

Certificates of Need for New Transmission Lines in SW MN

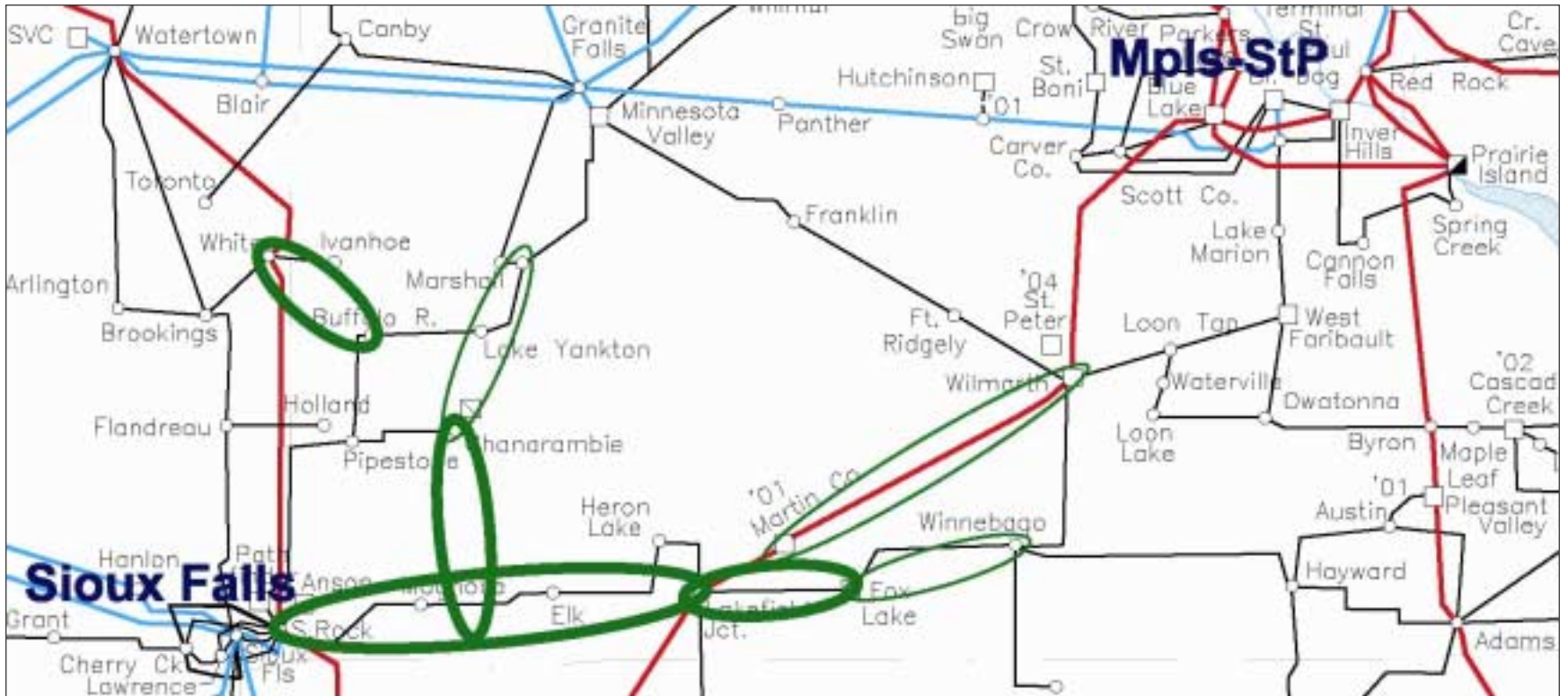
Parties to the proceeding:

- Xcel Energy (applicant)
- MN Department of Commerce
- MN Environmental Quality Board
- John and Laura Reinhardt
- North American Water Office
- Public Intervenors Network
- Sierra Club
- Izaak Walton League of America
- American Wind Energy Association
- Minnesotans for an Energy Efficient Economy
- Rural MN Energy Task Force
- Minnesota Power

MN Public Utilities Commission Order: Certificates of Need Subject to Conditions

- Granted CONs for four new transmission lines
 - new 161 kV line in Jackson and Martin counties – connecting Lakefield Jct. substation and Fox Lake substation
 - new 345 kV line in Jackson, Nobles and Rock counties (MN portion) connecting Lakefield Jct. Substation and Split Rock substation
 - new 115 kV line in Nobles and Murray counties connecting new Nobles County substation with a new Fenton Substation and existing Chanarambie substation on B.R.
 - new 215 kV line from B.R. substation to White substation (S.D.) – MN portion in Lincoln County

Planned SW MN Transmission for Wind Power



<u>New lines:</u>	Split Rock – Lakefield Junction*	345 kV
	Lakefield Junction – Fox Lake*	161 kV
	Nobles – Fenton – Chanarambie*	115 kV
	Buffalo Ridge – White*	115 kV
	Chanarambie – Lake Yankton – Lyon	115 kV
<u>Upgraded lines:</u>	Fox Lake – Winnebago	161 kV
	Martin Co – Wilmarth	345 kV

*Xcel Energy Certificate of Need, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Decision 1/30/03

MN Public Utilities Commission Order: Certificates of Need Subject to Conditions

- Adopted Xcel's in-service date for the new lines (2006)
- Xcel purchase 825 MW of wind-generated electricity
 - 675 MW by end of 2003; PUC approval of contracts by June 30, 2004
 - Total 825 MW by time new transmission lines become operational (60 MW of locally owned wind power)

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- Xcel, within 15 days of obtaining CONs, make transmission service requests for network (firm) service to MISO for 825 MW of wind
- Xcel designate new wind generators as network resources
- Xcel report to MN PUC any regulatory developments at regional or federal level that could affect the conditions placed on the CONs