

5.0 Estimated Cost of Facility (ARSD 10:22:09)

The costs for the South Dakota portion of the transmission lines are estimated to be approximately \$37.8 million in 2006 dollars. The entire transmission project is estimated to cost approximately \$110 million in 2006 dollars. Table 3 provides a breakdown of the transmission and substation costs of the Project.

(APPLICATION TABLE 3)
FACILITY COSTS

Facility	Distance (miles)	Construction Costs per mile (Average)	Right-of-Way Costs per mile	Total Cost
Granite Falls Route (345 kV)	33	\$580,000	\$60,000	\$21 Million
Morris Route (230 kV)	4.45	\$390,000	\$60,000	\$2 Million
230 kV connection from Big Stone 230 kV Substation to Big Stone 345 kV Substation – Two Transmission Lines	1.25	\$480,000	\$60,000	675,000
Big Stone 230 kV Substation Upgrade	NA	NA	NA	\$4.2 Million
Big Stone 345 kV Substation	NA	NA	NA	\$9.5 Million
230 kV transmission line reroute between Big Stone and Hankinson, ND	0.9	\$450,000	NA	\$400,000
Total Facility Costs				\$37.8 Million

Transmission line costs include items related to engineering, surveying, materials, labor and equipment. Annual operation and maintenance costs are estimated to be approximately \$30,000 per year for the transmission lines and \$10,000 to \$15,000 per year for the substations and are dependent on setting, amount of vegetation management necessary, storm damage occurrences, structure types, age of the transmission line, etc. It is anticipated that very little maintenance will be required for the first several years since the transmission line will be new. These costs do not include any costs related to restoration or mitigation.

