

Northland Reliability Project



Supporting a reliable, resilient, flexible energy grid

To maintain a continuous supply of safe and reliable electricity, Minnesota Power and Great River Energy are investing in transmission infrastructure to enhance the stability of the regional electric system and support a reliable, resilient and flexible electric grid as energy resources continue to evolve. The energy resources we use to serve our customers and members are changing, and the regional power grid we use to deliver that energy needs to change, too.

Project needs

The Northland Reliability Project will ensure the power grid in northern and central Minnesota continues to operate safely and reliably as energy resources in Minnesota and the regional power system continue to evolve. This project is also part of a large “Long Range Transmission Plan” portfolio approved by MISO, the region’s grid operator, to support grid reliability across the Midwest region. As generation resources shift from fossil fuels to more renewables, the Northland Reliability Project is one part of the solution to:



Providing system support as fossil-fueled baseload generation is retired



Enhancing system resiliency during extreme weather events



Facilitating increased capacity to safely and reliably deliver clean energy from where it’s produced to where it’s needed by our customers and members



Planning proactively to meet changing customer and members’ power needs due to decarbonization and electrification

About

The project consists of two major segments and some additional improvements:

- **Segment one:** Installing approximately 130 miles of a new double-circuit 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line, generally located near existing transmission line corridors
- **Segment two:** Replacing approximately 20 miles of an existing 230-kV transmission line to a double-circuit 345-kV transmission line from the Benton County Substation to near the Cassie’s Crossing Interconnection Area (substation to be built as part of a separate project)
- **Additional project improvements:**
 - Expanding the existing Iron Range Substation, located near Grand Rapids, and the Benton County Substation, located near St. Cloud
 - Installing a new substation at or near the existing Riverton Substation and reconfiguring existing transmission lines in the Riverton area
 - Rebuilding approximately 20 miles of existing single-circuit 345-kV line from the Benton County Substation to the Sherco Substation in Sherburne County

Schedule

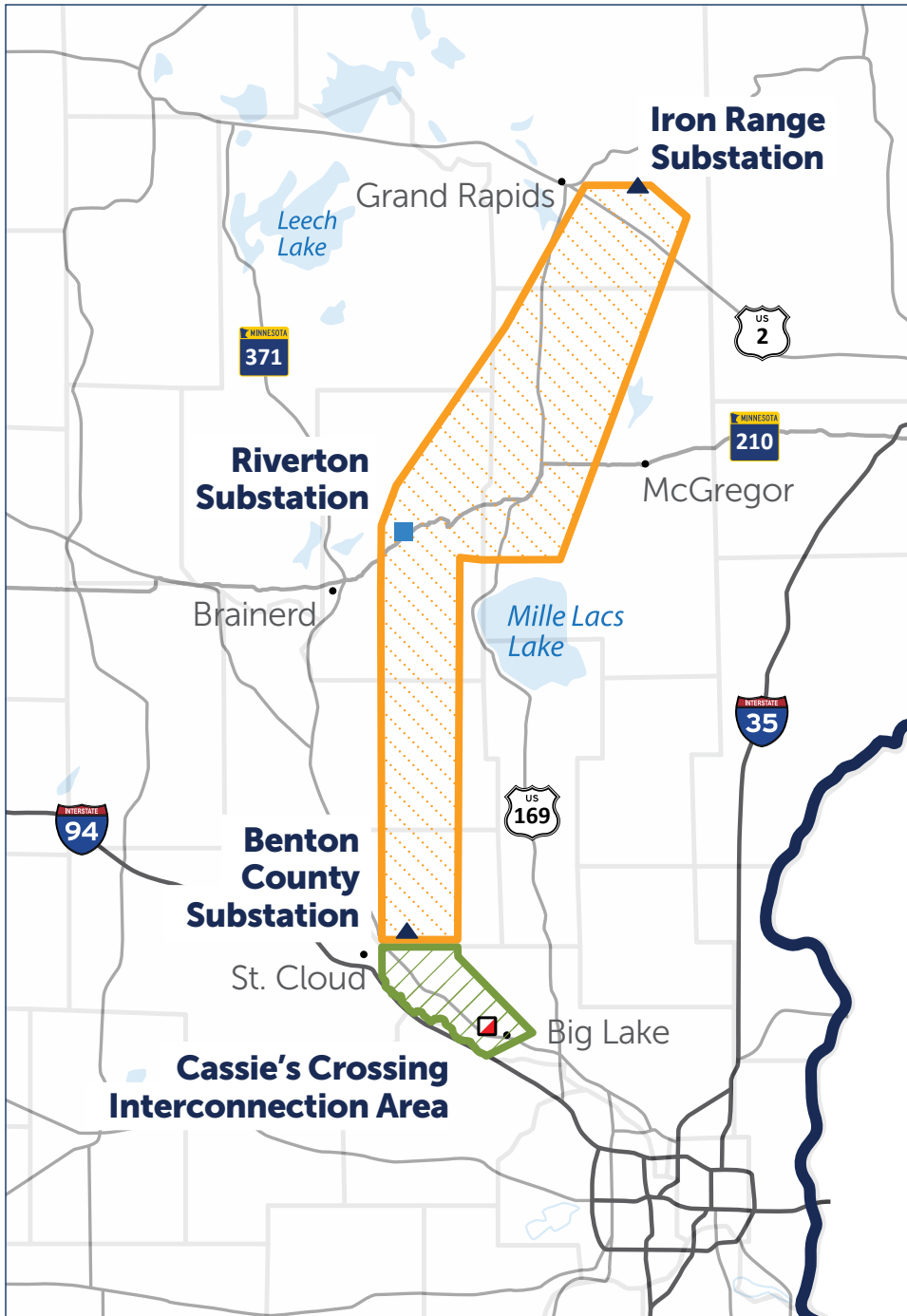
This project includes a robust stakeholder process. We’ll apply for a Certificate of Need and Route Permit from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and work with local jurisdictions, landowners, customers and agencies while following permitting requirements throughout project development and construction.



**The schedule is subject to change.*

Minnesota Power and Great River Energy have a successful history of joint development and ownership of projects that support the reliability of our electric grid to meet the needs of our communities.

Northland Reliability Project



Study area

We developed the study area based on where the new line will need to connect into existing infrastructure. We'll develop potential routes based on engineering, permitting, construction feasibility and public input.

Segment one

Installing approximately 130 miles of a new double-circuit 345-kV transmission line, generally located near existing transmission line corridors.

Segment two

Replacing approximately 20 miles of an existing 230-kV transmission line to a double-circuit 345-kV line from the Benton County Substation to the new Cassie's Crossing Interconnection Area (substation to be built as part of a separate project).

Legend

- ▲ Expand existing substations
- New substation
- ▣ Cassie's Crossing Interconnection Area (substation not built as part of this project)

Connect with us

Questions? We want to hear from you.



northlandreliabilityproject.com
(coming soon!)



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