

Pilot Knob - Burnsville transmission line upgrade project

Great River Energy, wholesale power provider to Dakota Electric Association, proposes to rebuild and upgrade approximately 8.75 miles of 69-kilovolt (kV) electric transmission lines within the cities of Eagan and Burnsville, replacing them with new transmission lines capable of operating at 115-kV. The Pilot Knob – Burnsville Upgrade Project will enable Great River Energy to maintain reliable and resilient service to electric cooperative members, first by installing new equipment built to modern design standards, and second by adding the capability to operate at 115-kV in the future. While there is not a current need to operate at a higher voltage, the ability to operate at the higher voltage will ensure there is sufficient electrical capability to serve increased electrical demand in the future. A route permit must be issued by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) before construction can begin.

Overview

The project will include replacing existing structures primarily with direct-imbedded steel poles, 60-95 feet above ground and placed 200 to 300 feet apart. Specialty poles may be required in some areas, which will mean different size/type of poles and spans.

The project will be built to Great River Energy's 115-kV design standards but will initially operate at 69-kV. Designing to 115-kV standards will allow the flexibility to operate the regional transmission system at 115-kV as future electrification and load development increases in the area.

Permitting and public involvement

Great River Energy will submit an application for a route permit from the PUC. During the route permit process, the public and regulatory agencies will have opportunities to provide input on the project, including public meetings facilitated by the PUC and the Department of Commerce Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (DOC EERA). The DOC EERA will prepare an environmental assessment for the project.

Schedule

Notifications	Summer 2023
State permitting	Fall 2023 – Spring 2025
Survey/design	Spring 2025
Easements/ Environmental permits	January 2025 – Summer 2026
Transmission line construction	Fall 2026 – Summer 2028
Energization	Summer 2028



Typical 115-kV single circuit structure with and without distribution under build.

After Great River Energy submits the route permit application to the PUC, a representative from Great River Energy will contact property owners along the route to discuss access to the proposed route and the process for acquisition of additional easements. New or amended easements may be requested to provide adequate land rights. We will also provide information on tree removal, construction access and restoration of the right of way.

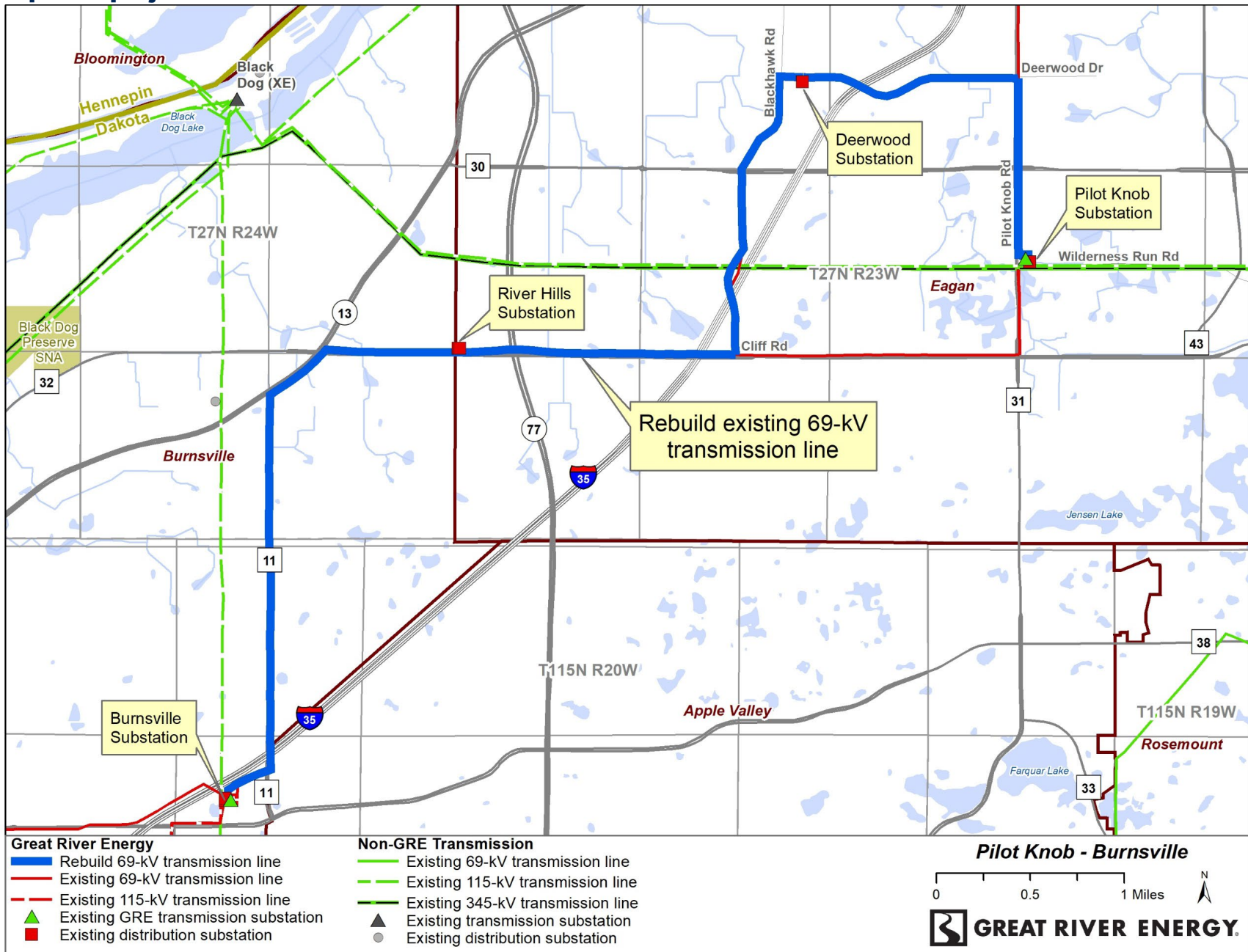
Great River Energy will work with county, state and federal agencies to secure road crossing permits and any other required environmental or construction permits. Contact information for Great River Energy representatives is listed on the back of this page.

Following construction of the transmission lines, Great River Energy will promptly repair any damage to properties.

Quick facts

Length	– 8.75 miles
Voltage	– 115 kV
Structures	– 60- to 95-foot above ground steel poles
Spans	– 200 to 300 feet apart
Right of way	– Up to 100-foot-wide right of way, 50 feet on each side of the centerline
Permits	– MN Public Utilities Commission route permit

Proposed project



Great River Energy representatives

For project updates and information, visit www.greatriverenergy.com/pilotknob or contact any of the following

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