# **Northland Reliability Project**



Routing a transmission line is no small task. The state of Minnesota has statutes and rules that guide the route development process and help minimize a project's impact to human settlement and the environment. Input from you, local leaders and agencies as well as our own expertise is critical as we develop and finalize a route.

Earlier this year, we worked with the community to help define the route corridor. Currently, we're working to further define the preliminary route in order to identify the proposed route, which will be used to apply for the Certificate of Need and Route Permit. Please note that at each point during this process, and even after we submit permits to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, there will be opportunities for public input.





## Step 1:

#### Define a study area

The study area is the geographic area in consideration for the route of the power line. We developed the study area based on where the new transmission line will need to connect into existing infrastructure. We looked for opportunities to follow existing utility corridors and use land already being used for power lines whenever it makes sense. We then narrowed down the area to create a route corridor. The area will continue to be narrowed based on the state of Minnesota's requirements, as well as public input, engineering, permitting and construction feasibility.



## Step 2:

#### Define a route corridor

The route corridor is a narrowed area considered for the power line. We developed the route corridor based on where the new power line will need to connect into substations, input gathered during our fall 2022 stakeholder workshops, and the opportunity to route near existing utility corridors and land already being used for power lines.



## Step 3:

#### Define preliminary route - we are here

The preliminary route is a narrowed area within the route corridor being considered for the power line. We developed the preliminary route based on where the new power line will need to connect into substations, input gathered during our stakeholder workshops and phase 1 public open houses, and the opportunity to route near existing utility corridors and land already being used for power lines. Using additional public input, we'll develop the proposed route for the Certificate of Need and Route Permit application from the preliminary route.

## Step 4:

#### **Identify proposed route**

We will develop a proposed route that we will use to submit a Certificate of Need and Route Permit application with the PUC in late summer 2023. You can subscribe to receive updates from the PUC. Visit edockets.state.mn.us and enter the docket number you're interested in tracking. For information on the Certificate of Need use docket 22-416 and for information on the Route Permit use docket 22-415.



#### **Connect with us**

Questions? We want to hear from you.

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