

# BE-WCT 69-kV transmission line reroute

Great River Energy is proposing to relocate approximately 2.5 miles of its “BE-WCT” 69-kV transmission line near the crossing of the Blue Earth River due to bank erosion caused by persistent flooding. The “BE-WCT” line runs west from Amboy and supplies power to the Willow Creek Substation owned by BENCO Electric Cooperative.

The Blue Earth River is experiencing some dramatic erosion and is endangering the integrity of the existing transmission line. Great River Energy relocated poles in 2015 due to erosion, these poles are again being threatened. The continued flooding and bank erosion have made it necessary to find a new path across the Blue Earth River.

## Relocation overview

Great River Energy’s proposed relocation route will follow existing roads and cross the Blue Earth River by the Dodd Ford Bridge. The Blue Earth River’s floodplain topography limit the possible crossing location. The proposed route (see map on back) was established by analyzing human settlement, agriculture, environmental, and recreation concerns.

The relocation begins at the intersection of 111 St. and 513 Ave. From there the line will continue east along 111 St. then south along 515 Ave., then turn east along 109 St./CR 147 to 521 Ave. Then it will turn north crossing the Blue Earth River at the Dodd Ford Bridge and reconnecting with the existing transmission line.

Transmission line construction will generally use single wood poles 70- to 80-feet above ground, placed 350 to 400 feet apart. Some specialty poles and longer or shorter spans may be required. Directional changes or angles will require guy wires and anchors to stabilize poles. To provide a safe



*Typical 69-kV Circuit*

construction, operation and maintenance area, a 70-foot-wide right of way, 35-feet each side of the centerline, will be cleared of trees and vegetation.

## Permits and easements

Great River Energy will apply for the required conditional use permit from Blue Earth County. Additionally, Great River Energy will work with state and federal agencies to secure any required permits.

New easements will be needed to construct, operate and maintain the relocated transmission line. Landowners along the proposed transmission line relocation will be contacted to discuss the project, the necessary tree removal, review the easement request and compensation.

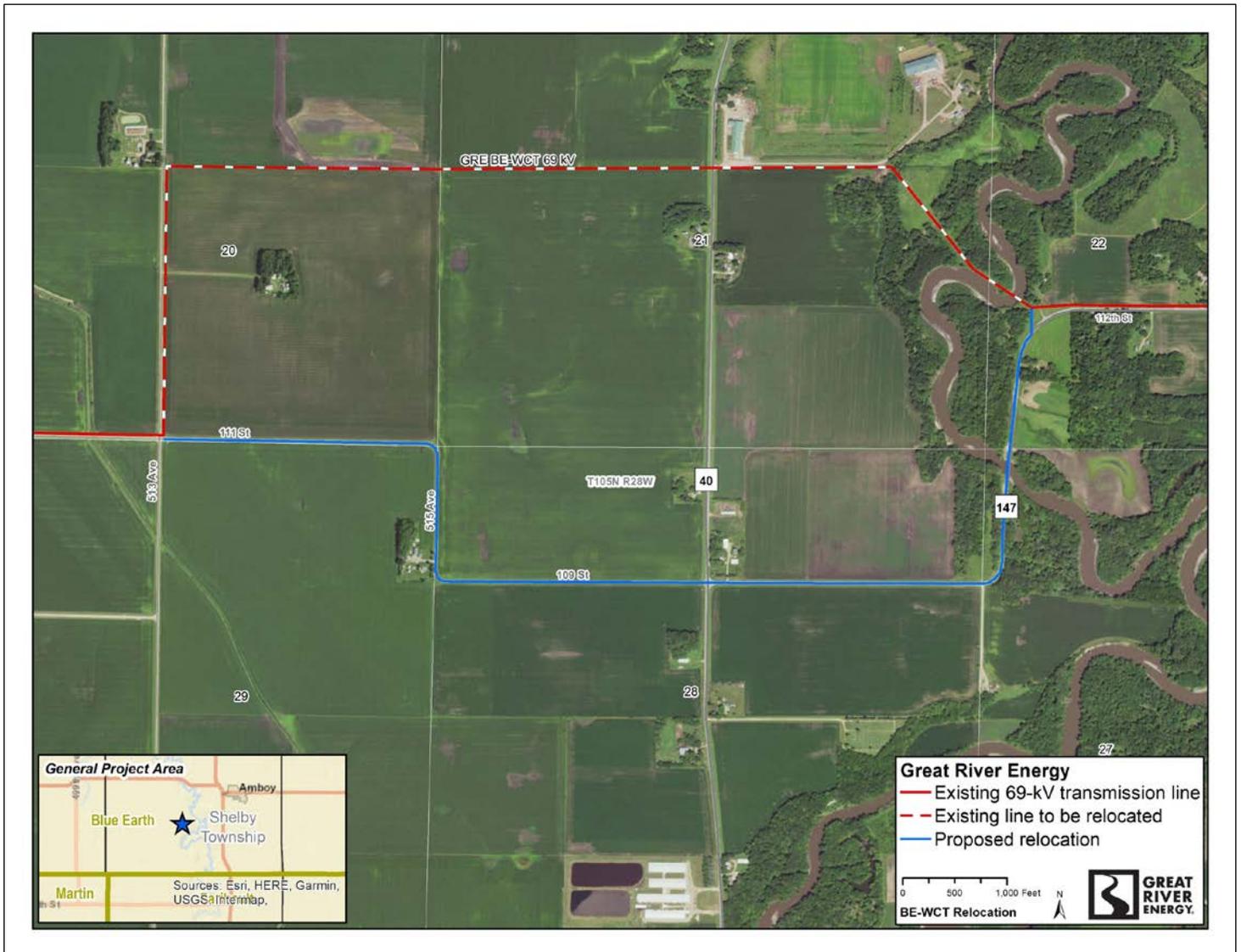
### Schedule

Notifications	<b>Fall 2020</b>
County CUP	<b>Fall 2020</b>
Easements/ Environmental permits	<b>Fall/Winter 2020</b>
Transmission line construction	<b>Fall 2021</b>

### Quick facts

Length – <b>2.25 miles</b>
Voltage – <b>69 kV</b>
Structures – <b>Wood poles</b>
Spans – <b>350 to 400 feet apart</b>
Right of way – <b>70-foot-wide right of way; 35 feet on each side of the centerline.</b>

## Proposed project



## Great River Energy representatives

For project updates and information, visit [greatriverenergy.com/blueearthriver](https://greatriverenergy.com/blueearthriver) or contact:

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## About Great River Energy

Great River Energy is a not-for-profit wholesale electric power cooperative which provides electricity to 28 member-owner distribution cooperatives. Together, our systems provide power to approximately two-thirds of Minnesota geographically and parts of Wisconsin, serving 700,000 families, farms and businesses.