

April 29, 2024

Re: Update on the Big Stone South to Alexandria transmission line (BSSA) project

Dear Stakeholder,

Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail Power) and Missouri River Energy Services (MRES) (on behalf of Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency) are reaching out to you with updates about the BSSA project. We understand that your constituents and communities rely on you for information, which is why we wanted to give you the details prior to upcoming open houses. You'll receive an official postcard invitation to the open houses being held the week of June 24, 2024.

Open House Information

Landowners, stakeholders, and community members are invited to our upcoming open houses to review the two route corridors we'll include in our route permit application to be filed with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in the fourth quarter of 2024. This fourth round of open houses will help us continue building relationships with landowners and stakeholders and answer questions about the filing, real estate, and construction. Detailed maps will be available at the open houses and on the website beginning June 3.

The table below lists our upcoming open house dates, times, and locations. We will not have a formal presentation but instead, encourage attendees to come when it works best for their schedule.

City	Date	Time	Location
Alexandria	Monday, June 24	3:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Broadway Ballroom 115 30th Ave E, Alexandria, MN 56308
Glenwood	Tuesday, June 25	3:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Central Square 105 2nd Ave NE, Ste 111 Glenwood, MN 56334
Benson	Wednesday, June 26	3:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Benson High School 1400 Montana Ave, Benson, MN 56215
Ortonville	Thursday, June 27	3:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Sioux Historic Pavilion 1073 Lake Shore Drive, Ortonville, MN

Communicating With Constituents

When your constituents and communities reach out for information regarding the project, here are some resources to help you respond:

- **Engagement:** Open house information is on the other side of this letter. You can also direct them to our website to view previous engagement materials and upcoming events.
- **Outreach:** We have planned various outreach activities for the upcoming open houses such as sending postcards to landowners, social media and newspaper advertisements, and emails to keep the community informed and engaged. Postcards with open house information will be arriving in mailboxes in early June.
- **Can't attend the open houses?** Visit the project website to learn more, leave a comment on the interactive map, leave a message on the hotline, or email the project team.
- **Schedule:** The project team plans to submit a route application with the MPUC in Q4 2024. The MPUC will review the application and hold public hearings before making a decision on a final route. The anticipated timeframe for a decision is mid-2026.
- **Frequently asked questions:** Visit the project website to see more FAQs.

Additional Project Meetings

The MPUC will hold public hearings in June for the Certificate of Need application. Some of your constituents may receive invitations to attend those hearings. It's important to note that the MPUC hearings are separate from the open houses mentioned in this letter. The purpose of the MPUC hearings is to examine whether the proposed facilities are necessary and to determine the appropriate size, configuration, and timing of the project.

Project Details

Otter Tail Power and **MRES** are partnering to develop, construct, and co-own a new 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line. The Big Stone South to Alexandria transmission line (BSSA) will connect Otter Tail Power's Big Stone South Substation near Big Stone City, South Dakota to the Alexandria Substation owned by MRES near Alexandria, Minnesota.

If you or any constituents have questions and cannot attend an open house, feel free to reach out to us:

- Website: www.BigStoneSouthtoAlexandria.com
- Email: connect@bigstonesouthtoalexandria.com.
- Hotline: (800) 598-5587

We look forward to connecting with you!

Sincerely,

Jason Weiers, Otter Tail Power Company
Manager, Transmission Project Development