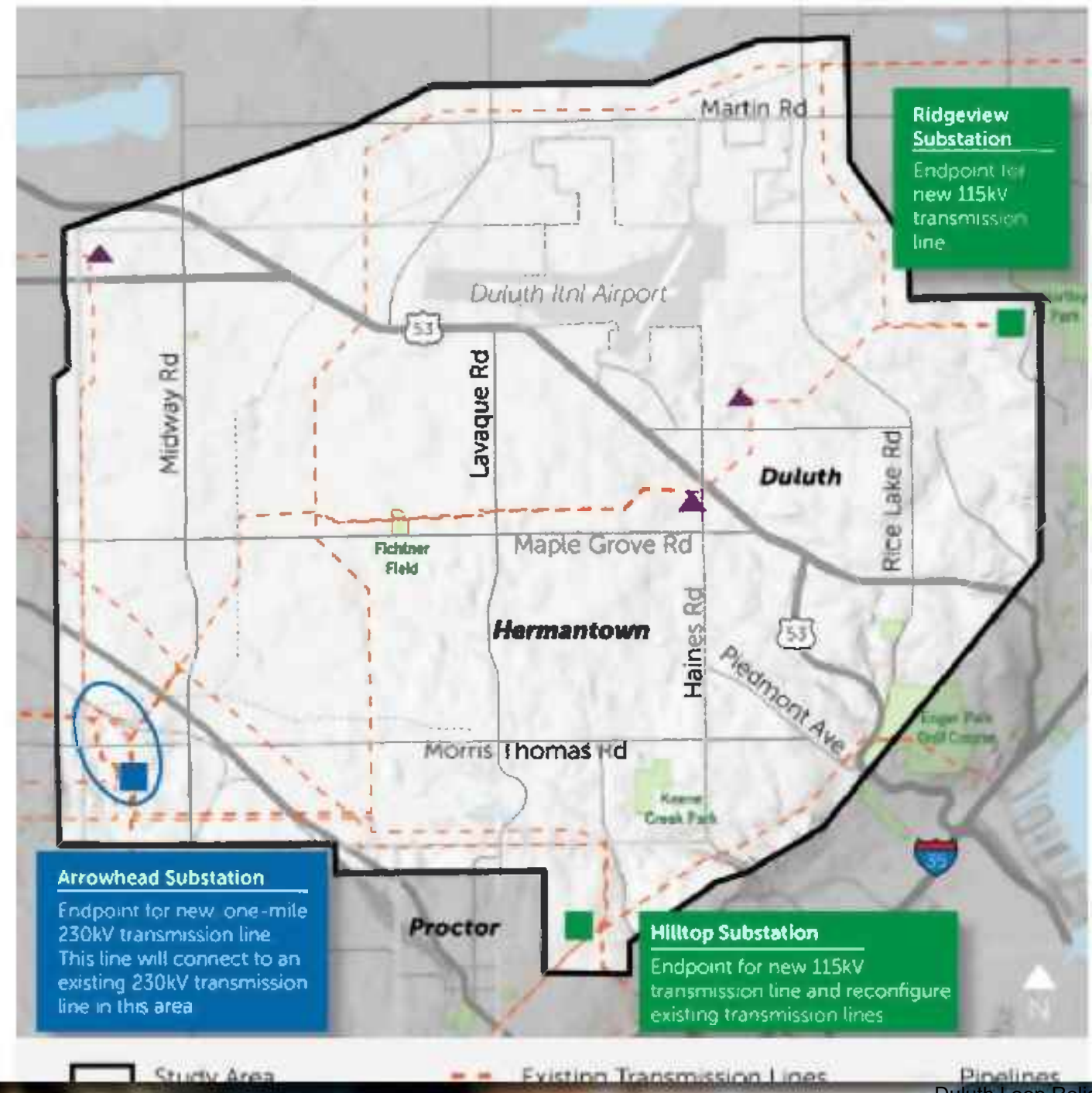
Project Overview

This project will **enhance reliability** by building an additional transmission source to communities in and around Duluth and along the North Shore.

Project Components

- Construction of a **new 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line** between the Ridgeview and Hilltop substations
- Construction of approximately **one-mile extension of an existing 230kV transmission line**, connecting to the Arrowhead Substation
- Upgrades to the Ridgeview, Hilltop, and Arrowhead substations

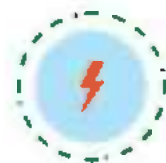
Note: The Hilltop and Ridgeview substations will likely be expanded by this project. The exact size and area are not known at this time.



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- >> Our Commitment to Reliable Energy
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Local and Regional Benefits

The Duluth Loop Reliability Project is about more than just providing power. This project will:



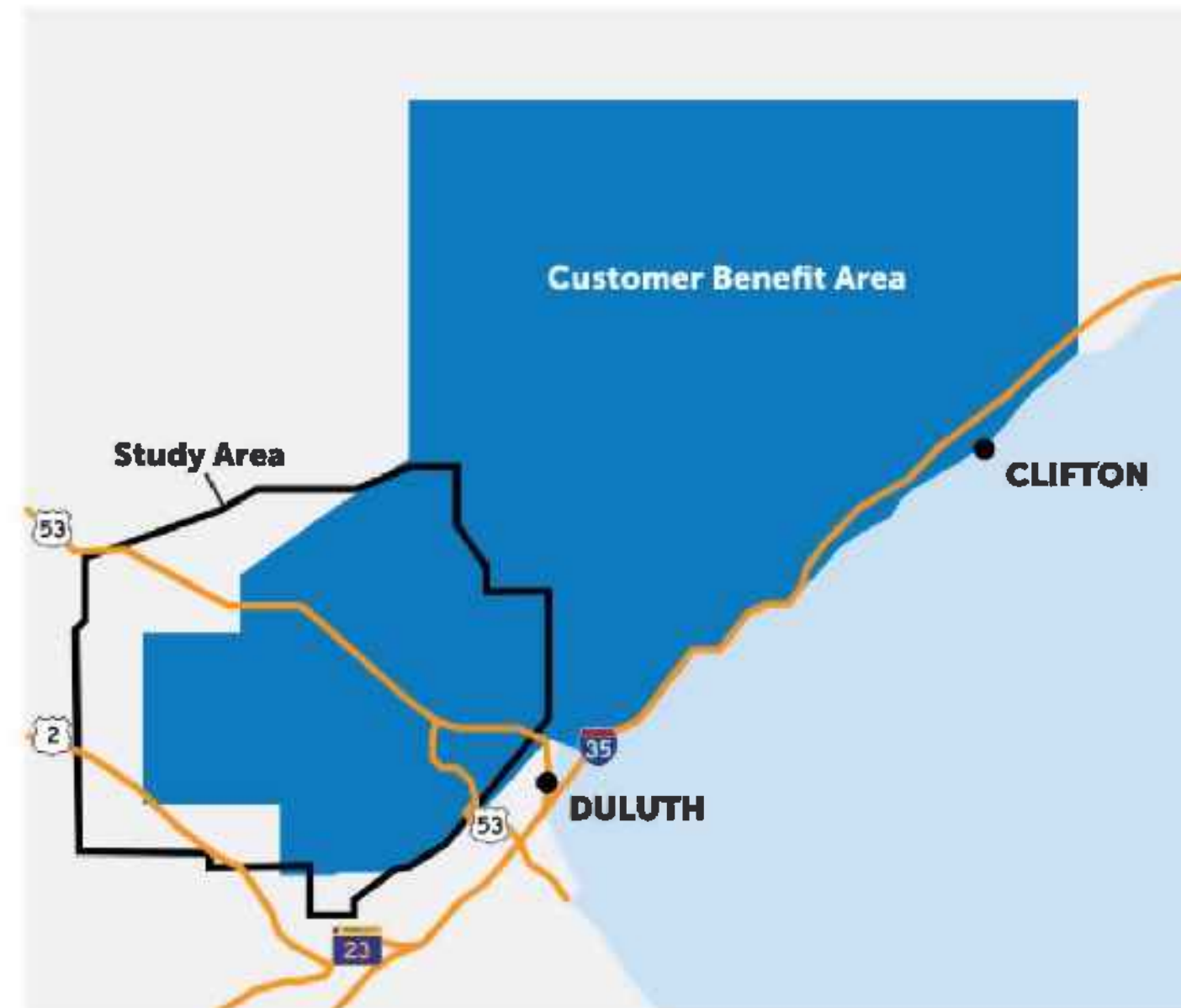
ENHANCE ENERGY RELIABILITY

for communities in Duluth and the North Shore by adding transmission in the area



REPLACE GRID STRENGTH AND STABILITY

that was once provided by local coal-fired generation



Our grid is interconnected and additional areas will benefit due to a strong, reliable grid. Minnesota Power customers throughout the blue shaded area will directly benefit from the Duluth Loop Reliability Project.

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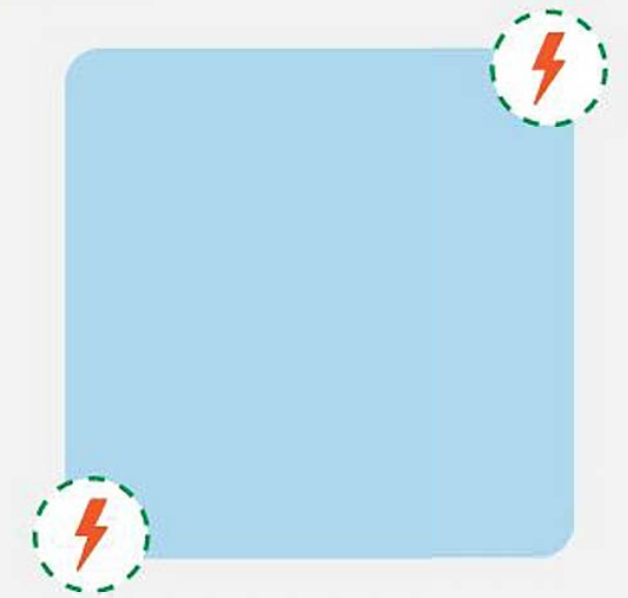
Project Timeline

The planning, development and construction schedule is subject to change based on weather, the availability of equipment and materials, the impact of COVID-19 and other potentially unforeseen events.



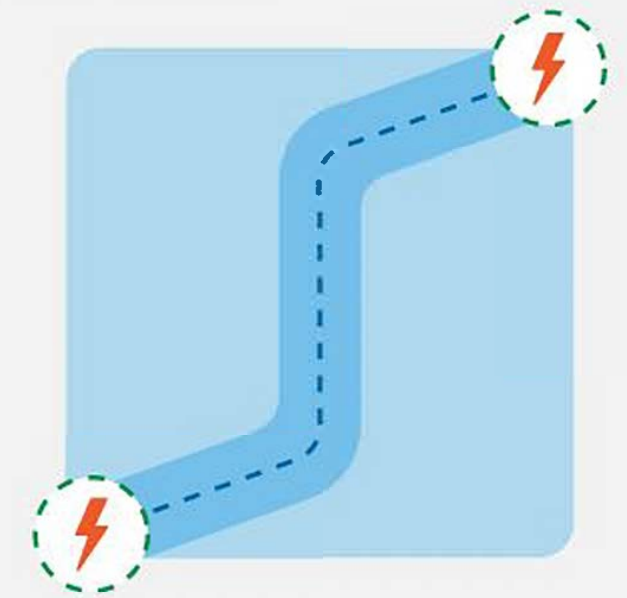
Define Study Area

1



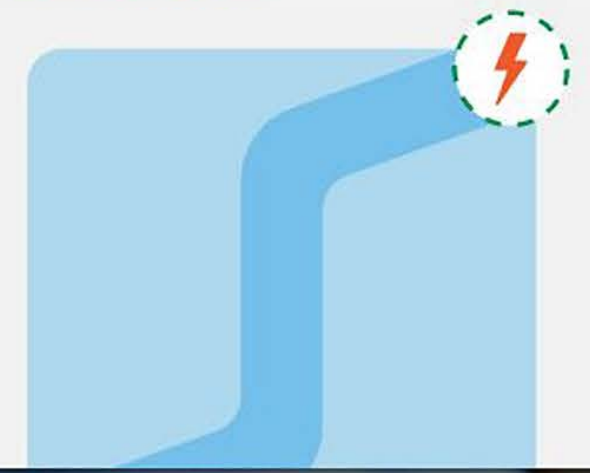
Define Route Options

3



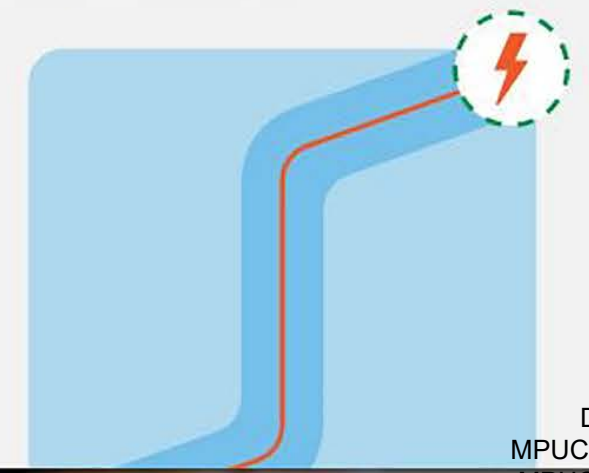
Define Study Corridors

2



Identify Preferred Route

4



Routing Considerations

Our goal is to take advantage of Opportunities while understanding and minimizing impacts to Sensitivities and addressing Constructability concerns. We use these three categories to develop a Preferred Route.





Select the top three Sensitivities that are most important to you and click "submit" at the bottom of this page. Reminder: Sensitivities are resources or conditions that can potentially limit transmission line development.

- Select the top three Sensitivities that are most important to you.

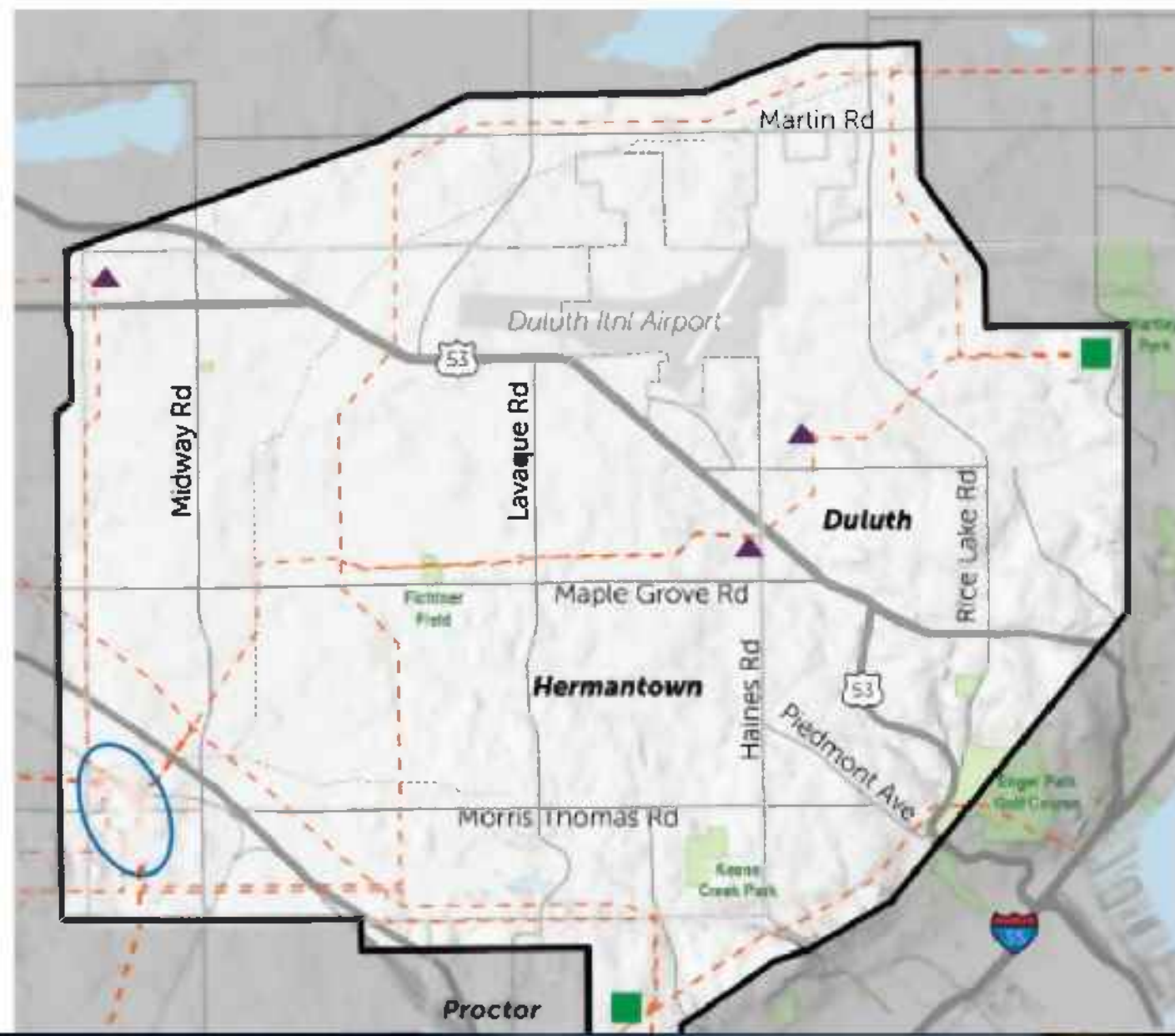
- ☐ Airports/VOR
- ☐ Cemeteries
- ☐ Communication Towers
- ☐ Conservation Areas/Nature Preserves
- ☐ Cultural Resources
- ☐ Planned Development (future)
- ☐ Floodplains (more difficult construction and many times have sensitive species)
- ☐ Forest
- ☐ Railroads
- ☐ Religious Facilities
- ☐ Residences (especially large clusters of homes)
- ☐ Scenic Highway
- ☐ Schools/Daycares
- ☐ Streams/Wetlands
- ☐ Wells
- ☐ Community Centers
- ☐ Parks/Recreation Areas

- >> Local and Regional Benefits
- >> Project Timeline
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- >> Input Opportunity - Sensitivities
- >> **Study Corridors**
- >> Input Opportunity - Comment on the Corridors
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- >> Real Estate
- >> Preconstruction and Construction
- >> Stay Updated & Contact Us
- >> Question & Answers Session

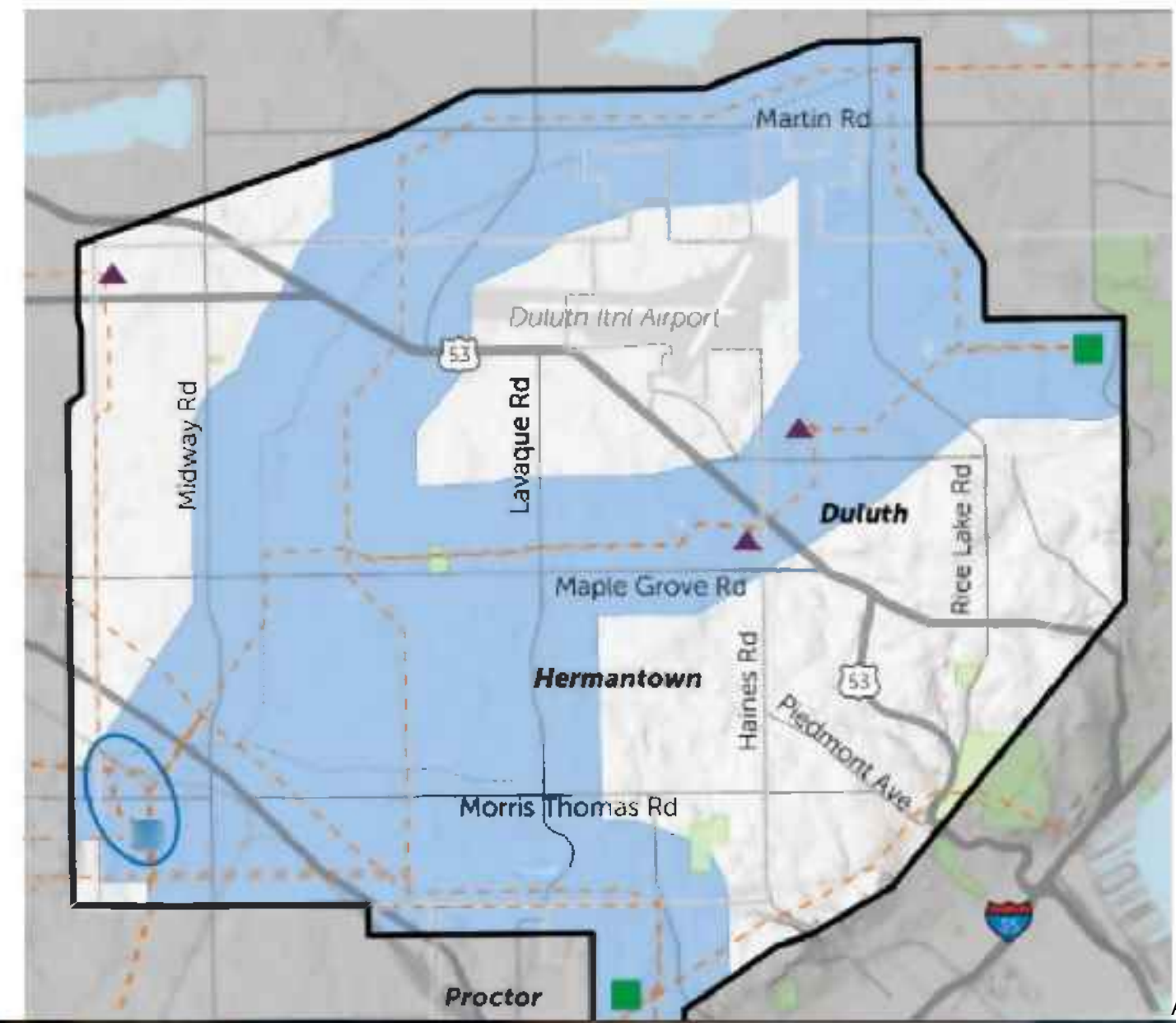
Study Corridors

Minnesota Power developed the Study Area and Study Corridors to meet the needs of the Project. The Study Area was delineated to include the project endpoints (project substations) and routing opportunity features found between the endpoints, such as existing transmission lines and other linear infrastructure. These existing features have been highlighted as Study Corridors. In March 2021, Route Options will be developed within this Study Area and along the Study Corridors.

Study Area



Study Corridors

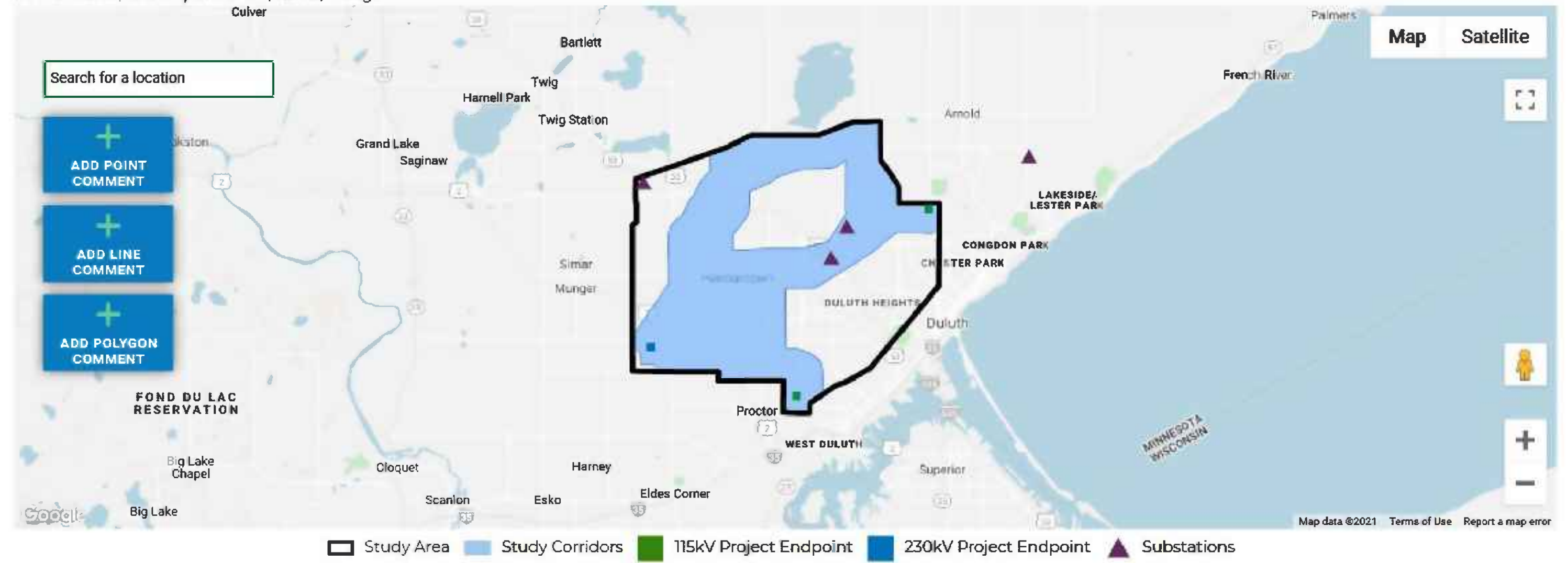


- >> Local and Regional Benefits
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Input Opportunity - Comment on the Corridors

Now that you've learned about the project, routing process and criteria and how the Study Corridors were identified, we'd like your input to help our project team identify additional Opportunities and Sensitivities. Use the map below to review the Study Corridors. If you would like to provide feedback on a particular area, click the Add Comment button.

For best results, view map in Chrome, Firefox, or Edge.



Virtual Open House

Library

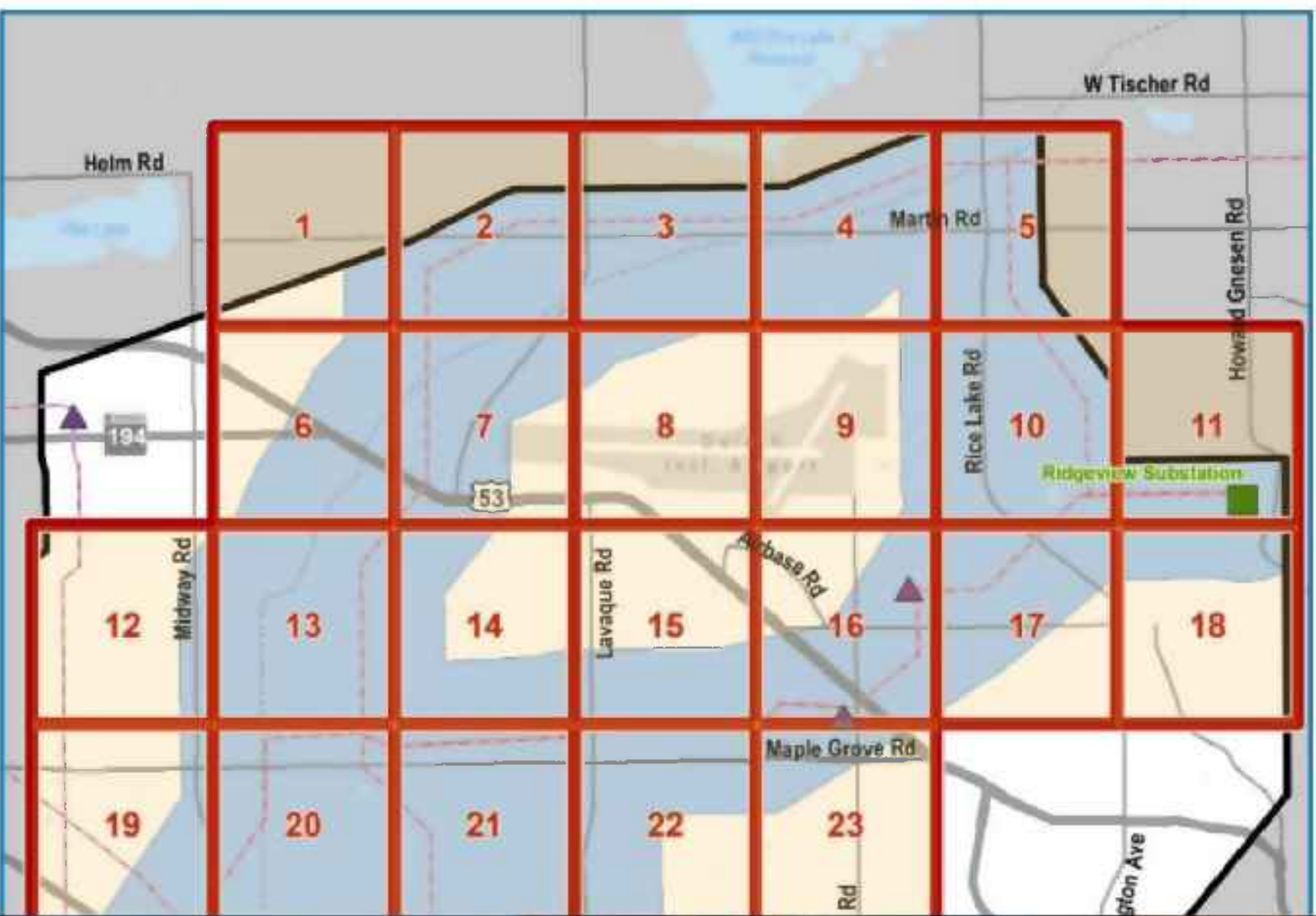


Detailed Study Corridor Maps

Click or tap on the numbered squares below to view a detailed pdf map of that area.

For best results, view map in Chrome, Firefox, or Edge.

Click or tap on the numbered squares below to view a detailed pdf map of the area.



Structure Design

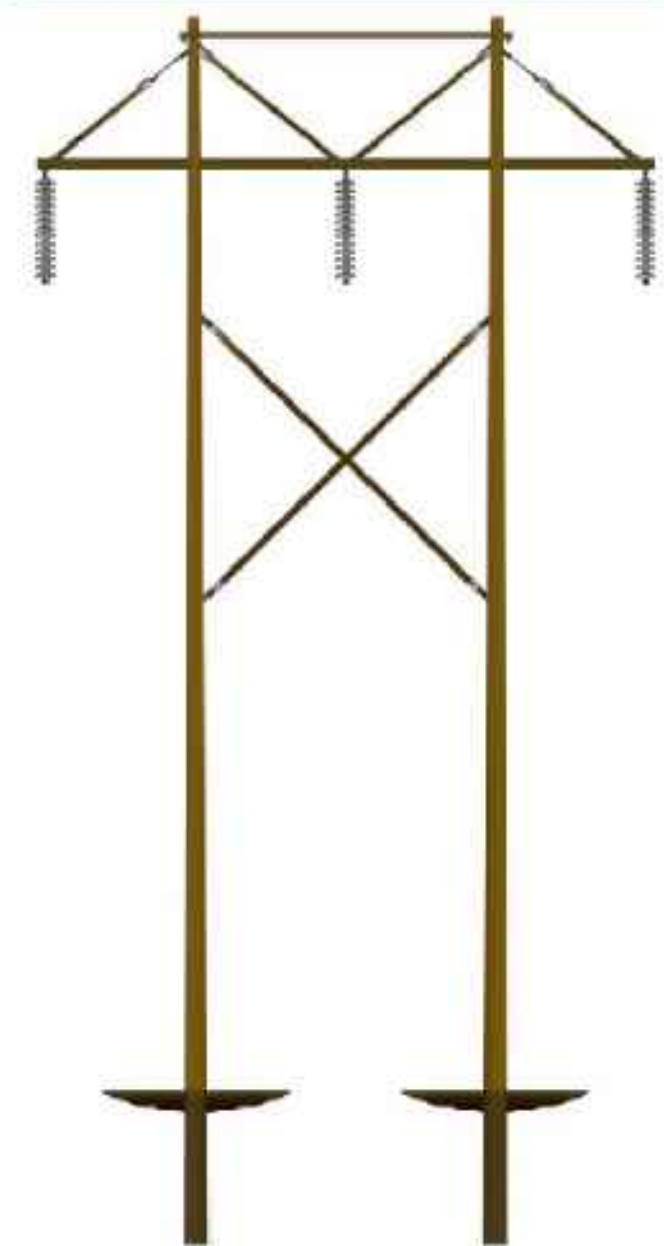
The structure types and specifications shown below are preliminary and subject to change. Other structure types may be used depending on final route location.

Typical 115kV Structures



[Click on the image to enlarge.](#)

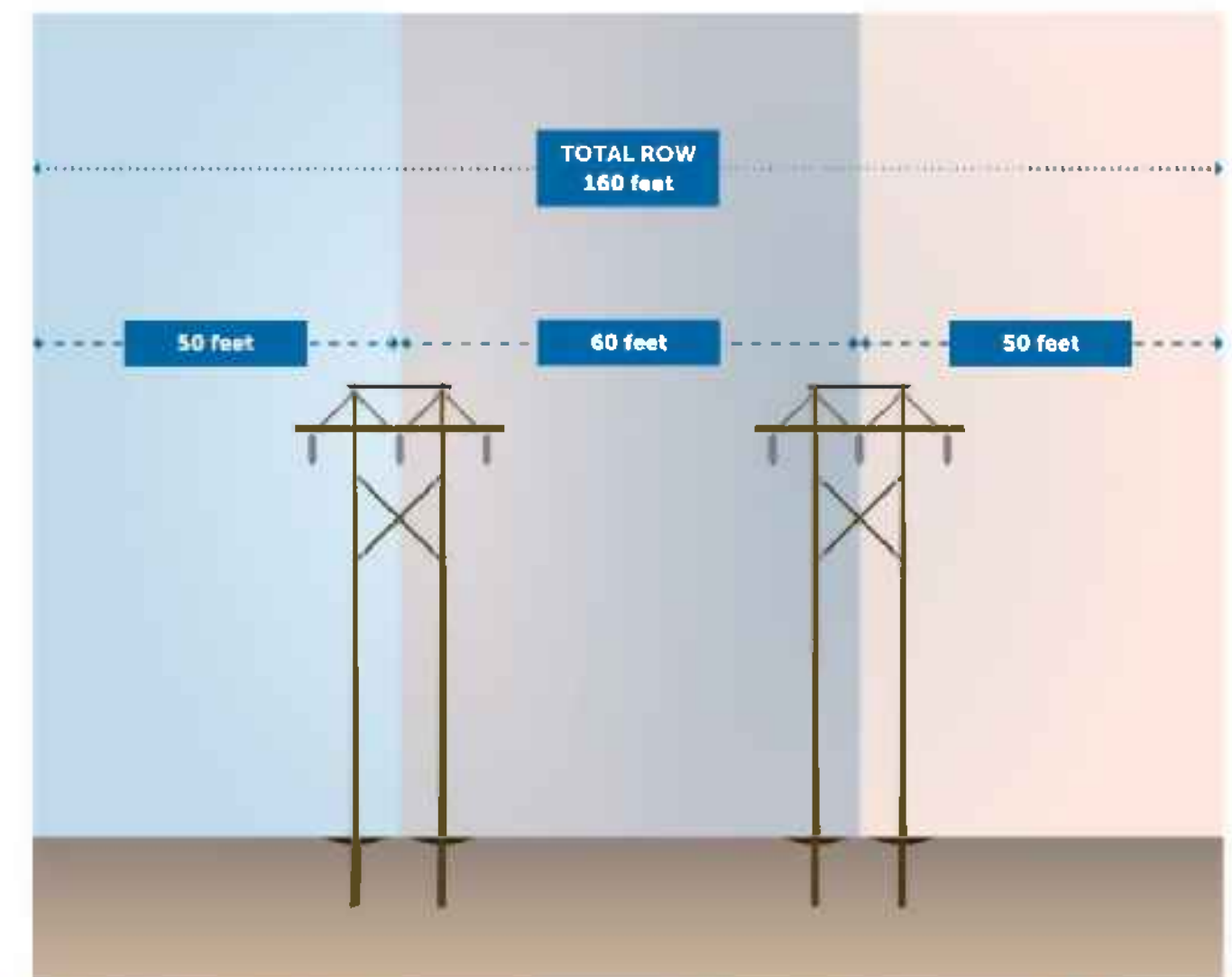
Typical 230kV Structures



[Click on the image to enlarge.](#)

Paralleling Structures

In the event that the new 115kV transmission line parallels an existing 115kV transmission line, the alignment of typical right-of-ways may look similar to what's shown in the diagram below. Different dimensions would apply for a 115kV line paralleling a 230kV line. Learn more about right-of-way and real estate in the next slide.



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- >> Project Timeline
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- >> Preconstruction and Construction
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- >> Question & Answers Session

Virtual Open House

Real Estate

Following the Public Utilities Commission's approval of the final route (anticipated November 2022), notification letters will be mailed to all landowners along the final route.

Landowner Conversations

Project representatives will hold individual meetings with affected landowners to discuss the project and right-of-way needs. Discussion topics during these meetings include:

- Land surveys and studies
- Proposed easement
- Right-of-way clearing
- Type(s) and number of structures
- Compensation
- Property restoration
- Damage settlements

What is right-of-way?

The term right-of-way (abbreviated "ROW") is typically a strip of land used for a specific purpose such as the construction, operation, and maintenance of a transmission line.

What is an easement?

A legal agreement allowing Minnesota Power the right to construct, operate and maintain a transmission line on your property.



Preconstruction and Construction

Once a final route has been approved and easements have been agreed upon, preconstruction and construction activities will begin.

Preconstruction Activities

Prior to construction, a number of activities must occur including:

- Field Surveys
- Wildlife Surveys
- Archaeological Surveys
- Wetland and Stream Surveys
- Soil Surveys

Construction Activities

After permitting, right-of-way acquisition, and final design, the new transmission lines will be constructed by qualified contractors. Here are the typical components of construction anticipated for the Duluth Loop Reliability Project.



Initial surveying, right-of-way clearing, and access development



Structure staking, surveying, and soils investigations as needed



Foundation installation
Foundation type may vary depending on structure.



Virtual Open House

Comment

Stay Updated & Contact Us

Thank you for your interest in the Duluth Loop Reliability Project!

All input will be reviewed and considered by the project team while developing the Route Options.
Please submit your comments by February 5, 2021.

Stay in touch

- Visit duluthloop.com to join our project mailing list. Be sure to sign up for updates to be informed of scheduled engagement opportunities. Email subscribers will be the first to know about events and other ways to be involved in the project.
- Call our Hotline at 218-755-5512
- Email us: connect@duluthloop.com

Share your thoughts

Submit a comment by clicking on the Comment button at the top of your screen.

https://mpishdrshared.com/duluthloop/presentation/#contents

Appendix N
Duluth Loop Reliability Project
MPUC Docket No. E015/CN-21-140
MPUC Docket No. E015/TL-21-140
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- >> Stay Updated & Contact Us
- >> Question & Answers Session

Virtual Open House




Question & Answers Session

How to participate by computer, smartphone, or tablet

-  Participants
-  QA
-  Use the QA function to type in questions and comments
- Email your question or comment to connect@duluthloop.com

How to participate by phone

-  Call (218) 755-5512

Engagement Phase 2: Route Alternatives

Mailings

Overview Summary Handout

Newspaper Ads and Affidavits of Service

Open House Website Pages

Stakeholder Letter

March 15, 2021

[Name]

[Organization]

[Address 1]

[Address 2]

RE: The Duluth Loop Reliability Project Phase 2 Engagement Opportunities

Dear [Name],

As a valued community member and customer – we want to keep you informed about the Duluth Loop Reliability Project. As you may already be aware, Minnesota Power is committed to delivering reliable, affordable, and cleaner energy to our customers. Therefore, we are investing in our transmission infrastructure to enhance the stability of our electric system in the communities we serve.

The Duluth Loop Reliability Project will enhance reliability by building an additional transmission source to serve communities in and around Duluth and along the North Shore. The attached overview handout outlines the three project components and includes a map of the recently developed Proposed Route Alternatives.

The project team is continuing to collaborate with federal, state and local agencies, local leaders, community organizations, and the public to share data and gather input on our Proposed Route Alternatives. Starting March 15, we will host a second virtual open house meeting. We invite stakeholders and community members to participate in our virtual open house to learn about the project, review the Proposed Route Alternatives, talk with project team members, review maps, and share input. We hope you will join us and encourage others to be part of the project and route review process.

Engagement opportunities available March 15 through April 2:

- **Visit the Virtual Open House** available through our website at DuluthLoop.com on your own time to learn full details about the project and submit your feedback through the online comment form and interactive comment map.
- **Receive an Information Packet**
 - Call our information line at 218-755-5512 to request mailed project information or email this request to connect@duluthloop.com.
 - A digital version of the packet is available at DuluthLoop.com.
- **Schedule a call with the project team** to discuss the project and your interests. To schedule a meeting call 218-755-5512 or email us at connect@duluthloop.com.

Mark Your Calendars for our Virtual Community Meetings happening Tuesday, March 23 and Thursday, March 25

- Join us virtually for a presentation and Q&A session. The same presentation is being offered at two times on both days – 12:00pm and 6:00pm CST – to accommodate your schedule.
- Visit the project website for meeting details and registration. Registration is required.

Please visit the project website at DuluthLoop.com to learn more about these engagement opportunities, register for a virtual community meeting, and stay up to date on project developments.

Collaboration remains a top priority for Minnesota Power and we appreciate your participation. Thank you for your time and feedback as we develop this important energy project that will improve energy reliability for the Duluth area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim B. Atkinson".

[Jim Atkinson](#)

Environmental and Real Estate Manager
Minnesota Power
jbatson@allete.com

Duluth Loop RELIABILITY PROJECT

March 2021

Our Commitment to Reliable Energy

Under our EnergyForward strategy, we are committed to delivering reliable, affordable and cleaner energy to our customers. We have made significant changes to our generation mix, including the retirement of several small coal units, and now half of the energy we deliver comes from renewable sources. In order to maintain a continuous supply of safe and reliable electricity, we are investing in our transmission infrastructure to enhance the stability of our electric system in the communities we serve.

Project Overview

This project will **enhance reliability** in and around Duluth and along the North Shore by building an additional transmission source.

The Duluth Loop Reliability Project includes three components:

- construction of a new 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line between the Ridgeview and Hilltop substations,
- construction of approximately one-mile extension of an existing 230kV transmission line, connecting to the Arrowhead Substation,
- and upgrades to the Ridgeview, Hilltop, Haines Road, and Arrowhead substations, including expansion of the Ridgeview and Hilltop substations and reconfiguring existing transmission lines at the Hilltop Substation.

Schedule



2021

Routing, public engagement, and permitting



2022

Permitting and environmental surveys



2023-2025

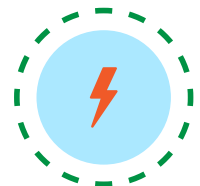
Engineering, environmental and land surveys, real estate, and construction



2025

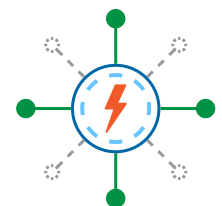
Complete

Benefits



ENHANCE ENERGY RELIABILITY

for communities in Duluth and the North Shore by adding transmission in the area.

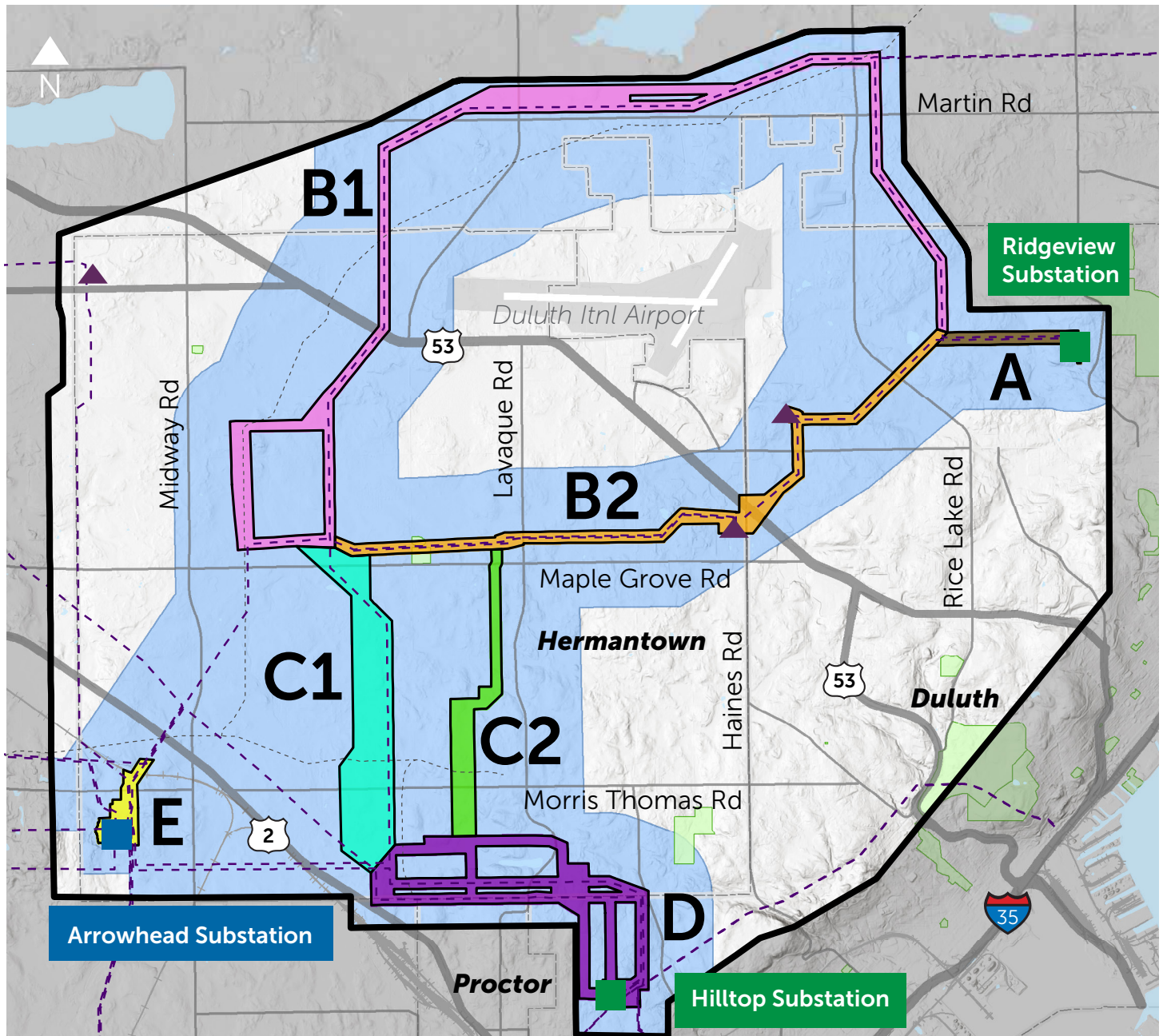
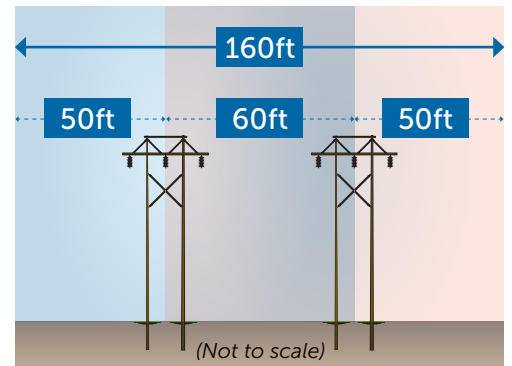


REPLACE GRID STRENGTH AND STABILITY

that was once provided by local coal-fired generation.
Appendix N
Duluth Loop Reliability Project
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MPUC Docket No. E015/TL-21-141
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Proposed Route Alternatives

Minnesota Power reviewed and incorporated comments during the development of the Proposed Route Alternatives. The Proposed Route Alternatives shown are wider than the necessary easement needed for the final construction and operation of the new line. Where feasible and in order to minimize impacts, Minnesota Power's preference is to parallel existing transmission lines. In the event that the new 115kV transmission line parallels an existing 115kV transmission line, the alignment of typical right-of-ways may look similar to what's shown in the diagram on the right.



- | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|------------|------------|
| Study Area | Existing Transmission Lines | Segment A | Segment C2 |
| Study Corridors | Pipelines | Segment B1 | Segment D |
| Project Endpoints | Substations | Segment B2 | Segment E |
| | | Segment C1 | |

Duluth Loop Reliability Project

VIRTUAL ENGAGEMENT

Due to COVID-19, we are taking action to keep you and the Minnesota Power team safe and healthy. Minnesota Power is hosting virtual community meetings and a virtual open house on their Duluth Loop Reliability Project.

Proposed Route Alternatives have been developed and are available for review and comment.



AN ALLETE COMPANY

DULUTH LOOP RELIABILITY PROJECT

30 W Superior St
Duluth, MN 55802



JOIN US AT A VIRTUAL COMMUNITY MEETING

March 23 at 12:00 p.m.

March 23 at 6:00 p.m.

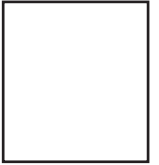
March 25 at 12:00 p.m.

March 25 at 6:00 p.m.



Register today at: **DuluthLoop.com** or call
218-755-5512

If you're unable to attend one of these virtual community meetings, visit our **virtual open house** at **DuluthLoop.com/online meeting** anytime between March 15 and April 2.



Duluth Loop Reliability Project



This project will **enhance reliability** in and around Duluth and along the North Shore by building an additional transmission source.

THE DULUTH LOOP INCLUDES THREE COMPONENTS:

- Construction of a new 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line between the Ridgeview and Hilltop substations
- Construction of approximately one-mile extension of an existing 230kV transmission line, connecting to the Arrowhead Substation
- Upgrades to the Ridgeview, Hilltop, Haines Road, and Arrowhead substations, including expansion of the Ridgeview and Hilltop substations and reconfiguring existing transmission lines at the Hilltop Substation.

BENEFITS



ENHANCE ENERGY RELIABILITY
for communities in Duluth and the North Shore by adding transmission in the area.



REPLACE GRID STRENGTH AND STABILITY
that was once provided by local coal-fired generation.

PROJECT SCHEDULE



2021

Routing, public engagement, and permitting



2022

Permitting and environmental surveys



2023-2025

Engineering, environmental & land surveys, real estate, construction



2025

Complete



Questions? We are here to help.
Email us at Connect@DuluthLoop.com or give us a call at **218-755-5512**.

JOIN THE DISCUSSION

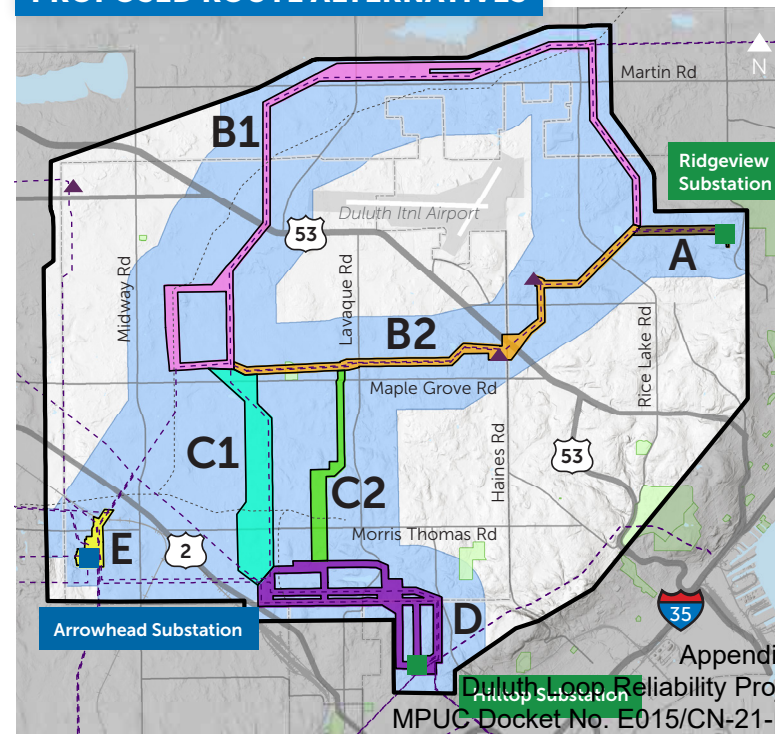
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Tuesday, March 23 at 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, March 25 at 12:00 p.m.
Thursday, March 25 at 6:00 p.m.

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Visit the **virtual open house** at DuluthLoop.com/onlineMeeting any time between March 15 and April 2.

PROPOSED ROUTE ALTERNATIVES



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Duluth Loop Reliability Project
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Duluth launches educational app for kids

News Tribune
Duluth Parks and Recreation has launched a new educational app geared toward families with children ages 6-14. The app, which can be downloaded on any mobile device and doesn't require data or Wi-Fi after the download, is called "Agents of Discovery."
Sam Werle, recreation

specialist with the city of Duluth, said the app will have a new "mission" each month at a different park around the city. The first one, available now, is at Bayfront Park. The theme is winter adaptation and how different plants and animals adapt to the winter.
"It entails kind of a GPS scavenger hunt

with different nature facts and different educational quizzes — stuff like that," Werle said. "So basically, each mission will have a theme that these different quizzes and mini-games will circle around."
The city has a license through the company Agents of Discovery to design specific mis-

sions using its software. Parks and Recreation became interested in designing missions on the app in late 2020. With COVID-19-related group size restrictions always in flux, Werle said city staff sought a way to engage people without needing to gather a group.
"It's really just a chance for us to get

people engaged in an educational activity, be active, exercise and spend some time outside," Werle said. "Duluth is a big city, especially length-wise — our parks are spread out across town — and so this gives us a good reach geographically."
Participants aren't required to create an account to log into

before each play, but Werle said it's encouraged. That way, city staff can contact people who have completed missions to offer a small prize, such as a Frisbee or water bottle.
To learn more about the app, visit duluthmn.gov/parks. Information about the app will be regularly updated on the website.

Gun store operator Walsh running for sheriff

Editors note: This story was also published in the News Tribune's Friday e-edition.

By Brady Slater
bslater@duluthnews.com

Last spring, Chad Walsh relented to law enforcement pressure and temporarily closed his commercial indoor shooting range during the pandemic.

One year later, the 44-year-old gun shop owner is running to become sheriff of St. Louis County in the 2022 midterm election.

"If I had to pick between Dead on Arms and getting the opportunity to be sheriff, I would pick the opportunity to bring positive change to law enforcement," Walsh told the News Tribune.

Walsh announced his run on both Facebook and a fundraising website, where he recounts having joined the U.S. Army out of Hermantown High School, and serving overseas as a military police officer.

The News Tribune confirmed basic facts of this service record, and confronted him about



File / News Tribune

Dead On Arms owner Chad Walsh works on an AR-15 firearm behind one of the counters at his shop earlier this year. Walsh said this week he will run for sheriff of St. Louis County.

his company logo — a snake in front of the Roman numeral three surrounded by 13 stars. The numeral and stars are also featured in the logo for the Three Percenters, which the Anti-Defamation League describes as an

American militia movement sometimes made up of people not associated with any group.

"Three percent of colonists when we fought the British stood up and fought for us," Walsh said.

He denied involve-

ment in the Three Percenters, explaining in a roundabout way that he shares the Revolutionary War-era meaning behind the numeral in the logo he created.

"We're not associated with any group," Walsh said. "We have a huge

shooting community up here; we welcome everybody."

Longtime small-business owners, Walsh and his wife, Laura, share six children and started Dead on Arms in 2017, making and selling guns 15 miles from downtown Duluth on U.S. Highway 2 in rural St. Louis County.

Sheriff Ross Litman did not respond for comment about the 2022 election.

Upon his reinstallation in 2019 for a fifth term, Litman indicated he would likely step down after this latest term, which expires January 2023. He has worked in the Sheriff's Office for almost 30 years, serving as the county's chief law enforcement officer for the past 19 years.

Recently, Walsh joined the Moose Lake Police Department in Carlton County as a law enforcement officer.

"Even though I'm a business owner in northern Minnesota, my passion is about civil service," he said. "I really enjoy being a

police officer. It's not always about arresting people — that is a small, small percentage of the job. You're out there to assist and serve the citizens."

Last April, Walsh made news early in the statewide pandemic lockdown, with the Sheriff's Office placing a call to say operating an indoor shooting range was in violation of Gov. Tim Walz's "Stay at Home" order. Walsh closed the range rather than face the state attorney's office. He said it happened again in the fall, but adds he's not running on any sort of grudge.

"They tried to make my range fit their criteria," he said.

Walsh insisted he's not political and wouldn't bring politics into the office. He described a gap between the people and policing, and said, with his "well-rounded" background, he'd be able to bridge the gap.

"I'm not a politician," he said. "As sheriff you represent every citizen in the county."

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Page 30 of 61

Proposal would reduce time spent in prison

By Katrina Pross
St. Paul Pioneer Press

ST. PAUL — The Minnesota Department of Corrections is proposing a new policy to reduce the amount of time convicted individuals spend in prison, and direct the money saved back into communities.

The Minnesota Rehabilitation and Reinvestment Act is included in Gov. Tim Walz's revised budget. The proposal is scheduled to be heard in the House Public Safety Committee in April, when the state Department of Corrections presents its budget.

Instead of asking for more funding, the department is asking to reallocate resources they already have. A goal is to encourage inmates to participate in programming and rehabilitation efforts to earn an early release.

"We're reducing their system involvement as much as possible and that's both a benefit to the public, as well as to the individuals involved in the system," said Paul Schnell, Minnesota commissioner of corrections.

How would it work?
Currently, most inmates serve two thirds of their sentence in prison and the last third under supervised release. Under the new policy, inmates can leave prison earlier if they show progress toward their rehabilitation.

Most Minnesota inmates will be eligible, except for those convicted of especially violent crimes like homicide and criminal sexual conduct. Inmates will have an individualized plan to identify goals and needs to complete to be released from prison early. Plans may include undergoing substance abuse treatment, mental health therapy and vocational skills training.

Under the current system, these programs are done toward the end of an inmate's sentence. The new policy will prioritize them from the start.

Schnell said there will



Jean Pieri / St. Paul Pioneer Press
The Minnesota Correctional Facility-Stillwater, which is in Bayport, is pictured in January 2019.

be scheduled check-ins to make sure inmates are achieving their goals. How much earlier an inmate is released will be determined by each individual's needs and circumstances.

"We want to be able to track and know how a person's progressing, how they're doing and how they're meeting the objectives that are put into their plan," he said.

'A sense of hope'
Antonio Espinosa, a correctional officer at the Stillwater correctional facility, said having personalized plans is crucial, as every inmate is unique with different needs.

The proposal would give inmates "a sense of hope" while they complete their prison sentence, Espinosa said.

If inmates stick to their plan in prison, they can qualify for what is called supervision abatement, which is a shortened period of community supervision. Individuals will qualify by meeting goals like maintaining employment, mental health care and community reintegration.

"At the end of the day, that's really what this is about, how do we help people transform their lives and incentivize transformation," Schnell said.

Another part of the policy is prioritizing support to help inmates adjust to reentering society.

"We'll give them some real life goals so when the time comes for them to reenter society, they

will be able to have an idea of what to do," Espinosa said.

'Incentives work'
Schnell said some may think that the proposal is being soft on crime, but he said it should prevent individuals from reoffending and winding up back in prison after being released.

Schnell said the rate of individuals who reoffend and go back to prison has remained stable over the past few years in Minnesota. He expects the proposal will allow for individuals more at risk to reoffend to receive more support and resources from the correctional system.

"What we know is that incentives work," he said. Thirty-eight other states have similar earned release policies, Schnell added.

Kevin Reeves, an activist who lives in Minneapolis and was incarcerated for more than 14 years with the state Department of Corrections, said he supports the new policy.

"I believe in this. I know it will make a difference and a positive change in Minnesota corrections for all parties," Reeves said. "This will positively impact the entire scope of what we do here in Minnesota around criminal justice."

Reeves added that more attention should be given to incarcerated individuals who committed offenses when they were juveniles, as they might need a more specific approach toward rehabilitation.

Near-crash with police car leads to fifth OWI charge

By Maria Lockwood
mlockwood@superiortelegram.com

A Wisconsin man who nearly collided with a police car while driving the wrong way down Tower Avenue waived his preliminary hearing Feb. 24 in Douglas County Circuit Court.

Michael Todd Livingston, 51, of Durand, faces one felony count of fifth-offense operating while intoxicated. A \$1,500 cash bond and \$5,000 signature bond were set for Livingston, with the conditions that he not use or possess alcohol, not frequent establishments whose primary business is serving alcohol and not operate a motor vehicle without a valid permit or license.

Superior Police Officer Griffith Coffman was driving north on the 900 block of Tower Avenue when he saw headlights coming toward him in his lane of travel shortly after midnight Jan. 10.

He activated his lights to alert the driver and prevent a head-on collision. Coffman followed the vehicle when it turned off on North Eighth Street until it pulled over.

The driver of the vehicle was identified as Livingston. Coffman noticed that his speech was slurred and his eyes were glassy. Livingston told the officer that he was leaving an establishment on Tower Avenue and didn't realize the road was one-way, according to the criminal complaint.

Livingston performed

poorly on a number of field sobriety tests, and reportedly told Coffman he had consumed about 12 beers. He took a preliminary breath test, which registered at 0.233.

If convicted of the Class G felony, Livingston faces a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment and a fine of up to \$25,000. His next court appearance was set for April 23.

A traffic citation for driving the wrong way on a divided highway was also issued to Livingston.



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Spring has sprung at the DSSO

By Sheryl Jensen
For the News Tribune

With music from three distinctly different eras, composers, and styles, the DSSO entertained its in-person and at-home audiences with a lively and playful concert, perfect for the first day of spring.

Under the baton of Ho-Yin Kwok, DSSO Assistant Conductor, the evening began with Russian composer Igor Stravinsky's "Pulcinella Suite." Stravinsky wrote "Pulcinella" originally for a ballet based on 16th century Italian commedia dell'arte with stock characters and plots in the broadly comic theatrical style.

The ballet was first performed in 1920, and then Stravinsky reworked the music for the "Suite" in 1922, scaling back from 18 movements to eight. Listening to the various musical themes, one can imagine the bright costumes and the vivid, comic characters presented by traveling troupes of vagabond actors.

The orchestra captured the charming, colorful, witty style of the music, with playful solos from several woodwind and brass players, as well as lovely solo work from Concertmaster Erin Aldridge.

Music Director Dirk Meyer took the stage to conduct the second piece, "Horn Concerto No. 1," written in 1882-83 by Richard Strauss. Strauss wrote the concerto when he was still in his teens, and was inspired by his father Franz Joseph Strauss, a leading horn player of his day, though apparently Richard's love of the French horn went back further than that.

Strauss once said, "My mother told me that from a very young age, I used to laugh and smile when hearing the sound of a French horn. When I heard the sound of a violin, I cried intensely."

The soloist was the DSSO's principal horn player, Jim Pospisil, playing the lyrical horn melody, both without accompaniment, where he had a chance to shine, and with the

IF YOU GO

What: Duluth Superior Symphony Orchestra's concert "Stravinsky and Haydn"

When: Streaming online at dssso.com

Tickets: \$10 at dssso.com

(\$10 each for two remaining concerts — "Price and Mendelssohn" on April 17 and "From Beethoven to Milhaud" on May 8 — both in person and streaming at "DSSO at Home")

orchestra leading to the "con bravura," fiery coda of the final movement.

The prolific Austrian composer Joseph Haydn is often referred to as the "Father of the Symphony," or "Papa" Haydn, as composer of 104 symphonies. This is a remarkable achievement considering that Beethoven wrote 9 symphonies and Mozart wrote 41.

Closing the concert (also conducted by Meyer) was Haydn's Symphony No. 104, composed in 1795. Also called the "London Symphony," it was the final symphony he wrote. Haydn composed 12 symphonies over the three years he lived in England.

It received its first performance in April of that year. A London newspaper, The Morning Chronicle, praised both the composition and its author: "This wonderful man never fails," the reviewer wrote of Haydn, "and the various powers of his inventive and impassioned mind have seldom been listened to with greater rapture by the hearers, than they were this evening."

The DSSO was in fine form, starting with the composition's solemn introduction in slow tempos, moving through to the joyous final movement. The musicians kept the audience on its toes through Haydn's dramatic twists and turns of sudden pauses, inventive melodies, harmonies, humor, and dramatic surprises, earning them a well-deserved standing ovation.

Sheryl Jensen is a former teacher, magazine editor and director. She reviews theater for the News Tribune.

Duluth Loop Reliability Project



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Appendix N

Duluth Loop Reliability Project

MPUC Docket No. E015/CN-21-140

MPUC Docket No. E015/TL-21-141

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The PROCTOR JOURNAL

PUBLIC NOTICE AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF MINNESOTA
County of St. Louis - ss

DIANE GIULIANI, 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 PROCTOR JOURNAL, and has personal 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 print: Duluth Loop Reliability Project JOIN THE DISCUSSION

Which is attached was cut from One successive week. It was first published on THURSDAY, the 18th day of MARCH, 2021 and was thereafter printed and published on every THURSDAY, to and including THURSDAY, the 18th day of MARCH, 2021 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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Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 580.033 relating to the publication of mortgage foreclosure notices: The newspaper's known office of issue is located in St. Louis County. The newspaper complies with the conditions described in 580.033 subd. 1, clause (1) or (2). If the newspaper's known office of issue is located in a county adjoining the county where the mortgaged premises or some part of the mortgaged premises described in the latter are located, a substantial portion of the newspaper's circulation is in the latter county.

By Diane Giuliani

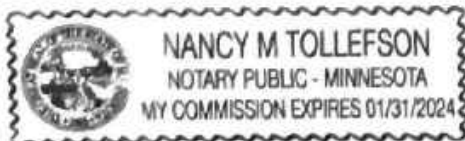
Title: OFFICE MANAGER

Subscribed and sworn to before me on
This 18th day of MARCH, 2021

Nancy M Tollefson
Notary Public

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- (1) Lowest Classified rate paid by Commercial users for comparable (Line, word or inch rate) \$ _____
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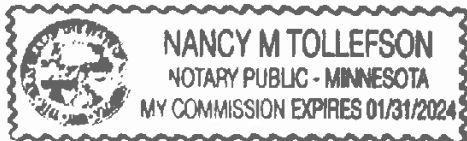
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Virtual Open House #2

- » Engagement Opportunities
- » Our Commitment to Reliable Energy
- » Local and Regional Benefits
- » Project Overview
- » Project Timeline
- » What We Heard From You
- » Routing Criteria
- » Routing Process
- » Proposed Route Alternatives
- » Comment on the Proposed Route Alternatives
- » Detailed Maps
- » Structure Design
- » Paralleling Structures
- » Real Estate

WELCOME

to the Duluth Loop Reliability Project

Virtual Open House

The slides in this session are filled with information about the Duluth Loop Reliability Project. Please read the materials and share valuable input with us through our interactive comment map.

Please sign in:

First Name *

Last Name*

Email*

Mailing Address

City

State

-None-

To prevent the further spread of COVID-19, Minnesota Power has indefinitely postponed all in-person public meetings and events. Public engagement remains a top priority for our project team and we appreciate you joining us online to learn more about this project.

Virtual Open House #2

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Engagement Opportunities

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VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

March 15 – April 2

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**218-755-5512 or
Connect@DuluthLoop.com**



Call 218-755-5512 or email Connect@DuluthLoop.com to request mailed project information packet. Packets can also be found at DuluthLoop.com.

To prevent the further spread of COVID-19, Minnesota Power has indefinitely postponed all in-person public meetings and events. Public engagement remains a top priority for our project team and we appreciate you joining us online to learn more about this project.

Virtual Open House #2

- >> Engagement Opportunities
- >> Our Commitment to Reliable Energy
- >> Local and Regional Benefits
- >> Project Overview
- >> Project Timeline
- >> What We Heard From You
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- >> Routing Process
- >> Proposed Route Alternatives
- >> Comment on the Proposed Route Alternatives
- >> Detailed Maps
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Our Commitment to Reliable Energy

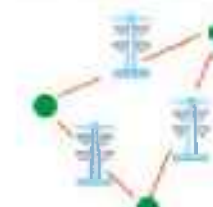
Minnesota Power has made significant changes to our generation mix including the retirement of several small coal units. In order to maintain a continuous supply of safe and reliable electricity, we are investing in transmission infrastructure to enhance the stability of our electric system in our communities.

Click on the items below to learn more about energy reliability.

+ What happens when we reduce coal generation?



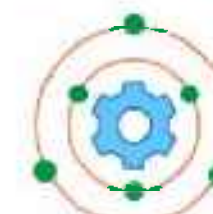
+ What do we mean by redundancy?



+ How do we maintain reliability?



+ Why the Duluth Loop Reliability Project?

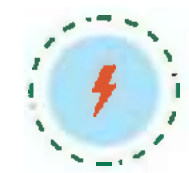


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Local and Regional Benefits

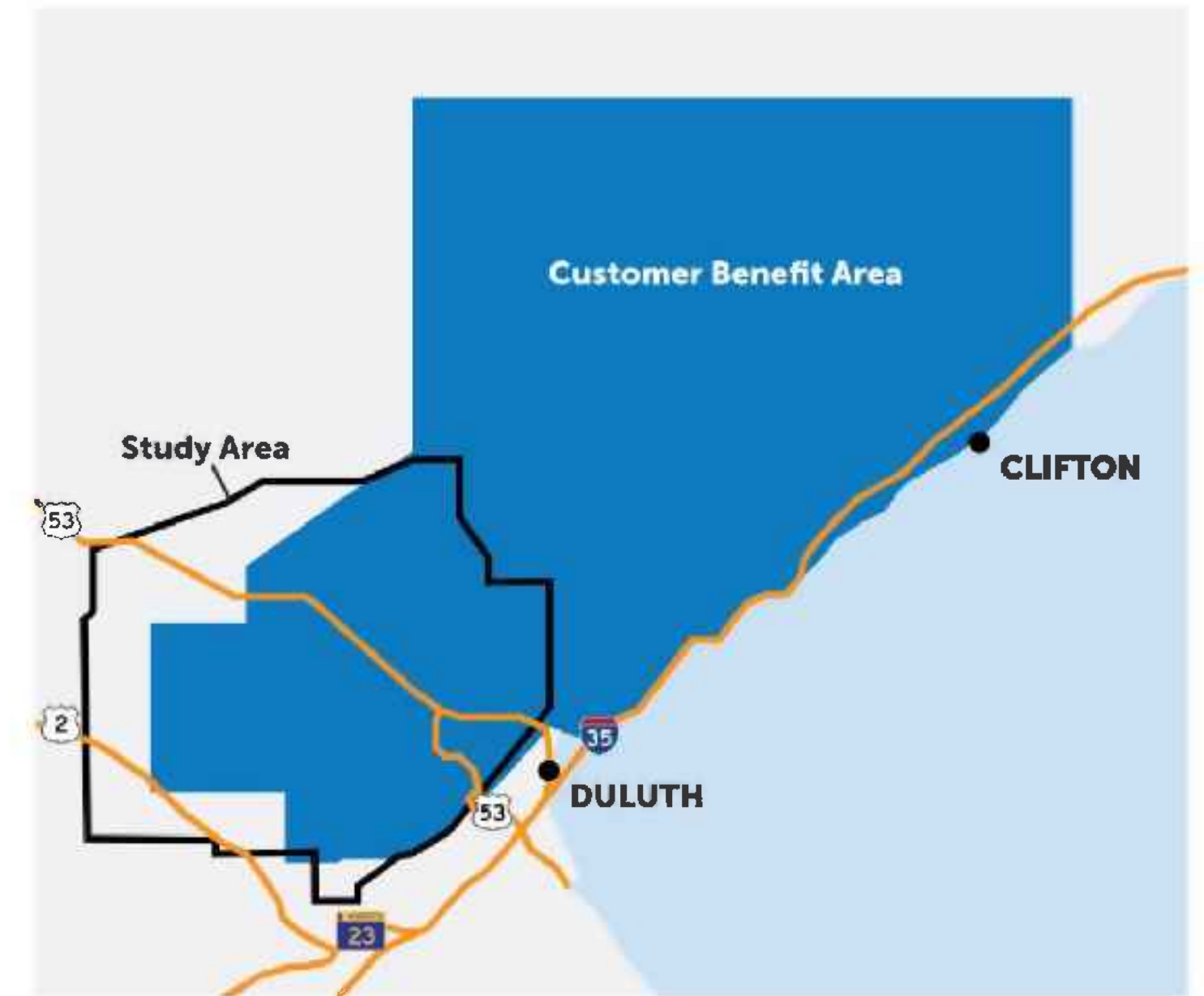
The Duluth Loop Reliability Project is about more than just providing power. This project will:



ENHANCE ENERGY RELIABILITY
for communities in Duluth and the North Shore by adding transmission in the area



REPLACE GRID STRENGTH AND STABILITY
that was once provided by local coal-fired generation



Our grid is interconnected and additional areas will benefit due to a strong, reliable grid. Minnesota Power customers throughout the blue shaded area will directly benefit from the Duluth Loop Reliability Project.

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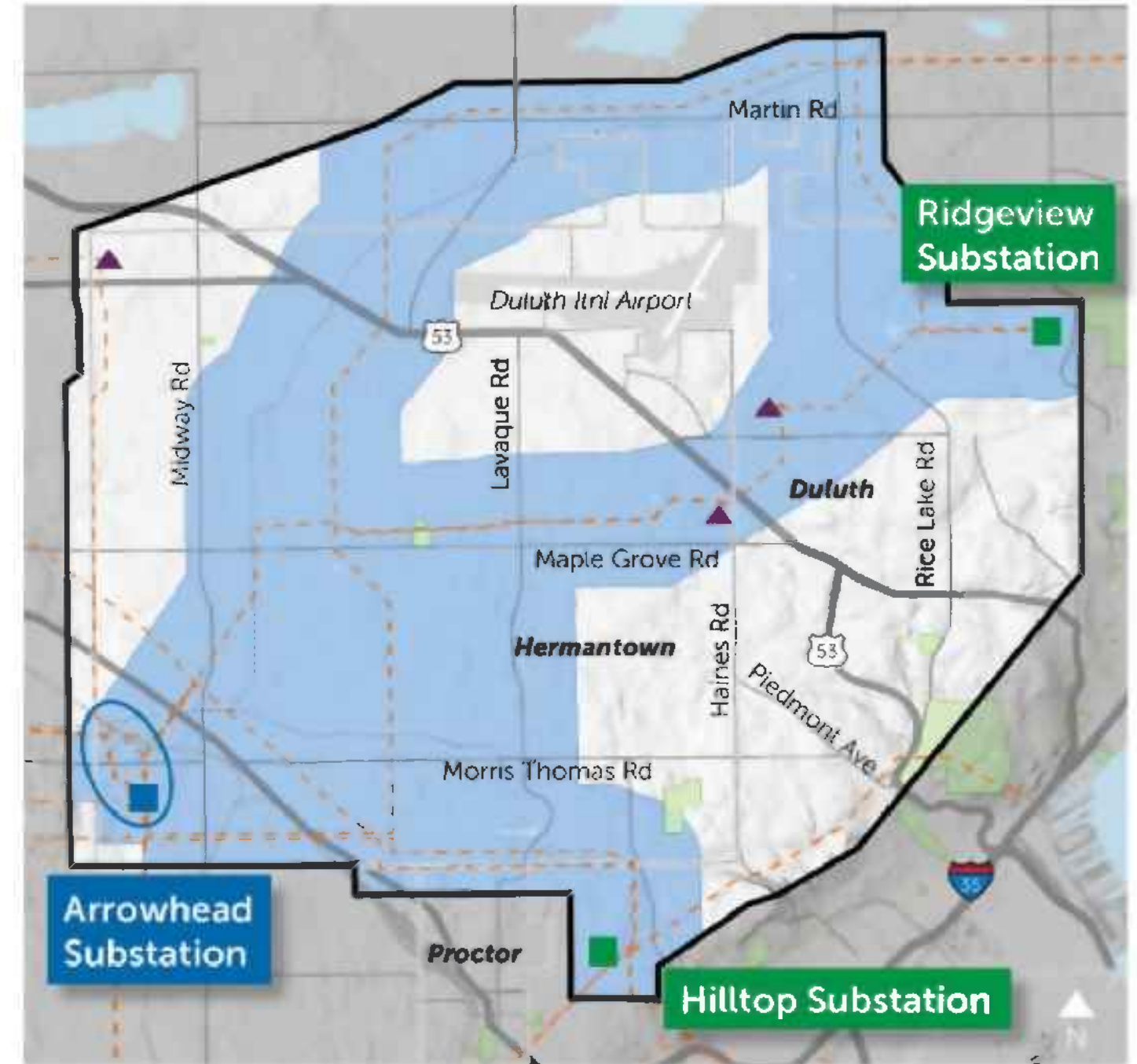
Project Overview

This project will **enhance reliability** in and around Duluth and along the North Shore by building an additional transmission source.

Project Components

- Construction of a **new 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line** between the Ridgeview and Hilltop substations
- Construction of approximately **one-mile extension of an existing 230kV transmission line**, connecting to the Arrowhead Substation
- Upgrades to the Ridgeview, Hilltop, and Arrowhead substations and reconfiguring existing transmission lines at the Hilltop Substation

Note: The Hilltop and Ridgeview substations will likely be expanded by this project. The exact size and area are not known at this time.



Study Area Study Corridors Substations Roads

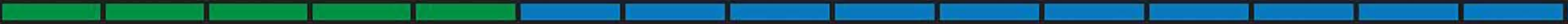
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Project Timeline

The planning, development and construction schedule is subject to change based on weather, the availability of equipment and materials, the impact of COVID-19 and other potentially unforeseen events.



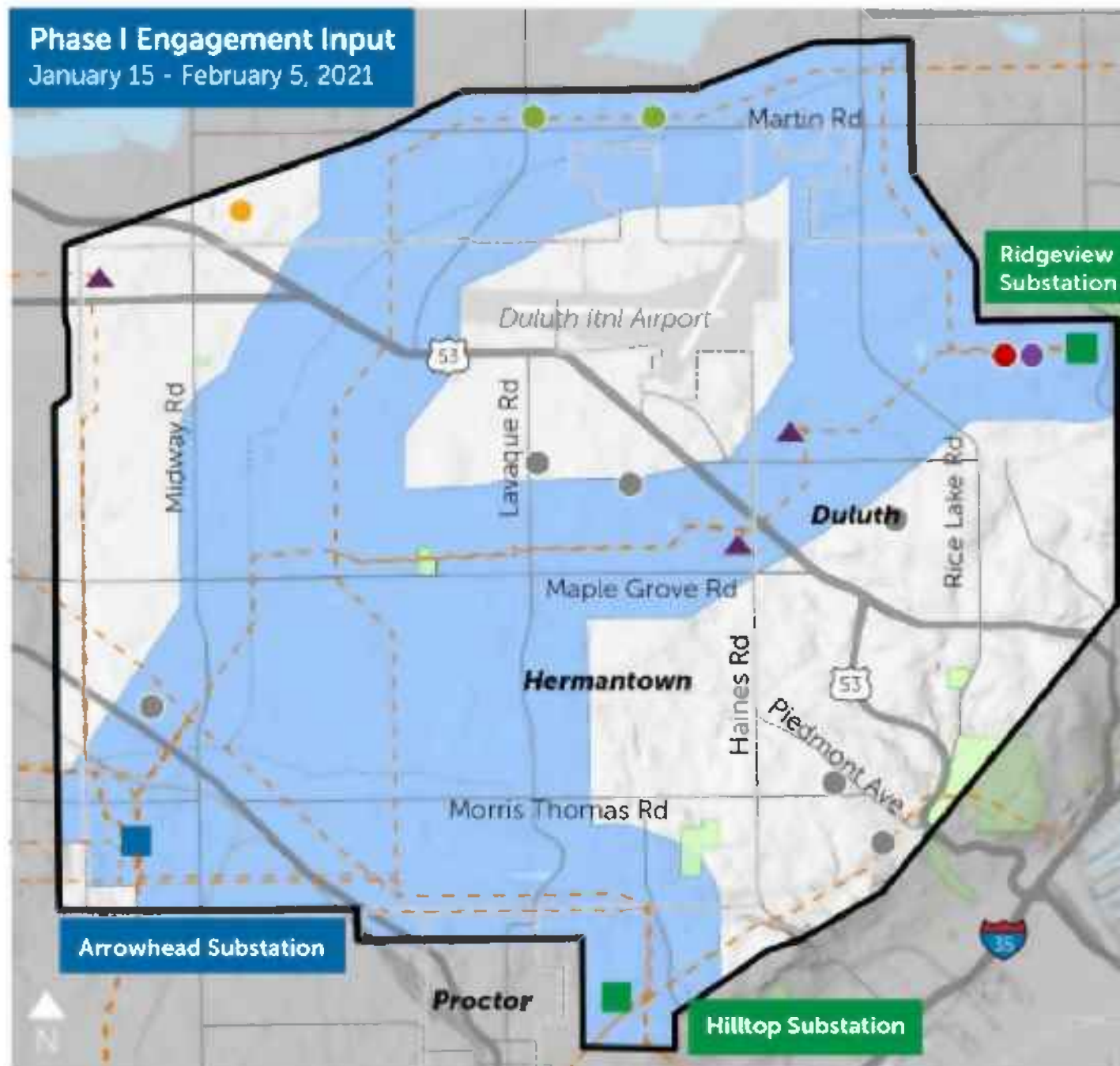
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What We Heard From You

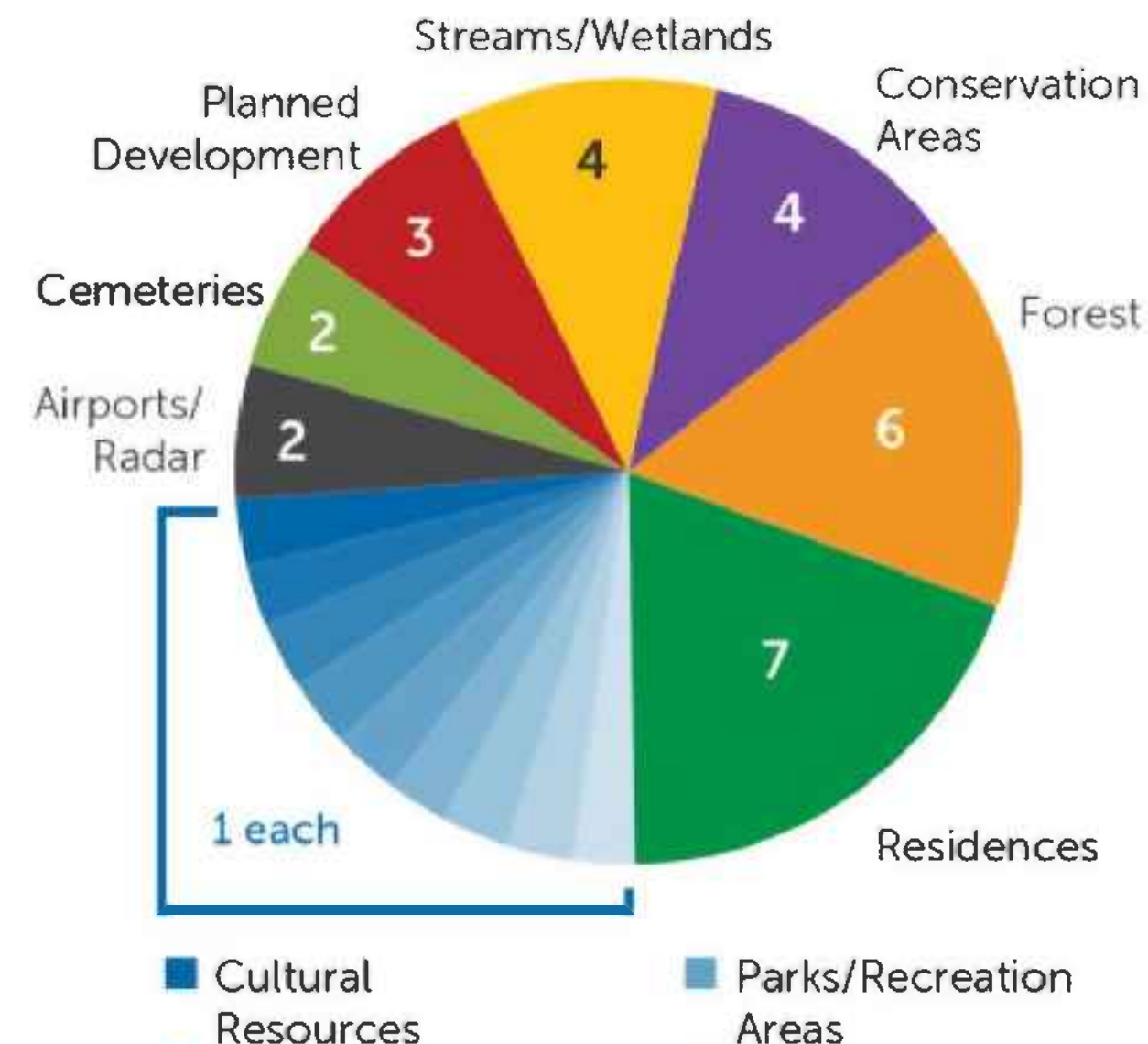
Our project team received input from the community during the Phase I Engagement of the Study Corridors in January and February, 2021. All comments and feedback were reviewed during the development of Proposed Route Alternatives. Public comments received through the interactive map are shown in the map and Routing Survey Results are shown below.

Phase I Engagement Input January 15 - February 5, 2021



Study Area Existing Transmission Lines Public Comments (January 15 - February 5, 2021)

Select the top three Sensitivities that are most important to you?



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- » Right-of-Way Acquisition

Routing Criteria

Our goal is to take advantage of Opportunities while understanding and minimizing impacts to Sensitivities and addressing Constructability concerns. We use these three categories to develop a Preferred Route.

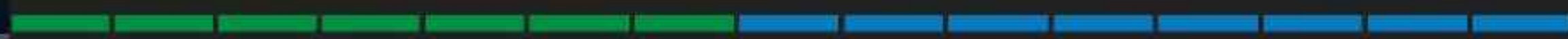
+ OPPORTUNITIES



+ SENSITIVITIES



+ ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION CONSIDERATIONS



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Routing Process

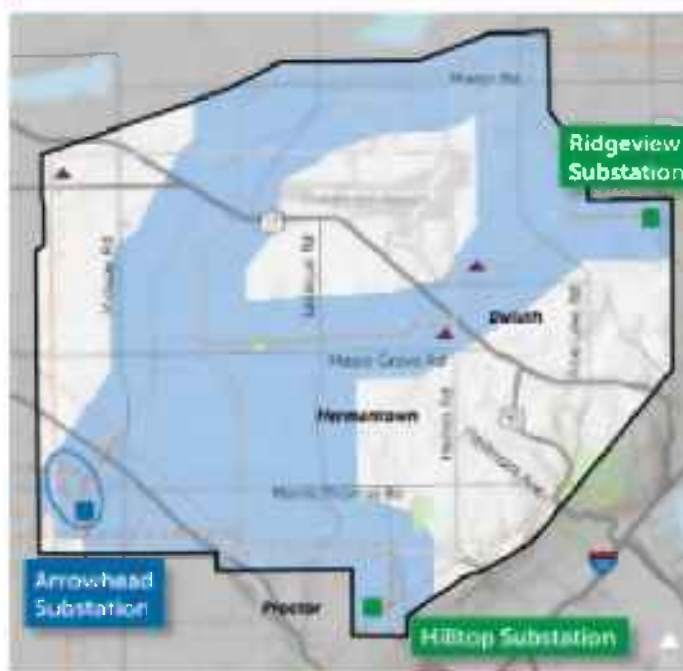
Curious how we route a new transmission line? It's a collaborative process. Here's our typical routing process phases.
Click on each image to enlarge.

Study Area



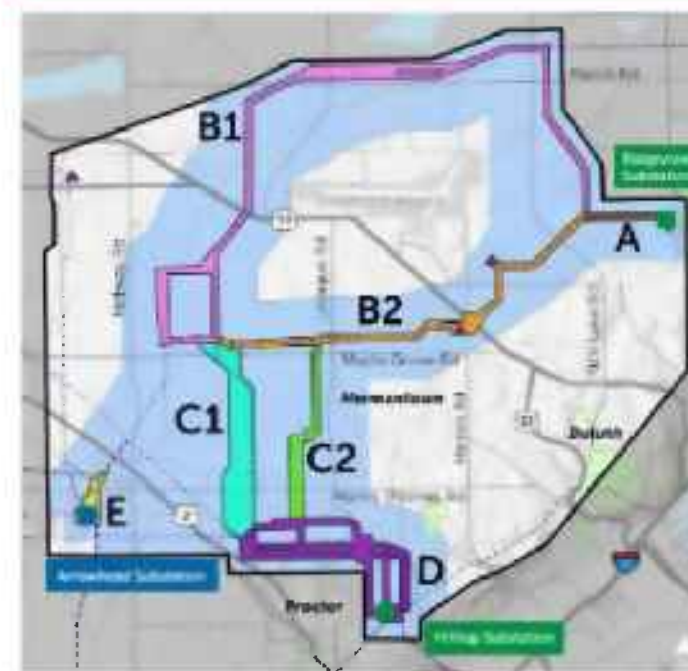
November – December 2020: Develop routing criteria, identify Study Area, review available data, initial stakeholder meetings

Study Corridors



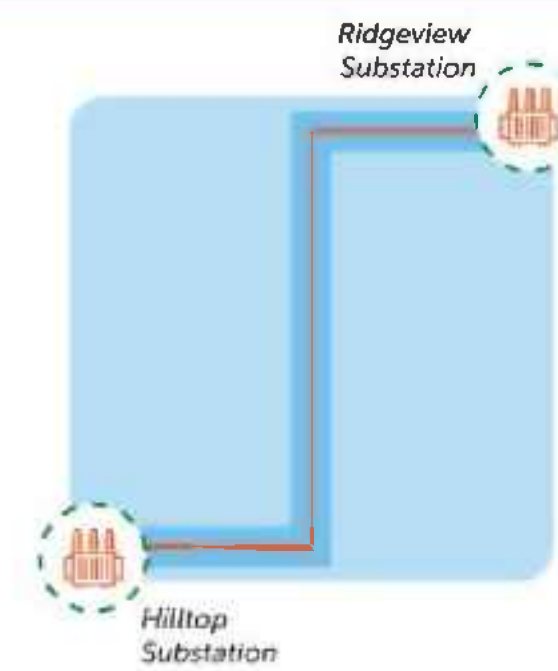
January - February 2021: Evaluate initial stakeholder input, develop Study Corridors, Phase 1 Public Engagement

Route Alternatives



March - April 2021: Evaluate stakeholder input, develop Route Alternatives, Phase 2 Public Engagement

Preferred Route



April - June 2021: Evaluate stakeholder input, select Preferred Route, notify landowners along Preferred Route

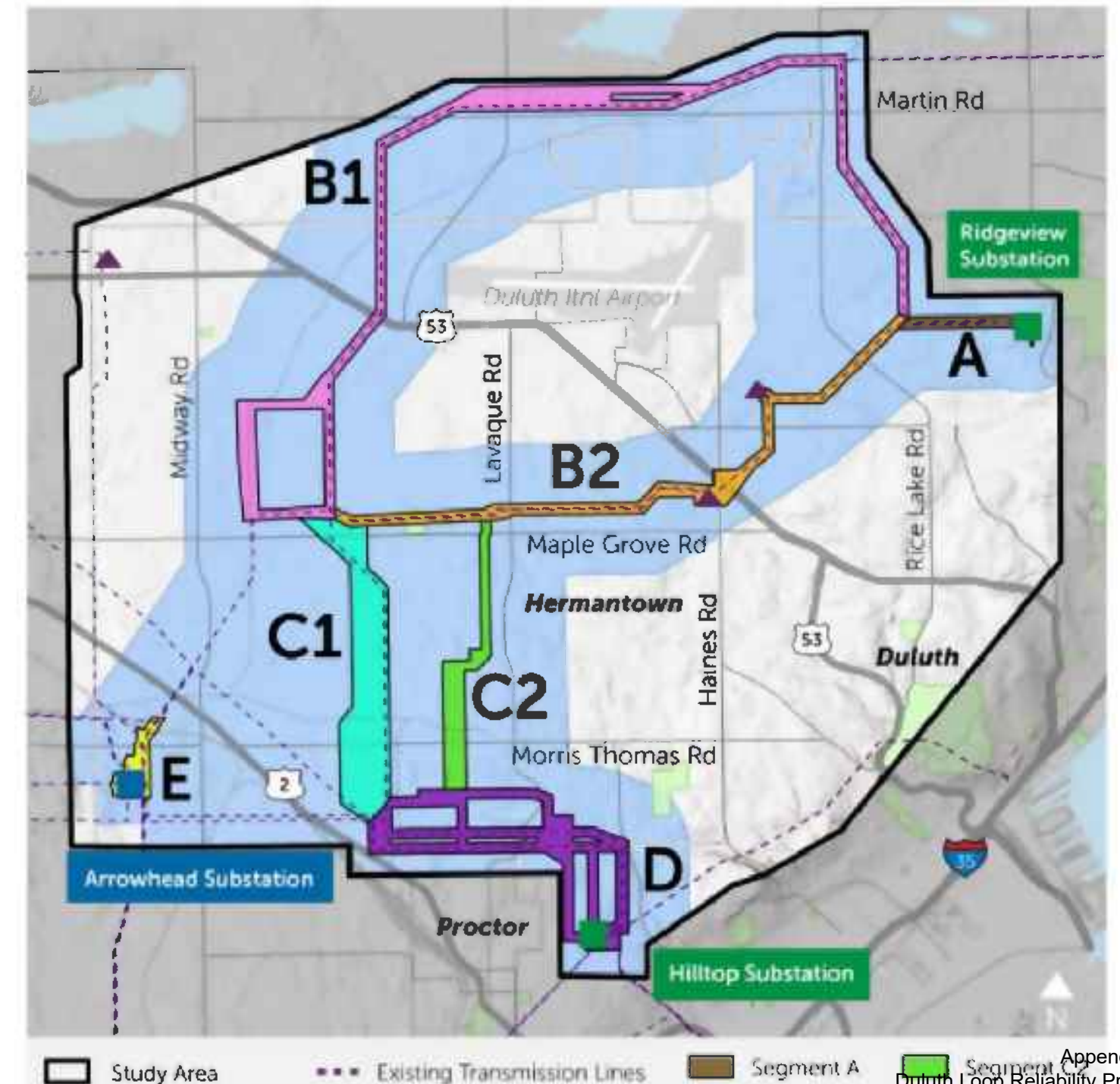
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- >> Connect with Us!

Proposed Route Alternatives

- Minnesota Power reviewed and incorporated comments during the development of the Proposed Route Alternatives.
- The Proposed Route Alternatives are wider than the necessary easement needed for the final construction and operation of the new line.
- Where feasible and in order to minimize impacts, Minnesota Power's preference is to parallel existing transmission lines.

Proposed Route Alternatives



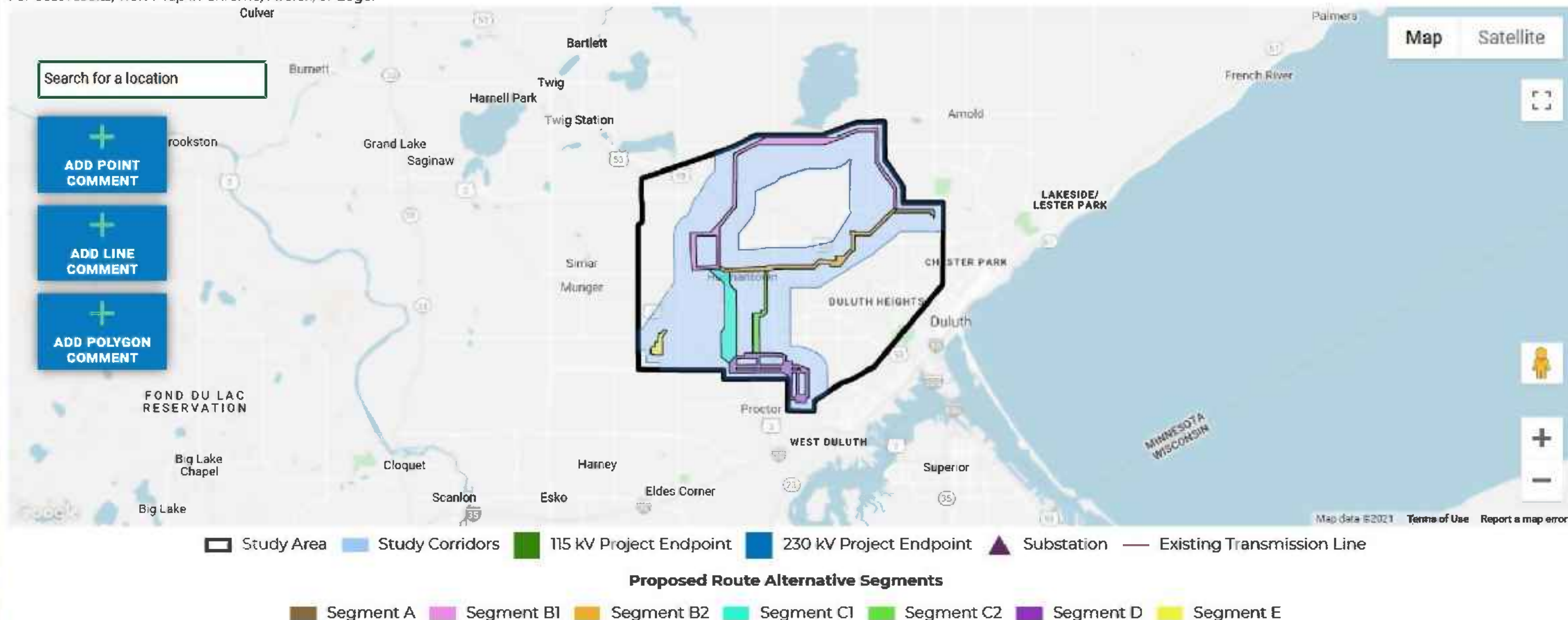
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Comment on the Proposed Route Alternatives

Now that you've learned about the project, routing process and criteria and how the Proposed Route Alternatives were identified, we'd like your input to help our project team identify additional Opportunities and Sensitivities. Use the map below to review the Proposed Route Alternatives. If you would like to provide feedback on a particular area, click the Add Comment button.

For best results, view map in Chrome, Firefox, or Edge.



Virtual Open House #2

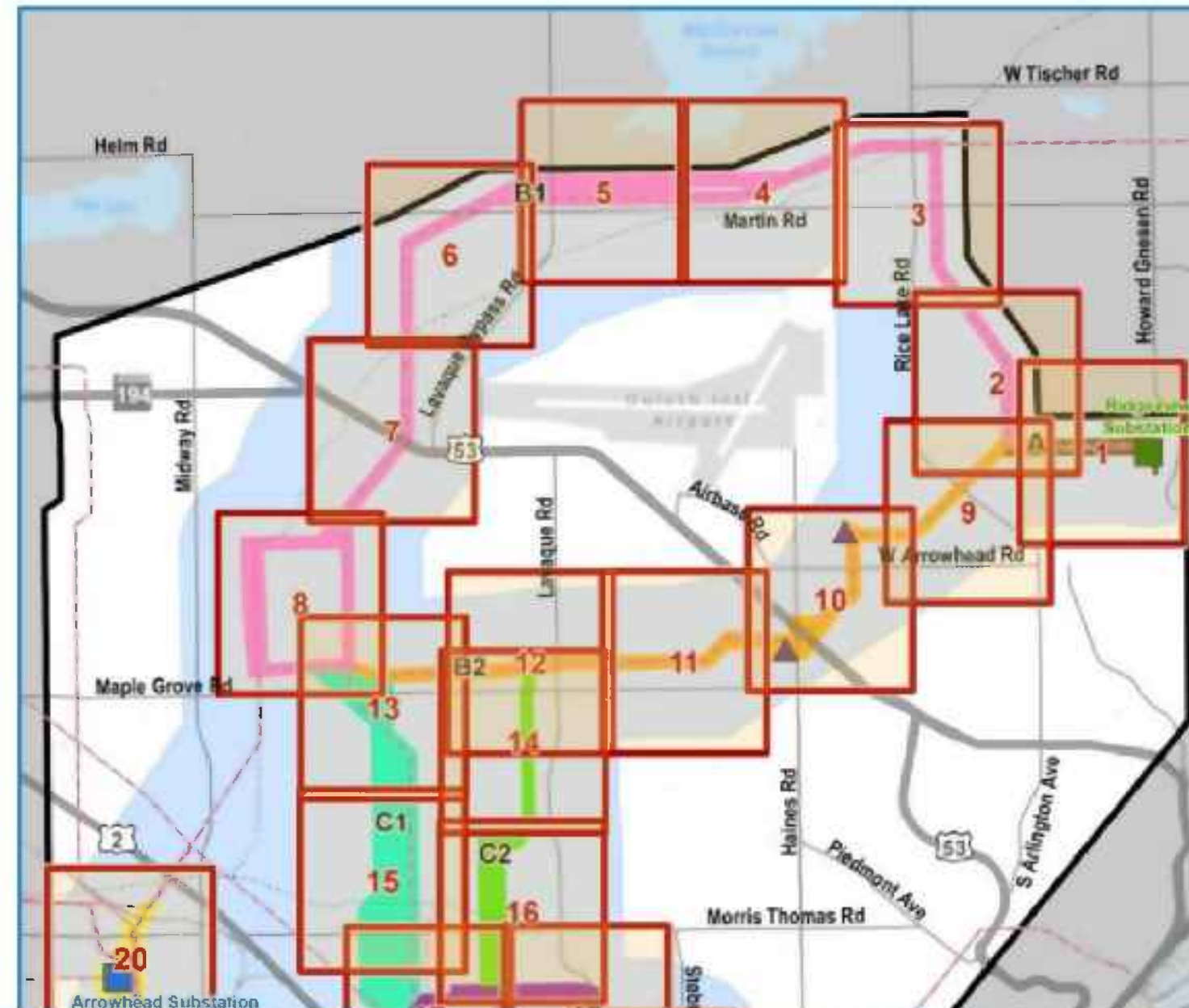
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Detailed Maps

Click or tap on the numbered squares below to view a detailed pdf map of that area.

For best results, view map in Chrome, Firefox, or Edge.

Click or tap on the numbered squares below to view a detailed pdf map of the area.



Structure Design

The structure types and specifications shown below are preliminary and subject to change. Other structure types may be used depending on final route location.

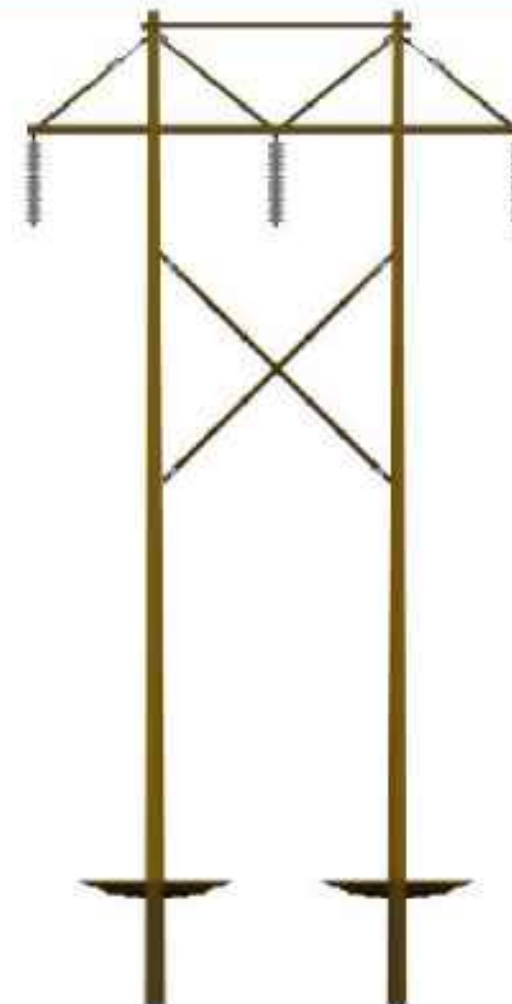
Typical 115kV Structures



Click on the image to enlarge.

- Typical Height: 50 - 80 feet (ft)
- Typical Span: 500 - 1,000ft
- Foundation type: Direct embed
- Typical Right-of-way: 100ft

Typical 230kV Structures



Click on the image to enlarge.

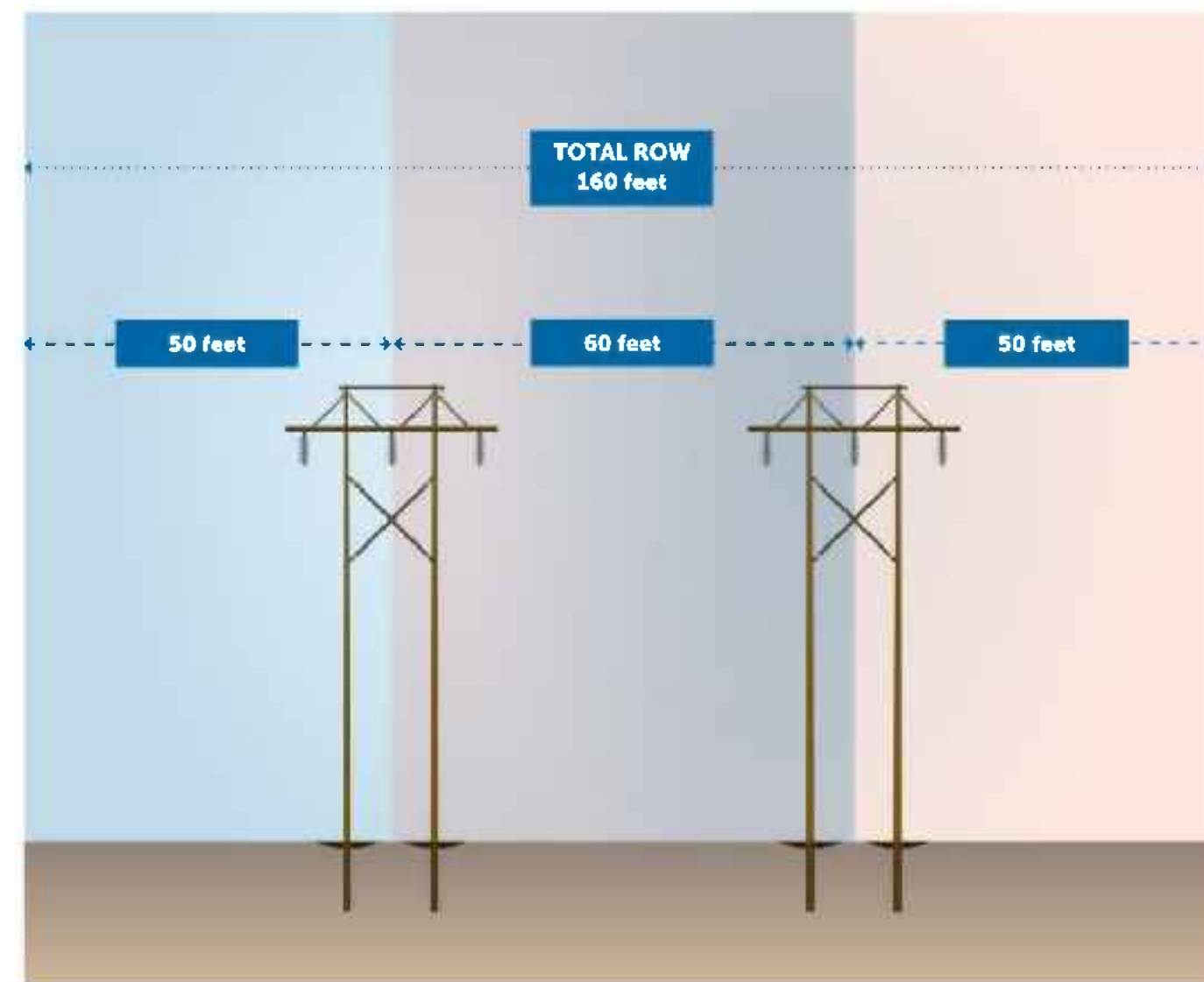
- Typical Height: 60 - 100 feet (ft)
- Typical Span: 500 - 1,000ft
- Foundation type: Direct embed
- Typical Right-of-way: 130ft

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Paralleling Structures

In the event that the new 115kV transmission line parallels an existing 115kV transmission line, the alignment of typical right-of-ways may look similar to what's shown in the diagram below. Different dimensions would apply for a 115kV line paralleling a 230kV line. Learn more about right-of-way and real estate in the next slide.



Click on the image to enlarge.

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Real Estate

Following the Public Utilities Commission's approval of the final route (anticipated November 2022), notification letters will be mailed to all landowners along the final route.

What is right-of-way?

The term right-of-way (abbreviated 'ROW') is typically a strip of land used for a specific purpose such as the construction, operation, and maintenance of a transmission line.

What is an easement?

A legal agreement allowing Minnesota Power the right to construct, operate and maintain a transmission line on your property.



Click on the image to enlarge.

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Right-of-Way Acquisition

Project representatives will hold individual meetings with **affected landowners** to discuss the project and right-of-way needs once a preferred route has been selected.



A final route is determined by the MN PUC
(Anticipated November 2022)



Minnesota Power contacts landowners to begin right-of-way acquisition process



Minnesota Power makes offer to landowner based on fair market value
Fair market value will be researched prior to making offers



Minnesota Power and the landowner agree and the easement is recorded



Minnesota Power constructs, operates, and maintains the transmission line within the right-of-way.



Preconstruction and Construction

Once a final route has been approved and easements have been agreed upon, preconstruction and construction activities will begin.

Preconstruction Activities

Prior to construction, a number of activities must occur including:

- Field Surveys
- Wildlife Surveys
- Archaeological Surveys
- Wetland and Stream Surveys
- Soil Surveys

Construction Activities

After permitting, right-of-way acquisition, and final design, the new transmission lines will be constructed by qualified contractors. Here are the typical components of construction anticipated for the Duluth Loop Reliability Project.



Initial surveying, right-of-way clearing, and access development



Structure staking, surveying, and soils investigations as needed



Foundation installation
Foundation type may vary depending on structure.



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Connect with Us!

Thank you for your interest in the Duluth Loop Reliability Project! All input will be reviewed and considered by the project team while developing the Route Options.
Please submit your comments by April 2, 2021.



Drop a pin on our
**Interactive
Map**



Send us an email at
**Connect@
DuluthLoop.com**



Call our hotline at
218-755-5512



Submit a comment
at
DuluthLoop.com