

### Responsible Government Unit

Minnesota Department of Commerce  
Energy Environmental Review and  
Analysis  
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### Project Applicant

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The stated purpose for the Duluth Loop Reliability Project is to replace the system support once provided by coal-fired baseload generators located along Minnesota's North Shore by addressing severe voltage stability concerns, relieving transmission line overloads, and enhancing the reliability of Duluth-area transmission sources.

The Duluth Loop Reliability Project includes: (1) construction of about 14 miles of new 115 kV transmission line between the Ridgeview, Haines Road, and Hilltop Substations; (2) construction of a new approximately one-mile extension connecting an existing 230 kV transmission line to the Arrowhead Substation; (3) upgrades to the Ridgeview, Hilltop, Haines Road, and Arrowhead substations; and (4) reconfiguration, rebuild, and upgrade to existing transmission lines and communications infrastructure in the Project area.

To build the Project, Minnesota Power must obtain two approvals from the Commission — a Certificate of Need and a High Voltage Transmission Line Route Permit for the transmission line. In addition to these approvals, the Project also requires approvals (permits, licenses) from other state agencies and federal agencies with permitting authority for specific resources.

The Commission has 12 months to approve or deny a CN from the date the application is filed. The Commission is required to make a HVTL route permit decision within six months from the date an application is accepted. This time limit may be extended up to three months for just cause or upon agreement of the applicant.

Additional materials related to this project and its permitting proceedings are available on the Department's website: [Project Docket: Duluth Loop Reliability Project \(state.mn.us\)](https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp) and on the State of Minnesota's eDockets system: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (enter the year "21" and the number "140," or "141").

Persons interested in receiving future notices about this project can place their names on the project mailing list by contacting [docketing.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:docketing.puc@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2246 and providing the docket number (21-140 or 21-141), their name, email address, and mailing address. Please indicate how you would like to receive notices – by email or U.S. mail.

This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio) by calling 651-539- 1530 (voice).