

NOTICE OF SUPPLEMENTAL COMMENT PERIOD ON MINOR ALTERATION REQUEST

Issued: June 1, 2016

In the Matter of the Application by Great River Energy and Minnesota Power for Route Permit for a 115 kV Transmission Line near Motley, Minnesota

PUC Docket Number/s: ET2, E015/TL-15-204

Comment Period: Comments accepted through June 16, 2016 at 4:30 p.m.

Comments received after comment period closes may not be considered

Topic/s Open for Comment:

- In light of comments filed on May 26, 2016, what action should be taken regarding the Motley Substation minor alteration request?
- Should the Commission approve the minor alteration requests?
- If the minor alterations are approved, should any conditions be required?

Project Background: On March 23, 2016, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission issued a high-voltage transmission line route permit for the Motley Area 115 kV Transmission Line Project authorizing Great River Energy and Minnesota Power to construct and operate an approximately 16-mile 115 kV transmission line and associated facilities in the Motley Area.

On May 12, 2016, Great River Energy applied to the Commission for two minor alterations to the approved transmission line route. The first alteration is to address a landowner concern regarding transmission line placement on their property (MA#1) and the second alteration is to accommodate construction of the substation near the existing Crow Wing Power substation (MA#2), as shown on the attached map (Map A).

On May 26, 2016, comments were filed by the Department of Commerce Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) unit and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Comments of the DNR indicated concern regarding the proposed relocation of the Motley Substation (MA#2) and the potential impacts to a Regionally Significant Ecological Area (see attached Map B).

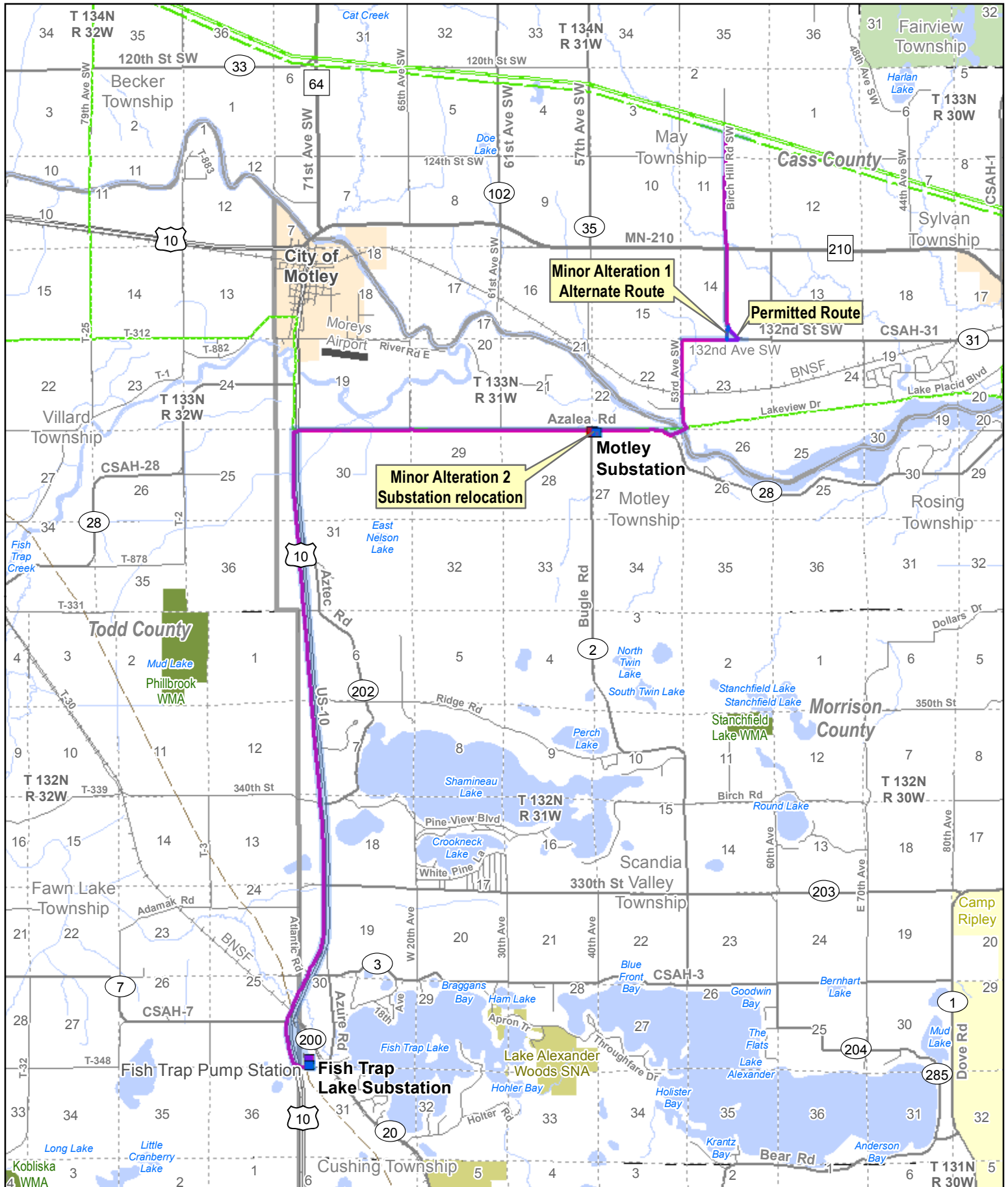
Submit Public Comments: Visit mn.gov/puc, select *Speak Up!*, find this docket, and add your comments to the discussion. If you wish to include an exhibit, map or other attachment, please send your comments via U.S. Mail.

Full Case Record: See all documents filed in this docket via the Commission's website - mn.gov/puc, select *Search eDockets*, enter the year (15) and the docket number (204), select *Search*.

Questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure? Contact Commission staff, Tricia DeBleeckere, at tricia.debleeckere@state.mn.us or 651-201-2254.

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- Great River Energy
- Anticipated alignment 115 kV transmission line
- Proposed alignment - Minor Alteration 1
- Original alignment
- Permitted route
- Alternate route - Minor Alteration 1

- Minnesota Power
- Existing 34.5 kV transmission line
- Existing 115 kV transmission line
- Existing 230 kV transmission line
- Crow Wing Power
- Proposed substation - Minor Alteration 2
- Existing substation

- Minnesota Pipe Line
 - Proposed pump station
 - Existing pipeline
- GIS data sources: MNGEO, MNDNR, MNDOT, and Great River Energy
- 0 1 2 Miles



Updated: 5/12/2016

Motley Area 115 kV Project Route Permit Minor Alterations Map A

Map B (DNR Figure 1)

Figure 1 – Boundary of Central Region Regionally Significant Ecological Area (green) in vicinity of Minor Alteration 2.

