

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



2021

Routing, public engagement, and permitting



2022

Permitting and environmental surveys



2023-2025

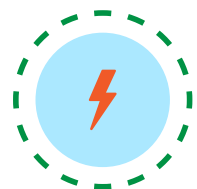
Engineering, environmental and land surveys, real estate, and construction



2025

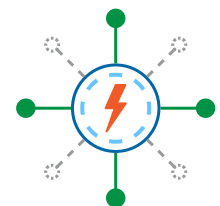
Complete

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.

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.

