Appendix G

Public Outreach Materials

Gopher to Badger Link

Meeting boards

Gopher to Badger Link

Overview

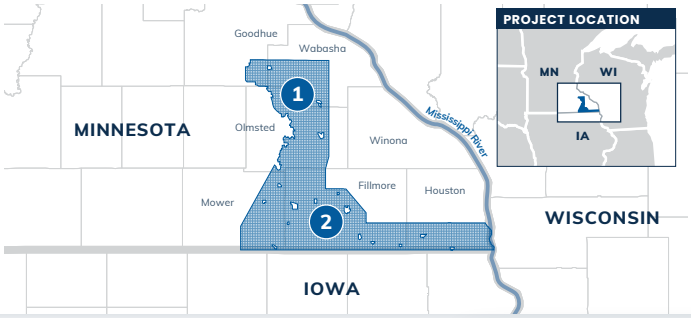
The Gopher to Badger Link transmission line project is being proposed to deliver reliable power to homes, farms and businesses across the region. This project will strengthen the electric grid and facilitate access to new energy sources.

1 North Rochester to Marion Segment

Xcel Energy is developing approximately 35 miles of a new single-circuit 765 kV transmission line that will run from the North Rochester Substation near Pine Island to Marion, Minnesota.

2 MariBell Segment (Marion to Mississippi River)

Dairyland Power Cooperative is developing the MariBell segment of the project in Minnesota, which will extend approximately 105 miles from Marion to the Mississippi River. This segment consists of replacing an existing 161 kV transmission line with a new 765/161 kV double-circuit transmission line.



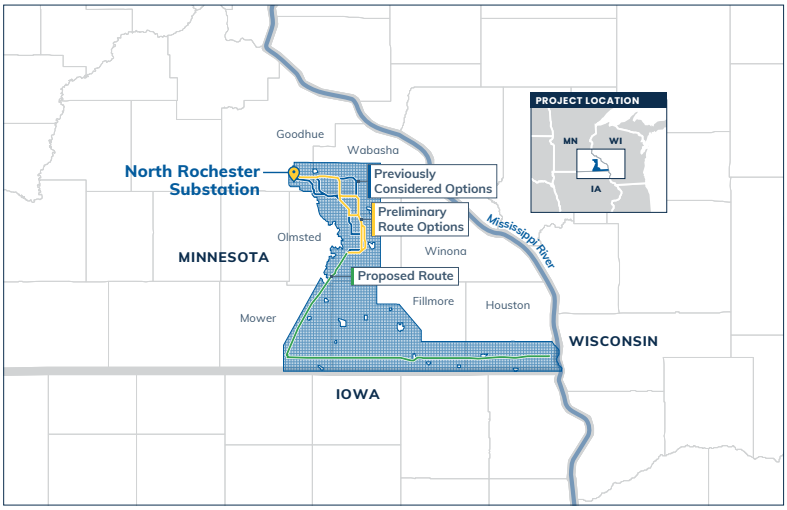
DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE
Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

Meeting boards

Gopher to Badger Link

Preliminary Route Options



The map above reflects the Route Options as of May 2026.

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Meeting boards

Gopher to Badger Link

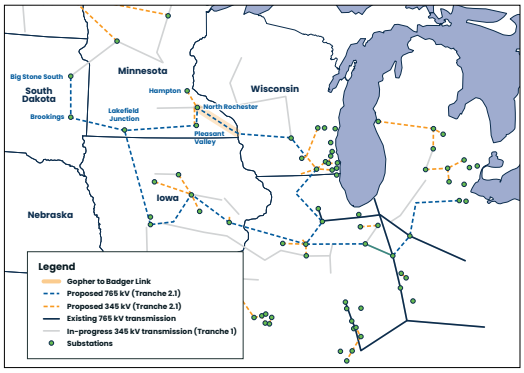
MISO Overview

Meeting Our Region's Energy Needs

The Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) conducted a 2-year, regional planning process, with extensive input from utilities and stakeholders, to identify a portfolio of 24 transmission projects to enhance the reliability of the electric grid, improve access to remote energy resources and deliver reliable power to homes, farms, and businesses throughout the Midwest region. Gopher to Badger Link was identified as one of the projects in MISO's proposed Long Range Transmission Plan (LRTP).

MISO is the electric grid operator and regional transmission planner for the central United States. MISO is a non-profit organization that works to keep electricity reliable across 15 states and the Canadian province of Manitoba.

MISO's Final Tranche 2.1 Map



**The lines on this map do not represent proposed route options.*

Learn more at misoenergy.org

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

Meeting boards

Gopher to Badger Link

Benefits

The Gopher to Badger Link will deliver key benefits:

Enhance the reliability of the electric grid

Helps ensure the transmission system can deliver electricity to customers where and when it's needed, regardless of weather, demand or generation source.

Help meet growing energy demand

Supports the projected growth in electricity use over the coming decades by providing more capacity to deliver energy to customers.

Expand access to more energy resources

Improves access to energy sources throughout the region to create a stronger, more reliable power system for the future.

Support the region's growing economy

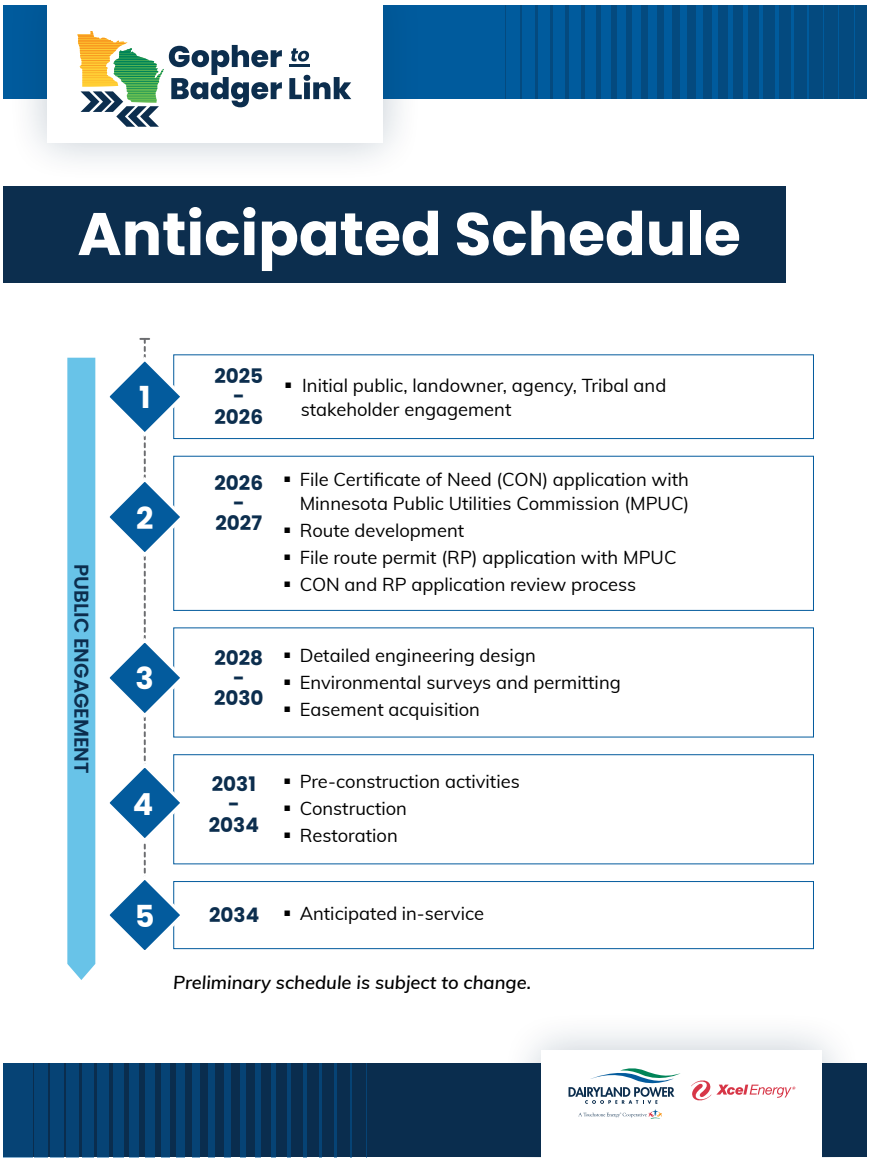
Creates opportunities for new jobs and business growth in the region.

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

Meeting boards



DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

Meeting boards

Gopher to Badger Link

Project Applicants

A Collaborative Effort

Dairyland Power Cooperative and Xcel Energy bring collective local experience, community connections and expertise in building and managing large energy projects to strengthen regional power reliability.

Dairyland Power Cooperative

Headquartered in La Crosse, Wis., Dairyland provides wholesale electrical requirements to 24 distribution cooperatives and 27 municipal utilities. These cooperatives and municipals, in turn, supply the energy needs of approximately 750,000 people in four states (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois).

Xcel Energy

Xcel Energy is a leading energy provider, dedicated to serving millions of customers with reliable, affordable energy.
We make energy work better for customers, helping them thrive every day. Headquartered in Minneapolis, we work every day to generate and distribute electricity and gas to customers across eight states.

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

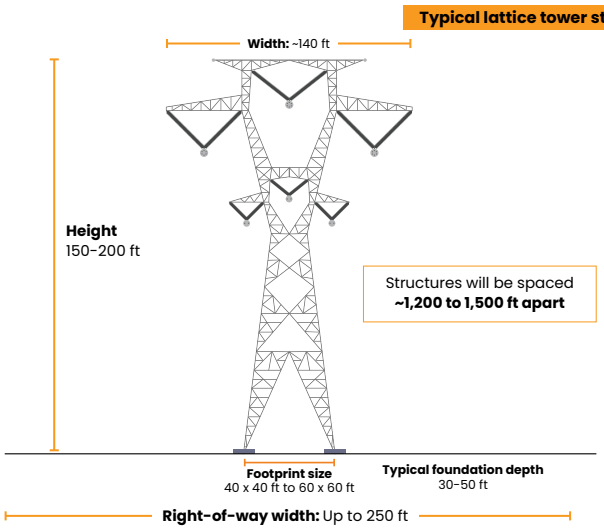
Meeting boards

Gopher to Badger Link

765 kV Structure

MariBell Segment

This is an example of a double-circuit 765/161 kV steel lattice structure, similar to what could be used on the MariBell segment.



NOTE: Preliminary design, not to be used for construction. Typical right-of-way width is up to 250 feet. Wider right-of-way may be required in select locations due to longer span lengths.

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

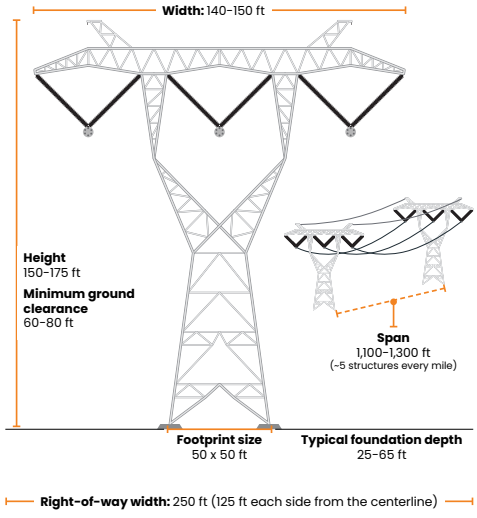
Meeting boards

Gopher to Badger Link

765 kV Structure

North Rochester to Marion Segment

This is an example of a typical single-circuit 765 kV structure, similar to what could be used on the North Rochester to Marion segment.



NOTE: Preliminary design, not to be used for construction.

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

Meeting boards

Gopher to Badger Link

Regulatory Process

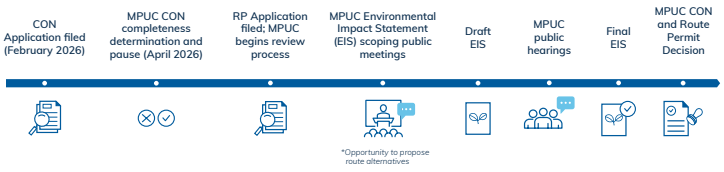
We're at the start of a multi-year regulatory process that includes evaluation of the project's need and routing by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC).

The MPUC ultimately determines whether the project is needed and, if so, the project's final route for proposed transmission lines. The MPUC will thoroughly review all project information provided by the applicants and input from stakeholders, landowners and the general public before making its decisions.

Two key approvals must be obtained from the MPUC before the project can be built:

1. A **Certificate of Need (CON)** to determine whether the project is necessary and appropriately sized. *Docket Number: 25-121.*
2. A **Route Permit (RP)** to determine where the project will be located. *Docket number: 26-156*

In April, the MPUC accepted the CON Application as complete and paused that process until the RP Application is filed in Fall 2026 so that the applications may be considered in a joint proceeding.



Input and engagement opportunities will be available throughout these processes.

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE
Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

Meeting boards

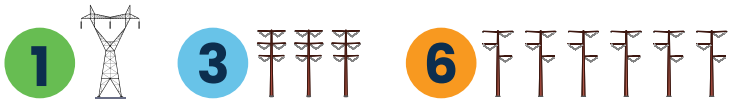
Gopher to Badger Link

765 kV Technology

765 kV technology was identified in the MISO planning process as the preferred solution for the region, presenting several advantages:

- Efficiently carries large amounts of power over long distances while reducing overall project costs and reliably delivering electricity to customers throughout the region.
- Needs fewer transmission lines to carry the same amount of power.
- Requires fewer structures, reducing impact on land, communities and the environment.
- Provides additional capacity to power new manufacturing, homes, businesses and farms.

*MISO's analysis showed that one 765 kV transmission line can carry as much power as six 345 kV single-circuit lines—**minimizing the land needed** by as much as 70-80%.*



Single-Circuit Tower	Double-Circuit Towers	Single-Circuit Towers
765 KV	**345 KV**	**345 KV**
250 FT Total right-of-way	**450 FT** Total right-of-way	**900 FT** Total right-of-way

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

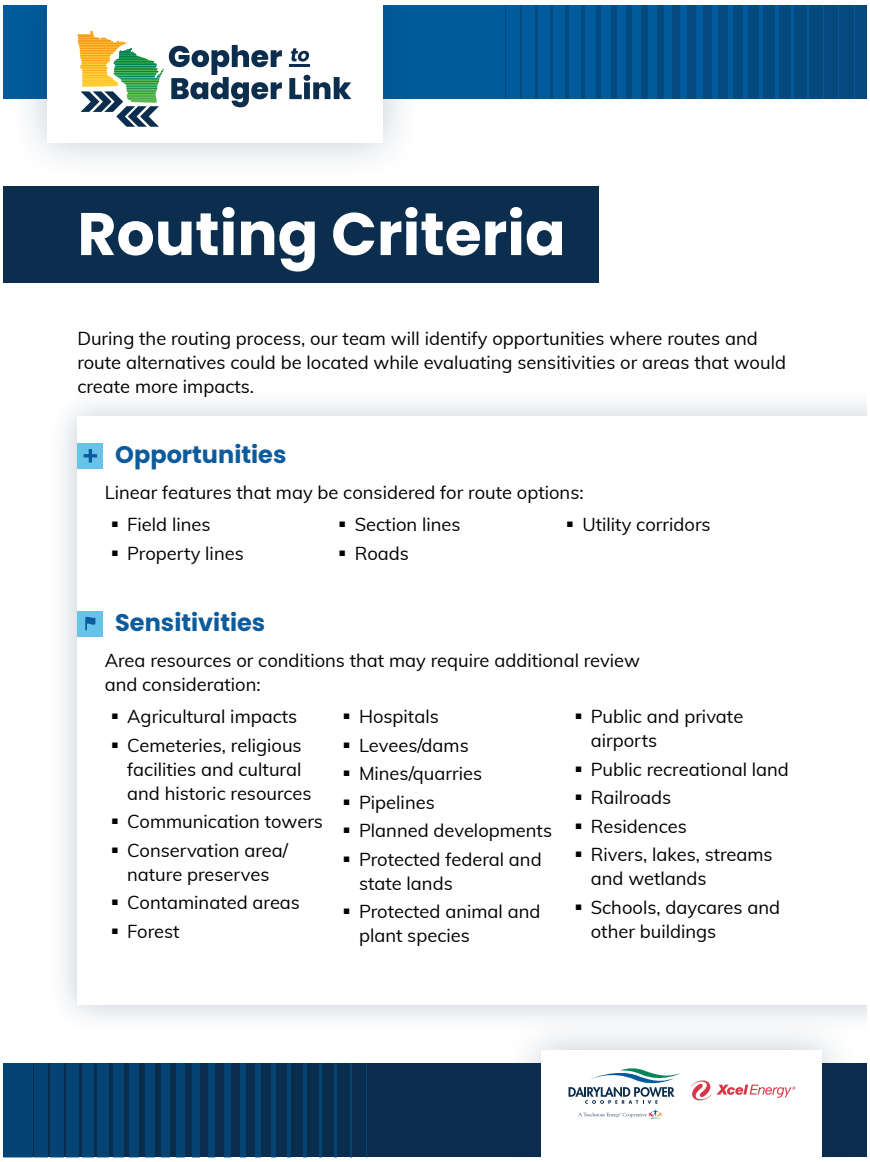
Meeting boards



DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

Meeting boards

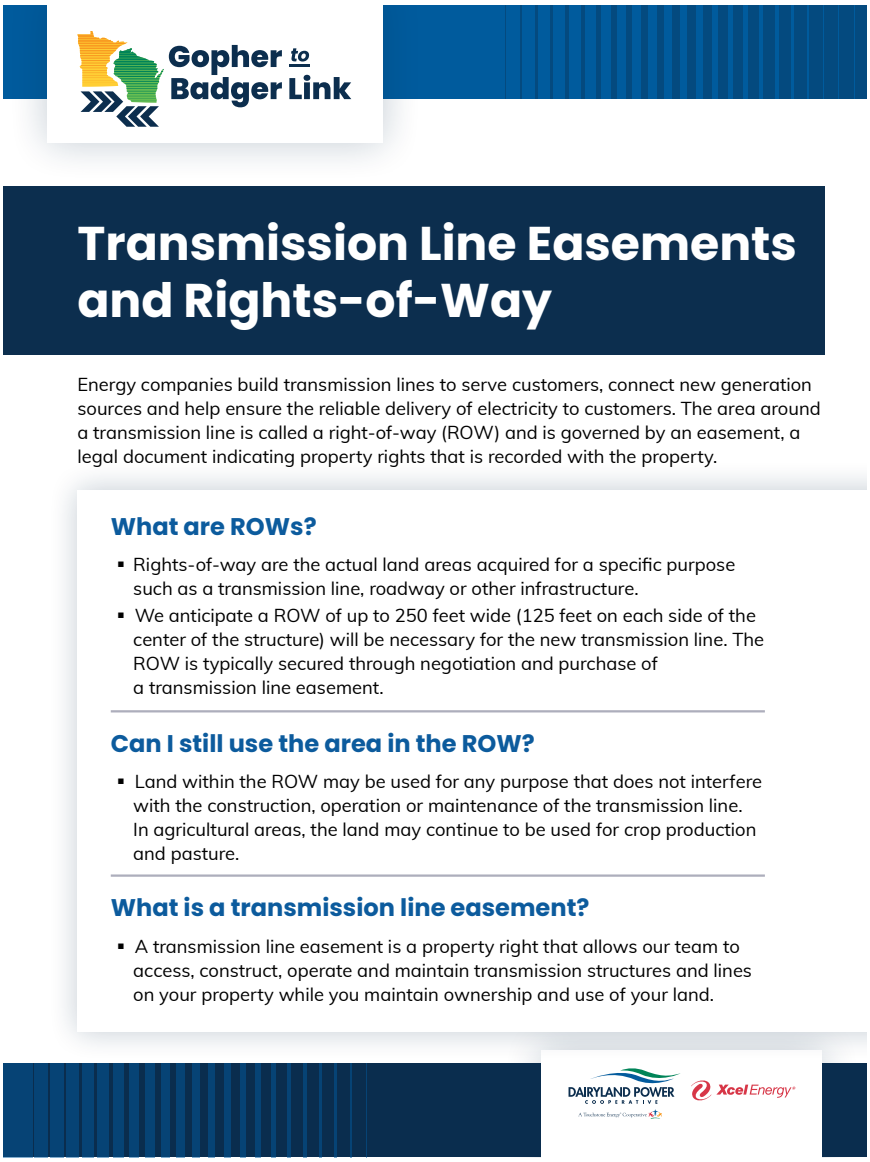


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

Meeting boards



DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE
Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

Meeting boards



Gopher to Badger Link

Meeting boards

Gopher to Badger Link

Why This Project Is Needed

This new, 765 kilovolt (kV) 'back-bone' transmission line represents the next step in our region's energy story. MISO and energy companies plan decades ahead to make sure we can meet the future electricity needs of our customers, and the Gopher to Badger Link is part of a series of proposed new regional transmission projects across the Upper Midwest to support the energy system as it grows and evolves.



Evolving the Grid

The electric grid must evolve as our region transforms how it generates and uses electricity. As older power plants retire and new sources of electrical generation are developed Gopher to Badger Link will help ensure reliable electricity for customers as these changes occur.



Sustaining Reliability

Our current system delivers 99% reliability as a direct result of the infrastructure built and operated over many decades. This next phase of transmission investments will maintain that high reliability into the future.



Strengthening the System

Upgrading our transmission system supports electric reliability, fosters economic growth, meets rising energy demand, and ensures customers have electricity wherever and whenever its needed, even during extreme weather.

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy

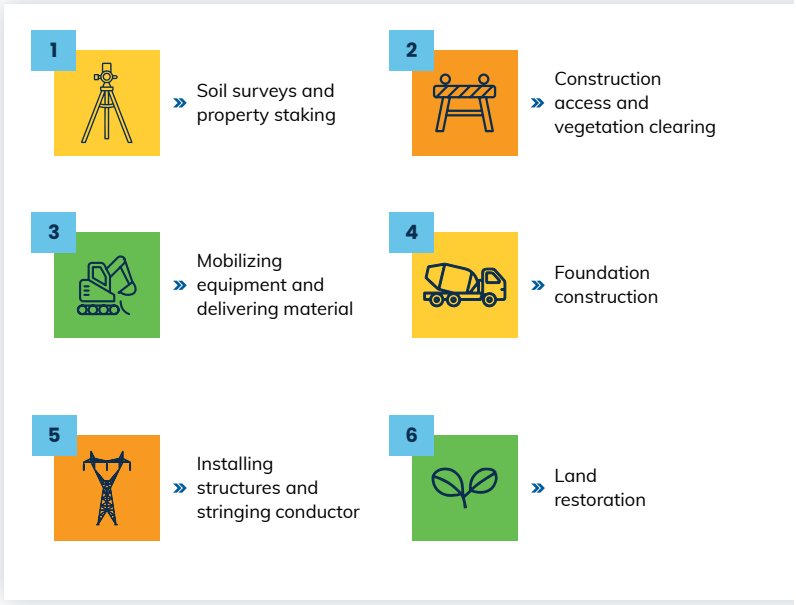
Gopher to Badger Link

Meeting boards

Gopher to Badger Link

Construction

Our typical transmission line construction process includes the following steps:

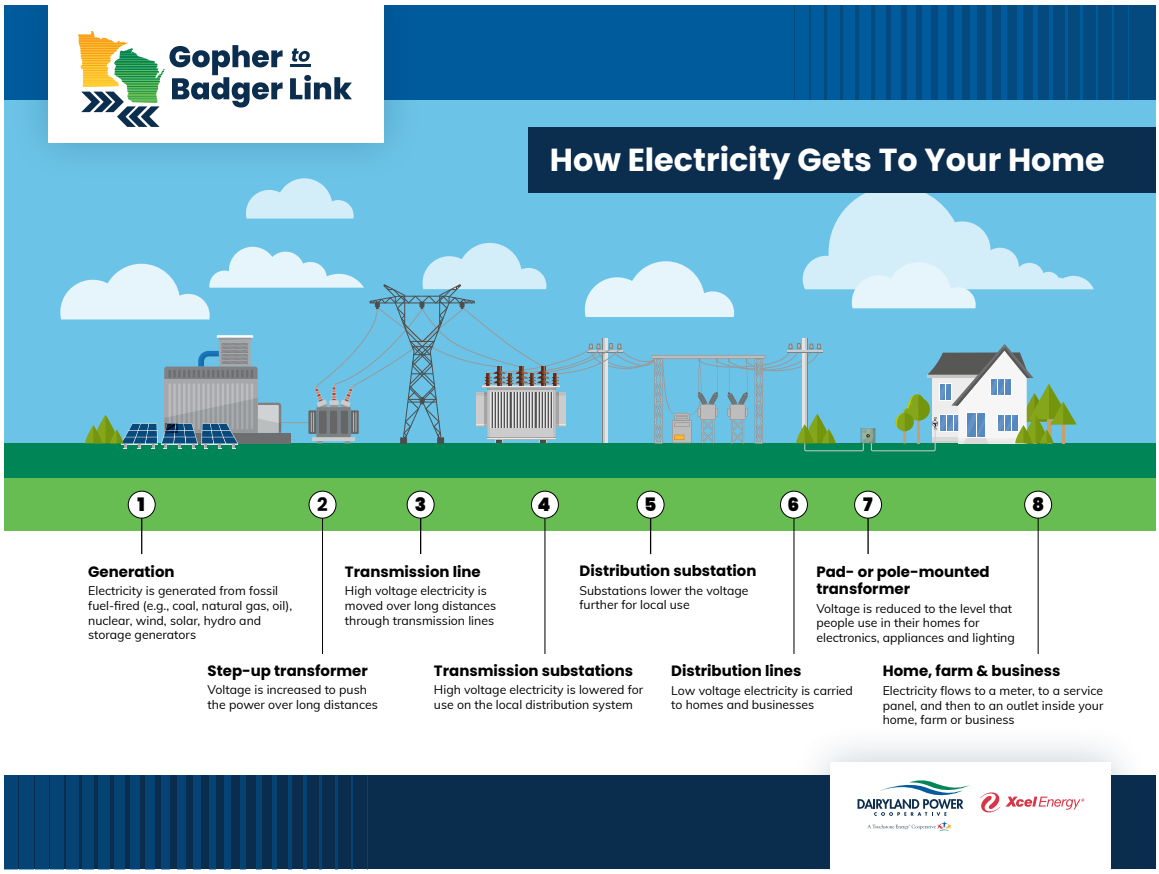


We currently expect construction to start in 2031 with the project in-service in 2034.

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

Meeting boards



DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE
Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

Factsheets

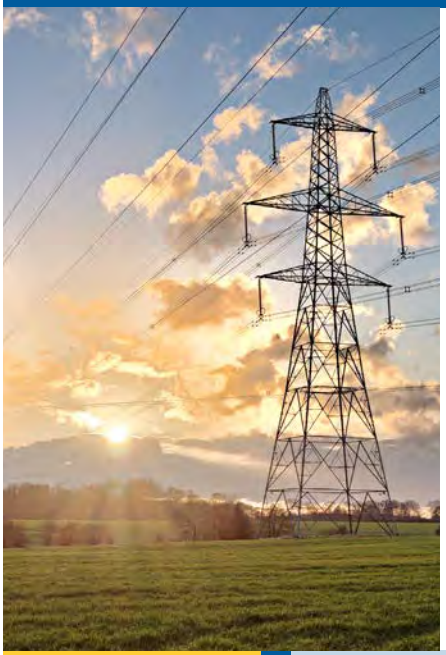
Gopher to Badger Link

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy

The Basics: Electromagnetic Fields

Electromagnetic fields, or EMF, are a normal part of everyday life. They're created whenever electricity is present and come from both natural sources, like the earth's magnetic field, and everyday things we all use, such as household appliances, wireless devices, and power lines. This handout explains what EMF is, where you might encounter it, and what decades of research tell us about EMF levels near transmission lines.



What is EMF?

Electromagnetic fields (EMF) are a form of energy created by a combination of electricity and magnetism. Some EMF is natural, such as sunlight, lightning or the earth's magnetic field. Other sources are human made, such as power lines or any devices that run on power or send a wireless signal.

You encounter EMF daily

EMF are created whenever electricity flows or an electrical force is present. These fields can occur naturally, such as in a person's brain, heart and muscle. The level of magnetic fields at 60 Hertz are also produced by everyday household items like space heaters, vacuums, kitchen appliances and electric blankets. The widespread use of electricity means we are exposed to EMF in our everyday environment at work, school and home.

CONTACT US GophertoBadgerLink.com Connect@GophertoBadgerLink.com 612-474-7799

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

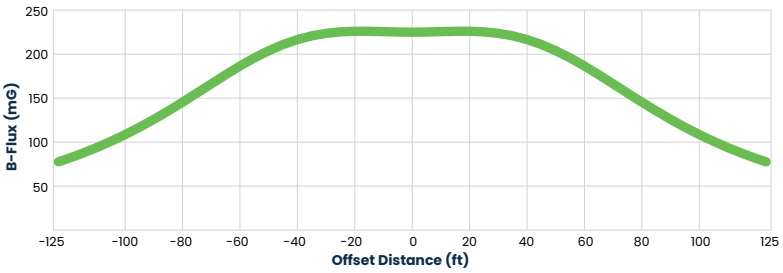
Factsheets

The following graphics provide magnetic field levels of common household appliances as well as anticipated magnetic fields under the proposed 765 kV line.

MAGNETIC-FIELD LEVELS (IN MILLIGAUSS) MEASURED NEAR HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES

Hair dryer		Electric shaver		Blender		Vacuum cleaner		Coffee makers	
6 in. away	12 in. away	6 in. away	12 in. away	6 in. away	12 in. away	6 in. away	12 in. away	6 in. away	12 in. away
300 mG	1 mG	100 mG	20 mG	70 mG	10 mG	300 mG	60 mG	200 mG	40 mG

ANTICIPATED MAGNETIC FIELD LEVELS FOR GOPHER TO BADGER LINK 765 KV TRANSMISSION LINE



EMF and Health

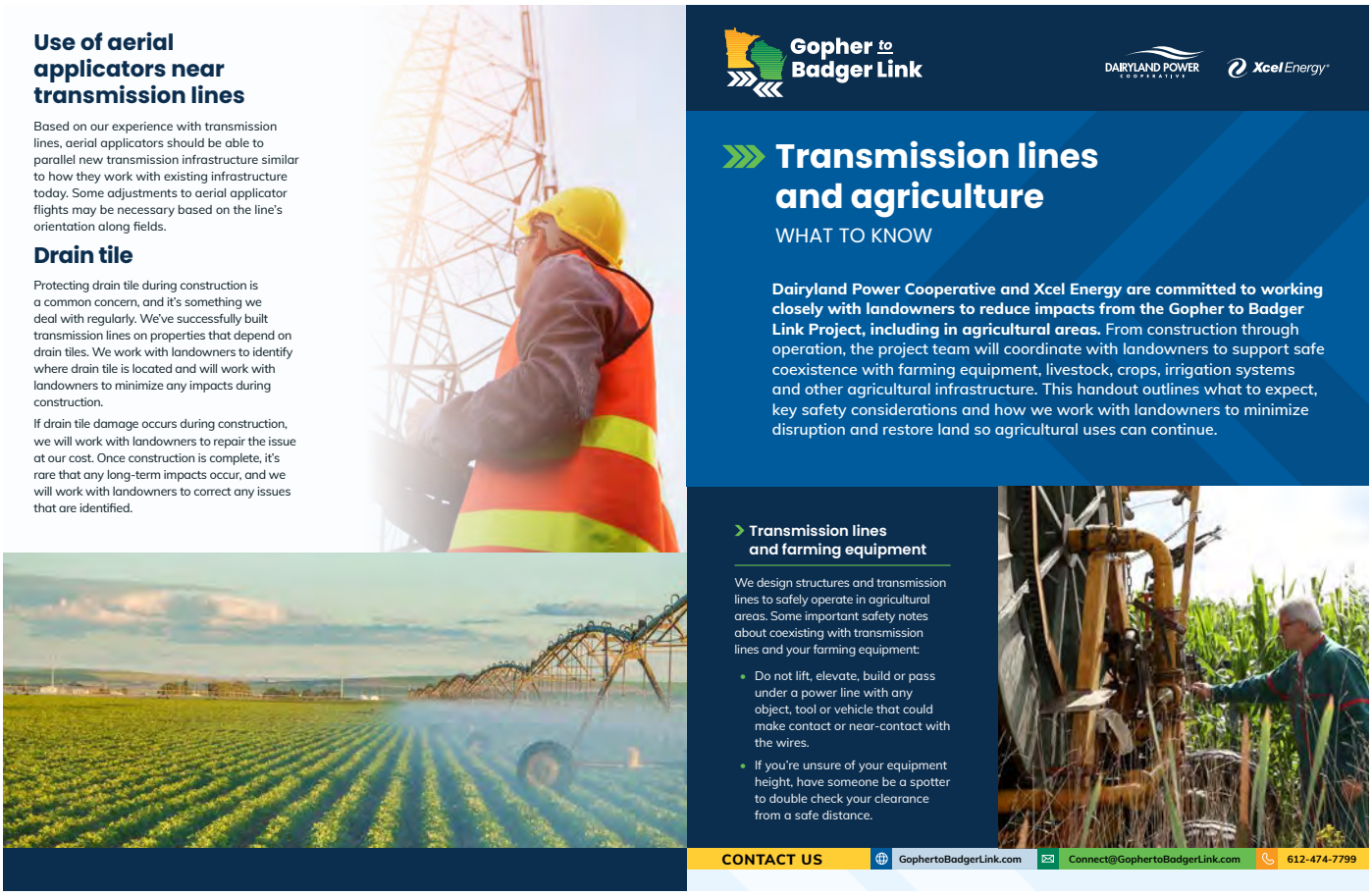
EMF from power lines, and their effects on health, have been studied for more than 40 years by governmental bodies, public health organizations, and government appointed scientific panels all over the world. Initially, there were concerns of a possible association between childhood leukemia and magnetic fields of transmission lines. Subsequent research failed to demonstrate a causal relationship between transmission lines and any health risk. The World Health Organization (WHO) and other health agencies have concluded that scientific evidence does not support a link between health effects and exposure to electromagnetic fields.

EXPERT SOURCES FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). Power Lines – Low Frequency. *Available at: https:// www.icnirp.org/en/applications/power-lines/index.html. Accessed October 30, 2025.*
- National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; National Institutes of Health. Electric and Magnetic Fields Associated With the Use of Electric Power. 2002. *Available at: https://www.niehs.nih.gov/sites/default/files/health/materials/electric_and_magnetic_fields_associated_with_the_use_of_electric_power_questions_and_answers_english_508.pdf. Accessed October 30, 2025.*
- National Cancer Institute. Electromagnetic Fields and Cancer. *Available at: https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/risk/radiation/electromagnetic-fields-fact-sheet. Accessed October 30, 2025.*
- World Health Organization. Electromagnetic Fields. *Available at: https://www.who.int/health-topics/electromagnetic-fields#tab=tab_1. Accessed October 30, 2025.*

Gopher to Badger Link

Factsheets



Use of aerial applicators near transmission lines

Based on our experience with transmission lines, aerial applicators should be able to parallel new transmission infrastructure similar to how they work with existing infrastructure today. Some adjustments to aerial applicator flights may be necessary based on the line's orientation along fields.

Drain tile

Protecting drain tile during construction is a common concern, and it's something we deal with regularly. We've successfully built transmission lines on properties that depend on drain tiles. We work with landowners to identify where drain tile is located and will work with landowners to minimize any impacts during construction.

If drain tile damage occurs during construction, we will work with landowners to repair the issue at our cost. Once construction is complete, it's rare that any long-term impacts occur, and we will work with landowners to correct any issues that are identified.

Gopher to Badger Link

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy

Transmission lines and agriculture

WHAT TO KNOW

Dairyland Power Cooperative and Xcel Energy are committed to working closely with landowners to reduce impacts from the Gopher to Badger Link Project, including in agricultural areas. From construction through operation, the project team will coordinate with landowners to support safe coexistence with farming equipment, livestock, crops, irrigation systems and other agricultural infrastructure. This handout outlines what to expect, key safety considerations and how we work with landowners to minimize disruption and restore land so agricultural uses can continue.

Transmission lines and farming equipment

We design structures and transmission lines to safely operate in agricultural areas. Some important safety notes about coexisting with transmission lines and your farming equipment:

- Do not lift, elevate, build or pass under a power line with any object, tool or vehicle that could make contact or near-contact with the wires.
- If you're unsure of your equipment height, have someone be a spotter to double check your clearance from a safe distance.

CONTACT US GophertoBadgerLink.com Connect@GophertoBadgerLink.com 612-474-7799

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

Factsheets

The Gopher to Badger Link project is being developed in a way that recognizes the important role farming plays in our region where agriculture and energy infrastructure have shared the landscape for decades.





Transmission lines and animals

We will work closely with landowners during construction to minimize impacts on livestock, including coordinating any necessary temporary relocations using fencing or gating to make sure there is continued access to feed and water throughout construction. After construction, the areas will be restored, and livestock use can return to normal.

Decades of scientific research have shown that proximity to transmission lines does not cause adverse effects on livestock.

Transmission lines and crops

During construction of the transmission line, there may be temporary impacts on some agricultural activities. Once construction is complete, agricultural activities can resume. The team will communicate with landowners in advance of pre-construction and construction activities. We will strive to coordinate construction activities with farming and livestock operations to minimize inconveniences. Landowners will be compensated for any crop damage.

Locating transmission line structures on cultivated land and pastureland

We will coordinate with landowners in the routing and design process to identify and address potential impacts to cultivated land and pastureland before construction begins. When needed, transmission structures may be placed on cultivated land or pastureland. If this happens, we will work with you to the extent possible to position structures to minimize disruption to farming operations.



Locating transmission lines near irrigation systems

We will work with landowners to limit the impacts that the transmission lines may have on irrigation systems, including through thoughtful route development and placement of the transmission structures. Where irrigations systems are going to be operated around or underneath the transmission lines, we will work with landowners to make sure the systems are set up to be compatible.

Some important safety notes about transmission lines and irrigation systems:

- Provide proper electrical grounding for all metal irrigation equipment (center pivots, wheel lines, linear move systems) to protect against induced voltages.
- Maintain adequate clearances between irrigation equipment and overhead conductors at all times—irrigation equipment and water streams must maintain safe distances and never contact, approach closely, or spray toward the lines. Bond and inspect all metal components of your irrigation system annually to ensure grounding effectiveness and safe operation.
- Contact Gopher to Badger Link if you have questions or concerns.

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

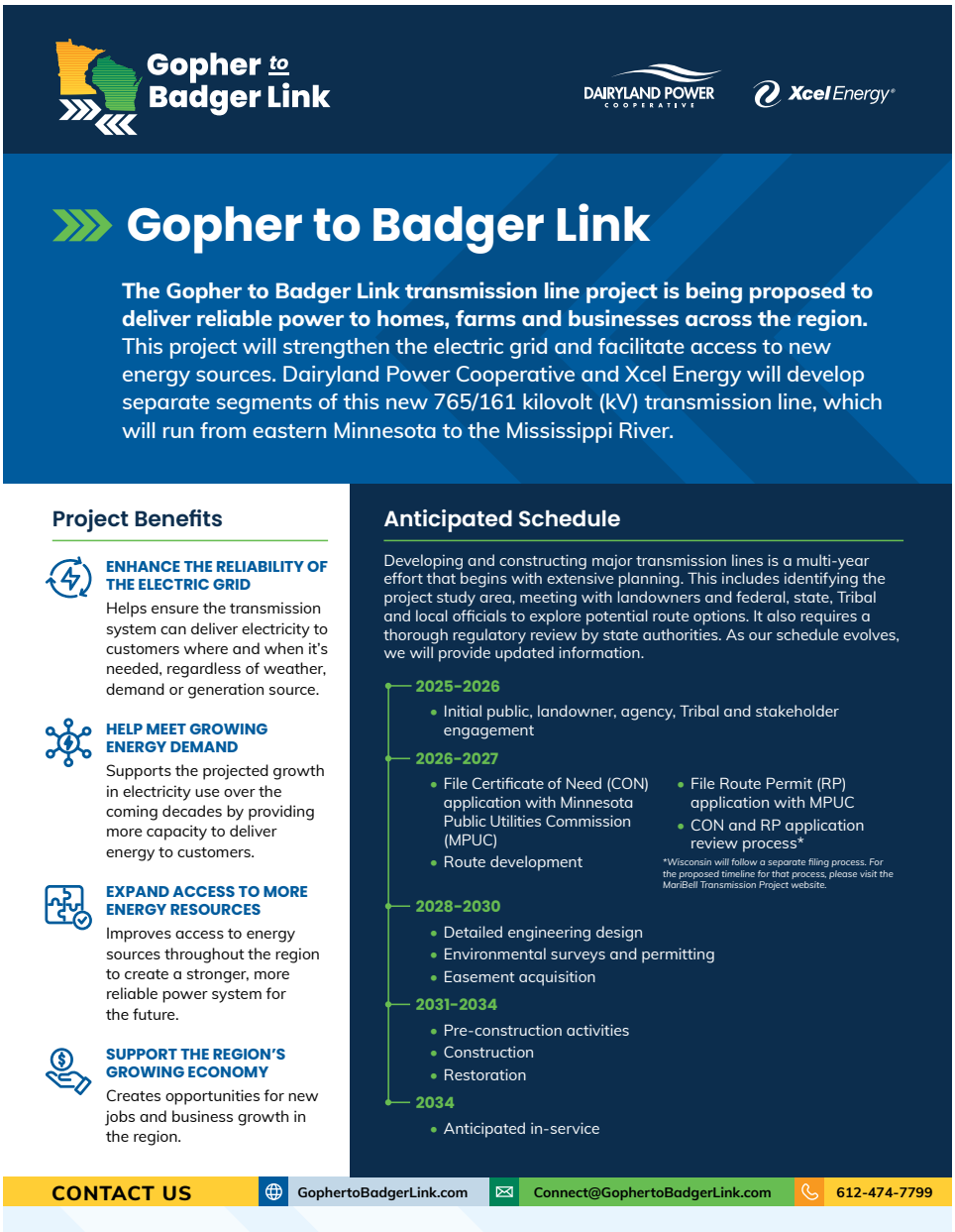
Factsheets



DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

Factsheets



Gopher to Badger Link

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

The Gopher to Badger Link transmission line project is being proposed to deliver reliable power to homes, farms and businesses across the region. This project will strengthen the electric grid and facilitate access to new energy sources. Dairyland Power Cooperative and Xcel Energy will develop separate segments of this new 765/161 kilovolt (kV) transmission line, which will run from eastern Minnesota to the Mississippi River.

Project Benefits

ENHANCE THE RELIABILITY OF THE ELECTRIC GRID

Helps ensure the transmission system can deliver electricity to customers where and when it's needed, regardless of weather, demand or generation source.

HELP MEET GROWING ENERGY DEMAND

Supports the projected growth in electricity use over the coming decades by providing more capacity to deliver energy to customers.

EXPAND ACCESS TO MORE ENERGY RESOURCES

Improves access to energy sources throughout the region to create a stronger, more reliable power system for the future.

SUPPORT THE REGION'S GROWING ECONOMY

Creates opportunities for new jobs and business growth in the region.

Anticipated Schedule

Developing and constructing major transmission lines is a multi-year effort that begins with extensive planning. This includes identifying the project study area, meeting with landowners and federal, state, Tribal and local officials to explore potential route options. It also requires a thorough regulatory review by state authorities. As our schedule evolves, we will provide updated information.

2025–2026

- Initial public, landowner, agency, Tribal and stakeholder engagement

2026–2027

- File Certificate of Need (CON) application with Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC)
- Route development
- File Route Permit (RP) application with MPUC
- CON and RP application review process*

*Wisconsin will follow a separate filing process. For the proposed timeline for that process, please visit the MariBell Transmission Project website.

2028–2030

- Detailed engineering design
- Environmental surveys and permitting
- Easement acquisition

2031–2034

- Pre-construction activities
- Construction
- Restoration

2034

- Anticipated in-service

CONTACT US GophertoBadgerLink.com Connect@GophertoBadgerLink.com 612-474-7799

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy®

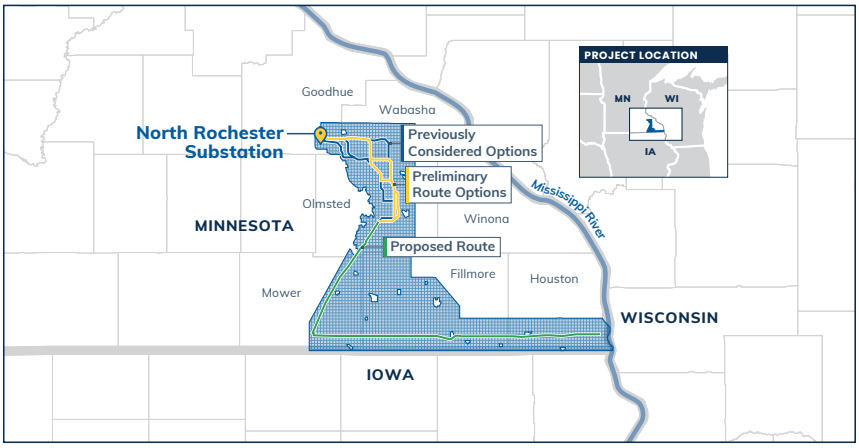
Gopher to Badger Link

Factsheets

Route Options

We've received valuable feedback from landowners and stakeholders throughout the project area, and we appreciate everyone who has taken the time to share their input. For the North Rochester to Marion segment, the project team reviewed comments we've received and refined the preliminary route options that were shared in January. For the MariBell Segment (Marion to Mississippi River), we still anticipate proposing a route option that generally follows the existing 161 kV corridor.

After considering input received this spring and summer from landowners, local officials, state agencies and other stakeholders, we plan to develop a Route Permit application and submit it to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission this fall.

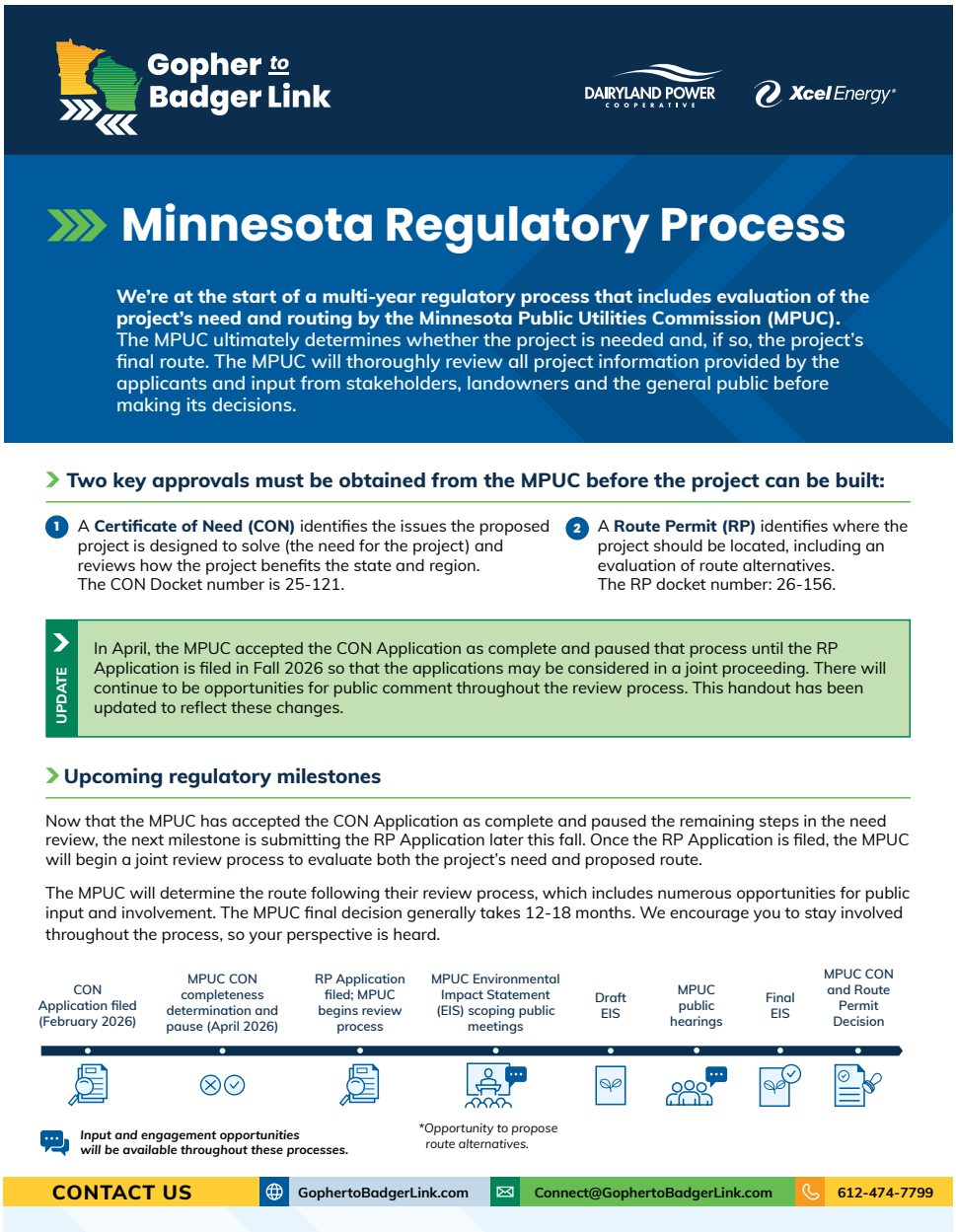


The map above reflects the Route Options as of May 2026.

Scan to visit the MariBell Transmission Project website to learn more.

Gopher to Badger Link

Factsheets



Gopher to Badger Link

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy

Minnesota Regulatory Process

We're at the start of a multi-year regulatory process that includes evaluation of the project's need and routing by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC). The MPUC ultimately determines whether the project is needed and, if so, the project's final route. The MPUC will thoroughly review all project information provided by the applicants and input from stakeholders, landowners and the general public before making its decisions.

Two key approvals must be obtained from the MPUC before the project can be built:

1. A **Certificate of Need (CON)** identifies the issues the proposed project is designed to solve (the need for the project) and reviews how the project benefits the state and region. The CON Docket number is 25-121.
2. A **Route Permit (RP)** identifies where the project should be located, including an evaluation of route alternatives. The RP docket number: 26-156.

UPDATE

In April, the MPUC accepted the CON Application as complete and paused that process until the RP Application is filed in Fall 2026 so that the applications may be considered in a joint proceeding. There will continue to be opportunities for public comment throughout the review process. This handout has been updated to reflect these changes.

Upcoming regulatory milestones

Now that the MPUC has accepted the CON Application as complete and paused the remaining steps in the need review, the next milestone is submitting the RP Application later this fall. Once the RP Application is filed, the MPUC will begin a joint review process to evaluate both the project's need and proposed route.

The MPUC will determine the route following their review process, which includes numerous opportunities for public input and involvement. The MPUC final decision generally takes 12-18 months. We encourage you to stay involved throughout the process, so your perspective is heard.

Input and engagement opportunities will be available throughout these processes.

*Opportunity to propose route alternatives.

CONTACT US GophertoBadgerLink.com Connect@GophertoBadgerLink.com 612-474-7799

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

Factsheets

Regulatory Process

1 RP Application filed with MPUC

We plan to file our RP Application in fall 2026. After the permit is filed and accepted as complete by the MPUC, the regulatory review process begins.

2 Public information and scoping meetings

Once the RP Application is deemed complete, the MPUC will hold public information and scoping meetings throughout the project area to begin developing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

These meetings, along with the public comment period, allow landowners and community members to:

- ask questions of MPUC staff and the applicants
- provide input on what should be studied in the EIS
- suggest alternative routes for consideration by the MPUC
- suggest system alternatives (alternatives to the project) to be evaluated in the EIS
- address potential impacts and mitigation measures that should be studied in the EIS

The EIS evaluates potential effects on land use, including agricultural operations and residences, water resources, natural habitats and other environmental factors. Proposed system alternatives should still meet the project's purpose and need. Proposed route alternatives can include minor alignment shifts as well as longer route alternatives, but should have the same start and end points as the project. Following this process, the MPUC publishes a decision outlining the topics and route alternatives that will be included in the EIS.

3 Draft EIS

The Draft EIS will be published and made available for public review and comment.

4 MPUC public hearings

After the Draft EIS is published, an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) will hold public hearings throughout the project area, with a public comment period, to receive comments on the project, how potential impacts of the project could be addressed, and what conditions should be required for the project to move forward. Advance notice of these public hearings will be provided via mail and newspaper advertisements. The ALJ then prepares a report summarizing the overall record and writes a report and recommendation to the MPUC, including recommendations about what route should be selected and conditions that should be included in the RP.

5 Final EIS

The MPUC publishes the Final EIS.

6 MPUC CON and RP decison

After reviewing the CON and report from the ALJ, all public comments and the complete environmental review and permitting record, the MPUC will consider the applications at a scheduled MPUC meeting to make its final CON and RP decision. MPUC meetings and hearings are open to the public. At that time, the MPUC will decide if the project is needed and on which route, or combination of routes, to approve the transmission line and any conditions the permit should include.

A RP can only be issued after a CON is granted, and it is the approval that determines the transmission line route. Once approved, the utilities will pursue any additional required permits, such as those required by other state and federal agencies depending on the designated route.

**Wisconsin follows a separate regulatory process.*

To learn how to subscribe to the project's Certificate of Need docket and to receive email notifications when information is filed in that docket, please visit: **www.mn.gov/puc/edockets/howto**

To subscribe to this docket, follow those instructions and enter Docket Number 25-121 for the Certificate of Need and 26-156 for the Route Permit.

Gopher to Badger Link · DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE · Xcel Energy®

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE · Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

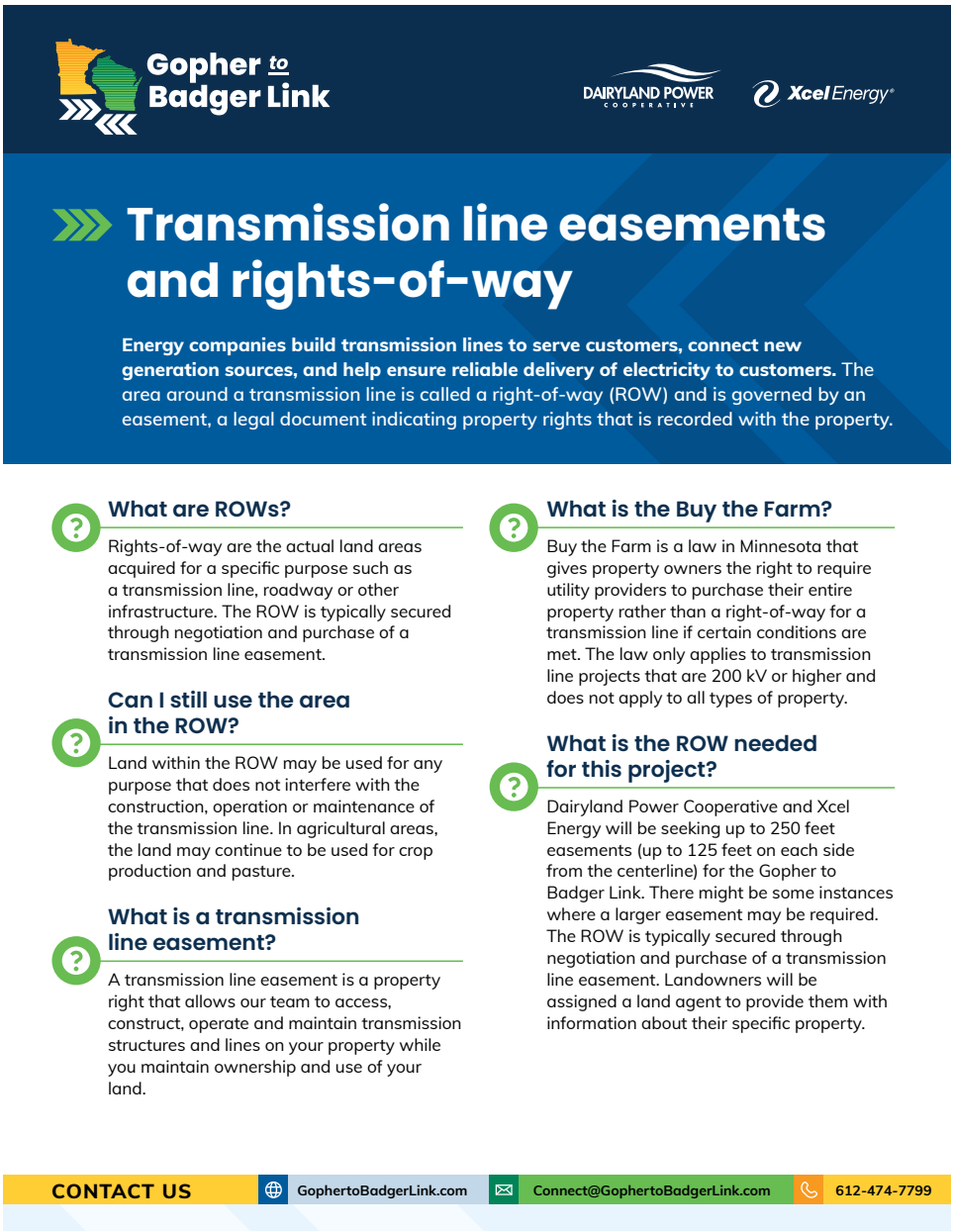
Factsheets



DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE
Xcel Energy

Gopher to Badger Link

Factsheets



Gopher to Badger Link

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Transmission line easements and rights-of-way

Energy companies build transmission lines to serve customers, connect new generation sources, and help ensure reliable delivery of electricity to customers. The area around a transmission line is called a right-of-way (ROW) and is governed by an easement, a legal document indicating property rights that is recorded with the property.

What are ROWs?

Rights-of-way are the actual land areas acquired for a specific purpose such as a transmission line, roadway or other infrastructure. The ROW is typically secured through negotiation and purchase of a transmission line easement.

Can I still use the area in the ROW?

Land within the ROW may be used for any purpose that does not interfere with the construction, operation or maintenance of the transmission line. In agricultural areas, the land may continue to be used for crop production and pasture.

What is a transmission line easement?

A transmission line easement is a property right that allows our team to access, construct, operate and maintain transmission structures and lines on your property while you maintain ownership and use of your land.

What is the Buy the Farm?

Buy the Farm is a law in Minnesota that gives property owners the right to require utility providers to purchase their entire property rather than a right-of-way for a transmission line if certain conditions are met. The law only applies to transmission line projects that are 200 kV or higher and does not apply to all types of property.

What is the ROW needed for this project?

Dairyland Power Cooperative and Xcel Energy will be seeking up to 250 feet easements (up to 125 feet on each side from the centerline) for the Gopher to Badger Link. There might be some instances where a larger easement may be required. The ROW is typically secured through negotiation and purchase of a transmission line easement. Landowners will be assigned a land agent to provide them with information about their specific property.

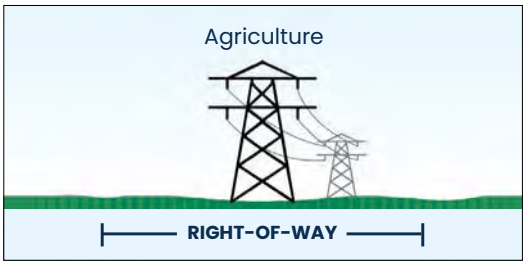
CONTACT US GophertoBadgerLink.com Connect@GophertoBadgerLink.com 612-474-7799

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy®

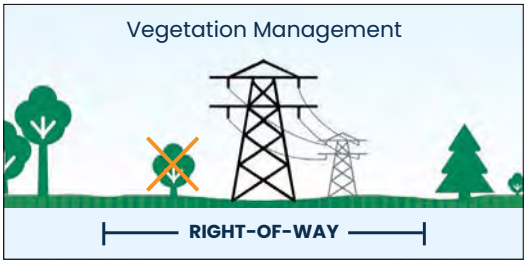
Gopher to Badger Link

Factsheets

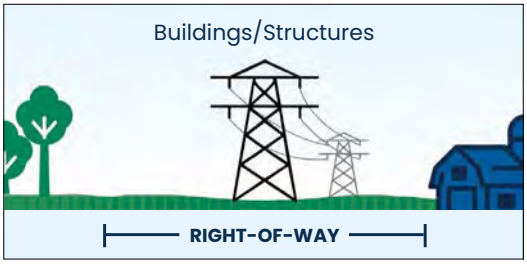
ALLOWED USES WITHIN EASEMENTS



After construction, normal agriculture and farming activities may resume.



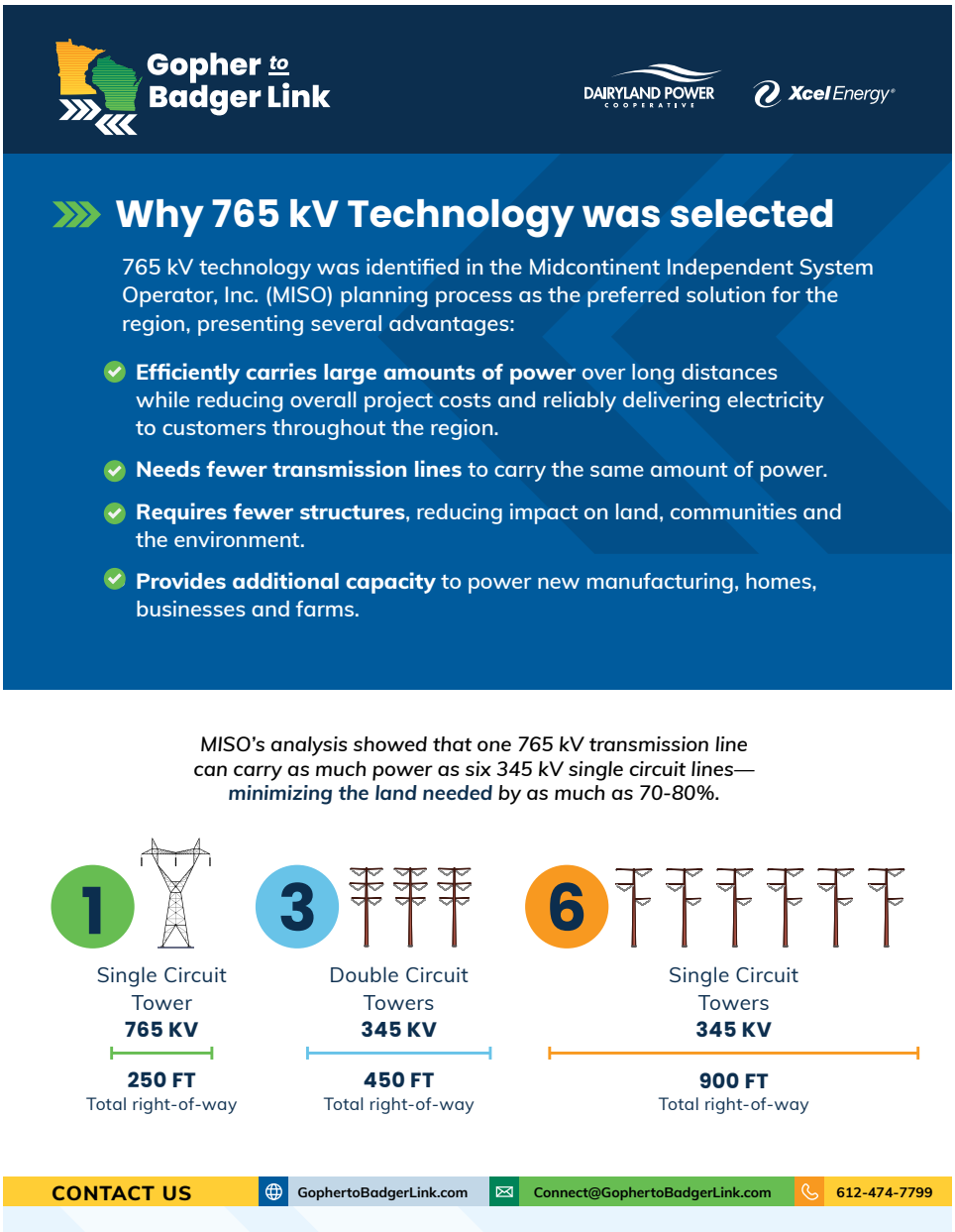
Tree clearing, pruning and large shrub removal within the ROW will be required to allow for safe operation and maintenance of the transmission line.



Buildings or other structures are not allowed in the ROW to maintain adequate clearance and safety. Landowners must receive written approval from the utility to build structures in the ROW.

Gopher to Badger Link

Factsheets



DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy

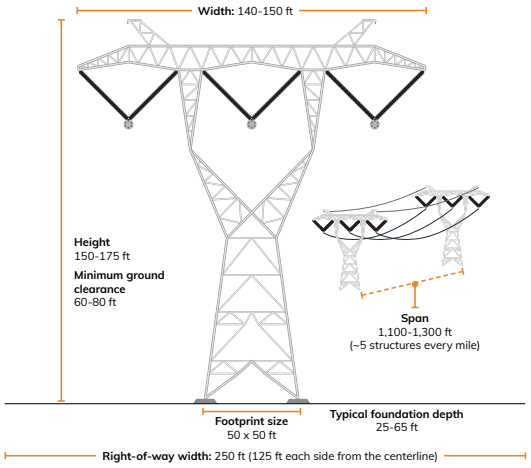
Gopher to Badger Link

Factsheets

Typical Structures

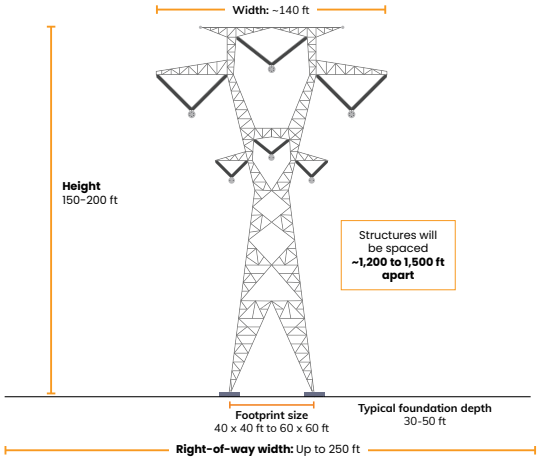
NORTH ROCHESTER TO MARION SEGMENT

This is an example of a typical single-circuit 765 kV structure, similar to what could be used on the North Rochester to Marion segment.



MARIBELL TRANSMISSION PROJECT SEGMENT

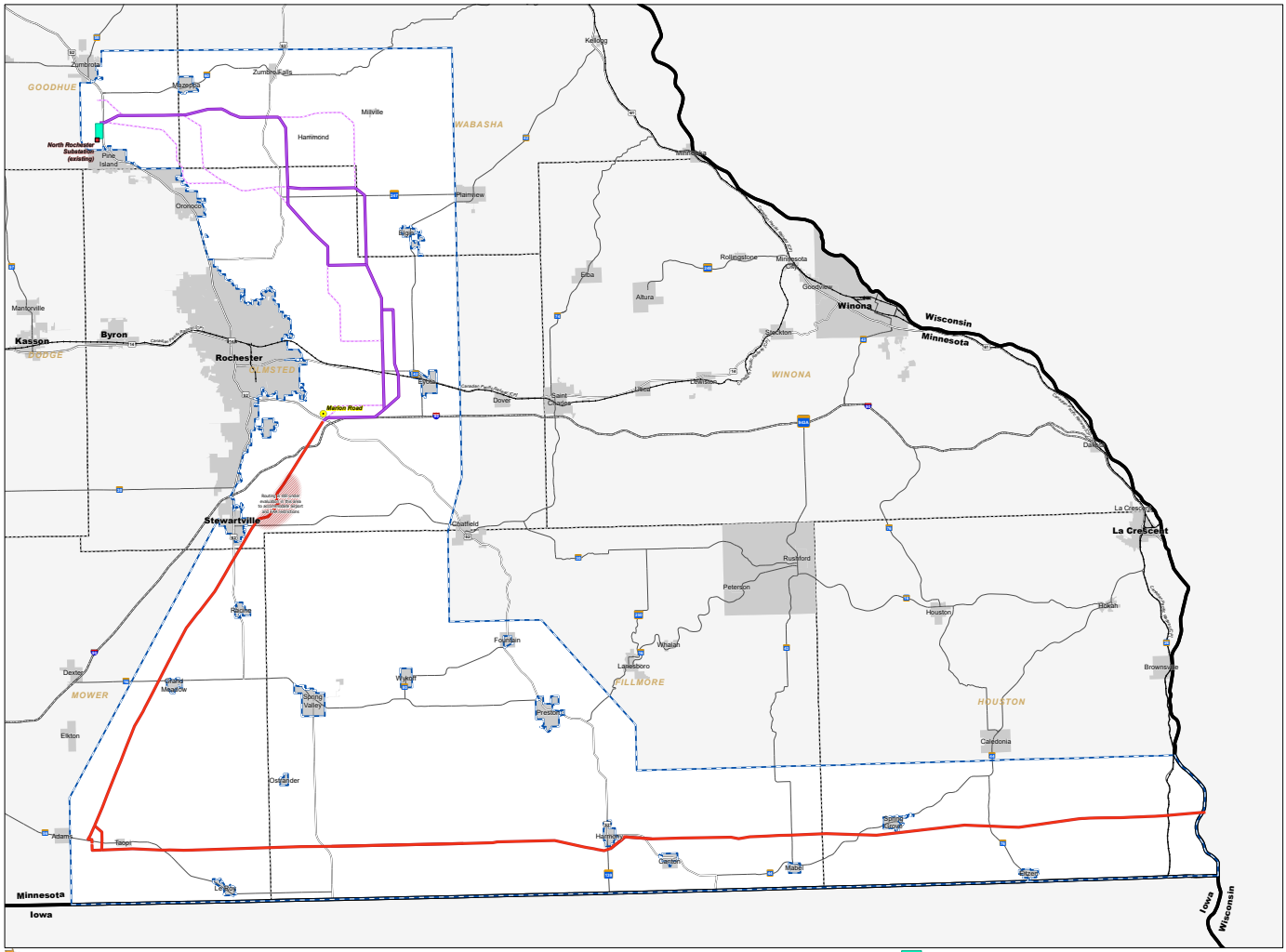
This is an example of a double-circuit 765/161 kV steel lattice structure, similar to what could be used on the MariBell segment.



NOTE: *Preliminary design, not to be used for construction. Typical right-of-way width is up to 250 feet. Wider right-of-way may be required in select locations due to longer span lengths.*

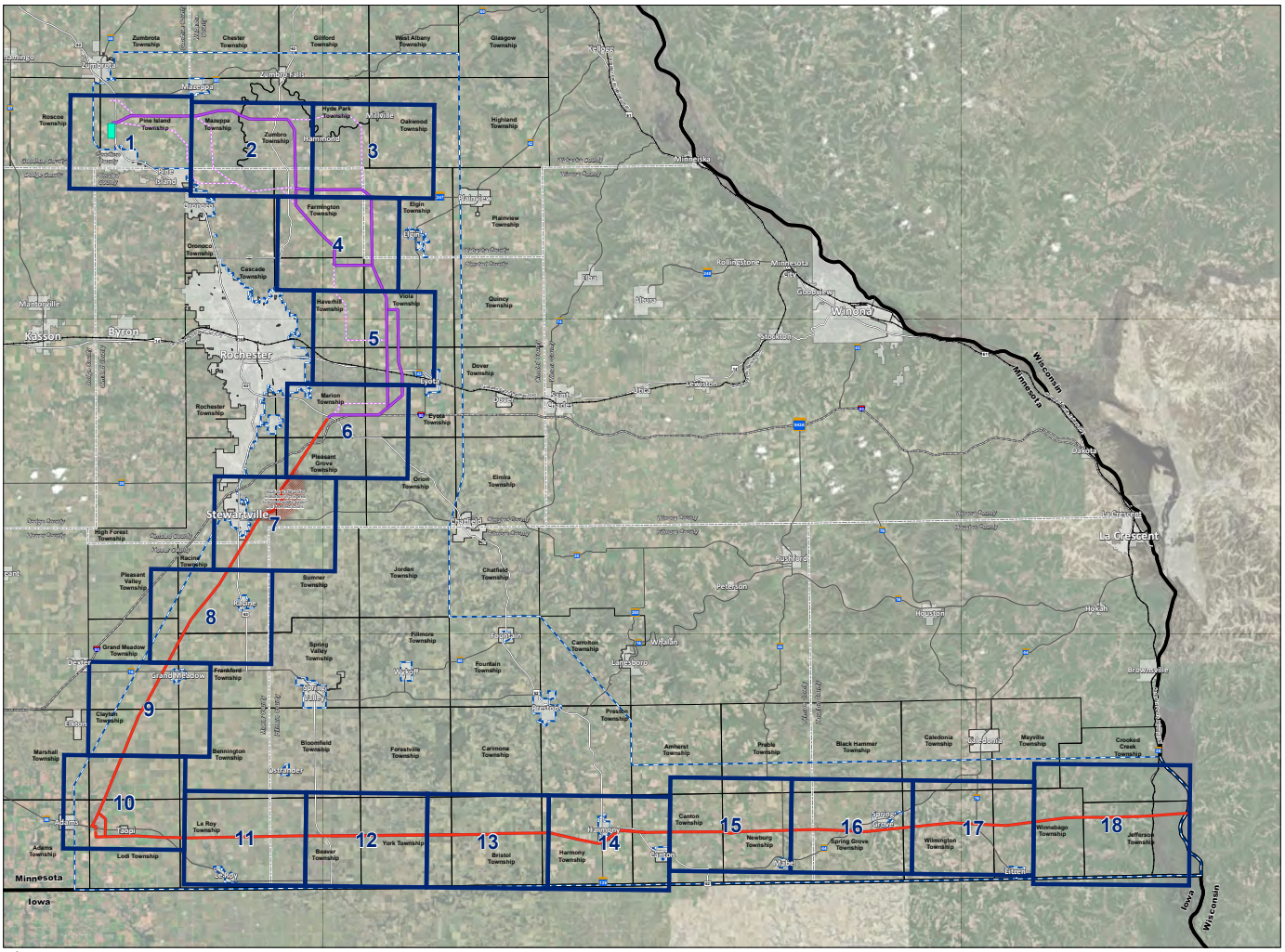
Gopher to Badger Link

Maps



Gopher to Badger Link

Maps



Gopher to Badger Link

Map Index

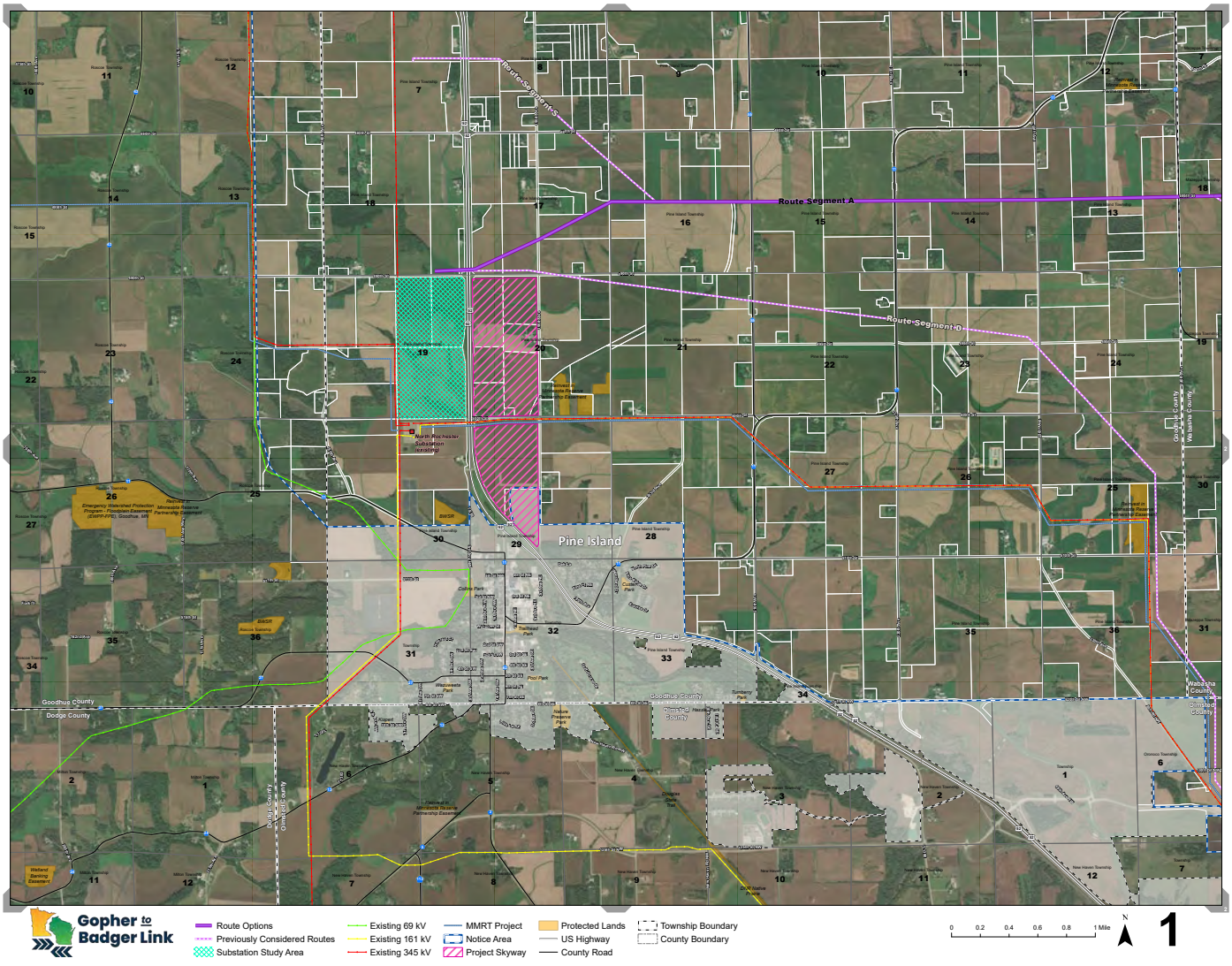
Map Page
Route Options
Maribell Segment
Previously Considered Routes
Substation Study Area
Notice Area
Railroad
Interstate
US Highway
MN Highway
Township Boundary
County Boundary
N
0 1 2 3 4 Mile

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Maps

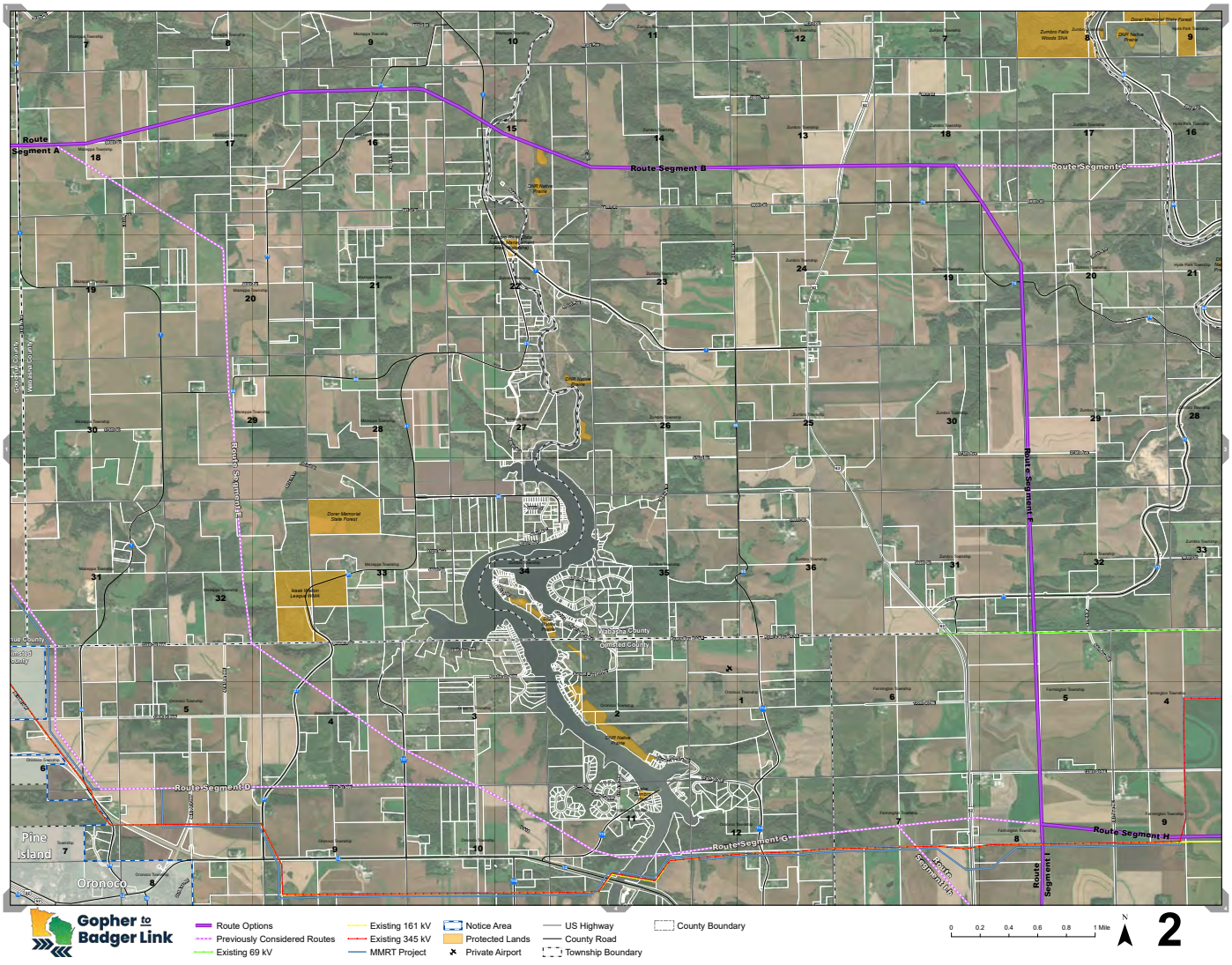


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Maps

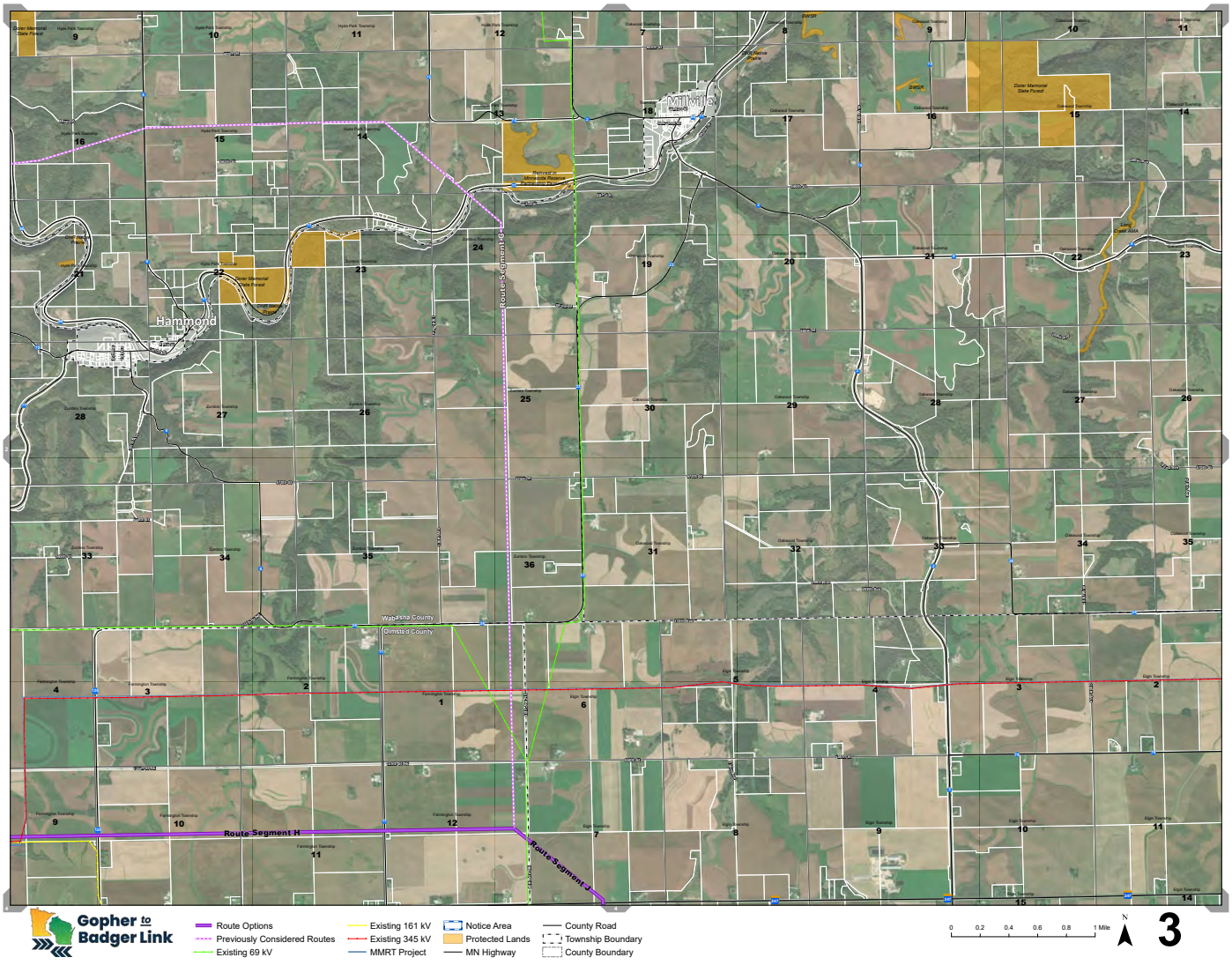


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Maps

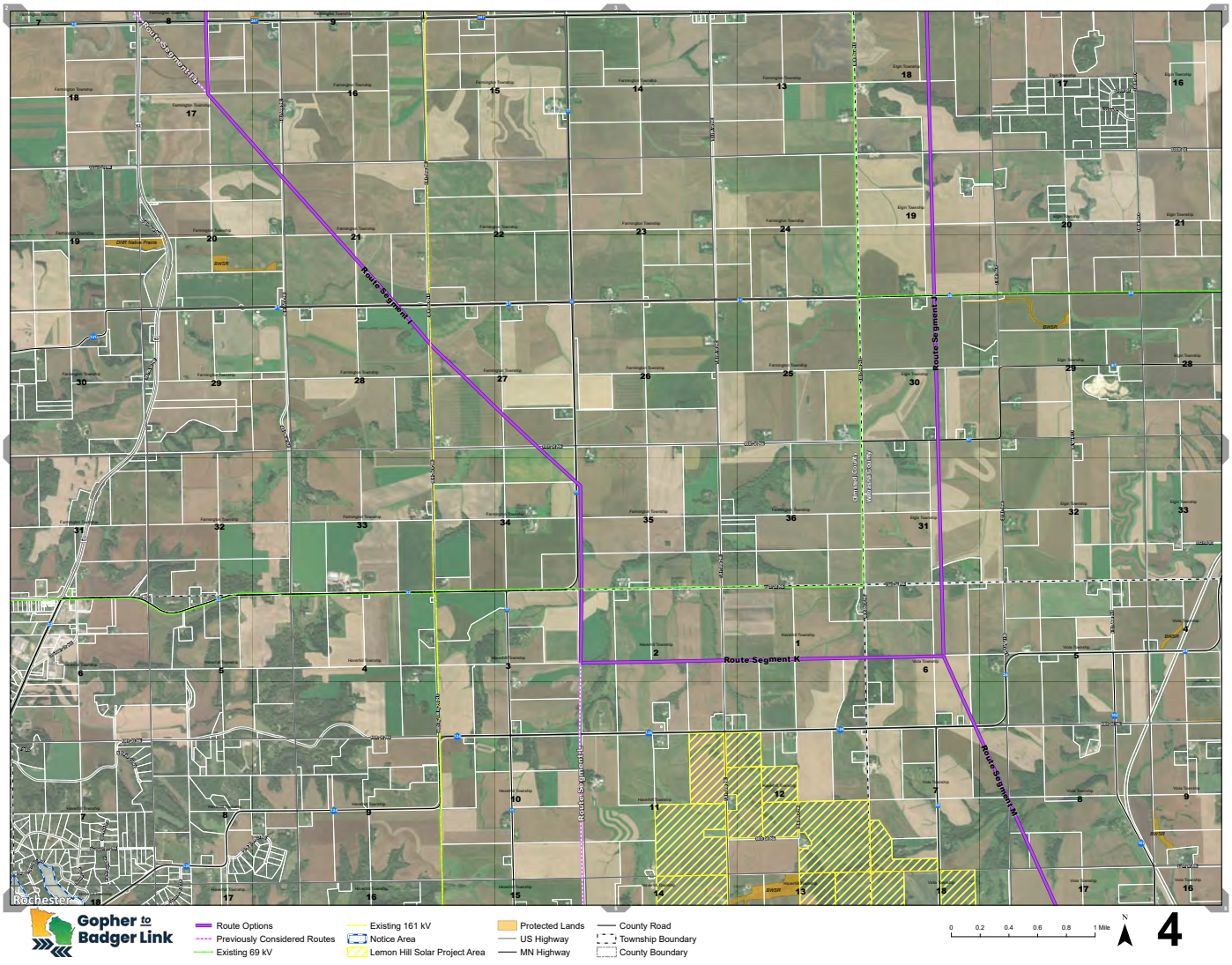


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Maps

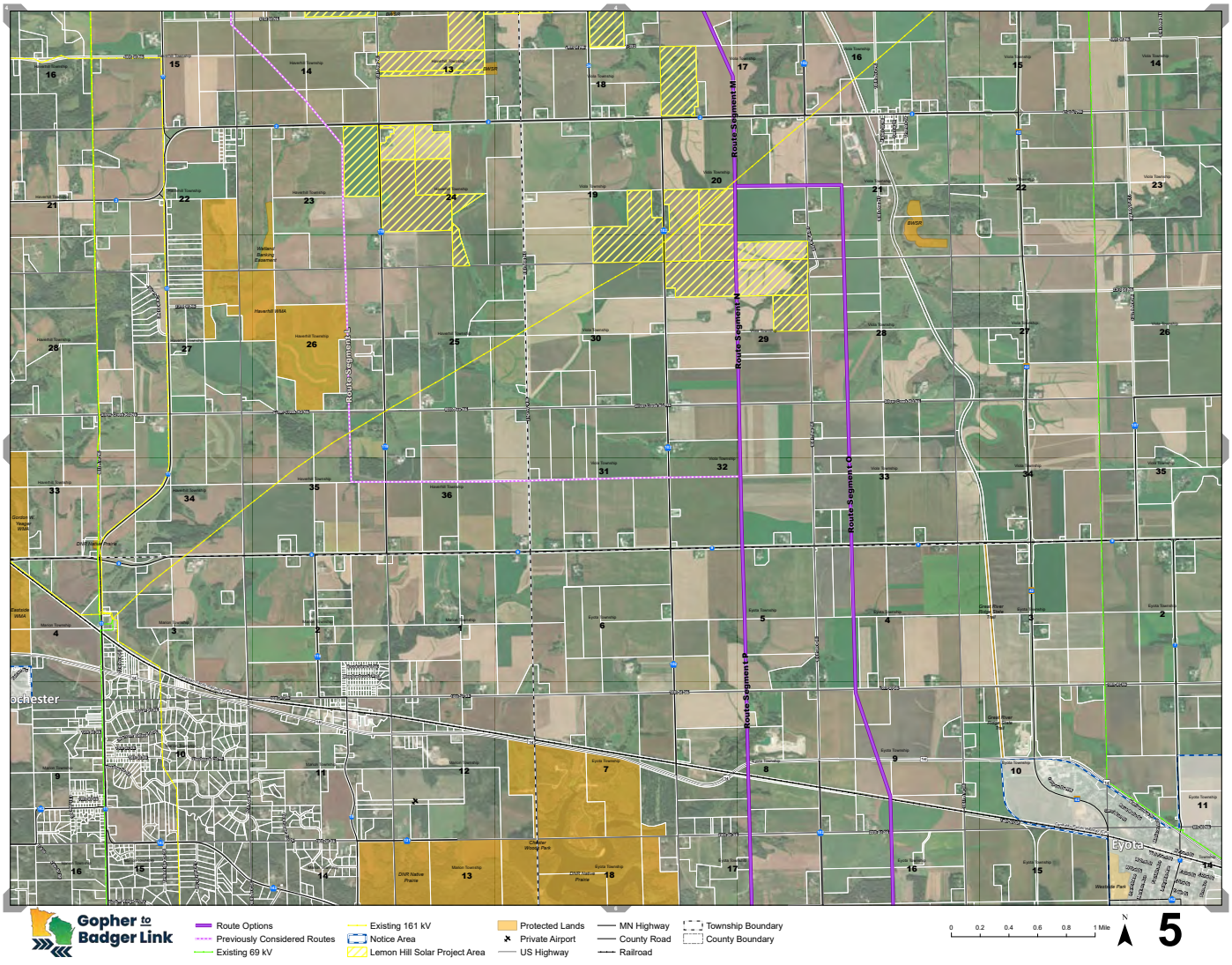


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Maps

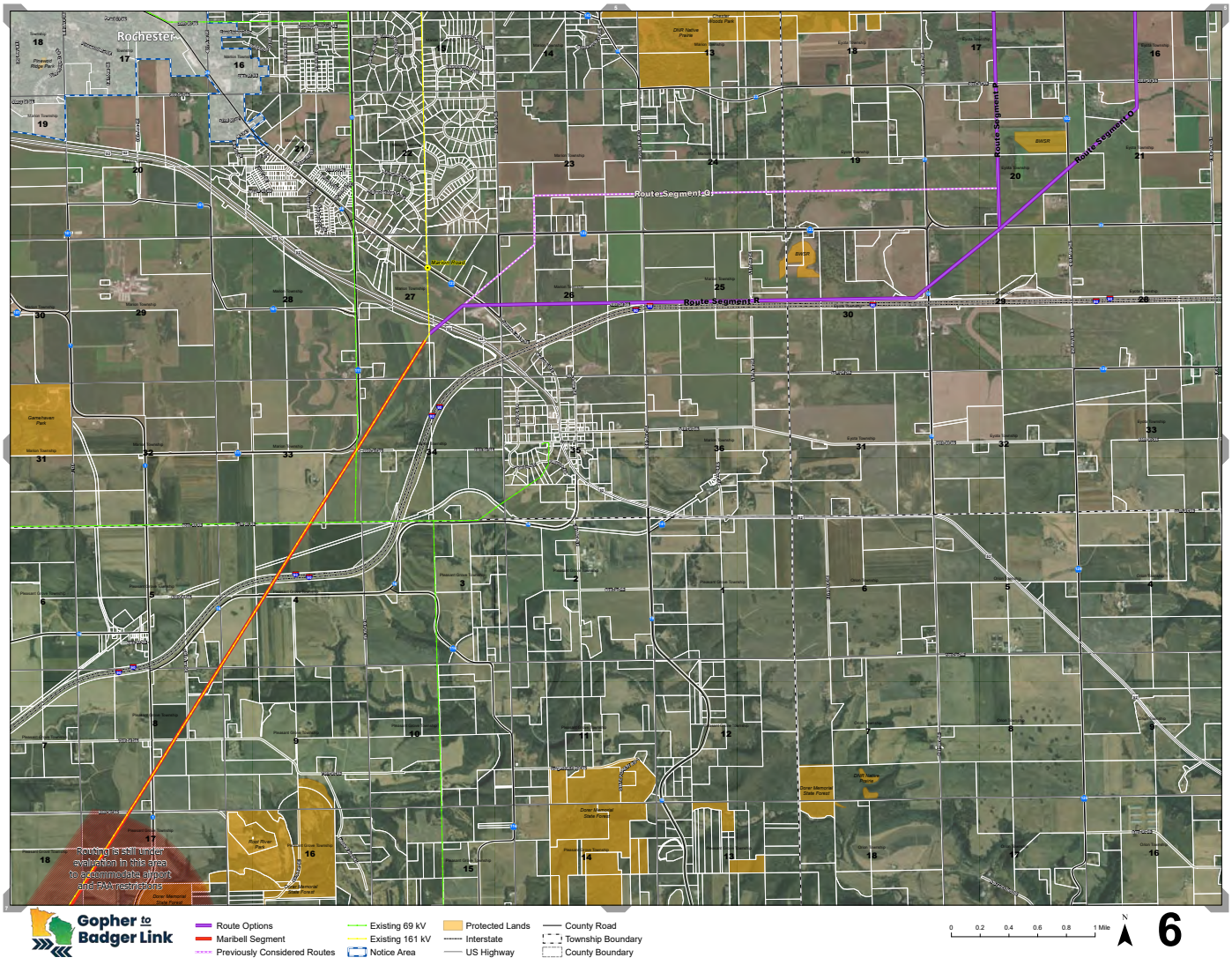


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Maps

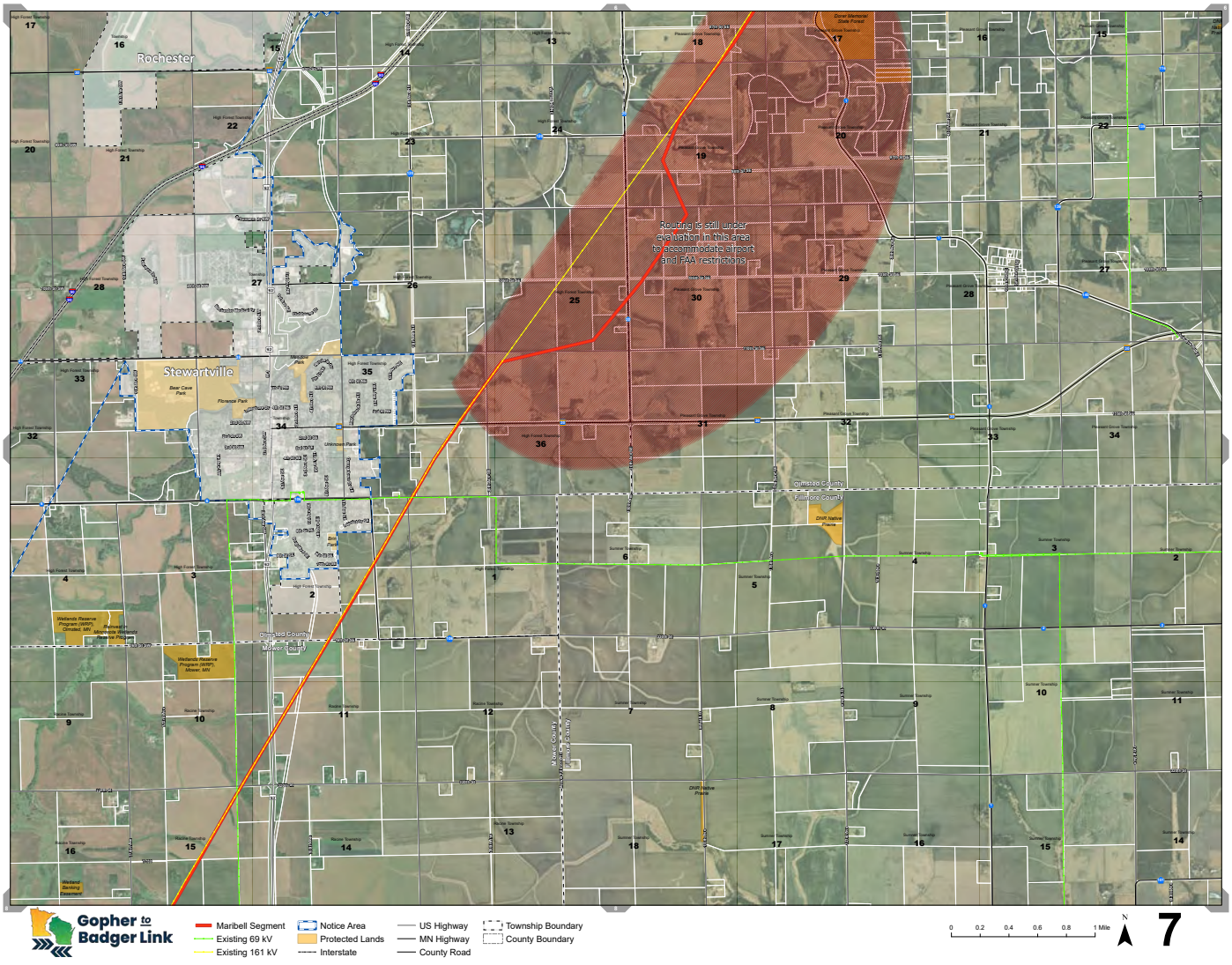


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Maps

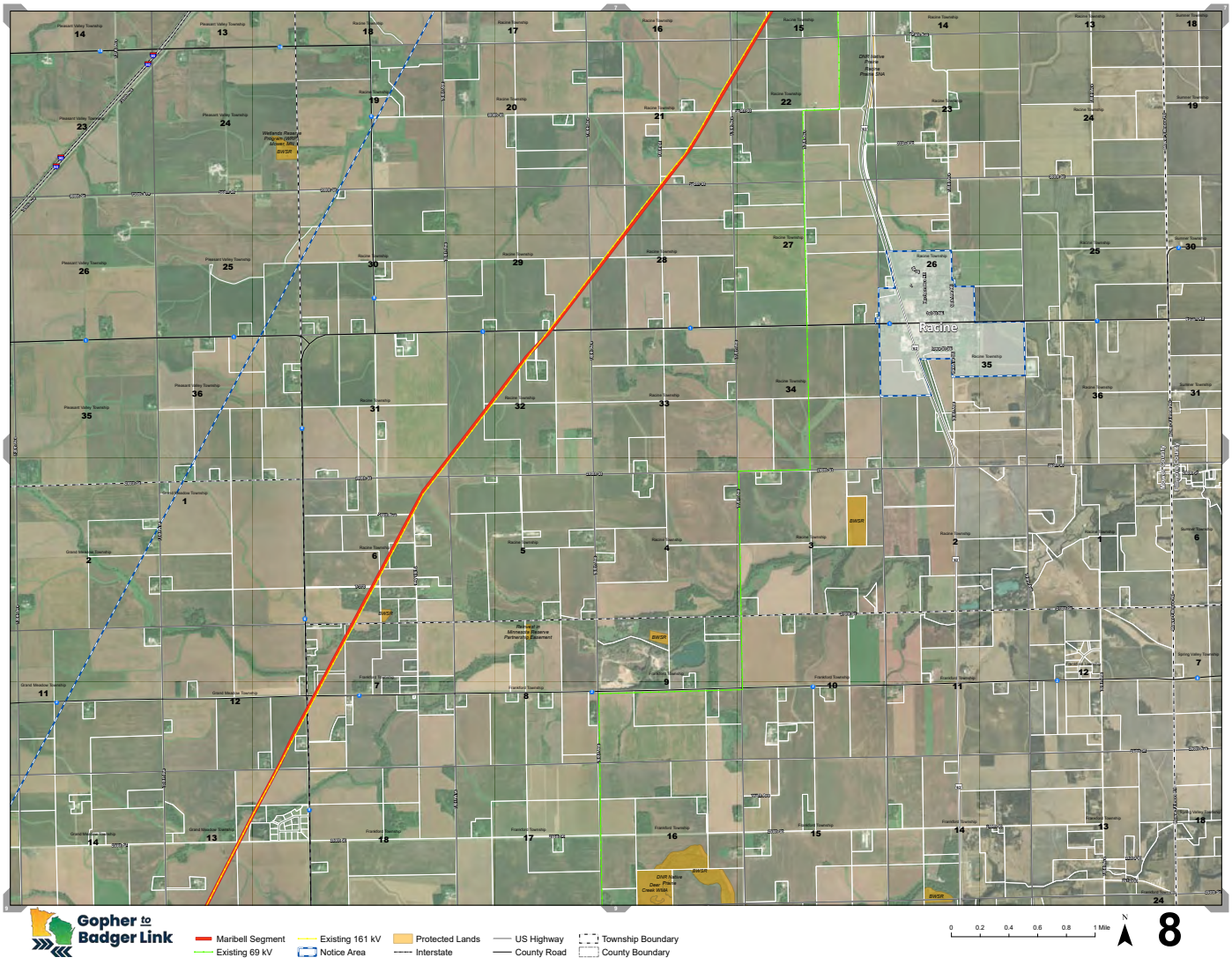


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Maps

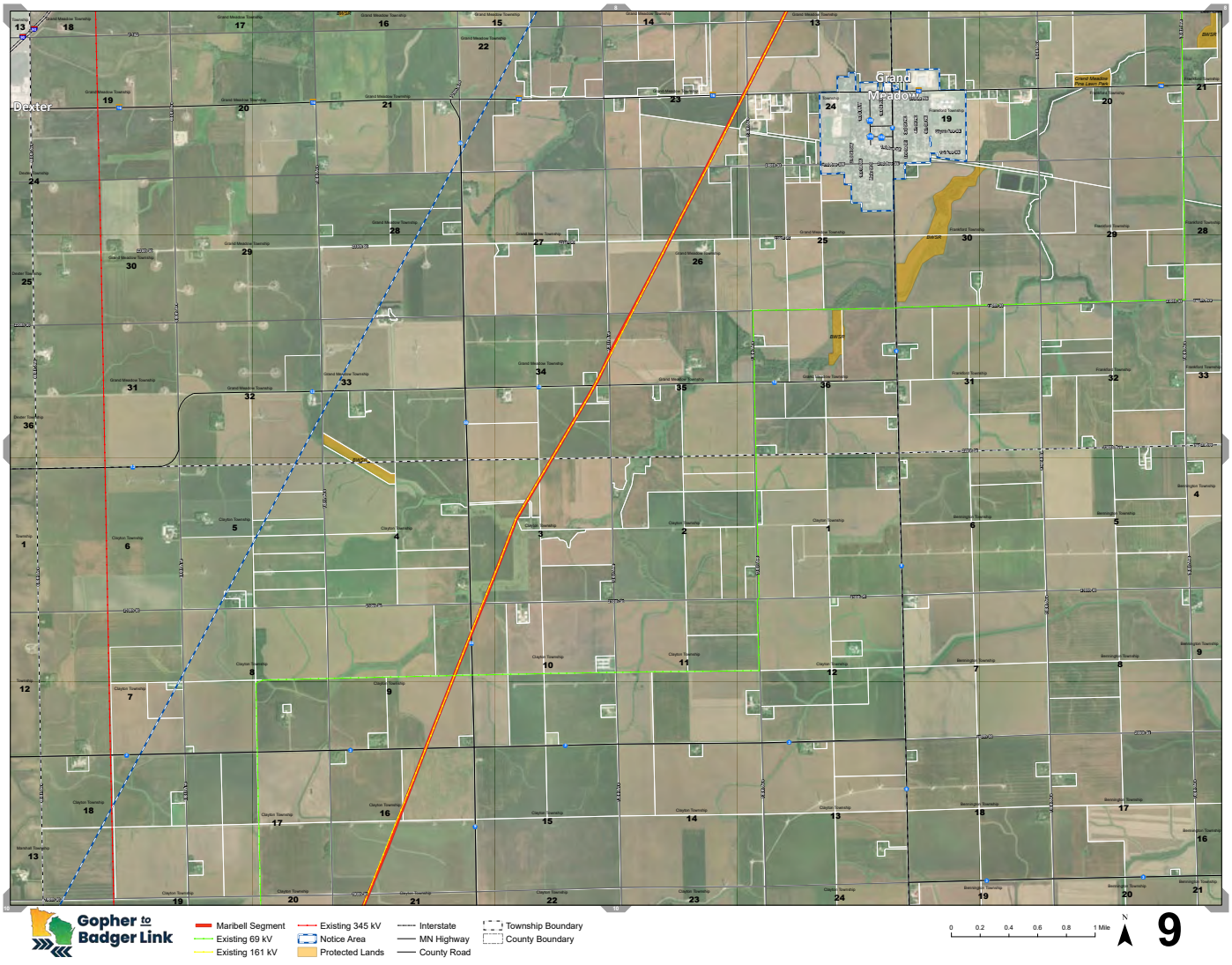


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Maps

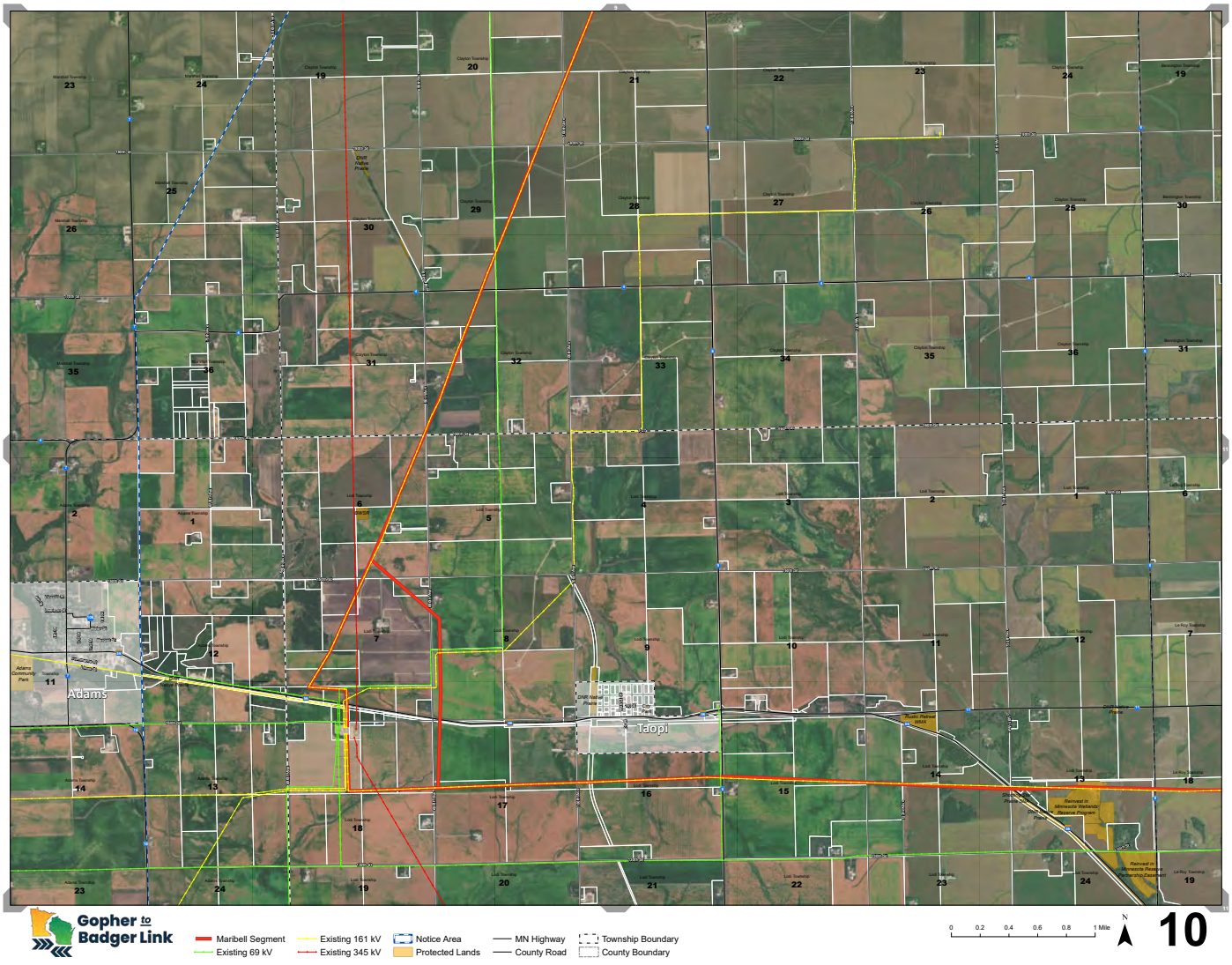


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Maps

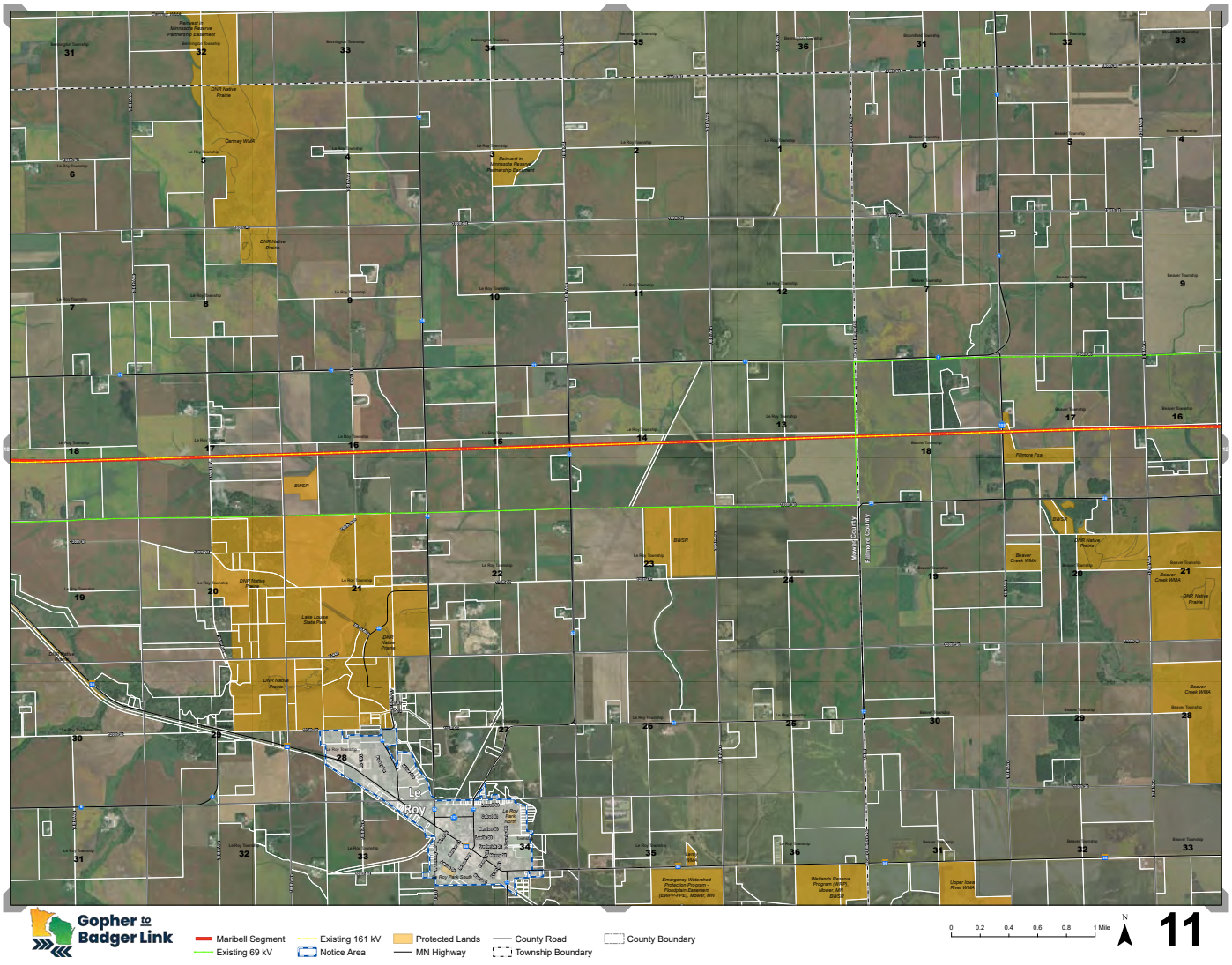


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Maps

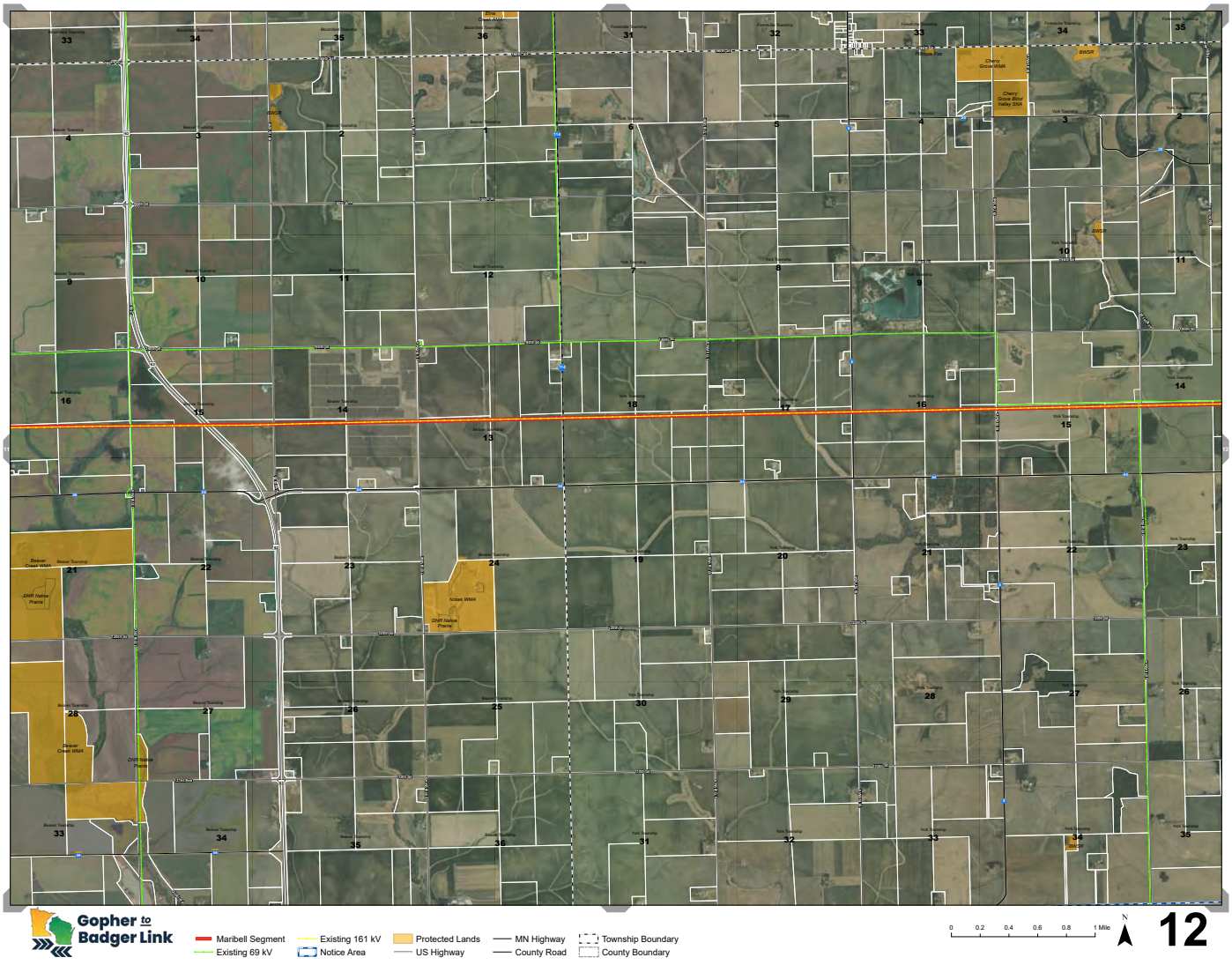


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Maps

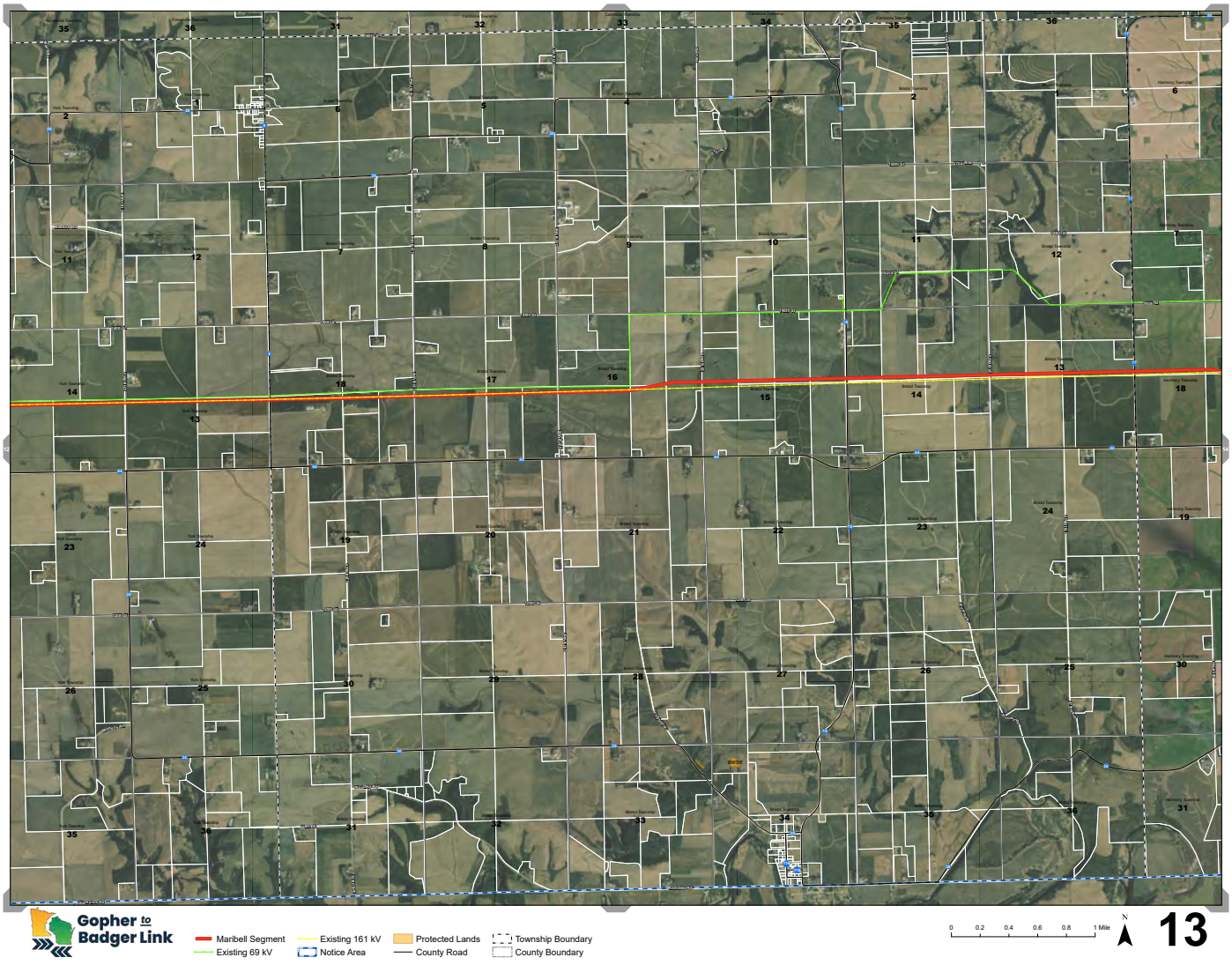


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Maps

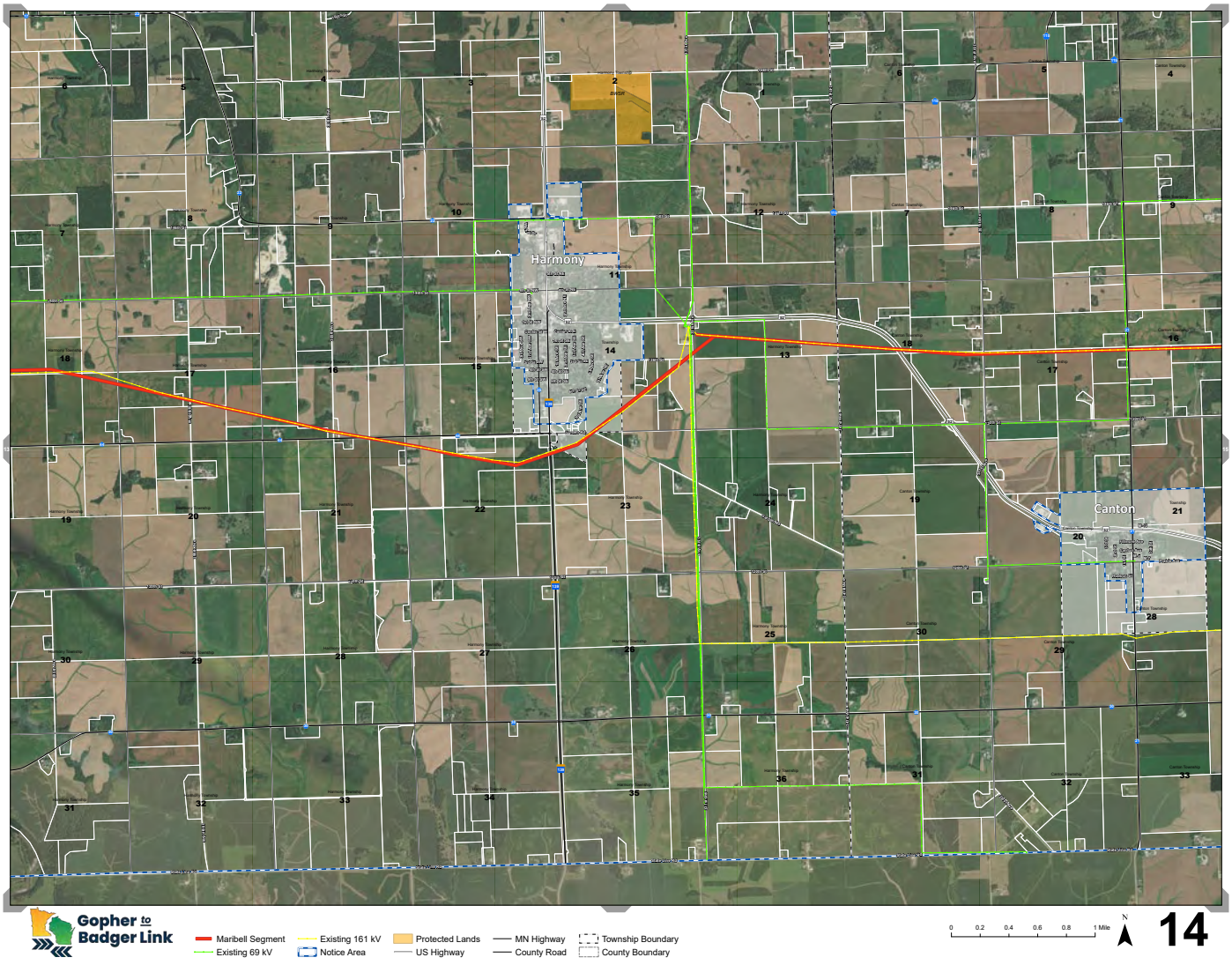


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Maps

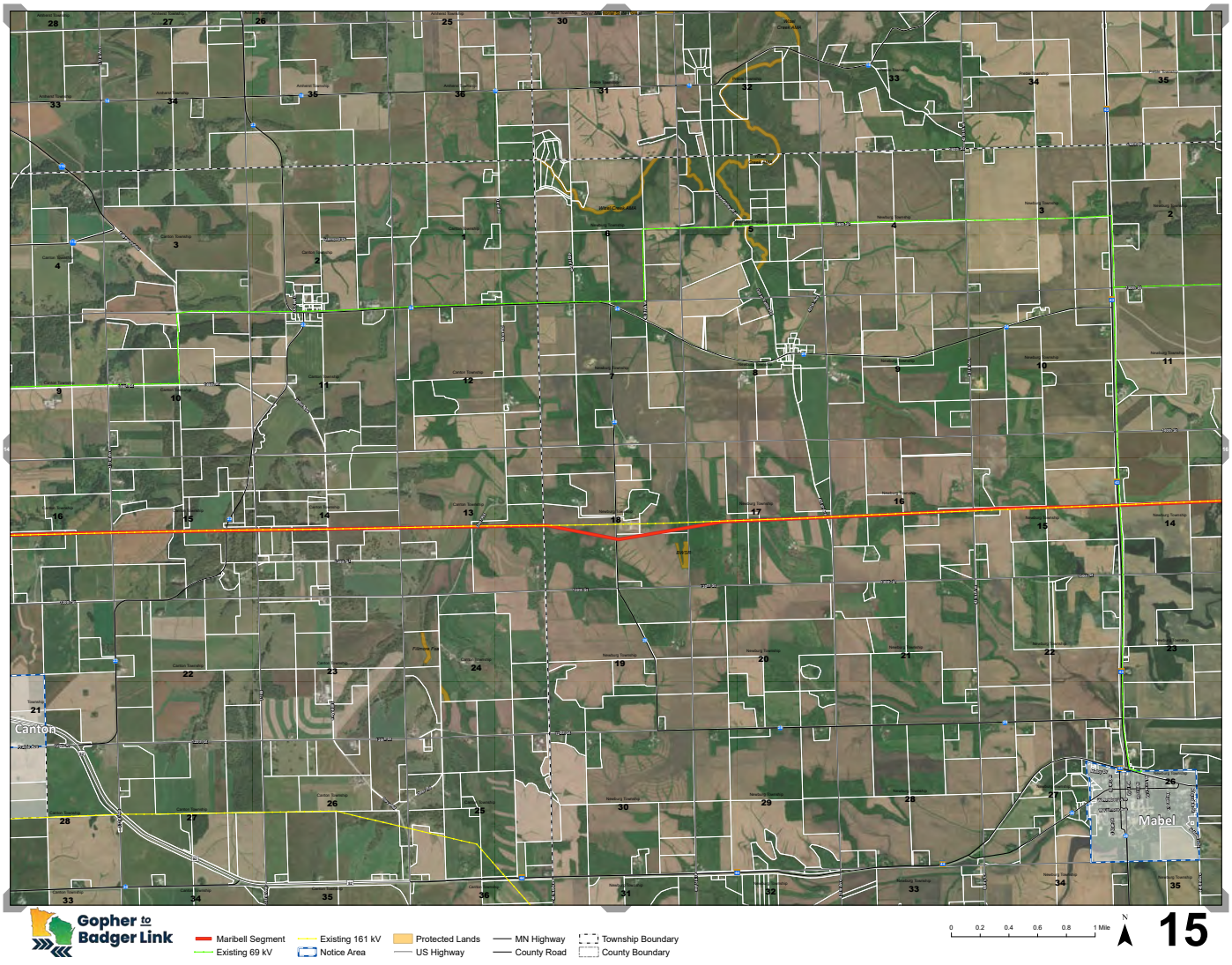


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Maps

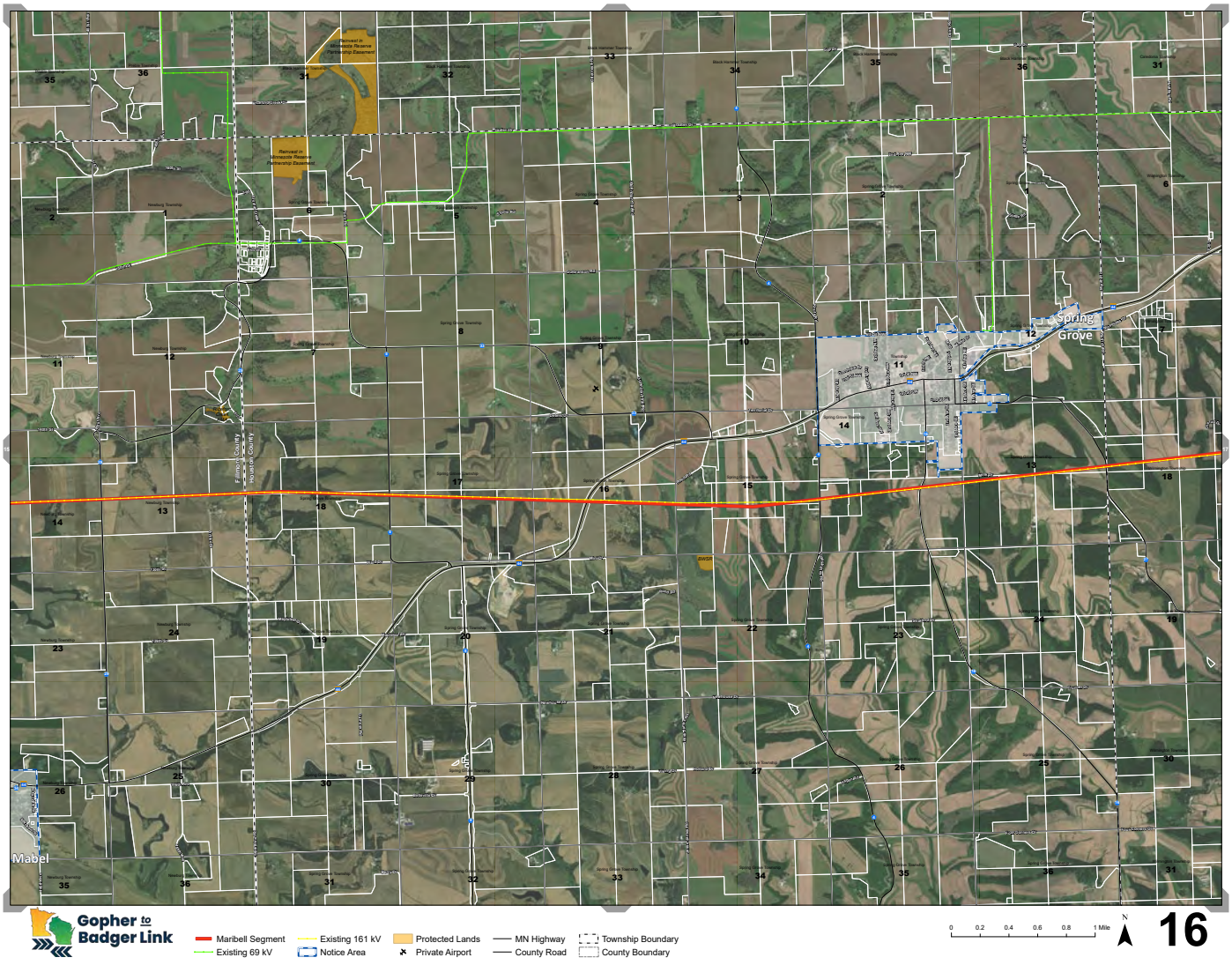


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Maps

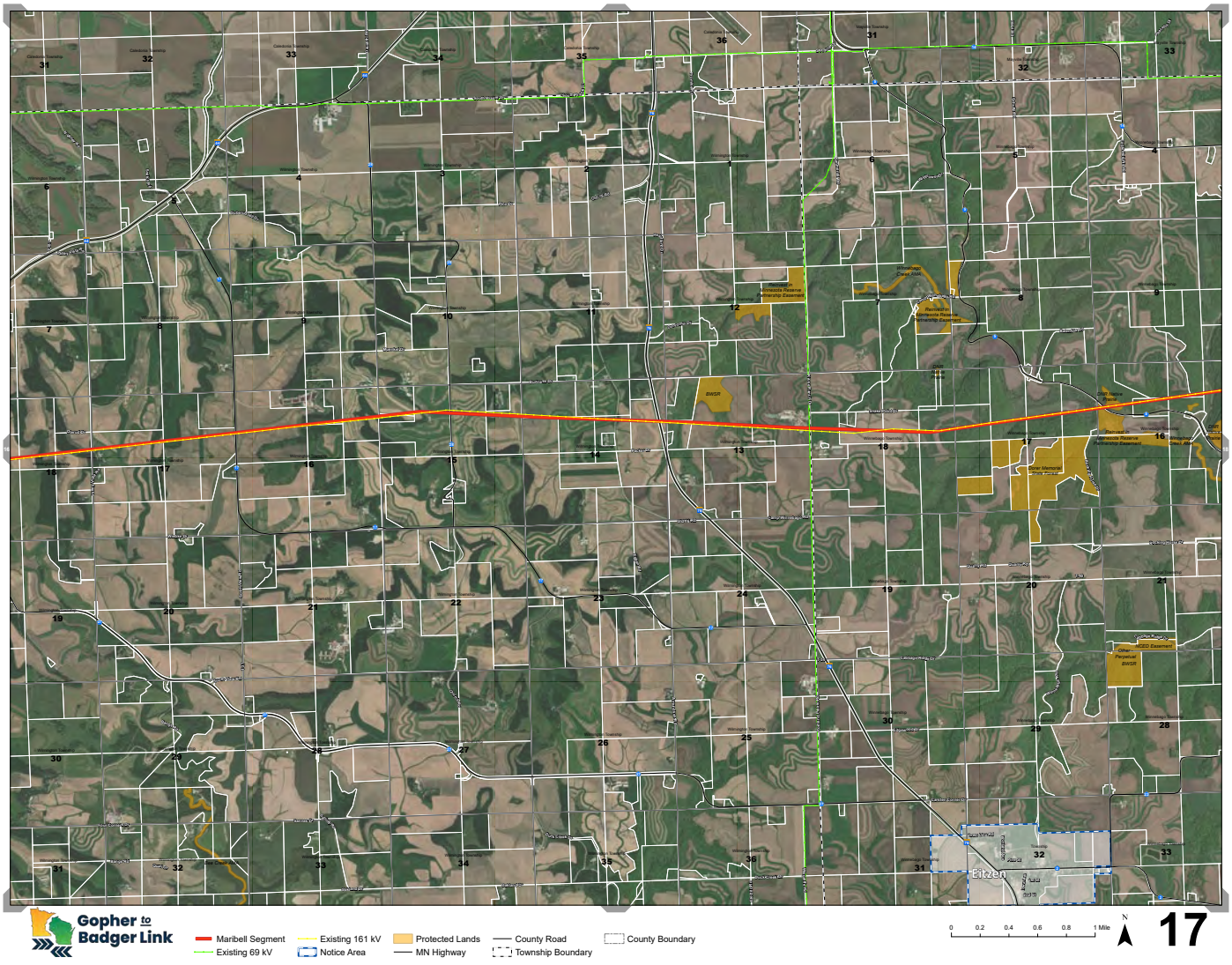


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

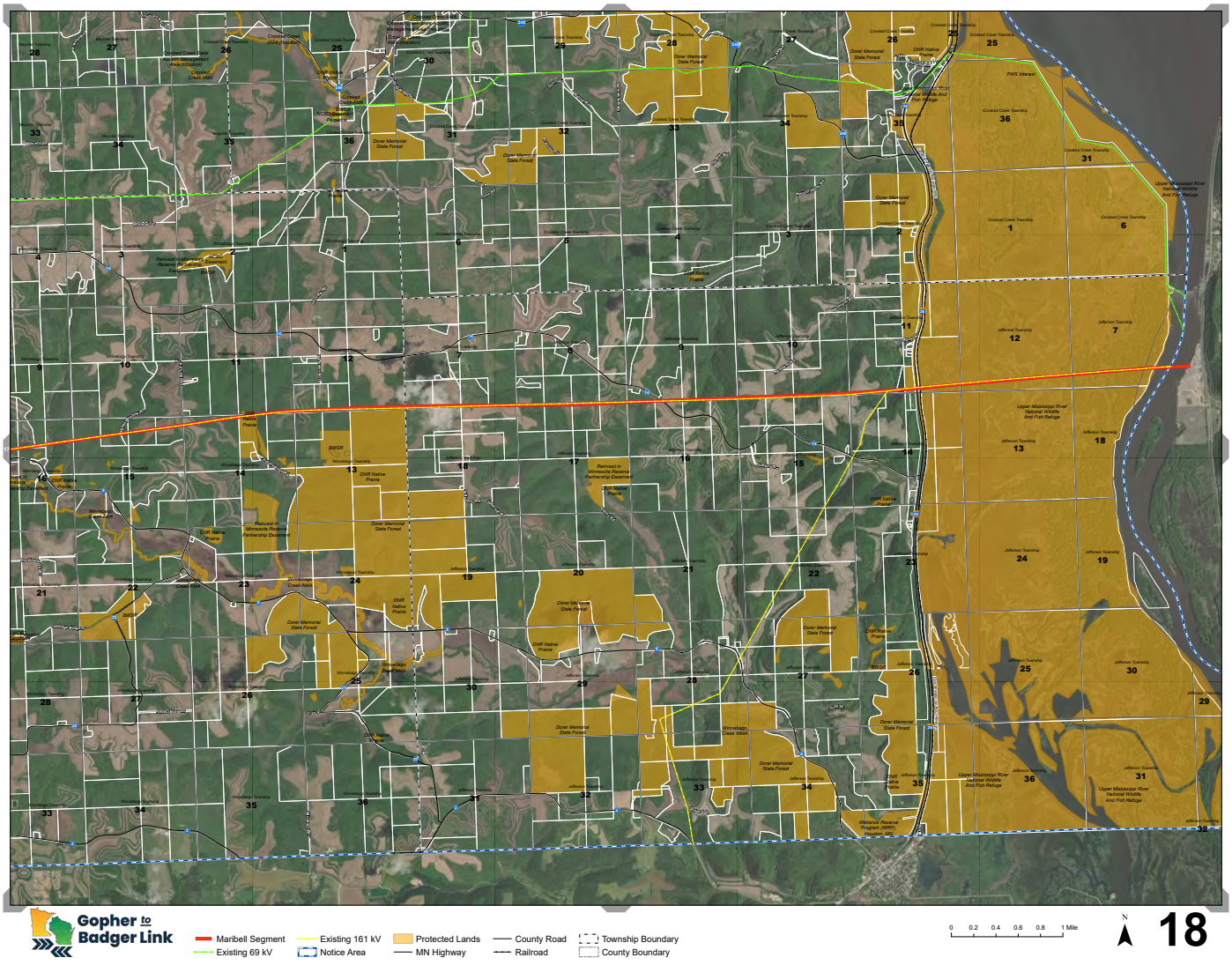
Gopher to Badger Link

Maps



Gopher to Badger Link

Maps



DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Mailer

Gopher to Badger Link

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Dairyland Power Cooperative
Attn: Eric Jacobson
P.O. Box 817
La Crosse, WI 54602

Transmission Line Information

Dear landowner,

The Gopher to Badger Link transmission line project is being proposed to deliver reliable power to homes, farms and businesses across the region. We've received valuable feedback from landowners and stakeholders throughout the project area, and we appreciate everyone who has taken the time to share their input. We invite you to attend our upcoming open houses scheduled for early May to learn more, review updated route options, talk with the project team and share additional input.

North Rochester to Marion Segment Update

For the North Rochester to Marion segment, the project team reviewed comments we've received and is refining preliminary route options that were shared in January.

MariBell Segment (Marion to Mississippi River) Update

For the Marion to Mississippi River (MariBell) segment, we still anticipate proposing a route option that generally follows the existing 161-kV corridor.

After considering input received this spring and summer from landowners, local officials, state agencies and other stakeholders, we plan to develop a Route Permit application and submit it to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission this fall.

Open House Schedule

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Monday, May 4	4 pm – 6 pm	**Stewartville Golf Course (Vindauga Event Center)** 1800 Clubhouse Drive NE, Stewartville, MN 55976
Tuesday, May 5	10 am – 12 pm	**Floral Hall in Graham Park** 1426 Fairgrounds Ave SE, Rochester, MN 55904
Tuesday, May 5	4 pm – 6 pm	**Zumbrota VFW** 25 E 1st Street, Zumbrota, MN 55992
Wednesday, May 6	10 am - 12 pm	**Wykoff Commons** 201 Bartlett Street W, Wykoff, MN 55990
Wednesday, May 6	4 pm – 6 pm	**LeRoy Community Center** 204 West Main Street, LeRoy, MN 55951
Thursday, May 7	10 am - 12 pm	**Mabel Community Center** 201 Main Street S, Mabel, MN 55954
Thursday, May 7	4 pm – 6 pm	**Four Seasons Community Center** 900 N Kingston Street, Caledonia, MN 55921

There will be no formal presentation—please feel free to stop by at any time during the open house hours.

Contact Us

Landowners can contact us with questions or comments by emailing **connect@gophertobadgerlink.com** or calling 612-474-7799. You can also visit **GophertoBadgerLink.com** to explore our self-guided virtual open house, learn more about the project, and leave a comment using our interactive map.

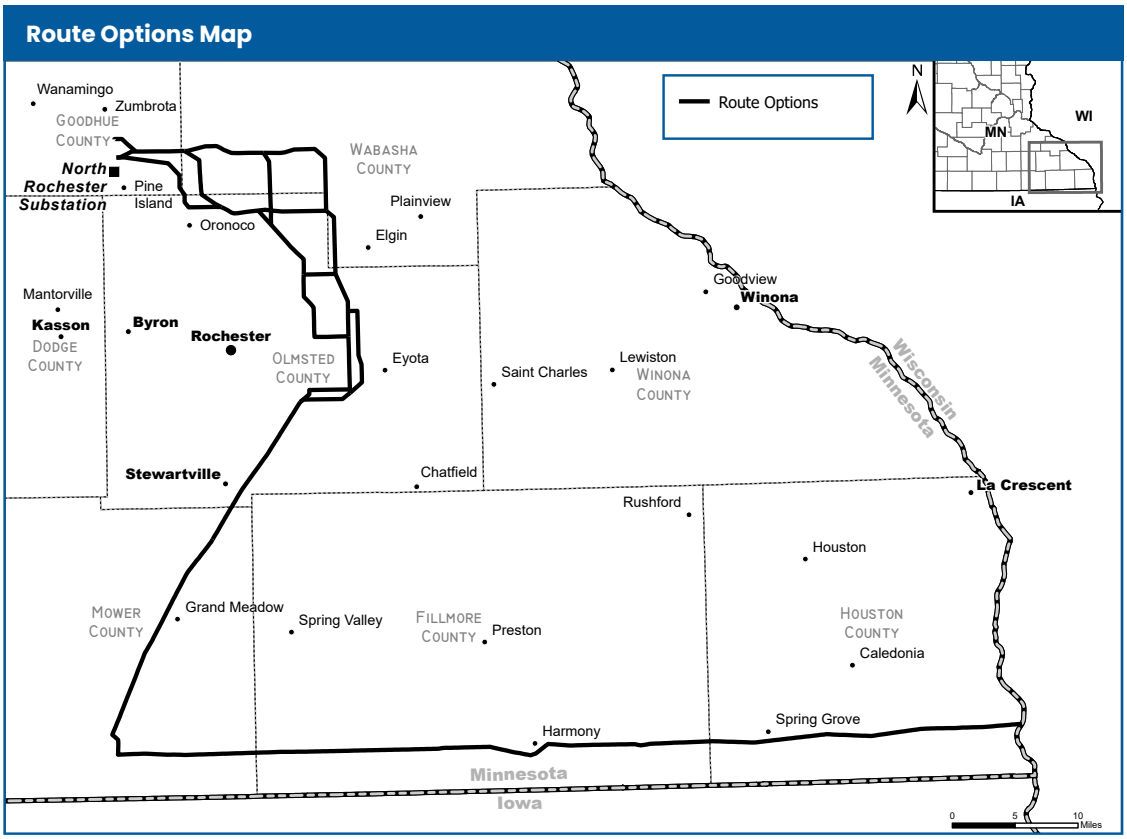
DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Mailer

Route Options Map



The map shown to the left includes preliminary route options under evaluation. Updated route options will be published on the Gopher to Badger Link website by May 1 and available for review at the upcoming open houses.

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Newspaper ad

UPCOMING OPEN HOUSES - PLEASE JOIN US!

Gopher to Badger Link

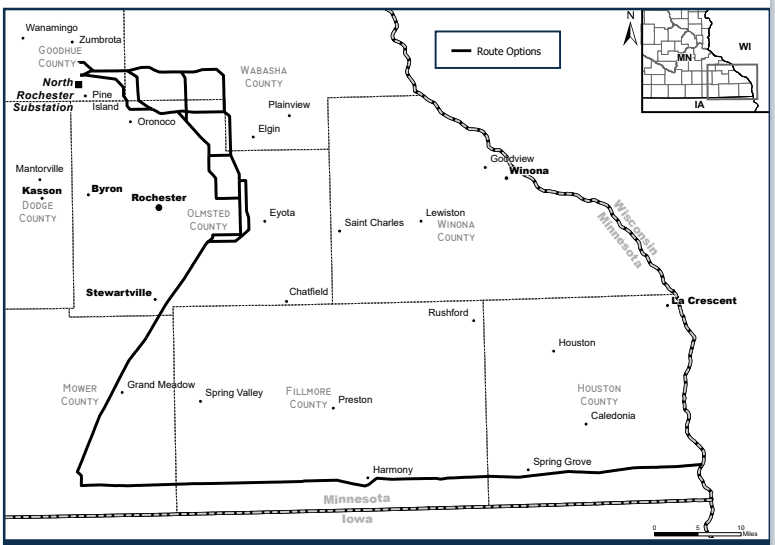
DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Xcel Energy®

The Gopher to Badger Link transmission line project is being proposed to deliver reliable power to homes, farms and businesses across the region. We've received valuable feedback, and we appreciate everyone who has taken the time to share their input. We invite you to attend our upcoming open houses to learn more, review updated route options, talk with the project team and share additional input.

For the North Rochester to Marion segment, the project team reviewed comments we've received and is refining preliminary route options that were shared in January. Updated maps will be posted online by May 1 and available for review at the open houses.

For the Marion to Mississippi River (MariBell) segment, we still anticipate proposing a route option that generally follows the existing 161-kV corridor.



Route Options Map

Monday, May 4
4 pm – 6 pm
Stewartville Golf Course (Vindauga Event Center)
1800 Clubhouse Dr. NE, Stewartville, MN 55976

Tuesday, May 5
10 am – 12 pm | Floral Hall in Graham Park
1426 Fairgrounds Ave. SE, Rochester, MN 55904

Tuesday, May 5
4 pm – 6 pm | Zumbrota VFW
25 E 1st St., Zumbrota, MN 55992

Wednesday, May 6
10 am – 12 pm | Wykoff Commons
201 Bartlett St. W, Wykoff, MN 55990

Wednesday, May 6
4 pm – 6 pm | LeRoy Community Center
204 West Main St., LeRoy, MN 55951

Thursday, May 7
10 am – 12 pm | Mabel Community Center
201 Main St. S, Mabel, MN 55954

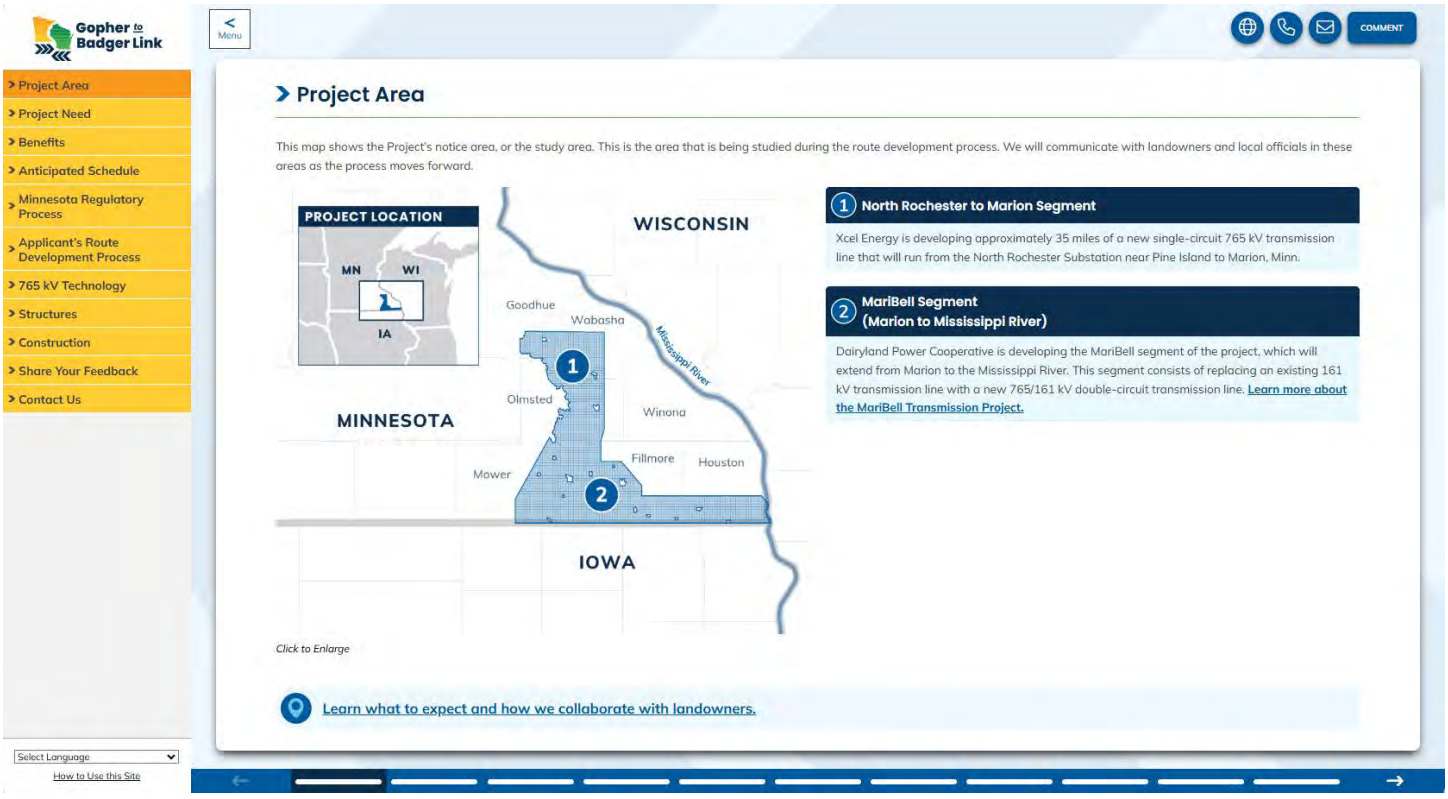
Thursday, May 7
4 pm – 6 pm | Four Seasons Community Center
900 N Kingston St., Caledonia, MN 55921

612-474-7799
connect@gophertobadgerlink.com
www.gophertobadgerlink.com

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE
Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Virtual open house



DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Virtual open house



DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Virtual open house

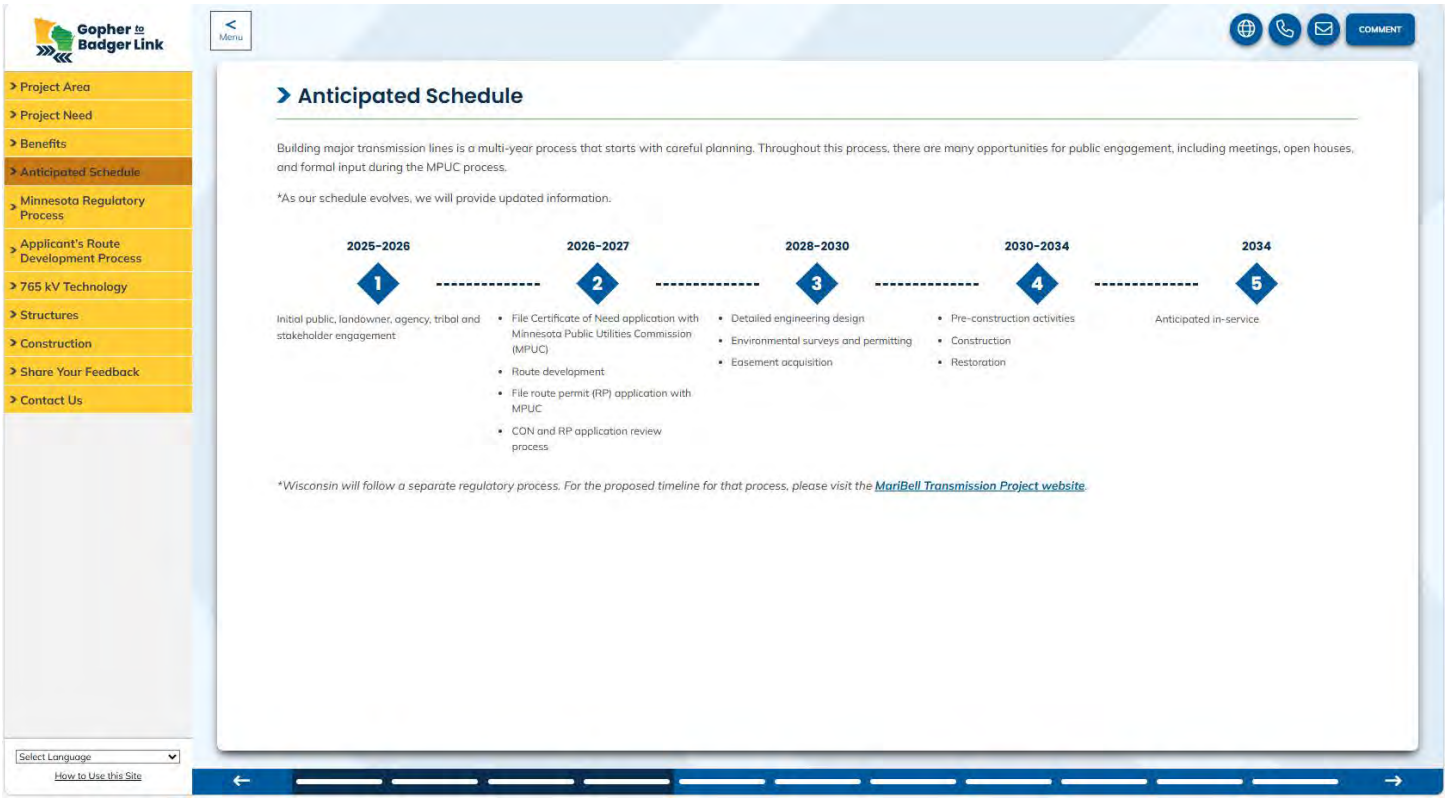


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

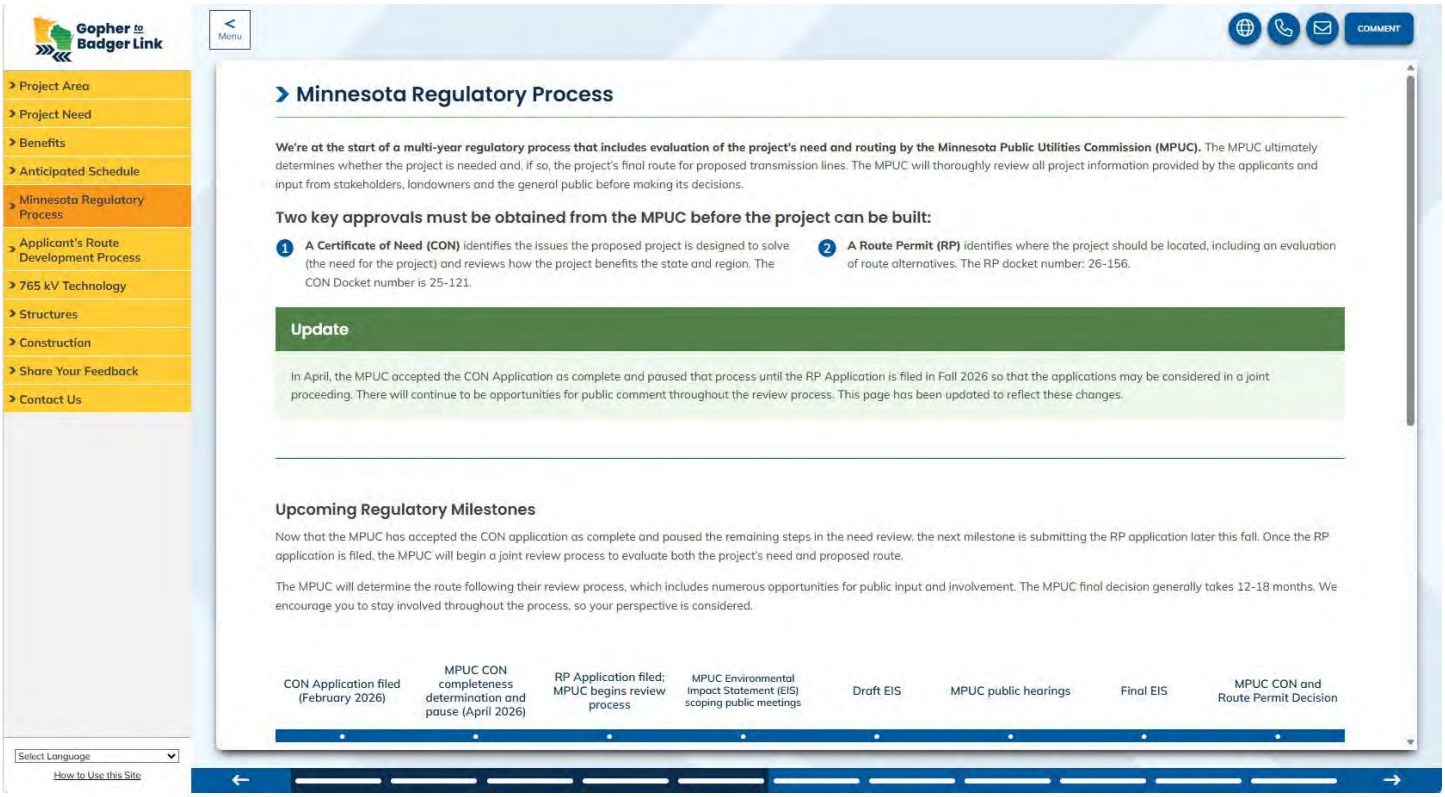
Virtual open house



DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE
Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Virtual open house

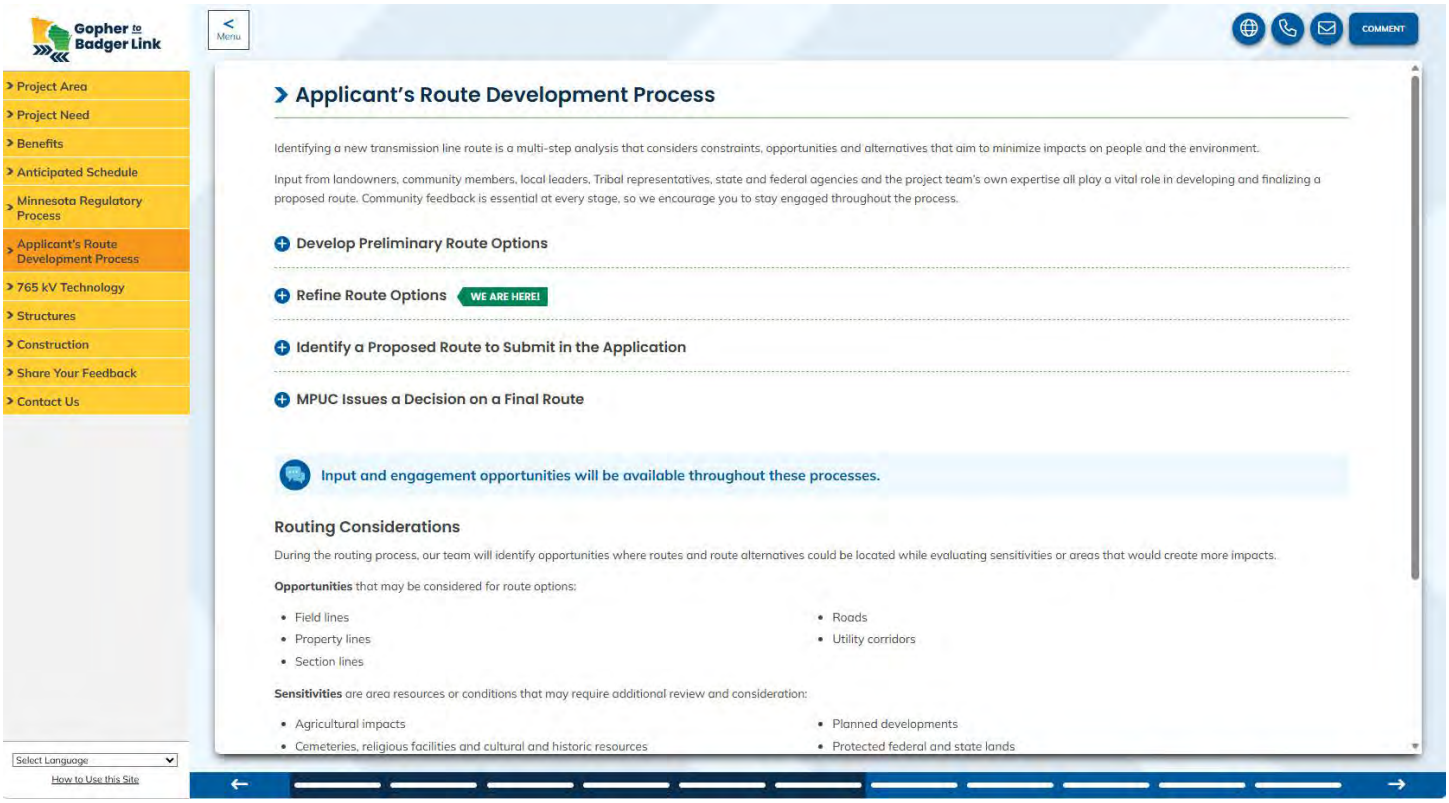


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Virtual open house

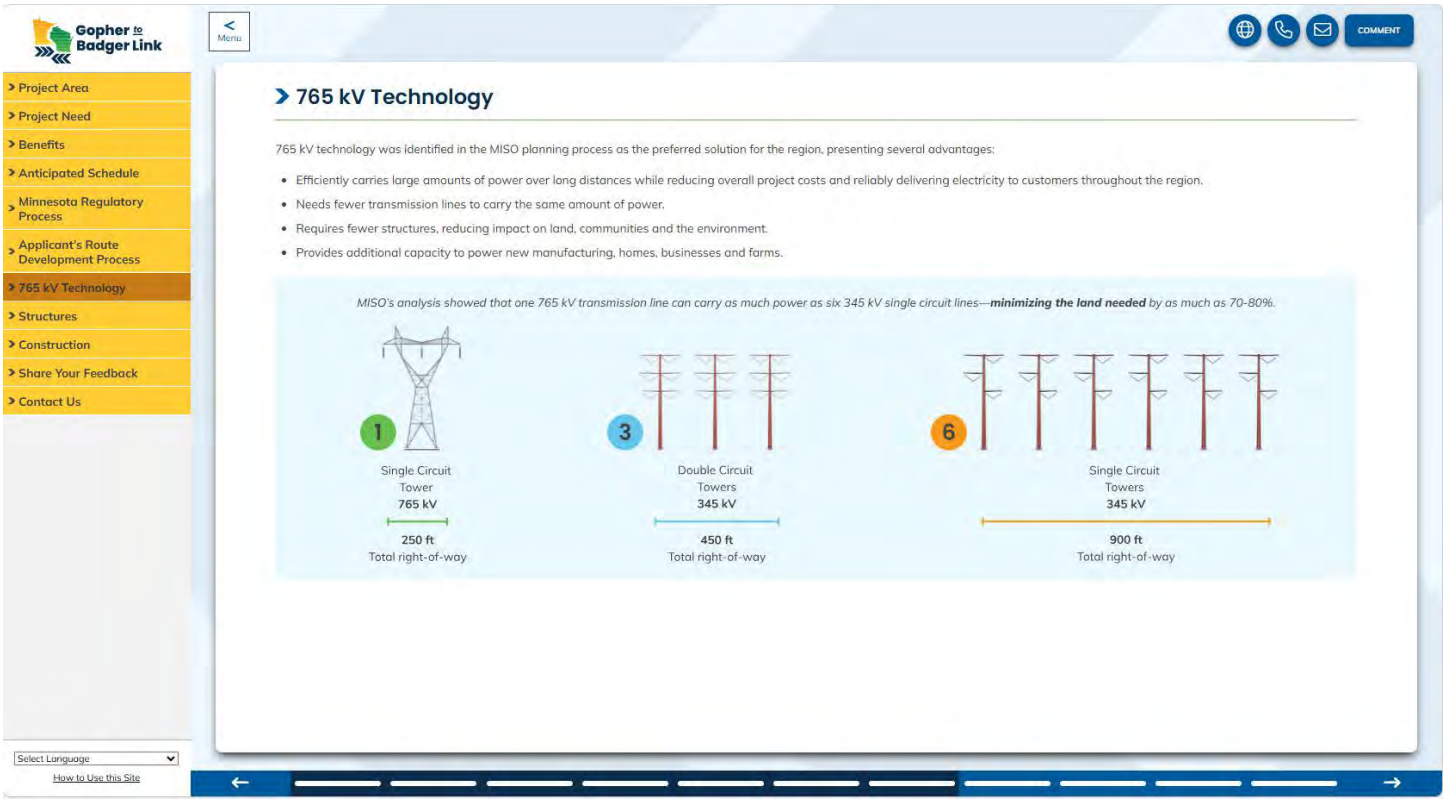


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Virtual open house

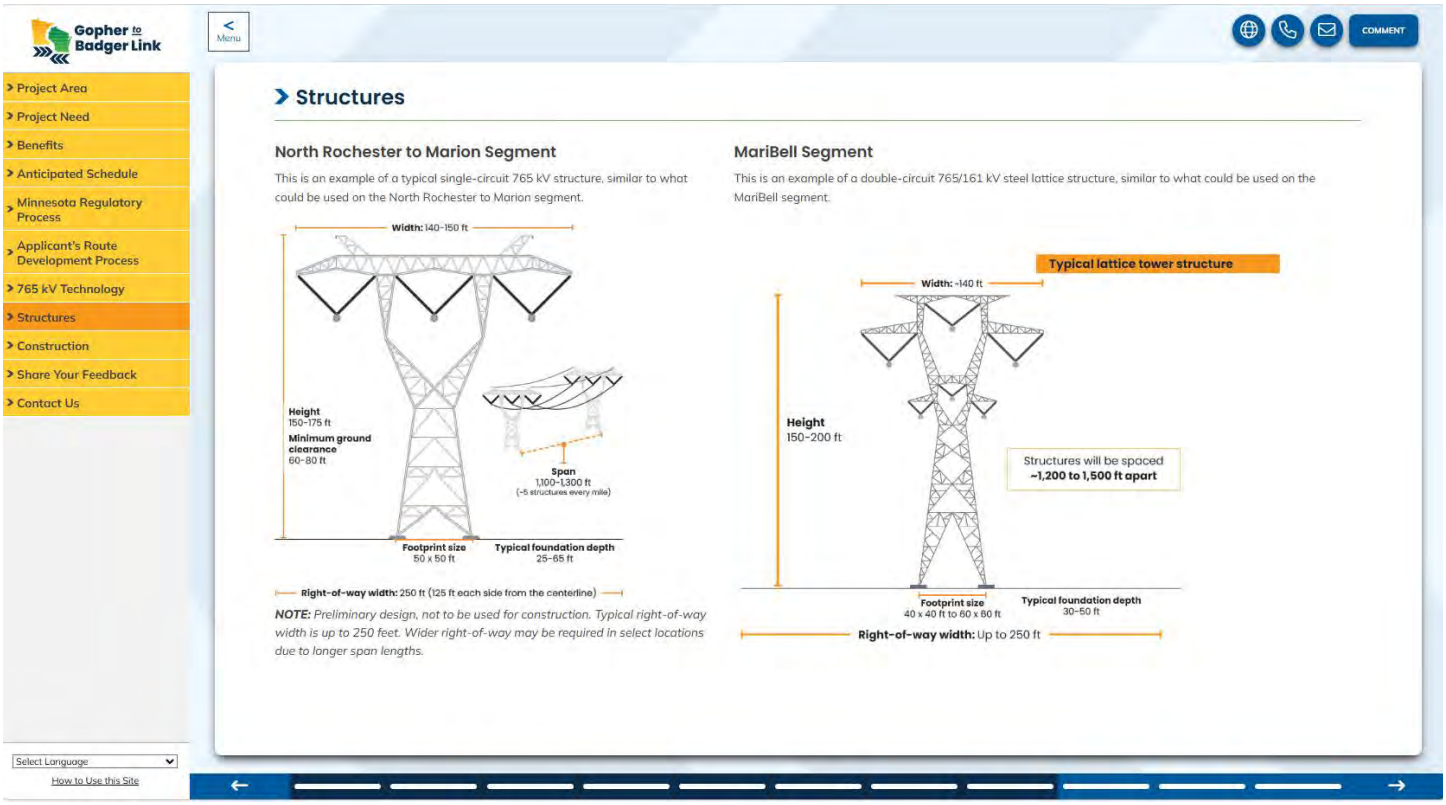


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Virtual open house



DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Virtual open house

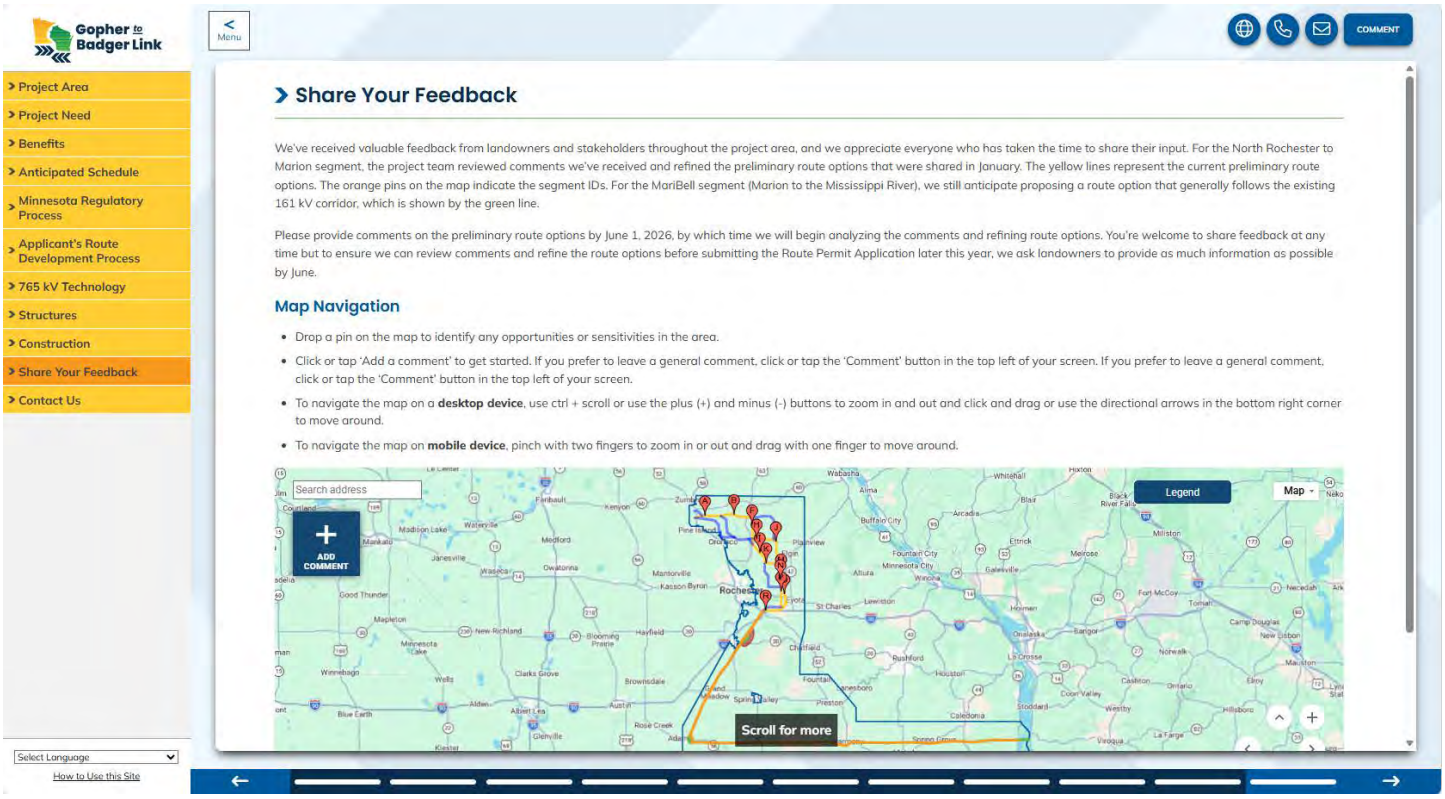


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Virtual open house

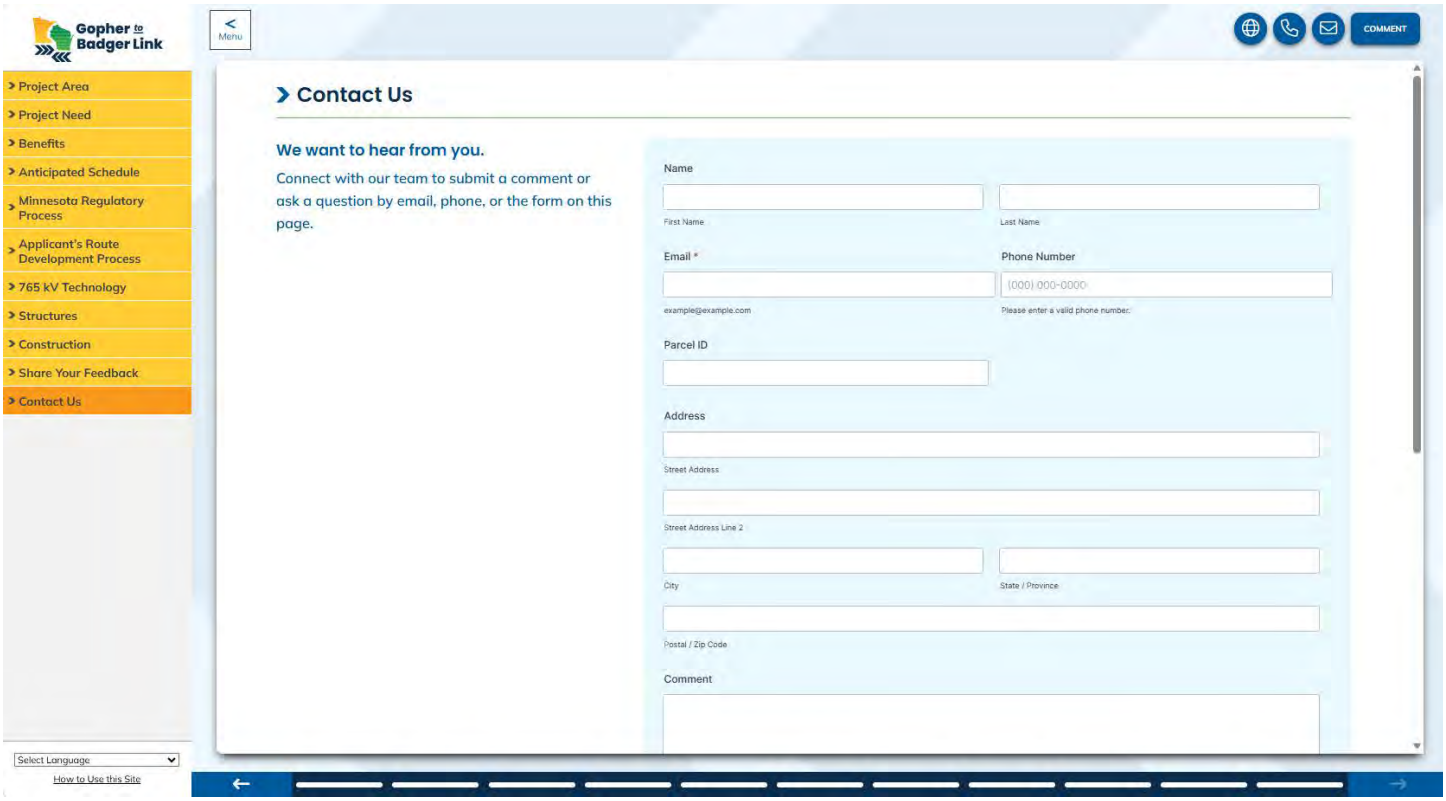


DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®

Gopher to Badger Link

Virtual open house



DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE

Xcel Energy®