

APPENDIX F

Agency and Public Correspondence

- F-1 Agency Correspondence
 - Agency Letters
 - Agency Responses
 - BIA NEPA Questionnaire
- F-2 Public Correspondence
 - Letters to Landowners
 - Comments from Landowners



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

June 14, 2010

Ms. Tamara Cameron
Branch Chief
St. Paul District, US Army Corps of Engineers
180 Fifth St E, Suite #700
St. Paul, MN 55101-1638

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kV Transmission Line Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Ms. Cameron;

Xcel Energy (Xcel Energy or Company) is beginning the process of preparing a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) application for the proposed Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV line. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. Xcel Energy requests your participation and comment on this Project.

The general Project location is shown on the attached map; the sections where the proposed routes are located are shown in the table below. Please note that the route corridors shown on the map are general locations; final route alignment alternatives have not been finalized.

Sections in Project Area – Sawyer County, Wisconsin

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We are contacting you to provide early notification of the proposed Project and to solicit any comments your agency may have regarding the Project. We will be meeting with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in the coming month to review the Project and identify preliminary concerns. The formal PSC review process will begin following the submittal of the CPCN application, currently anticipated to be in the fourth quarter of 2010 or first quarter 2011. The review process is approximately six months long and includes several opportunities for formal public and agency comment at information meetings, open houses, and hearings.

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Sincerely,

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

Cc: Joyce Pickle, HDR



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

June 14, 2010

Mr. Kurt Waterstradt
State Coordinator
Wisconsin Private Lands Office
US Fish & Wildlife
4511 Helgesen Dr.
Madison, WI 53718-6747

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kV Transmission Line Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Waterstradt;

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

Cc: Joyce Pickle, HDR



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

June 14, 2010

Ms. Louise Clemency
Field Supervisor
Green Bay Ecological Services Office
US Fish & Wildlife
2661 Scott Tower Dr.
New Franken, WI 54229

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kV Transmission Line Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Ms. Clemency;

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

Cc: Joyce Pickle, HDR



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

June 14, 2010

Ms. Jeanne Higgins
Forest Supervisor
Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest
US Forest Service
1170 4th Ave S
Park Falls, WI 54552

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kV Transmission Line Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Ms. Higgins;

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

Cc: Joyce Pickle, HDR



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

June 14, 2010

Mr. Ellsworth Brown
Director
State Historical Society of Wisconsin
816 State Street
Madison, WI 53706-1482

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kV Transmission Line Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Brown;

Xcel Energy (Xcel Energy or Company) is beginning the process of preparing a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) application for the proposed Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV line. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. Xcel Energy requests your participation and comment on this Project.

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At this time we are unsure of the nature of any federal preservation requirements, such as compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended. We anticipate coordinating with your office ahead of any Section 106 consultation in order to obtain existing cultural resources data. If a federal agency does initiate Section 106 consultation with your office, we would advise them of this notification and your response to it.

I am looking forward to your response and to coordinating with your agency as the Project develops. If you have any questions, would like to discuss the Project in greater detail, or would like to meet with Project staff please contact me at (612) 220-1165 or at raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

Cc: Joyce Pickle, HDR
Sherman Banker, Compliance Archaeologist, State Historical Society of Wisconsin
John Broihahn, State Archaeologist, State Historical Society of Wisconsin



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

June 14, 2010

Mr. Bob Fasick
Highway Operations Engineer
WisDOT Bureau of Highway Operations
Hill Farms State Office Bldg
4802 Sheboygan Ave
Madison, WI 53707-7999

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kV Transmission Line Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Fasick;

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

Cc: Joyce Pickle, HDR



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

June 14, 2010

Mr. Gary Dikkers
Bureau of Aeronautics
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4802 Sheboygan Ave #701
Madison, WI 53707

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kV Transmission Line Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Dikkers;

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

Cc: Joyce Pickle, HDR



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

June 14, 2010

Mr. Don Gutkowski
Director
Northwest Region Office
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
718 W. Clairemont Ave
Eau Claire, WI 54701-5108

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kV Transmission Line Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Gutkowski;

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Permitting Analyst

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414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

June 14, 2010

Mr. Peter Nauth
AIS Program, Land Resources bureau
Wisconsin Dept of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection
2811 Agricultural Dr.
PO Box 8911
Madison, WI 53708-8911

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kV Transmission Line Project, Sawyer County, WI

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Sections in Project Area – Sawyer County, Wisconsin

Township Name	Township	Range	Sections
Sand Lake	39	9	5, 8, 9, 15 – 17, 22 – 24, 26, 27, 34 – 36
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Edgewater	38	9	1 – 3, 11 – 14, 23, 24
Meteor	38	8	3 – 6, 9 – 13, 15 - 22
Radisson	38	7	17, 18, 20, 21

As the map indicates, Xcel Energy is currently considering several route options between the Stone Lake Substation in Sand Lake Township (T39, R9) and the proposed Couderay Substation (proposed to be located near the existing Couderay Switching Station in Radisson Township (T38, R7)). The majority of the proposed routes follow existing corridors (pipeline, transmission line, or roads) with only a few short segments that would be along new, cross-country routes. If the route following the existing 69 kV line is selected, Xcel Energy is proposing to build the 161 kV line on separate, parallel structures. The Company is proposing upgrades to the existing Stone Lake substation and proposing a new 161 kV Couderay Substation in Section 20 or 21 of Radisson Township.

Xcel Energy is working with HDR Engineering, Inc. (HDR) to prepare the CPCN application. Joyce Pickle ((763) 591-5443, Joyce.Pickle@hdrinc.com) is the HDR project manager; HDR may contact you for information during this application process. During the development of the application, potential impacts to environmental resources will be evaluated including (but not limited to) wetlands, unique habitats, threatened or endangered species, floodplains, land uses and the built environment, socioeconomic resources, parks and recreational facilities, cultural resources, and farmland.

We are contacting you to provide early notification of the proposed Project and to solicit any comments your agency may have regarding the Project. We will be meeting with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in the coming month to review the Project and identify preliminary concerns. The formal PSC review process will begin following the submittal of the CPCN application, currently anticipated to be in the fourth quarter of 2010 or first quarter 2011. The review process is approximately six months long and includes several opportunities for formal public and agency comment at information meetings, open houses, and hearings.

I am looking forward to your response and to coordinating with your agency as the Project develops. If you have any questions, would like to discuss the Project in greater detail, or would like to meet with Project staff please contact me at (612) 220-1165 or at raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RaeLynn Asah', with a stylized flourish at the end.

RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

Cc: Joyce Pickle, HDR



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

June 14, 2010

Mr. Dave Siebert, Director
Office of Energy
Wisconsin DNR
101 S Webster St
PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kV Transmission Line Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Siebert;

Xcel Energy (Xcel Energy or Company) is beginning the process of preparing a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) application for the proposed Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV line. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. Xcel Energy requests your participation and comment on this Project.

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I am looking forward to your response and to coordinating with your agency as the Project develops. If you have any questions, would like to discuss the Project in greater detail, or would like to meet with Project staff please contact me at (612) 220-1165 or at raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Sincerely,

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

Cc: Joyce Pickle, HDR



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

June 14, 2010

Ms. Deena Mortenson
ROW Specialist
Bureau of Indian Affairs - Great Lakes Agency
916 West Lake Shore Dr.
Ashland, WI 54806-1357

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kV Transmission Line Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Ms. Mortenson;

Xcel Energy (Xcel Energy or Company) is beginning the process of preparing a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) application for the proposed Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV line. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. Xcel Energy requests your participation and comment on this Project.

The general Project location is shown on the attached map; the sections where the proposed routes are located are shown in the table below. Please note that the route corridors shown on the map are general locations; final route alignment alternatives have not been finalized.

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We are contacting you to provide early notification of the proposed Project and to solicit any comments your agency may have regarding the Project. We will be meeting with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in the coming month to review the Project and identify preliminary concerns. The formal PSC review process will begin following the submittal of the CPCN application, currently anticipated to be in the fourth quarter of 2010 or first quarter 2011. The review process is approximately six months long and includes several opportunities for formal public and agency comment at information meetings, open houses, and hearings.

At this time we are unsure of the nature of any federal preservation requirements, such as compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended. We anticipate coordinating with your office ahead of any Section 106 consultation in order to obtain existing cultural resources data. If a federal agency does initiate Section 106 consultation with your office, we would advise them of this notification and your response to it.

I am looking forward to your response and to coordinating with your agency as the Project develops. If you have any questions, would like to discuss the Project in greater detail, or would like to meet with Project staff please contact me at (612) 220-1165 or at raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RaeLynn Asah', with a stylized, flowing script.

RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

Cc: Joyce Pickle, HDR



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

June 14, 2010

Mr. Terrence Virden
Regional Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs - Midwest Regional Office
One Federal Drive
Room 550
Ft. Snelling, MN 55111-4007

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kV Transmission Line Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Virden;

Xcel Energy (Xcel Energy or Company) is beginning the process of preparing a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) application for the proposed Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV line. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. Xcel Energy requests your participation and comment on this Project.

The general Project location is shown on the attached map; the sections where the proposed routes are located are shown in the table below. Please note that the route corridors shown on the map are general locations; final route alignment alternatives have not been finalized.

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At this time we are unsure of the nature of any federal preservation requirements, such as compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended. We anticipate coordinating with your office ahead of any Section 106 consultation in order to obtain existing cultural resources data. If a federal agency does initiate Section 106 consultation with your office, we would advise them of this notification and your response to it.

I am looking forward to your response and to coordinating with your agency as the Project develops. If you have any questions, would like to discuss the Project in greater detail, or would like to meet with Project staff please contact me at (612) 220-1165 or at raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Sincerely,

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

Cc: Joyce Pickle, HDR



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

June 14, 2010

Louis Taylor, Chair
Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Governing Board
Lac Courtes Oreilles Tribe
13394 West Trepenia Rd
Hayward, WI 54843

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kV Transmission Line Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Taylor;

Xcel Energy (Xcel Energy or Company) is beginning the process of preparing a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) application for the proposed Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV line. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. Xcel Energy requests your participation and comment on this Project.

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Sincerely,

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

Cc: Joyce Pickle, HDR
Jerry Smith, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer;
Brian Bissonnette, Secretary and Treasurer;
Nita Kemp-Ridell



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

June 14, 2010

Mr. Gary Gedart
Highway Commissioner
Sawyer County Highway Dept.
14688 W County Rd B
Hayward, WI 54843

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kV Transmission Line Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Gedart;

Xcel Energy (Xcel Energy or Company) is beginning the process of preparing a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) application for the proposed Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV line. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. Xcel Energy requests your participation and comment on this Project.

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

Cc: Joyce Pickle, HDR



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

June 14, 2010

Mr. Dale Olson
Zoning Administrator
Sawyer County Zoning & Conservation Dept.
10610 Main Street
PO Box 676
Hayward, WI 54843

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kV Transmission Line Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Olson;

Xcel Energy (Xcel Energy or Company) is beginning the process of preparing a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) application for the proposed Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV line. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. Xcel Energy requests your participation and comment on this Project.

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Sincerely,

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

Cc: Joyce Pickle, HDR



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

June 29, 2010

Mr. Dale Olson
Zoning Administrator
Sawyer County Zoning & Conservation Dept.
10610 Main Street
PO Box 676
Hayward, WI 54843

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kV Transmission Line Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Olson;

As you are aware, Xcel Energy (Xcel Energy or Company) is beginning the process of preparing a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) application for the proposed Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV line. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. Xcel Energy requests your continued participation and comment on this Project.

The general Project location is shown on the attached map; the sections where the proposed routes are located are shown in the table below. Please note that the table included in the original June 14, 2010, letter that was sent to your office used the congressional township boundaries, not the civil ones used by Sawyer County shown below. As the previous letter indicated, the route corridors shown on the map are general locations; route alignment alternatives have not been finalized.

Sections in Project Area – Sawyer County, Wisconsin

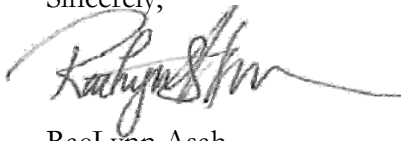
Town Name	Township Number	Range Number	Sections
Bass Lake	39	9	5
Sand Lake			8, 9, 15 – 17, 22 – 24, 26, 27, 34 - 36
Sand Lake	39	8	19, 30, 31
Couderay			29, 32
Sand Lake	38	9	1 – 3, 11 – 14,
Edgewater			23, 24
Couderay	38	8	3 -13, 15 - 22
Couderay	38	7	18
Radisson			17, 20, 21

Mr. Dale Olson
Sawyer County Zoning & Conservation Dept.

As the map indicates, Xcel Energy is currently considering several route options between the Stone Lake Substation in Bass Lake Township (T39, R9) and the proposed Couderay Substation (proposed to be located near the existing Couderay Switching Station in Radisson Township (T38, R7). The majority of the proposed routes follow existing corridors (pipeline, transmission line, or roads) with only a few short segments that would be along new, cross-country routes. If the route following the existing 69 kV line is selected, Xcel Energy is currently proposing to build the 161 kV line on separate, parallel structures. The Company is proposing upgrades to the existing Stone Lake substation and proposing a new 161 kV Couderay Substation in Section 20 or 21 of Radisson Township.

I look forward to continuing to coordinate with you as the Project develops and would like to meet with you to discuss any further thoughts or concerns you may have. In the interim, please feel free to contact me at (612) 220-1165 or at raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com with any questions or concerns.

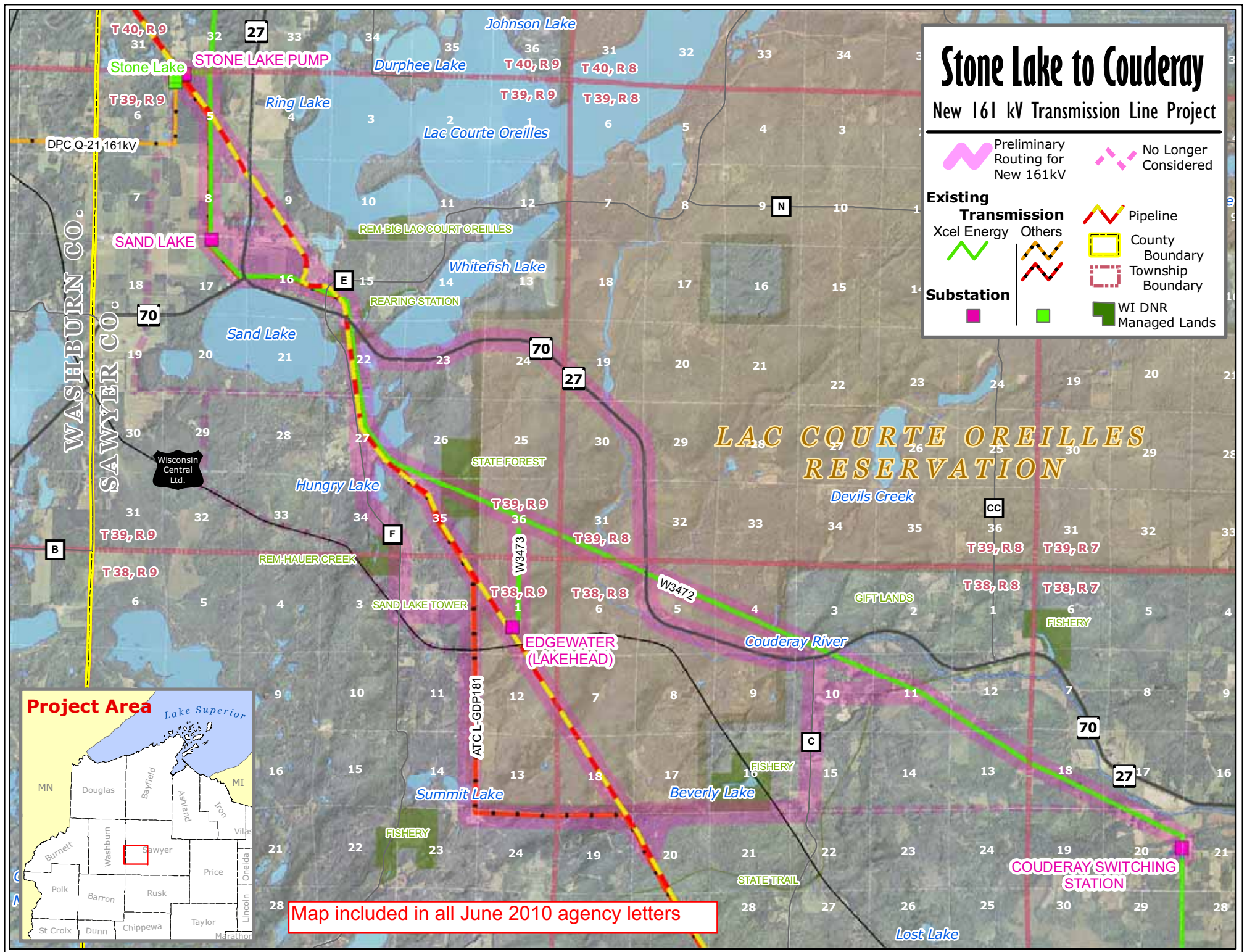
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'RaeLynn Asah', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

Cc: Joyce Pickle, HDR





414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

December 17, 2010

Justin Hall
Bass Lake Township
9327N Ski Hill Rd
Hayward, WI 54846

RE: Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission
Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Hall,

Xcel Energy is in the process of preparing a certificate of public convenience and need (CPCN) for the proposed Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kilovolt (kV) rebuild and 161 kV upgrade Transmission Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed Project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV link. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. Xcel Energy requests your participation and comment on this Project. The attached map shows the route segments currently under review.

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Please let me know as soon as possible which of these will work for your schedule. If you are unable to make the proposed meetings and would still like to learn about the Project, I would be happy to meet with you at a time and place more convenient for you, or you can simply attend the Open Houses which will be held in February 2011. I can be reached at 612-330-6512 or raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com. Xcel Energy is dedicated to working with all the communities in proximity to our potential route and segment alternatives. It is our goal to provide timely information, address questions and concerns, and cooperate with the various permitting authorities throughout the transmission line siting and construction process.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RaeLynn Asah', written over a horizontal line.

RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

December 17, 2010

Dawn Henk
Bass Lake Township
14412 W County Hwy K
Hayward, WI 54843

RE: Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Ms. Henk,

Xcel Energy is in the process of preparing a certificate of public convenience and need (CPCN) for the proposed Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kilovolt (kV) rebuild and 161 kV upgrade Transmission Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed Project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV link. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. Xcel Energy requests your participation and comment on this Project. The attached map shows the route segments currently under review.

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

December 17, 2010

James Bassett
Couderay Township
12353 W Chafer Rd
Couderay, WI 54828

RE: Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission
Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Bassett,

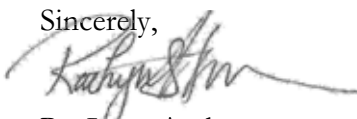
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Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

December 17, 2010

Charlie Warner
Couderay Township
13224 W Ortwig Ln
Exeland, WI 54835

RE: Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission
Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Warner,

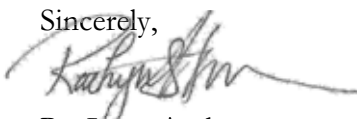
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Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

December 17, 2010

Bill Zimmer
Edgewater Township
16668 W Oriole Ln
Birchwood, WI 54817

RE: Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Zimmer,

Xcel Energy is in the process of preparing a certificate of public convenience and need (CPCN) for the proposed Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kilovolt (kV) rebuild and 161 kV upgrade Transmission Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed Project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV link. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. Xcel Energy requests your participation and comment on this Project. The attached map shows the route segments currently under review.

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Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

December 17, 2010

Natalie Clemens
Edgewater Township
PO Box 338
Birchwood, WI 54817

RE: Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission
Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Ms. Clemens,

Xcel Energy is in the process of preparing a certificate of public convenience and need (CPCN) for the proposed Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kilovolt (kV) rebuild and 161 kV upgrade Transmission Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed Project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV link. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. Xcel Energy requests your participation and comment on this Project. The attached map shows the route segments currently under review.

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

December 17, 2010

Phil Quade
Radisson Township
3371N State Rd 40
Radisson, WI 54867

RE: Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Quade,

Xcel Energy is in the process of preparing a certificate of public convenience and need (CPCN) for the proposed Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kilovolt (kV) rebuild and 161 kV upgrade Transmission Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed Project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV link. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. Xcel Energy requests your participation and comment on this Project. The attached map shows the route segments currently under review.

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

December 17, 2010

Janis Jensen
Radisson Township
PO Box 54
Radisson, WI 54867

RE: Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Ms. Jensen,

Xcel Energy is in the process of preparing a certificate of public convenience and need (CPCN) for the proposed Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kilovolt (kV) rebuild and 161 kV upgrade Transmission Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed Project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV link. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. Xcel Energy requests your participation and comment on this Project. The attached map shows the route segments currently under review.

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

December 17, 2010

Robert Langham
Sand Lake Township
15209 W Langham Ln
Stone Lake, WI 54876

RE: Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission
Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Langham,

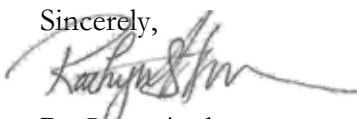
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Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map

December 17, 2010

Elaine Nyberg
Sand Lake Township
PO Box 6
Stone Lake, WI 54876

RE: Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission
Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Ms. Nyberg,

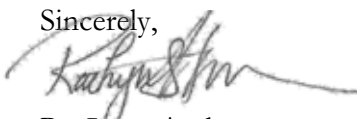
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Thank you for your assistance.

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

December 17, 2010

Gary Gedart
Sawyer County Highway Dept.
14688 W County Rd B
Hayward, WI 54843

RE: Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission
Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Gedart,

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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Project Location Map



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

December 17, 2010

Dale Olson
Sawyer County Zoning & Conservation Dept.
10610 Main Street,
PO Box 676
Hayward, WI 54843

RE: Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Mr. Olson,

Xcel Energy is in the process of preparing a certificate of public convenience and need (CPCN) for the proposed Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kilovolt (kV) rebuild and 161 kV upgrade Transmission Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed Project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV link. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. Xcel Energy requests your participation and comment on this Project. The attached map shows the route segments currently under review.

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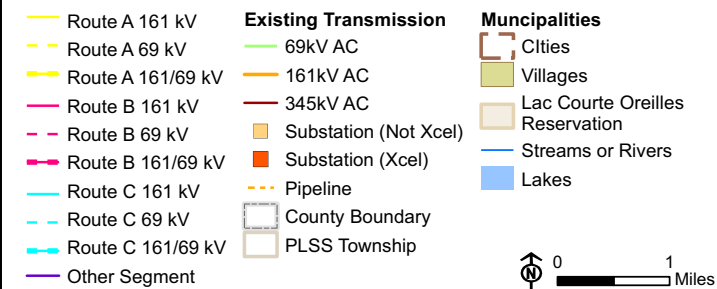
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RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

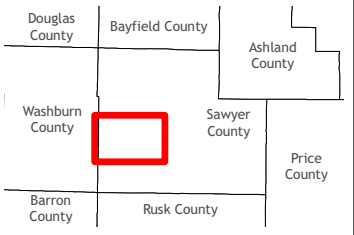
Enclosure: Project Location Map

Stone Lake to Radisson / Couderay 69 kV Rebuild / 161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project



Map Included in all December 2010 County and Township invitation letters

Project Area





414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

January 14, 2011

Government Official

Title

Address

Address

RE: Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission
Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Government Official,

As you may be aware, Xcel Energy is in the process of preparing a certificate of public convenience and need application (CPCN) for the proposed Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kilovolt (kV) rebuild and 161 kV upgrade Transmission Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed Project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations in your area to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV link. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. The attached Project Area map (Attachment 1) shows the route segments currently under review.

Xcel Energy sent notices to landowners in the potentially affected areas; please see the Notice Area Map and letter to residents (Attachments 2 and 3). We are hosting our first round of Open Houses in the Project Area for the general public the first week of February. The purpose of these meetings is to provide information about the proposed project, answer questions, and collect suggestions and comments. All meetings will provide the same information in open house format; Xcel Energy staff will be available at all meetings for questions and comments. In addition, Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Governing Board Leadership will attend the Open House on February 2, 2011 to answer LCO specific questions.

The schedule of open houses is below; there will be an afternoon meeting and an early evening meeting each day to accommodate varying schedules:

Tuesday, February 1, 2011 1:30-4:00PM or 6:30-9:00PM Veteran's Community Center 10534 S Main St Hayward, WI 54843	Wednesday, February 2, 2011 1:30-4:00PM or 6:00-8:30PM LCO Casino 13767 West County Road B Hayward, WI 54843	Thursday, February 3, 2011 1:30-4:00PM or 6:00-8:30PM Radisson Community Center 3795 N Clark Radisson WI, 54867
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As we move forward with the project, some of your constituents may have questions or concerns. I can be reached at 612-330-6512 or raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com to help you address anything that may come up. Xcel Energy is dedicated to working with all the communities and landowners in proximity to our potential route and segment alternatives. Please feel free to contact me as we move through the permitting process.

The Project Team and I are looking forward to meeting and working with you.

Sincerely,

RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

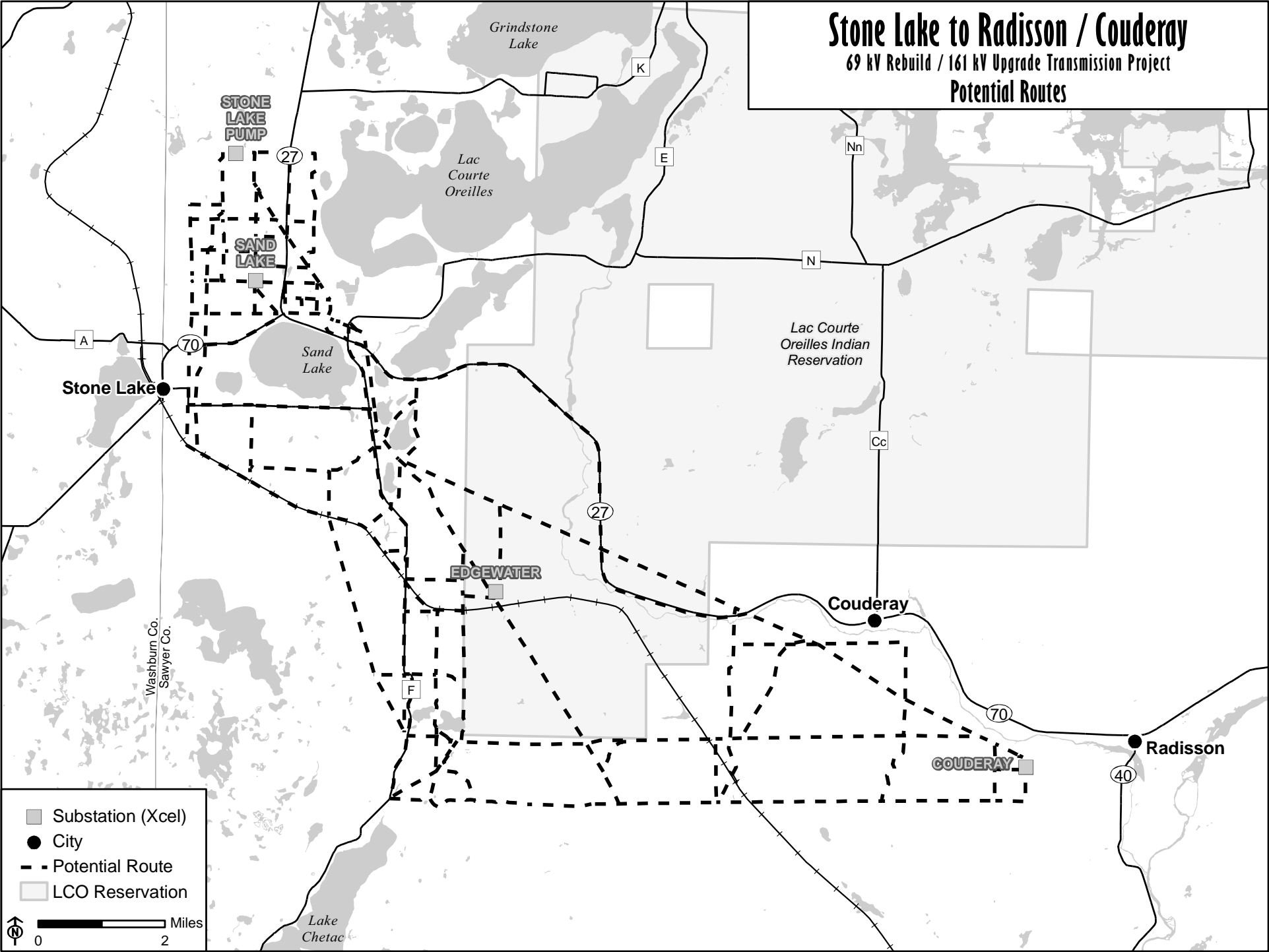
Enclosures:

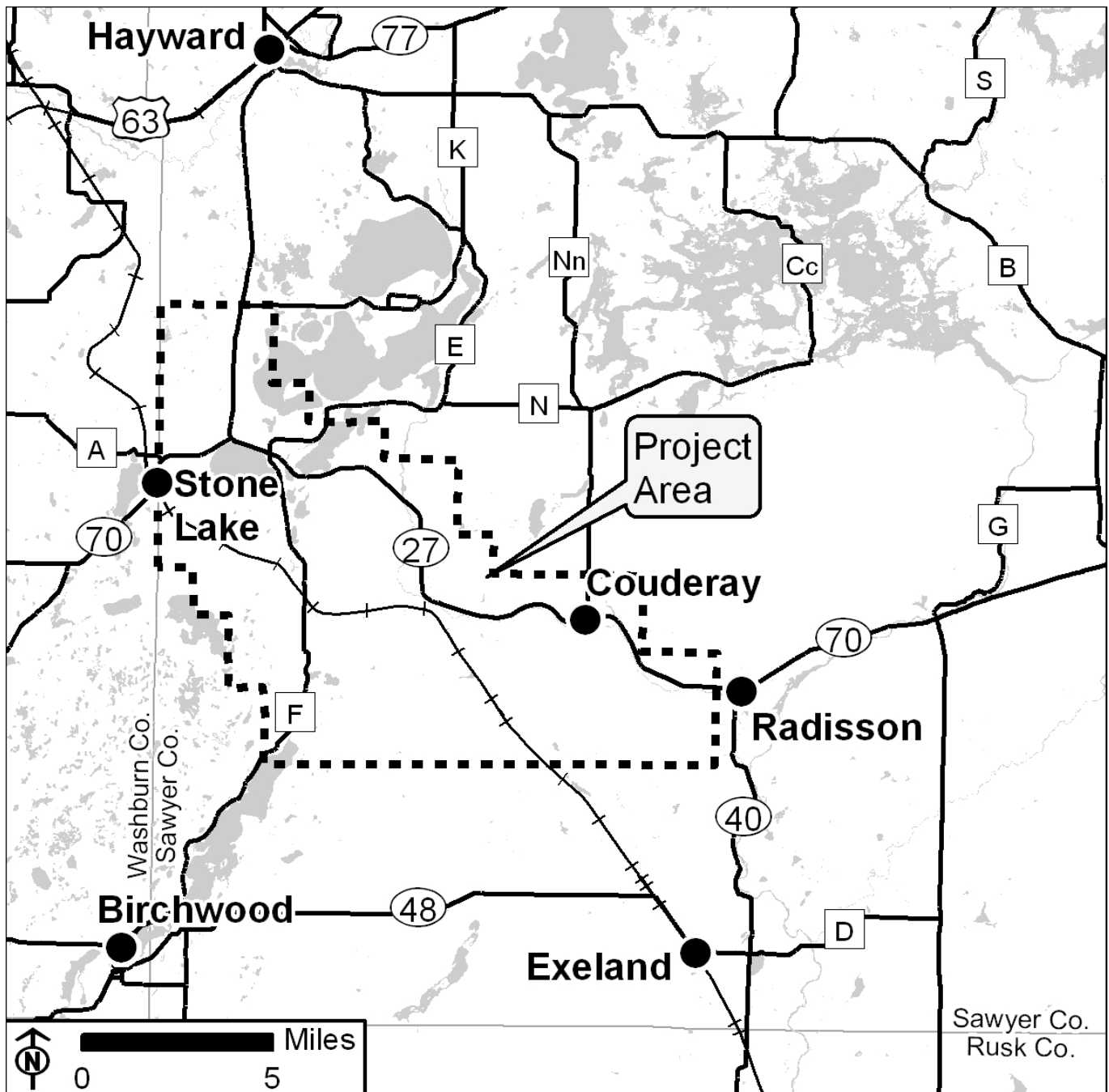
Attachment 1: Project Area Map

Attachment 2: Notice Area Map

Attachment 3: Letter to Project Area Residents

Stone Lake to Radisson / Couderay
69 kV Rebuild / 161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project
Potential Routes







414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

January 14, 2011

Landowner Name

Address

Address

RE: Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission
Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Resident,

Xcel Energy is in the process of preparing a certificate of public convenience and need application (CPCN) for the proposed Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kilovolt (kV) rebuild and 161 kV upgrade Transmission Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin, see attached map. The proposed Project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations in your area to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV link. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. The attached map shows the route segments currently under review.

Xcel Energy will host the first round of Open Houses in the Project Area for the general public at the beginning of February. The purpose of these meetings is to provide information about the proposed project, answer your questions, and collect your suggestions and comments. All meetings will provide the same information in open house format; Xcel Energy staff will be available at all meetings. In addition, Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO) Tribal Governing Board Leadership will be available at the LCO Casino Open House to answer LCO specific questions. The schedule of open houses is below; there will be an afternoon meeting and an early evening meeting each day to accommodate busy schedules:

Tuesday, February 1, 2011 1:30-4:00PM or 6:30-9:00PM Veteran's Community Center 10534 S Main St Hayward, WI 54843	Wednesday, February 2, 2011 1:30-4:00PM or 6:00-8:30PM LCO Casino 13767 West County Road B Hayward, WI 54843	Thursday, February 3, 2011 1:30-4:00PM or 6:00-8:30PM Radisson Community Center 3795 N Clark Radisson WI, 54867
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Xcel Energy is dedicated to working with all the communities and landowners in proximity to our potential route and segment alternatives. It is our goal to provide timely information, address questions and concerns, and collaborate with the public and permitting authorities throughout the transmission line siting and construction process. Please feel free to contact me as we move through the permitting process.

If you are unable to make the proposed meetings and would still like to learn about the Project, I can be reached at 612-330-6512 or raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com, or you can contact Dawn Schultz in our Eau Claire office at 715-737-2486. The Project Team and I are looking forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst
Enclosure: Project Location Map

April 22, 2011

Government Official

Title

Address

Address

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Government Official,

As you are aware, Xcel Energy is in the process of preparing a certificate of public convenience and need application (CPCN) for the proposed Stone Lake to Couderay 69 kilovolt (kV) rebuild and 161 kV upgrade Transmission Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed Project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations in your area to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV link. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. The attached Project Area map (Attachment 1) shows the three route alternatives currently under review by Xcel Energy.

Xcel Energy sent notices to landowners in the potentially affected areas of the three route options; please see the Notice Area Map and letter to residents (Attachments 2 and 3). We are hosting our second round of Open Houses in the Project Area for the general public the second week of May. The purpose of these meetings is to provide information about the proposed project, answer questions, and collect suggestions and comments. All meetings will provide the same information in open house format; Xcel Energy staff will be available at all meetings for questions and comments. You and your constituents are welcome to attend at any time during one or more of the sessions listed, no formal presentation will be made.

The schedule of open houses is below; there will be an afternoon meeting and an early evening meeting on the 11th and 12th as well as a Saturday meeting to accommodate varying schedules:

Wednesday, May 11, 2011	Thursday, May 12, 2011	Saturday, May 14, 2011
1:30-4:00PM or 6:30-9:00PM	1:30-4:00PM or 6:00-8:30PM	10:30AM – 2:00PM
Veteran's Community Center	Radisson Community Center	Flat Creek Eatery
10534 S Main St	3795 N Clark	10290 N Hwy 27S
Hayward, WI 54843	Radisson WI, 54867	Hayward WI, 54843

As we move forward with the project, some of your constituents may have questions or concerns. I can be reached at 612-330-6512 or raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com to help you address anything that may come up. Xcel Energy is dedicated to working with all the communities and landowners in proximity to our potential route and segment alternatives. Please feel free to contact me as we move through the permitting process.

The Project Team and I are looking forward to meeting and working with you.

Sincerely,

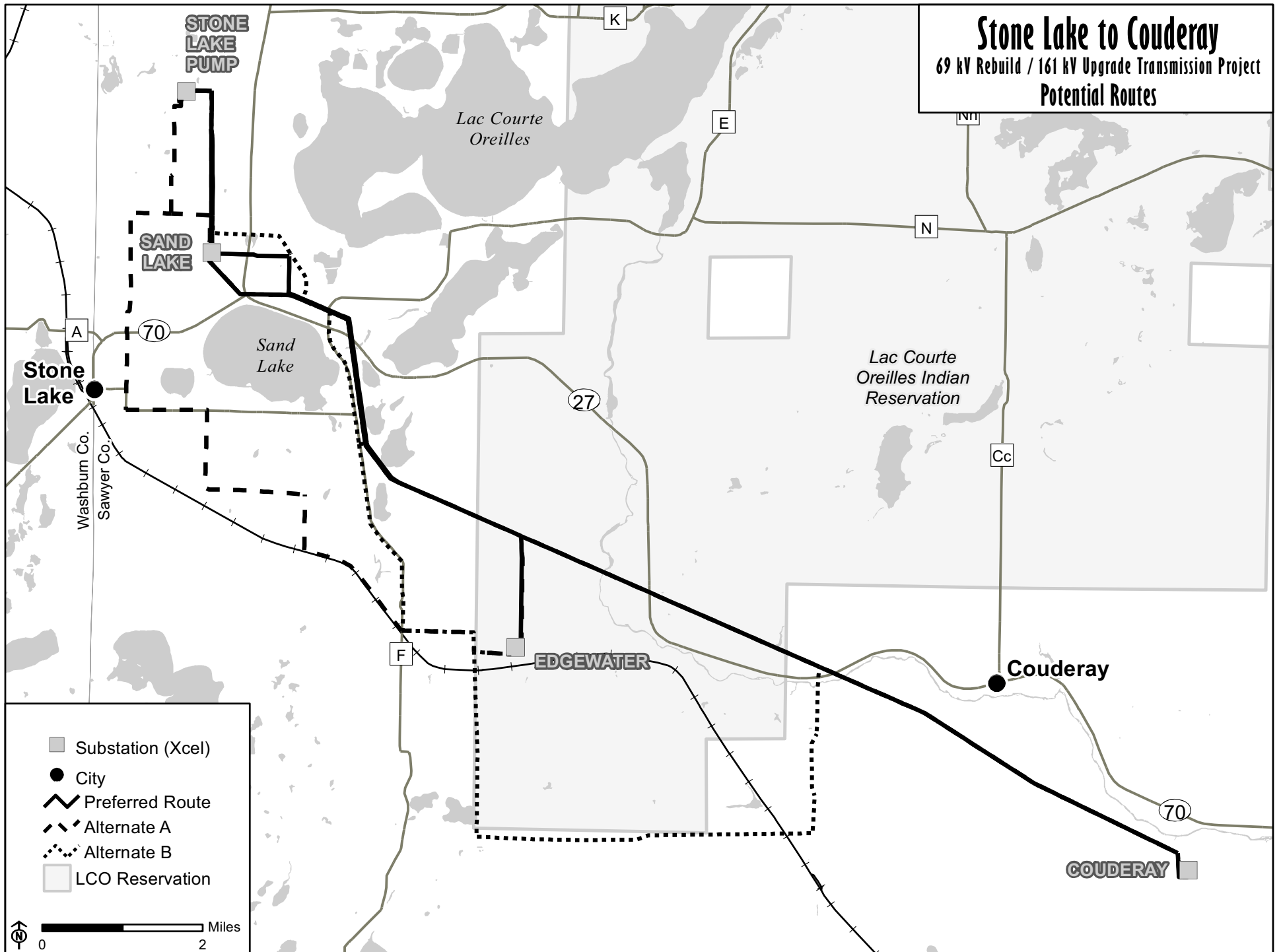
RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

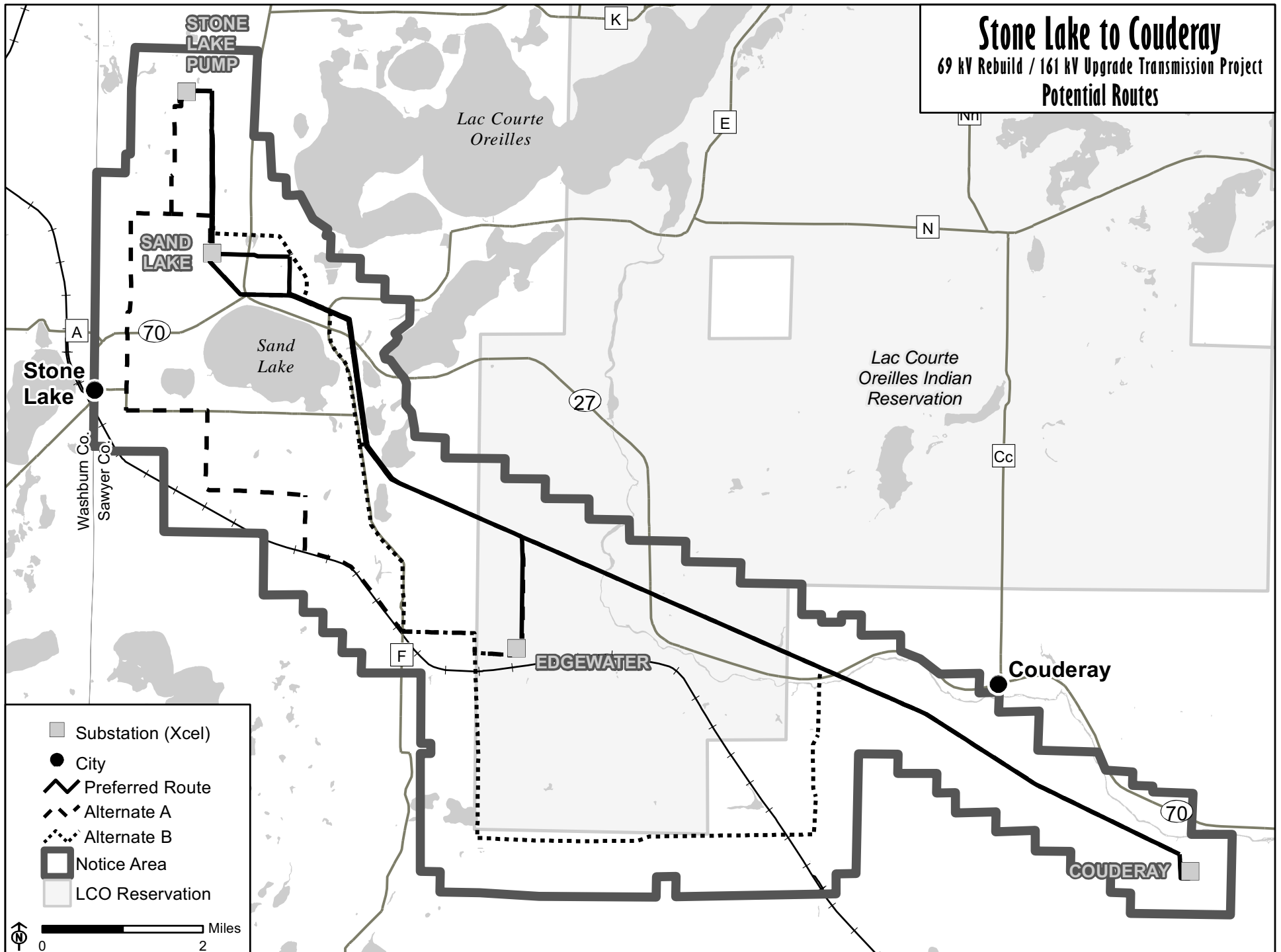
Enclosures:

Attachment 1: Route Alternative Map

Attachment 2: Notice Area Map

Attachment 3: Letter to Project Area Residents





April 22, 2011

Landowner Name

Address

Address

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Resident,

Xcel Energy is in the process of preparing a certificate of public convenience and need application (CPCN) for the proposed Stone Lake to Couderay 69 kilovolt (kV) rebuild and 161 kV upgrade Transmission Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed Project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations in your area to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV link. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. The attached map shows the three route alternatives currently under review by Xcel Energy.

Xcel Energy will host the second round of Open Houses in the Project Area for the general public the second week of May. The purpose of these meetings is to provide information about the proposed project in an informal setting, answer your questions, and collect your suggestions and comments. All meetings listed below will provide the same information in open house format:

Wednesday, May 11, 2011
1:30-4:00PM or 6:30-9:00PM
Veteran's Community Center
10534 S Main St
Hayward, WI 54843

Thursday, May 12, 2011
1:30-4:00PM or 6:00-8:30PM
Radisson Community Center
3795 N Clark
Radisson WI, 54867

Saturday, May 14, 2011
10:30AM – 2:00PM
Flat Creek Eatery
10290 N Hwy 27S
Hayward WI, 54843

There will be no formal presentation at these open house meetings; Xcel Energy staff will be available to answer questions and informational handouts will be provided. Please feel free to show up at any time during any of the above meeting times.

Xcel Energy is dedicated to working with all the communities and landowners in proximity to our potential route alternatives. It is our goal to provide timely information, address questions and concerns, and collaborate with the public and permitting authorities throughout the transmission line siting and construction process. Please feel free to contact me as we move through the permitting process.

These Open Houses are one of several opportunities for you to share your comments throughout the permitting process. Upon submittal of the CPCN application to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin you will have additional opportunities to share any comments or concerns with the Commission and with Xcel Energy. If you are unable to make the proposed meetings and would still like to learn about the Project, I can be reached at 612-330-6512 or raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com, or you can contact Dawn Schultz in our Eau Claire office at 715-737-2486. The Project Team and I are looking forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

RaeLynn Asah, Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Attachment 1: Route Alternative Map

Agency Responses



**Division of Transportation
Investment Management**
Bureau of Aeronautics
PO Box 7914
MADISON WI 53707-7914

Jim Doyle, Governor
Frank J. Busalacchi, Secretary
Internet: dot.wisconsin.gov

Telephone: 608-267-5018
FAX: 608-267-6748
E-mail: gary.dickers@dot.state.wi.us

21 JUNE 2010

**RAELYNN ASAH
XCEL ENERGY
414 NICOLLET MALL
MINNEAPOLIS MN 55401**

Subject: Stone Lake to Couderay 161 kV Transmission Line, Sawyer Co, WI
Reference: Your Letter, Same Subject, 14-Jun-10

Dear Ms Asah,

We have completed a review of the proposed routes for the upgraded 161 kV transmission line between Stone Lake and Couderay in Sawyer County. The nearest public use airports would be:

- Sawyer County Airport (HYR), Hayward, WI ~ 9.2 miles
- Nest of Eagles Airport (1H9), Spooner, WI ~ 13.8 miles
- Rusk County (RCX) Airport, Ladysmith, WI ~ 22.5 miles

The upgraded powerline would have no aeronautical effect on those airports, and we have no objection. New poles in the powerline would also not require a WisDOT tall structures permit in accordance with state statute 114.135, Airport protection.

NOTIFICATION TO THE FAA

In the unlikely event you plan any of the new transmission poles to be taller than 200 ft above ground level (AGL), you would need to notify the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in advance to comply with Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 14, Part 77.13 using their Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA) website:

<https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaa/external/portal.jsp>

As we move forward with the project, some of your constituents may have questions or concerns. I can be reached at 612-330-6512 or raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com to help you address anything that may come up. Xcel Energy is dedicated to working with all the communities and landowners in proximity to our potential route and segment alternatives. Please feel free to contact me as we move through the permitting process.

The Project Team and I are looking forward to meeting and working with you.

Sincerely,

RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosures:

Attachment 1: Route Alternative Map

Attachment 2: Notice Area Map

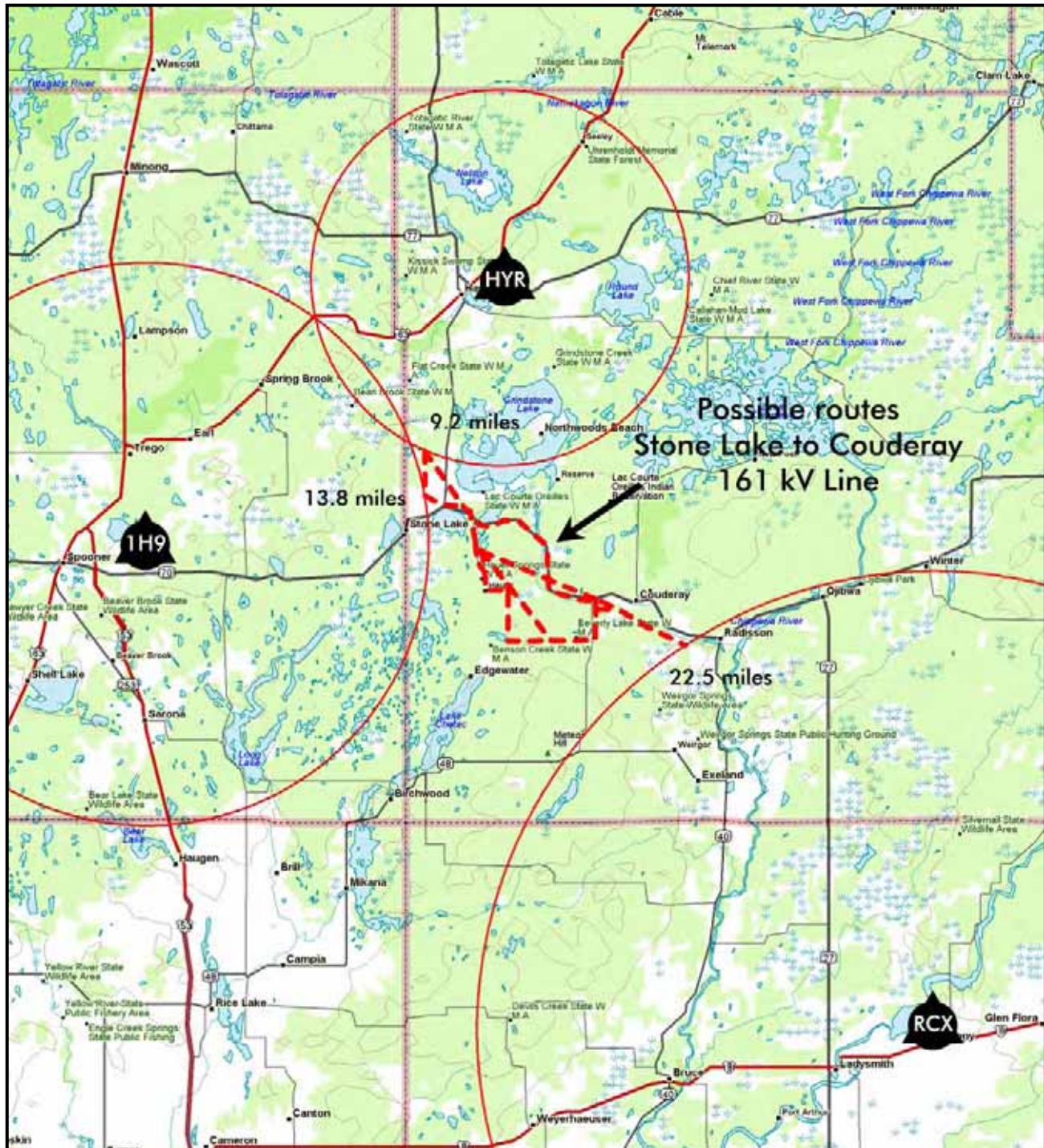
Attachment 3: Letter to Project Area Residents

RaeLynn Asah
Page Two
21-Jun-10

Sincerely,

Gary L. Dickens

Gary L. Dikkers
Airspace Manager



TOWN OF SAND LAKE, SAWYER COUNTY, WISCONSIN

July 29, 2011

Rae Lynn Asah
Xcel Energy
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401-1993

RE: Town of Sand Lake

Dear Ms. Asah:

This letter is a confirmation of our telephone conversation in which I stated that the Town of Sand Lake prefers steel poles in front of the Ham Lake Corridor on your proposed route, not the wood poles.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (715) 865-4732. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Langham
Sand Lake Town Chairman

P.O. BOX 6 • STONE LAKE, WI • 54876-0006
OFFICE PHONE: 715-865-2006 FAX: 715-865-2096

*CHAIRMAN ROBERT J. LANGHAM
SUPERVISOR 1 EDGAR GREGORY
SUPERVISOR 2 MICHAEL ROSSIO
CLERK BLAINE MYERS*

BIA NEPA QUESTIONNAIRE

Tuesday, August 23, 2011

Fred Vande Venter
Environmental Protection Specialist
Bureau of Indian Affairs Great Lakes Agency
916 Lakeshore Drive West
Ashland, WI 54806

RE: Xcel Energy Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay 69/161 kilovolt High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) Upgrade Project through the Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation

Dear Fred,

Northern States Power Company, a Wisconsin corporation (Xcel Energy) is proposing to upgrade the existing 69 kilovolt (kV) HVTL through the Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO) Reservation to a 69/161 kV HVTL (Project). The upgraded line would be entirely within the existing 100 foot rights-of-way (ROW). Enclosed is Xcel Energy's NEPA Environmental Assessment Questionnaire (Questionnaire) for the Project. Xcel Energy has been working cooperatively with the LCO on the Project. On December 2, 2010, the LCO and Xcel Energy entered into an agreement to maintain or upgrade the current HVTL and associated ROW for fifty years.

Copies of the enclosed Questionnaire were provided to Jerry Smith, LCO Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO), and Nita Kemp-Riedell, LCO Realty Officer, on August 3, 2011 for review and comment. Ms. Kemp-Riedell confirmed that the environmental review was complete from her perspective and that nothing conflicted with the LCO land use plan. No comments were received from Mr. Smith. Before completing the Questionnaire, however, Xcel Energy Project staff accompanied Mr. Smith on May 6, 2011 for a field review of the proposed Project's ROW within the LCO Reservation. The team walked over areas identified by Mr. Smith as having the potential to contain archaeological or cultural resources. No cultural resources were identified during this field review. Mr. Smith agreed to continue to work with Xcel Energy throughout the line construction, and indicated that he will assign cultural resources monitors to be in attendance during excavation for structure foundation installation.

I am happy to talk through any concerns or questions you may have as you review the Questionnaire and associated appendices. Feel free to contact me at 612-330-6512, raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com or Tim Rogers at 612-330-1955, timothy.g.rogers@xcelenergy.com with anything that may come up during your review.

Thank you,



RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
Environmental Assessment Questionnaire
(Please Attach Additional Sheets if Necessary)

Applicant: Xcel Energy/Northern States Power Company, Wisconsin Date: August 3, 2011
Address: RaeLynn Asah Phone: 612-330-6512
414 Nicollet Mall (MP 8) Minneapolis, 55401
Tribe: Lac Courte Oreilles
Tribal Contact: Jerry Smith/ Nita Kemp-Riedell Phone: 715-634-8934
BIA Contact: Fred Vande Venter Phone: 715-682-4527

A. Proposed Action and Need (Lease? Timber Sale? Road Project? Right-of-Way? etc., and Why? What is the Timeframe? Is There Any Income or Cost Involved and What is the Value? Please Describe any Ground-Breaking, New Construction, or Land Use Changes Associated With the Proposed Action. If None, Just Complete This Section. (Please Provide a Map and a Legal Description.):

Xcel Energy's proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission Project (the "Project") would upgrade the existing transmission line system between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposal would install a new 161 kilovolt (kV) line in the same right-of-way ("ROW") as an existing 69 kV line that crosses the Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation ("LCO Reservation") for approximately 4.2 miles ("Existing LCO ROW"). There is also an existing 69 kV tap that runs approximately 1.5 miles south from the main line to the Edgewater Substation, servicing the Enbridge Pump Station ("69 kV Tap ROW"). The ROW easements for these existing lines expired in 2009; Xcel Energy has been discussing renewal of the easements with the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin Tribe ("LCO Tribe") since 2008. As discussed further below, depending on final route approval outside of the LCO Reservation, the Project may include new ROW running along privately held land directly west of the Enbridge pump station to serve the pump, and then continue on to connect to the 69 kV Tap ROW at the Edgewater Substation. See Figure 1.

• ***Proposed Action***

The Proposed Action involves Xcel Energy entering into a 50-year ROW agreement with the LCO Tribe and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to locate a double circuit 161/69 kV transmission line in the 100-foot (ft) wide, 4.2-mile long Existing LCO ROW. The Proposed Action would also renew the ROW agreement for the 69 kV Tap ROW running approximately 1.5 miles south from the new double circuit line to the Edgewater Substation. The Proposed Action would occur in the sections within the LCO Reservation listed in Table 1 below, and shown on Figure 1:

Table 1. Sections Crossed by the Proposed Action

Township	Range	Sections
----------	-------	----------

39	9	36
39	8	31
38	9	1
38	8	4 - 6

The Proposed Action would involve replacing the 33 existing wooden H-frame, 50 to 70-ft high single circuit 69-kV structures along the Existing LCO ROW with approximately 40 double circuit 161/69 kV, weathering steel davit arm monopole structures having a maximum height of 100 ft (Figures 2 and 3). Three phases of 795 kcmil 26/7 Drake ACSS conductor and three phases of 477 kcmil 26/7 Drake ACSR conductor would be installed, along with two shield wires (one would be a steel and aluminum stranded wire containing a fiber optic bundle core (generally known as optical ground wire), and the other would be a standard 3/8-inch, seven-strand extra high strength steel (EHS) cable). The structures and foundations would be designed to resist the line tension without guying. The Proposed Action would also include replacing the two northern-most structures along the 69 kV Tap ROW, with the rest of the existing structures along the Tap ROW remaining unchanged.

On December 1, 2010, Xcel Energy entered into an agreement with the LCO Tribe to maintain or upgrade the existing 69 kV transmission line on the current ROW along Tribal Land within the LCO Reservation.

- ***Project Need***

The Hayward area of northern Wisconsin has experienced growth and development of new homes and businesses in the past several decades. Growth is expected to continue as the area increases in popularity as a tourist destination and for year-round and seasonal residents.

The existing 69 kV transmission line system in the area is approximately 50 years old and is susceptible to current and future load-serving problems. During peak use times, demand exceeds the capacity of the current 69 kV transmission system, burdening the substation equipment with higher loads than the equipment's ratings. Xcel Energy planning studies show this problem worsening over time, with the risk that increased overloading could lead to power outages. Rebuilding the existing transmission line and adding the new 161 kV circuit will address this overloading issue, strengthening the reliability of the area's electric system.

- ***Construction Activities***

The Proposed Action will be designed to comply with applicable Federal, state, and local regulations. All facilities would be constructed in accordance with the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Standards, and Xcel Energy's own engineering and construction standards. Construction impacts would be temporary and would include the use of bulldozers, graders, concrete trucks, tractor-trailer trucks, and large cranes. Construction activities are described in more detail below.

Site Clearing –The proposed 161/69 kV transmission line would be constructed at-grade for

the majority of the ROW. In some isolated cases, grading could be required at structure locations if there is sloping or uneven ground. In that situation, grading may be necessary to level an access route and/or provide a working area. Equipment used for this grading would likely consist of a front end loader or a small dozer. The great majority of the ROW within the LCO Reservation is flanked by forested area. Although the Proposed Action would not increase the existing ROW width, it is possible that adjacent trees may need to be cleared during construction in isolated areas. Xcel Energy would discuss any such areas with the BIA and LCO Tribe in determining appropriate minimization and restoration procedures.

Equipment Delivery and Transportation – Most of the material required for construction of the transmission line, including poles, would be delivered to laydown areas located at sites outside of the LCO Reservation. These and other needed materials and equipment, including concrete, would then be transported to the construction sites along the ROW as construction progresses.

Excavation, Foundations, and Structure Erection – Insulators and other hardware may be attached to each structure while on the ground. The steel structures will be installed on drilled pier concrete foundations if soil conditions permit. In poor soil conditions, driven steel pile foundations may be required. Foundations for steel pole structures would require excavating or auguring a hole approximately 20 to 40 feet deep and approximately 5 to 8 feet in diameter. Excavation dimensions would depend upon soil conditions.

After the hole is excavated, it is filled with concrete from a local concrete batch plant. The completed foundation is allowed to cure to develop the necessary strength. The pole would then be lifted, placed, and secured on the foundation by a crane or similar heavy-duty equipment. Excess soil would be removed from the site unless otherwise requested by the LCO Tribe or affected landowner.

In wet soil conditions, limited dewatering may be necessary during excavation. Water would be stored and discharged in accordance with Wisconsin regulations.

Removal of Existing 69 kV Structures – During installation of the 161/69 kV structures, the existing 69 kV transmission line would be de-energized to allow safe working clearances while installing the new structures. The existing 69 kV structures and associated conductors would be removed before or while the new structures are erected. The removal crews would use construction best practices utilizing construction equipment such as cranes, digger-derrick trucks, bucket trucks, flat bed tractor-trailers, flatbed trucks, pickup trucks, and various trailers. Conductors on the existing 69 kV structures would be retracted, rolled onto spools, and removed from the site by truck. After the conductors are removed, crews would pull the existing poles out of the ground, load the poles onto trucks and remove them from the site, unless otherwise requested by the LCO Tribe.

Conductor Stringing – Conductors on the new structures would be installed by establishing stringing setup areas within the ROW, typically every two miles, which would store the spools of conductor cable. Once the structures were erected, crews would drive along the ROW securing the conductor line through the insulators on the poles and installing shield wire

clamps once final sag is established. The structures would be accessed by a cherry picker or similar vehicle with a hydraulic bucket system.

Construction Access – Access for the Proposed Action would be along the ROW for the transmission line. No construction of additional temporary gravel access roads along the ROW is anticipated for the Proposed Action.

Restoration – During construction, crews would limit ground disturbance wherever possible, including avoiding driving over wet soils as feasible. Construction in particularly sensitive areas such as wetlands would take place in the winter months whenever possible to minimize soil impacts. Temporary disturbance areas would be restored to their original condition to the extent practical. Reclamation activities would include removing and disposing of debris, dismantling all temporary facilities, leveling or filling tire ruts, and controlling erosion. Additionally, if any tree clearing was necessary in isolated areas, Xcel Energy would coordinate with the LCO Tribe and affected landowners to determine the appropriate revegetation strategy.

- ***Schedule***

Xcel Energy anticipates that construction of the 161/69 kV line through the LCO Reservation would take approximately 16 weeks, including replacement of the two northern structures along the 69 kV Tap ROW. Construction would start after all necessary permits and approvals have been received for the entire Project, including those that apply to the areas outside of the LCO Reservation boundaries.

B. Alternatives to Proposed Action (Preferred Alternative, No-Action Alternative, Other Alternatives Considered)

- ***Preferred Alternative***

Running from northwest to southeast along the Existing LCO ROW to the 69 kV Tap ROW, the Preferred Alternative to the Proposed Action would only consist of a 161 kV line using single circuit, weathering steel davit arm structures (Figure 4). Three phases of 795 kcmil 26/7 Drake ACSS conductor and three phases of 477 kcmil 26/7 Drake ACSR conductor would be installed, with one optical ground shield wire. The structures and foundations would be designed to resist the line tension without guying. At the point where the 69 kV Tap ROW interconnects with the Existing LCO ROW, double circuit 161/69 kV, weathering steel davit arm monopole structures would be installed (see Figure 2) and continue southeast along the Existing LCO ROW until the line exits the LCO Reservation just east of Devils Creek. Three phases of 795 kcmil 26/7 Drake ACSS conductor, three phases of 477 kcmil 26/7 Drake ACSR conductor, and two shield wires (one optical ground wire and one standard 3/8-inch, seven-strand EHS cable) would be installed along this portion of the ROW.

The existing single circuit 69 kV line in the 69 kV Tap ROW running 1.5 miles south from the Existing LCO ROW to the Edgewater Substation would remain in its existing condition and not be upgraded beyond basic maintenance; only the two structures at the northern end of the

Tap Segment would be replaced. The 69 kV transmission line would then exit the Edgewater Substation to the west along private ROW.

The Preferred Alternative would involve placing approximately six 161 kV structures and approximately 35 161/69 kV structures along the Existing LCO ROW (Figure 5). These structures would have a maximum height of 100 ft.

The Preferred Alternative would include new ROW along privately held land directly west of the Enbridge pump station served by the Edgewater Substation, and then continue on the existing 69 kV Tap ROW north to the new double circuit line in the Existing LCO ROW, as shown on Figure 5.

The construction activities and schedule described above for the Proposed Action would be the same for the Preferred Alternative.

- ***No Action Alternative***

The No Action Alternative would be the result of a decision not to approve an upgrade of the 69 kV transmission line along the Existing LCO ROW. This would result in the continued operation and maintenance of the existing 69 kV transmission line within the LCO Reservation. The No Action Alternative is shown on Figure 6. The No Action Alternative would not meet the need to alleviate the current and growing risk of overloading the existing 69 kV transmission system in the area because of increasing customer demand for electricity.

C. Description of the Affected Environment

1. Land Resources (Topography, Soils, Geology, Floodplains, Minerals, Fossils, etc.):

- *Topography* – The general topography of northwestern Wisconsin, including the southern portion of the LCO Reservation in the Project area, consists of level and low rolling hillside terrain, with small valleys carved by pre-historic glacial movements. Around lakes and rivers, the landform can consist of steeper banks and shorelines. The terrain crossed by the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs in the LCO Reservation is predominantly rolling; the elevations range from approximately 1,265 ft above mean sea level (“amsl”) to 1,515 ft amsl.
- *Soils* – Soils within the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs in the LCO Reservation are those typically found in forested areas in the northern part of Wisconsin. Soil series are mapped by each county’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (“NRCS”) office. The existing transmission line ROW crosses 15 soil series. Table 2 provides NRCS descriptions of the soil series beneath the existing 100-ft wide utility ROW.

Table 2. Soil Series within Existing Right of Way

Soil Series	Description
Billyboy Silt Loam	Very deep, moderately well drained soils formed in 50 to 100 centimeters of loess or silty alluvium, loamy alluvium and in the underlying stratified sandy outwash.
Capitola Muck	Very deep, poorly drained and very poorly drained soils which are

	moderately deep to a densic contact. They formed in a mantle of silty or loamy alluvium and in the underlying dense sandy loam till.
Freeon Silt Loam	Very deep, moderately well drained soils which are deep to a densic contact. They formed in loess or silty lacustrine deposits.
Lupton and Cathro Soils	Very deep, very poorly drained soils formed in organic deposits more than 51 inches thick. They formed in depressions on lake plains, moraines, outwash plains, stream terraces, and flood plains.
Magnor Silt Loam	Very deep, somewhat poorly drained soils which are deep to a densic contact. They formed in loess or silty lacustrine deposits.
Manitowish Sandy Loam	Very deep, poorly drained and very poorly drained soils which are moderately deep to stratified sandy outwash.
Minocqua Muck	Very deep, poorly drained and very poorly drained soils which are moderately deep to stratified sandy outwash.
Newood Sandy Loam	Very deep, moderately well drained soils that are deep to a densic contact. They formed in loamy till on end moraines, disintegration moraines, ice-walled glacial lake plains, and drumlins.
Newood-Pence Complex	Very deep, moderately well drained to somewhat excessively drained soils that are deep to a densic contact.
Newot Sandy Loam	Very deep, well drained soils that are deep to a densic contact. They formed in loamy till on end moraines, disintegration moraines, ice-walled glacial lake plains, and drumlins.
Padus Sandy Loam	Very deep well drained soils which are moderately deep to stratified sandy outwash.
Pence Sandy Loam	Very deep somewhat excessively drained soils which are shallow to stratified sandy outwash.
Pesabic Sandy Loam	Very deep, somewhat poorly drained soils that are deep to a densic contact.
Santiago Silt Loam	Very deep, somewhat poorly drained soils which are deep to a densic contact.
Worcester Sandy Loam	Very deep somewhat poorly drained soils which are moderately deep to sandy outwash on glacial lake plains, outwash plains, and stream terraces.

The existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs in the LCO Reservation contain 21% prime farmland, 4% prime farmland when drained, 71% farmland of statewide importance and 4% non-prime farmland, as shown on Figure 7. However, none of these lands are currently used for agricultural purposes.

- *Geology* – The LCO Reservation is underlain by unconsolidated sediments deposited during the Late Wisconsin glacial period (approximately 10,000 years before present). Sediments in the western half of the LCO Reservation are comprised of outwash sand and gravel that is pale brown to gray in color and well-sorted, and include cobbles and boulders. The sediments in the eastern half of the LCO Reservation are sandy loam till consisting of brown, nonsorted

sandy loam with pebbles, cobbles, boulders, and peat. Lithology of the coarse grains varies with the bedrock in the same region. Water well records indicate the unconsolidated sediments range in thickness from 42 feet at Radisson, Wisconsin, to 250 feet approximately three miles west of Stone Lake. Bedrock consists of Precambrian-age granite and quartzite at Radisson and Cambrian-age sandstone near Sand Lake.

- *Floodplains* –The Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”) designates areas that are likely to experience flooding in a 100-year rainfall event. FEMA identifies 100-year floodplains around many of the surface water features located within the LCO Reservation. The existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs cross FEMA floodplains associated with the Couderay River, Surette Creek, and Devils Creek within the LCO Reservation.

The Existing LCO ROW crosses approximately 2,130 ft of FEMA floodplains at these three water features: 850 ft across floodplain associated with the Couderay River; 1,050 ft across floodplain associated with Surette Creek; and 230 ft across floodplain associated with Devils Creek. There are two existing H-frame structures within the mapped floodplains; one in the floodplain associated with the Couderay River and one in the floodplain associated with Surette Creek. Figure 8 shows FEMA floodplains in the Project area.

- *Minerals* – There are some sand and gravel quarries in Sawyer County. However, the land area surrounding the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs within the LCO Reservation is heavily forested, and no mineral deposits of economic worth have been identified in the ROW. There are no active mineral-based mining operations within the Existing LCO ROW, and none are currently underway in this area of the LCO Reservation.
- *Fossils* – The nature of the underlying geologic conditions within the LCO Reservation and Sawyer County, and those under the Existing LCO ROW, are unlikely to contain any paleontological resources. The acidic nature of the soils found in this region of Wisconsin generally precludes the fossilization of organic material, dissolving organic tissue, and endoskeleton tissue. Paleontological resources that may have survived over time are likely to be buried at depths greater than 30 ft, below the average depth required for a buried pier foundation supporting a transmission line structure. Any resources within the Existing LCO ROW may have been disturbed previously during the transmission line’s construction. However, despite the lack of existing information on fossils in this region, it is possible that paleontological resources exist.

2. Water Resources (Surface and Ground; Quality, Quantity, Use, Rights, Wetlands, etc.):

- *Surface and Ground Waters* – From northwest to southeast, the Existing LCO ROW spans an unnamed tributary to the Couderay River, the Couderay River, Surette Creek, and Devils Creek within the boundary of the LCO Reservation. There are no existing structures placed within the bed and banks of these streams. The Existing LCO ROW does not cross any lakes or ponds. The 69 kV Tap ROW exiting the Edgewater Substation does not cross any surface water features. Figure 8 shows water resources within the Project area.

Groundwater resources in Sawyer County include both bedrock and unconsolidated (e.g., sand and gravel) aquifers. The depth to water varies from less than ten feet to over 100 ft in wells installed in the unconsolidated aquifer. No registered water wells exist near the Existing LCO ROW; the nearest registered water well is located approximately three miles north of the Existing LCO ROW.

- *Special Status Surface Waters* – There are two surface water features crossed by the Existing LCO ROW that are considered Areas of Special Natural Resource Interest (“ASNRI”) by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (“DNR”): the Couderay River and Devils Creek. The Couderay River is also designated by the DNR as an Outstanding Resource Water (“ORW”). ORW waters have been recognized as providing outstanding recreational opportunities, supporting valuable fisheries and wildlife habitat, having good water quality, and not having been significantly impacted by human activities. Typically, there are no point source pollutants discharging to ORWs, though they may receive runoff from nonpoint sources. The DNR does not permit any discharge to an ORW that would increase pollutant levels. Additionally, Devils Creek is designated as a Class I trout stream, indicating high quality habitat and self-sustaining trout populations.
- *Water Quality and Quantity* – The Clean Water Act requires states to release, every two years, a list of streams and lakes that are not meeting their designated uses because of excess pollutants (impaired waters). The list, known as the 303(d) list, is based on violations of water quality standards. Impaired waters require studies to determine the total amount of pollution, or total maximum daily load, that a water body can receive before water quality standards are violated. In 2008, the latest year the Wisconsin DNR conducted an assessment of impaired waters, none of the rivers, streams, tributaries, creeks or lakes within the LCO Reservation were considered to be impaired waterways.

Surface and ground water quality is excellent in the aquifers, with low dissolved solid concentrations and relatively few indications of contamination.

- *Water Use* – In this portion of the LCO Reservation, residential water use is generally provided by wells.
- *Water Rights* – There are no specific water rights, political or water-ownership jurisdictional boundaries governing water use or control within the LCO Reservation.
- *Wetlands* – The Wisconsin Wetland Inventory (“WWI”) identifies several wetland areas along the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs through the LCO Reservation, generally associated with the Couderay River and its tributaries. No field delineations have occurred for the Project at this time; field review and aerial photograph and LIDAR data interpretation indicate that the WWI mapping is generally accurate in locating wetlands, although there are some areas where the WWI boundaries appear to be “shifted” by 50 to 100 ft when compared to aerial and topographic data.

The Existing LCO ROW crosses five mapped WWI wetland areas for a total of approximately

2,070 ft, while the 69 kV Tap ROW crosses one mapped wetland for approximately 1,300 ft. These wetlands are all classified as deciduous scrub/shrub or forested palustrine types, although maintenance operations within the ROW prevent large woody vegetation from growing taller than approximately 5 to 7 feet. There are currently four H-frame structures in the mapped WWI wetland areas in the Existing LCO ROW; the 69 kV Tap ROW has two H-frame structures in mapped wetlands. Figure 8 shows mapped WWI wetlands within the Project area.

3. Air (Quality, Visibility):

- Sawyer County currently is in attainment for all National Ambient Air Quality Standards for air pollutants, along with neighboring Ashland, Price, Rusk, and Washburn counties.

4. Living Resources (Vegetation, Animals, Agriculture, Threatened/Endangered Species):

- *Vegetation* – The overall Project is located in the North Central Forest landscape, which is generally dominated by hardwood deciduous species with scattered pockets of hemlock and pine, wetlands and lakes, and limited amounts of cropped agriculture. Vegetation in the vicinity of the Proposed Action within the LCO Reservation is generally forested, consisting of a mix of deciduous and coniferous species, including oak, maple, basswood, aspen, birch, spruce, and red and white pine (Figure 9). Lowland shrub covers are also present. As discussed above, some of the forested and shrub areas are wetlands. Table 3 shows the vegetation communities within 50 ft of the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs within the LCO Reservation, according to 2007 land cover data.

Table 3. Vegetation Communities within 50 ft of Existing ROW Corridor

Community Type	Percentage of Corridor	
	Existing LCO ROW	69 kV Tap ROW
Mixed/other Broad-leaved deciduous Forest	27%	57%
Mixed Deciduous/Coniferous Forest	6%	0%
Forested Wetland (Deciduous/Coniferous)	3%	6%
Lowland Shrub (Deciduous)	4%	2%
Barren	0%	2%
Grassland	30%	8%
Aspen	19%	2%
Oak	3%	23%
Maple	4%	0%
Red Pine	1%	0%
Emergent/Wet Meadow	1%	0%
Open Water	2%	0%

It should be noted that the 100 ft wide 69 kV transmission line ROWs through the LCO Reservation are maintained by Xcel Energy to prevent large, woody species from growing taller than approximately 5' to 7'. Grassland habitat is therefore present within the ROWs, along with low-lying shrubs.

- *Animals* – Wildlife found in the forested, wetland, and shrubland habitats adjacent to the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs within the LCO Reservation could include white tailed deer, raccoons, otters, coyote, rabbits, squirrels, black bear, fisher, fox, skunks, minks, muskrats, and smaller rodents such as mice and voles. Bird species include waterfowl species using the surface water features in the area, woodland species in the forested areas, and edge species that use the grassland/forest edge that is created by the existing transmission corridor. A list of bird species documented in the 2009 Couderay and Weirgor Springs USGS Breeding Bird Survey routes, located approximately 2.8 and 2.7 miles from the Proposed Action, respectively, are attached in Appendix A. Reptile and amphibian species are likely to be found in the wetland and stream features crossed by the existing transmission line.
- *Agriculture* – The land area crossed by the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs through the LCO Reservation is heavily forested, and does not contain any land used for cultivated agricultural practices or grazing.
- *Threatened/Endangered Species* – The Wisconsin DNR Natural Heritage Inventory (“NHI”) database indicates that there are records of several listed species within two miles of the Proposed Action in the LCO Reservation. These species include the wood turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*), the bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), and the gray wolf (*Canis lupus*).
 - *Bald Eagle*
This bird is listed as a Special Concern species in Wisconsin, and is federally protected by the Bald & Golden Eagle Protection Act. Bald eagles prefer large isolated forested habitats near lakeshores and large rivers with reliable food sources and tall trees for nesting, roosting, and hunting. They do not tolerate much human activity near their nests sites during active breeding season and often desert them in areas of high human activity. The breeding season extends from February through August. There are two documented nest sites in the vicinity of the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs in the LCO Reservation.
 - *Gray Wolf*
This mammal is listed as a Special Concern species in Wisconsin, and is federally listed as endangered. Wolves are social animals living in large family groups or packs. A wolf pack territory may cover 20-80 square miles. Wolves are generalists and utilize a variety of habitat types for different reasons in different seasons. Overall, their preference is for areas of large continuous forest with low road densities and human activity. Wolves mate in January and February, and give birth in April-May. By October, wolf pups are almost full grown. Most of the area around the Proposed Action is mapped as potential gray wolf habitat by the NHI.
 - *Wood Turtle*
This turtle is listed as a Threatened species in Wisconsin. It prefers lowland hardwood forests and open wet meadows near moderate to fast current streams and rivers with sand or gravel substrates. The turtles often forage in upland deciduous forests and wet meadows up to 300 meters from rivers and streams. Nesting occurs in late May

through June, and hatching starts in August. Hatchling and juvenile wood turtles are strongly associated with alder thickets adjacent to water sources. There are three documented occurrences of wood turtle in the vicinity of the 69 kV transmission line ROWs within the LCO Reservation.

On November 2nd and 3rd, 2010, Cedarburg Science, LLC (“Cedarburg”) conducted a natural resource assessment reconnaissance visit of the overall Project area. This included a general assessment of potential habitat for sensitive species in the vicinity of the existing 69 kV transmission lines within the LCO Reservation. However, given the limited access from public roads, Cedarburg did not conduct field survey of their entire ROWs, or conduct any species-specific surveys. The results of the reconnaissance visit indicated that the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs are adjacent to potential habitat for the species listed above, as shown in Figure 10.

5. Cultural Resources (Archeological, Historic, Cultural, and Religious Properties): The Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has been engaged as a participant in the overall Project. A literature search of records contained within the SHPO offices has determined no documented occurrences of archeological, cultural, historic or religious properties within the boundaries the LCO Reservation. In addition to SHPO, Xcel Energy is coordinating with the LCO Tribal Historic Preservation Office (“LCO THPO”) in an effort to identify archeological, cultural, historic or religious properties or resources within the borders of the LCO Reservation and the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs. On May 6, 2011, Xcel Energy staff accompanied Jerry Smith, the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) for the LCO Tribe, on a field review of the ROW within the LCO Reservation. The team walked over areas identified by Mr. Smith as having the potential to contain archaeological or cultural resources. No cultural resources were identified during this field review.

Xcel Energy will work with the LCO THPO to develop a plan should previously unknown archaeological resources or human remains be inadvertently encountered during construction; any inadvertent discoveries will yield a stop of work and immediate contact with Mr. Smith. This plan will outline the framework for handling such discoveries in an efficient and legally compliant manner. Crews will be trained for identification of possible resources in advance of construction. The LCO THPO will continue to work with Xcel Energy throughout the line construction, and cultural resources monitors will be in attendance during structure foundation augering. If human remains are discovered during construction, work would cease on the site and appropriate authorities would be contacted in accordance with local and state law.

6. Socioeconomic Conditions (Economic Conditions, Environmental Justice (EJ) Issues, Community Services, etc.): The analysis for this section was conducted using U.S. Census Bureau data from the 2000 U.S. Census as a base (the latest Census data available at the time of this document), supplemented by appropriate federal and state data to provide the most accurate assessment of existing conditions as possible. The Census Bureau provides the American Indian and Alaska Native (“AIAN”) Datasets specifying socioeconomic conditions for tribal communities and reservations. It should be noted that the geographic area specified by the Census Bureau for AIAN data includes populations residing within the reservation and off-reservation trust lands.

- *Economic Conditions –*

- *Income and Employment* – In 2000, the LCO Reservation and Off-Reservation population totaled 2,900, with a total of 1,019 households and 728 families. The median population age was 31.5 years, and the population was split almost evenly between males (1,430) and females (1,470).

For the population 16 years and older, 53.4% of the population was employed in the civilian labor force, while 7.9% were unemployed, and 38.6% were not in the civilian labor force. Statistics for armed forces employment were not provided. The median household income was \$25,764 dollars, while the median family income was \$26,759 dollars. Per capita income was \$11,746.

Poverty statistics indicate that approximately 644 individuals (approximately 23.1% of the total tribal population) had incomes below the federal poverty level based on 1999 dollars. Approximately 149 families (20.5% of the total tribal families) had incomes below the federal poverty level based on 1999 dollars.

- *Property Values* – Affected properties were analyzed as part of the Project’s easement appraisal process (Appraisal Summary Report, Appendix B).
- *Recreation and Tourism* – Public access to the southern portion of the LCO Reservation is restricted by the limited availability of public roads through the area. It is possible that some outdoor recreational activities occur in this area. The Couderay River is identified as a river for non-motorized recreational boating north and south of the Billy Boy Dam (which is north of the Proposed Action), and it is likely that fishing activities occur along the river and connecting tributaries and creeks. As noted above, Devils Creek is listed as a Class I trout stream.
- *Environmental Justice* – Environmental Justice issues encompass a broad range of impacts, including impacts on the natural and physical environment and related social, cultural, and economic effects. Executive Order 12898 requires each federal agency to achieve Environmental Justice by addressing “disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects on minority and low-income populations.”

As stated above, approximately 23 % of the tribal population had incomes below the federal poverty level based on 1999 dollars. However, the existing 69 kV transmission lines do not operate through any neighborhoods or near any homes within the LCO Reservation. The existing transmission lines do not impact any commercial or industrial properties, and therefore do not affect jobs within the LCO Reservation..

- *Community Services* – Physical community infrastructure in the southern portion of the LCO Reservation is limited to public roads. The existing 69 kV transmission lines, along with the CP Rail railway and other utilities crossing the reservation, are privately owned and operated facilities, and are therefore not considered to be public infrastructure. No public buildings, parks, or other public facilities (sanitary sewer, solid waste disposal, or communication

towers) are located in the southern portion of the LCO Reservation. The LCO Tribal Police Department provides policing services within the LCO Reservation, and the tribe also provides a Community Fire Department comprised of two full-time firefighters and volunteer firefighters. Additional community services including health care, education, and water services are provided by the LCO north of the transmission line, near and around the official tribal offices.

7. Resource Use Patterns (Hunting, Fishing, Gathering, Timber Harvesting, Land Use Plans, Mining, Recreation, Transportation Networks):

- *Hunting, Fishing, and Gathering* – Hunting, fishing, and gathering activities occur in the southern portion of the LCO Reservation, including along the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs. However, the remote nature and limited access to this area likely limits the regular use of this terrain for outdoor sporting activities. Hunters, gatherers, and outdoor enthusiasts have access to this area. However, the transmission line ROW is not intended for non-tribal public use. According to LCO tribal leaders, tribal members sometimes use the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs for access to the forest for hunting and gathering activities, including collecting raspberries and blueberries. The Couderay River is used for other recreational activities including non-commercial sport fishing. The Wisconsin DNR identifies Devils Creek as Class 1 trout streams in Sawyer County, including the portion that is crossed by the Existing LCO ROW.
- *Timber Harvesting* – Timber harvesting does occur on the LCO Reservation, including the southern portion of the Reservation. Many of the roads near or crossed by the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs are former or current logging roads.
- *Land Use Plans* – The LCO Tribe does not publish a land use plan for the LCO Reservation. Xcel Energy is not aware of any planned significant land use changes.
- *Mining* – The surrounding land area adjacent to the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs within the LCO Reservation is heavily forested. No aggregate mining facilities or gravel pits are located in this area. There are no known plans for mining speculation or operations to commence in this area in the future.
- *Recreation* – No parks or trails are located in the southern portion of the LCO Reservation. As noted above, hunting, fishing, and gathering activities may occur along the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs and the streams they cross. It is also possible that persons traveling through the LCO Reservation on public ROW may engage in recreational activities (e.g. running, deep woods hiking, bird watching).
- *Transportation Networks* – State Highways 27 and 70 (Highway 27/70) are merged highways operating on the same roadway through the south portion of the LCO Reservation. Other roads that intersect Highway 27/70 in this area of the LCO Reservation include Butler Road, Right of Way Road, Cotey Road, Township Road 36, Billy Boy Road, and Reserve Road, all of which carry predominantly local traffic. The existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs cross

Highway 27/70, Butler Road, and Right of Way Road within the LCO Reservation.

The second primary transportation facility in the vicinity of the Proposed Action is the freight rail corridor owned and operated by Canadian Pacific Railway (“CP Rail”). The stretch of railway operating through the LCO Reservation is only mainline track, with no trackway sidings or loading/unloading locations. The existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs do not cross the CP rail corridor, which is located south of the Edgewater Substation.

8. **Other Value** (Wilderness, Noise and Light, Aesthetic, Public Health and Safety):

- *Wilderness* – The southern portion of the LCO Reservation is a heavily forested, undeveloped region. Timber harvesting has and continues to occur within the LCO Reservation, and some harvesting has occurred near the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs. Because of past and current timber, pipeline, roadway and utility activities in the vicinity of the Proposed Action, the ROWs are not considered wilderness areas.
- *Noise* – Noise is defined as unwanted sound. Conductors on transmission lines and transformers at substations produce noise under certain conditions. The level of noise, or its loudness, depends on conductor conditions, voltage level, and weather conditions. There are no residences within a mile of the Edgewater Substation; the nearest residence to the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs through the LCO Reservation is approximately 1,950 ft away, located along Highway 27/70 (Figure 1). Given the isolated location of the ROWs and the heavily forested surrounding areas, it is not anticipated that any noise from the existing substation or transmission line is audible to area residents.
- *Light* – As stated above, there are no residential, commercial, or industrial buildings near the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs through the LCO Reservation. The existing transmission structures are well below the height guidelines for structures that the Federal Aviation Administration require lighting, and are therefore not lit. There is some outdoor lighting for the buildings at the Edgewater Substation.
- *Aesthetics* – Determining the relative scenic value or visual importance of an area is a complex process involving both philosophical and psychological responses of individuals to what may be perceived as beautiful. Generally, landscapes that incorporate a balanced mixture of diversity and harmony have the greatest potential for high scenic value and may be considered important to persons living in or traveling through a region. Viewer response is based on the sensitivity and exposure of the viewer to a particular viewshed. Sensitivity relates to the magnitude of the viewer’s concern for the viewshed, while exposure is a function of the type, distance, perspective, and duration of the view.

While the 69 kV transmission line H-frame structures in a cleared ROW contrast with the heavily forested character of the surrounding landscape, viewers have likely become used to their presence since the structures have been in place for over 50 years. Despite the pruning of nearby trees, the structures can blend in with the surrounding environment and become unnoticeable to travelers or area residents who frequently travel on State Highway 27/70 or

canoe on the streams that cross the line. The ROWs perpendicular crossing of these features further helps to minimize visual impacts, as compared to a transmission line ROW paralleling the road or a stream for significant distances.

- *Electric and Magnetic Fields* – Electric and magnetic fields (EMF) exist wherever electricity is produced or used. Electric fields are created by voltage; the higher the voltage, the stronger the field. These fields are blocked by physical barriers such as vegetation, buildings, and clothing. The farther away from the source, the weaker the impact of the electric field becomes. Magnetic fields are similar to electric fields in that the higher the current, the greater the magnetic field; they also drop off with distance from the source. Magnetic fields pass through walls, clothes, and other barriers.

There are no federal standards limiting EMF exposure. The possible effect of EMF on human health has been studied for more than 30 years. The current body of scientific evidence does not establish a cause and effect relationship between EMF and adverse health effects. The existing 69 kV transmission lines do create EMF; however, given the isolated location of their ROWs within the LCO Reservation, their EMF levels would not be significant at occupied residences, the closest of which are over a quarter of a mile away.

- *Public Health and Safety* – The existing 69 kV transmission lines meet or exceed all proper safeguard standards for operation of the facilities. The Edgewater Substation is fenced and access is limited to authorized personnel.

D. Environmental Consequences (Follow Section C Above, Discuss Direct Effects, Indirect Effects, Cumulative Effects, Environmental Justice Issues):

In the following discussion of environmental consequences, the two build alternatives (Proposed Action and the Preferred Alternative) usually would result in very similar effects to environmental resources, because both would involve relatively minor changes to structure types within the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs. Each resource section below provides a general discussion of potential impacts of either build alternative; for resources where the different build alternatives would result in significantly different effects, the differences are discussed in detail. Similarly, for resources where the No Action Alternative (continued operation and maintenance of existing 69 kV transmission line) would be measurably different than the build alternatives, those effects are discussed in more detail.

For the cumulative impacts discussion, the potential for the Project alternatives to contribute to cumulative impacts resulting from existing foreseeable projects within the southern portion of the LCO Reservation are discussed.

1. Land Resources (Topography, Soils, Geology, Floodplains, Minerals, Fossils, etc.):

- *Topography* – Noticeable changes to topography within the LCO Reservation are not anticipated. Neither of the build alternatives would require significant leveling or grading of the landscape. Depending on the final placement of structures, some limited grading may be necessary in specific pole locations. These direct impacts would be limited in scope and

would not be anticipated to result in perceptible impacts; after construction the topography along the ROW would be regraded to existing drainage patterns. None of the alternatives would be anticipated to result in indirect impacts or contribute to cumulative impacts to topography in the area.

The No Action Alternative would not involve any temporary or permanent changes to topography.

- *Soils* – Direct impacts from the Proposed Action and the Preferred Alternative would include temporary disturbance of topsoil in the Existing LCO and 69 kV Tap ROWs during construction activities. Soil disturbance would result from:
 - site clearing and excavation activities at structure locations;
 - pulling and tensioning sites;
 - setup and staging areas; and
 - transport of crews, machinery, materials, and equipment over access points along the ROW.

Direct impacts to soil outside the existing 69kV transmission line ROWs within the LCO Reservation are not anticipated. To the extent practical, excavation activities in steep slope areas would be avoided; where excavation cannot be avoided entirely, it would be minimized and best management practices (“BMPs”) would be implemented as discussed in Section E. None of the alternatives would change the existing production potential of prime farmland soils within the ROWs.

The No Action Alternative would not involve any temporary or permanent impacts to soil or prime farmland.

- *Geology* – The construction of pier foundations for any of the build alternatives would have a direct effect on geologic materials, as soil would be displaced at each structure location. Assuming an average maximum depth of thirty feet and diameter of 8 feet, the volume of displaced soil for each structure foundation would be approximately 1,508 cubic feet (56 yd³). Construction spoils, including soil cuttings and boring stabilization fluids, would be disposed off site. Topsoil would be left onsite, if requested. Impacts to bedrock are not anticipated. No indirect or cumulative impacts to geologic resources are anticipated for any of the build alternatives.

The No Action Alternative would have no impacts to geologic resources.

- *Floodplains* – Placing transmission line structures in FEMA floodplains would displace an amount of permeable surface within the floodplain, the result of the pier foundations required for the transmission line structures. For the double circuit 161/69 kV structures, the foundations would have a cross-section area of approximately 50 square feet at ground level; for the single circuit 161 kV structures in the Preferred Alternative, the foundations would have a cross-section area of approximately 38.5 square feet. Within the existing 69 kV

transmission line ROWs, implementation of the Proposed Action would result in up to three structures being placed within FEMA floodplains, one in the floodplain associated with Couderay River and two in the floodplain associated with Surette Creek, for a total area of approximately 150 square feet. The Preferred Alternative would also result in up to three structures being placed within FEMA floodplains, in the same locations as the Proposed Action.

Proposed structures within FEMA floodplains are not anticipated to have an effect on flood elevations in the area due to the small cross-section per pole, their relatively wide spacing, and the fact that the overall number of poles in the floodplain would be reduced under both Build alternatives compared to existing conditions as a result of four existing poles (two H-frame structures) in the FEMA floodplains are removed. None of the alternatives would be anticipated to result in indirect impacts or contribute to cumulative impacts to floodplains.

The No Action Alternative would maintain the existing structures within the FEMA floodplains, resulting in no effects to current flood elevations.

- *Minerals* – No mineral deposits have been identified on publicly available maps in the southern portion of the LCO Reservation, and therefore no direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts to mineral deposits are anticipated from any of the alternatives. Implementation of any of the alternatives would not preclude future use of any mineral deposits in the vicinity of the 69 kV transmission line ROWs should any be identified.
- *Fossils* – Impacts to paleontological resources within the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs are not anticipated, given the unlikelihood of any fossils being found within the construction zone and the fact that no impacts outside of the existing corridor would occur within the LCO Reservation boundary. Therefore, no direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts to paleontological resources are anticipated. In addition, the LCO THPO or other assigned representative will walk the ROWs and determine any possible locations that need further testing for prehistoric or historic sites to reduce the likelihood of any impacts, and to identify key areas of known resources that need to be avoided.

2. **Water Resources** (Surface and Ground; Quality, Quantity, Use, Rights, Wetlands, etc.):

- *Surface Waters* – No transmission line structures would be placed in any surface water body under any of the alternatives. Because all rivers and creeks would be spanned by transmission structures, no direct impacts are anticipated from either of the build alternatives.

Indirect impacts to surface waters could include sedimentation reaching surface waters during construction due to:

- ground disturbance by excavation, grading, and construction traffic;
- removal of existing structures; and
- dewatering of holes drilled for transmission structures.

Indirect impacts could contribute to possible cumulative impacts to surface water in the

Project vicinity that would result from other existing and proposed construction projects. However, impacts resulting from this Project would be avoided and minimized using appropriate sediment control practices and construction practices, as described further in Section E.

The No Action Alternative would not result in any impacts to surface waters.

- *Groundwater.* – Implementation of either of the build alternatives is not anticipated to produce a long-term effect on ground water resources. It is possible that the water table or a shallow perched aquifer would be reached during construction of pier foundations, but the effects on groundwater would be temporary and related to dewatering activities. The depth to groundwater in bedrock is below the excavation depth required for the pier foundations of the structures.

After construction is complete, no direct impacts to groundwater would occur. Spill control measures described further in Section E would avoid and minimize the potential for impacts from fuel or material leaks. The Project is not anticipated to contribute to any indirect or cumulative impacts to groundwater resources.

The No Action Alternative would not result in any impacts to groundwater.

- *Special Status Surface Waters* – No direct impacts to the special status surface waters in the Project area (Devils Creek [ASNRI stream and Class I trout stream] and Couderay River [ANSRI stream and ORW]) would occur from the project because the build alternatives completely span the stream banks, and removal of poles near the streams would be conducted to avoid in-stream activities.

Although construction of either of the build alternatives has the potential to result in indirect impacts to surface waters as described above, use of the BMPs outlined in Section E would prevent the increase of non-point pollution into these special status water bodies. The Project is not anticipated to contribute to any cumulative impacts to special status water resources.

The No Action Alternative would not result in any impacts to special status waters.

- *Water Quality and Quantity* – As noted in Section C, there are no Section 303(d) waters in the Project area. As discussed above, indirect impacts to surface waters during construction of either of the build alternatives could temporarily degrade water quality due to turbidity. Indirect impacts could also contribute to possible cumulative impacts to water quality in the Project vicinity that would result from other existing and proposed construction projects. However, impacts resulting from this Project would be avoided and minimized using appropriate sediment control practices and construction practices, as described further in Section E.

The No Action Alternative would not result in any impacts to water quality.

- *Water Use* – Implementation of any of the alternatives is not anticipated to result in direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts to existing or future water use in the area. Implementation of the BMPs described in Section E would avoid or minimize temporary impacts to surface water quality.
- *Water Rights* – No direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts to existing water rights are anticipated with implementation of any of the alternatives under consideration within the LCO Reservation.
- *Wetlands* – Direct impacts due to permanent structure placement within wetlands along the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs in the LCO Reservation would be minimized to the extent possible. Temporary impacts to wetlands may occur during construction of the transmission line and removal of existing structures that are within wetlands. No staging or stringing setup areas would be placed within or directly adjacent to wetlands. Once the Project was in operation, wetland vegetation along the ROW would be maintained for both build alternatives.

Within the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs, implementation of the Proposed Action would result in up to four structures being placed within WWI wetlands, for a total of approximately 200 square ft. The Preferred Alternative would result in up to four structures being placed within WWI wetlands for a total area of approximately 100 square ft.

Temporary impacts to wetlands along the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs may also occur if these areas need to be crossed during construction of the transmission line for any of the build alternatives. Xcel Energy avoids placing temporary access routes through wetlands whenever feasible. After construction, these temporary impact areas would be revegetated with native seed mixes, and regraded to pre-existing contours for maintenance of previous wetland hydrology. Wetland vegetation would likely be fully restored in temporarily impacted areas within three to five growing seasons. However, until full restoration, the wetland habitat and some of the water quality functions could be affected in these areas.

Wetland delineation will occur prior to construction for proposed structures near potential wetland areas that cannot be spanned. Xcel Energy will obtain necessary permits for any permanent or temporary wetland impacts from the US Army Corps of Engineers (“USACE”) and Wisconsin DNR prior to construction.

Beyond the direct temporary and permanent impacts, indirect impacts to wetlands could occur during construction if runoff or erosion leads to sedimentation of off-site wetlands. However, the BMPs listed in Section E would avoid and minimize the potential for these short-term indirect effects; once the Project is constructed and operational, no indirect effects would be anticipated.

The poles placed in wetlands have the potential to contribute to cumulative impacts to wetlands in the Project vicinity. However, because all build options occur within the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs, and the existing H-frame structures that are currently in WWI

wetlands would be removed, the overall impact to wetland resources is anticipated to be negligible and should not affect the current function of the wetlands in the ROWs.

The No Action Alternative would not result in impacts to wetlands.

3. **Air (Quality, Visibility):** No permanent impacts to air quality are anticipated during operation of the proposed transmission line facility for any alternative. Temporary air quality impacts caused by construction-vehicle emissions and fugitive dust are expected to occur for the Proposed Action and Preferred Alternative. Exhaust emissions from diesel equipment would vary during construction, but would be minimal and temporary. The magnitude of these emissions is influenced heavily by weather conditions and the specific construction activity taking place. Once in operation, neither of the build alternatives would be anticipated to result in direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts to air quality.

The No Action Alternative would not result in impacts to air quality.

4. **Living Resources (Vegetation, Animals, Agriculture, Threatened/Endangered Species):**

- *Vegetation* – Both of the build alternatives would result in temporary construction impacts to the vegetation within the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs. Areas disturbed due to construction activities would be restored to pre-construction contours and, if acceptable to the LCO Tribe and/or affected landowner, would be reseeded with a seed mix recommended by Wisconsin DNR. Permanent impacts would not be anticipated from either of the build alternatives because the current vegetation would be allowed to reestablish.

There is potential for noxious weeds to be introduced to the ROW during construction of either of the alternatives. However, the noxious weed control measures listed in Section E would avoid or minimize the potential for this indirect impact. Because neither of the build alternatives would change the vegetative community along the existing transmission corridor, the Project would not contribute to cumulative impacts to vegetation from any other existing or planned project in the vicinity.

The No Action Alternative would not result in impacts to the existing vegetation community.

- *Animals* – There is minimal potential for the displacement of wildlife and loss of habitat from construction of either of the build alternatives, since the existing ROW corridor would not be widened. Wildlife that inhabit natural areas could be affected in the short-term within the immediate area of construction.

Raptors, waterfowl, and other bird species may also be affected by the construction and placement of the transmission lines. Avian collisions are a possibility after the completion of the transmission line. However, the build alternatives are not anticipated to significantly increase the potential for collision over the existing potential created by the current transmission line. See Section E for additional detail.

Xcel Energy's transmission line design standards provide adequate spacing between the conductors to minimize the risk of raptor electrocution. As such, electrocution is of minimal concern for either of the build alternatives.

Changing the structure type within the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs is not anticipated to have long-term direct or indirect effects to any wildlife species at a population level. Mitigation measures listed in Section E avoid and minimize collision impacts and the potential cumulative impacts are not anticipated to result in population-level effects.

The No Action Alternative would not change the existing potential for collisions (which are minimal) along the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs. No population-level impacts to animal species would occur.

- *Agriculture* – Because the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs in the LCO Reservation are not used for agriculture (cultivation or pasture), no direct, indirect or cumulative effects to agricultural resources are anticipated from any of the alternatives.
- *Threatened and Endangered Species* – No long-term, adverse impacts to special status species are expected from the Proposed Action or the Preferred Alternative. Habitat for many of the listed species includes streams and adjacent wetlands. Direct impacts to these environments would be avoided by spanning the water or wetland resources whenever feasible. In cases where sensitive habitat cannot be spanned, Xcel Energy would minimize the number of structures in the area by maximizing span length. If impacts to rare and unique natural resources cannot be completely avoided, Xcel Energy would coordinate with the appropriate regulatory agencies to minimize impacts to a level that is less than significant through mitigation or other appropriate measures. Tribal monitors assigned by the LCO Tribal Governing Board would assist in minimizing impacts to all resources, including threatened and endangered resources.

Xcel Energy will continue to coordinate with the US Fish & Wildlife Service (“USFWS”) and the Wisconsin DNR. The habitat information obtained by Cedarburg will be used to identify specific areas where mitigation measures would be implemented to ensure that these species would not be affected by the Project.

- *Bald Eagle* – As discussed above, bald eagles use the area and have been known to nest near the existing 69 kv transmission line ROWs. Impacts to eagles will be avoided by constructing facilities in the immediate vicinity of active nests outside the breeding season.
- *Gray Wolf* – No long-term direct or indirect impacts to this species are expected from any of the alternatives. The Project would not affect wolf habitat or prey species populations/habitat. Although wolves and their prey may avoid the Project vicinity during construction activities (a temporary indirect effect), the surrounding habitat is similar to or of higher quality and therefore no adverse affects are anticipated. Once the Project is in operation no impacts to this species are anticipated.

- *Wood Turtle* – Direct impacts to turtle habitat is possible from poles placed within 300 meters of the streams that the Project crosses. However, these impacts would be offset by the removal of existing structures and no net loss of habitat would occur. During construction, direct and indirect impacts could occur due to potential impacts to nests and disturbance of turtles. The measures described in Section E would reduce the potential for any impacts to turtles.

Neither of the build alternatives would result in a loss of habitat or individuals that would jeopardize the continued existence of any species. No significant direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts to special status species resources would result from the build alternatives.

The No Action Alternative is not anticipated to impact special status species.

5. **Cultural Resources** (Archeological, Historic, Cultural, and Religious Properties): Construction activities associated with either of the build alternatives would occur entirely within the existing 69kV transmission line ROWs in the LCO Reservation. Direct impacts to cultural resources could occur during construction through ground disturbing activities such as pole erection (or removal of existing poles), construction vehicle traffic, stringing, and temporary storage of construction materials.

Focusing on areas of potential ground disturbance, Xcel Energy would work with the LCO THPO to identify existing archaeological and cultural resources within the ROW and offer recommendations on resource avoidance, impact minimization, and mitigation measures as necessary. Final design of the selected alternative would take any documented cultural resource into account and all attempts would be made to avoid impacts. No indirect impacts to cultural resources would be anticipated to result from any of the alternatives.

Through the mitigation measures described further in Section E, construction of either of the build alternatives would not be anticipated to contribute to cumulative impacts to cultural resources within the general Project area.

The No Action Alternative would not impact any cultural resources.

6. **Socioeconomic Resources** (Economic Conditions, Environmental Justice (EJ) Issues, Community Services, etc.): For purposes of this analysis, socioeconomic impacts are those that could affect income, employment, property values, recreation and tourism, and power generation.

- *Economic Conditions:*

- *Income* – Short-term positive economic gains would result from activities associated with construction. It is unlikely that sustained, long-term positive impacts to income would occur as a result from operation of the transmission line. Positive short-term economic gains could result from wages and local spending for services including

lodging, meals, and sales of gasoline or general consumer activities. Additionally, Xcel Energy would provide a fair market assessment value easement payment to affected landowners along the Project's ROW.

Because no construction would occur under the No Action Alternative, no short-term positive economic gains would occur.

- *Employment* – It is not anticipated that the Project would result in the creation of permanent jobs on the LCO Reservation or surrounding communities; however, the Project would include several temporary construction jobs that could provide a one-time influx of income to area residents through direct or indirect means.

The No Action Alternative would have no impacts on employment levels since no construction would occur.

- *Property Values* – Impacts to property values resulting from implementation of any of the alternatives would be anticipated to be minimal, since the Project would be located within existing easement widths.
- *Recreation and Tourism* – Neither of the build alternatives would adversely affect recreation and tourism in the LCO Reservation either directly or indirectly. Direct impacts to water resources used for recreation would not occur. Because the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs would be used for the Project, changes to the structure type and height are not anticipated to result in any noticeable effects to the viewshed of any recreational user in the ROW vicinity.

The No Action Alternative would have no impacts on existing recreation or tourism resources.

- *Power Generation* – The increased transmission output capability offered by the implementation of any transmission alternative considered would improve regional electric reliability of the transmission grid. The regional system (including the LCO Reservation) is benefited as a whole because those additional connections provide for a more robust transmission system that is better able to withstand system contingencies. A more robust bulk power system also promotes and supports fair and competitive wholesale electric markets to meet the needs of all regional market participants, rather than just those of an individual utility's customers or a specific generation resource type.

The No Action Alternative has the potential to result in a negative impact in power generation potential because the transmission grid is not upgraded.

- *Environmental Justice* –the build alternatives within the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs would not result in a disproportionately high or adverse impact on human or environmental health. There is no indication that either the construction or operation of any

of the alternatives would adversely or disproportionately impact minority or low-income populations.

As described above, the Project is not expected to result in adverse economic impacts. Therefore no environmental justice impacts (direct, indirect, or cumulative) are anticipated.

- *Community Services* – Neither of the build alternatives are anticipated to adversely affect community services on the LCO Reservation.

During construction, efforts to minimize any disruption to public services or public utilities would be made, and the transmission line is not anticipated to impact or interrupt public services or facilities during operation. The proposed ROW for the Project does cross distribution lines and underground utilities. Where any impacts to utilities could occur, Xcel Energy would work with both landowners and local agencies to determine the most appropriate structure placement. Disruptions to public services during construction may occur; however, these would be temporary with service restored promptly. No direct long-term impacts to public buildings or infrastructure are expected. The Project will allow for continued development in the area and ongoing community services through continued reliable electric service.

The No Action Alternative would not impact existing community services.

7. Resource Use Patterns (Hunting, Fishing, Gathering, Timber Harvesting, Land Use Plans, Mining, Recreation, Transportation Networks):

- *Hunting, Fishing, and Gathering* – Installation and operation of either build alternative is not anticipated to directly or indirectly affect any fishing, hunting, or gathering resources in the LCO Reservation in the long term.
- The build alternatives would span the Couderay River and other creeks; fishing resources would therefore not be impacted.

Temporary impacts to the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs for hunting and gathering could occur during construction of either build alternative; the ROWs would not be accessible to hunters or gatherers in the vicinity of any construction activities. However, after construction the existing vegetation along the ROWs would be allowed to regrow back to the heights and clearances allowed by the standards for safe transmission line operation, and wildlife that currently use the ROWs would be expected to use it again after construction is complete.

- Indirect impacts to gathering resources could occur through introduction of noxious weeds during construction, or through the use of herbicides during maintenance activities. However, the mitigation measures described in Section E would avoid and minimize these potential indirect impacts. Through proper implementation, construction of either of the build alternatives would not contribute to cumulative impacts to fishing, hunting or gathering

activities in LCO Reservation.

The No Action Alternative is not anticipated to impact current hunting, gathering or fishing activities along the ROW corridor.

- *Timber Harvesting* – No impacts to economically important forestry resources would occur as a result of the Project. Both build alternatives would utilize the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs through the LCO Reservation. Therefore, no new trees would be removed for the operation of the Project, and subsequently no direct or indirect impacts to forest resources for current or future timber harvesting would occur on the LCO Reservation. Construction staging areas would be located and arranged in a manner to preserve trees and vegetation to the maximum extent possible. Neither of the build alternatives would be anticipated to contribute to cumulative impacts to forestry resources.

The No Action Alternative would not impact existing forestry resources.

- *Land Use Plans* – The LCO Tribe does not publish a land use plan for the Reservation. Construction and operation of either build alternative is not anticipated to affect the surrounding land use patterns. The No Action Alternative, however, would worsen area electrical system conditions and could discourage further development in the area.
- *Mining* – Because no known aggregate mining or gravel pit locations are currently operating or proposed to operate in this area of the LCO Reservation, no impacts to mining are anticipated from installation and operation of either build alternatives. None of the alternatives would be anticipated to contribute to cumulative effects to mining activities in the LCO Reservation area.
- *Recreation* – As discussed above, neither the build alternatives nor the No Action Alternative are anticipated to directly or indirectly impact the use of recreational facilities within the LCO Reservation.
- *Transportation Networks* – No direct or indirect long-term impacts to public roadway facilities within the LCO Reservation are anticipated. Both of the build alternatives would span State Highway 27/70 and other local roads. Additionally, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (“WisDOT”), Bureau of Aeronautics, has responded to a review request of the proposed Project and issued a finding of no impact to aviation facilities.

During construction, it is anticipated that several types of light, medium, and heavy-duty construction vehicles would travel to and from the site, as well as private vehicles used by construction personnel. That volume would occur during the peak construction time when the majority of the foundation and pole assembly takes place.

Short-term construction impacts to transportation facilities may include temporary re-routing of traffic through marked delineators and orange roadway cones or drums. The transmission line would be designed in accordance with NESC standards to minimize impacts to

transportation facilities. Xcel Energy would work with State and local officials to minimize any impacts to traffic during construction and operation of the Project. Xcel Energy would obtain all appropriate WisDOT and county permits as applicable for transmission line crossings over regulated roadways.

Construction activities may require access from the roadway ROW to the Project ROW at existing turnouts or approach locations. Construction of temporary additional turnouts or approaches may require installation of culverts and fill materials. Installation of additional or temporary access points would be subject to review and approval from local or State roadway officials. Construction crews would implement traffic control measures in accordance with the State Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Removal of existing conductors and stringing of new overhead conductors over highways requires installation of temporary wood pole “guard structures” and other measures to safeguard the public and construction crews. Temporary guard structures are designed to provide vertical clearance of the conductors above the road surface to avoid impacting normal vehicular traffic on the roadway.

After installation of the new conductors is complete, the temporary guard structures would be removed. At some locations, additional measures such as boom trucks equipped with “bat wings” may be employed to ensure that adequate vertical clearance is maintained at the highway crossing during stringing operations. Restriction of traffic may occasionally be required for short periods of time during pole deliveries or during critical wire stringing activities. Construction crews would work closely with Wisconsin State Patrol to ensure implementation of appropriate measures to safeguard the public and construction crews.

The No Action Alternative would not impact transportation facilities.

8. Other Values

- *Wilderness* – There are no federally designated wilderness areas along the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs in the LCO Reservation, and therefore no impacts would occur.
- *Noise* – Both build alternatives would result in temporary construction noise, resulting from equipment such as heavy trucks and bulldozers. Using the mitigation measures described in Section E, these impacts would be minimized to the greatest extent feasible.

No changes to the existing Edgewater Substation would occur, and therefore the existing noise levels there would remain the same. Any slight noise level changes that could result from upgrading the voltage of the existing line would not be anticipated to be perceptible beyond the edge of the ROW. Since there are no houses within a quarter mile of the Project’s proposed ROW within the LCO boundary, no noise impacts are anticipated. The Project is not anticipated to contribute to cumulative effects to noise levels in the LCO Reservation area.

The No Action Alternative would not impact existing noise levels.

- *Light* – Neither of the build alternatives would involve structures that require specialized

lighting, as the proposed heights would be below the Federal Aviation Administration's threshold for required structure lighting. No changes to the existing Edgewater Substation would occur, and therefore the existing lighting would remain the same under all alternatives, including the No Action Alternative. The Project is not anticipated to contribute to cumulative effects to light levels in the LCO Reservation.

- *Aesthetics* – The upgrade of the existing transmission line facilities for either of the build alternatives would create an altered visual element within the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs in the LCO Reservation. However, given the remote nature of the existing facilities and ROWs, and the fact that no widening of the existing ROWs would be necessary, these visual impacts are anticipated to be minor and localized, generally noticeable only from limited public viewpoints.

The visual impact of the new structures could be noticeable to landowners who live along or near the roads the Project would cross, or those who travel along these roads, particularly Highway 27/70, regularly. However, the Project would not introduce a new visual element into an undisturbed landscape; by using existing ROW widths, the impacts would be minimized.

Both build alternatives would involve replacing the existing H-frame structures with taller single pole structures. The Proposed Action would have up to 41 double circuit structures, and the Preferred Alternative would have up to six single circuit 161 kV structures and up to 36 double circuit 161/69 kV structures. However, the difference in structure type and number of structures within the ROW in the LCO Reservation would not result in visual differences between the build alternatives that would be noticeable to most viewers.

Figure 11 is a photosimulation that compares the viewshed along the Existing LCO ROW by showing it with the existing H-frame structures and with the Proposed Action structures. The single pole structures would be taller and therefore potentially more visible from some viewpoints. However, given the highly forested nature of the Project area, the proposed maintenance of the current ROW width resulting in no additional tree clearing, the relatively low public viewpoints, and the rolling topography, it is unlikely that the new structures would be visible from many new areas. The mitigation measures described in Section E would further avoid and minimize visual effects.

The No Action Alternative would not change the existing aesthetics and therefore would not result in impacts to visual resources.

- *Public Health and Safety* – Proper safeguards would be implemented for construction and operation of the Project. Both build alternatives would meet local, state, NESC, and Xcel Energy's own safety standards regarding clearance to ground, clearance to crossing utilities, clearance to buildings, strength of materials, and ROW widths. Construction crews would comply with local, state, NESC, and Xcel Energy's standards regarding installation of facilities. Section E provides more information on measures taken to avoid risks to public safety.

The storage and use of fuels, greases, and other chemicals during construction has the potential to impact soil. In addition, there is potential for construction activities to encounter previously contaminated soil. With the mitigation measures listed in Section E, the potential for these impacts will be minimized and mitigated.

The No Action Alternative would also not impact human health and safety.

E. Mitigation Measures to Reduce Adverse Effects (Environmental Justice, Adaptive Management):

The following mitigation measures would be used to minimize and mitigate potential impacts discussed above.

1. Land Resources

- *Soil Resources* – Soil conservation practices would be detailed in the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (“NPDES”) permit and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (“SWPPP”) that would be completed prior to the start of construction.

Xcel Energy maintains sound soil conservation practices to protect topsoil and adjacent water resources and minimize soil erosion. Construction would be completed according to NPDES permit requirements. Practices may include:

- Containment of stockpiled material away from stream banks;
- Stockpiling and resspreading topsoil;
- Reseeding and revegetating disturbed areas as required by the NPDES permit;
- Implementing erosion and sediment controls as required by the NPDES permit; and
- Implementing spill prevention, control, and countermeasures procedures for fuel, chemical, and hazardous waste storage containers.
- Xcel Energy would assign personnel to assist in the development and management of erosion control measures. The personnel would develop plans and work with the crews to ensure the commitments listed in this section are followed. Monthly reports would be provided outlining measures installed, inspections undertaken, and any issue resolution that occurred. The personnel would also be available to work with the crews to install erosion control measures that may be identified during construction. These measures could be the result of a variety of issues, such as inspections or unanticipated major weather events.
- *Paleontological Resources* – Xcel Energy would work with the LCO THPO to avoid known resources. Should any paleontological resources be discovered during construction, Xcel Energy would coordinate with the LCO THPO and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Inventory Program as directed.

2. Water Resources

- *Surface Water Resources* – As stated above, Xcel Energy would maintain sound water

conservation practices during construction and operation of the Project to protect water resources and minimize soil erosion. Construction would be completed according to NPDES permit requirements. Practices to minimize and mitigate for the possibility of impacts to surface water may include:

- Spanning all stream banks;
- Containment of stockpiled material away from stream banks;
- Reseeding and revegetating disturbed areas as required by the NPDES permit;
- Implementing erosion and sediment controls as required by the NPDES permit;
- Locating structures and disturbed areas 200 feet from streams, where possible;
- Implementing spill prevention, control, and countermeasures procedures for fuel, chemical, and hazardous waste storage containers; and
- Using turbidity controls methods for any release of waste water from concrete batching or other construction operations into streams or other surface waters. Any waste waters discharged would be free of settleable material.

For construction near streams, the following measures would be taken:

- A buffer on both banks of a stream crossing would be clearly identified to prohibit any construction activity near the banks.
 - If any clearing of taller woody vegetation is necessary adjacent to a stream crossing (which is unlikely because stream crossings are within the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs), removal would be done by hand-clearing.
 - When construction operations occur over the waterway, the operations would be conducted in a manner to prevent materials from falling into the water body. If materials did enter the water, they would be removed promptly by hand.
 - The removal of riparian vegetation would be minimized to the extent possible. If vegetation had to be removed, disturbed soils would be mulched and reseeded or soils stabilized promptly following construction to prevent erosion of the stream bank.
- *Wetland Resources* – Wetlands would be spanned when practicable. In instances where spanning is not feasible, Xcel Energy would attempt to schedule construction during frozen ground conditions and access any affected wetland with the least amount of physical impact to the wetland. As much as possible, structures would be placed at the edges of wetlands in order to minimize disturbance. Xcel Energy would coordinate with the Wisconsin DNR and USACE to obtain the appropriate permit(s) for any wetland impacts, and would work with the agencies to determine the type and amount of mitigation wetland area that may be required.

For construction in or near wetlands, the following measures would be taken in addition to the erosion and sedimentation controls listed above:

- Assemble structures on upland areas before bringing to the site for installation;
- When construction during winter is not possible, use rubberized construction mats where wetlands would be impacted; and
- Remove temporary crossings when they are no longer needed and restore site to its original grade. Erosion and sedimentation controls would remain in place until the site is stabilized and re-vegetated.

3. **Air** – During construction, appropriate dust and vehicle emissions control measures would be implemented to minimize any temporary impacts to air quality.

4. **Living Resources**

- *Vegetation* – In addition to the revegetation measures described above as part of the NPDES, Xcel Energy would use the following measures to reduce potential impacts to existing vegetation within the Project's ROW:
 - The possible introduction of noxious weeds would be mitigated through prompt re-vegetation with regionally native species. Additionally, all vehicles would be washed, especially the under carriage, prior to entering the Project's ROW within the LCO Reservation.
 - Xcel Energy would work with tribal officials to determine if there are recorded or known contaminated areas in the Project area. Vehicles would be washed after work in contaminated areas.
- *Animals* – No long-term impacts to mammal populations are anticipated, so no mitigation is proposed. The measures described above to avoid and minimize impacts to soil and water resources would serve to reduce the potential to impact aquatic species. The following measures would be used to reduce potential impact to avian species:
 - Xcel Energy has been working with various state and federal agencies over the past 25 years to address avian issues. Xcel Energy has developed an Avian Protection Plan (APP) for Wisconsin as part of a Memorandum of Understanding with Wisconsin DNR and USFWS. Standard reporting methods have also been developed. As part of the APP, the Project would be examined for risks. If necessary, mitigation measures such as swan flight diverters over the Couderay River would be used to minimize any impacts.
- *Threatened and Endangered Species* – The measures described above to reduce and mitigate impacts to wetlands and surface waters would serve to reduce the potential to impact special status species. The following specific measures would be taken to reduce potential impacts to

special status species:

- *Turtles* – If construction cannot be avoided in known habitat during the turtles’ active season (March through October), the installation of turtle exclusion fencing and removal of turtles prior to any construction activity in these limited areas would reduce the potential for impact to turtles. Outside of the active season, construction impacts would be minimized by limiting excavation activities and heavy equipment usage in wetlands.
- *Bald Eagle* – If any active nests are identified within the Project area during construction, Xcel Energy would work with the USFWS and Wisconsin DNR to avoid impacts. To minimize disturbance, Xcel Energy would not conduct construction activities closer than 660 feet to any active nesting sites during nesting period (February through August). Because no tree clearing would occur in the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs within the LCO Reservation, the build alternatives maintain existing forested or natural areas between the construction activity and the nest. Xcel Energy avoids construction during active nesting.

- 5. Cultural Resources** – As described in Section D, Xcel Energy will work with the LCO THPO to document and avoid cultural resources identified in the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs within the LCO Reservation. If avoidance is not feasible, Xcel Energy would coordinate with the LCO and the BIA in order to determine the appropriate course of action.

Xcel Energy would work with the LCO THPO to develop a plan should previously unknown archaeological resources or human remains be inadvertently encountered during construction. This plan would outline the framework for handling such discoveries in an efficient and legally compliant manner. The plan may include the following topics: construction crew training, identification of resources in the field, contact information for LCO THPO and Xcel Energy staff to address discovery, procedures for avoidance, and associated tasks in the event of work stoppage.

If human remains are discovered during construction, work would cease on the site and the appropriate authorities would be contacted in accordance with local, state, and federal law.

- 6. Socioeconomic Resources** – Because the impacts to socioeconomic resources are anticipated to be generally positive in the short term and minimal in the long term, no mitigation measures are necessary or proposed.
- 7. Resource Use Patterns** – The measures described above to protect soil, water, and vegetation resources would serve to reduce the potential to impact hunting and gathering activities within the Project’s ROW. Xcel Energy would not use herbicides or pesticides for ROW maintenance within the LCO Reservation boundaries without the express consent of the LCO Governing Board. The measures described above to protect stream and adjacent wetland areas would reduce the potential to impact fishing activities in the streams crossed by the Project.

8. Other Values

- *Noise* – To avoid and minimize construction noise, Xcel Energy would fit internal combustion engines associated with construction activities with approved mufflers and spark arresters, and comply with any county or other applicable regulations that restrict construction hours.
- *Aesthetics* – Beyond limiting the construction activity to the existing 69 kV transmission line ROWs within the LCO Reservation and therefore not increasing the existing cut in forested areas, the following measures would serve to reduce the impacts to visual resources:
 - Structures would be designed to be as short as possible while still maintaining NESC safety standards.
 - Structures would be pre-weathered steel structures, which are a matte brownish-rust color, to minimize contrast with the natural background.
- *Public Health and Safety* – The following measures would be used to reduce the potential for impacts to public health and safety:
 - *General Safety* – The Project would be equipped with protective devices to safeguard the public if a structure or conductor were to fail. The protective devices are breakers and relays located where the transmission line connects to the substation. This protective equipment would de-energize the transmission line should such an event occur. In addition, the Edgewater Substation would remain fenced and access limited to authorized personnel.
 - *Spills* – Petroleum spills would be cleaned promptly. For reportable spills (5 gallons or greater), Xcel Energy's work crew would place the contaminated soils in a drum(s) for proper disposal off site and contact the appropriate agencies. In the event of a spill, or if previously contaminated soil is discovered during construction, the work crew would stop work immediately, contact the LCO Tribe and appropriate state agency, and consult with the Tribe and state agency with respect to an acceptable plan of action.
 - *Trash and Debris* – The work site would be kept clean and trash and debris would not be buried within fill or backfill. Construction and demolition debris would be collected, along with debris from clearing and grubbing, trash and other waste at least weekly for disposal off site. No on-site burning would be permitted. Federal, state, and local requirements for the disposal of solid waste would be complied with.
 - *Hazardous Materials* – Oils, fuels, and any hazardous substances would be properly stored, including secondary containment for tanks larger than 55 gallons, to prevent spills. Restricted access to storage areas would be provided to prevent vandalism. Storage and disposal of hazardous materials would be in compliance with federal, state, and local regulations.

F. Consultation and Coordination

1. Consultation (Tribal/State Historic Preservation Officer (T/SHPO), Tribal Programs, US Fish &

Wildlife Service (USFWS), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), etc):

As part of this Project, Xcel Energy continues to be engaged in on-going consultations with the LCO Governing Board, LCO THPO, SHPO, USFWS, USACE and Wisconsin DNR, along with numerous other state and federal agencies responsible for the oversight and environmental permitting on state and federal lands.

2. Coordination (National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Clean Water Act (CWA), Clean Air Act (CAA), etc.):

G. Attachments I (Quadrangle maps, survey maps, site plans, project drawings, floodplain maps, wetland maps, soils maps, pictures, aerial photos, etc):

The following figures detail environmental features analyzed as part of this EA worksheet of the existing utility corridor and proposed project location on the LCO Reservation:

Figure 1: Project Location

Figure 2: 161 kV/69 kV Typical Structure Configuration

Figure 3: Proposed Action

Figure 4: 161 kV Typical Structure Configuration

Figure 5: Preferred Alternative

Figure 6: No Action Alternative

Figure 7: Soils

Figure 8: Surface Water

Figure 9: Land Cover

Figure 10: Special Status Species

Figure 11: Existing and Proposed View within LCO Reservation

H. Attachments II (Consultation letters, relevant studies, reports, legal descriptions, tax statements, etc):

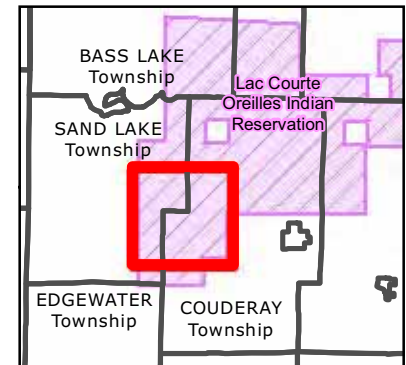
Appendix A: 2009 Breeding Bird Survey Species

Appendix B: Appraisal Summary Report

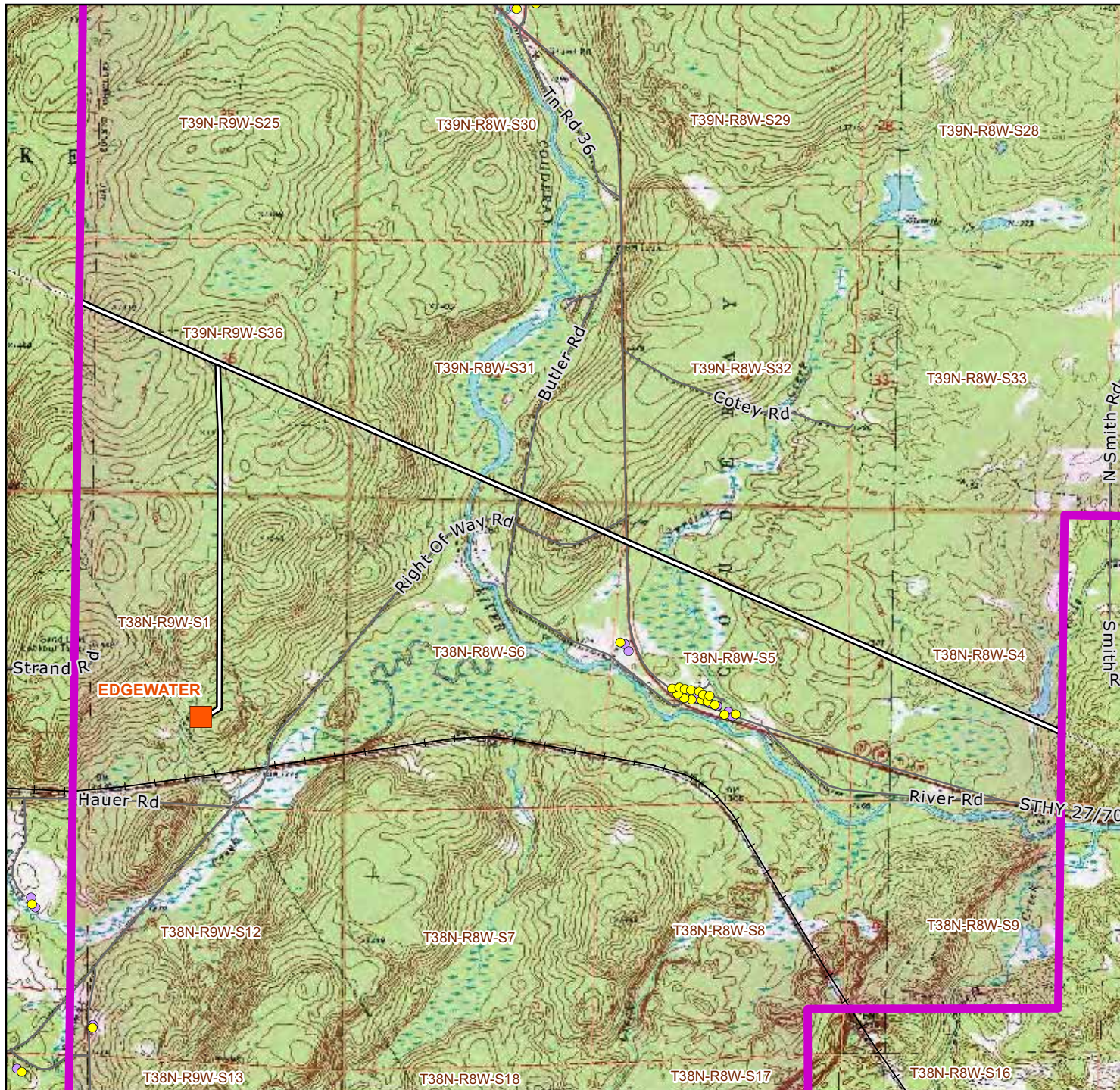
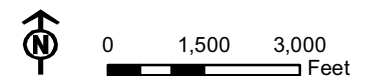
Appendix C: Need Study – To Follow 09/09/2011 (will be filed with Northern States Power – Wisconsin Application to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity)

Figures

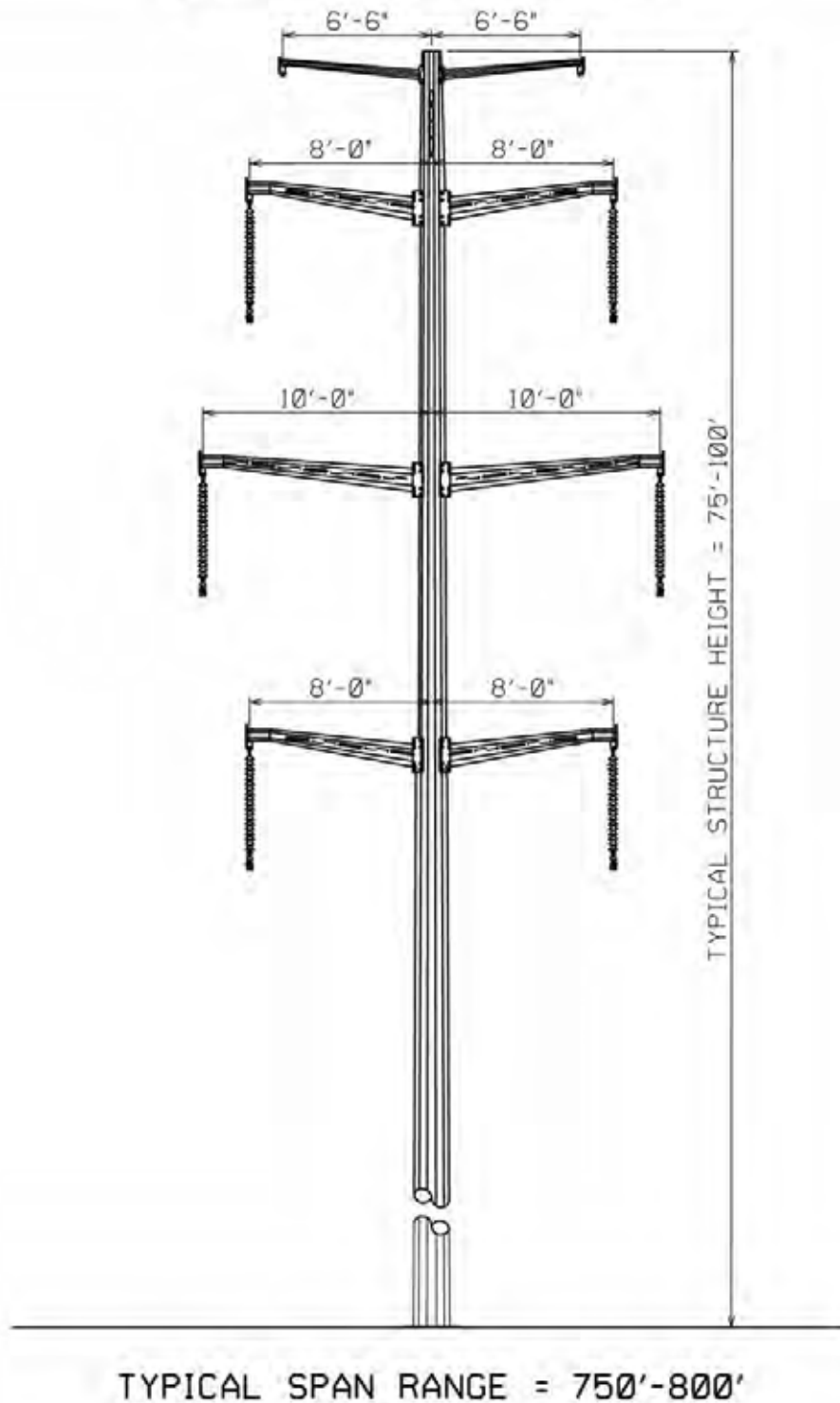
Figure 1
Project Location
Stone Lake to Couderay
 69 kV Rebuild /
 161kV Upgrade Transmission Project



- LCO Boundary
- Substation (Xcel)
- Existing 100 ft ROW
- Railroad
- Building**
 - Home
 - Other
- PLSS Township
- PLSS Section



69kV/161kV DOUBLE CIRCUIT



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THIS MAP/DOCUMENT IS A TOOL TO ASSIST EMPLOYEES IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR JOBS.
YOUR PERSONAL SAFETY IS PROVIDED FOR BY USING SAFETY PRACTICES, PROCEDURES AND EQUIPMENT AS DESCRIBED IN THE SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAMS, MANUALS AND SPARS.

ENGINEERING
DEPARTMENT
MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Figure 2

161kV/69kV

TYPICAL STRUCTURE CONFIGURATION

DOUBLE CIRCUIT, STEEL DAVIT ARM STRUCTURE



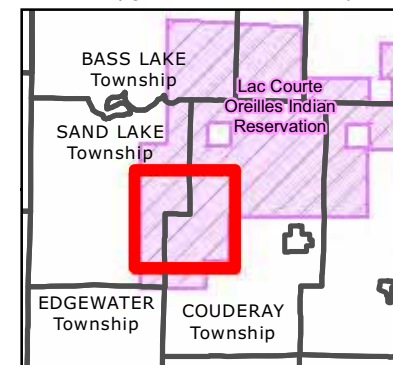
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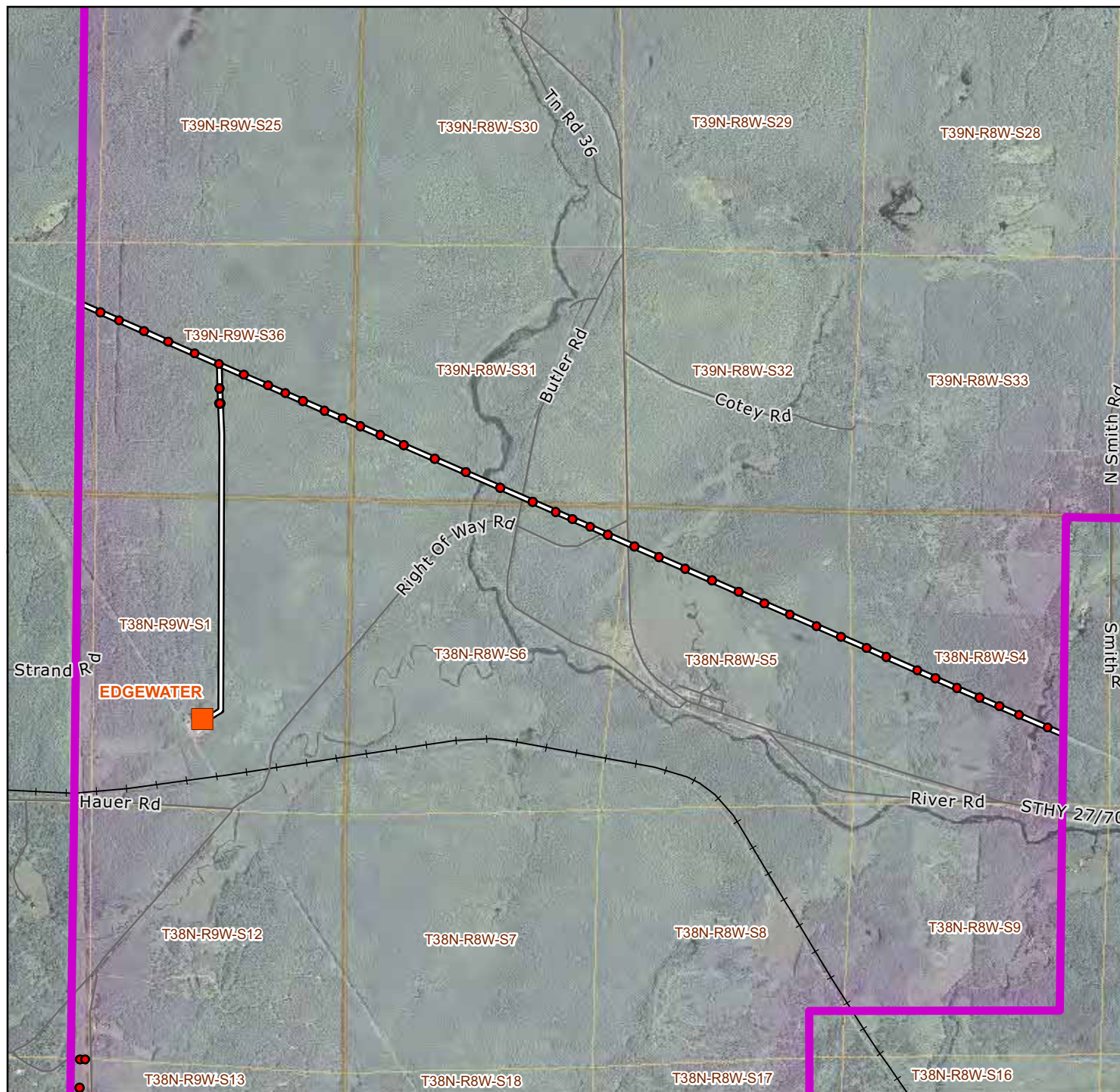
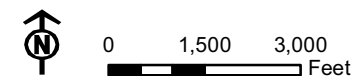
Stone Lake to Couderay 69 kV Rebuild/161 kV
Upgrade Transmission Project

CRP	SIGNIFICANT NUMBER
1	
2	
3	
4	
5A	
5B	
6	
CL	

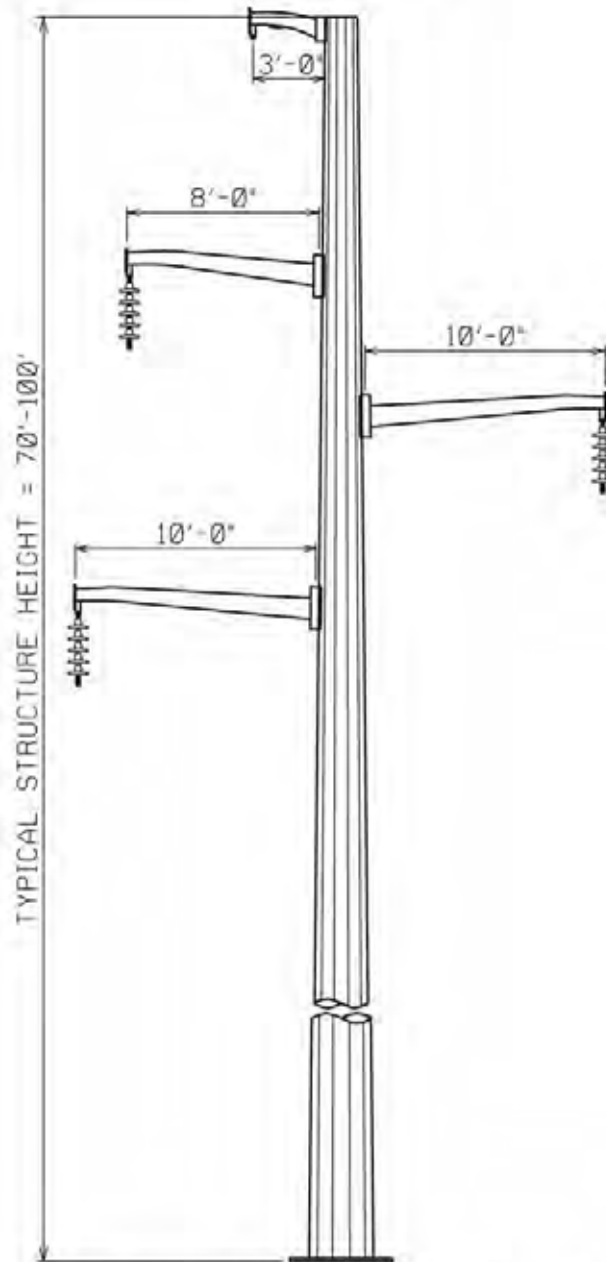
Figure 3
Proposed Action
Double Circuit 161/69 kV Structures
 (100 ft Maximum Height)
Lac Courte Oreilles Area
Stone Lake to Couderay
 69 kV Rebuild /
 161kV Upgrade Transmission Project



- Proposed Structure
- LCO Boundary
- Substation (Xcel)
- Existing 100 ft ROW
- Railroad
- PLSS Township
- PLSS Section



161kV CIRCUIT



TYPICAL SPAN RANGE = 500'-650'

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THIS MAP/DOCUMENT IS A TOOL TO ASSIST EMPLOYEES IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR JOBS. YOUR PERSONAL SAFETY IS PROVIDED FOR BY USING SAFETY PRACTICES, PROCEDURES AND EQUIPMENT AS DESCRIBED IN THE SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAMS, MANUALS AND SPARS.

ENGINEERING
DEPARTMENT
MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Figure 4

161kV

TYPICAL STRUCTURE CONFIGURATION

SINGLE CIRCUIT, STEEL DAVIT ARM STRUCTURE



SCALE
1/8"=1'-0"

Stone Lake to Couderay 69 kV Rebuild/161 kV
Upgrade Transmission Project

G R P	SIGNIFICANT NUMBER
1	
2	
3	
4	
5A	
5B	
6	
CL	

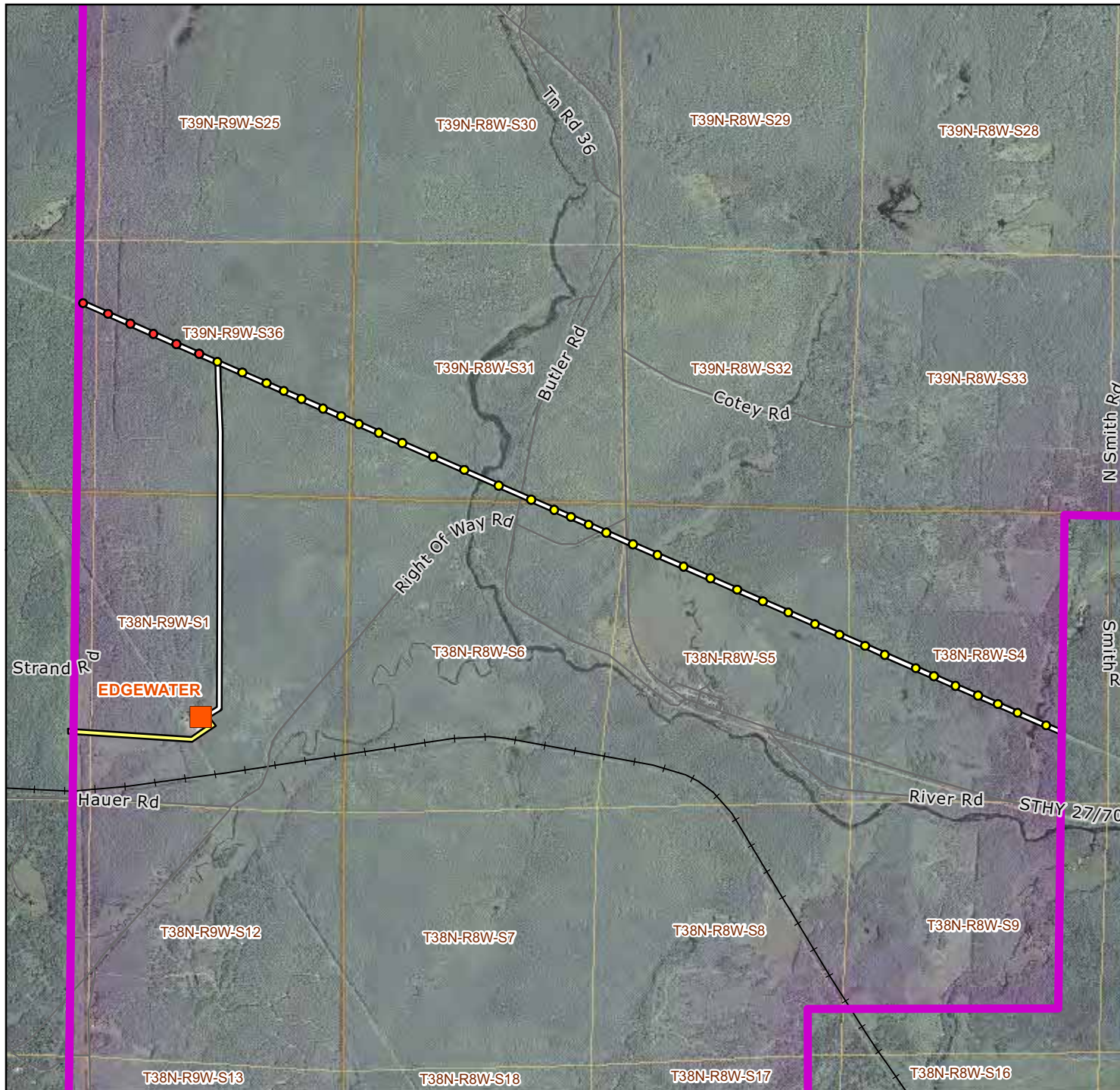
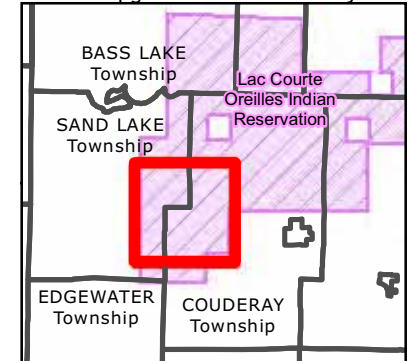


Figure 5
Preferred Alternative
 Single Circuit 161 kV Structures
 Western Boundary to Edgewater Tap
 Double Circuit 161/69 kV Structures
 Edgewater Tap to Eastern Boundary
 (100 ft Structures Maximum)
 Lac Courte Oreilles Area
 Stone Lake to Couderay
 69 kV Rebuild /
 161kV Upgrade Transmission Project



- Proposed Single-circuit Structure
- Proposed Double-circuit Structure
- LCO Boundary
- Substation (Xcel)
- Existing 100 ft ROW
- 69 kV Tap, Private ROW
- Railroad
- PLSS Township
- PLSS Section

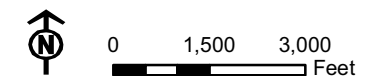
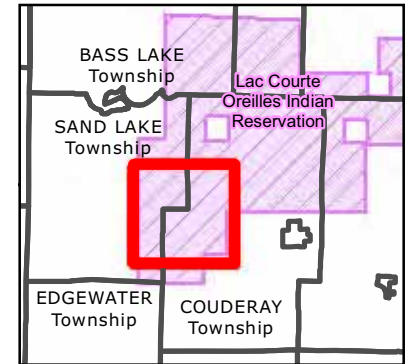
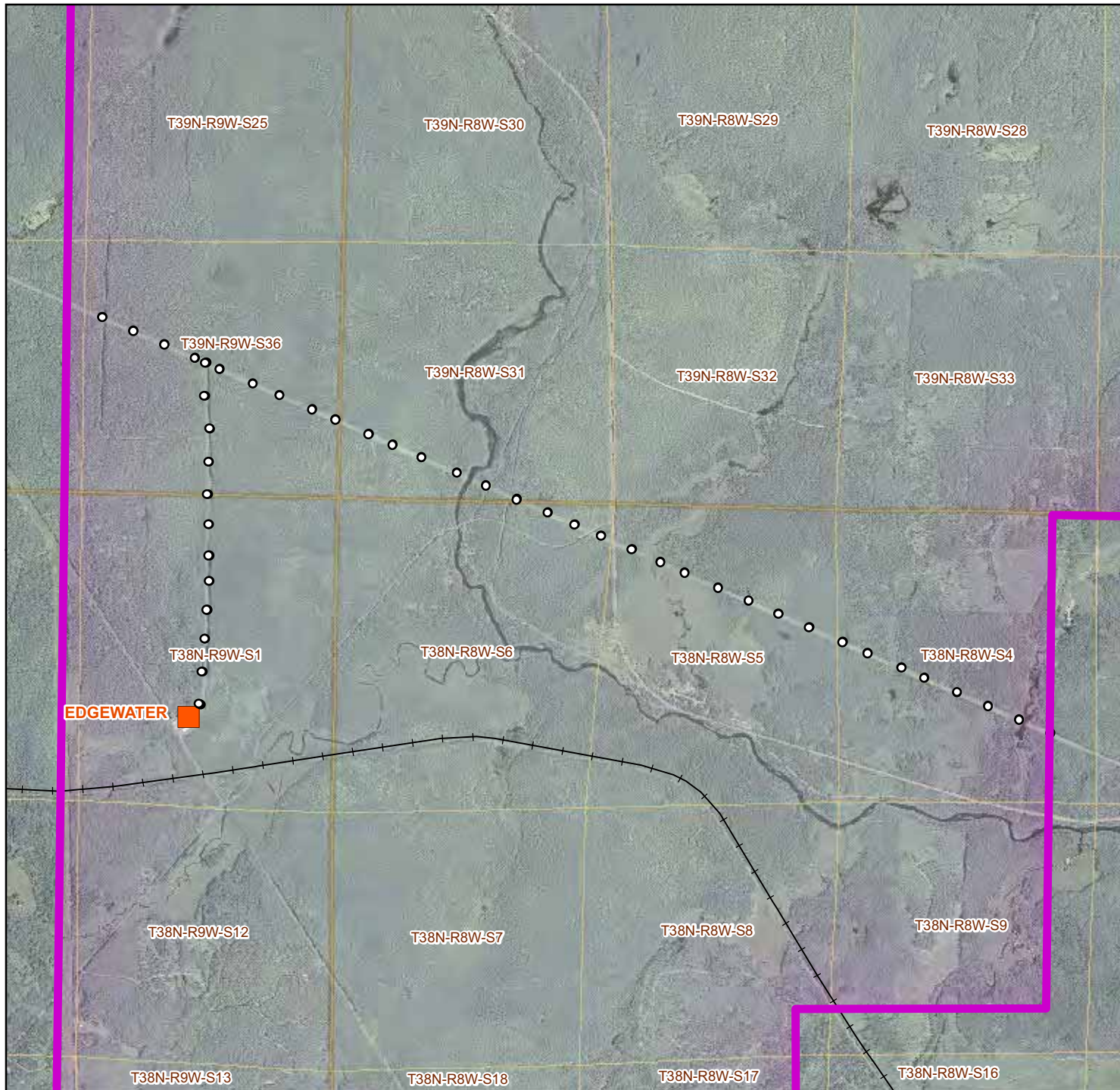
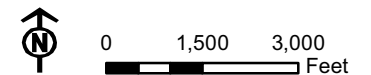


Figure 6
 No Action Alternative
 Lac Courte Oreilles Area
 Stone Lake to Couderay
 69 kV Rebuild /
 161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project



- Existing Structure
- LCO Boundary
- Substation (Xcel)
- Railroad
- ▭ PLSS Township
- ▭ PLSS Section



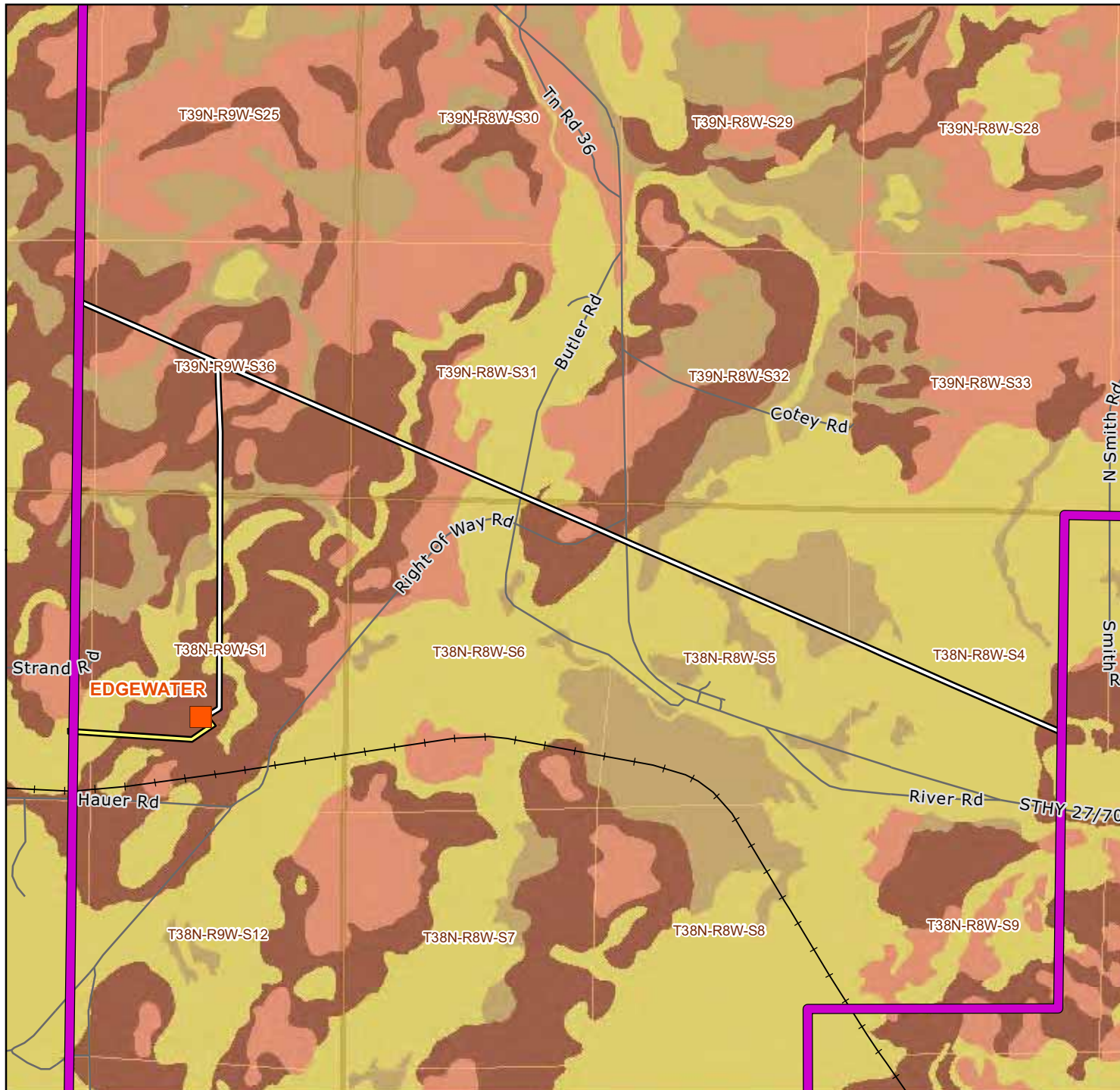
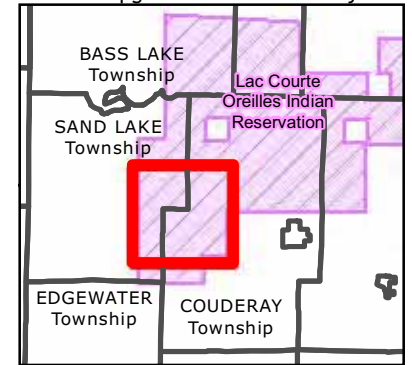


Figure 7
Soils
Lac Courte Oreilles Area
Stone Lake to Couderay
69 kV Rebuild /
161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project



- LCO Boundary
- Substation (Xcel)
- Existing 100 ft ROW
- 69 kV Tap Private ROW - Preferred Alternate Only
- Railroad
- PLSS Township
- PLSS Section
- All areas are prime farmland
- Prime farmland if drained
- Farmland of statewide importance
- Not prime farmland

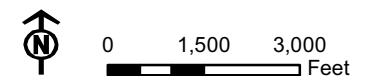
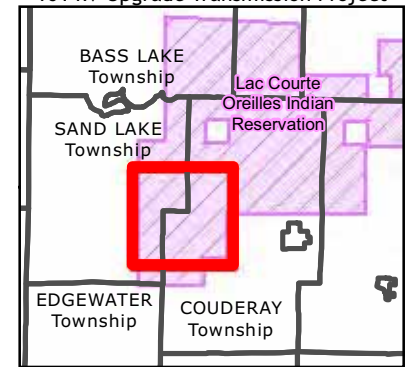
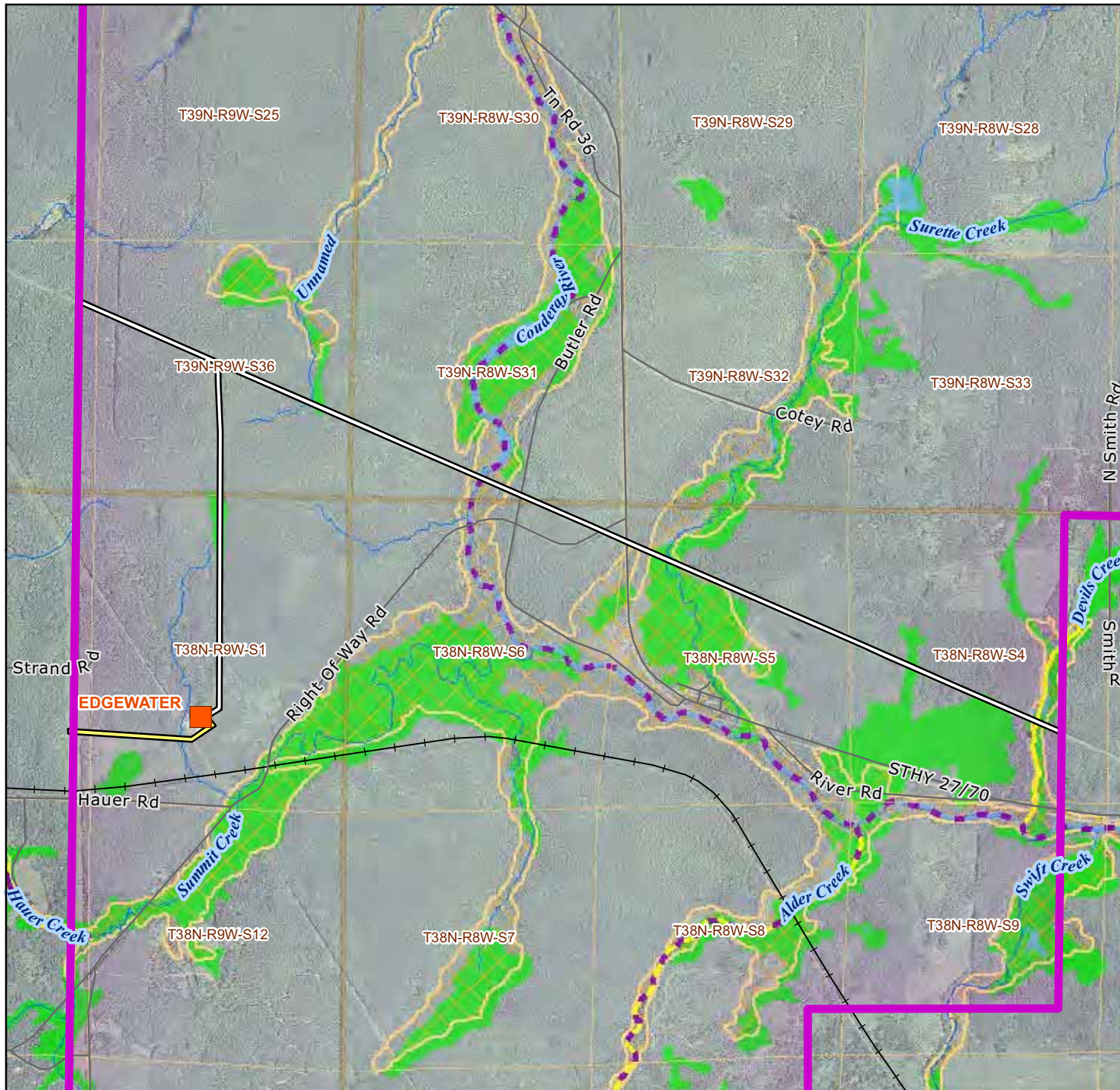
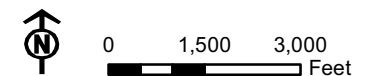


Figure 8
Surface Water
Lac Courte Oreilles Area
Stone Lake to Couderay
69 kV Rebuild /
161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project



- LCO Boundary
- Substation (Xcel)
- Existing 100 ft ROW
- 69 kV Tap, Private ROW - Preferred Alternate Only
- Railroad
- PLSS Township
- PLSS Section
- Outstanding and
- Exceptional Resource Waters
- Trout Class Streams
- Lakes
- Stream / River
- FEMA Floodplains
- WWI Wetland



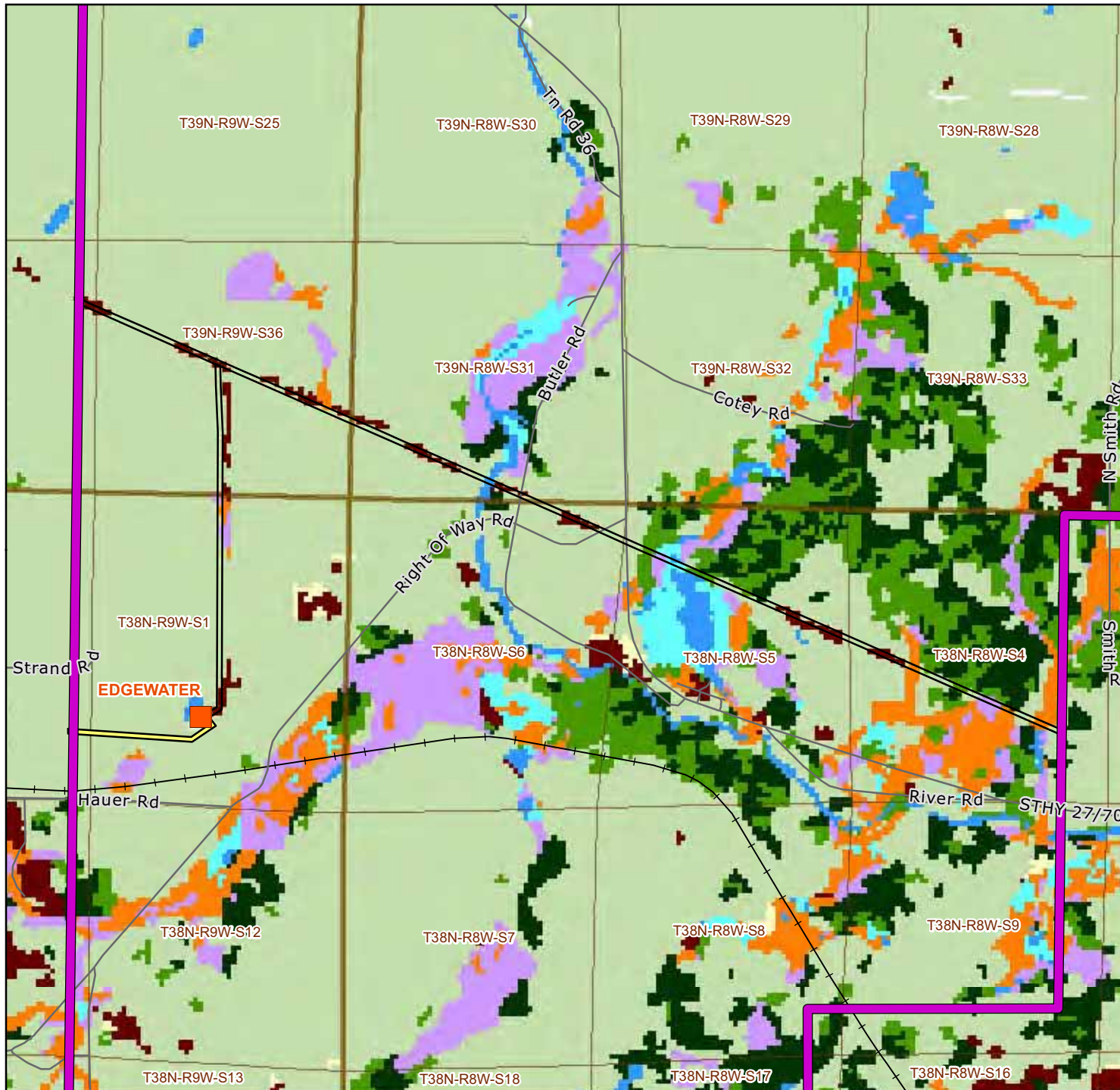
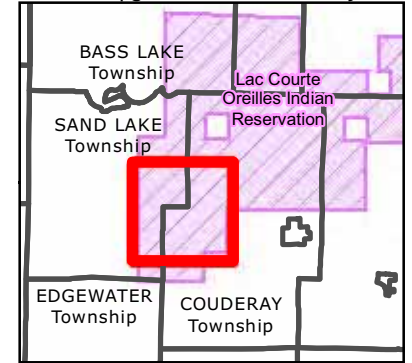


Figure 9
Land Cover
Lac Courte Oreilles Area
Stone Lake to Couderay
69 kV Rebuild /
161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project



- LCO Boundary
- Substation (Xcel)
- Existing 100 ft ROW
- 69 kV Tap, Private ROW - Preferred Alternate Only
- Railroad
- PLSS Township
- PLSS Section
- Barren
- Crops
- Coniferous Forest
- Deciduous Forest
- Emergent / Wet Meadow
- Forested Wetland
- Grassland
- Mixed Deciduous/Coniferous
- Open Water
- Shrub

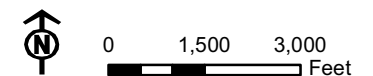


Figure 10 Redacted – Confidential Threatened and Endangered Species Location Information



Existing 69 kV H-frame Structures



Proposed 161/69 kV Single Pole Weathering Steel Davit Arm Structures

**Figure 11 – Existing and Proposed View within LCO Reservation
Stone Lake to Couderay
69 kV rebuild/161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project**

Appendix A

2009 Breeding Bird Survey Species

Couderay - 2009 Breeding Bird Survey Species

Common Loon
Pied-billed Grebe
American Bittern
Great Blue Heron
Green Heron
Wood Duck
American Black Duck
Mallard
Blue-winged Teal
Common Goldeneye
Hooded Merganser
Osprey
Bald Eagle
Northern Harrier
Cooper's Hawk
Broad-winged Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
American Kestrel
Ring-necked Pheasant
Ruffed Grouse
Northern Bobwhite
Sora
Sandhill Crane
Killdeer
Common Snipe
Herring Gull
Black Tern
Rock Dove
Mourning Dove
Black-billed Cuckoo
Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Great Horned Owl
Barred Owl
Chimney Swift
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird
Belted Kingfisher
Red-headed Woodpecker
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Sapsucker (3 species)
Yellow-bell. Sapsucker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Pileated Woodpecker
Eastern Wood-Pewee
Alder Flycatcher

Willow/Alder Flycatcher
Least Flycatcher
Eastern Phoebe
Grt. Crested Flycatcher
Eastern Kingbird
Yellow-throated Vireo
Blue-headed Vireo
Warbling Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo
Blue Jay
American Crow
Common Raven
Horned Lark
Purple Martin
Tree Swallow
N. Rough-winged Swallow
Bank Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Barn Swallow
Black-capped Chickadee
Red-breasted Nuthatch
White-breasted Nuthatch
Brown Creeper
House Wren
Winter Wren
Sedge Wren
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Eastern Bluebird
Veery
Hermit Thrush
Wood Thrush
American Robin
Gray Catbird
Brown Thrasher
European Starling
Cedar Waxwing
Blue-winged Warbler
Golden-winged Warbler
Nashville Warbler
Northern Parula
Yellow Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Magnolia Warbler
Cape May Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler

Black-th. Green Warbler
Blackburnian Warbler
Pine Warbler
Palm Warbler
Cerulean Warbler
Black-and-white Warbler
American Redstart
Ovenbird
Northern Waterthrush
Mourning Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
Canada Warbler
Scarlet Tanager
Eastern Towhee
Chipping Sparrow
Clay-colored Sparrow
Field Sparrow
Vesper Sparrow
Savannah Sparrow
Grasshopper Sparrow
Henslow's Sparrow
Le Conte's Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Lincoln's Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
Northern Cardinal
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Indigo Bunting
Dickcissel
Bobolink
Red-winged Blackbird
Eastern Meadowlark
Western Meadowlark
Yellow-head. Blackbird
Brewer's Blackbird
Common Grackle
Brown-headed Cowbird
Orchard Oriole
Baltimore Oriole
Purple Finch
House Finch
Red Crossbill
Pine Siskin
American Goldfinch
Evening Grosbeak
House Sparrow

Weirgor Springs - 2009 Breeding Bird Survey Species

American Bittern
Great Blue Heron
Turkey Vulture
Canada Goose
Mallard
Broad-winged Hawk
Ruffed Grouse
Wild Turkey
Sandhill Crane
Killdeer
Common Snipe
Rock Dove
Mourning Dove
Black-billed Cuckoo
Eastern Screech-Owl
Barred Owl
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird
Belted Kingfisher
Sapsucker (3 species)
Yellow-bell. Sapsucker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Eastern Wood-Pewee
Alder Flycatcher
Willow/Alder Flycatcher
Least Flycatcher
Eastern Phoebe
Grt. Crested Flycatcher
Eastern Kingbird
Yellow-throated Vireo
Warbling Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo
Blue Jay
American Crow
Tree Swallow
Barn Swallow
Black-capped Chickadee
Red-breasted Nuthatch
White-breasted Nuthatch
House Wren
Winter Wren
Troglodytes troglodytes
Sedge Wren
Cistothorus platensis
Marsh Wren
Cistothorus palustris
Eastern Bluebird
Sialia sialis
Veery

Catharus fuscescens
Hermit Thrush
Catharus guttatus
Wood Thrush
Hylocichla mustelina
American Robin
Turdus migratorius
Gray Catbird
Dumetella carolinensis
European Starling
Sturnus vulgaris
Cedar Waxwing
Bombycilla cedrorum
Golden-winged Warbler
Vermivora chrysoptera
Nashville Warbler
Vermivora ruficapilla
Yellow Warbler
Dendroica petechia
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Dendroica pensylvanica
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Dendroica coronata
Black-th. Green Warbler
Dendroica virens
Pine Warbler
Dendroica pinus
Black-and-white Warbler
Mniotilta varia
American Redstart
Setophaga ruticilla
Ovenbird
Mourning Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
Scarlet Tanager
Chipping Sparrow
Clay-colored Sparrow
Savannah Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Northern Cardinal
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Indigo Bunting
Bobolink
Red-winged Blackbird
Eastern Meadowlark
Common Grackle
Brown-headed Cowbird
Baltimore Oriole
Purple Finch
American Goldfinch
House Sparrow

Appendix B

Appraisal Summary Report



APPRAISAL SUMMARY REPORT

**Stone Lake to Couderay/Radisson Transmission Line
Sawyer County, Wisconsin**

Prepared By:

**Edward F. Steigerwaldt, ACF
Wisconsin Certified General Appraiser #293
and
Lee A. Steigerwaldt, ACF
Wisconsin Certified General Appraiser #1516**

Date of Report:

March 17, 2011

Summary of Results

Fair compensation for transmission line easements by parcel:

Parcel #1-Allotment #431 R72	\$2,900.00
Parcel #2-Allotment #431 R75	\$2,150.00
Parcel #3-Allotment #431 R75A	\$ 200.00
Parcel #4-Allotment #431 R71	\$ 650.00
Parcel #5-Allotment #431 6F68	\$5,750.00
Parcel #6-Allotment #431 6B148	\$ 950.00
Parcel #7-Allotment #431 Q5	\$2,250.00
Parcel #8-Allotment #431 TTR147	\$1,550.00
Parcel #9-Allotment #431 TT6B104	\$3,450.00
Parcel #10-Allotment #431 TT98	\$1,350.00
Parcel #11-Allotment #431 TT6H99	\$ 800.00
Parcel #12-Allotment #431 TT613	\$2,100.00
Parcel #13-Allotment #431 TT2030	\$ 50.00

This report will further summarize the factual data and the overall Stone Lake to Couderay Radisson transmission line appraisal project. The introductory portion of the report covers basic information regarding the purpose, scope, value appraised, estate appraised and area data. This is followed by a summary of pertinent details for each parcel that has been appraised. This information has been provided in the individual appraisal of each parcel. Three methods of developing the transmission line easement values have been utilized in each report. An aerial photograph showing the parcels is attached as Exhibit #1 in this report.

Introduction

Purpose and Intended Use

The purpose of this appraisal is to estimate the cash market value, in both the “before” condition and the “after” condition, of property land that will be affected by utility easements, in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The difference in market value between the “before” condition and the “after” condition is the impact on value attributable to the proposed utility

easement and the basis for the amount of just compensation due the landowner. This is being done in accordance with the provisions of Section 32.09 of Wisconsin Statutes, which state that just compensation shall be based on the property's most advantageous use, but only such use as actually affects the present market value.

The intended users of this report are Xcel Energy and their authorized representatives, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Great Lakes realty personnel, Lac Courte Oreilles realty personnel, and authorized representatives of The Office of Special Trustee for American Indians, Office of Appraisal Services, and the property owners of Parcels 1 through 13.

Scope of Work

Notes were compiled on the location, vegetative cover, land quality, soils, access, topography, water features, and overall character of the subject property. Comparable sales that occurred on various dates within a two-year period prior to the effective date of this appraisal were identified, investigated, and inspected. Facts concerning comparable sales and other pertinent information relating to the subject were confirmed from courthouse records and contacts with assessors and local tax officials.

The appraisals are conducted under the extraordinary assumption that legal woods road easement access by vehicle to the subject would be granted through surrounding Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal land or land held in trust for the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe by the United States of America. Without this extraordinary assumption, overall property value of the subject would be lower, as the market shows lower property values for landlocked parcels with no legal access.

The appraisals involved the development of a real estate appraisal provided in a summary report according to both the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions (UASFLA) and Standards Rules 1 and 2 of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal

Practice (USPAP 2010-2011 Edition – effective January 1, 2010). If any of the provisions of USPAP conflict with those of UASFLA, then the standards of UASFLA take precedence under the Jurisdictional Exception of USPAP.

Effective Date of Appraisal

The effective date of “evaluation” according to Section 32.06 (7) of Wisconsin Statutes, for the construction of a facility as defined under Section 196.491 (1), is two years prior to the date on which the Certificate of Public Conveyance and Necessity (CPCN) is issued for the facility. In the case of this project, the CPCN has not yet been approved. Therefore, we are valuing the subject property as of the last dates of inspection, which were January 14, 2011, or February 22, 2011.

Date of Report

The reports were completed between the dates of January 21, 2011, and February 23, 2011, which indicates that the perspective of the appraiser is current.

Definition of Market Value

Market value is the amount in cash, or on terms reasonably equivalent to cash, for which in all probability the property would have sold on the effective date of the appraisal, after a reasonable exposure time on the open competitive market, from a willing and reasonably knowledgeable seller to a willing and reasonably knowledgeable buyer, with neither acting under any compulsion to buy or sell, giving due consideration to all available economic uses of the property at the time of the appraisal (UASFLA, 2000).

The reader should note that this definition of market value, required by the

Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions (UASFLA, 2000), is not “linked” to a specific “exposure time” estimate as required by the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP, SR 1-2c). “Such estimates are inappropriate for, and must not be included in, appraisal reports prepared for federal land acquisitions under these standards” (Section A-9, UASFLA, 2000). This appraisal, therefore, invokes the Jurisdictional Exception Rule and does not include an opinion of reasonable exposure time.

Estate Appraised

The estate appraised in the “before” condition is fee simple, subject to rights of the state, the county, and the public for roads, as well as the rights of utility companies for electric distribution, gas, and telephone line easements. In the “after” condition, the estate appraised is as stated above, but also subject to a new high voltage transmission line easement.

Area and Local Data

The properties are located in southwestern Sawyer County. The city of Hayward (population 2,163), the county seat of Sawyer County, is located approximately 16 miles northeast of the properties, and the village of Exeland (212) is located about 11 miles southeast of the subject properties. Ladysmith, the county seat of Rusk County, is located about 26 miles to the southeast. A general location map is provided in Figure #1.

The main transportation arteries in this area of Wisconsin include U.S. Highways 63 and 53, State Highways 27 and 40 (north and south), State Highways 48 and 70 (east and west), and County Highways C, F, E, and N. Additional state, county, and town roads provide excellent transportation linkages throughout northwestern Wisconsin.

The area economy relies heavily on recreation, tourism, and the forest products

industry. The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest is host to thousands of visitors annually. Employment in the resort and summer trade business is significant. Abundant clear water lakes and rivers, combined with the vast acreages of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, create an attractive setting for tourists and permanent residents. In addition to tourism, the forest products industry and logging are significant contributors to the local economy. The community of Hayward is home to a wafer board plant operated by Louisiana-Pacific Corporation and one of three wood chipping operations of Johnson Timber. These manufacturing plants and associated logging operations throughout northern Wisconsin provide strength and stability to the overall economy.

Northern Wisconsin is predominantly rural, with mixtures of agriculture, wood lots, and expansive forest. Paper mills, sawmills, and veneer mills lead employment in many communities. The abundance of water features and public forestlands attracts people from all over the state, as well as from neighboring states. The general area is extremely well known to recreation enthusiasts who hunt, fish, and cross-country ski in northwestern Wisconsin.

Property Inspection

Edward F. Steigerwaldt and Lee Ann Steigerwaldt of Steigerwaldt Land Services, Inc. inspected several of the properties on January 14, 2011. Edward F. Steigerwaldt inspected the rest of the properties February 21, 2011. Brian Bisonette, Secretary Treasurer of the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Governing Board, was contacted by email with an invitation extended for him and/or a representative of the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe to accompany the appraisers on the property inspection. Mr. Bisonette did not respond to the invitation. Edward F. Steigerwaldt also contacted Dena Mortenson, with the Bureau of Indian Affairs – Great Lakes Realty Office, by a telephone message inviting her to participate in a pre-work meeting and clarification on the

report format, but there was no response. Edward F. Steigerwaldt met with Phillip Lysdahl from Xcel Energy and Brian Bisonette prior to beginning work on this project.

During the inspections, notes were taken to document the subject's access, land cover, and overall land quality.

Improvements

There are no improvements located on the property.

Taxes

The subject properties are part of the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Reservation and is not assessed or taxed.

Sale History

There are no recent sales of the subject properties that can be used to help in the determination of market value for this assignment.

The Transmission Line

The transmission line traveling across the subject properties is a portion of the proposed Stone Lake to Couderay/Radisson Transmission Line. According to Xcel Energy, the Hayward area of northern Wisconsin has experienced growth and development of new homes and businesses in the past several decades, and growth is expected to continue as the area grows as a tourist destination. During peak electricity use times, demand exceeds the capacity of the current 69-kV transmission system. Based on a study issued in 2002 by the U.S. Department of Energy, Wisconsin's transmission system has one of the most congested interfaces in the country. Wisconsin has only limited transmission line connections to other states – significantly

fewer than neighboring states. This limits the ability of electric utilities to access wind energy or sources of lower-cost electricity from other regions. Wisconsin's electricity generators generally produce less power than is used, and the balance is imported from out-of-state.

According to Xcel Energy, the Stone Lake to Couderay/Radisson Transmission Line project will help ensure that Hayward and northern Wisconsin residents and businesses have the power they need, when they need it. They believe that building this line will add an important element to Wisconsin's electric transmission infrastructure and bring much needed reliability to a constrained system.

Real Estate Appraisal Procedure

In general appraisal practice, an approach is a procedure used to derive an indication for the value of real property. The three approaches most often used in the valuation of properties are the cost approach, the income approach, and the sales comparison approach.

The cost approach is utilized in appraising property with improvements and is generally derived by combining the land value (as though it were vacant) with the cost to reconstruct or replace existing structures, less a deduction for each structure's accrued depreciation. The income approach is used in appraising properties with a potential for generating income. An estimate from the income approach is found by calculating the net present value of annual income that can be generated by the property being appraised. The sales comparison approach is a direct comparison technique that relates recent land sales (preferably in the same market area) to the specifics of the subject property. Time-adjusted prices of comparable sales are adjusted in the sales comparison approach to arrive at a range in value based on the presence or quality of individual features found on the subject and its related sales.

The approach or combination of approaches taken is generally dependent upon

the type of property being appraised, its highest and best use, and the availability of income and comparable sales data. For this particular appraisal assignment, it is our opinion that the sales comparison approach is the most reliable and appropriate valuation method for estimating each subject properties land value. Because there is adequate market evidence in the form of comparable sales data, the sales comparison approach is utilized for determining the market value of the subject properties.

The follow tables are a summation of appraisals competed for each individual parcel:

Parcel #1 Allotment #431 R72	
Legal Description	Lots 9 and 10 of Section 4, T38N-R8W
Location	Township of Couderay, Sawyer County, Wisconsin
Tract Size	80 acres
Access	No direct road access or access to utility services
Land Cover	Northern hardwood and aspen poletimber
Land Quality	88 percent upland
Water Features	No significant water features
Zoning	F1 – Forestry
Acquisition	4.913 acres
Highest and Best Use	Recreation
Before Value	\$94,000.00
After Value	\$91,113.62
Fair Compensation for the Proposed Transmission Line Easement (Rounded)	\$2,900.00

Parcel #2 Allotment #431 R75	
Legal Description	Lot 1 of Section 6, T38N-R8W
Location	Township of Couderay, Sawyer County, Wisconsin
Tract Size	34.97 acres
Access	Access from State Highway 27/70, telephone and electric utility services are not directly available.
Land Cover	Moderately-stocked northern hardwood poletimber
Land Quality	All upland
Water Features	No significant water features
Zoning	F1 – Forestry
Acquisition	3.03 acres
Highest and Best Use	Recreation
Before Value	\$48,958.00
After Value	\$46,837.00
Fair Compensation for the Proposed Transmission Line Easement (Rounded)	\$2,150.00

Parcel #3 Allotment #431 R75A	
Legal Description	Lot 2 of Section 6, T38N-R8W
Location	Township of Couderay, Sawyer County, Wisconsin
Tract Size	36.43 acres
Access	Access from Right of Way Road and Butler Road, telephone and electric utility services are not directly available.
Land Cover	Moderately-stocked northern hardwood poletimber
Land Quality	All upland
Water Features	No significant water features
Zoning	F1 – Forestry
Acquisition	0.275 acre
Highest and Best Use	Recreation
Before Value	\$51,002.00
After Value	\$50,809.50
Fair Compensation for the Proposed Transmission Line Easement (Rounded)	\$200.00

Parcel #4 Allotment #431 R71	
Legal Description	Lot 6 of Section 5, T38N-R8W
Location	Township of Couderay, Sawyer County, Wisconsin
Tract Size	40 acres
Access	No public road access, telephone and electric utility services are not available.
Land Cover	All forested with 15 to 20 year old aspen saplings.
Land Quality	All upland
Water Features	No significant water features
Zoning	F1 – Forestry
Acquisition	1.033 acres
Highest and Best Use	Recreation
Before Value	\$47,000.00
After Value	\$46,393.12
Fair Compensation for the Proposed Transmission Line Easement (Rounded)	\$650.00

Parcel #5 Allotment #431 6F68	
Legal Description	N½SE¼ of Section 36, T39N-R9W
Location	Township of Sand Lake, Sawyer County, Wisconsin
Tract Size	80 acres
Access	No public road access, telephone and electric utility services are not available.
Land Cover	All forested with northern hardwood sawtimber over northern hardwood poletimber
Land Quality	95 percent upland
Water Features	No significant water features
Zoning	F1 – Forestry
Acquisition	6.565 acres
Highest and Best Use	Recreation
Before Value	\$140,000.00
After Value	\$134,255.63
Fair Compensation for the Proposed Transmission Line Easement (Rounded)	\$5,750.00

Parcel #6 Allotment #431 6B148	
Legal Description	SE¼SE¼ of Section 4, T38N-R8W
Location	Township of Couderay, Sawyer County, Wisconsin
Tract Size	40 acres
Access	No direct road access or access to utility services.
Land Cover	Moderately-stocked northern hardwood poletimber
Land Quality	All upland
Water Features	No significant water features
Zoning	F1 – Forestry
Acquisition	1.524 acres
Highest and Best Use	Recreation
Before Value	\$49,000.00
After Value	\$48,066.55
Fair Compensation for the Proposed Transmission Line Easement (Rounded)	\$950.00

Parcel #7 Allotment #431 Q5	
Legal Description	Lot 2 of Section 5, T38N-R8W
Location	Township of Couderay, Sawyer County, Wisconsin
Tract Size	64.56 acres
Access	Access from State Highway 27/70, telephone and electric utility services are not directly available.
Land Cover	84 percent forested, primarily with northern hardwood and aspen poletimber, along with scattered conifers.
Land Quality	84 percent upland
Water Features	Surette Creek runs through the property
Zoning	F1 – Forestry
Acquisition	3.535 acres
Highest and Best Use	Recreation
Before Value	\$80,700.00
After Value	\$78,490.63
Fair Compensation for the Proposed Transmission Line Easement (Rounded)	\$2,250.00

Parcel #8 Allotment #431 TTR147	
Legal Description	Part of the N½ of the SW¼ of Section 31, T39N-R8W
Location	Township of Sand Lake, Sawyer County, Wisconsin
Tract Size	78.61 acres
Access	No public road access, telephone and electric utility services are not available.
Land Cover	Almost all forested with northern hardwood sawtimber over northern hardwood poletimber.
Land Quality	88 percent upland
Water Features	±1,400 feet of mostly wetland frontage on the Couderay River
Zoning	F1 – Forestry
Acquisition	1.263 acres
Highest and Best Use	Recreation
Before Value	\$192,594.40
After Value	\$191,047.33
Fair Compensation for the Proposed Transmission Line Easement (Rounded)	\$1,550.00

Parcel #9 Allotment #431 TT6B104	
Legal Description	N½ of the SE¼ of Section 4, T38N-R8W
Location	Township of Couderay, Sawyer County, Wisconsin
Tract Size	80 acres
Access	Access from Smith Road, telephone and electric utility services are not directly available.
Land Cover	80 percent forested, with stands of northern hardwood poletimber, 20 percent consists of lowland grass.
Land Quality	86 percent upland
Water Features	±1,450 feet of lowland, center thread frontage on Devils Creek
Zoning	F1 – Forestry
Acquisition	5.096 acres
Highest and Best Use	Recreation
Before Value	\$108,000.00
After Value	\$104,560.02
Fair Compensation for the Proposed Transmission Line Easement (Rounded)	\$3,450.00

Parcel #10 Allotment #431 TT98	
Legal Description	NE ¹ / ₄ SW ¹ / ₄ and the SW ¹ / ₄ NE ¹ / ₄ of Section 36, T39N-R9W
Location	Township of Sand Lake, Sawyer County, Wisconsin
Tract Size	80 acres
Access	No public road access, telephone and electric utility services are not available.
Land Cover	Almost all forested with northern hardwood sawtimber over northern hardwood poletimber
Land Quality	Nearly all upland
Water Features	No significant water features
Zoning	F1 – Forestry
Acquisition	1.515 acres
Highest and Best Use	Recreation
Before Value	\$140,000.00
After Value	\$138,674.38
Fair Compensation for the Proposed Transmission Line Easement (Rounded)	\$1,350.00

Parcel #11 Allotment #431 TT6H99	
Legal Description	E½ of the SW¼ of Section 4, T38N-R8W
Location	Township of Couderay, Sawyer County, Wisconsin
Tract Size	80 acres
Access	Access from State Highway 27/70 and River Road, telephone and electric utility services are not available.
Land Cover	46 percent productive forest cover, the remaining land cover is areas of lowland grass.
Land Quality	46 percent upland
Water Features	No significant water features
Zoning	F1 – Forestry
Acquisition	1.584 acres
Highest and Best Use	Recreation
Before Value	\$76,000.00
After Value	\$75,247.60
Fair Compensation for the Proposed Transmission Line Easement (Rounded)	\$800.00

Parcel #12 Allotment #431 TT613	
Legal Description	Lot 5 of Section 5, T38N-R8W
Location	Township of Couderay, Sawyer County, Wisconsin
Tract Size	40 acres
Access	No public road access, telephone and electric utility services are not available.
Land Cover	82 percent forested with northern hardwood, aspen and fir-spruce poletimber and 18 percent with aspen saplings.
Land Quality	Nearly all upland
Water Features	No significant water features
Zoning	F1 – Forestry
Acquisition	3.283 acres
Highest and Best Use	Recreation
Before Value	\$50,000.00
After Value	\$47,948.13
Fair Compensation for the Proposed Transmission Line Easement (Rounded)	\$2,100.00

Parcel #13 Allotment #431 TT2030	
Legal Description	Lot 3 of Section 5, T38N-R8W
Location	Township of Couderay, Sawyer County, Wisconsin
Tract Size	40 acres
Access	Access from State Highway 27/70, telephone and electric utility services are not directly available.
Land Cover	63 percent lowland grass and lowland brush, remainder poor quality lowland hardwoods and swamp conifers.
Land Quality	54 percent upland
Water Features	Frontage on Surette Creek
Zoning	F1 – Forestry
Acquisition	0.050 acre
Highest and Best Use	Recreation
Before Value	\$34,000.00
After Value	\$33,978.75
Fair Compensation for the Proposed Transmission Line Easement (Rounded)	\$50.00

Submitted By:



Edward F. Steigerwaldt, ACF
Wisconsin Certified General Appr. #293



Lee A. Steigerwaldt, ACF
Wisconsin Certified General Appr. #1516

STEIGERWALDT LAND SERVICES, INC.

Exhibit #1

**Aerial Photograph of
Appraised Properties**

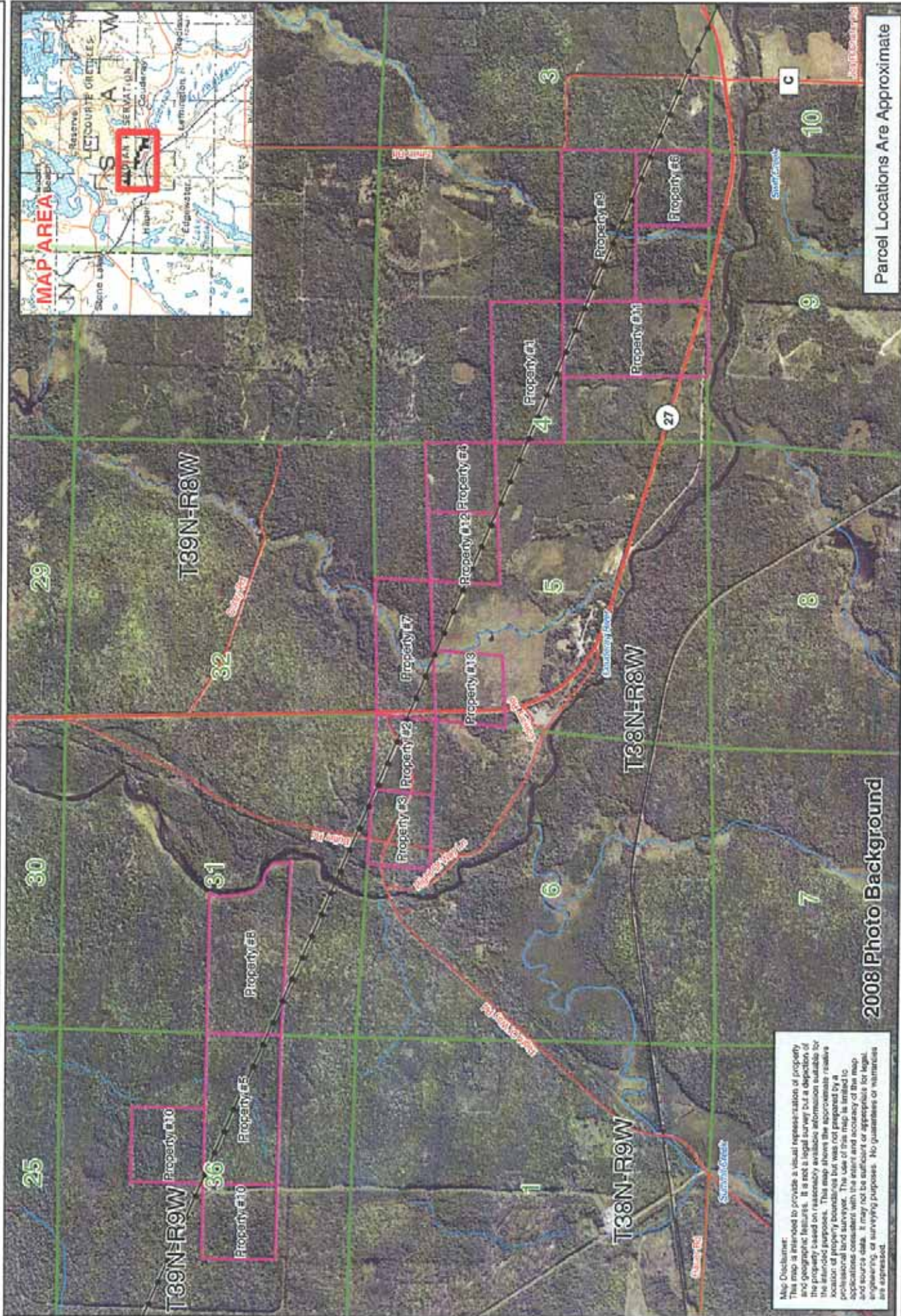


Xcel Energy
Lac Courte Oreilles
ROW Appraisal Subject Properties
Sawyer Co., Wisconsin



November 2010

0 660 1,320 2,640 Feet



Map Disclaimer:
This map is intended to provide a visual representation of property and geographic features. It is not a legal survey but a depiction of the property based on reasonably available information available for the intended purposes. This map shows the approximate relative location of property boundaries but was not prepared by a professional land surveyor. The use of this map is limited to applications consistent with the intent and accuracy of the map and source data. It may not be sufficient or appropriate for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. No guarantees or warranties are expressed.

2008 Photo Background

Parcel Locations Are Approximate

Appendix F-2
Public Correspondence



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

January 14, 2011

Landowner Name

Address

Address

RE: Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission
Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Resident,

Xcel Energy is in the process of preparing a certificate of public convenience and need application (CPCN) for the proposed Stone Lake to Radisson/Couderay 69 kilovolt (kV) rebuild and 161 kV upgrade Transmission Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin, see attached map. The proposed Project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations in your area to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV link. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. The attached map shows the route segments currently under review.

Xcel Energy will host the first round of Open Houses in the Project Area for the general public at the beginning of February. The purpose of these meetings is to provide information about the proposed project, answer your questions, and collect your suggestions and comments. All meetings will provide the same information in open house format; Xcel Energy staff will be available at all meetings. In addition, Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO) Tribal Governing Board Leadership will be available at the LCO Casino Open House to answer LCO specific questions. The schedule of open houses is below; there will be an afternoon meeting and an early evening meeting each day to accommodate busy schedules:

Tuesday, February 1, 2011
1:30-4:00PM or 6:30-9:00PM
Veteran's Community Center
10534 S Main St
Hayward, WI 54843

Wednesday, February 2, 2011
1:30-4:00PM or 6:00-8:30PM
LCO Casino
13767 West County Road B
Hayward, WI 54843

Thursday, February 3, 2011
1:30-4:00PM or 6:00-8:30PM
Radisson Community Center
3795 N Clark
Radisson WI, 54867

Xcel Energy is dedicated to working with all the communities and landowners in proximity to our potential route and segment alternatives. It is our goal to provide timely information, address questions and concerns, and collaborate with the public and permitting authorities throughout the transmission line siting and construction process. Please feel free to contact me as we move through the permitting process.

If you are unable to make the proposed meetings and would still like to learn about the Project, I can be reached at 612-330-6512 or raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com, or you can contact Dawn Schultz in our Eau Claire office at 715-737-2486. The Project Team and I are looking forward to meeting you.

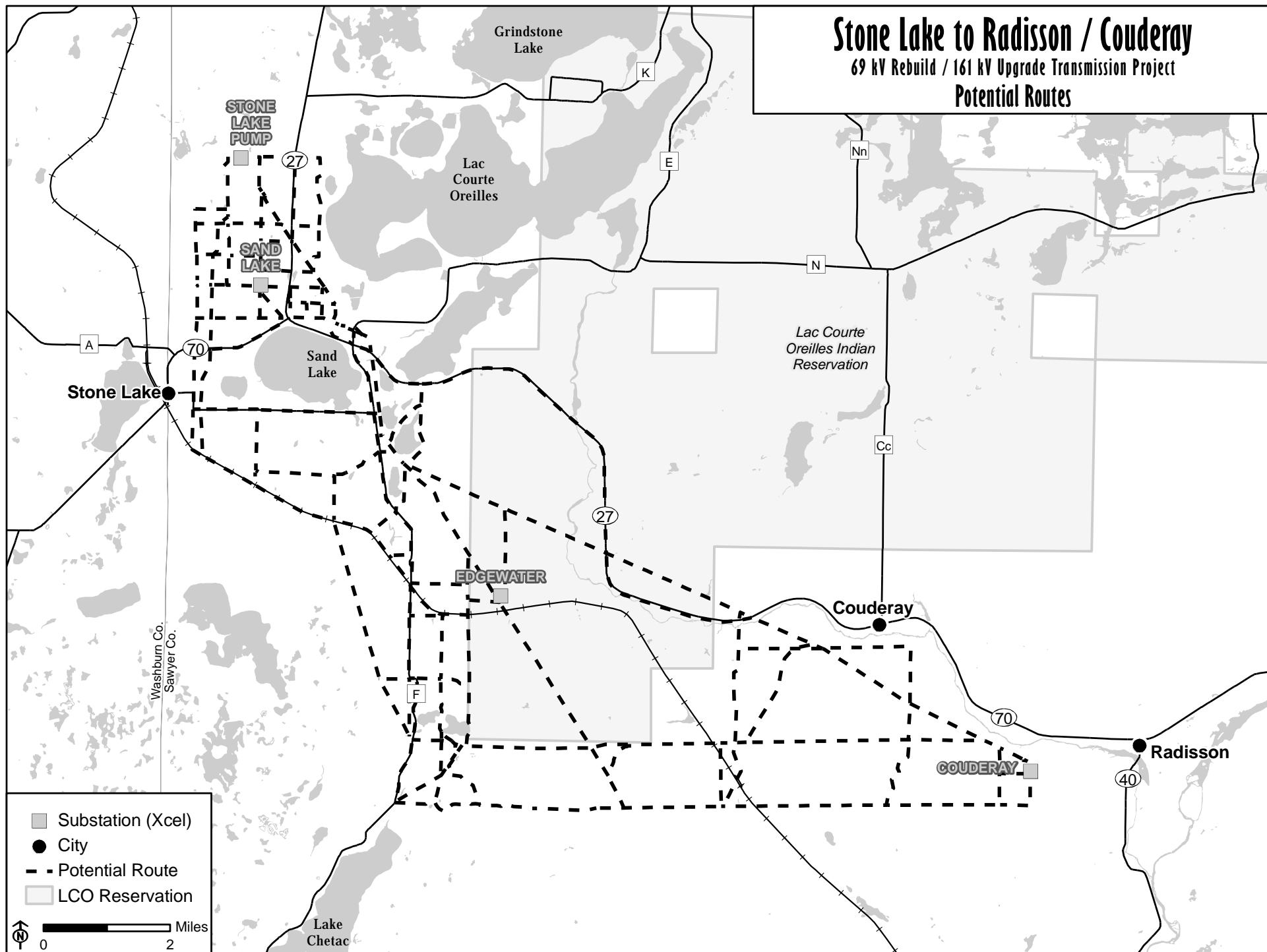
Sincerely,

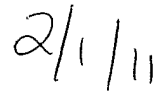
RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst
Enclosure: Project Location Map

Stone Lake to Radisson / Couderay

69 kV Rebuild / 161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project

Potential Routes





PLEASE SIGN IN

[illegible]

2/1/11

Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

PLEASE SIGN IN

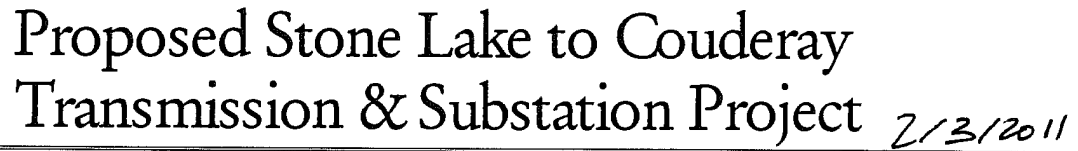
NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	REPRESENTING
Thomas Manthe	15699 W Park Rd	865-2437	Self
Lonna "	Stone Lake	"	Landowner
Bob Clark	15212 W Highway 5, L.	865-3037	Self
FRED Zietlow	PO 13324 HAYWARD	715-296-6589	Co. BOARD
Tom Klaseff	1201 500 Blvd Rice Lake, WI	715-254-8380	Self
* Dick Schtzak	Ashland		Xcel Energy
Ernest Marlinton	15865 Guard St Apt 102	715-634-8575	Self
Alice Reinicke	609 IN West Shore Trn.	Stone Lake	
BARBARA LYMAN	1595 W COLB HAY.	715-034-2081	Self & husband
Janet Rowney	5140 N County Rd Stone Lake F	715-865-4681	Self
Vivian Klops	Hwy 27-70 Stone Lake	715-483-6747	Self
Vernon Stralder	Hwy 27-70 Stone Lake	715-866-5207	
Egan Hregg	5508 N Pine Ln Stone Lake	715-865-2304	
Bearado KADLEC	6465 N KADLEC Stone Lake WI	865-5045	
Russ Kolbend	7102 N Boylen Stone Lake WI	715-558-3483	Self
Tennell Boettchen	15733 Illinois Ave	715-674-4881	Surgeon Dr. Reunert



Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay
Transmission & Substation Project 2/3/2011

PLEASE SIGN IN

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	REPRESENTING
Mary Bane	12901 N Afferton	715-945-2315	self
Wm. Chafin	12796 W Chafin Rd	715-945-2837	self
Mitchell Sajdera	11288 W. Polish Rd.	715-945-2578	self
Jim's Leslee Wadyski	¹²⁶⁴³ W. ST RD 2190	715-945-2238	self
Roger Stuppen	NT042 Hanson Rd Hawkins	715-585-2349	Self
Shannon Betold	3885 N. Old Couderay Rd	715 945-3476	self
John Kratz	15710 W St 27/70		
Tom Ruckert	3160	Blackwood	self
Denny White		Radisson	"
*Sue Jenny Dechney	3465 N CTY RD C EXELAND	715-945-3247	self
Joe Sjoberg	11326 W POLISH RD RADISSON	715-945-2243	
Tony Benik	2721 14th AVE Rice Lake	54868 715-859-2280	
Jackie Wyer	986 SW Railroad	Ojibwa 715 945 2728	
PHIL MILES	12216 W JOHNSON	COUDERAY 945-2307	

[illegible]

2/3/2011

PLEASE SIGN IN

[illegible]



414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

1-800-895-4999
xcelenergy.com

April 22, 2011

Landowner Name

Address

Address

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Resident,

Xcel Energy is in the process of preparing a certificate of public convenience and need application (CPCN) for the proposed Stone Lake to Couderay 69 kilovolt (kV) rebuild and 161 kV upgrade Transmission Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed Project would upgrade the existing transmission line linkage between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations in your area to 161 kV, while maintaining the existing 69 kV link. This Project will serve the growing need in the area and support the area's transmission system. The attached map shows the three route alternatives currently under review by Xcel Energy.

Xcel Energy will host the second round of Open Houses in the Project Area for the general public the second week of May. The purpose of these meetings is to provide information about the proposed project in an informal setting, answer your questions, and collect your suggestions and comments. All meetings listed below will provide the same information in open house format:

Wednesday, May 11, 2011
1:30-4:00PM or 6:30-9:00PM
Veteran's Community Center
10534 S Main St
Hayward, WI 54843

Thursday, May 12, 2011
1:30-4:00PM or 6:00-8:30PM
Radisson Community Center
3795 N Clark
Radisson WI, 54867

Saturday, May 14, 2011
10:30AM – 2:00PM
Flat Creek Eatery
10290 N Hwy 27S
Hayward WI, 54843

There will be no formal presentation at these open house meetings; Xcel Energy staff will be available to answer questions and informational handouts will be provided. Please feel free to show up at any time during any of the above meeting times.

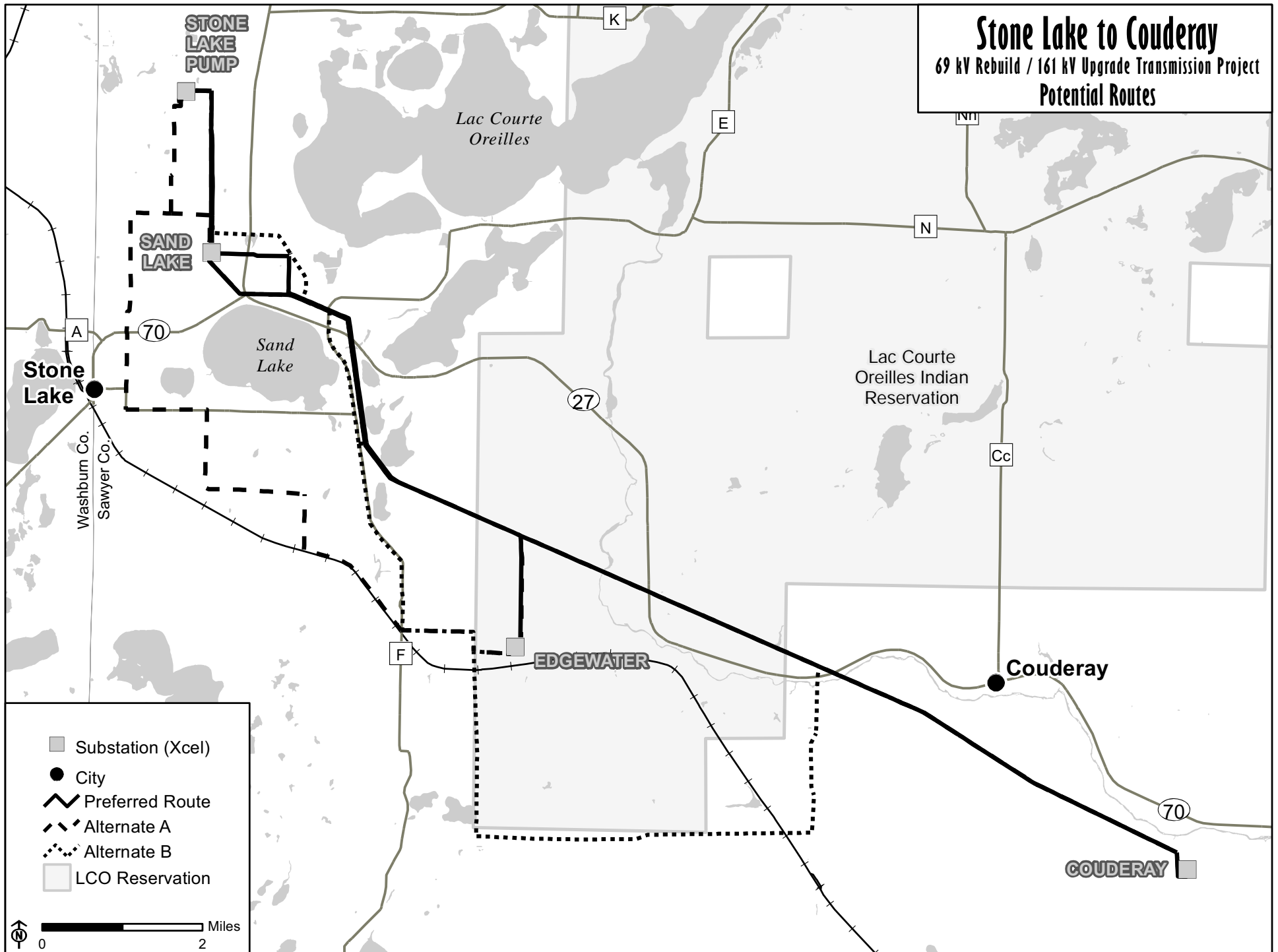
Xcel Energy is dedicated to working with all the communities and landowners in proximity to our potential route alternatives. It is our goal to provide timely information, address questions and concerns, and collaborate with the public and permitting authorities throughout the transmission line siting and construction process. Please feel free to contact me as we move through the permitting process.

These Open Houses are one of several opportunities for you to share your comments throughout the permitting process. Upon submittal of the CPCN application to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin you will have additional opportunities to share any comments or concerns with the Commission and with Xcel Energy. If you are unable to make the proposed meetings and would still like to learn about the Project, I can be reached at 612-330-6512 or raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com, or you can contact Dawn Schultz in our Eau Claire office at 715-737-2486. The Project Team and I are looking forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

RaeLynn Asah, Permitting Analyst

Enclosure: Attachment 1: Route Alternative Map



news

School board, unions approve 1-year contracts

By Terrell Boettcher
News Editor

Meeting in special session Monday, the Hayward Community School District Board of Education approved new one-year contracts with the Northwest United Educators (NWUE) representing 146 district teachers and with the Teamsters General Drivers Union Local 346 representing custodial staff.

In an open session following an executive session, the board voted 4-3 to approve both contracts. Voting in favor of the new contracts were Mark Kelley, Don Senier, Douglas Monek and Dr. Harry Malcolm. Voting against them were Shirley Armstrong, Lynell Swenson

and Bill Johnson.

The contracts take effect this July 1. They include a 1.6 percent wage or salary increase, equal to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Also, the district will pay the employer share of the Wisconsin Retirement Fund contribution for eligible employees. It will provide one health insurance plan per family and will contribute 87.4 percent of the premium for full-time employees. The contribution will be pro-rated for part-time employees. The district will provide one dental insurance plan per family and contribute 100 percent of the premium for full-time employees.

Under the 2011-12 contract, a teacher with a bachelor's degree and no experience will receive a salary of \$31,738. The maximum for a teacher with a master's degree plus 32 credits and at least 15 years of teaching experience is \$58,254. The maximum for a teacher with an educational specialty degree/doctor of philosophy degree is \$60,146.

"It's a good deal for the district, for everyone involved," said NWUE member Mike Churchill. "Obviously, concessions were made. But in the end, the number one goal is to continue to have an excellent school district, to maintain quality education, and I think this deal does that."

"There was a lot of hard

work put in on both sides, a spirit of working together," Churchill added. "I want to say thank you to all the board members and Mr. (Mike) Cox and Mr. (Craig) Olson. It's a deal that is going to continue to provide quality education for kids in this district."

"Every district is having to

deal with funding issues," Churchill added. "We wanted to keep class sizes low, keep quality teachers in the classroom."

"The way we worked together on this was fabulous," he said. The board is committed to continuing to make this a great place to send your kids to school. We

have a lot of good teachers in this district, and a lot of community members who are doing a lot of good things to make sure this stays a place that provides a quality education. Even if I weren't a teacher, I would want to send my kids here."

Cable Area Food shelf opens May 26

The Cable Area Food Shelf — an affiliation of the BRICK Ministries in Ashland, the local Cable area churches and Cable Area Resources in Emergencies (CARE) — will officially open on May 26.

The new food shelf which serves the communities of Cable, Drummond, Grand View and Namakagon will

be open on the fourth Thursday of each month from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. It is located on the lower level of the Cable Professional Building on the corner of Hwy. 63 and Spruce St.

There will be a number of convenient drop off sites for donations to the food shelf: St. Ann's Catholic Church, United

Church of Christ, Trinity Lutheran Church, Living Hope Community Church, State Bank of Drummond-Cable branch, Randeau's Shopping Center, Grand View Food & Fuel, Bear Country, and the Drummond Library.

For more information contact Deb Pyne at 798-3066.

Cranberry Festival wants Stone Lake school property

By Terrell Boettcher
News Editor

The Stone Lake Cranberry Festival Committee has asked the Hayward Community School District to transfer the Stone Lake Elementary School building and adjacent school-owned property to a local nonprofit organization for use as a community center.

The school will be closed permanently after the last day of classes on June 3. Speaking on behalf of the Cranberry Festival Committee, Shirley Armstrong told the Board of Education's Facilities Committee Monday that over the past 40 years, the committee has raised a lot of money which it has given back to the community.

The school has housed vendors during Cranberry Fest. Last year, the Festival Committee purchased a four-acre lot next to the school to ensure continued

parking for the event. If the committee is able to acquire the two acres owned by the school, that would guarantee access to the property they already own without the added cost of installing a new roadway, said festival board member Sharon Paine.

"We are proud of the work we do and are always seeking new ways to expand what we offer to our community and other local non-profit organizations," Paine said. "With the acquisition of the Stone Lake School, we would be able to operate a community center that would be open to our local citizens in use to host special events, fundraisers and ensure the continued success of the Cranberry Festival. It is our hope to keep the facility open as a fixture in our community, something we can all be proud of."

The Festival Committee wants to find out the cost to

heat, maintain and insure the building, Armstrong said. The Festival Committee will ask the Town of Sand Lake to partner in the effort, she indicated.

The Facilities Committee postponed action on the request until its June 6 meeting, when the Cranberry Fest Committee expects to present a more detailed proposal. The Facilities Committee then would make a recommendation to the full board.

Also on Monday, the facilities committee voted to advertise for bids on the old Work Force Development Center building behind the high school. It can be moved, said Buildings and Grounds Director Dave Disera. It would cost the district money to demolish it, he added.

The board also recommended that a firm be hired to inspect the bleachers in all the school gyms.

To The Hayward Primary School Staff
With gratitude and praise for your hard work
and dedication to the little people
we love so much!

THANK YOU!

The Members of the
Parent Advisory Committee



YOU'RE INVITED TO AN OPEN HOUSE ABOUT A TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Wednesday, May 11	Thursday, May 12	Saturday, May 14
1:30 - 4 p.m. or 8:30 - 9 p.m. Watson's Community Center 10504 S. Main St. Hayward	1:30 - 4 p.m. or 8 - 10:30 p.m. Radisson Community Center 2795 N. Clark St. Radisson	10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Flat Creek Eatery 10296 N. Hwy 27 S. Hayward

Xcel Energy needs to upgrade the existing transmission line between the Stone Lake and Coulteray substations to meet customers' growing electricity needs. The map below shows three route alternatives currently under review. We invite the public to any of the open house events to learn more about the project and provide input to help us identify a suitable line route.

Representatives from Xcel Energy will have detailed maps and be available to answer your questions about the proposed project throughout the open house. There will not be a formal presentation. Public input is very important to us, so please plan to join us.

If you are unable to attend and have questions, please contact Raelyn Asah at 612-330-6512 or raelyn.asah@xcelenergy.com.



All Community Easter Egg Hunt & Games

THANK YOU to all who made the 2011 All Community Easter Egg Hunt & Games a success!!

Major Sponsors:
Johnson Bank, WHSM Radio, Lynne Marie's Candies, Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame, Marketplace Foods, Wal-Mart, Chippewa Valley Bank, Hayward Area Memorial Hospital, Northern Lakes Coop, Peoples Bank of Wisconsin

Business Sponsors:
Dairy Queen, Woodland Developments and Realty, Flat Creek Eatery, Hidden Bay, Lori's Card & Gift, Hayward Area Chamber of Commerce

Additional Thanks:
Sawyer County Record, Sawyer County Ambulance Service, Hayward Police Department, Troop 70 Hayward Boy Scouts, Northwest Connections Family Resources, Mark Simino

And all the wonderful volunteers who make this event happen!

May 11, 2011

SAWYER COUNTY RECORD/HAYWARD, WI.

9A

news

It's a close shave for Famous Dave on 'Best in Smoke'

By Paul Mitchell
Managing Editor

For Famous Dave Anderson and his friends, family and fans, Sunday night's premiere of "Best in Smoke" on the Food Network was a real rib-fest.

Six barbecue guests went head-to-head, cooking up barbecue on an outdoor set near New York City in this elimination-style reality series. Contestants are eliminated one-by-one until the winner is named "Best in Smoke" and awarded \$50,000.

On the first episode, it looked as if Famous Dave would be the first to pack up his smoker and go home.

In the first challenge, titled "Best Bite," competitors were told to cook up a single bite of great barbecue for the judges; one bite was all judges would be allowed to experience.

"I thought that was a piece of cake," Anderson said. "I'll have no problem fixing up something tasty."

Anderson's confidence was dealt a blow, however, when show host Bryan Caswell informed the competitors that they would have to run a block to a refrigerated truck to choose

the meat they would use for their dish — first come, first served.

What viewers didn't know, however, was that Anderson had fallen off a ladder the day before and was walking around on a shivered ankle and a banged up knee. He couldn't run.

"Plus the fact that my competition was about half my age, and I was the oldest competitor on the set nearing age 60," Anderson said. "It was like we were doomed right from the get go."

By the time Anderson made it to the truck, the other competitors had made their choices and he was left with a large pork loin.

"I was left with the biggest piece of meat which was almost an impossible task to slow smoke," he said. "A big pork loin like this should take 12 hours to smoke over smoldering coals, and we only had 4 hours."

After cooking on the fly in 90-degree heat, Anderson and teammate Charlie Torgerson, executive chef and director of culinary at Famous Dave's of America, Inc., failed to wow the judges with their first en-

try, a smoked pork loin chop with peach glaze, served with a side of jalapeno corn bread and beans. They received the lowest score, setting them up for elimination.

What viewers don't know, Anderson said, was that the judges didn't try his dish for almost two hours after it was ready.

"In the interim heat my beautiful peach glaze melted and turned into a puddle, which the hot, smoky pork chop sucked up. That's what sound the judges on my first entry."

Anderson's dish scored the lowest.

"I can't begin to tell you all the anguish, embarrassment and intense fear of loss that was running through my mind," Anderson said. "I had just let down all my family and friends and I couldn't begin to comprehend how many Famous Dave's loyal raving fans were watching me crash on national TV."

Anguish turned to hope, however, when Anderson was surprised with a chance to redeem himself through a second challenge: Each contestant was to prepare an appetizer to be served that night at an art gallery open-

ing. Once again, the contestants had to run for the meat truck. And again, Anderson got there last and was left with a large loin roast.

"Next round we made a beautiful smoked loin, thinly sliced over toast points and served with a drizzle of blackberry barbecue sauce, and then sprinkled with goat cheese and thinly sliced fresh mint. It was a tasty winner and the art gallery socialites all loved it."

The judges scored the contestants on the second challenge and Anderson had, in fact, redeemed himself. Anderson's score on the second round pulled him out of the bottom two and left him to compete in the next episode.

"Hopefully everyone watches and continues to cheer me on, as we still have a tough row to hoe coming up," Anderson said. "Things don't get easier, and there are interesting twists and turns we encounter on the next episode of the Food Network's 'Best in Smoke.'"

The next episode, "Child's Play," airs Sunday, May 15 at 8 p.m. on Food Network.

Famous Dave shares some behind the scenes tidbits

• The first day of filming was 15 hours long, in 90-degree heat.

• Competitors are not paid by Food Network, except for the winner who takes home the \$50,000 prize. If Anderson wins, he stated that the prize money will go to a charitable organization.

• Competitors had to meet in their hotel lobby by 4 a.m., be on set by 5 a.m., and returned to the hotel at 11 p.m.

• Competitors are not allowed to talk to one another in the hotel; they could only talk on the set.

• Watching the show air Sunday night was the first time the competitors heard the judges' comments about the other contestants and saw the food the others had prepared.

• Each team had their own cameraman; Anderson's was named Chaz. "He must have been an amazing athlete as he had to hold that heavy camera on his shoulder the whole day," Dave said, "and he had his own assistant who constantly fed him new replacement video packs."

• The rain that viewers

see on the show was actually a torrential downpour "with huge lightning bolts, that turned the entire sky pitch black during mid-afternoon." The entire outdoor set was flooded, and producers were afraid contestants would be hit by lightning if they stayed near their smokers.

• The barbecue masters were fed catered food during the shoot. The food was so bad, Anderson said, that he and his partner Charlie Torgerson didn't eat it... "surprising for a Food Network show."

• When serving their appetizers at the art gallery, Anderson said the guests kept coming back again and again. "I think we were one of the few constants that had absolutely nothing left after the filming stopped. It was funny because you could tell the cameramen were hungry, and they had seen the guests making frequent return trips to our stand and were almost begging to see if we had any more appetizers left."

• After being on set for 15 hours, the loser has to clear all equipment off set and be gone before filming resumes the next morning at 5 a.m.

dylon hart from page 1A

Dylan Hart, 15, of Duluth, where he receives speech, physical and occupational therapy six days a week, from 6 to 7 a.m. when the sun is up and 3:30 p.m. He also sees a psychologist.

Dylon remembers nothing about the accident, Prochaska said, and slowly they have been explaining to him what happened.

"We told him that he was following all the rules that day. We want him to know it wasn't his fault," Prochaska said.

Prochaska, Mike and Dylon's 16-month-old brother Michael have been staying at the Best Western in Duluth. They plan to relocate to Superior because Dylon will have to continue outpatient therapy in Duluth.

Prochaska is uncertain if Dylon will repeat second grade or go on to third grade in the fall.

"I hate to rip him out of the community here, but he has to get his care up there," she said.

"My whole life has been turned upside down," she said, explaining that her emotions these days include a little of everything — gratitude, grief, hope and fear.

Dylon is in good spirits, although his social worker said he has some loneliness because there are no other children around him, Prochaska said.

Prochaska said she is overwhelmed by the support and generosity the commu-

nity, the schools, Sawyer County Health and Human Services, the churches and everyone has shown. She said that the LCD School set up a big pork loin for Dylon; the Hayward schools had what they called "Miracle Minute" to see how much money they could raise in a minute, and many people have donated to the special Dylon Hart Fund set up at Johnson Bank.

"I want to thank everybody and anybody who even had a thought about Dylon," Prochaska said.

The day after his release, on Friday, May 20 from 4-8

p.m. Dylon plans to be present at the jointly-sponsored Northern Lakes Cooperative and Hayward Wesleyan Church benefit called "Hayward Wesleyan Church Dylon Hart," Prochaska said, adding that it's a hum-dinger and silent auction benefit. The dinner is at the Hayward Wesleyan Church. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for ages five-12 and children under 5 are free.

"He's a loved little boy, definitely," said his mom.

YOU'RE INVITED TO AN OPEN HOUSE ABOUT A TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Wednesday, May 11
1:30 - 4 p.m. at
8:30 - 9 p.m.
Wesleyan Community Center
10034 S. Main St.
Hayward

Thursday, May 12
1:30 - 4 p.m. at
8 - 9:30 p.m.
Radisson Community Center
3709 N. Clark St.
Radisson

Saturday, May 14
10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Flat Creek Eatery
10700 N. Hwy 27 E.
Hayward

Xcel Energy needs to upgrade the existing transmission line between the Stone Lake and Coudersville substations to meet customers' growing electricity needs. The map below shows three route alternatives currently under review. We invite the public to any of the open house events to learn more about the project and provide input to help us identify a suitable line route.

Representatives from Xcel Energy will have detailed maps and be available to answer your questions about the proposed project throughout the open house. There will not be a formal presentation. Public input is very important to us, so please plan to join us.

If you are unable to attend and have questions, please contact Raelynn Asah at 612-330-8512 or raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

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- GREASE TRAPS
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- FROZEN LINES THAWED
- SEWER CAM
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Judy Falch, FIC
Financial Associate
15954 River Edge Dr., Ste 211
Hayward, WI 54843
715-634-9238

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For additional important disclosure information, please visit Thrivent.com/disclosures.
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Xcel Energy

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Minnesota Newspaper Association

12 South Sixth St., Suite 1120
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402
Phone: 612-332-8844 Fax: 1-612-342-2958

INVOICE

July 19, 2011

Order: 11052XX0 Invoice# 526

Attn: Stephanie Paulsen
Xcel Energy 233992
1225 17th St.
Denver, Colorado 80202

Advertiser: Xcel Energy 233992
P.O.#: 857900 731850 11284326
Brand: Stone Lake Project

Campaign

Amount Due: \$696.14

Voice: Fax:

Please detach and return this portion with your payment

Xcel Energy 233992 Invoice# 526 P.O.#: 857900 731850 11284326

Run Date	Ad Size	Rate Type	Rate	Color Rate	Total	Discount	(%)	Amount after Discount	Page
WI-Hayward Sawyer County Record (, Wisconsin)									
05/04/2011	31.50	General	\$13.00		\$409.50	\$61.43	(15.00%)	\$348.07	
05/11/2011	31.50	General	\$13.00		\$409.50	\$61.43	(15.00%)	\$348.07	
Subtotal:	63.00		\$26.00	\$0.00	\$819.00	\$122.86		\$696.14	
WI-Lac Courte Oreille Times (LCO) (, Wisconsin)									
05/05/2011	31.50	updated rate	\$353.75		DID NOT RUN	\$0.00	(0.00%)	\$0.00	
Subtotal:	31.50		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
	Gross Advertising		\$819.00	Total Misc	\$0.00	Amount Paid		\$0.00	
	Agency Discount		\$122.86	Tax	\$0.00	Adjustments		\$0.00	
	Other Discount		\$0.00	Total Billed	\$696.14	Payment Date			
	Service Charge		\$0.00	Unbilled	\$0.00	Balance Due		\$696.14	



Minnesota Newspaper Association
12 South Sixth Street Suite 1120
Minneapolis, MN 55402
612-332-8844

Affidavit of Publication

The Minnesota Newspaper Association verifies that the ad for

Stone Lake Project

Ran in the

Hayward Sawyer County Record – May 4 & 11

(ad did not run in Lac Courte Oreille Times due to the paper closed.)

By: [Signature] Network Advertising Manager

Date: 7/29/11

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20 day of July 2011.

Notary: [Signature]

My Commission Expires January 31, 2015





Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

May 11, 2011

PLEASE SIGN IN

[illegible]

Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

July 11, 2011

LANDOWNER
ADDRESS
CITY, STATE, ZIP

RE: Stone Lake to Couderay 69 kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project, Sawyer County, WI

Dear Landowner,

As you are aware, Xcel Energy is in the process of preparing a certificate of public convenience and need application (CPCN) for the proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission Project (Project) in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The proposed Project would upgrade the existing transmission line system between the existing Stone Lake and Couderay substations in your area to 161 kV in addition to the current 69 kV system. In other words, the proposed transmission system would consist of a new 161 kV line in addition to the existing 69 kV line between the aforementioned substations. Attached is a map that shows the proposed route and construction options **in relation to your property**.

Xcel Energy will be hosting **one final opportunity** for the public to comment on our project need, proposed routes, and construction options **prior to the CPCN application submittal**, which is anticipated to occur in mid August. We would greatly appreciate your involvement in the application process. All written comments we receive will be submitted with our application to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission. The Commission uses the public's comments to help reach a decision on the project need, the final route and construction configuration for approval. **Your involvement in the public comment process will help determine the final outcome.**

Please join us and submit your comments prior to application submittal:

Friday, July 22, 2011 3:00-8:30 PM
Hayward Comfort Suites
15586 County B
Hayward, WI 54843

If you have any questions or are unable to make the meeting, please feel free to contact me at 612-330-6512 or raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com. You are also welcome to fill out the enclosed comment form and send into me via mail or email. My colleagues and I look forward to meeting with you on Friday, the 22nd.

Sincerely,
RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst

Enclosures:

- Property map with proposed project
- Comment form
- Structure Option



NORTHERN STATES POWER

Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

July 22, 2011

PLEASE SIGN IN

[illegible]

Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay
 Transmission & Substation Project

July 22, 2011

PLEASE SIGN IN

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	REPRESENTING
Dwight Metcalf	16749W Boylan Rd	715	
Jenny Metcalf	Stone Lake	865-2490	Self
Deepak V. V. V.	Stone Lake	715 865-3046	
Larry Shand	Stone Lake	865/2182	
Joan Ronca	Stone Lake	715 865 6401	Self
Mary Mathis	Stone Lake	715 878 4031	Self
Mary Mathis	Stone Lake	715 878 4031	Self
Ernest & Linda Komperich	Ettrick	608-797-0452 608-797-2159	Self
Richard G. Kauer	5464 W Basswood Stone Lake	715-865-3060	Self
JOE & RENEE SANDERS	11326 W. POLISH RADISSON	715-945-2243	SELF
Allen Mol	1352 140th Ave Balsam Lake WI	715-268-9008	Self
BURZ RITA KASTEN	5381 N City Rd E Stone Lake	715-865-3220	SELF
BERTIE KADUSE	Stone Lake	715-865-5043	
DIDI WITNIK	4525 N SMITH RD COUDERAY, WI 54828	847-380-1824	SELF
	MAILING: 1505 DREWILD DR, 60013 ROUND LAKE BEACH, IL		

Comments From Landowners

From: j b [\[mailto:hillznholzer@yahoo.com\]](mailto:hillznholzer@yahoo.com)

Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2011 3:40 PM

To: Asah, Raelynn S

Subject: Oppose Upgrade Transmission Project for Sawyer County

RaeLynn,

Thank you for taking the time to explain the process for the upgrade of the transmission lines. I would like to express my opposition to all options of the power lines crossing my property. It is my understanding that you have an existing route in which the power lines run and that route should be sufficient for the new lines to be run.

Thank you,

Jon Beckman
President
Hillznholzer LLC
608-712-3444

From: flakemomma@aol.com

To: Asah, Raelynn S

Sent: Tue Feb 01 21:34:18 2011

Subject: Proposed Upgrade Transmission project.

Dear RaeLynn,

My husband and I are completely and totally AGAINST your corporation coming in here and basically raping us of our property value and our trees. I'm sick to death of you huge corporations just waltzing in here and taking whatever you damn well please!

First it's the power company taking 40 feet (20 feet either side of the HUGE power poles) of our property and cutting down our trees. Next comes along the 'great' Enbridge company coming in and cutting down ANOTHER 40 feet of trees on our property with very little compensation.

Now you have the balls to ask us for another 60 feet!!!!!! You'll be cutting every single tree right up to the back of our cabin!!!!!! Our property values have already dropped extremely low because of the first two rapes, then the economy kills us and drops it even further. Now you rotten bastards just think that you can take even more from us and drop the value even more to the point we'll never be able to gain back what we owe on it!

This was suppose to be our dream retirement home. You people have completely destroyed that dream and now even if we wanted to sell it, we could never afford to. We could never get what we owe on it because of the destruction of the property from the first two corporations.

Maybe it's time someone else's area was raped by your corporation. Make your plans to travel some other route - not just the one that's the easiest and most convenient for you!!!

So unless you're willing to pay us \$ 300,000.00 for all of our property - cabin and the full 6.75 acres, FIND ANOTHER AREA TO RUN YOUR DAMN POWER LINE UPGRADE THROUGH!!!!!!

Sincerely hatefully yours,
Jim and Diane Hahn
5944N Cty. Rd F
Stone Lake, WI

P.S. Just because it's not our permanent address at this time doesn't mean that it means any less to us than if it were.

From: Art Punyko [<mailto:artpunyko@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 10:28 PM
To: Asah, Raelynn S
Cc: tomrmueller@yahoo.com; artpunyko@yahoo.com
Subject: Questions about Stone Lake-Radisson Transmission Project

Dear Raelynn

We are not able to make the open house meetings this week because we live in St. Paul. Here are our comments and questions concerning the proposed project. We currently own a lake home on Ham Lake in Sawyer County which is close to the existing 69 kV link.

Comments/Questions

1. What areas have increased electrical loads? What is the justification for the new transmission line? Is it Sawyer county, or elsewhere?
2. Your letter mentions an upgrade to the project to 161 kV, while maintaining the 69kV link. Does this mean that Xcel wants to permanently keep both links?
3. What is the criteria for selecting a route for the new link?
4. Several properties on Ham and Holly Lakes have been negatively affected by the Enbridge pipeline and existing 69 kV link. I would strongly recommend that Xcel find a way to minimize the impact to property values and select more remote routes for the future link. As a friend says, "they aren't making any new lakes". The existing link has negatively impacted property values, adjacent forests and fauna.
5. We are strongly opposed to the new link running on the north and east shore of Ham Lake. It already has the 69 kV link running on the south west portion of the lake. All lake shore properties would be affected. This may sound like "not in my backyard", but there is already a transmission line in my backyard.
6. If the new 161 kV link was installed next to the existing 69 kV link, would more adjacent property have to be "taken" or destroyed in order to implement this?
7. How does Xcel compensate land owners who are affected by the new project?

We look forward to your comments and future notifications on this project.

Sincerely
Art Punyko
Tom Mueller

From: Schultz, Dawn R
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 1:56 PM
To: Asah, Raelynn S
Subject: Stone Lake - Couderay

Hi RaeLynn,

I got a call from a landowner on this project. He is Mark Albertin. His home address is 6542 Bridgeton Manor Ct, Liberty OH 45011. He has property on the north side of Sand Lake. He feels strongly that the 69 line should be routed west & south of the lake so as not to create a bigger impact on those areas where a line is already routed. I told him we'd make note of his feedback. Let me know if you need anything else. Thanks!

Dawn Schultz
Xcel Energy | Responsible By Nature
CapX2020
Siting & Land Rights Technician
1414 W Hamilton Ave, PO Box 8 Eau Claire, WI 54702
P: 715-737-2486 **F:** 715-737-5435
E: dawn.schultz@xcelenergy.com

From: Don & Sherry Melander [<mailto:sherrydonm@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2011 6:09 PM

To: Asah, Raelynn S

Subject: Stone Lake - Courderay Power Transmission Project, Sawyer County, Wisconsin

Sorry, I was sending this to excelenergy instead of xcelenergy on May14-15 so it never went thru to you. Tho late, please consider this letter. A reply would be appreciated also.

Got your notification letter. Yow!! After putting in a new line a year or 2 ago you need an upgrade already??? We live near the power line on Ham Lake and Holly Lake. It's been hit hard these last 10 years putting up with the construction of with 2 buried oil lines and then new transmission poles. How many times must our small area be subjected to this ?? Put yourself in our shoes for a minute, now if you personally had a cabin/house along this particular route, would you like another project to go in in the exact same area again - especially if we remain unconvinced that the local area really needs more power?? Besides the mess of construction, the power lines are **not** a beautiful sight along 2 picturesque lakes: AND the power lines already "crackle" in humid weather so we're constantly reminded they are there. How about another area taking the "hit" for the community this time??

From the map provided, the "Preferred Route" goes along several lakes near the Sand Lake area as does "Alternate B". Alternate A seems to go thru more farm and less homes and less recreational areas than the other so "Alternate A" seems better or another route could be easily be developed from the Edgewater Station up to the Stone Lake Station.. I beg you please, *please*, **please** consider another route than through the Hungry Lake, Ham Lake, Holly Lake, Upper Holly Lake, and Sand Lake route. We've been hit hard enough already!!! Spread the "joy" around to other residents??

Forgive me for being more than a little "miffed" about this. I hope you understand and can still answer a couple questions: Is this the same line that new lines and metal poles were just installed a year or 2 ago on Ham and Holly Lakes?? Why the big need for 133% increase in power line capacity now?? I mean, The housing market hasn't increased much the past couple years? **Or is this part of a bigger picture - part of a power grid providing electricity elsewhere (out of state)?? Also, what % of this power will be wholly dedicated to local use?**

Don Melander
[651-697-0660](tel:651-697-0660)



Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name: JIM HILL
Address: 210 PHIPPS FIFTH ST
PALMER IL,
Representing

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

N 12 1/4 S 10 T 38 N R 17 W
CHAFER

My comments regarding this project are:

PLEASE SEND PACKET
OF HANDOUTS
UNABLE TO ATTEND P.M.

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail



Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:
Address:
Representing

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

My comments regarding this project are:

Douglas Decora
715-699-9217 - Cathy (Mom)
~~Check Meter Accuracy~~

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy

Area has 1 property owner
 possibly move line east to dotted line.



Rhoda Knight
 16705 W Boylan Rd.
 715 865 5204
 Representing
 Metcalf Farms

Names:

Lori Taguma

~~Lori~~ ~~Taguma~~

lori@taguma.com

lori@taguma.com

715 634 5090

Solar connections wind other w-gen info

EMF

Vivian Knapp

P.O. Box 671

New Richmond, MO 64017

H. 715-246-3641 - 651-303-7902 cel - W 651-483-6747

INTERESTED IN USING OUR ML METAL
FOR EMF

ATV Trail Co-Permit

Don Mrotek

715-7034-8458

clonmrotek@webtv.net

PO Box 605

Hayward 945413



Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Pamela Lisk & Geraldine Lisk
Address:	P.O. Box 706
	Hayward, WI 54843
Representing	Property Owners

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

My comments regarding this project are:

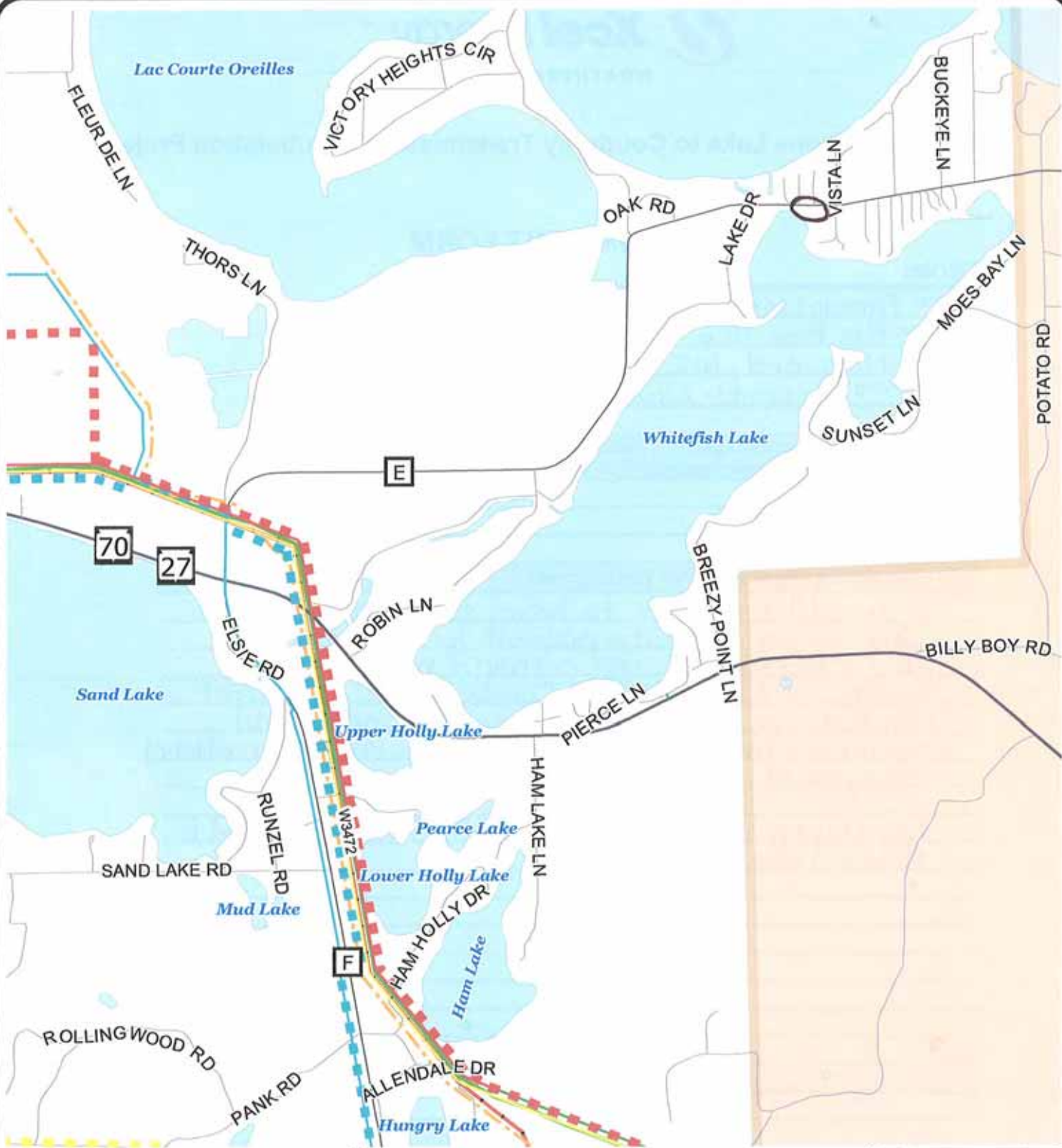
I would not like to have this Transmission Line moved from its present location. I live on County Road E; one corner of my property fronts on White Lane & County Road E. I don't think there is enough easement and would seriously impact property values and recreational enjoyment.

My physical address is 14831W County Road E, Stone Lake, WI 54876

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail



Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission Line Project

May Open House

Route Options

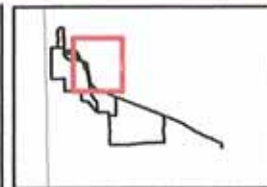
- Preferred Route 161 kV
- Preferred Route 69 kV
- Preferred Route 161/69 kV
- Alternate Route A 161 kV
- Alternate Route A 69 kV
- Alternate Route A 161/69 kV
- Alternate Route B 161 kV
- Alternate Route B 69 kV
- Alternate Route B 161/69 kV

Transmission Line

- 69 kV
- 161 kV
- 345 kV
- Substation

Buildings

- Home
- Other
- Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation



0 0.1 0.2 0.4 Miles



Xcel Energy
RESISTANCE BY ARTISTRY



Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Dan Trude
Address:	15531 W Park Rd.
	Stone Lake, WI 54876
Representing	

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

Sand Lake Township

My comments regarding this project are:

Would like line to follow the preferred route. Please avoid the blue route. Why not follow pipe line if preferred route is rejected?

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy



Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission Line Project

May Open House

Route Options

- Preferred Route 161 kV
- Preferred Route 69 kV
- Preferred Route 161/69 kV
- Alternate Route A 161 kV
- Alternate Route A 69 kV
- Alternate Route A 161/69 kV
- Alternate Route B 161 kV
- Alternate Route B 69 kV
- Alternate Route B 161/69 kV

Transmission Line

- 69 kV
- 161 kV
- 345 kV
- Substation

Buildings

- Home
- Other
- Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation



0 0.02 0.04 0.06 Miles



Xcel Energy
MEMBER OF THE XCEL GROUP

Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Dan Trude
Address:	15531 W Park Rd. Stone Lake, WI
Representing	Land Owner

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

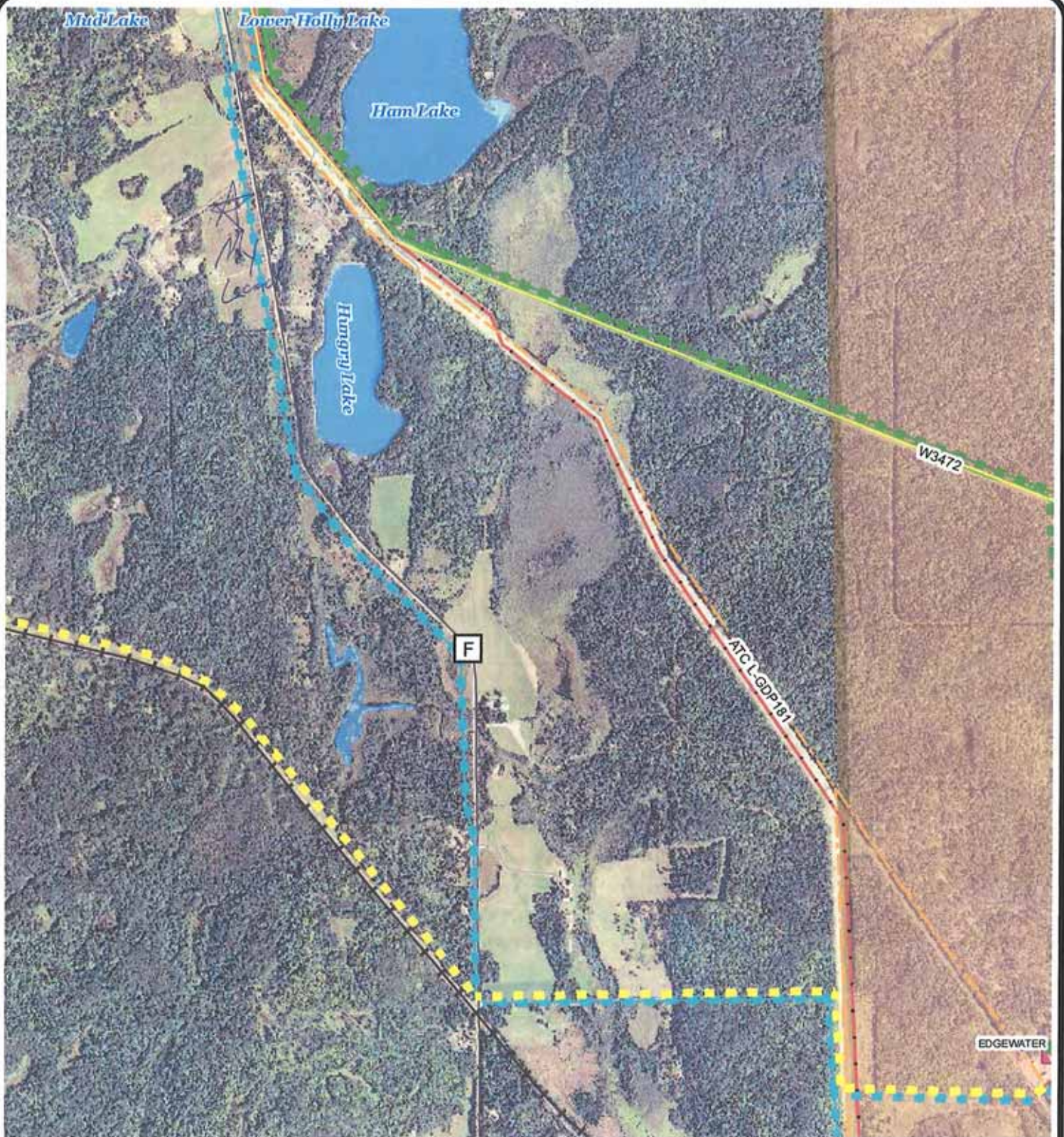
My comments regarding this project are:

I would like the project to follow the preferred route - The blue route would impact me and my family a great deal. The area is already scarred by utility easements and it would be nice if we could limit any further scarring of the land. I also wonder why following the pipeline/powerline right-of-way is not an option over following Hwy F from Akon Lake to railroad track.

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail



Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission Line Project

May Open House

Route Options

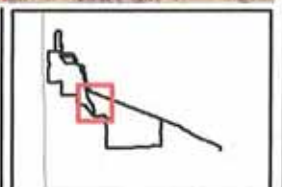
- Preferred Route 161 kV
- Preferred Route 69 kV
- Preferred Route 161/69 kV
- Alternate Route A 161 kV
- Alternate Route A 69 kV
- Alternate Route A 161/69 kV
- Alternate Route B 161 kV
- Alternate Route B 69 kV
- Alternate Route B 161/69 kV

Transmission Line

- 69 kV
- 161 kV
- 345 kV
- Substation

Buildings

- Home
- Other
- Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation



0 0.05 0.1 0.2 Miles



Xcel Energy
RESPONSIBLE BY DESIGN



Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Lamar E. Troyer
Address:	16646 W Metcalf Rd.
	Stone Lake, Wi. 54876
Representing	

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

Section 6 town 39 Range 09

My comments regarding this project are:

Please construct line on the preferred route and not south on Kelner Rd as this would be more cost effect since there is already an electric right of way along the preferred route.

Thanks.

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy



Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Alan Bowman
Address:	5333N Hungry Lk LN Stone Lk WI 54876
Representing	

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

T39 - R09

My comments regarding this project are:

I strongly disagree + oppose a powerline East of Hungry Lake near my property. There are obvious reasons including property value, safety + health concerns, environmental impact and aesthetic reasons.

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to Raelynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy



Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Janet Rowney
Address:	5140 N County Rd F
	Stone Lake, WI 54876
Representing	myself

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

Town of Sand Lake

From the map, it looks like T39-R9 34

My comments regarding this project are:

I live on the southeast side of Hungry Lake. I DO NOT want the line to be built on the purple line on the east side of Hungry Lake for environmental, financial, aesthetic, and health-hazard reasons.

If possible, I would prefer that it not be built on the purple line on the west side of Hungry Lake along F, either.

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy

Janet Rowney

From: gary mathis [<mailto:garym5811@live.com>]

Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2011 6:14 PM

To: Asah, Raelynn S

Subject: meeting on July 22

Why were we not contacted prior to this letter? The first we heard of this proposal was when the letter arrived on July 15, 2011. As we live and work out of the area seven days is not an acceptable notice for the meeting date.

We purchased the property for the location and scenery it provided us. Looking at huge tower and power lines out our front door is not an appealing sight. The idea that the towers and lines will be on two sides of the property is doubly displeasing. No matter which direction we enter from we will have to look at the lines and towers. We feel this will considerable decrease the value of the property, not a good thing to have happen given our current economics these days.

We are very displeased with Excel Energy as this is he first we have heard anything about power lines going in in the location mentioned in their letter of July 11, 2011.

Feel free to contact us at this email address: garym5811@live.com.

Hard copy of this email is being sent by US postal service.

Gary L. Mathis

Mary E. Mathis

Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name: <i>Mark Albertin</i>
Address: <i>6542 Bridgeton Minor Ct</i>
<i>Liberty Township, OH 45011</i>
Representing <i>Trustee for Albertin Family Trust</i>

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

15745 W State Hwy 27/70
Stone Lake, WI 54876

My comments regarding this project are:

To Raelynn Asah,
Thank you for your help in explaining the existing lines & the various options that are shown on the maps that were sent to me. As property owner of the house and lot at 15745 W State Hwy 27/70, Stone Lake, WI, I support the proposed preferred route for the 69KV that is shown in red on the attached map. This is an existing corridor and from an aesthetic perspective, the 69KV is much smaller than the 345/116 tower. I would strongly oppose the alternative shown in blue that would run East of County Rd E. This would significantly impact the quality of my property.

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to Raelynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Kenneth A. Beverly A. ERIKSEN
Address:	8907 BULL VALLEY RD
	WOODSTOCK, ILL 60098
Representing	ourselves on 4 locations

TODAY IS
7.19.2011

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

we have 4 properties on your yellow alternate route and are sick about this. PID: 026939205502, 5503, 5505 and 5506. All on Little Sand Lake on Sand Lake Road.

My comments regarding this project are:

THAT IT IS RIDICULOUSLY STUPID TO NOT USE ROUTES THAT ARE ALREADY IN PLACE, WIDE OPEN, READY TO GO AND WILL SERVICE YOUR NEEDS AND MORE FOR MANY YEARS TO COME. WHY WOULD YOU EVEN CONSIDER ALTERNATE ROUTES WHEN THE PREFERRED ROUTE IS PERFECTLY FINE, DISTURBS NO ONE, HAS EASY ACCESS, DOES EVERYTHING YOU WANT IT TO DO AND MORE, AND IS FAR LESS COSTLY? THIS WHOLE THING MAKES NO SENSE AND BENEFITS NO ONE BUT YOU. ERECTING GIANT NEW POWER TOWERS DOWN NEW ROUTES AND DESTROY EVERYTHING WE RESIDENTS HOLD DEAR + CHERISH, WHEN A BETTER MORE PERFECT OPTION IS OBVIOUSLY AVAILABLE IS JUST UNBELIEVABLY ARROGANT + SELF-SERVING. YOU ARE GOING TO DO THIS AT THE EXPENSE OF THOSE WHO REALLY LOVE, APPRECIATE + ENJOY LIVING HERE IN WISCONSIN'S BEAUTIFUL NORTH WOODS. WHY DO YOU THREATEN SO?

Does money ALWAYS trump GOOD SENSE?

Does money ALWAYS trump THE ENVIRONMENT?

BE SMART + USE YOUR HEADS. THIS IS NOT A DIFFICULT DECISION. TAKE THE EXISTING NORTHERN ROUTE NORTH OF BIG SAND LAKE

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy

AND SIMPLY
UPGRADE
IT TO ACCOM-
DATE YOUR
NEEDS.
THE PREFERRED
ROUTE IS THE ONLY
ANSWER. USE
THE EXISTING TRANSMISSION
LINE OR PIPELINE ROUTE.

PROPERTY ADDRESS

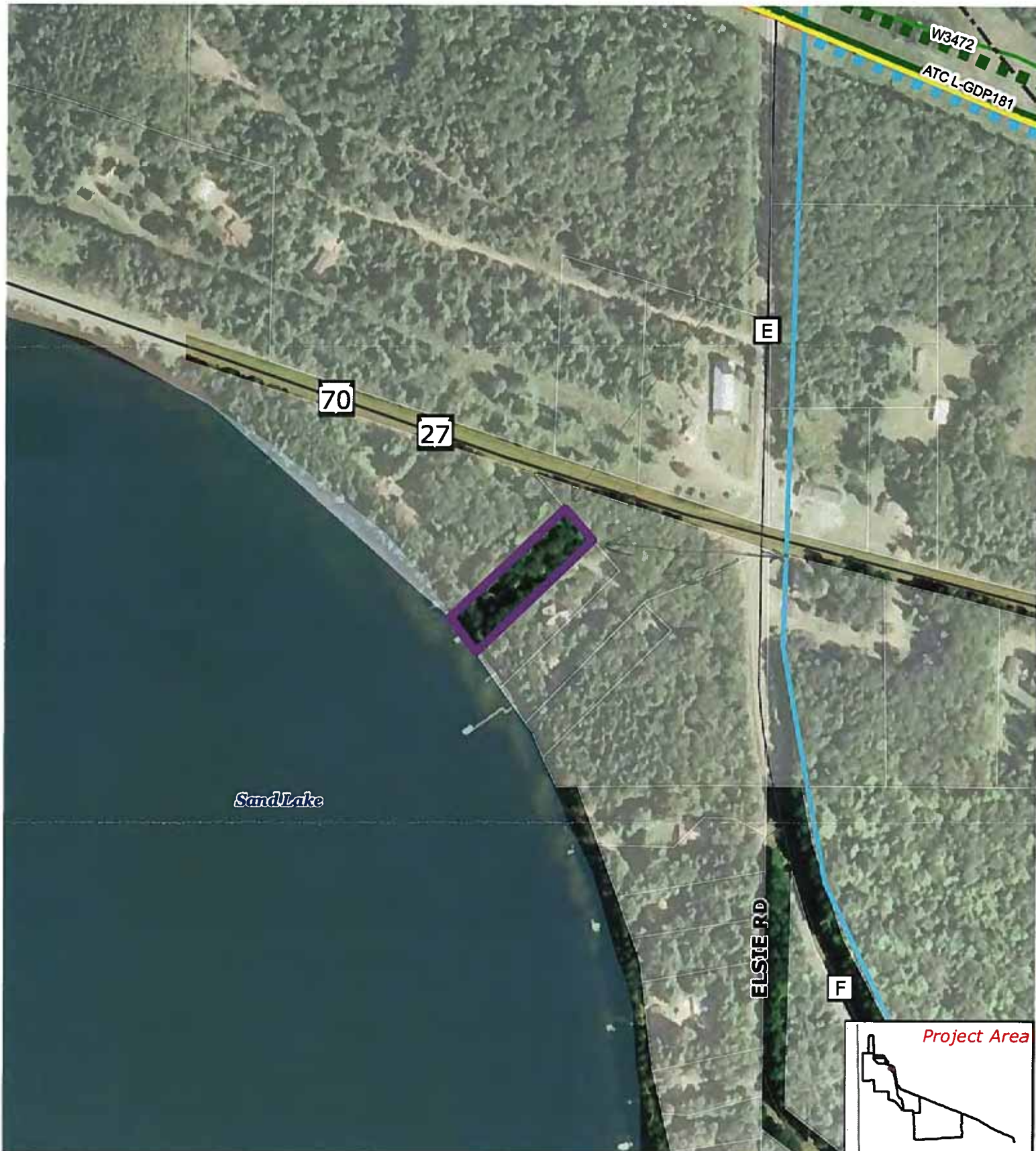
Property Highlighted in **VIOLET:**

15745W STATE HWY 27/70
STONE LAKE, WI 54876

PID: 026939165109

ALBERTIN FAMILY TRUST ETAL
MARK ALBERTIN 6542 BRIDGETON MANOR CT
HAMILTON, OH 45011

PROPERTY ADDRESS



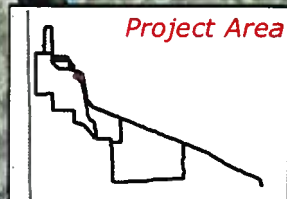
Route Options

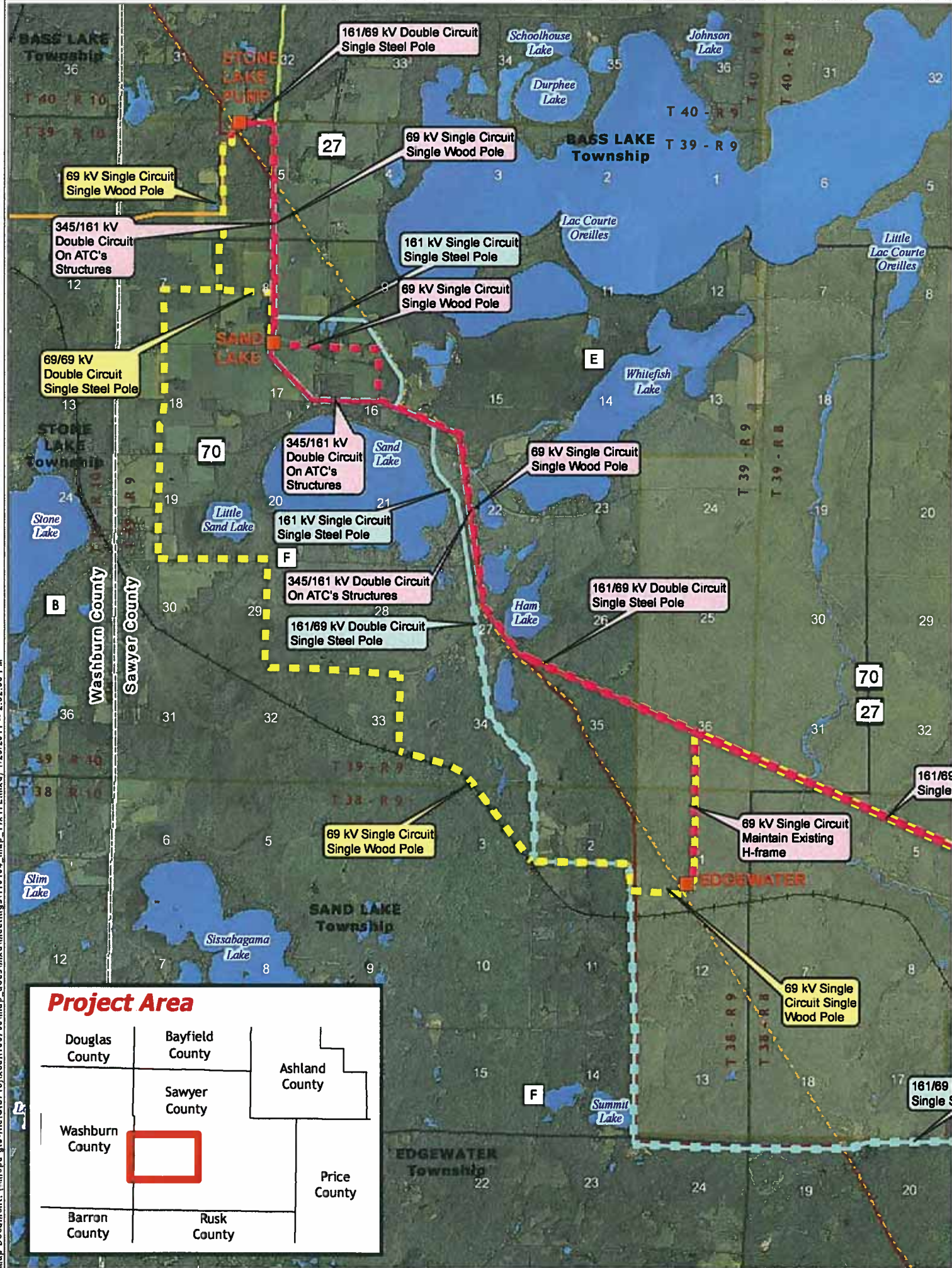
- | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| | Preferred Route 161 kV | | Alternate Route A 161 kV | | Alternate Route B 161 kV |
| | Preferred Route 69 kV | | Alternate Route A 69 kV | | Alternate Route B 69 kV |
| | Preferred Route 161/69 kV | | Alternate Route A 161/69 kV | | Alternate Route B 161/69 kV |

- Existing Transmission Line
- 69 kV
 - 161 kV
 - 345 kV
 - Substation
 - Pipeline

- Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation

0 75 150 300 Feet





Project Area

Douglas County	Bayfield County	Ashland County
Washburn County	Sawyer County	
Barron County	Rusk County	Price County

From: joe sajdera [<mailto:jesajdera@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2011 6:54 AM
To: Asah, Raelynn S
Subject: Transmission Project

To: Raelynn Asah, Xcel Energy

From: Renee Sajdera 11326 West Polish Road Radisson,
WI 54867. Nearest cross street Wiergor and Polish Road.

Please except this as my comment form regarding the proposed Stone Lake - Couderay Transmission and Subsation Project.

Please consider changing the location of the Proposed Stone Lake - Couderay Transmission and Substation Project. Currently this line is proposed to be built directly across from our home and causing an obstruction to our view. I would like to propose the substation be placed out of view from our home. We already have two substations approximately 125 yards from our front door which are an obstruction to our view. These substations also decrease the value of our land and creates an unwelcome sight. I feel there are other options available according to maps provided to build this substation so that it is out of our view. Please reconsider relocating this substation to a site that is out of our view.

Sincerely,
Renee Sajdera

From: Carolyn Lofgren [<mailto:carolynlofgren@live.com>]
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2011 1:25 PM
To: Asah, Raelynn S
Subject: RE: Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission Project
RaeLynn,

Thank you for your email informing us on the size of the pole and the how the trees on our property will be effected. We are opposed to the line coming through as we feel it will greatly effect the value of future building site/sites as it will take all the privacy away and for people wanting to build in the northwood's area, wooded privacy is a very big factor when considering their chosen site. Our property just extends only about twenty feet into the tree line on the east side, so if your telling us you will be clearing fifty feet, that means we will have no trees left on the whole east side of our property, which would greatly diminish the esthetics and value of our land.

Unfortunately, we are unable to attend the meeting, but want to make it known that we are opposed to this proposal.

Sincerely,

Kurt & Carolyn Lofgren
4658N Otter Lane
Stone Lake, WI 54876
715-456-2248

From: Raelynn.Asah@xcelenergy.com
To: carolynlofgren@live.com
Date: Thu, 21 Jul 2011 11:47:03 -0600
Subject: RE: Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission Project

Hi Curt and Carolyn,

I left you a voicemail on your cell phone as well. I can tell you that we have proposed a 69 kV line for the alternative route (its the second structure from the far right on your structure diagram sheet) on your property. I understand you are concerned with the trees on the east side of your property. Our proposal would require approximately 50' of cleared rights-of-way; 25' on either side of the structure center line. That would affect some of the tree line you reference, but not all of it.

I'd be happy to talk about this in more detail. If you could attend the meeting tomorrow night we can go over all your options and ways to be involved. You are welcome to stop by anytime between 3:00 and 8:30 PM at the Comfort Suites in Hayward, its an Open House style format and will not include a formal presentation.

RaeLynn S. Asah
Xcel Energy | Responsible By Nature
c: 612.220.1165

From: Carolyn Lofgren [<mailto:carolynlofgren@live.com>]
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2011 10:17 AM

To: Asah, Raelynn S

Subject: RE: Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission Project

RaeLynn,

Kurt and I received your letter and map showing the proposed line. We wanted to verify that the line proposed on the east side of our property is a 69kV pole. Is this correct?

Also, we are very concerned with the east line of our property, were there is a buffer of trees that border us and the other land owner and gives the site nice privacy which was taken in consideration when we purchased the property for a future building site/sites. How do we know for sure how greatly this will affect our tree line.

Sincerely,

Kurt & Carolyn Lofgren
4658N Otter Lane, P.O. Box 331
Stone Lake, WI 54876
715-456-2248

From: Art Punyko [<mailto:artpunyko@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2011 7:50 AM
To: Asah, Raelynn S
Cc: tomrmueller@yahoo.com; artpunyko@yahoo.com
Subject: Stone Lake Transmission Project Comments

20 July, 2011

Dear Raelynn--

Thank you for receiving our comments on the project.

FROM:

Name: Art Punyko, Tom Mueller

Address: 1463 Grand Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55105

Lake Property in Sawyer County:

Address: 15350W Allendale Ln, Stone Lake, WI 54876

Comments:

1) It appears to be a 5X capacity increase in the power transmission system. The population increase in the last decade was about 2.2% in Sawyer county. What warrants such a large expansion in capacity? I understand the age of the current system, but it appears the proposed changes are overkill for the Sawyer county area.

2) We object to the "Preferred Route" option for the new 161kV line because it requires more right-of-way along Ham Lake, permanently damages the environment (wetlands, lake shore, and forests), and permanently lowers property values on the lake. In principle, we feel the selected project route should minimize any further environmental destruction and loss of personal property around Ham Lake,

or any of the area lakes.

3) We understand the age of the current 69 kV line. We would support the rebuilding of the line in its current right-of-way as long as it minimized the impact to the environment and private property.

4) What is the structure of the proposed 161kV transmission? It is not clear which structure option is preferred.

We may give you a call today to discuss comment #4.

Like many others, our families saved significant resources in order to purchase a lake home in Sawyer county. We view ourselves as stewards of the property, lake, and the environment for future property owners.

Regards

Art Punyko

Tom Mueller

G. WICKERSHAM
15504 W. FRANCIS RD
EVANSVILLE WI 53536

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my deep concern, along with my sons over the proposed alternative power line route down N. Marsh Lake Rd. – Stone Lake on the Stone Lake – Couderay project. My sons and I own the land on the west side of the road and my cousins own the land to the east of the road. The land has been in our family for over 80 years. We have put a lot of effort into keeping the land in pristine condition and leaving it, as it was when my family first started a homestead there.

The first concern is for my family's health. Living by power lines has been known to increase the risk of leukemia and other cancers since 1979. Since then, dozens of published papers have found links between living near power line electromagnetic radiation and a range of health woes including: brain cancer, birth defects and reproductive problems, depression, heart disease, sleeping disorders and many others (especially affecting children). My husband has had a heart attack and cannot risk any further damage to his heart. My husband and I are also afraid for the health of our four sons along with their families that regularly come to the house to escape into the woods from the hustle and bustle of city living. My eight grand kids are all under 9 years old, so you can understand my fear for them. In addition, many friends and relatives come to the house to unwind and enjoy the quiet and beautiful landscape.

Another issue is that, my husband and sons hunt on the land and are afraid the wildlife will leave the area with this large clear cut running through some of the best deer stands on our property. My sons also film hunting episodes for the television show "Outdoor Junkies" on the land. Also, this home is where my brother Bill Greatsinger passed away. All the boys spent a lot of time hunting and learning to be good stewards of the land here with him. We still feel like he is there watching over the place and feel very close to him when we are there. Having power lines running right down the heart of the property would take away from all the great memories we have of him. As you can see we are very tied to this land and don't want to see it ruined.

There are already giant power lines less than a quarter mile away to the east breaking up the quiet. We drive by them and see all the trees cut down and shutter to think about the same happening to our land. The lines and deforestation would severely take away the natural beauty along the road. I walk my grandchildren down this road to visit the remnants of their great, great grandfather's farm.

Finally, I was born and raised on this parcel of land and this is where I am planning to retire. I have a spot all picked out for my organic garden in the front yard. The garden location would be directly under the proposed power lines. I also plan to rent out the lower half of the house to generate additional retirement income, but I don't think anyone is going to want to move in with power lines directly in front of the house.

These are the reasons my family, friends and I don't want the power lines going down N. Marsh Lake Rd. – Stone Lake.

Sincerely,



Georgia A. Wickersham and family



Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Mary Greetings Lange	2/12/11
Address:	7304 N State Rd 10f	
	Evansville, WI 53536	
Representing	Self.	

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

Town of Sandlake SESW

My comments regarding this project are:

I would like to make known, that I am very much against another line of poles and wires on my 40 acres. The line that is already there takes up a lot of land. At this point it is a tree farm. Down the road in time, it may have other uses.

This is a beautiful piece of property. It borders up to Rogers Lake and also has a nice view of Summit Lake. It provides a refuge for many animals and birds.

The line of huge poles proposed would destroy the value of this property greatly.

Sincerely,

Mary Lange

Mary Lange

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy



Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	JIM HALL
Address:	8626 242ND ST
	FOREST LAKE, MN 55025
Representing	

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

My comments regarding this project are:

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy

March 6, 2011

We sit in our cabin, the one we bought as a shell in May of 2005. I look at all the work and the sweat we put into it, inside and out. All our plans of our dream retirement home are now being destroyed around us, piece by piece.

First it was the huge high powered power lines in 2006, they took out 40 feet of trees towards our cabin. We figured okay...at least the trees that are left will hide the hideous poles and most of the wires during the summer. So we thought okay. Not a thing we can do about it.

A couple of years later we hear about Enbridge coming in to put new pipeline down. Of course, they just can't come in and dig up the old ones and replace them with new....no, they have to take out 80 more feet of trees for what they like to call "work space". Nice, so in less than 4 years we've now lost about 100 feet of trees. Now we started getting angry. All the trees that we were so happy with were being destroyed. There goes more of our dream property. Of course, again there isn't one thing we can do about it. We decided well, we'll replant some trees in that area to help make up for our loss. At least we could replant, whereas with the power lines we could not.

Now you want to come in here and take another 60 feet of our beautiful trees. What you do not realize is that we will be losing every single tree right up to the back of our cabin. Now we've gotten very angry. Everything we busted our behinds for will be completely destroyed. Not one of you realizes the impact this will have on us. There is NO WAY I want to live with another set of high-powered lines running right over our heads. It's bad enough when I take our dogs for a walk under the other high-powered lines that are out there that in the early morning with the dew still on the grass I'm getting little very sharp shocks on my ankles and feet because of the power coming off those lines. Please DO NOT tell me that there is no danger or health issues that can arise from living that close to a power line. With my experience, I beg to differ. Our neighbors up there have also been shocked even worse by touching some shrubbery under those same power lines.

To keep the area under the power lines clear of trees and shrubs they wanted to spray some herbicide which they tried to tell us was safe all along the underside of those power lines. We refused to allow it. We have grandchildren and dogs that run out and play all along those areas. We are not about to see anything happen to them. I'm sure that with this new set of power lines that I believe will end up about 25-30 feet from our cabin there will be more requests to do the same. I DON'T THINK SO! That's OUR yard where we sit and relax, play with our grandchildren and enjoy our friends and family's company. ALL of that will cease to exist with this plan of yours.

We're begging you to either find a different route or just buy our property from us for an amount of \$300,000.00. That will cover what we owe on the property and also all the suffering we've had to deal with between Enbridge and the other huge power lines that have gone through. We know you'll find a way around buying it from us, but just remember there is NO WAY we'll ever be able to sell that property for what we owe on it thanks to the poor economy and all the other corporations that have come in and taken so much from us in the past. NO ONE WILL WANT it because of all the destruction and we'll be stuck with it. WE certainly DO NOT want to live under more power lines. Our retirement dreams have been completely destroyed now.

Again, we wish that you'd reconsider your route and find another way.

Sincerely,
Jim and Diane Hahn
5944N Cty Rd F
Stone Lake, WI



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	ARNIE EVITCH
Address:	710 WISE ROAD
	BIRCHWOOD, WI. 54817
Representing	

7-15-11

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

Land is Between Hauer Road and Strand Lane. T: 38 R: 09 S: 02, Q: SE SE

My comments regarding this project are:

The Land I use for hunting purposes, I have stand towers and a hunting cabin.

I would be O.K. with the line going through if it didn't interfere with the tower, and if the used property was re-planted with Bio-Logic Food Plot mix.

I also think I should get either paid for property used, or I would consider a trade for power line installed to cabin.

Thank You
Arnie Evitch

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Elias Tzimanis
Address:	PO Box 164
	Stone Lake WI 54876
Representing	

I live on Cty Rd F
on the west side of Lower
Holly Lake

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

My comments regarding this project are:

I would like to see the power line on
the East side of the existing route.

Elias Tzimanis

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy



Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Kerry Jacobson
Address:	5496 Hom Hollow Dr.
Representing	

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

My comments regarding this project are:

First off my biggest concern is the resale value of our home due to this project. We need to sell in the next few years and this will ruin chances of a resalability. It means you are welcome to buy our home for current value if you want to put this through our yard and that close to our home where our children sleep at night. You will also be taking down many trees on our property that are of great value to us. I was told that medically we should not live closer than 100 ft to a power line. Please consider this in your decision. We would prefer you go along City Rd F.

Thank you

Kerry Jacobson

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to Raelynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail



Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Richard & Elaine (Dekan) Kaiser
Address:	5464 N Basswood Lane
	Stone Lake, WI 54876
Representing	

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

T39 R09 S28

My comments regarding this project are:

I am against the proposed ~~10~~ Rank Rd route especially since there is an existing corridor in place. Why impact even more people's property values in this area. The amount of money we would get for the easement wouldn't begin to cover the loss of resale value.

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	JOAN ROWLA (JAMES)
Address:	15741W Hwy 70-27
Representing	OURSELVES

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

TOWN SAND LAKE) (60VT LAT) 1 (S) 16 (T) 39 (W) (R) 29 (W)
Subd 26-939-16-3108 Parcel: 1.8

My comments regarding this project are:

MY COMMENTS DO NOT MATTER. THE WISCONSIN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION WILL NOT USE PUBLIC COMMENTS TO REACH A DECISION ON NEED, ROUTE OR CONSTRUCTION AS PROVEN BY THE PREVIOUSLY BUILT 345K LINE. TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE OPPOSED IT AND ATTENDED WISC MEETING ALL ACROSS THE PROPOSED ROUTE. THEY WERE IGNORED & THE UGLY POLES WENT UP TO DEFACE SAND LAKE AND THE ENTIRE ROUTE.

THEREFORE, I HOPE XCEL ENERGY HAS THE INTEGRITY TO USE A ROUTE WITH THE LEAST OBTRUSIVE AND SHORTEST POLES THE FURTHEST AWAY FROM OUR BEAUTIFUL 920 ACRE LAKE AS POSSIBLE.
PLEASE DO NOT DEFACE IT FURTHER.

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	STEVEN FRIENDSHUHL
Address:	PO 432
	SAUCE, MN 55378 (Office)
Representing	OWNER

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

My comments regarding this project are:

I am in favor of this project

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	RAY & GLADAH L. GRUNEWALD
Address:	15484 W Allendale Rd.
	Stone Lake, WI 54876
Representing	

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

Description Town of Land Lake PRT Govt Lot 5
Lot 1 CSM 4/147 # 746 Property highlighted in Violet

My comments regarding this project are:

Preferred Route on map ATCL-GD P181 or W3472

Ray Grunewald
Gladah L. Grunewald

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy

PROPERTY ADDRESS

Property Highlighted in **VIOLET**:

15484W ALLENDALE RD
STONE LAKE, WI 54876

PID: 026939275505

RAY G & GLADAH L GRUNEWALD
PO BOX 13399
HAYWARD, WI 54843-3399

MAILING ADDRESS



Route Options

- Preferred Route 161 kV
- Preferred Route 69 kV
- Preferred Route 161/69 kV
- Alternate Route A 161 kV
- Alternate Route A 69 kV
- Alternate Route A 161/69 kV
- Alternate Route B 161 kV
- Alternate Route B 69 kV
- Alternate Route B 161/69 kV

Existing Transmission Line
69 kV
161 kV
345 kV
Substation
Pipeline

Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation

0 65 170 340 Feet



Xcel Energy
RESPONSIBLE BY NATURE



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	LEO KLIDZELC
Address:	1818 N. MITCHELL AVE ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL
Representing	15416 W. ALLENDALE RD

Please note your property location (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

My comments regarding this project are:

WILL WE BE COMPENSATED FOR
ANY NEGATIVE IMPACT ON PROPERTY
VALUE AS IN THE CASE OF A SALE
BECAUSE OF THE ADDITIONAL POWER
LINE?

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Gary + Mary Mathis
Address:	810510 County Road W
	Eleva, IL 564738
Representing	T: 39 R: 09 S: 33 (Q: NONE Sand Lake, WI

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

PARK Rd and Railroad Ln.

My comments regarding this project are:

Why were we not contacted prior to this letter? The first we heard of this proposal was when the letter arrived on July 15, 2011. As we live and work out of the area seven days is not an acceptable notice for the meeting date.

We purchased the property for the location and scenery it provided us. Looking at huge tower and power lines out our front door is not an appealing sight. The idea that the towers and lines will be on two sides of the property is doubly displeasing. No matter which direction we enter from we will have to look at the lines and towers. We feel this will considerable decrease the value of the property, not a good thing to have happen given our current economics these days.

We are very displeased with Excel Energy as this is the first we have heard anything about power lines going in in the location mentioned in their letter of July 11, 2011.

Feel free to contact us at this email address: garym5811@live.com.

Hard copy of this email is being sent by US postal service.

Gary L. Mathis
Mary E. Mathis

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Robert McLeod
Address:	901 12th Ave W Ashland WI 54806
Representing	Myself and my land in Sand Lake Townships

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

T 39, R 09 S, 08 00 NW NW
Sand Lake WI

My comments regarding this project are:

My Grandparents Home started this Run
and I grew up on it and returned to help
my brother farm it for the past 60 years.
I bought these 20 acres of woods so I could
have a place to hunt deer and maybe build
a retirement cabin.
I don't know how big a swath of my trees
you would be taking out but it certainly
depresses the value of my little piece
of woods. I oppose this route

Robert McLeod 7/18/11

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to Raelynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	ROBERT, S, LARSEN
Address:	15506 W HOLLY LAKE LN
	STONE LAKE WI 54876-3008
Representing	TE

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

My comments regarding this project are:

are fine with me. I think it would
improve the service in this area. greatly
so we don't have any more week long
power outages

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy

July 17, 2011

Xcel Energy
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401-1993

Attention: RaeLynn Asah, Permitting Analyst

Ms Asah and Xcel Energy,

This letter serves to represent our comments for the upcoming 'final opportunity' in regards to the latest correspondence from Xcel, dated July 11, 2011 and implicating Xcel's 'latest' decision to run the 'proposed' system consisting of a new 161kV and an 'upgrade' to the 'existing' 69kV system along what was formerly known as "Alternate Route A" (better known to locals as PANK ROAD). There's just one landowner actually living on the 'detailed' map Xcel provided us, which shows only a small part of "Alternate Route A" and fails to correctly detail the actual borders of our own land.

We completely object to this latest Xcel decision to tear up PANK ROAD which adjoins our land and are amazed by the change, since after attending the first 'public' meeting we were led to believe that Alternate Route A was Xcel's least preferred route, and that it was the engineers and regulators requiring 3 routes and our west end 'just happened' to be part of one and was only selected to placate those nasty regulators.

ISSUES AND QUESTIONS

ISSUE; If Alternate Route A/PANK ROAD is allowed our property will be surrounded by transmission lines that were not here when we purchased in 1984 and will never provide 'us' or our neighbors with any power.

Question; what happened to the 'Preferred Route (the direct route through LCO)? Why was that plan shelved?

ISSUE; Xcel has named this project; STONE LAKE TO COUDERY 69KV REBUILD/161KV TRANSMISSION PROJECT yet there is nothing to 'rebuild' anywhere on PANK ROAD. The parts of PANK ROAD shown on Xcel's map is a country, gravel road that has never had power and has just one landowner actually living in the area, who's close enough to RAILROAD RD and PANK ROAD to hook up to NORTH CENTRAL POWER CO if he so chose. Alternate A will pass by his front door, yet as we understand the project will not provide any power to his residence.

We just assume that this latest decision is for the benefit of the Railroad, the Summit Lake and Edgewater areas. If true, we say let them hook up in Stone Lake, using the existing RR corridor, thereby saving us all a lot of time, trouble and expense. The Railroad must've spent millions on their own upgrades between Stone Lake and behind our home over the past few years. On this note, why not also use the 'existing'

TRANSMISSION LINE corridor on the east side of Hwy F? We find this latest decision to tear up and implement yet 'another power line corridor' wanting/deserving more of an explanation from Xcel Energy. It seems like more than a reasonable request.

Simply put we feel this proposal to use Alternate Route A/PANK ROAD for this project is stupid, serving no 'transparent' purpose (other than the added expense of several extra miles and the needless destruction of a quiet forest road), when real alternatives exist. It is obvious that Xcel has dropped the ball with this latest 'wrong-headed' move. We feel strongly that this project would cause un-necessary damage to the areas ecosystem, would drain both industrial, natural and tax payer resources and would clearly devalue property along the entire route, including our own.

We submit and contend that there's no need to perform an 'up-grade' or rebuild' anywhere along PANK ROAD as shown on the 'detailed' map provided by Xcel and for the reasons already mentioned. (There are no power lines there to upgrade and only one person lives along that stretch of PANK ROAD, who wouldn't benefit anyway).

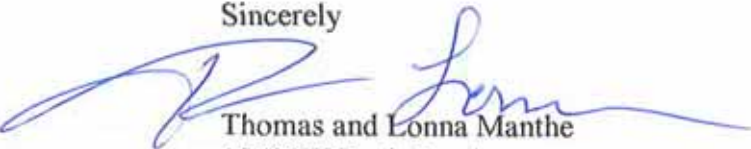
We submit and contend that the destruction to the areas flora and fauna and the further devaluation of property (we all lost value twice recently when first a Transmission Line east of Hwy F was rammed down our throats, soon followed by an OIL PIPE LINE, neither providing any known energy to any folks around here) will be detrimental to those calling this area home, both human and critter alike. If allowed to proceed we insist that all affected and afflicted landowners receive ample and just compensation for the "permanent loss" directly caused by Xcel Energy.

Is this the 'third strike' treatment???? If allowed, this 'project' will represent the third time we will have suffered property value losses due to Big Energy in five years, with absolutely no benefit to surrounding property owners.

Personally, Alternate Route A will downgrade the west end of our land as useless to all but a few and will considerably devalue our home yet AGAIN (see third strike). Should we expect compensation for this infringement? This time we think so and we have renewed our efforts to school up for the next round in the process.

Therefore based on all of the above, there should be little doubt as to our position AGAINST using Alternate Route A/PANK ROAD. Let the negotiations begin.

Sincerely



Thomas and Lonna Manthe
15699W Pank Road
Stone Lake, WI 54876

Cc; the World



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Ralph & Pat Reed - Jason, Michael Virginia
Address:	1112 Cty Rd G New Richmond, WI 54017
	5638 N Cty Hwy F Stone Lake, WI 54876
Representing	

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

(Sand Lake)
Lower Holly Lake

My comments regarding this project are:

Our concern is it is too high of voltage for our children & grandchildren & the future people.

We feel strongly that we do not want you to ~~use~~ same route. Please use another route.

Last time when the other line went in they destroyed two crane nesting sites and the little ones died. This is very upsetting to destroy wild life habitat.

We stress firmly that you take these comments into consideration & use an alternate route

Thank you in advance.

Ralph & Pat Reed

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project**COMMENT FORM****FROM:**

Name:	Daniel & Lisa Trude
Address:	15531W Park Rd.
	Stone Lake, WI 54876
Representing	

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

corner of county Hwy F and Park Rd.

My comments regarding this project are:

I would prefer this project did not have to be. But, if it must, please, please do not use alternate route B. This route would destroy my front yard and remove my privacy from Hwy. F. Furthermore, you are not my power company and I don't see why you can't run the line on the other side of Hwy. F, if need be, where there are Excell customers. I have also heard rumors that you plan to use the field across the road from my house as a staging area. I also object to this as it will impact my household with noise & dust. We are sick and tired of utility co.'s using this area for transmission projects, and if this must happen please use existing utility easements.

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy

From: Mark & Barb [<mailto:smokey530@frontiernet.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2011 9:32 PM
To: Asah, Raelynn S
Subject: Stone Lake/Couderay Upgrade Transmission Project

Dear Raelynn Asah c/o Excel Energy,

We were unable to attend the meeting on Fri, July 22, 2011 at the Hayward Comfort Suites regarding the proposed Stone Lake to Couderay transmission project upgrade. Please send us a copy of the minutes taken from the meeting. We oppose the project which would affect our property at 5838N Upper Holly Lake Rd.
Thank you.

Mark & Barb Logelin
6384 Lynwood Blvd.
Mound, MN 55364

From: Evert Schmidt
To: Asah, Raelynn S
Sent: Fri Jul 29 17:41:11 2011
Subject: Comments concerning your proposal for an Upgrade Transmission Project

COMMENT FORM

Reference: T: 39, R: 09, S: 29, QQ: SWSE

Sand Lake, WI

Xcel Energy letter of 11 July 2011: Re: Stone Lake to Couderay 69 kV
and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project, Sawyer County, WI

My comments regarding this project are:

Thank you RaeLynn for your telephone call of Wednesday, 28 July 2011.

As I see it, you have only an alternate plan to route an electric transmission line my property, using 69kV poles. If you could arrange a method by which property owners could tap into that line, should a need arise, I would be in favor of that line being built. However, if no provision is (or can be) made to provide for such a connection to the alternate line, should it be built, I am definitely not in favor of that line or any other transmission line on my property.

Evert Schmidt

40 S. Lincoln Ave

Mundelein, IL 60060

Memo regarding property on 5484N Ham Holly Drive, Stone Lake, WI 54876

Randy and Rita Lindstedt
7467 Hidden Valley Ct. S
Cottage Grove, MN 55016
(651) 334-0313

We received the letter dated July 11, 2011 about the proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission Project. We cannot attend the meeting on the 22nd because of a prior commitment so wanted to express our concerns on the proposed route.

Currently when the existing transmission line was installed we lost 20' of easement and a large portion of trees were removed. These trees provided coverage between our lake home and the current lines. The then current two pole structure was replaced with the single pole for the 345KV line. Our property has lost value since this original 345KV line was installed. It appears proposed route will impact the easement further towards our property; which I believe is 50', losing more if not all the trees between the easement and my property home. The property would not have adequate coverage as it did when we originally purchased it to help shield the view of the power lines. We adamantly oppose this route. As mentioned above, our property value has already been impacted from the first transmission line and now will be greatly reduced further to the point it would be undesirable as a "up north" lake cabin, making it very hard to sell and the likelihood of taking a large loss on the investment we have in this property. We also want to be very clear that the initial easement we settled on was negotiated under the fact after it was expanded; we still had adequate tree coverage to help minimize the impact of the power lines on my property. With the proposed route, we would not be interested in a further negotiated easement as we would have no desire to have a lake home in an environment surrounded by additional power lines so close to our home. We have made many improvements and have plans to build further improvements in the next year which will all impact the value our property has.

We are sure you will understand, taking more if not all the trees away between the lines and our home, and building this line so close to our lake home, will impact our "up north view" and everything else associated with this lake property. We ask you to not consider the preferred route and look at moving the line to the alternate route B. We would like to walk the property with you so you can understand the impact this project would have both from an environmental and financial viewpoint.

Please contact us to discuss,

Respectively,

Randy and Rita Lindstedt

From: Randy Lindstedt [<mailto:randyl@marconet.com>]
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2011 3:48 PM
To: Asah, Raelynn S
Subject: Ham Lake Property

Raelynn,

Attached is a letter in regards to our conversation today. I have sent a hard copy as well,

Thanks

Randy Lindstedt
Enterprise Account Manager



651.634.6103 | 800.892.8548 | randyl@marconet.com
7003 lake street west, suite 100, st. louis park, mn 55426 | marconet.com



From: Randy Lindstedt [<mailto:randyl@marconet.com>]
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2011 3:55 PM
To: Asah, Raelynn S
Subject: RE: Ham Lake Property

Here is a revised letter you can submit. Can you tell me when a decision would be made on the route?

Thank you,

Randy Lindstedt
Enterprise Account Manager



651.634.6103 | 800.892.8548 | randyl@marconet.com
7003 lake street west, suite 100, st. louis park, mn 55426 | marconet.com





Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	EDWIN KASTEN
Address:	5381 N City Rd E
	STONE LAKE, WI 54876
Representing	SELF

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

T39 R109 S3400 NENW SAND LAKE
T:39 R:09 S 2700SESW SAND LAKE
5381 N City Rd E

My comments regarding this project are:

Using the existing ROUTE ONLY
seems logical. WHY TAKE MORE
land when there is some available

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy

Proposed Stone Lake to Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	RAEA KASTEN
Address:	5381 N Cty Rd E
	Stone Lake, WI 54876
Representing	SELF

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

T: 39 R: 09 S: 34 00 NENW SAND LAKE
T: 39 R: 09 S: 27 00 SESW SAND LAKE
5381 N COUNTY RD E

My comments regarding this project are:

I think that following the
existing line makes the most sense
otherwise this whole area will be
littered with tall electric poles
WELCOME TO THE GREAT NORTHERN WI
VIEWS OF power lines

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

7-22-11

ON APRIL 10TH I HAD
AN ACCIDENT AND
BROKE MY HIP. HAD SURGERY

AND SPENT OVER 3 MONTHS IN THE
NURSING HOME FOR REHABILITATION.
NOW I AM "HOME BOUND" FOR MORE
THERAPY AND CAN'T ATTEND YOUR
MEETING.

SINCE MY MAIL HAS BEEN
HELD AT THE POST OFFICE
I JUST RECEIVED THE PAST
2 WEEKS MAIL AND DIDN'T
GET TO OPEN YOUR LETTER
UNTIL THURSDAY JULY 21ST
OTHERWISE I WOULD HAVE
MAILED THIS TO YOU SOONER.

Dolores Kelekovich



Dolores Kelekovich
4127 N County Road C
Exeland, WI 54835-2219



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	DOLORES KELEKOVICH
Address:	4127 N CTY RD C
	EXELAND WI 54835
Representing	

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

TOWN OF COUDERAY - 10 38N 08W NEAREST CROSS STREET - HWY 27

My comments regarding this project are:

THERE IS NO WAY I AGREE TO HAVE THESE TRANSMISSION LINES PUT ON MY PROPERTY. THEY ARE A HEALTH HAZZARD AND VERY MUCH A THREAT TO MY HEALTH. ALSO WILL LOWER THE VALUE OF MY PROPERTY.

WHY CAN'T THEY BE PUT ALONG THE EXISTING TRANSMISSION LINE WITHOUT CAUSING A PROBLEM FOR LANDOWNERS? THIS SHOULD BE THE ONLY WAY TO CONSIDER GETTING THE JOB DONE.

I DO NOT HAVE A COMPUTER SO I CAN'T EMAIL THIS BACK TO YOU.

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Kenton + Ami Slabough
Address:	6879 N Hwy 27
	Stone Lake, WI 54876
Representing	

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

T: 39, R: 09, S: 08

My comments regarding this project are:

Follow the existing easement on the West side as highlighted in the map I have included.

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

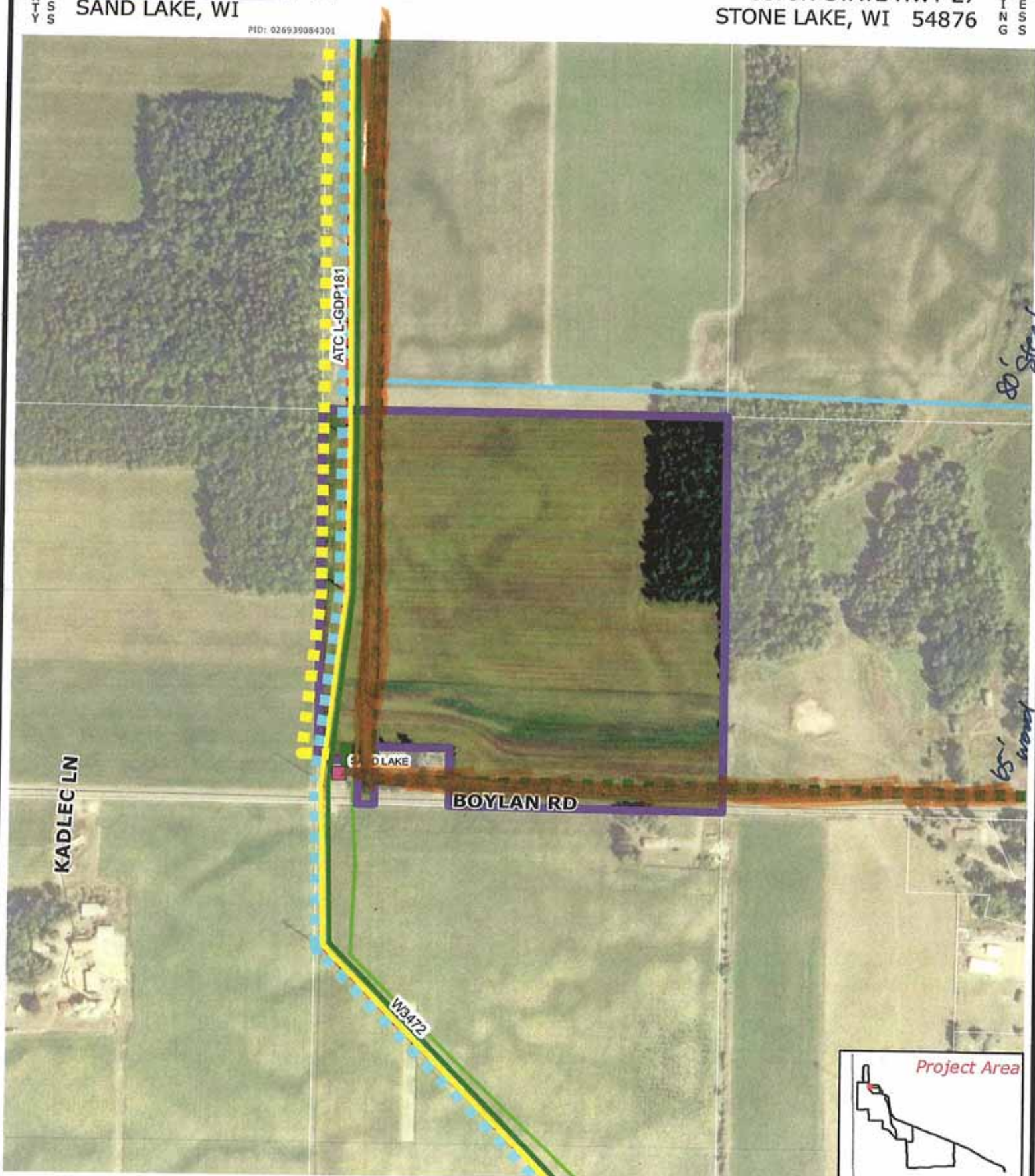
Xcel Energy

T: 39, R: 09, S: 08, QQ: SWSE
SAND LAKE, WI




KENTON D & AMI SLABAUGH
6879N STATE HWY 27
STONE LAKE, WI 54876

MAILING ADDRESS

PID: 026939084301



Route Options

-  Preferred Route 161 kV
 Preferred Route 69 kV
 Alternate Route A 161 kV
 Alternate Route A 69 kV
 Alternate Route B 161 kV
 Alternate Route B 69 kV

Existing Transmission Line

- 89 kV
- 181 kV
- 345 kV

 Lac Courte Oreilles
Reservation

0 110 220 440 Feet



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name: PHILIP ZIMMERMAN
Address:
Representing

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

T: 38, R: 08 S 10 QX NWNE COUDERAY, WI

My comments regarding this project are:

HAVING THESE POWER LINES THROUGH MY
PROPERTY ALREADY DIMINISHES THE VALUE
AND BEAUTY OF OUR PROPERTY -

ANOTHER LINE IS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE -
WHY DON'T POWER LINES HAVE TO PAY FOR
"TOWERS" ON PRIVATE PROPERTY LIKE
THE PHONE TOWERS DO? YOU USE MY PROPERTY
TO MAKE YOUR MONEY!

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	DON & KATHY SMULSKI
Address:	1400 181ST ST W ROSEMOUNT, MN 55068
Representing	

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

5810 UPPER HOLLY LAKE RD
STONE LAKE, WI 54876

My comments regarding this project are:

Since reviewing the map for the proposed transmission lines, we found the preferred route is unacceptable! There are numerous scientific studies that were conducted on health risk posed by transmission lines in relation to human habitation. Referencing a couple of reports one by Colorado State University and the UK Health dept "Draper Report" found a correlation to higher percentage to cancer or other related body illness. Transmission lines emit electromagnetic fields which exposes anything nearby to electromagnetic radiation. Experts agree that a distance of 500 meters or 0.31 miles is probably to close to any radiation source.

The proposed preferred line will run directly over our property which puts it in direct contact to our house. Secondly from an environmental stand point there is already a transmission line which runs above the pipe line easement opposite our property. Having a second transmission line a distance away hanging over our property and in the general area will detract from picturesque natural look setting.

If a transmission line needs to be installed we vigorously insist that alternate plan be used. This would place it close to the existing one which would keep it contained to what would like a utility avenue instead of an electric generating plant spread about the area. Having expressed that fact, this would also place it further from our and others living area with respect to the aforementioned stated health concerns.

We feel this is a crucial and significant event posed by Xcel energy on us, but unfortunately because of prior commitments we were unable to reschedule we are not able to attend this Friday, July 22, 2011 meeting. Please submit this letter as our voice and concern to this matter with Xcel energy management and the CPCN.

<) or

Don Smulski

Kathy Smulski

Kathine Smulski

Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	John Van Altena
Address:	5142 E. County Line Rd.
	Milton, WI 53563
Representing	

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

Sand Lake Tshwp. WI South end Ham Lake
PID # 026939275518

My comments regarding this project are:

The Xcel preferred route will put conductors directly over my beach and that of adjacent landowners. On our behalf, I would like to suggest using higher support structures for the conductors over this valuable lake area. The existing ATC line, adjacent to your line has successfully clear-spanned this area. Its lowest conductors are at least high enough to be visually and esthetically acceptable. By using your 100' 161/69 KV structures and placing them adjacent to the existing ATC poles you avoid additional visual damage to this valuable lake environment.

We appreciate your concern for this sensitive area.
John Van Altena

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM: TOWER FINANCIAL LLC

Name:	RAYNA JOSEPH
Address:	9610 REDING CIRCLE
	DES PLAINES, IL 60016
Representing	TOWER FINANCIAL LLC

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

T: 39, R: 09, S: 35 Q2 NENE
SAND LAKE, WI

My comments regarding this project are:

According to the site map you provided there are 18 transmission lines that are proposed to fall onto or in the boundaries of Tower Financial, LLC's property. Tower Financial's equity in Sand Lake, Wisconsin lies in the value of the trees on our property. We do not want man made structures including transmission lines on our property. If Xcel Energy does have the ability to remove trees from our property for the purpose of the proposed transmission system we respectfully request documentation of said authority, and we would also expect compensation for loss of valuable resources.

Thank you,
Tower Financial, LLC

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to Raelynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	ROBERT S. & NANCY J. HOGSTAD
Address:	7057 N BOYLAN RD
	STONE LAKE WI 54876
Representing	

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

Town of Bass Lake STR: 06 39N 09W E $\frac{1}{2}$ NESE

My comments regarding this project are:

We own the property at 7057 N Boylan Rd.

In regard to the proposed new 161 KV line between Stone Lake & Couderay, we prefer that the new line would follow the existing 69 KV line

Thank you

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy

Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Dorothy McLeod / Charles McLeod
Address:	N5304 DAWN Rd
	STONE LAKE, WI 54876
Representing	

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

T39 R09 S08

McLeod Rd Kellner Rd

My comments regarding this project are:

We have not been contacted at all concerning this project this time. (We were last time it was done)

My son Scott Drabek, owns a house next to the sub station on Boylan Road. The power line was created just far enough away so you didn't have to pay him the 1st time. He has 3 children, this affects. He has seizures, which I believe was caused from being close to the substation. Now there's a power line also & another one proposed next to it. This isn't good for him. I don't believe. (He received 0 dollars & you didn't buy out his house.) Consider this when making your decision please.
People should not have to live so close to a power line.

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	George Hubert, Jr. (TRUST)
Address:	PO Box 728
	Hinckley, IL 60520
Representing	<i>Self</i>

*George Hubert, Jr.
7-22-12*

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

Township 38N, R7W, Sec. 18, Sawyer Co., WI near Couderay, WI

40 acres, SE 1/4, SE 1/4

My comments regarding this project are:

This project will ~~ad~~versely affect the long-term value, aesthetics, and management goals for my property. First, the proposed towers are unsightly (more than the existing two-pole 60 foot wooden towers), and they will extend well above the existing tree line. This property is managed for nesting and migrating woodcock which is a species of concern at the federal level. Bald eagles and wild turkeys use the current right-of-way for foraging and I have even found a turkey nest in the ROW. Construction of the proposed towers will disturb nesting/foraging birds, and result in additional obstacles to the daily and seasonal movements of nesting/migrating woodcock. I believe this project will do nothing to enhance the reliability and supply of electricity at the local level.

The existing right-of-way for line maintenance/construction is only 100 feet wide where it passes through my property. How does your company plan to avoid causing damage to the vegetation outside the existing ROW when installing towers with an above ground height of 100 feet? Also how much soil will be excavated./disturbed? What will be done with the excess soil? To my knowledge, nothing in the existing ROW lease forfeits my control of the soil. What are your mitigation plans for the short- and long-term disturbance that this project will cause to wildlife (especially

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to Raelynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy

woodcock) as well as my ability to use and enjoy my land for various outdoor recreational activities?



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Paul & Michelle Murray
Address:	15513 W Holly Lake Ln. Stone Lake WI 54876
Representing	Self

Home/mailing address:
W15630 St Rd 54
Melrose WI 54642

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

15513 W Holly Lake Ln
Stone Lake WI 54876

My comments regarding this project are:

Our first preference is not to have another line go through at all.

Second preference is to have line on same poles that are already in place along the longest portion of our property line.

(Preferred Route) If this new line is placed along the preferred Excel Energy route, we stand to lose more land and trees on our property which will significantly reduce property values and potentially make our land unsellable. We have invested money into this property by adding a well and electricity. In this case, we would anticipate Excel Energy to purchase our property at our asking price.

We realize that we do not have a home on this property at this time but were (are) looking to build in the future.

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

From: Christopher Aurit [<mailto:christopher.aurit@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, August 08, 2011 12:39 PM
To: Asah, Raelynn S
Subject: Re: 5388 N Hungry Lake Lane, stone lake wi

I still have no clue where the easement will fall in relation to the buildings and it is a 5 hour drive one way to go look I probably won't be able to make it up there by your deadline.

No objections except:

You must leave the existing structures intact and usable.

As I believe the new easement is either getting close to the structures or will include the structures (see above) - I would ask that any easement allow the installation of a septic drainage field within the easement area at a future date to be determined by me.

If you have to take down any trees - they need to be neatly stacked on the north side of the easement.

Chris

Christopher R Aurit
1730 Northpoint Street
Oshkosh WI 54901
[920-233-9941](tel:920-233-9941)

Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Kenneth A. Barney A. ERIKSEN
Address:	8907 BULL VALLEY RD
	WOODSTOCK, ILL 60098
Representing	ourselves on 4 locations

TODAY IS
7.19.2011

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

we have 4 properties on your yellow alternate route and are sick about this. PID: 026939205502, 5503, 5505 AND 5506. ALL ON LITTLE SAND LAKE ON SAND LAKE ROAD.

My comments regarding this project are:

THAT IT IS RIDICULOUSLY STUPID TO NOT USE ROUTES THAT ARE ALREADY IN PLACE, WIDE OPEN, READY TO GO AND WILL SERVICE YOUR NEEDS AND MORE FOR MANY YEARS TO COME. WHY WOULD YOU EVEN CONSIDER ALTERNATE ROUTES WHEN THE PREFERRED ROUTE IS PERFECTLY FINE, DISTURBS NO ONE, HAS EASY ACCESS, DOES EVERYTHING YOU WANT IT TO DO AND MORE, AND IS FAR LESS COSTLY? THE WHOLE THING MAKES NO SENSE AND BENEFITS NO ONE BUT YOU. ERECTING GIANT NEW POWER TOWERS DOWN NEW ROUTES AND DESTROY EVERYTHING WE RESIDENTS HOLD DEAR + CHERISH, WHEN A BETTER MORE PERFECT OPTION IS OBVIOUSLY AVAILABLE IS JUST UNBELIEVABLY ARROGANT + SELF-SERVING. YOU ARE GOING TO DO THIS AT THE EXPENSE OF THOSE WHO REALLY LOVE, APPRECIATE + ENJOY LIVING HERE IN WISCONSIN'S BEAUTIFUL NORTH WOODS. WHY DO YOU THREATEN SO?

DOES MONEY ALWAYS TRUMP GOOD SENSE?

DOES MONEY ALWAYS TRUMP THE ENVIRONMENT?

BE SMART + USE YOUR HEADS. THIS IS NOT A DIFFICULT DECISION. TAKE THE EXISTING NORTHERN ROUTE NORTH OF BIG SAND LAKE

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

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Xcel Energy

AND SIMPLY
UPGRADE
IT TO ACCOM-
DATE YOUR
NEEDS.

THE PREFERRED
ROUTE IS THE ONLY
ANSWER. USE
THE EXISTING TRANSMISSION
LINE OR PIPELINE ROUTE.



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name: Richard and JoAn goodman
Address: 1950 15th Ave.
Cameron, Wi. 54822
Representing

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

5824N Upper Holly Lane

My comments regarding this project are:

I guess our biggest question is Why ! Why can't you put it somewhere else ? Why do you want to ruin Upper Holly ! It would be bad enough if you put in the line on the other side of the road (west). But to cut down all the trees is an environmental disaster ! If you must put it there why can't you put it on the west side of Upper Holly Lane and use the road for access or repair. There would be a minimum of trees to cut down. I'm sure there is enough room for access between from the existing power line on the other side for access. The other thing is, what will it do to our property values? You couldn't give us a good answer at the meeting and I guess We won't get an answer now.

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

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Xcel Energy



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	Jon Beckman
Address:	3937 Regent St
	Madison WI 53705
Representing	Hillznhollerz LLC

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

T:39 R:09 S:19 QQ NWSE

My comments regarding this project are:

I am in opposition of alternate route A which crosses my property.

I am in favor of the preferred route which runs along the existing power line corridor.

Please keep me up to date on this project.

Thank you.

008-712-3444

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to Raelynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

Fold on Lines, Fasten and Mail

Xcel Energy

From: tkelek@charter.net [mailto:tkelek@charter.net]

Sent: Thursday, August 11, 2011 7:54 PM

To: Asah, Raelynn S

Subject: Power Line

RaeLynn,

This letter is in regard to the Stone Lake to the Radisson/Couderay 69kV Rebuild and 161 kV Upgrade Transmission Project in Sawyer County, Wisconsin.

My mother, Dolores Kelekovich, lives at 4127 N County Road C, which is on one of the proposed routes for this project. I am calling your attention to my **opposition** to using this route and impacting this property.

Since a transmission line already exists, the rebuild and upgrade should use the existing path/right of way. This method would not only be cost effective, but it would be the path of least impact. The people affected already have a power line through their property. The project would impact these people and their property the least.

The constant power upgrades in Sawyer County must reflect the impact on the property owner. Property devaluations cannot be shrugged off as just another NIMBY argument. The Arrowhead-Weston project is a great example of this. It makes you wonder what is coming next.

There are many reasons that people choose to live in the country. But one of them is not to pay rising tax bills and listen to the hum of a transmission line.

Health risks, noise, safety issues, and property devaluation are all part of having a line like this run through your piece of the countryside.

PLEASE use the existing route, which already has a power line, for this project.

Thank you for your consideration.

- Tony

Tony Kelekovich
5716 Ogden Av
Superior WI 54880
715-394-2062
tkelek@charter.net

From: Lilypad Records [mailto:kerry@lilypadrecords.com]
Sent: Saturday, August 13, 2011 1:39 PM
To: Asah, Raelynn S
Subject: Stone Lake to Couderay Rebuild, Sawyer County Wisconsin

August 13, 2011

RaeLynn Asah
Permitting Analyst
Xcel Energy

re: Stone Lake to Couderay Rebuild, Sawyer County Wisconsin

RaeLynn,

The matter of the Stone Lake to Couderay 69kV Rebuild/161 kV Upgrade, in Sawyer County Wisconsin just came to my attention. As you already should have been made aware, my mother, Dolores Kelekovich, received word of this situation well after-the-fact, due to her unfortunate hip fracture and subsequent stay in the Hayward Nursing Home from mid-April until late July 2011. Had her mail not been shut off or adequate information been made available in the local press, we would have attended Xcel's informational meetings. But, her circumstances made this impossible and we are now reacting to this news late in the process. That said, I would like to voice my strong opposition to any and all transmission lines coming through our 40 acre parcel or near any road easements in front of our property.

As I'm sure you are aware, the ATC Transmission line has already impacted our area, lowering property values, exposing residents and wildlife to health concerns, and doing damage to a pristine forested area, with absolutely NO benefit to local residents. To discover that your proposal has a pathway that not only comes directly through our property but does so directly behind our house, is quite frankly shocking and revolting. How anyone drawing up this pathway would even consider diverting the line directly through our property, behind our house, draws attention to the fact that you see a single property owner as an easy target, when the Lac Court Oreilles Reservation (located directly behind our property) would certainly refuse right-of-way to your power lines.

Please note that I, and my family, vehemently disagree with your proposal, the direction of the power-line pathway and the suggestion that this is necessary and beneficial to local residents. Health concerns, property values and land conservation would be negatively impacted and there is absolutely no way any of my family would agree to allow this transmission line to come through ANY of our property, let alone be constructed directly behind our home.

If, for any reason, you would need to contact me via means other than email, I can be reached at (815) 728-7559. While I can understand and appreciate the "*concept*" of upgrading infrastructure, your methods and manner of informing local residents is largely inadequate, and the portion of this proposal which directly affects us is ill-conceived, also posing a significant health risk, with added loss of property value being insult-to-injury. Do not think that we would find any reason to grant this power-line access to our property, now or at any time in the future. There is a lot of land in Sawyer County and I would suggest contacting the LCO Tribal council if you need land access in our area.

Thank you for your consideration in this urgent manner.

On behalf of Dolores Kelekovich (mother), land owner of 4127N County Road C in Sawyer County, Wisconsin.

Kerry Kelekovich (Joint tenant/son)
8012 Oakworth Drive
Wonder Lake, Illinois 60097



Proposed Stone Lake – Couderay Transmission & Substation Project

COMMENT FORM

FROM:

Name:	RC Hanning
Address:	4220 Co Rd #6
	Long Lake, Minn 55356
Representing	

Please note your property location. (Town, Range, section number are fine. You may also use the nearest cross street in addition to your address above).

My comments regarding this project are:

Keep things in one spot
By spreading them out you increase
The "NOT IN MY BACK YARD"
effect. In other words follow
your original Route

RC Hanning

Please attach other sheets for more comments or additional information

Please return your comments to RaeLynn Asah, Xcel Energy, (see address on back) or email them to raelynn.asah@xcelenergy.com.

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Xcel Energy