

Minnesota Transmission Owners

August 31, 2009

To: Biennial Transmission Planning Notification Recipients

Re: Public webcasts regarding transmission planning

Dear recipient:

Minnesota electric utilities are notifying Minnesota agencies of some upcoming opportunities to learn about transmission inadequacies in their areas. You will be able to participate in these webcasts on your computer in your office. We hope that you will be able to participate in one or more of the webcasts. Please forward this note on to your county board and planning staff.

Minnesota electric utilities with transmission lines in the state are required by law to conduct transmission planning and identify reasonably foreseeable inadequacies in the electric transmission system. These utilities must file a Biennial Transmission Projects Report with the Public Utilities Commission by November 1 of each odd numbered year. The last report was filed November 1, 2007. The 2007 Biennial Report and earlier reports can be found at www.Minnelectrans.com. A CD containing the entire 2009 Report will be mailed to the county when the Report becomes available on November 1, and the Report will also be available on the website.

In order to inform the public of the planning process and inadequacies in the six transmission planning zones in the state, the utilities will host webcasts in September to address the situation in each zone. Notice of the webcasts will also be published in local and statewide newspapers. Notices about the meetings are enclosed. The table below summarizes the time and zone for the six webcasts that have been scheduled.

ZONE	DATE	TIME
Twin Cities Zone	Sept. 14, 2009	10:00 am-12:00 pm
Northeast Zone	Sept. 15, 2009	10:00 am-12:00 pm
Northwest Zone	Sept. 16, 2009	10:00 am-12:00 pm
Southwest Zone	Sept. 16, 2009	1:00 pm-3:00 pm
Southeast Zone	Sept. 17, 2009	10:00 am-12:00 pm
West Central Zone	Sept. 17, 2009	1:00 pm-3:00 pm

All webcasts will be held online at <http://Minnelectrans.Webex.com>. Pre-registration is not required.

The purpose of the webcasts is to inform local government officials and the public about ongoing transmission needs in your area. Another important reason is to solicit input on possible inadequacies and activities that may affect demand for electricity such as industrial parks, residential developments, parklands and other issues that can affect the transmission grid and the location of future electric infrastructure. These zonal meetings are an opportunity for local officials to bring matters like these to our attention.

If you have any questions, please contact us through the www.Minnelectrans.com web site or contact Randy Fordice at 763-445-5713 or rfordice@grenergy.com

Sincerely,

Minnesota Transmission Owners

Great River Energy, Otter Tail Power Company, Dairyland Power Cooperative, Missouri River Energy Services, American Transmission Company, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency, ITC Midwest, East River Electric Power Cooperative, Xcel Energy, Minnesota Power, Minkota Power Cooperative, L&O Power Cooperative, Marshall Municipal Utility, Rochester Public Utilities, Willmar Municipal Utilities, Hutchinson Utilities Commission