

# Northland Reliability Project

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## Project Updates

Aitkin County, May 2025

# PUC Approved Route

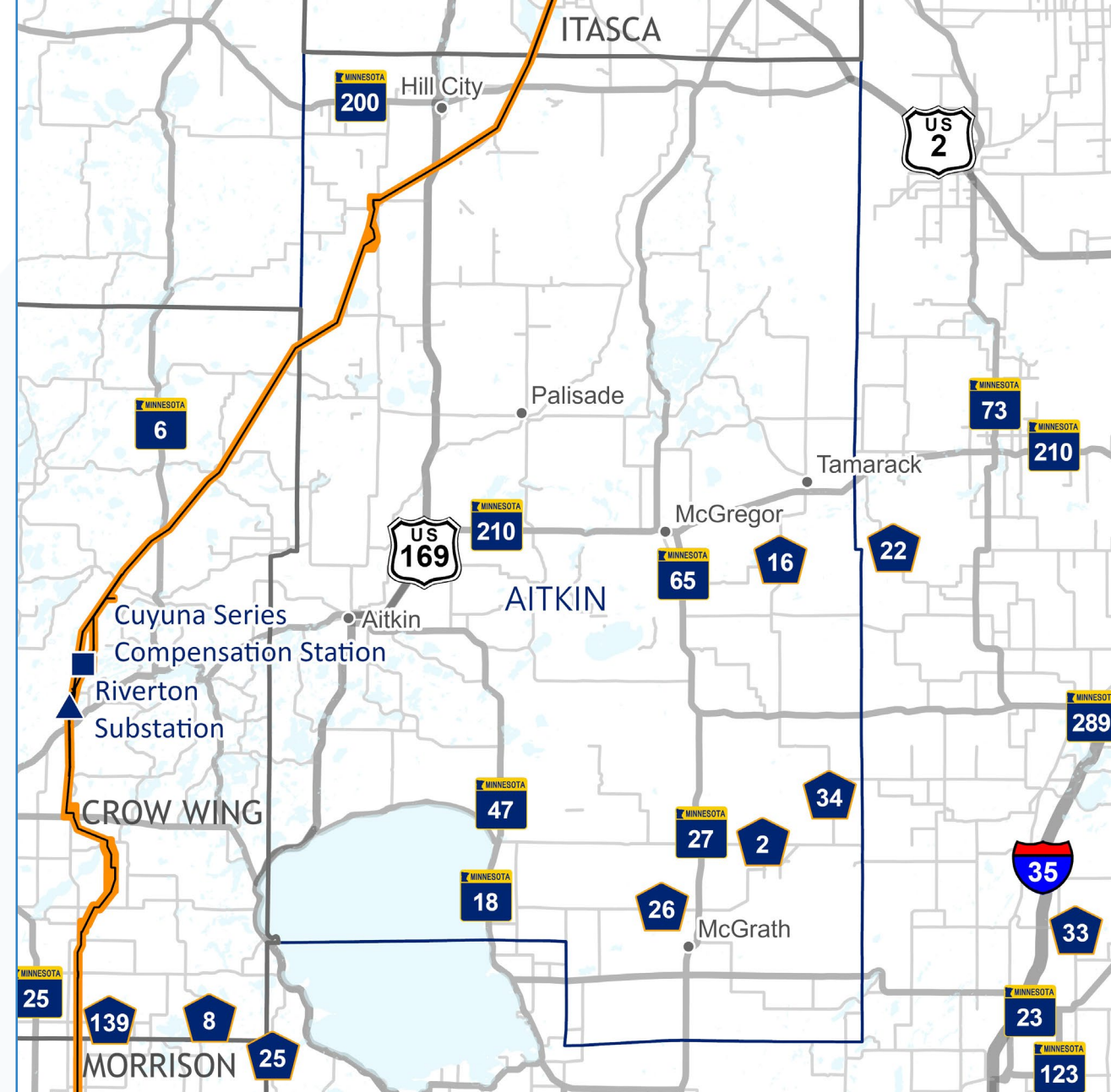
28 February 2025

- 90% following HVTL, increased from 85%
- Consolidates existing lines, reduces new right-of-way needed for NRP
- Expands around Swatara to avoid residences
- Crosses the Mississippi River primarily within existing right-of-way
- Rebuild existing transmission lines through Riverton, no longer on east side of Cuyuna Country State Rec Area
- Increases use of tax forfeit lands in new right-of-way



# PUC Approved Route – Aitkin County

- Co-location of 92 and 11 Lines in north Aitkin County
- Co-location reduces amount of new right-of-way for about 11 miles total
- Alignment shifted to the west of Swatara onto tax forfeit lands to avoid residences



# PUC Approved Route – Aitkin County





# Three construction phases

- **Phase 1:** Segment 2 and Realignments (Oct. 2025 – 2026)
- **Phase 2:** Benton County Substation to Cuyuna Series Comp Station (2025 – 2027)
- **Phase 3:** Cuyuna Series Comp Station to Iron Range Substation (2027 – 2029)



# On-going and upcoming milestones - Aitkin County



Engineering design for transmission line



Field surveys in some locations



State, federal, and local permitting



Collecting soil borings

# On-going and upcoming milestones

## - Project-wide



Engineering design for substations and transmission line



State, federal, and local permitting



Road Use Agreement and Road crossing / driveway permitting (Phase 1)



Collecting soil borings (Phases 2 and 3)



Field surveys in some locations (Phases 2 and 3)



Material delivery and access matting in Aug/Sept 2025 (Phase 1)



Foundation construction Oct 2025 (Phase 1)

# Contractors

## Right-of-Way and Real Estate



## Surveying and Environment



## Construction and Restoration





# Construction steps

## SEGMENT 2

Landowner notices provided in advance of construction

Starting 2025



Continuing into 2026

### Pre-construction through restoration



1. Tree clearing



2. Structure staking, surveying and soil investigations



3. Foundation installation



4. Assemble and set structures



5. Wire installation



6. Cleanup and restoration

## SEGMENT 1

Landowner notices provided in advance of construction

Starting 2026



Continuing into 2030



# Field surveys

*Landowner notices provided in advance of surveys*

**Started**  
October 2023



**Continued**  
May – November 2024



**Continuing**  
Into 2025

## Types of surveys



Biological



Cultural  
resources



Noxious weeds



Wetlands



Soil borings

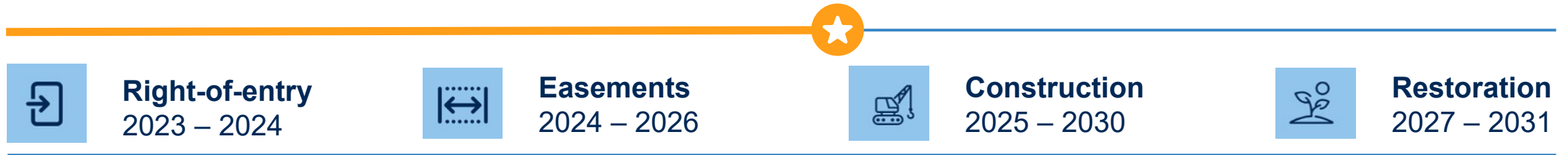


Land

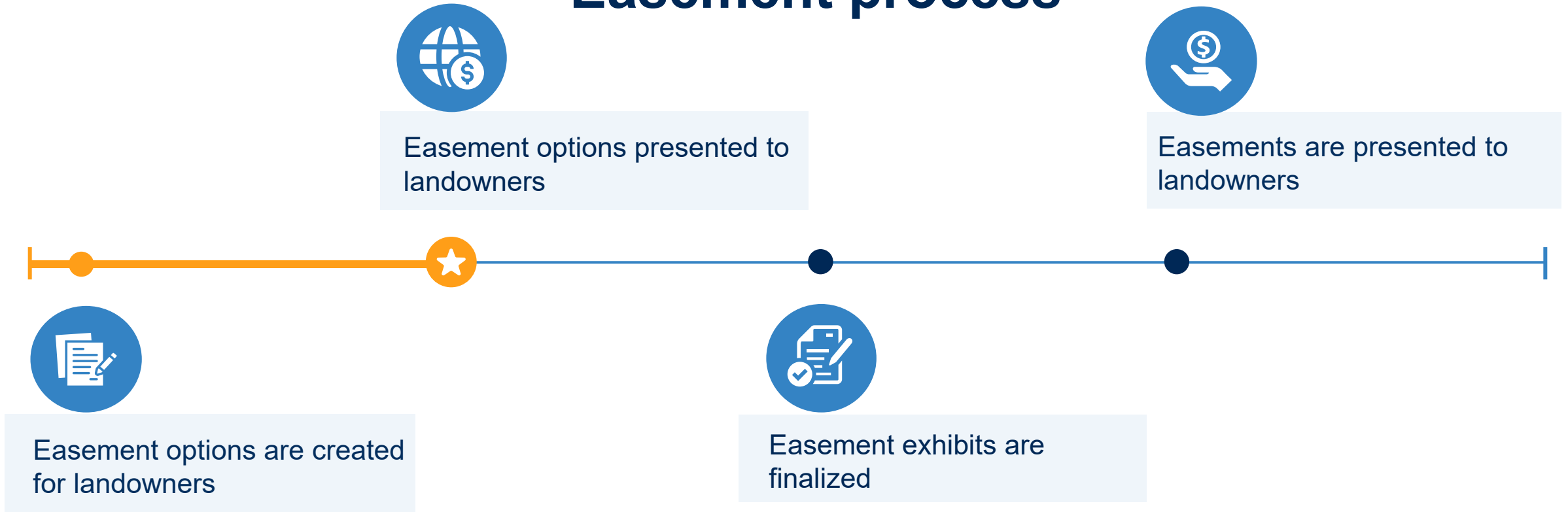
## Geo-tech soil boring surveys



# Real estate process



## Easement process



# What landowners can expect during construction



**Right-of-entry**  
2023 – 2024



**Easements**  
2024 – 2026



**Construction**  
2025 – 2030



**Restoration**  
2027 – 2031

*We will do our best to minimize impacts during construction. However, the following temporary impacts will occur:*

- Construction staking
- Noise, dust and lights for nearby residents
- Equipment, materials and construction crews moving
- Temporary lane and road closures
- Work during daylight hours, which are 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- Vegetation clearing within the easement area
- Erosion control measures

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## Connect with us!



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