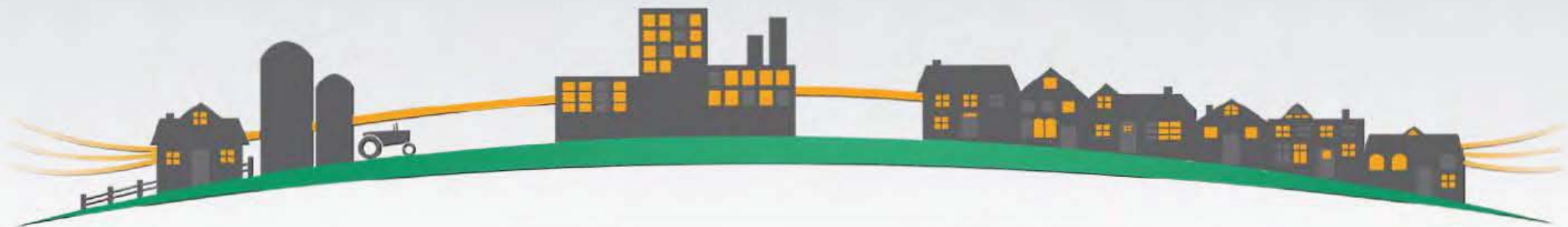




Public Hearing

October 2013



- ⦿ Applicant overviews
- ⦿ Project development
- ⦿ Project overview
- ⦿ Routing process
- ⦿ Engineering design
- ⦿ Project outreach
- ⦿ Right-of-way
- ⦿ Next steps



- Electric utility areas
- Natural gas utility areas
- Electric generating stations
- States of operations

- ⦿ Headquartered in Bismarck, North Dakota
- ⦿ Electric and/or natural gas service to parts of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming
- ⦿ Service area covers about 168,000 square miles
- ⦿ Approximately 312,000 customers



- Headquartered in Fergus Falls, Minnesota
- Electric service to parts of Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota
- Service area covers about 70,000 square miles
- Approximately 129,400 customers in 422 communities

◎ Project development



◎ Project benefits

- Enables the delivery of low-cost generation
- Increases system reliability

- ◎ Short term local economic benefits during construction
 - Construction expenditures (estimated range \$3 – \$7 Million through construction period)
 - Other tax benefits: (estimated range \$5.5 – \$9 Million)
 - Sales and use taxes
 - Contractor taxes
- ◎ Long term local benefits
 - Increased taxes paid to affected counties/townships
 - Estimated annual property taxes paid by Project:
 - \$715,000 – \$885,000 in Brown County
 - \$535,000 - \$755,000 in Day County
 - \$490,000 - \$605,000 in Grant County

Project overview

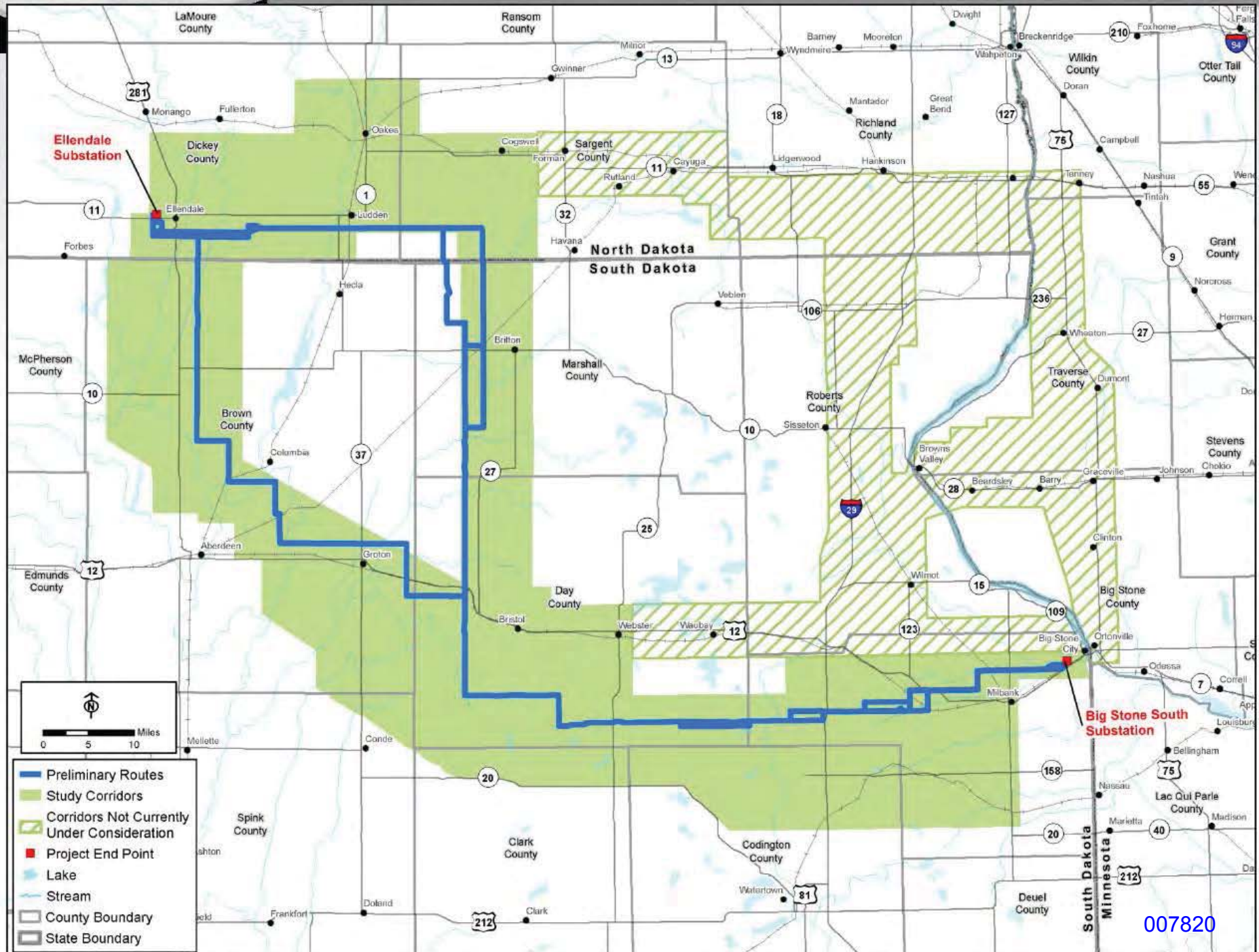


- New 345 kV transmission line
- Anticipated length: 160 miles to 170 miles
- Connect Ellendale substation to Big Stone South substation
- Anticipated total Project cost: \$293M – \$370M
- SD investment est. \$250M - \$320M
- In service in 2019

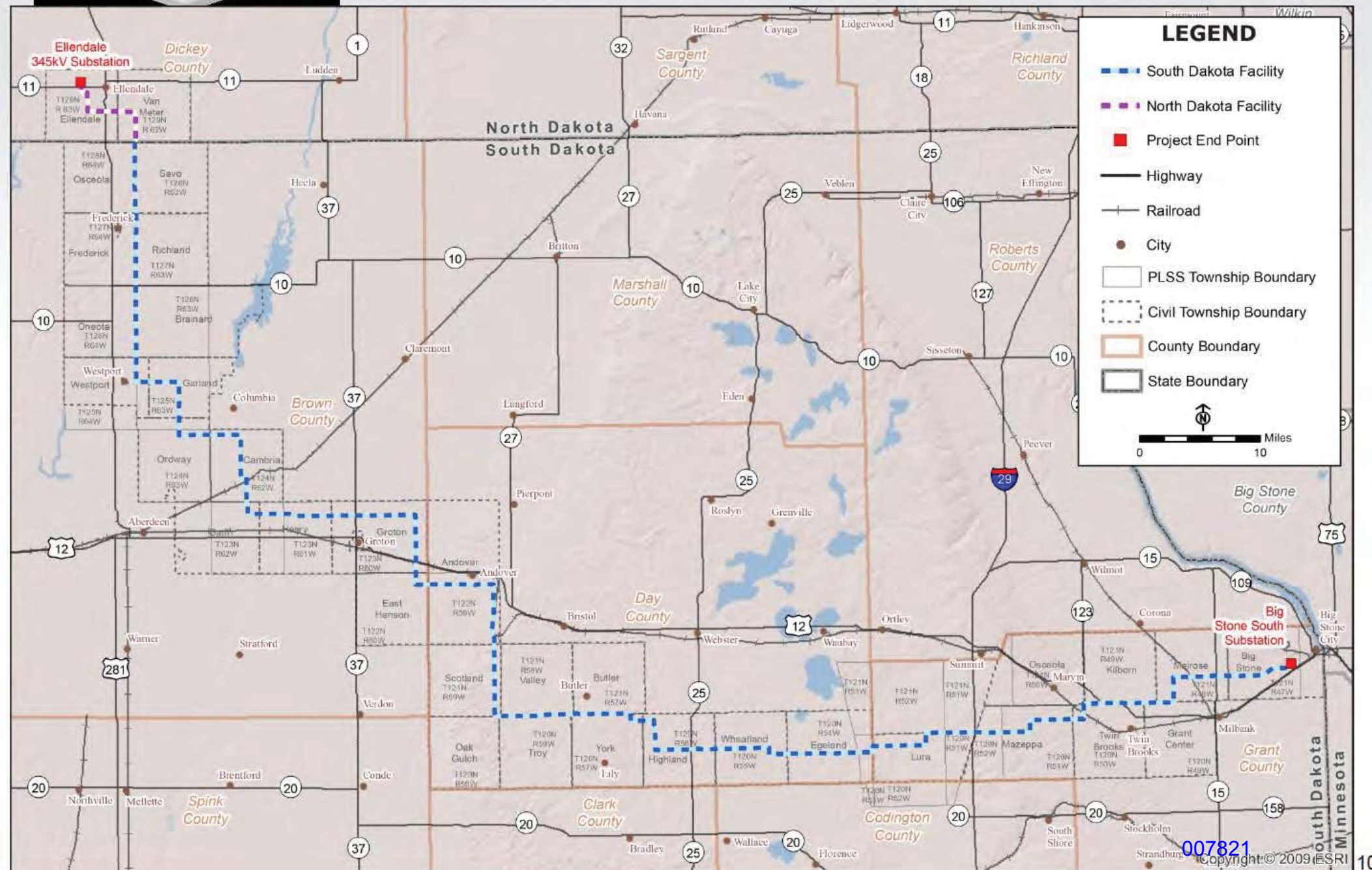
Information evaluated:

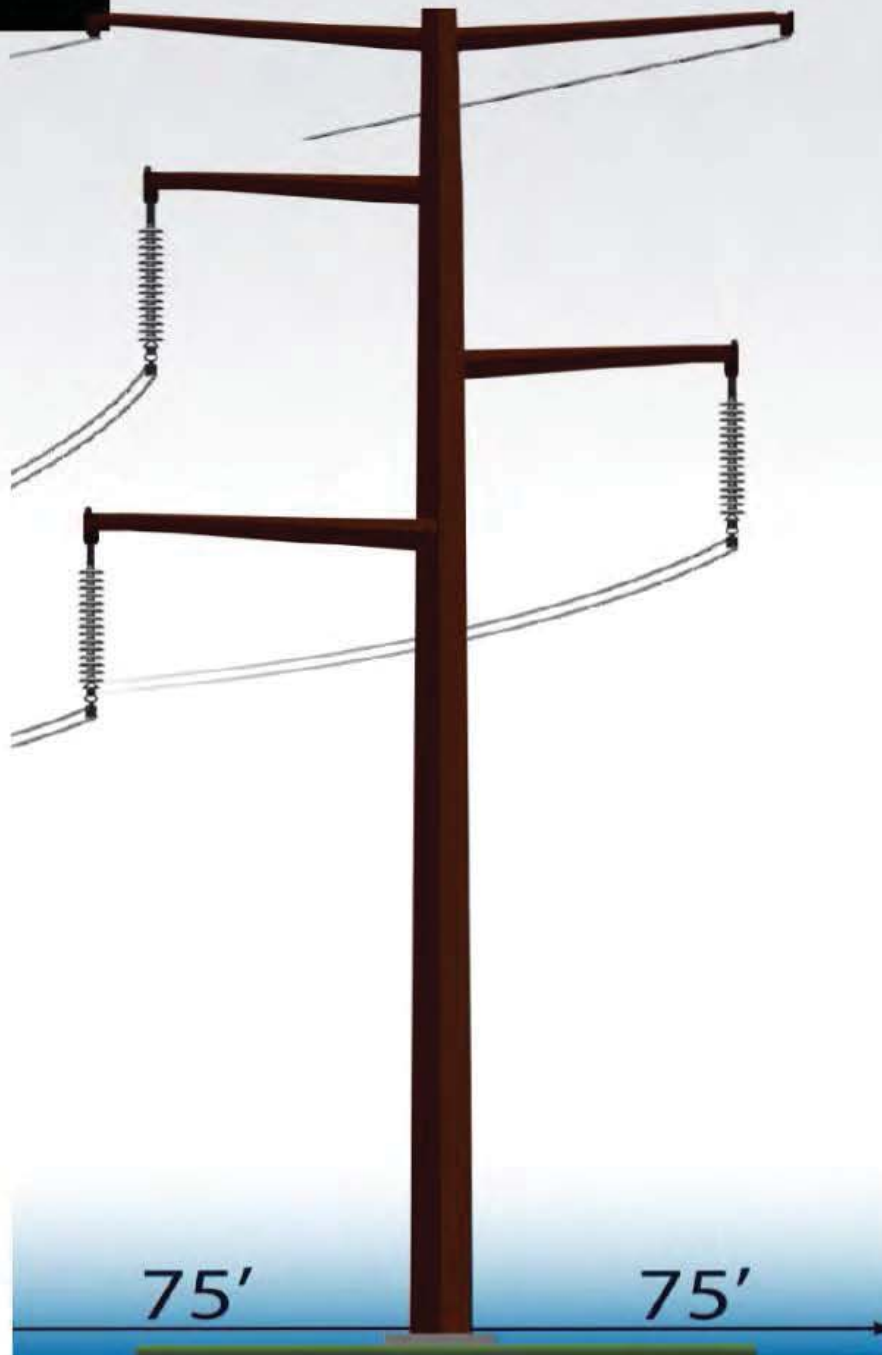
- ⦿ Overall length and cost
- ⦿ Existing high voltage transmission lines and transportation infrastructure
- ⦿ Section lines
- ⦿ Populated areas/residences
- ⦿ Environmental and engineering considerations
- ⦿ River crossing locations
- ⦿ Public and agency feedback

Routing process: Preliminary Routes



Routing process: Preferred Route





Average measurements	
Above-grade height	125 - 155 ft
Foundation diameter	6 - 11 ft
Span	700 - 1200 ft
Structures per mile	5 - 6
Minimum ground clearance	30 ft

Construction overview

- 1 Survey structure locations and identify ingress and egress locations.
- 2 Auger the holes where the structure poles will be set and pour foundation (if required).
- 3 Assemble the structure on the ground adjacent to the holes/foundation.
- 4 Lift structure and place in hole or on foundation.
- 5 String wires.
- 6 Restore right-of-way and energize line.

2



3



4



5



6



- ⦿ **Letters or postcards mailed** (September 2012, October 2012, February 2013, April 2013, May 2013, June 2013, August 2013)
- ⦿ **Open house meetings** (October 2012 & February 2013)
- ⦿ **Newsletters mailed** (November 2012, June 2013, October 2013)
- ⦿ **County meetings** (August 2012 & January 2013)
- ⦿ **Interagency meetings** (August 2012 & January 2013)
- ⦿ **Tribal Agency meetings** (October 2012, March 2013, May 2013, July 2013)

- ⦿ Started contacting landowners on August 5, 2013
- ⦿ Over 90% of the SD parcel owners have been contacted to date
- ⦿ 94 options have been signed
- ⦿ Nearly 30% of the SD project miles have options signed

Next steps





HOW TO STAY INFORMED and PROVIDE FEEDBACK:



- Visit our website at **www.BSSEtransmissionline.com**
- Call our toll-free information line: **1-888-283-4678**
- **Join our mailing list** (online or at this meeting)
- Email us at: **info@BSSEtransmissionline.com**
- **Make a comment** at this meeting or online at **www.BSSEtransmissionline.com**