

Use of aerial applicators near transmission lines

Based on our experience with transmission lines, aerial applicators should be able to parallel new transmission infrastructure similar to how they work with existing infrastructure today. Some adjustments to aerial applicator flights may be necessary based on the line's orientation along fields.

Drain tile

Protecting drain tile during construction is a common concern, and it's something we deal with regularly. We've successfully built transmission lines on properties that depend on drain tiles. We work with landowners to identify where drain tile is located and will work with landowners to minimize any impacts during construction.

If drain tile damage occurs during construction, we will work with landowners to repair the issue at our cost. Once construction is complete, it's rare that any long-term impacts occur, and we will work with landowners to correct any issues that are identified.



» Transmission lines and agriculture

WHAT TO KNOW

Dairyland Power Cooperative and Xcel Energy are committed to working closely with landowners to reduce impacts from the Gopher to Badger Link Project, including in agricultural areas. From construction through operation, the project team will coordinate with landowners to support safe coexistence with farming equipment, livestock, crops, irrigation systems and other agricultural infrastructure. This handout outlines what to expect, key safety considerations and how we work with landowners to minimize disruption and restore land so agricultural uses can continue.

» Transmission lines and farming equipment

We design structures and transmission lines to safely operate in agricultural areas. Some important safety notes about coexisting with transmission lines and your farming equipment:

- Do not lift, elevate, build or pass under a power line with any object, tool or vehicle that could make contact or near-contact with the wires.
- If you're unsure of your equipment height, have someone be a spotter to double check your clearance from a safe distance.



CONTACT US



GophertoBadgerLink.com



Connect@GophertoBadgerLink.com



612-474-7799

»» The Gopher to Badger Link project is being developed in a way that recognizes the important role farming plays in our region where agriculture and energy infrastructure have shared the landscape for decades.



» Transmission lines and animals

We will work closely with landowners during construction to minimize impacts on livestock, including coordinating any necessary temporary relocations using fencing or gating to make sure there is continued access to feed and water throughout construction. After construction, the areas will be restored, and livestock use can return to normal.



Decades of scientific research have shown that proximity to transmission lines does not cause adverse effects on livestock.



» Transmission lines and crops

During construction of the transmission line, there may be temporary impacts on some agricultural activities. Once construction is complete, agricultural activities can resume. The team will communicate with landowners in advance of pre-construction and construction activities. We will strive to coordinate construction activities with farming and livestock operations to minimize inconveniences. Landowners will be compensated for any crop damage.



» Locating transmission line structures on cultivated land and pastureland

We will coordinate with landowners in the routing and design process to identify and address potential impacts to cultivated land and pastureland before construction begins. When needed, transmission structures may be placed on cultivated land or pastureland. If this happens, we will work with you to the extent possible to position structures to minimize disruption to farming operations.

» Locating transmission lines near irrigation systems

We will work with landowners to limit the impacts that the transmission lines may have on irrigation systems, including through thoughtful route development and placement of the transmission structures. Where irrigations systems are going to be operated around or underneath the transmission lines, we will work with landowners to make sure the systems are set up to be compatible.

Some important safety notes about transmission lines and irrigation systems:

- Provide proper electrical grounding for all metal irrigation equipment (center pivots, wheel lines, linear move systems) to protect against induced voltages.
- Maintain adequate clearances between irrigation equipment and overhead conductors at all times—irrigation equipment and water streams must maintain safe distances and never contact, approach closely, or spray toward the lines. Bond and inspect all metal components of your irrigation system annually to ensure grounding effectiveness and safe operation.
- Contact Gopher to Badger Link if you have questions or concerns.

