

»»» Applicant's Routing Process

Identifying a new transmission line route is a multi-step analysis that considers constraints, opportunities and alternatives that aim to minimize impacts on people and the environment. Input from landowners, community members, local leaders, Tribal representatives, state and federal agencies and the project team's own expertise all play a vital role in developing and finalizing a proposed route. Community feedback is essential at every stage, so we encourage you to stay engaged throughout the process.

1 Develop preliminary route options

We Are Here!

The first step in the process is to identify areas for potential transmission line route options. We will develop initial corridors based on system needs, review of publicly available data, and finding opportunities to minimize impacts to residential properties, agricultural operations, and other environmental considerations. We will present initial corridors and route options to landowners, local officials and key stakeholders to ask for feedback.

2 Refine route options

Public input will assist the project team as we further refine and narrow the preliminary route options to develop the proposed route for the Route Permit application. We encourage landowners and local officials to attend public open houses, review route options and provide comments about how each of the initial proposals would affect land uses in the area. We will evaluate all comments as route options are refined during the development process.

3 Identify a proposed route to submit in the application

Finally, the project team will use the information and public input gathered to develop a proposed route that will be submitted to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) later in 2026.

4 MPUC issues a decision on a final route

The MPUC will issue a final determination on the route at the conclusion of the Route Permit application review process. Visit the website to learn more about the regulatory process: www.gophertobadgerlink.com.