



May 8, 2026

Leah Mohr, Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
Capitol Building, 1st Floor
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Re: Notification of Intent to Exercise Right of First Refusal – Laramie River Station to New Underwood 345 kV Transmission Project

Dear Ms. Mohr:

On November 10, 2025 pursuant to SDCL 49-32-20, Basin Electric Power Cooperative (“Basin Electric”) as an incumbent electric transmission owner in the state of South Dakota, submitted a notice to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission that Basin Electric intended to construct, own, and maintain the new Laramie River Station (LRS) to New Underwood 345kV transmission line project (“Project”) to be located partially in South Dakota.

The original notice provided that a portion of the project was being developed in conjunction with the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA). Recently, SPP issued a modified Notice to Construct (NTC) directly to Basin Electric for the entire project (Attachment A). Under the modified NTC, Basin Electric’s scope will now include the 345kV transmission line from a new substation called Saint Germaine located east of the Rapid City area to a new substation called Fox Ridge near Maurine, South Dakota. The estimated distance from the Saint Germaine substation to the Fox Ridge substation area is 80 miles. The NTC also includes a new transmission line from the proposed Fox Ridge substation (near Maurine) to Belfield, North Dakota substation. This circuit is approximately 150 miles, of which approximately 75 miles will be routed within South Dakota. The proposed Project’s location is depicted on Attachment B.

Further, the letter also identified that the first portion of the overall Project from the Laramie River Substation to the Wyoming border, located in Wyoming, was identified as a competitive bid segment. That portion of the Project has been awarded by SPP to Basin Electric.

By this letter dated May 8, 2026 Basin Electric hereby notifies the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission of its intent to exercise its right of first refusal to construct, own, and maintain the Project located within the State of South Dakota.

Please contact me at 701-557-5707 if you have questions related to this updated filing.

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Sincerely,

Jeremy Severson

[Jeremy Severson \(May 8, 2026 11:49:36 CDT\)](#)

Jeremy Severson
Vice President Transmission

Cc: Gavin McCollam – BEPC

Attachment A
SPP Notice to Construct



HELPING OUR MEMBERS WORK TOGETHER
TO KEEP THE LIGHTS ON... TODAY AND IN THE FUTURE

SPP-NTC-220998

SPP
Notification to Construct

April 29, 2026

Mr. Jeremy Severson
Basin Electric Power Cooperative
1717 E. Interstate Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58503

RE: Modification of Notification to Construct Approved Reliability Network Upgrades

Dear Mr. Severson,

Pursuant to Section 3.3 of the Southwest Power Pool, Inc. ("SPP") Membership Agreement and Attachments O and Y of the SPP Open Access Transmission Tariff ("OATT"), SPP provides this Notification to Construct ("NTC") directing Basin Electric Power Cooperative ("BEPC"), as the Designated Transmission Owner, to construct the specified Network Upgrades.

On February 3, 2026, the SPP Board of Directors approved the Network Upgrade(s) listed below to be modified as specified.

Upgrades with Modifications

Previous NTC Number: 220932

Previous NTC Issue Date: 8/19/2025

Project ID: 94800

Project Name: Multi - Belfield 2 345 kV - Fox Ridge 345 kV

Need Date for Project: 1/1/2025

Estimated Cost for Project: \$490,610,371

Network Upgrade ID: 170000

Network Upgrade Name: Belfield 2 - Fox Ridge 345 kV Ckt 1 New Line

Network Upgrade Description: Build a 154.2-mile 345 kV Ckt 1 new line from Belfield 2 345 kV substation to Fox Ridge 345 kV substation and upgrade any necessary terminal equipment to achieve a summer emergency rating of 1792 MVA. This upgrade shall include 40 MVAR line reactor compensation at the Belfield 2 and Fox Ridge terminals.

Network Upgrade Owner: BEPC

Reason for Change: BOD Approved MOD 2/3/26

Categorization: Economic

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Network Upgrade Specification: All elements and conductor must meet or exceed 1792/1792/1792/1792 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating

Network Upgrade Justification: 2024 ITP

Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars): \$402,593,167

Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade: Base Plan

Estimated Cost Source: WAPA

Date of Estimated Cost: 11/25/2025

Network Upgrade ID: 170002

Network Upgrade Name: Fox Ridge 345 kV Ckt 1 Terminal Upgrade

Network Upgrade Description: Install any necessary terminal equipment at Fox Ridge 345 kV substation to support a new line from Fox Ridge 345 kV substation to Belfield 2 345 kV substation with a summer emergency rating of 1792 MVA.

Network Upgrade Owner: BEPC

Reason for Change: BOD Approved MOD 2/3/26

Categorization: Economic

Network Upgrade Specification: All elements and conductor must meet or exceed 1792/1792/1792/1792 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating

Network Upgrade Justification: 2024 ITP

Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars): \$11,443,047

Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade: Base Plan

Estimated Cost Source: WAPA

Date of Estimated Cost: 7/30/2025

Network Upgrade ID: 170013

Network Upgrade Name: Fox Ridge 345 kV Ckt 1 Terminal Upgrade #1

Network Upgrade Description: Install any necessary terminal equipment at Fox Ridge 345 kV substation to support a new line from Fox Ridge 345 kV substation to St. Germaine 345 kV substation with a summer emergency rating of 1792 MVA.

Network Upgrade Owner: BEPC

Reason for Change: BOD Approved MOD 2/3/26

Categorization: Economic

Network Upgrade Specification: All elements and conductor must meet or exceed 1792/1792/1792/1792 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating

Network Upgrade Justification: 2024 ITP

Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars): \$9,816,800

Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade: Base Plan

Estimated Cost Source: WAPA

Date of Estimated Cost: 7/30/2025

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Network Upgrade ID: 170015
Network Upgrade Name: Fox Ridge 345 kV New Substation
Network Upgrade Description: Build a 345 kV new substation at Fox Ridge
Network Upgrade Owner: BEPC
Reason for Change: BOD Approved MOD 2/3/26
Categorization: Economic
Network Upgrade Specification: Build a 345 kV new substation at Fox Ridge
Network Upgrade Justification: 2024 ITP
Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars): \$14,987,986
Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade: Base Plan
Estimated Cost Source: WAPA
Date of Estimated Cost: 7/30/2025

Network Upgrade ID: 170018
Network Upgrade Name: Fox Ridge 345/230 kV Transformer Ckt 1 (230 kV)
Network Upgrade Description: Install a new 345/230 kV transformer at the new Fox Ridge 345 kV substation
Network Upgrade Owner: BEPC
Reason for Change: BOD Approved MOD 2/3/26
Categorization: Economic
Network Upgrade Specification: All elements and conductor to meet or exceed 600/750/600/750 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating
Network Upgrade Justification: 2024 ITP
Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars): \$15,681,376
Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade: Base Plan
Estimated Cost Source: WAPA
Date of Estimated Cost: 7/30/2025

Network Upgrade ID: 170019
Network Upgrade Name: Fox Ridge 345/230 kV Terminal Equipment
Network Upgrade Description: Install 345 kV and 230 kV terminal equipment to support 345/230 kV transformer at the new Fox Ridge 345 kV substation tied to the 230 kV terminal equipment at the existing Maurine substation.
Network Upgrade Owner: BEPC
Reason for Change: BOD Approved MOD 2/3/26
Categorization: Economic
Network Upgrade Specification: All elements and conductor to meet or exceed 675/675/675/675 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating
Network Upgrade Justification: 2024 ITP
Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars): \$2,703,604

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Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade: Base Plan
Estimated Cost Source: WAPA
Date of Estimated Cost: 7/30/2025

Network Upgrade ID: 170525
Network Upgrade Name: Fox Ridge 230 kV Terminal Upgrade
Network Upgrade Description: Install any necessary terminal equipment at Fox Ridge 230 kV substation to support a new line from Fox Ridge 230 kV substation to Maurine 230 kV substation with a summer emergency rating of 675 MVA.
Network Upgrade Owner: BEPC
Reason for Change: BOD Approved MOD 2/3/26
Categorization: Economic
Network Upgrade Specification: All elements and conductor must meet or exceed 675/675/675/675 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating.
Network Upgrade Justification: 2024 ITP
Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars): \$2,774,719
Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade: Base Plan
Estimated Cost Source: WAPA
Date of Estimated Cost: 7/30/2025

Network Upgrade ID: 170526
Network Upgrade Name: Maurine – Fox Ridge 230 kV Ckt 1 New Line
Network Upgrade Description: Build a 1-mile 230 kV Ckt 1 new line from Maurine 230 kV substation to Fox Ridge 230 kV substation and install any necessary terminal equipment to achieve a summer emergency rating of 675 MVA.
Network Upgrade Owner: BEPC
Reason for Change: BOD Approved MOD 2/3/26
Categorization: Economic
Network Upgrade Specification: All elements and conductor must meet or exceed 675/675/675/675 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating.
Network Upgrade Justification: 2024 ITP
Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars): \$6,000,000
Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade: Base Plan
Estimated Cost Source: WAPA
Date of Estimated Cost: 7/30/2025

Previous NTC Number: 220928
Previous NTC Issue Date: 8/13/2025

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Project ID: 94986

Project Name: Multi - New Underwood 345 kV - Laramie River 345 kV

Need Date for Project: 1/1/2025

Estimated Cost for Project: \$868,554,850

Network Upgrade ID: 170003

Network Upgrade Name: Wyoming Border - St. Germaine 345 kV Ckt 1 New Line (BEPC)

Network Upgrade Description: Build a 161.4-mile 345 kV Ckt1 new line from St. Germaine 345 kV substation to the Wyoming/Nebraska state line with terminal equipment able to achieve a summer emergency rating of 1792 MVA.

Network Upgrade Owner: BEPC

Reason for Change: Description alignment with approved RFP.

Categorization: Economic

Network Upgrade Specification: All elements and conductor to meet or exceed 1792/1792/1792/1792 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating

Network Upgrade Justification: 2024 ITP

Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars): \$582,799,370

Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade: Base Plan

Estimated Cost Source: SPP

Date of Estimated Cost: 6/17/2025

Network Upgrade ID: 170004

Network Upgrade Name: Laramie River 345 kV Ckt 1 Terminal Upgrade (BEPC)

Network Upgrade Description: Install any necessary terminal equipment at Laramie River 345 kV substation to support a new line from Laramie River 345 kV substation to new St. Germaine 345 kV substation with a summer emergency rating of 1792 MVA. This also includes at least a 40 MVAR line reactor on this line terminal at Laramie River.

Network Upgrade Owner: BEPC

Reason for Change: Description alignment with BOD Approved MOD 2/3/26

Categorization: Economic

Network Upgrade Specification: All elements and conductor must meet or exceed 1792/1792/1792/1792 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating

Network Upgrade Justification: 2024 ITP

Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars): \$11,334,906

Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade: Base Plan

Estimated Cost Source: BEPC

Date of Estimated Cost: 6/11/2025

Network Upgrade ID: 170005

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Network Upgrade Name: St. Germaine 345 kV Ckt 1 Terminal Upgrade
Network Upgrade Description: Install any necessary terminal equipment at St. Germaine 345 kV substation to support a new line from St. Germaine 345 kV substation to the Wyoming/Nebraska border demarcation point with a summer emergency rating of 1792 MVA.
Network Upgrade Owner: BEPC
Reason for Change: BOD Approved MOD 2/3/26
Categorization: Economic
Network Upgrade Specification: All elements and conductor must meet or exceed 1792/1792/1792/1792 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating
Network Upgrade Justification: 2024 ITP
Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars): \$9,747,839
Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade: Base Plan
Estimated Cost Source: WAPA
Date of Estimated Cost: 11/25/2025

Network Upgrade ID: 170006
Network Upgrade Name: St. Germaine - Fox Ridge 345 kV Ckt 1 New Line
Network Upgrade Description: Build a 78-mile 345 kV Ckt1 new line from St. Germaine 345 kV substation to Fox Ridge 345 kV substation and upgrade any necessary terminal equipment to achieve a summer emergency rating of 1792 MVA. This upgrade shall include 40 MVAR line reactor compensation at the St. Germaine and Fox Ridge terminals.
Network Upgrade Owner: BEPC
Reason for Change: BOD Approved MOD 2/3/26
Categorization: Economic
Network Upgrade Specification: All elements and conductor must meet or exceed 1792/1792/1792/1792 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating
Network Upgrade Justification: 2024 ITP
Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars): \$211,621,167
Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade: Base Plan
Estimated Cost Source: WAPA
Date of Estimated Cost: 11/25/2025

Network Upgrade ID: 170012
Network Upgrade Name: St. Germaine 345 kV Ckt 1 Terminal Upgrade #2
Network Upgrade Description: Install any necessary terminal equipment at St. Germaine 345 kV substation to support a new line from St. Germaine 345 kV substation to Fox Ridge 345 kV substation with a summer emergency rating of 1792 MVA.
Network Upgrade Owner: BEPC

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Reason for Change: BOD Approved MOD 2/3/26
Categorization: Economic
Network Upgrade Specification: All elements and conductor must meet or exceed 1792/1792/1792/1792 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating
Network Upgrade Justification: 2024 ITP
Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars): \$10,327,789
Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade: Base Plan
Estimated Cost Source: WAPA
Date of Estimated Cost: 11/25/2025

Network Upgrade ID: 170014
Network Upgrade Name: St. Germaine 345 kV New Substation
Network Upgrade Description: Build a new 345 kV substation at St. Germaine
Network Upgrade Owner: BEPC
Reason for Change: BOD Approved MOD 2/3/26
Categorization: Economic
Network Upgrade Specification: Install 345 kV new substation at St. Germaine
Network Upgrade Justification: 2024 ITP
Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars): \$15,827,515
Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade: Base Plan
Estimated Cost Source: WAPA
Date of Estimated Cost: 11/25/2025

Network Upgrade ID: 170016
Network Upgrade Name: St. Germaine 345/230 kV Transformer Ckt 1 (230 kV)
Network Upgrade Description: Install a new 345/230 kV transformer at the new St. Germaine 230 kV substation.
Network Upgrade Owner: BEPC
Reason for Change: BOD Approved MOD 2/3/26
Categorization: Economic
Network Upgrade Specification: All elements and conductor to meet or exceed 675/675/675/675 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating
Network Upgrade Justification: 2024 ITP
Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars): \$15,975,365
Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade: Base Plan
Estimated Cost Source: WAPA
Date of Estimated Cost: 11/25/2025

Network Upgrade ID: 170017

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Network Upgrade Name: St. Germaine 345/230 kV Transformer Ckt 1 (345 kV)

Network Upgrade Description: Install 345 kV and 230 kV terminal equipment to support 345/230 kV transformer at the new St. Germaine 345 kV substation

Network Upgrade Owner: BEPC

Reason for Change: BOD Approved MOD 2/3/26

Categorization: Economic

Network Upgrade Specification: All elements and conductor to meet or exceed 600/750/600/750 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating

Network Upgrade Justification: 2024 ITP

Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars): \$2,964,870

Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade: Base Plan

Estimated Cost Source: WAPA

Date of Estimated Cost: 11/25/2025

Network Upgrade ID: 170529

Network Upgrade Name: St. Germaine 230 kV Ckt 1 Terminal Upgrade

Network Upgrade Description: Install the necessary terminal equipment at the St. Germaine 230 kV Substation to support new line terminals connecting St. Germaine 230 to the existing Dry Creek–New Underwood 230 kV line with a summer emergency rating of 675 MVA.

Network Upgrade Owner: BEPC

Reason for Change: BOD Approved MOD 2/3/26

Categorization: Economic

Network Upgrade Specification: All elements and conductor must meet or exceed 675/675/675/675 (SN/SE/WN/WE) MVA rating.

Network Upgrade Justification: 2024 ITP

Estimated Cost for Network Upgrade (current day dollars): \$7,956,029

Cost Allocation of the Network Upgrade: Base Plan

Estimated Cost Source: WAPA

Date of Estimated Cost: 11/25/2025

Commitment to Construct

Please provide to SPP a written commitment to construct the Network Upgrade(s) by July 28, 2026. Failure to provide a sufficient written commitment to construct as required by the SPP OATT could result in the Network Upgrade(s) being assigned to another entity.

Project Schedule and In Service Date

In addition to a written commitment to construct, please provide a detailed project schedule,

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updated $\pm 20\%$ NTC Project Estimate, and an Estimated In-Service Date in the Standardized Cost Estimate Reporting Template for the Network Upgrade(s).

Mitigation Plan

The Need Date represents the timing required for the Network Upgrade(s) to address the identified need. Your prompt attention is required for formulation and approval of any necessary mitigation plans for the Network Upgrade(s) included in the Network Upgrade(s) if the Need Date is not feasible. Additionally, if it is anticipated that the completion of any Network Upgrade will be delayed past the Need Date, SPP requires a mitigation plan be filed within 60 days of the determination of expected delays.

Notification of Commercial Operation

Please submit a notification of commercial operation for each listed Network Upgrade to SPP as soon as the Network Upgrade is complete and in-service. Please provide SPP with the actual costs of these Network Upgrades as soon as possible after completion of construction. This will facilitate the timely billing by SPP based on actual costs.

Notification of Progress

On an ongoing basis, please keep SPP advised of any inability on BEPC's part to complete the approved Network Upgrade(s). For project tracking, SPP requires BEPC's to submit status updates of the Network Upgrade(s) quarterly in conjunction with the SPP Board of Directors meetings. However, BEPC shall also advise SPP of any inability to comply with the Project In-Service Date as soon as the inability becomes apparent, and no later than 45 days before the First Reported In-Service Date agreed to upon acceptance of the NTC.

All terms and conditions of the SPP OATT and the SPP Membership Agreement shall apply to this project(s), and nothing in this letter shall vary such terms and conditions.

Don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions or comments about these requests. Thank you for the important role that you play in maintaining the reliability of our electric grid.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Casey Cathey".

Casey Cathey
Vice President, Engineering
Phone: (501) 614-3267 • Fax: (501) 482-2022 • ccathey@spp.org

cc: Antoine Lucas - SPP
Sunny Raheem - SPP

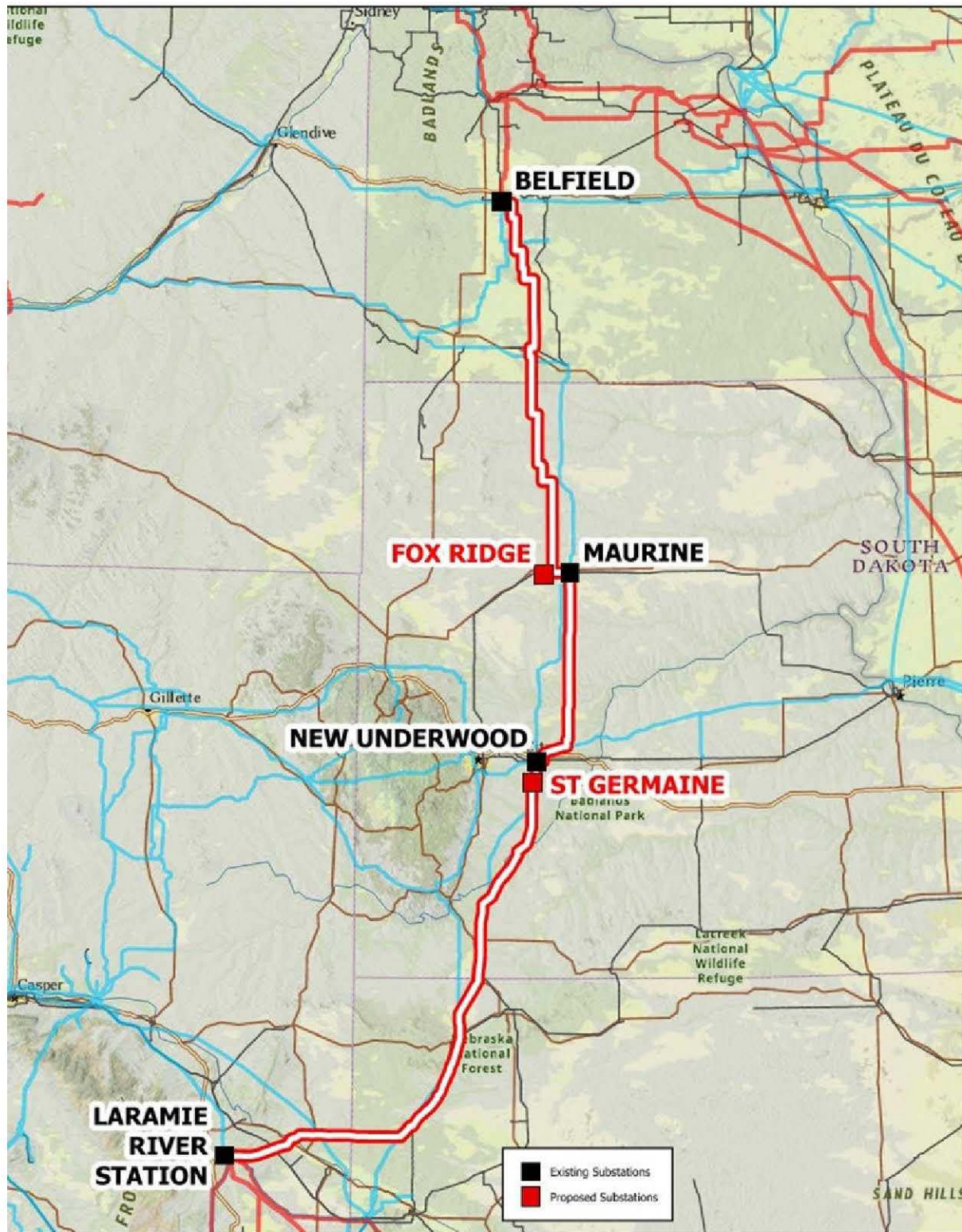


HELPING OUR MEMBERS WORK TOGETHER
TO KEEP THE LIGHTS ON... TODAY AND IN THE FUTURE

SPP-NTC-220998

Natasha Henderson - SPP
Tony Green - SPP
SPPprojecttracking - SPP
Jason Mazigian - BEPC
Phil Westby - BEPC
Gavin McCollam - BEPC
Matt Ehrman - BEPC
Boyd Trester - BEPC

Attachment B Preliminary Route




20260508 - SD PUC Laramie - Belfield ROFR

Final Audit Report

2026-05-08

Created:	2026-05-08
By:	Brittany Rebhun (brebhun@becp.com)
Status:	Signed
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-  Signer jseverson@becp.com entered name at signing as Jeremy Severson
2026-05-08 - 4:49:34 PM GMT- IP address: 216.235.161.1
-  Document e-signed by Jeremy Severson (jseverson@becp.com)
Signature Date: 2026-05-08 - 4:49:36 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 216.235.161.1 - Signature Appearance Selected: TYPE
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