

Appendix D

Agency Correspondence

Appendix C is organized as follows:

Table 1. Agency Contact List

This table includes the individuals that received project notification letters. All correspondence was sent via email unless otherwise indicated.

Sample Project Notification Letter

A single sample project notification letter is provided.

Table 2. Agency Correspondence Summary

This table provides a summary of correspondence sent and received.

Agency Correspondence

Copies of correspondence sent to and received from agencies are included. Emails are provided.

Table 1. Agency Contact List

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

Table 1 – Agency Contact List

Agency or Organization Name	Name	Address	Email	Recipient Type
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Benjamin Orne	332 Minnesota Street, Suite E 1500; St. Paul, MN 55101	benjamin.g.orne@usace.army.mil	Primary Addressee
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Chad Konickson		chad.konickson@usace.army.mil	Copied
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	MPUC Technical Rep	3815 American Blvd E; Bloomington, MN 55425	twincities@fws.gov	Primary Addressee
U.S. Department of Agriculture	Troy Daniell	375 Jackson Street, Suite 600; St. Paul MN 55101	troy.daniell@usda.gov	Primary Addressee
Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Steve Roos	625 Robert Street North; St. Paul, MN 55155-2538	Stephan.Roos@state.mn.us	Primary Addressee
Minnesota Department of Health	David Bell	625 Robert Street North; St. Paul, MN 55164	david.bell@state.mn.us	Primary Addressee
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	Kate Fairman	500 Lafayette Road; St. Paul, MN 55155	kate.fairman@state.mn.us	Primary Addressee
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	Samantha Bump	500 Lafayette Road; St. Paul, MN 55155	samantha.bump@state.mn.us	Copied
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	Haley Byron	117 Rogers Street; Mankato, MN 55601	haley.byron@state.mn.us	Copied
Minnesota Department of Transportation	Stacy Kotch Egstad	395 John Ireland Boulevard; St. Paul, MN 55155-1800	stacy.kotch@state.mn.us	Primary Addressee
Minnesota Department of Transportation	Ann Driver		ann.driver@state.mn.us	Copied
Minnesota Department of Transportation	Mike Ginnaty		mike.ginnaty@state.mn.us	Copied
Minnesota Indian Affairs Council	Isaac Weston	161 Rondo Ave Suite 919; St. Paul, MN 55103	isaac.weston@state.mn.us	Primary Addressee
Office of the State Archaeologist	Amanda Gronhovd	328 W. Kellogg Blvd; St. Paul, MN 55102	Amanda.Gronhovd@state.mn.us	Primary Addressee

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

Agency or Organization Name	Name	Address	Email	Recipient Type
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency	Chris Green	505 Fairgrounds Road, Suite 200; Marshall, MN 56258	chris.green@state.mn.us	Primary Addressee
Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office		50 Sherburne Ave; St. Paul, MN 55155	enreviewshpo@state.mn.us	Primary Addressee
Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources	Water Program Coordinator	520 Lafayette Road; St. Paul, MN 55155	waterprograms.bwsr@state.mn.us	Primary Addressee
Minnesota Office of Pipeline Safety	Jonathan Wolfgram	445 Minnesota Street, Suite 147; St. Paul, MN 55101	jonathan.wolfgram@state.mn.us	Primary Addressee
Minnesota Department of Commerce	Chase Christopherson	85 7 th Place E, Suite 280; St. Paul, MN 55101	chase.christopherson@state.mn.us	Primary Addressee
Minnesota Department of Revenue	Alan Whipple	600 N Robert Street; St. Paul, MN 55146	sa.property@state.mn.us	Primary Addressee
Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry	Dean Hunter	443 Lafayette Road; St. Paul, MN 55155	dean.hunter@state.mn.us	Primary Addressee
Minnesota Legislative House	Rep. Lisa Demuth	2 nd Floor Centennial Office Building; St. Paul, MN 55155	rep.lisa.demuth@house.mn.us	Primary Addressee
Minnesota Legislative Senate	Senator Jeff Howe	MN Senate Building Room 2231; St. Paul, MN 55155	Mail form via website	Primary Addressee
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission	Ray Kirsch	121 7 th Place East; St. Paul, MN 55101	raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us	Primary Addressee
Meeker County Soil and Water Conservation District	Joe Norman	916 E Paul St	joseph.norman@mn.nacdnet.net	Primary Addressee
Meeker County	Andrew Letson	114 N Holcombe Ave, Suite 150	andrew.letson@co.meeker.mn.us	Primary Addressee
Meeker County	Phil Schmalz	422 S Johnson Dr, Litchfield, MN 55355	phillip.schmalz@co.meeker.mn.us	Copied
Meeker County	Greg Schultz	114 N Holcombe Ave, Suite 150	greg.schultz@co.meeker.mn.us	Copied
Stearns County Conservation District	John Maile	110 2nd St S, Suite 128	john.maile@mn.nacdnet.net	Primary Addressee
Stearns County	Michael Williams	705 Courthouse Square, Room 121	info@stearnscountymn.gov	Primary Addressee

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

Agency or Organization Name	Name	Address	Email	Recipient Type
Stearns County	Chris Byrd		chris.byrd@stearnscountymn.gov	Copied
Stearns County	Chelle Benson		chelle.benson@stearnscountymn.gov	Copied
Stearns County Commission	Jeff Bertram	705 Courthouse Square, Room 121	jeff.bertram@stearnscountymn.gov	Primary Addressee
Stearns County Wetland Conservation Act	Emily Forbord		emily.forbord@stearnscountymn.gov	Primary Addressee
Clearwater River Watershed District	Rebecca Carlson	3235 Fernbrook Lane N	rebecca@resilience-resources.com	Primary Addressee
Southwest Regional Development Commission	Jayme Trusty	2401 Broadway Avenue	execdir@swrdc.org	Primary Addressee
Forest Prairie Township	Robert Geislinger	36948 654th Avenue	rgeislinger@yahoo.com	Primary Addressee
Forest Prairie Township	Vic Geislinger		mjvgeislinger@meltel.net	Copied
Forest Prairie Township	Richard Streit		richjstreit@hotmail.com	Copied
Forest Prairie Township	Jeff Pauly		cih9240@gmail.com	Copied
Luxemburg Township	Don Dufner	14427 Kramer Road	luxemburgtwpcclerk@gmail.com	Primary Addressee
Luxemburg Township	Dean Johannes	14583 200th Street	No email available	Copied
Luxemburg Township	Larry Hansen	19562 Schackman Lake Road	No email available	Copied
Luxemburg Township	Ryan Ludwig	17051 185th Street	No email available	Copied
Maine Prairie Township	Patty Nelson	7551 Dellwood Rd	clerk.mpt@meltel.net	Primary Addressee
Maine Prairie Township	Robert Kuechle	7551 Dellwood Rd	No email available	Copied
Maine Prairie Township	Dennis Loewen	7551 Dellwood Rd	No email available	Copied
Maine Prairie Township	David Lochen	7551 Dellwood Rd	No email available	Copied

Sample Project Notification Letter



PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

Great River Energy
12300 Elm Creek Blvd
Maple Grove, MN 55369
763-445-5000
greatriverenergy.com

April 23, 2026

[NAME]
[ADDRESS LINE 1]
[ADDRESS LINE 2]
Sent via email: [EMAIL]

[NAME]
[ADDRESS LINE 1]
[ADDRESS LINE 2]
Sent via email: [EMAIL]

Subject: Great River Energy and Meeker Energy
Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project in Stearns County, Minnesota
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Docket No. ET2,E121/TL-26-182

Dear [NAME] and [NAME]:

Great River Energy, wholesale electric provider to Meeker Energy, is proposing to build approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) high voltage transmission line in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The transmission line will power Meeker Energy's proposed Kimball Substation. The transmission line and substation are needed to ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

As shown on the enclosed Fact Sheet, the Project will consist of a new tap line from Great River Energy's existing 115-kV ME-BW transmission line to the new Kimball Substation location. Great River Energy is considering two routes for the new transmission line. These routes are shown on the attached map. Your feedback is important in deciding the proposed route. The new 115-kV transmission line will be constructed and owned by Great River Energy. The Kimball Substation will be constructed and owned by Meeker Energy.

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for the Project in June 2026. Construction is expected to begin in Fall 2028 after the receipt of all necessary approvals and authorizations. The Project current should be energized in 2029.

The Project will primarily use direct-buried steel structures. Typical pole heights will range from 70 to 90 feet above grade and spans between structures will generally range from 400 to 500 feet. Final design, which will occur after the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission issues a Route Permit, will

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

[NAME]

April 23, 2026

Page 2

determine the final span distances, as well as the need for specialty poles (for example, steel poles on foundations).

Construction will generally occur within a 100-foot-wide right-of-way easement that Great River Energy will obtain to construct, operate and maintain the transmission line. The 100-foot-wide right-of-way easement will be centered on the transmission line and reach 50 feet on either side of the structure line. When following roads, Great River Energy's standard practice is to place these structures on private property just outside of road right-of-way to minimize the amount of private property needed for the construction and operation of the transmission line.

Great River Energy would appreciate any comments that you may have on the Project. Please contact me at 763-445-5210 or mstrohful@GREnergy.com should you have questions, need additional information, or would like to set up a pre-application coordination meeting.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mark Strohfus".

Mark Strohfus
Project Manager, Transmission Permitting

Enclosure: Project Fact Sheet

cc: Andrew Levi, Merjent



Kimball Substation & 115-kV transmission line

Great River Energy, wholesale electric supplier to Meeker Energy, is proposing to build approximately four miles of new 115,000-volt (115-kilovolt or 115-kV) overhead transmission line in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships in Stearns County. The transmission line is needed to power a planned new Kimball Substation along Caldron Road so that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

Overview

This project will include the construction of approximately four miles of transmission line between Great River Energy's existing ME-BW 115-kV transmission line and Meeker Energy's new substation along Caldron Road in Maine Prairie Township. See map on back. Great River Energy is currently considering two route alternatives for the new transmission line as depicted on the map. Your input is important in deciding the route. Direct-embedded steel structures with heights between 70 and 90 feet above grade and spans between 400 and 500 feet will be used for the transmission line.

Permits and easements

The project requires a route permit from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) before any construction activities can begin. The MPUC encourages outreach with nearby landowners, Tribes, federal and state agencies, and local governments prior to submitting a route permit application. Minnesota Statutes Chapter 216I requires all route permit applications to include only one route. Landowner and agency input will affect which route alternative is proposed in the application.



Typical 115-kV braced-post structures.

If the MPUC issues a route permit, Great River will work with county, township and local authorities to acquire all approvals necessary to complete the work. Landowners along the proposed line route will also be contacted to discuss easement agreements, tree removal, construction access and practices, and restoration.

Public involvement

In addition to Great River Energy's early outreach, the MPUC's route permitting process includes opportunities for interested parties to engage and comment on the project. Property owners along the route will be notified when an application is filed and when the MPUC holds public meetings seeking interested parties' input.

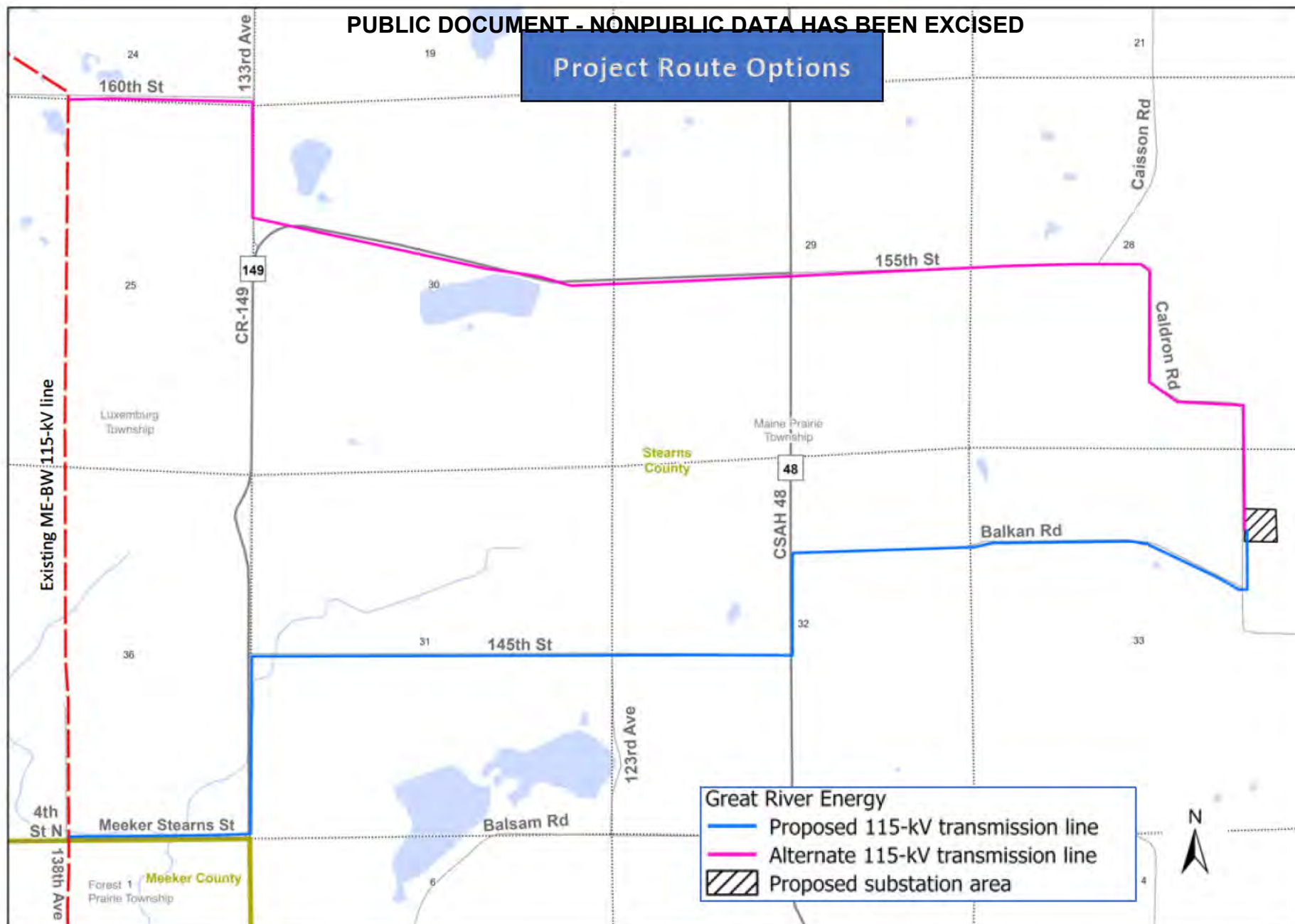
Schedule

MPUC permitting	Q1 2026 – Q1 2027
Survey/design	Q2 2027 – Q3 2028
Easements/ Environmental permits	Q2 2028 – Q4 2028
Construction start	Q3 2028
Energization	Q2 2029

Quick facts

Length	– Approximately 4 miles
Structures	– Direct-embedded steel poles 70 to 90 feet above grade
Spans	– 400 to 500 feet apart
Right of way	– 100-foot-wide (50 feet each side of pole centerline)

Project Route Options



Great River Energy representatives

For project updates and information, visit greatriverenergy.com/Kimball or contact:

Michelle MacMillan
Field Representative | Land Rights
763-445-5984 | mmacmillan@GREnergy.com

Mark Strohfus
Project Manager | Transmission Permitting
763-445-5210 | mstrohfus@greenergy.com

Table 2. Agency Correspondence Summary

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

Table 2. Summary of Agency Correspondence

Agency/Organization	Action	Description	Date
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Correspondence Received	IPaC review received.	March 23, 2026
	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed.	April 23, 2026
	Correspondence Received	Acknowledgement of project notification letter and offer of assistance with AIMP preparation.	May 28, 2026
	Correspondence Received	Comments on draft AIMP.	September 4, 2026
Minnesota Department of Health	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed.	April 23, 2026
	Correspondence Received	Natural Heritage Review document received.	April 17, 2026
Minnesota Department of Transportation	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed.	April 23, 2026
	Correspondence Received	Tom Cruikshank confirmed no impact to MnDOT ROW.	April 27, 2026
	Correspondence Received	Stacy Kotch Egstad confirmed no impact to MnDOT ROW.	April 28, 2026
Minnesota Indian Affairs Council	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
Office of the State Archaeologist	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office	Correspondence Sent	Phase 1A Cultural Resources Assessment submitted.	May 29, 2026
Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
Minnesota Office of Pipeline Safety	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
Minnesota Department of Commerce	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed.	April 23, 2026
	Correspondence Received	Email asking which Tribal governments had been notified of the Project. List was provided.	April 23, 2026
Minnesota Department of Revenue	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

Agency/Organization	Action	Description	Date
Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
Minnesota Legislative House	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
Minnesota Legislative Senate	Correspondence Sent	Project notification information sent via website form.	April 23, 2026
	Correspondence Received	Email from staff member asking for project notification letter. Letter was provided.	April 29, 2026
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission	Correspondence Sent	Applicants emailed to request coordination meeting.	April 30, 2026
	Meeting	Coordination meeting is scheduled to occur.	May 18, 2026
Meeker County Soil and Water Conservation District	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
Meeker County	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
Stearns County Conservation District	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
Stearns County	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed.	April 23, 2026
	Correspondence Received	Chris Byrd requested pre-application coordination meeting. Meeting is being scheduled.	April 23, 2026
Stearns County Commission	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed.	April 23, 2026
	Correspondence Received	Email expressing concerns regarding multiple energy projects in the area.	April 24, 2026
	Phone Call	Applicants called Commissioner to discuss concerns.	April 24, 2026
	Correspondence Sent	Applicants sent follow up email from phone conversation.	April 29, 2026
Stearns County Wetland Conservation Act	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
Clearwater River Watershed District	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
Southwest Regional Development Commission	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
Forest Prairie Township	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

Agency/Organization	Action	Description	Date
Luxemburg Township	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026
Maine Prairie Township	Correspondence Sent	Project notification letter emailed. No response.	April 23, 2026

Federal Correspondence

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: benjamin.g.orne@usace.army.mil
Cc: chad.konickson@usace.army.mil; [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification - Work Order #209186
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:22:11 PM
Attachments: [F1 USCOE Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: twincities@fws.gov
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:55 PM
Attachments: [F3 USFWS Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office
3815 American Blvd East
Bloomington, MN 55425-1659
Phone: (952) 858-0793



In Reply Refer To:

03/23/2026 17:38:26 UTC

Project Code: 2026-0066355

Project Name: Great River Energy Kimball Transmission Tap Line Project - Preferred Route

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

This response has been generated by the Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) system to provide information on natural resources that could be affected by your project. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) provides this response under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543), the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668-668d), the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703-712), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661 *et seq.*).

Threatened and Endangered Species

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirement for obtaining a Technical Assistance Letter from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

Consultation Technical Assistance

Please refer to our [Section 7 website](#) for guidance and technical assistance, including [step-by-step instructions](#) for making effects determinations for each species that might be present and for specific guidance on the following types of projects: projects in developed areas, HUD, CDBG, EDA, USDA Rural Development projects, pipelines, buried utilities, telecommunications, and requests for a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) from FEMA.

We recommend running the project (if it qualifies) through our **Minnesota-Wisconsin Federal Endangered Species Determination Key (Minnesota-Wisconsin ("D-key"))**. A [demonstration video](#) showing how-to access and use the determination key is available. Please note that the Minnesota-Wisconsin D-key is the third option of 3 available d-keys. D-keys are tools to help Federal agencies and other project proponents determine if their proposed action has the potential to adversely affect federally listed species and designated critical habitat. The Minnesota-Wisconsin D-key includes a structured set of questions that assists a project proponent in determining whether a proposed project qualifies for a certain predetermined consultation outcome for all federally listed species found in Minnesota and Wisconsin (except for the northern long-eared bat- see below), which includes determinations of "no effect" or "may affect, not likely to adversely affect." In each case, the Service has compiled and analyzed the best available information on the species' biology and the impacts of certain activities to support these determinations.

If your completed d-key output letter shows a "No Effect" (NE) determination for all listed species, print your IPaC output letter for your files to document your compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

For Federal projects with a "Not Likely to Adversely Affect" (NLAA) determination, our concurrence becomes valid if you do not hear otherwise from us after a 30-day review period, as indicated in your letter.

If your d-key output letter indicates additional coordination with the Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office is necessary (i.e., you get a "May Affect" determination), you will be provided additional guidance on contacting the Service to continue ESA coordination outside of the key; ESA compliance cannot be concluded using the key for "May Affect" determinations unless otherwise indicated in your output letter.

Note: Once you obtain your official species list, you are not required to continue in IPaC with d-keys, although in most cases these tools should expedite your review. If you choose to make an effects determination on your own, you may do so. If the project is a Federal Action, you may want to review our section 7 step-by-step instructions before making your determinations.

Using the IPaC Official Species List to Make No Effect and May Affect Determinations for Listed Species

1. If IPaC returns a result of "There are no listed species found within the vicinity of the project," then project proponents can conclude the proposed activities will have **no effect** on any federally listed species under Service jurisdiction. Concurrence from the Service is not required for **no effect** determinations. No further consultation or coordination is required. Attach this letter to the dated IPaC species list report for your records.
2. If IPaC returns one or more federally listed, proposed, or candidate species as potentially present in the action area of the proposed project – other than bats (see below) – then project proponents must determine if proposed activities will have **no effect** on or **may affect** those species. For assistance in determining if suitable habitat for listed, candidate, or proposed species occurs within your project area or if species may be affected by project activities, you can obtain [Life History Information for Listed and Candidate Species](#) on our office website. If no impacts will occur to a species on the IPaC species list (e.g., there is no habitat present in the project area), the appropriate determination is **no effect**. No further consultation or coordination is required. Attach this letter to the dated IPaC species list report for your records.

3. Should you determine that project activities **may affect** any federally listed, please contact our office for further coordination. Letters with requests for consultation or correspondence about your project should include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header. Electronic submission is preferred.

For projects that intersect with or are adjacent to Tribal lands: The Service has federal Trust responsibilities and a strong commitment to working with Tribal governments to help sustain fish and wildlife resources for future generations. Tribal governments should be provided with sufficient opportunity to express their perspectives and/or concerns for proposed projects. If your project intersects with Tribal lands or impacts culturally sensitive resources, please engage with the federally recognized Tribe to ensure they have an opportunity to provide input on this project.

Northern Long-Eared Bats

Northern long-eared bats occur throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin and the information below may help in determining if your project may affect these species.

Suitable summer habitat for northern long-eared bats consists of a wide variety of forested/wooded habitats where they roost, forage, and travel and may also include some adjacent and interspersed non-forested habitats such as emergent wetlands and adjacent edges of agricultural fields, old fields and pastures. This includes forests and woodlots containing potential roosts (i.e., live trees and/or snags ≥ 3 inches dbh for northern long-eared bat that have exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, and/or hollows), as well as linear features such as fencerows, riparian forests, and other wooded corridors. These wooded areas may be dense or loose aggregates of trees with variable amounts of canopy closure. Individual trees may be considered suitable habitat when they exhibit the characteristics of a potential roost tree and are located within 1,000 feet (305 meters) of forested/wooded habitat. Northern long-eared bats have also been observed roosting in human-made structures, such as buildings, barns, bridges, and bat houses; therefore, these structures should also be considered potential summer habitat and evaluated for use by bats. If your project will impact caves or mines or will involve clearing forest or woodland habitat containing suitable roosting habitat, northern long-eared bats could be affected. For bat activity dates, please review Appendix L in the [Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-Eared Bat Survey Guidelines](#).

Examples of unsuitable habitat include:

- Individual trees that are greater than 1,000 feet from forested or wooded areas,
- Trees found in highly developed urban areas (e.g., street trees, downtown areas),
- A pure stand of less than 3-inch dbh trees that are not mixed with larger trees, and
- A monoculture stand of shrubby vegetation with no potential roost trees.

If IPaC returns a result that northern long-eared bats are potentially present in the action area of the proposed project, project proponents can conclude the proposed activities **may affect** this species **IF** one or more of the following activities are proposed:

- Clearing or disturbing suitable roosting habitat, as defined above, at any time of year,
- Any activity in or near the entrance to a cave or mine,
- Mining, deep excavation, or underground work within 0.25 miles of a cave or mine,
- Construction of one or more wind turbines, or

- Demolition or reconstruction of human-made structures that are known to be used by bats based on observations of roosting bats, bats emerging at dusk, or guano deposits or stains.

If none of the above activities are proposed, project proponents can conclude the proposed activities will have **no effect** on the northern long-eared bat. Concurrence from the Service is not required for **No Effect** determinations. No further consultation or coordination is required. Attach this letter to the dated IPaC species list report for your records.

If any of the above activities are proposed, and the northern long-eared bat appears on the user's species list, the federal project user will be directed to either the northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat range-wide D-key or the Federal Highways Administration, Federal Railways Administration, and Federal Transit Administration Indiana bat/Northern long-eared bat D-key, depending on the type of project and federal agency involvement. Similar to the Minnesota-Wisconsin D-key, these d-keys help to determine if prohibited take might occur and, if not, will generate an automated verification letter. Additional information about available tools can be found on the Service's [northern long-eared bat website](#).

Whooping Crane

Whooping crane is designated as a non-essential experimental population in Wisconsin and consultation under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act is only required if project activities will occur within a National Wildlife Refuge or National Park. If project activities are proposed on lands outside of a National Wildlife Refuge or National Park, then you are not required to consult. For additional information on this designation and consultation requirements, please review "[Establishment of a Nonessential Experimental Population of Whooping Cranes in the Eastern United States](#)."

Other Trust Resources and Activities

Bald and Golden Eagles - Although the bald eagle has been removed from the endangered species list, this species and the golden eagle are protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to survey the area for any migratory bird nests. If there is an eagle nest on-site while work is on-going, eagles may be disturbed. We recommend avoiding and minimizing disturbance to eagles whenever practicable. If you cannot avoid eagle disturbance, you may seek a [permit](#). A [nest take permit](#) is always required for removal, relocation, or obstruction of an eagle nest. For communication and wind energy projects, please refer to additional guidelines below.

Migratory Birds - The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) prohibits the taking, killing, possession, transportation, and importation of migratory birds, their eggs, parts, and nests, except when specifically authorized by the Service. The Service has the responsibility under the MBTA to proactively prevent the mortality of migratory birds whenever possible and we encourage implementation of [recommendations that minimize potential impacts to migratory birds](#). Such measures include clearing forested habitat outside the nesting season (generally March 1 to August 31) or conducting nest surveys prior to clearing to avoid injury to eggs or nestlings.

Communication Towers - Construction of new communications towers (including radio, television, cellular, and microwave) creates a potentially significant impact on migratory birds, especially some 350 species of night-migrating birds. However, the Service has developed [voluntary guidelines for minimizing impacts](#).

Transmission Lines - Migratory birds, especially large species with long wingspans, heavy bodies, and poor maneuverability can also collide with power lines. In addition, mortality can occur when birds, particularly hawks, eagles, kites, falcons, and owls, attempt to perch on uninsulated or unguarded power poles. To minimize these risks, please refer to [guidelines](#) developed by the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee and the Service. Implementation of these measures is especially important along sections of lines adjacent to wetlands or other areas that support large numbers of raptors and migratory birds.

Wind Energy - To minimize impacts to migratory birds and bats, wind energy projects should follow the Service's [Wind Energy Guidelines](#). In addition, please refer to the Service's [Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance](#), which provides guidance for conserving bald and golden eagles in the course of siting, constructing, and operating wind energy facilities.

State Department of Natural Resources Coordination

While it is not required for your Federal section 7 consultation, please note that additional state endangered or threatened species may also have the potential to be impacted. **Please contact the Minnesota or Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for information on state listed species that may be present in your proposed project area.**

Minnesota

[Minnesota Department of Natural Resources - Endangered Resources Review Homepage](#)

Email: Review.NHIS@state.mn.us

Wisconsin

[Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources - Endangered Resources Review Homepage](#)

Email: DNRERReview@wi.gov

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. Please feel free to contact our office with questions or for additional information.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Bald & Golden Eagles
- Migratory Birds
- Wetlands

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office
3815 American Blvd East
Bloomington, MN 55425-1659
(952) 858-0793

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2026-0066355

Project Name: Great River Energy Kimball Transmission Tap Line Project - Preferred Route

Project Type: Transmission Line - New Constr - Above Ground

Project Description: Great River Energy is building a new overhead transmission line in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships in Stearns County. The transmission line is needed to enable Meeker Energy to connect its new Kimball Substation so that it can continue to reliably serve members' electrical power needs.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@45.33036845,-94.38361608406959,14z>



Counties: Meeker and Stearns counties, Minnesota

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 4 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Whooping Crane <i>Grus americana</i> Population: Eastern Migratory NEP - U.S.A. (AL, AR, FL, GA, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NC, OH, SC, TN, VA, WI, WV) No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758	Experimental Population, Non- Essential

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Proposed Threatened
Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee <i>Bombus suckleyi</i> Population: No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10885	Proposed Endangered
Western Regal Fritillary <i>Argynnis idalia occidentalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/12017	Proposed Threatened

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

Bald and Golden Eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act ² and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) ¹. Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to Bald or Golden Eagles, or their habitats, should follow

appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate avoidance and minimization measures, as described in the various links on this page.

1. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
2. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

There are Bald Eagles and/or Golden Eagles in your [project](#) area.

Measures for Proactively Minimizing Eagle Impacts

For information on how to best avoid and minimize disturbance to nesting bald eagles, please review the [National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines](#). You may employ the timing and activity-specific distance recommendations in this document when designing your project/ activity to avoid and minimize eagle impacts. For bald eagle information specific to Alaska, please refer to [Bald Eagle Nesting and Sensitivity to Human Activity](#).

The FWS does not currently have guidelines for avoiding and minimizing disturbance to nesting Golden Eagles. For site-specific recommendations regarding nesting Golden Eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional [Migratory Bird Office](#) or [Ecological Services Field Office](#).

If disturbance or take of eagles cannot be avoided, an [incidental take permit](#) may be available to authorize any take that results from, but is not the purpose of, an otherwise lawful activity. For assistance making this determination for Bald Eagles, visit the [Do I Need A Permit Tool](#). For assistance making this determination for golden eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional [Migratory Bird Office](#) or [Ecological Services Field Office](#).

Ensure Your Eagle List is Accurate and Complete

If your project area is in a poorly surveyed area in IPaC, your list may not be complete and you may need to rely on other resources to determine what species may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys). Please review the [Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#), to help you properly interpret the report for your specified location, including determining if there is sufficient data to ensure your list is accurate.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to bald or golden eagles on your list, see the "Probability of Presence Summary" below to see when these bald or golden eagles are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "[Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#)", specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)

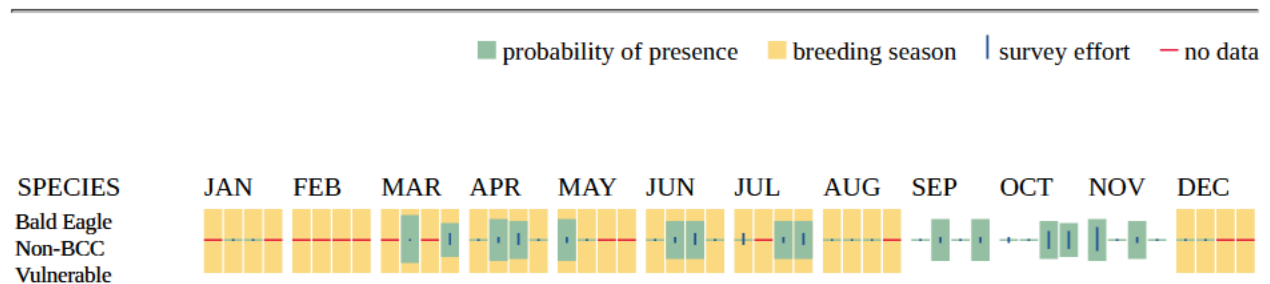
Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data (—)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action>

MIGRATORY BIRDS

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) ¹ prohibits the take (including killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transport) of protected migratory bird species without prior authorization by the Department of Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the "Probability of Presence Summary" below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31
Black Tern <i>Chlidonias niger surinamenis</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3093	Breeds May 15 to Aug 20
Black-billed Cuckoo <i>Coccyzus erythrophthalmus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9399	Breeds May 15 to Oct 10
Bobolink <i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9454	Breeds May 20 to Jul 31
Grasshopper Sparrow <i>Ammodramus savannarum perpallidus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8329	Breeds Jun 1 to Aug 20
Henslow's Sparrow <i>Centronyx henslowii</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3941	Breeds May 1 to Aug 31

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Lesser Yellowlegs <i>Tringa flavipes</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679	Breeds elsewhere
Pectoral Sandpiper <i>Calidris melanotos</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9561	Breeds elsewhere
Rusty Blackbird <i>Euphagus carolinus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9478	Breeds elsewhere
Semipalmated Sandpiper <i>Calidris pusilla</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9603	Breeds elsewhere
Western Grebe <i>Aechmophorus occidentalis</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6743	Breeds Jun 1 to Aug 31
Wood Thrush <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9431	Breeds May 10 to Aug 31

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "[Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#)", specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data (—)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action>

WETLANDS

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

RIVERINE

- R4SBC
- R5UBFx

FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND

- PSS1/EM1C
- PSS1A
- PFO1A

FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND

- PEM1Ad
- PEM1C
- PEM1Af
- PEM1B
- PEM1A

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Hannah Phelps
Address: 1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
City: Minneapolis
State: MN
Zip: 55414
Email: hannah.phelps@merjent.com
Phone: 3042761892

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: troy.daniell@usda.gov
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:22:17 PM
Attachments: [F4 USDAg Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#),
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

State Correspondence

Minnesota Department of Agriculture

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: stephan.roos@state.mn.us
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:22:10 PM
Attachments: [S2 MN Dept of Ag Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: [Roos, Stephan \(MDA\)](#)
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfuss](#)
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, May 28, 2026 4:36:11 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)

Steve,

Thanks for your email. We will reach out with any questions as we move forward.

Thanks,

Andrew Levi

612.354.4280 direct

612-246-8581 mobile

andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300

Minneapolis, MN 55414

612.746.3660 main

www.merjent.com

From: Roos, Stephan (MDA) <stephan.roos@state.mn.us>
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2026 4:31 PM
To: Andrew Levi <andrew.levi@merjent.com>
Cc: Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfu@GREnergy.com>; Beth Rehfuss <beth.rehfuss@merjent.com>
Subject: EXTERNAL: RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Hi Andrew,

Sorry for the delay in responding to your project notice. I just want to acknowledge receipt of it and offer any assistance I can in preparing the AIMP for this project.

Reach out to me with any questions or for any help I can offer.

Thanks,

Steve

Steve Roos

Environmental Review Program Manager, Energy and Environment Section
Agricultural Marketing and Development Division

Minnesota Department of Agriculture

625 Robert Street North
Saint Paul, MN 55155-2538
O: 657-201-6631
C: 612-968-7208
www.mda.state.mn.us



From: Andrew Levi <andrew.levi@merjent.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21 PM
To: Roos, Stephan (MDA) <stephan.roos@state.mn.us>
Cc: Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfu@GREnergy.com>; Beth Reh fuss
<beth.rehfuss@merjent.com>
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

This message may be from an external email source.

Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

This e-mail message is intended to be received only by persons entitled to receive the confidential information it may contain. E-mail messages from Merjent, Inc. may contain information that is confidential and legally privileged. Please do not read, copy, forward, or store this message unless you are an intended recipient of it. If you have received this message in error, please forward it to the sender and delete it completely from your computer system.

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Roos, Stephan \(MDA\)](#)
To: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#)
Cc: [Andrew Levi](#)
Subject: EXTERNAL: RE: AIMP.docx
Date: Friday, September 4, 2026 3:14:35 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[Kimball AIMP.docx](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Hi Mark and Andrew,

I've reviewed the AIMP you sent me and added my comments. If you have questions get back to me.

I'm guessing that this one is for the Kimball project, but it would make a fine template for most any project in the future. I did add comments about the Ag Monitor in the document. We can discuss this issue on the phone as well if you'd like.

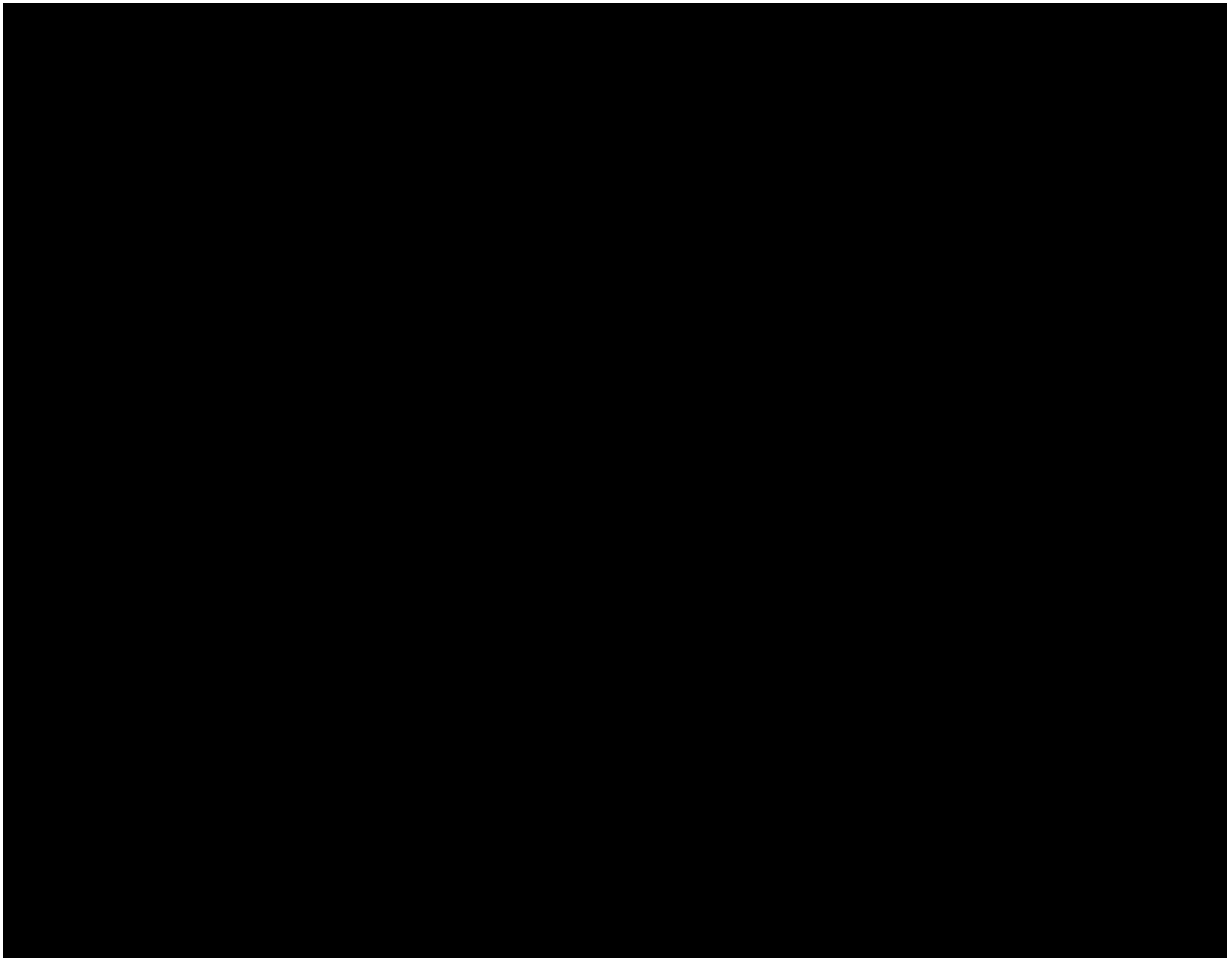
Steve

Steve Roos

Environmental Review Program Manager, Innovation and Development Team
Agricultural Marketing and Development Division

Minnesota Department of Agriculture

625 Robert Street North
Saint Paul, MN 55155-2538
O: 657-201-6631
C: 612-968-7208
www.mda.state.mn.us



Minnesota Department of Health

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: david.bell@state.mn.us
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:39 PM
Attachments: [S4 MN Dept of Health Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: kate.fairman@state.mn.us
Cc: [Bump, Samantha \(DNR\)](#); [Haley Byron](#); [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfuss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:36 PM
Attachments: [S6 MN DNR Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Division of Ecological & Water Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155-4025

April 17, 2026

Hannah Phelps
Merjent, Inc.

RE: Natural Heritage Review of the proposed Great River Energy Kimball Transmission Tap Line Project - Preferred Route,
T121N R29W Sect 6, T121N R30W Sect 1, T122N R29W Sect 31-33, T122N R30W Sect 36; Meeker and Stearns Co

Dear Hannah Phelps,

For all correspondence regarding the Natural Heritage Review of this project please include the project ID **MCE-2026-00256** in the email subject line.

As requested, the [Minnesota Natural Heritage Information System](#) has been reviewed to determine if the proposed project has the potential to impact any rare species or other significant natural features. Based on the project details provided with the request, the following rare features may be impacted by the proposed project:

State-listed Species

- [Blanding's turtles](#) (*Emydoidea blandingii*), a state-listed threatened species, have been documented in the vicinity of the proposed project. Blanding's turtles use upland areas up to and over a mile distant from wetlands, waterbodies, and watercourses. Uplands are used for nesting, basking, periods of dormancy, and traveling between wetlands. Factors believed to contribute to the decline of this species include collisions with vehicles, wetland drainage and degradation, and the development of upland habitat. Any added mortality can be detrimental to populations of Blanding's turtles, as these turtles have a low reproduction rate that depends upon a high survival rate to maintain population levels.

The proposed project has the potential to impact this rare turtle through direct fatalities and habitat disturbance/destruction. Minnesota's Endangered Species Statute (Minnesota Statutes, section 84.0895) and associated Rules (Minnesota Rules, part 6212.1800 to 6212.2300 and 6134) prohibit the take of threatened or endangered species without a permit. **As such, please contact**

Review.NHIS@state.mn.us **to confirm that the following measures will be implemented:**

- Avoid wetland and aquatic impacts during overwintering season, between October 15 and April 15, if the area is suitable for overwintering.
 - Wetlands and aquatic habitats that freeze solid to the bed (no liquid water) are not suitable overwintering habitat. However, Blanding's turtles will overwinter in wetlands and aquatic habitat where ice has closed over the water's surface.
- Limit erosion and sediment control to [wildlife friendly erosion control](#).

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

Great River Energy Kimball Transmission Tap Line Project - Preferred Route

MCE-2026-00256

Page 2 of 4

- o Check bare ground within construction areas for turtles before the use of heavy equipment or any ground disturbance.
- o Inspect trenches, holes, or depressions prior to starting work **each day** and immediately prior to filling. Upon project completion, bore holes and trenches must be filled.
- o The [Blanding's turtle flyer](#) must be given to all contractors working in the area.
- o Report any sightings using the [DNR Plant and Animal Observation Form](#).
- o If turtles are in imminent danger, move them by hand out of harm's way; otherwise, they are to be left undisturbed. Directions on how to move turtles safely can be found at [Helping Turtles Across the Road](#).

If the above measures are not feasible, please contact Review.NHIS@state.mn.us as a project-specific avoidance plan will likely be needed to demonstrate avoidance.

Additional Blanding's turtle avoidance measures may include, but are not limited to, the following recommendations:

- o Recommendations from List 1 of the [Blanding's turtle fact sheet](#). If greater protection for turtles is desired, implement recommendations from List 2.
- o Avoid hydro-mulch products that contain any materials with synthetic (plastic) fiber additives, as the fibers can re-suspend and flow into waterbodies.
- The Natural Heritage Information System (NHIS) tracks bat roost trees and hibernacula plus some acoustic data, but this information is not exhaustive. Even if there are no bat records listed nearby, all of Minnesota's bats, including the federally endangered northern long-eared bat ([Myotis septentrionalis](#)), can be found throughout Minnesota. During the active season (approximately April-November) bats roost underneath bark, in cavities, or in crevices of both live and dead trees. Tree removal can negatively impact bats by destroying roosting habitat, especially during the pup rearing season when females are forming maternity roosting colonies and the pups cannot yet fly. To minimize these impacts, **the DNR recommends that tree removal be avoided from June 1 through August 15.**
- Please visit the [DNR Rare Species Guide](#) for more information on the habitat use of state-listed species and recommended measures to avoid or minimize impacts.
- Please report incidental sightings of state-listed species via the [DNR Plant and Animal Observation Form](#).

Federally Protected Species

- To ensure compliance with federal law, conduct a federal regulatory review using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) online [Information for Planning and Consultation \(IPaC\) tool](#).

Environmental Review and Permitting

- Please include a copy of this letter and the MCE-generated Final Project Report in any state or local license or permit application. Please note that measures to avoid or minimize disturbance to the above rare features may be included as restrictions or conditions in any required permits or licenses.

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

Great River Energy Kimball Transmission Tap Line Project - Preferred Route

MCE-2026-00256

Page 3 of 4

The Natural Heritage Information System (NHIS), a collection of databases that contains information about Minnesota's rare natural features, is maintained by the Division of Ecological and Water Resources, Department of Natural Resources. The NHIS is continually updated as new information becomes available and is the most complete source of data on Minnesota's native plant communities, rare species, and other rare features. However, the NHIS is not an exhaustive inventory and does not contain the locations of all rare features in the state. Therefore, ecologically significant features for which we have no records may exist within the project area. If additional information becomes available regarding rare features in the vicinity of the project, further review may be necessary.

For environmental review purposes, the results of this Natural Heritage Review are valid for one year; the results are only valid for the project location and project description provided with the request. **If project details change or the project has not occurred within one year, please resubmit the project for review within one year of initiating project activities.** Resubmit by selecting *Clone Project as Draft* on the project page in MCE.

The Natural Heritage Review does not constitute project approval by the Department of Natural Resources. Instead, it identifies issues regarding known occurrences of rare features and potential impacts to these rare features. Visit [Natural Heritage Review](#) for additional information regarding this process, survey guidance, and other related information. For information on the environmental review process or other natural resource concerns, please contact your [DNR Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist](#).

Thank you for consulting us and for your interest in the conservation of Minnesota's rare natural resources.

Sincerely,

James Drake



Natural Heritage Review Specialist

james.f.drake@state.mn.us

Cc: Melissa Collins, Halye Byron, Samantha Bump

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

Great River Energy Kimball Transmission Tap Line Project - Preferred Route

MCE-2026-00256

Page 4 of 4

For more project details, see the MCE-generated Final Project Report, available on the MCE project page.

Great River Energy Kimball Transmission Tap Line Project - Preferred Route



Minnesota Department of Transportation

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: stacy.kotch@state.mn.us
Cc: [Driver, Ann \(DOT\)](#); mike.ginnaty@state.mn.us; [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:27 PM
Attachments: [S10 MN DOT Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: [Cruikshank, Thomas \(DOT\)](#); [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#)
Cc: [Erickson, Tad \(DOT\)](#); [Keranen, Jonathan \(DOT\)](#); [Peterson, Keith \(DOT\)](#); [Voss, Steven \(DOT\)](#); [Kotch Egstad, Stacy \(DOT\)](#); [Ginnaty, Michael \(DOT\)](#); [Driver, Ann \(DOT\)](#); mmacmillan@greenergy.com; [Beth Reh fuss](#); [Hallgren, James \(DOT\)](#); [Hukriede, James \(DOT\)](#)
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: GRE & Meeker Energy Kimball Substation Transmission Line Project
Date: Monday, April 27, 2026 8:58:59 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Tom,

Thank you for your comment. We will reach out as needed should the project shift to being located across or along a MnDOT right-of-way.

Thanks,

Andrew Levi

612.354.4280 direct

612-246-8581 mobile

andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300

Minneapolis, MN 55414

612.746.3660 main

www.merjent.com

From: Cruikshank, Thomas (DOT) <Thomas.Cruikshank@state.mn.us>

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2026 8:41 AM

To: Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfu@GREnergy.com>

Cc: Erickson, Tad (DOT) <Tad.Erickson@state.mn.us>; Keranen, Jonathan (DOT) <jonathan.keranen@state.mn.us>; Peterson, Keith (DOT) <keith.peterson@state.mn.us>; Voss, Steven (DOT) <steve.voss@state.mn.us>; Kotch Egstad, Stacy (DOT) <stacy.kotch@state.mn.us>; Ginnaty, Michael (DOT) <mike.ginnaty@state.mn.us>; Driver, Ann (DOT) <ann.driver@state.mn.us>; mmacmillan@greenergy.com; Beth Reh fuss <beth.rehfuss@merjent.com>; Andrew Levi <andrew.levi@merjent.com>; Hallgren, James (DOT) <james.hallgren@state.mn.us>; Hukriede, James (DOT) <jamie.hukriede@state.mn.us>

Subject: EXTERNAL: GRE & Meeker Energy Kimball Substation Transmission Line Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Hello Mark,

MnDOT received the letter and fact sheet emailed to Stacy Kotch Egstad regarding the GRE and Meeker Energy Kimball Substation Transmission Line Project in Stearns County. It was subsequently routed by Mike Ginnaty, our District Engineer for District 3

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

to myself and members of our staff. In reply to the information provided is doesn't appear the proposed project will have direct impact on MnDOT highways or rights of way. However, if any work related to the project will need to be completed in MnDOT rights of way please feel free to reach out to myself, Tad Erickson and Jon Keranen for assistance in obtaining any necessary permits or for any advisory assistance.

Thanks,

Tom Cruikshank

Principal Planner | District 3

3725 12th Street North, St. Cloud, MN 56303-2107

Phone: (320) 223-6526 | Cell: (320) 267-9859

Email: thomas.cruikshank@state.mn.us



PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: [Kotch Egstad, Stacy \(DOT\)](#)
Cc: [Driver, Ann \(DOT\)](#); [Ginnaty, Michael \(DOT\)](#); [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfuss](#)
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Tuesday, April 28, 2026 12:47:31 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Stacy,

Thank you for your comment. We too don't anticipate that MnDOT right-of-way will be impacted by the project. Thank you for the information concerning oversize/overweight loads.

Should something come up or change, we will reach back out to you.

Thanks,

Andrew Levi

612.354.4280 direct

612-246-8581 mobile

andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300

Minneapolis, MN 55414

612.746.3660 main

www.merjent.com

From: Kotch Egstad, Stacy (DOT) <stacy.kotch@state.mn.us>

Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2026 12:21 PM

To: Andrew Levi <andrew.levi@merjent.com>

Cc: Driver, Ann (DOT) <ann.driver@state.mn.us>; Ginnaty, Michael (DOT)

<mike.ginnaty@state.mn.us>; Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfus@GREnergy.com>; Beth Rehfuss

<beth.rehfuss@merjent.com>

Subject: EXTERNAL: RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Good Afternoon, Andrew,

Based on the preliminary route information provided in your letter, it appears that the proposed 115kV HVTL and associated facilities are not currently anticipated to directly affect MnDOT right-of-way. Should alternate routes or route segment locations emerge that may impact state trunk highway interests, MnDOT requests an opportunity to review those locations.

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

You may need to apply for oversize/overweight hauling permits during construction of this project. OSOW hauling information and permit applications can be found here: [OSOW PERMITS](#)

Because MnDOT's highway construction activities could impact the GRE's plans to haul oversize loads, the Applicant will need to coordinate with MnDOT when planning such loads - [Construction Projects, Plans, and Studies on Minnesota Highways - MnDOT](#). This coordination includes, but is not limited to, State Project construction, holiday travel restrictions, seasonal load limits, vertical and width restrictions and updates to escort requirements for oversized vehicles [Chapter 100 - MN Laws](#).

If I am mistaken about the proposed project's potential effects to MnDOT interests, please advise.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide early coordination comments on the Kimball Substation and 115kV Transmission Line Project.

Regards,

Stacy Kotch Egstad

Utility Routing & Siting Coordinator | Office of Land Management

Minnesota Department of Transportation

395 John Ireland Blvd Mailstop 678

St. Paul, MN. 55155

651-358-0786



From: Andrew Levi <andrew.levi@merjent.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21 PM

To: Kotch Egstad, Stacy (DOT) <stacy.kotch@state.mn.us>

Cc: Driver, Ann (DOT) <ann.driver@state.mn.us>; Ginnaty, Michael (DOT) <mike.ginnaty@state.mn.us>; Strohufus, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfu@GREnergy.com>; Beth Rehfuß <beth.rehfuss@merjent.com>

Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

This message may be from an external email source.

Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi

612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

This e-mail message is intended to be received only by persons entitled to receive the confidential information it may contain. E-mail messages from Merjent, Inc. may contain information that is confidential and legally privileged. Please do not read, copy, forward, or store this message unless you are an intended recipient of it. If you have received this message in error, please forward it to the sender and delete it completely from your computer system.

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#)
To: [Kotch Egstad, Stacy \(DOT\)](#); [Andrew Levi](#)
Cc: [Driver, Ann \(DOT\)](#); [Ginnaty, Michael \(DOT\)](#); [Beth Reh fuss](#)
Subject: EXTERNAL: RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Tuesday, April 28, 2026 2:18:35 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Hello Stacy,

You are correct that we don't anticipate impacting any MnDOT ROW.

As always, we will make sure we and our contractors are following load restrictions and any oversize hauls.

Thanks,
Mark Strohfus
Project Manager – Transmission Permitting
Great River Energy
12300 Elm Creek Boulevard
Maple Grove, MN 55369
Direct: 763-445-5210 | Cell: 612-961-9820
www.GreatRiverEnergy.com

From: Kotch Egstad, Stacy (DOT) <stacy.kotch@state.mn.us>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2026 12:21 PM
To: Andrew Levi <andrew.levi@merjent.com>
Cc: Driver, Ann (DOT) <ann.driver@state.mn.us>; Ginnaty, Michael (DOT) <mike.ginnaty@state.mn.us>; Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfu@GREnergy.com>; Beth Reh fuss <beth.reh fuss@merjent.com>
Subject: RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

This email was sent by an external sender. Opening attachments or clicking links from untrusted sources may cause damage to you and Great River Energy.

Good Afternoon, Andrew,

Based on the preliminary route information provided in your letter, it appears that the proposed 115kV HVTL and associated facilities are not currently anticipated to directly affect MnDOT right-of-way. Should alternate routes or route segment locations emerge that may impact state trunk highway interests, MnDOT requests an opportunity to review those locations.

You may need to apply for oversize/overweight hauling permits during construction of this project. OSOW hauling information and permit applications can be found here: [OSOW](#)

Minnesota Indian Affairs Council

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: isaac.weston@state.mn.us
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:15 PM
Attachments: [S13 MIAC Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#), [image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

Minnesota Office of the State Archeologist

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: amanda.gronhovd@state.mn.us
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfuss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:22:09 PM
Attachments: [S18 MN Arc Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: chris.green@state.mn.us
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:38 PM
Attachments: [S16 MPCA Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#),
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Harrington, Lucy \(She/Her/Hers\) \(ADM\)](#)
To: [Lacy Lepisto](#)
Cc: [Andrew Levi](#); [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Leffler, Paul M CIV USARMY CEMVP \(USA\)](#)
Subject: EXTERNAL: RE: Kimball Area 115-kV Transmission Line Project Phase Ia Review Request
Date: Monday, June 22, 2026 4:33:49 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[2026-1019.pdf](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Find attached our comments in response to your request.

Lucy Harrington

Environmental Review Archaeologist | State Historic Preservation Office

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Minnesota Department of Administration

50 Sherburne Avenue

Saint Paul, MN 55155

651-201-3283

mn.gov/admin



From: Lacy Lepisto <lacy.lepisto@merjent.com>

Sent: Friday, May 29, 2026 12:02 PM

To: MN_ADM_ENV Review SHPO <ENReviewSHPO@state.mn.us>

Cc: Andrew Levi <andrew.levi@merjent.com>; Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfu@GREnergy.com>

Subject: Kimball Area 115-kV Transmission Line Project Phase Ia Review Request

This message may be from an external email source.

Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

Good morning,

Attached is a Phase Ia (including letter and figures) that I would like to submit for review.

The project has also been uploaded to the OSA portal. Let me know if you need any

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

additional information from me to complete your review.

Thanks!

Lacy Lepisto(she/her)
612.924.3983 direct
319.759.3261 mobile
lacy.lepisto@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

This e-mail message is intended to be received only by persons entitled to receive the confidential information it may contain. E-mail messages from Merjent, Inc. may contain information that is confidential and legally privileged. Please do not read, copy, forward, or store this message unless you are an intended recipient of it. If you have received this message in error, please forward it to the sender and delete it completely from your computer system.



June 22, 2026

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Lacy Lepisto
Merjent, Inc.
lacy.lepisto@merjent.com

RE: Great River Energy and Meeker Energy – Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project
Stearns and Meeker Counties
SHPO Number: 2026-1019

Dear Lacy Lepisto:

According to your correspondence, the proposed project may require a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permit, which would then make it subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Consultation under Section 106 will need to be initiated by the federal agency, or, if the federal agency decides to delegate this responsibility formally with a notification letter, initiated by the permit applicant. At this time, lacking an understanding of the USACE permit area and therefore a definition of their undertaking and area of potential effects, we are providing technical assistance, and our comments should be taken as such.

Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations 36 CFR § 800, the undertaking and area of potential effects (APE) have yet to be defined. Without a defined undertaking and APE, our comments are restricted to a review of whether the cultural resources assessment you prepared on May 29, 2026 is accurate and whether we agree with your recommendations. We agree that the assessment is accurate, there are no known archaeological sites within the proposed project boundary, nor are there any historic properties designated in Minnesota Statute 138.665. In your assessment, you recommend a Phase I archaeological survey of the new transmission line pole locations and the substation location ahead of Project construction. We agree with this recommendation. The survey must meet the requirements of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Identification and Evaluation, and should include an evaluation of National Register eligibility for any properties that are identified. For a list of consultants who have expressed an interest in undertaking this type of research and archaeological surveys, please visit the website <https://www.mnhs.org/preservation/directory>, and select "Archaeologists" in the "Specialties" box.

As noted above, this comment letter does not address the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and 36 CFR § 800. Since this project will require a federal permit, consultation under Section 106 will need to be initiated by the federal agency, or the applicant, if the federal agency decides to delegate this responsibility. Be advised that comments and recommendations provided by our office for this state-level review may differ from findings and determinations made by the federal agency as part of review and consultation under Section 106.

If you have any questions regarding our review of this project, please contact Lucy Harrington, Environmental Review Archaeologist, at (651)201-3283 or lucy.harrington@state.mn.us.

Sincerely,

Amy Spong
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

CC: Paul Leffler, US Army Corps of Engineers, Paul.M.Leffler@usace.army.mil

MINNESOTA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

50 Sherburne Avenue ■ Administration Building 203 ■ Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155 ■ 651-201-3287

mn.gov/admin/shpo ■ mnshpo@state.mn.us

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND SERVICE PROVIDER

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

Andrew Levi, Merjent, Inc., andrew.levi@merjent.com

Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy, MStrohfu@GREnergy.com

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: [Beth Rehfuß](#)
Subject: FW: Kimball Area 115-kV Transmission Line Project Phase Ia Review Request
Date: Friday, May 29, 2026 12:36:04 PM
Attachments: [GRE_Kimball Area 115-kV Transmission Line Project Phase Ia.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Andrew Levi

612.354.4280 direct
612-246-8581 mobile
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

From: Lacy Lepisto <lacy.lepisto@merjent.com>
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2026 12:02 PM
To: MN_ADM_ENV Review SHPO <enreviewshpo@state.mn.us>
Cc: Andrew Levi <andrew.levi@merjent.com>; Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfu@GREnergy.com>
Subject: Kimball Area 115-kV Transmission Line Project Phase Ia Review Request

Good morning,

Attached is a Phase Ia (including letter and figures) that I would like to submit for review. The project has also been uploaded to the OSA portal. Let me know if you need any additional information from me to complete your review.

Thanks!

Lacy Lepisto(she/her)

612.924.3983 direct
319.759.3261 mobile
lacy.lepisto@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com



May 29, 2026

Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office
Administration Building #203
50 Sherburne Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55155
ENReviewSHPO@state.mn.us

Re: Great River Energy and Meeker Energy
Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project
Phase IA Cultural Resources Assessment

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter presents the results of a file search completed in support of the Kimball Substation and 115-kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project (Project) in Stearns and Meeker counties, Minnesota. Meeker Energy proposes to construct the new Kimball Substation and Great River Energy proposes to construct an approximately 4-mile, 115-kilovolt (kV) single-circuit high voltage transmission line. To assist with Project planning, Merjent, Inc. (Merjent) prepared this letter which includes the results of a file search and recommendations.

To adequately address archeological and historic resources that might be affected by the Project, a larger Study Area was created to establish context and understand nearby archaeological site density. The Study Area includes the Project Area plus an additional 0.5-mile buffer surrounding the Project Area. The Study Area is located in the Townships, Ranges and Sections identified in **Table 1**.

Table 1. Township, Range and Section of the Study Area

County	Township	Range	Sections
Meeker	121N	30W	1
Stearns	122N	30W	36
Stearns	122N	29W	27, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33, 34

Regulatory Framework

Merjent expects that the Minnesota Field Archaeology Act (Minn. Stat. § 138.31-138.42) will apply to the Project. Regardless of any specific permits that may be required prior to construction, the Private Cemeteries Act (Minn. Stat. § 307.08) will apply.

The Minnesota Field Archaeology Act (Minn. Stat. § 138.32-138.42) establishes the Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA); requires licenses to engage in archaeology on nonfederal public land; establishes ownership, custody, and use of objects and data recovered during survey; and requires state agencies to submit development plans to the OSA, Minnesota State Historic

Preservation Office (SHPO), and the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council for review when there are known or suspected archaeological sites in the area.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has jurisdiction for the placement of dredged or fill material in Water of the United States pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1344; 33 CFR Part 323). A Section 404 permit would be a federal action associated with this undertaking that requires compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800. This Project may require coverage under the Section 404 Regional General Permit. Appendix C of 33 CFR Part 325 contains the procedures that the USACE must follow for the protection of historic properties to fulfill the requirements set forth in the NHPA and other applicable laws.

Minnesota's Private Cemeteries Act (Minn. Stat. § 307.08) affords all human burial grounds and remains older than 50 years and located outside of platted or identified cemeteries protection from disturbance. This statute applies to burials on either public or private lands or waters and includes Indian burial mounds as well as historic cemeteries.

Literature Review

On March 17, 2026, Merjent retrieved archaeological sites and historic structures information. On March 25, 2026, Merjent retrieved previous survey files from the SHPO. Merjent Cultural Resource Specialists reviewed archaeological site files on the OSA online portal and historic property files on the Minnesota Statewide Historic Inventory Portal (MnSHIP). General Land Office (GLO) maps and available historical aerial photography were accessed online through the OSA Portal.¹ Enclosed Figure 1 and Figure 2 show the features identified during this review. These features are discussed below.

[NONPUBLIC DATA BEGINS]

BACKGROUND RESEARCH RESULTS

Previously Recorded Archaeological Resources and Historic Cemeteries

According to OSA and SHPO files, there are [REDACTED] previously recorded archaeological sites within the Study Area. There is [REDACTED] historic cemetery located within the Study Area, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Merjent recommends areas of ground disturbance should be surveyed before Project construction to verify that no evidence of the cemetery is located within the Project Area.

¹ OSA Portal. 2026.

Previously Recorded Archaeological Surveys

The Study Area falls mostly within the Unknown Site Potential/Poorly Surveyed layers depicted in the Mn Model (Phase 4) Survey Implementation Model. On March 25, 2026, Merjent reviewed previous survey files from the SHPO. [REDACTED]

Previously Recorded Standing Historic Buildings and Structures

According to SHPO, there are no previously recorded standing historic buildings or structures within the Study Area. The nearest historic buildings or structures are located within nearby Watkins, Minnesota; however, they are outside of the Study Area and will not be impacted by the Project due to distance. Although the Project proposes a new transmission line, it will be located in an area with extant overhead transmission and distribution lines, and the new line will not result in an appreciable change to viewshed.

General Land Office and Aerial Photo Review

Merjent reviewed nineteenth-century GLO map and notes on file with the Bureau of Land Management.² The GLO map of the Project Area illustrated conditions in 1855-1856 as being prairie, with various lakes and streams. There were also many wetlands and floodplains that connect to streams and rivers. Aerial photographs from 1938 show that agricultural fields and structures (namely farmhouses and associated outbuildings) had been established.³ The Project Area has remained largely the same since this time with the main changes being road improvements and overhead utility line construction.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

[REDACTED] were identified within the Study Area. [REDACTED]

[NONPUBLIC DATA ENDS]

The Project Area could contain precontact sites given its location near several water sources. Additionally, potential exists for the presence of Historic-period sites within the Project Area because the area has been inhabited since at least the mid-19th century. However, given disturbance associated with roads and road rights-of-way, overhead transmission and distribution lines and the associated utility rights-of-way, the Project will not result in a significant change to the landscape or viewshed. Nevertheless, due to ground disturbance that will exceed previous disturbance depths, Merjent recommends a Phase I archaeological survey of new transmission line pole locations and the substation location ahead of Project construction.

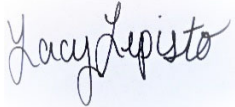
If human remains are encountered during construction activities, all ground disturbing activity must cease, and local law enforcement must be notified per Minn. Stat. § 307.08. Great River Energy and Meeker Energy will develop an Unanticipated Discoveries Plan for the Project.

² Bureau of Land Management General Land Office Records. 2026 <https://glorerecords.blm.gov/>

³ Minnesota OSA. 2026. OSA Portal. Historic Aerial Imagery Layer. Electronic resource, <https://osaportal.mn.gov/> Accessed February 20, 2026.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me (lacy.lepisto@merjent.com).

Sincerely,
Merjent, Inc.



Lacy Lepisto
Cultural Resource Specialist

Enclosed:
Figure 1 Topographic Map (*Contains Confidential and Privileged Information*)
Figure 2 Aerial Map (*Contains Confidential and Privileged Information*)

cc: Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy
Andrew Levi, Merjent

[NONPUBLIC DATA BEGINS]

[NONPUBLIC DATA ENDS]

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: waterprograms.bwsr@state.mn.us
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfuss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:54 PM
Attachments: [S1 MNBWSR Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

Minnesota Office of Pipeline Safety

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: jonathan.wolfgram@state.mn.us
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfuss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:22 PM
Attachments: [S17 MN OPS Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

Minnesota Department of Commerce

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: chase.christopherson@state.mn.us
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfuss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:24 PM
Attachments: [S3 MN Dept of Comm Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Christopherson, Chase \(He/Him/His\) \(COMM\)](#)
To: [Andrew Levi](#)
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfuss](#)
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:36:26 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Got it. Thanks for that reminder.

Best wishes,

Chase Christopherson
Tribal Advocacy Council on Energy (TACE) Tribal Liaison
Division of Energy Resources
D: 952-905-6995
mn.gov/commerce
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 280 | Saint Paul, MN 55101



CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This message is intended only for the use of the individual(s) named above. Information in this e-mail or any attachment may be confidential or otherwise protected from disclosure by state or federal law. Any unauthorized use, dissemination, or copying of this message is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please refrain from reading this e-mail or any attachments and notify the sender immediately. Please destroy all copies of this communication.

From: Andrew Levi <andrew.levi@merjent.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:34 PM
To: Christopherson, Chase (He/Him/His) (COMM) <Chase.Christopherson@state.mn.us>
Cc: Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfu@GREnergy.com>; Beth Rehfuss <beth.rehfuss@merjent.com>
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

Hi Chase,

We sent the notification email and letter to all persons on the Public Utilities Commission's Tribal Government List and the THPO List.

Thanks,

Andrew Levi

612.354.4280 direct

612-246-8581 mobile

andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300

Minneapolis, MN 55414

612.746.3660 main

www.merjent.com

From: Christopherson, Chase (He/Him/His) (COMM) <Chase.Christopherson@state.mn.us>

Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:23 PM

To: Andrew Levi <andrew.levi@merjent.com>

Cc: Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfu@GREnergy.com>; Beth Reh fuss

<beth.rehfuss@merjent.com>

Subject: EXTERNAL: RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Hey Andrew,

Thanks for sending this over. Could you remind me about the procedure you all have on reaching out to Tribes on these matters? Are you reaching out to Tribal leadership or who receives the emails and contact attempts? Thanks.

Best wishes,

Chase Christopherson

Tribal Advocacy Council on Energy (TACE) Tribal Liaison

Division of Energy Resources

D: 952-905-6995

mn.gov/commerce

Minnesota Department of Commerce

85 7th Place East, Suite 280 | Saint Paul, MN 55101



CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This message is intended only for the use of the individual(s) named above. Information in this e-mail or any attachment may be confidential or otherwise protected from disclosure by state or federal law. Any

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

unauthorized use, dissemination, or copying of this message is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please refrain from reading this e-mail or any attachments and notify the sender immediately. Please destroy all copies of this communication.

From: Andrew Levi <andrew.levi@merjent.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21 PM

To: Christopherson, Chase (He/Him/His) (COMM) <Chase.Christopherson@state.mn.us>

Cc: Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfu@GREnergy.com>; Beth Rehfuss <beth.rehfuss@merjent.com>

Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

This message may be from an external email source.

Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfu@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,

Andrew Levi

On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi

612.354.4280 direct

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

This e-mail message is intended to be received only by persons entitled to receive the confidential information it may contain. E-mail messages from Merjent, Inc. may contain information that is confidential and legally privileged. Please do not read, copy, forward, or store this message unless you are an intended recipient of it. If you have received this message in error, please forward it to the sender and delete it completely from your computer system.

This e-mail message is intended to be received only by persons entitled to receive the confidential information it may contain. E-mail messages from Merjent, Inc. may contain information that is confidential and legally privileged. Please do not read, copy, forward, or store this message unless you are an intended recipient of it. If you have received this message in error, please forward it to the sender and delete it completely from your computer system.

Minnesota Department of Revenue

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: sa.property@state.mn.us
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:27 PM
Attachments: [S9 MN Dept Revenue Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: dean.hunter@state.mn.us
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:54 PM
Attachments: [S5 MN Dept of Labor Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

Minnesota Legislature

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: rep.lisa.demuth@house.mn.gov
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:36:12 PM
Attachments: [S14 Rep Demuth Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Beth Reh fuss](#)
To: ["sen.jeff.howe@mnsenate.gov"](mailto:sen.jeff.howe@mnsenate.gov)
Cc: [Stroh fus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Andrew Levi](#)
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: Re: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Wednesday, April 29, 2026 8:46:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[S15 Sen Howe Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)

Hi Nicole – Thanks so much for reaching out after we submitted project information via the Senator’s online communication form. I’ve attached a project notification letter and fact sheet which provide further information on the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project. I’ve also included below the original message that was sent via the submission form so that all project info is in one place for you to refer to. Please let us know if you have any questions and thanks for your time.

Original message sent via submission form:

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members’ electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. We would be happy to provide further project information if you would like to receive this.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Stroh fus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstroh fus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Stroh fus, Great River Energy

Beth Reh fuss (she/hers)

612.466.2407 direct

612.314.0545 mobile

beth.reh fuss@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

From: Office of Sen. Howe <sen.jeff.howe@mnsenate.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2026 2:33 PM

To: Beth Rehfuss <beth.rehfuss@merjent.com>

Subject: EXTERNAL: Re: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.



JEFF R. HOWE

Representing the 13th District in Minnesota's Senate

Beth,

Thank you for sharing this. We would appreciate any additional information you can provide so we can better share it with our constituents.

Nicole Iverson

Legislative Assistant to Sen. Jeff Howe

||

Local/County Correspondence

Meeker County Soil and Water Conservation District

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: joseph.norman@mn.nacdnet.net
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfuss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:22:22 PM
Attachments: [C4 Meeker SWCD Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

Meeker County

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: andrew.letson@co.meeker.mn.us
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:53:32 PM
Attachments: [C1 Meeker Co Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Good day,

I sent the following email earlier today. It was rejected as suspected spam; therefore, I am sending again to each person on the mailing list separately.

Thanks,

Andrew Levi

612.354.4280 direct

612-246-8581 mobile

andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300

Minneapolis, MN 55414

612.746.3660 main

www.merjent.com

From: Andrew Levi

Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:16 PM

To: 'andrew.letson@co.meeker.mn.us' <andrew.letson@co.meeker.mn.us>

Cc: 'phillip.schmalz@co.meeker.mn.us' <phillip.schmalz@co.meeker.mn.us>;

'greg.schultz@co.meeker.mn.us' <greg.schultz@co.meeker.mn.us>; 'Mark Strohfus'

<mstrohfus@greenergy.com>; Beth Rehfluss <beth.rehfluss@merjent.com>

Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210

or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,

Andrew Levi

On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi

612.354.4280 direct

andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300

Minneapolis, MN 55414

612.746.3660 main

www.merjent.com

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: phillip.schmalz@co.meeker.mn.us
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:54:02 PM
Attachments: [C1 Meeker Co Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Good day,

I sent the following email earlier today. It was rejected as suspected spam; therefore, I am sending again to each person on the mailing list separately.

Thanks,

Andrew Levi

612.354.4280 direct

612-246-8581 mobile

andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300

Minneapolis, MN 55414

612.746.3660 main

www.merjent.com

From: Andrew Levi
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:16 PM
To: 'andrew.letson@co.meeker.mn.us' <andrew.letson@co.meeker.mn.us>
Cc: 'phillip.schmalz@co.meeker.mn.us' <phillip.schmalz@co.meeker.mn.us>; 'greg.schultz@co.meeker.mn.us' <greg.schultz@co.meeker.mn.us>; 'Mark Strohfus' <mstrohfus@greenergy.com>; Beth Rehfluss <beth.rehfluss@merjent.com>
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210

or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,

Andrew Levi

On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi

612.354.4280 direct

andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300

Minneapolis, MN 55414

612.746.3660 main

www.merjent.com

Stearns Conservation District

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: john.maile@mn.nacdnet.net
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Reh fuss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:50 PM
Attachments: [C5 Stearns Conser Dist Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

Stearns County

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: info@stearnscountymn.gov
Cc: chris.byrd@stearnscountymn.gov; chelle.benson@stearnscountymn.gov; [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:19 PM
Attachments: [C6 Stearns Co Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com



Meeting Notes

Stearns County

June 18, 2026

Attendees: Chris Byrd (County Highway Engineer), Chelle Benson (Environmental Services Director), Mark Strohfus (Great River Energy), Andrew Levi (Merjent)

Introductions

Chelle indicated that going through the MPUC process is an appropriate path forward.

Chris indicated that he hopes to get an overview of the Project and general impacts to county road rights-of-way. Questions about permit submittals to Stearns County.

Mark gave an overview of the project. Indicated a draft permit would be submitted sometime next week; provided an overview of the permitting process. Likely won't engage with the county for about a year until after a permit is issued. Mark provided the need story for the Project. As the transmission provider, Great River Energy is required to provide Meeker Energy with power.

Chelle stated that there is an active commissioner and landowners in this area. Any information we can provide to help the county inform this commissioner when questions are asked would be helpful. Mark provided a discussion of the need story.

Mark: Does the county treat CSAH different than county roads? Chris: For permitting purposes the county does not treat them differently. The pole will need to be 37 feet from road centerline unless the pole is a breakaway pole. Mark: Great River Energy can meet this requirement. Chris: CSAH might have a 50-foot easement. Chris to confirm with right-of-way specialist. Mark: If project is within the easement would Great River Energy need to pay for moving the line? Chris: Yes. If in the back 5 feet of right-of-way it can generally avoid moving the line in the future. Most conflicts occur when crossing the road perpendicular. Mark: Is process online? Chris: Yes.

Mark gave an overview of the alternative considered by rejected process as it relates to the route permit application. Any concern about this alternative route? Chris: From a highway perspective there is no preference.

Mark: The southern route will have some wetland impacts. Chelle: Will the regional general permit apply here? Mark: Yes.

Chris clarified that Stearns County won't see a permit for at least a year. Mark confirmed it would likely be about 1.5 years before that happened and explained the reasons why.

Action items: Chris to provide Great River Energy with existing rights-of-way map.

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#)
To: Chris.Byrd@stearnscountymn.gov; [Information](#)
Cc: [Chelle](#); [Beth Rehfuss](#); [Andrew Levi](#); [Angie Ronayne](#)
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Monday, June 15, 2026 8:56:03 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Good Morning Chris,

You had requested a pre-application meeting to discuss our Kimball transmission line project, which would affect ~0.5 miles of Stearns CR 149 and ~0.25 miles of Stearns CR 48.

We haven't been able to get a call scheduled, and we're hoping to submit our draft Route Permit Application to the PUC this week.

How does your calendar look this week? My calendar is open:

- Tue, 6/16, all day except from 11:00-noon
- Wed, 6/17, after 2:00 pm
- Thur, 6/18, all day except 2:30-3:30
- Fri, 6/19, all day

Let me know if you have 30-60 minutes, and I can schedule a Teams call.

Thanks,
Mark Strohfus
Project Manager – Transmission Permitting
Great River Energy
12300 Elm Creek Boulevard
Maple Grove, MN 55369
Direct: 763-445-5210 | Cell: 612-961-9820
www.GreatRiverEnergy.com

From: Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2026 10:37 AM
To: 'Chris.Byrd@stearnscountymn.gov' <Chris.Byrd@stearnscountymn.gov>; 'Information' <Information@stearnscountymn.gov>
Cc: 'Chelle' <Chelle.Benson@stearnscountymn.gov>; Beth Rehfuss <beth.rehfuss@merjent.com>; 'Andrew Levi' <andrew.levi@merjent.com>; Angie Ronayne (angie.ronayne@merjent.com) <angie.ronayne@merjent.com>
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

Chris,

Sorry for the late response. Would 2:30 on Monday work for you still?

If not, we're available after 11 on Monday except from 1-1:30.

Thanks and have a Great Weekend!

Mark Strohfus

Project Manager – Transmission Permitting

Great River Energy

12300 Elm Creek Boulevard

Maple Grove, MN 55369

Direct: 763-445-5210 | Cell: 612-961-9820

www.GreatRiverEnergy.com



PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: [Byrd, Chris](#); [Information](#)
Cc: [Benson, Chelle](#); [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Wednesday, May 6, 2026 1:43:09 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Chris,

We'll coordinate around here and get back to you.

Thanks,

Andrew Levi

612.354.4280 direct

612-246-8581 mobile

andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300

Minneapolis, MN 55414

612.746.3660 main

www.merjent.com

From: Byrd, Chris <Chris.Byrd@stearnscountymn.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2026 1:40 PM
To: Andrew Levi <andrew.levi@merjent.com>; Information <Information@stearnscountymn.gov>
Cc: Benson, Chelle <Chelle.Benson@stearnscountymn.gov>; Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfu@GREnergy.com>; Beth Rehfluss <beth.rehfluss@merjent.com>
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

Andrew,

I am available Thursday May 14, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm; all day Friday May 15; Monday May 18, after 11:00; Tuesday May 19 before 2:00.

Thanks,

Chris Byrd, PE

County Highway Engineer

Stearns County Department of Highways

455 28th Ave South

Waite Park, MN 56387

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED



From: Andrew Levi <andrew.levi@merjent.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2026 9:22 AM
To: Byrd, Chris <Chris.Byrd@stearnscountymn.gov>; Information <Information@stearnscountymn.gov>
Cc: Benson, Chelle <Chelle.Benson@stearnscountymn.gov>; Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfus@GREnergy.com>; Beth Reh fuss <beth.rehfuss@merjent.com>
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

Some people who received this message don't often get email from andrew.levi@merjent.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: External Message. Please report all suspicious emails to the IT Service Desk using the Outlook Phish Alert button.

Hi Chris,

Just following up on this. Are there any timeframes that work for Stearns County Highway Dept to meet over the next couple weeks?

Thanks,

Andrew Levi

612.354.4280 direct

612-246-8581 mobile

andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300

Minneapolis, MN 55414

612.746.3660 main

www.merjent.com

From: Andrew Levi
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2026 4:02 PM
To: 'Byrd, Chris' <Chris.Byrd@stearnscountymn.gov>; Information <Information@stearnscountymn.gov>
Cc: Benson, Chelle <Chelle.Benson@stearnscountymn.gov>; Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfus@GREnergy.com>; Beth Reh fuss <beth.rehfuss@merjent.com>
Subject: RE: EXTERNAL: RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

Chris,

Thank you for reaching out.

To address one of your requests now: Great River Energy's standard practice for a transmission line of this size is to place utility poles 2-7 feet outside of road right-of-way; there should be no permanent features in the road right-of-way.

We are happy to meet with you. Are there several days/times next week that would work best for you? We will try to accommodate those times.

Thanks,

Andrew Levi

612.354.4280 direct

612-246-8581 mobile

andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300

Minneapolis, MN 55414

612.746.3660 main

www.merjent.com

From: Byrd, Chris <Chris.Byrd@stearnscountymn.gov>

Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2026 3:48 PM

To: Andrew Levi <andrew.levi@merjent.com>; Information <Information@stearnscountymn.gov>

Cc: Benson, Chelle <Chelle.Benson@stearnscountymn.gov>; Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfus@GREnergy.com>; Beth Reh fuss <beth.rehfuss@merjent.com>

Subject: EXTERNAL: RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Thank you for including the County Highway Department.

We request a pre-application coordination meeting. Additionally, the Highway Department will request utility permits for any features that are to be placed in the public road right-of-way. We would also request a utility permit if temporary traffic control is needed on a County Highway, and no permanent features are being constructed in the road right-of-way.

Thanks,

Chris Byrd, PE

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

County Highway Engineer

Stearns County Department of Highways

455 28th Ave South

Waite Park, MN 56387



From: Andrew Levi <andrew.levi@merjent.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21 PM

To: Information <Information@stearnscountymn.gov>

Cc: Byrd, Chris <Chris.Byrd@stearnscountymn.gov>; Benson, Chelle <Chelle.Benson@stearnscountymn.gov>; Strohfu, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfu@GREnergy.com>; Beth Rehfu, Beth Rehfu <beth.rehfu@merjent.com>

Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

Some people who received this message don't often get email from andrew.levi@merjent.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: External Message. Please report all suspicious emails to the IT Service Desk using the Outlook Phish Alert button.

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfu with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfu@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi

Stearns County Commission

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: jeff.bertram@stearnscountymn.gov
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfuss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:30 PM
Attachments: [C9 Stearns Co Comm Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi

612.354.4280 direct

andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300

Minneapolis, MN 55414

612.746.3660 main

www.merjent.com

This e-mail message is intended to be received only by persons entitled to receive the confidential information it may contain. E-mail messages from Merjent, Inc. may contain information that is confidential and legally privileged. Please do not read, copy, forward, or store this message unless you are an intended recipient of it. If you have received this message in error, please forward it to the sender and delete it completely from your computer system.

This e-mail message is intended to be received only by persons entitled to receive the confidential information it may contain. E-mail messages from Merjent, Inc. may contain information that is confidential and legally privileged. Please do not read, copy, forward, or store this message unless you are an intended recipient of it. If you have received this message in error, please forward it to the sender and delete it completely from your computer system.

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#)
To: Jeff.Bertram@stearnscountymn.gov
Cc: [Andrew Levi](#); [Beth Rehfuß](#); [Pulkrabek, Ryan GRE-MG](#); [MacMillan, Michelle GRE-MG](#); [Schrupp, Dan COOP-MKE](#); [Johnson, Luke COOP-MKE](#)
Subject: EXTERNAL: FW: EXTERNAL - RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Wednesday, April 29, 2026 9:03:20 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Merjent.

Good Morning Jeff,

I'm following up on our conversation last Friday about the Kimball Substation and 115-kV transmission line. It was a pleasure talking with you about the project and your concerns for the local residents.

You had asked who we worked with at the County on the Local Route Permitting option allowed under Minn Statutes § 216I.08. We followed our historic practice of reaching out to the County's planning & zoning department, which typically has the ability to review and approve environmental review documents. This is a prerequisite for a Local Route Permit.

As we discussed, this project is a local load serving project. It is a short, ~4-mile 115-kV transmission line that is only proposed to power Meeker Energy's proposed Kimball Substation. The Kimball Substation will only transmit power along distribution lines to the local communities. It will allow for economic growth in the local cities and townships by ensuring reliable electric service to existing and new residents and businesses. Great River Energy and Meeker Energy have an obligation to serve any person or business seeking electrical service, and we take this obligation seriously. While several landowners expressed that they have very reliable electrical services and don't see a need for this project, it takes 5-10 years to permit, design, procure and construct transmission lines and substations. If we wait until reliability is a common or frequent problem, it could not quickly be resolved. Proactive solutions are critical to ensuring continued reliability.

So far, we have completed an Open House at the Main Township Hall as part of our preparation for applying for a Route Permit from the MN PUC. Letter invitations were sent to all of the landowners along the proposed routes and Local Governmental Units with jurisdiction in the area. We also published a notice in a local newspaper. We had good attendance at the Open House and were able to speak with several of the local landowners, who we know

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

will remain engaged in the process.

We anticipate submitting our application to the PUC in June, which will start the clock on the state permitting process. There are opportunities for any interested parties to file comments on the project throughout the PUC's review process. The first opportunity will be a PUC Information and Scoping Meeting, which typically includes a local in-person meeting and a virtual online meeting. Great River Energy will hold another Open House immediately prior at the location of the in-person meeting to talk with anyone about the project. The PUC will summarize their review process and solicit questions and comments from the attendees, including comments regarding alternative routes for the project. Another Open House and Public Hearing will be held a couple months later, typically in front of an Administrative Law Judge. Great River Energy will again host the Open House prior to the in-person hearing.

I will be available throughout the permitting process to talk with anyone who has comments or concerns about the project.

If there is anything else you need from me, please feel free to reach out.

Sincerely,
Mark Strohfus
Project Manager – Transmission Permitting
Great River Energy
12300 Elm Creek Boulevard
Maple Grove, MN 55369
Direct: 763-445-5210 | Cell: 612-961-9820
www.GreatRiverEnergy.com

From: Bertram, Jeff <Jeff.Bertram@stearnscountymn.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 24, 2026 9:55 AM
To: Andrew Levi <andrew.levi@merjent.com>
Cc: Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfu@GREnergy.com>; Beth Reh fuss <beth.rehfuss@merjent.com>; Michelle.Schmitz@xcelenergy.com
Subject: RE: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

You don't often get email from jeff.bertram@stearnscountymn.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

This email was sent by an external sender. Opening attachments or clicking links from untrusted sources may cause damage to you and Great River Energy.

Good morning, everyone.

I assume this notice is strictly a FYI. This area, and these residents have been hit with multiple projects like this and they feel completely vulnerable. They feel the rural areas are completely exposed and powerless. An application is submitted to the PUC, they approve the application, no matter what, and another line is constructed. I understand the need to transmit electricity. However, these lines would never be allowed, or planned, through populated areas.

I assume you have met with the Town Boards of Luxemburg and Maine Prairie? It's the least you should do.

Thank you for your procedural notification.

Jeff Bertram

Jeff Bertram
Commissioner
Stearns County – District 3
320-250-6999

From: Andrew Levi <andrew.levi@merjent.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21 PM

To: Bertram, Jeff <Jeff.Bertram@stearnscountymn.gov>

Cc: Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG <MStrohfus@GREnergy.com>; Beth Reh fuss
<beth.rehfuss@merjent.com>

Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

CAUTION: External Message. Please report all suspicious emails to the IT Service Desk using the Outlook Phish Alert button.

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com

<image003.png>

1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

This e-mail message is intended to be received only by persons entitled to receive the confidential information it may contain. E-mail messages from Merjent, Inc. may contain information that is confidential and legally privileged. Please do not read, copy, forward, or store this message unless

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

you are an intended recipient of it. If you have received this message in error, please forward it to the sender and delete it completely from your computer system.

NOTICE TO RECIPIENT: The information contained in this message from Great River Energy and any attachments are confidential and intended only for the named recipient(s). If you have received this message in error, you are prohibited from copying, distributing or using the information. Please contact the sender immediately by return email and delete the original message.

NOTICE TO RECIPIENT: The information contained in this message from Great River Energy and any attachments are confidential and intended only for the named recipient(s). If you have received this message in error, you are prohibited from copying, distributing or using the information. Please contact the sender immediately by return email and delete the original message.

Wetland Conservation Act

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: emily.forbord@stearnscountymn.gov
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfuss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:30 PM
Attachments: [C10 Stearns Co Wetland CA Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

Clearwater River Watershed District

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: rebecca@resilience-resources.com
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfuss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:22:19 PM
Attachments: [R1 Clearwater Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

Southwest Regional Development Commission

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: execdir@swrdc.org
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:29 PM
Attachments: [R2 SWRDC Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

Forest River Township

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: rgeislinger@yahoo.com
Cc: richjstreit@hotmail.com; mjvgeislinger@meltel.net; cih9240@gmail.com; [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:44 PM
Attachments: [L1 Forest Prairie Twshp Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

Luxemburg Township

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: luxemburgtwpclerk@gmail.com
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:18 PM
Attachments: [L5 Luxemburg Twshp Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com

Maine Prairie Township

PUBLIC DOCUMENT - NONPUBLIC DATA HAS BEEN EXCISED

From: [Andrew Levi](#)
To: clerk.mpt@meltel.net
Cc: [Strohfus, Mark GRE-MG](#); [Beth Rehfluss](#)
Subject: Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project Notification
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:21:50 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[L9 Maine Prairie Twshp Kimball Letter 4.26.pdf](#)

Great River Energy and Meeker Energy (together, the Applicants), are proposing to construct approximately 4 miles of new 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line and a new substation in Maine Prairie and Luxemburg Townships, in Stearns County, Minnesota. This project is referred to as the Kimball Substation and 115-kV Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project will ensure that Meeker Energy can continue to reliably serve its members' electrical power needs.

The Applicants intend to submit a Route Permit application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in June 2026. The Applicants anticipate starting construction in Fall 2028 and energizing the Project in 2029. Please see the attached letter and fact sheet for additional details on the Project.

We would appreciate any feedback you might have about the Project. Please reach out to Mark Strohfus with Great River Energy at 763-445-5210 or mstrohfus@GREnergy.com with questions, written comments, or to request a pre-application coordination meeting.

Regards,
Andrew Levi
On behalf of Mark Strohfus, Great River Energy

Andrew Levi
612.354.4280 direct
andrew.levi@merjent.com



1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612.746.3660 main
www.merjent.com