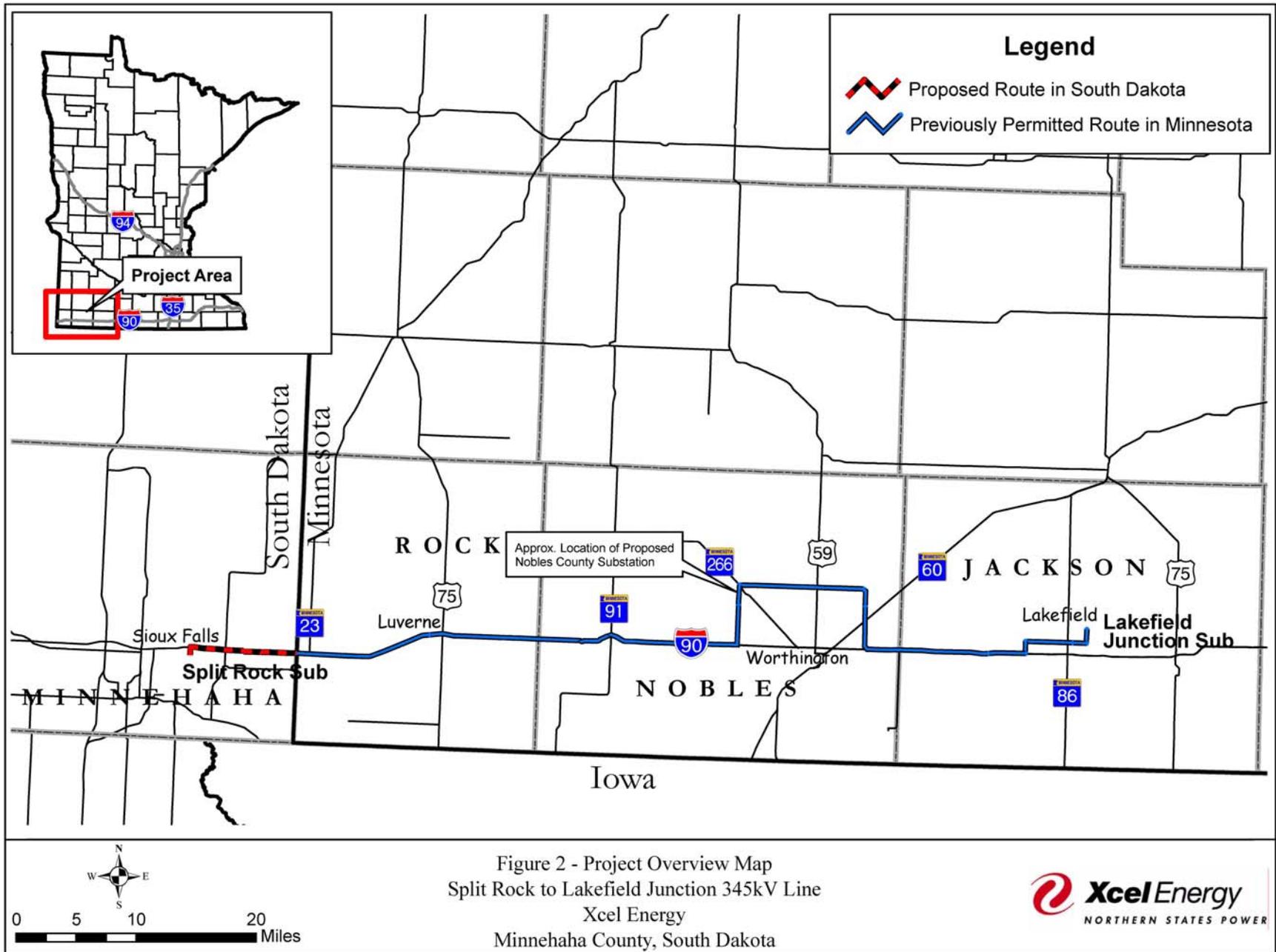


# **Split Rock to Lakefield Junction 345 kV Transmission Line**

**SD PUC Docket No. EL05-023**

# Split Rock to Lakefield Junction 345 kV Project

- Brandon, SD to Lakefield, MN
  - 86 Mile 345 kV line
  - 9.6 Miles in SD
- Expansion of Split Rock substation (Brandon)



**Exhibit C.1a – Project Route Segments**  
**Split Rock to Lakefield Junction 345KV Line**  
**Xcel Energy**  
**Minnehaha County, South Dakota**



**Exhibit C.1b – Project Route Segments**  
**Split Rock to Lakefield Junction 345KV Line**  
**Xcel Energy**  
**Minnehaha County, South Dakota**

## Project Need

- Development of wind energy in SW Minnesota and in South Dakota.
  - Increases firm outlet capacity to 825 MW
- Present transmission system cannot support existing wind generation
- Enhances transmission system reliability and capacity for Sioux Falls.

# Project Status

- Permits Acquired
  - MN Certificate of Need
  - MN Route Permit
  - MN DOT Permit
  - SD DOT Permit
  - Corps of Engineers Permit
  - Construction Stormwater Permit
- ROW acquisition
  - 28 of 34 easements acquired



Existing Line



Proposed Line

# Proposed Split Rock Substation Modifications



## Schedule

- SD line construction will begin once the Facilities Permit is approved and all easements are acquired.
- Project construction expected to be complete by Fall 2008.

## Siting & Construction Issues

- Placement of 345 kV line adjacent to I-90 fence to minimize impacts
- Schedule construction work to avoid impacts to Bald Eagle nest
- Best Management Practices during construction
  - Erosion control measures
  - Winter construction
- Landowners compensated for damages caused by construction

# Stipulation Agreement

- Xcel Energy and the Commission Staff have entered into a settlement agreement.

Xcel Energy respectfully requests approval of the Facilities Permit requested in EL05-023.