

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Katie J. Sieben
Hwikwon Ham
Audrey C. Partridge
Joseph K. Sullivan
John A. Tuma

Chair
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

In the Matter of the Applications of Xcel Energy
for a Certificate of Need and Route Permit for the
Minnesota Energy Connection Project in
Sherburne, Stearns, Kandiyohi, Wright, Meeker,
Chippewa, Yellow Medicine, Renville, Redwood,
and Lyon Counties in Minnesota

SERVICE DATE: April 24, 2026

DOCKET NO. E-002/TL-22-132

The above-entitled matter was considered by the Commission on January 29, 2026, and the following disposition made:

Granted the route permit amendment requested by the permittee.

The Commission adopts the attached staff recommendations for the reasons set forth therein.¹
This Order shall become effective immediately.



BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sasha Bergman".

Sasha Bergman
Executive Secretary

To request this document in another format such as large print or audio, call 651.296.0406 (voice). Persons with a hearing or speech impairment may call using their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service or email consumer.puc@state.mn.us for assistance.

¹ The Commission appreciates the concerns raised by Mr. Hook and Mr. Johansen and has carefully weighed their input in working to reduce, minimize, and avoid impacts to the fullest extent possible.

ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE PERMITTING STAFF
COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON AN AMENDED ROUTE PERMIT

Minnesota Energy Connection 345 kV Transmission Line Project

DOCKET NO. E-002/TL-22-132

Date: December 18, 2025

EIP Staff: Tessa Kothlow | 651-539-1069 | tessa.kothlow@state.mn.us

In the Matter of the Route Permit Amendment Application for the Minnesota Energy Connection Project in Sherburne, Stearns, Kandiyohi, Meeker, Renville, Redwood, and Lyon Counties in Minnesota

Issued Addressed: These comments and recommendations address Xcel Energy’s request for a route permit amendment for the Minnesota Energy Connection Project.

Additional documents and information can be found on eDockets:
<https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/documents> (22-132) and on the Commission’s website:
<https://puc.eip.mn.gov/web/project/15000>.

This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio) by calling 651-296-0406 (voice). Persons with a hearing or speech impairment may call using their preferred telecommunications relay service.

Introduction and Background

On June 11, 2025, the Commission issued an order granting a certificate of need and issuing route permit to Northern States Power Company, doing business as Xcel Energy (Xcel Energy or applicant) for construction and operation of the Minnesota Energy Connection project (project).¹ On November 24, 2025, Xcel Energy filed a request to amend the route permit under Minnesota Statue 216I.09.² Xcel Energy is requesting an amendment to shift a short segment of the approved transmission line route in Redwood County south to instead follow an approximately 2.5-mile portion along the north side of County Road 4. For this amended segment, Xcel Energy is proposing a 200 foot route width and a 150 foot right-of-way.

¹ Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, *Ordering Modifying and Adopting Administrative Law Judge Report, Granting Certificate of Need, and Issuing Route Permit for the Minnesota Energy Connection Project*, June 11, 2025, eDockets No. [20256-219823-01](#)

² Xcel Energy, *Route Permit Amendment to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for the Minnesota Energy Connection Project*, November, 24, 2025, eDockets No. [202511-225238-01](#) (Hereinafter Route Permit Amendment Request or RPAR)

As explained by Xcel Energy, the changes are intended to:

- 1) Avoid wetland drainages
- 2) Avoid shallow agricultural drainage tile outlets
- 3) Reduce tree clearing
- 4) Accommodate a landowner's planned agricultural erosion-control berms

On December 4, 2025, the Commission issued a notice soliciting comments on the on the route permit amendment application.³ The Commission identified the following topics for comment:

- 1) Should the Commission amend the route permit as requested by Xcel Energy?
- 2) If the route permit amendment is authorized, what additional conditions, if any, should the Commission impose?
- 3) Are there other issues or concerns related to this matter?

Regulatory Process and Procedures

Under Minn. Stat. § 216I.09, the owner of a large energy infrastructure facility may request to modify any provision or condition of a site or route permit issued by the Commission. Applicants requesting an amendment must describe the alteration to be made or the amendment sought and must describe any changes to the environmental impacts evaluated by the Commission as part of the initial permit approval. After a public comment period, the Commission must decide whether to authorize a requested permit amendment or determine that some other action is required. The Commission may impose reasonable conditions on any amendment it authorizes.

The text of Minn. Stat. § 216I.09 does not provide guidance for the Commission as to when a permit amendment should be authorized. The route permit for the Minnesota Energy Connection project (project) includes guidance for changes to the anticipated alignment of the project within the designated route. Section 4 of the permit reads, in part:

Any right-of-way or alignment modifications within the Designated Route shall be located so as to have comparable overall impacts relative to the factors in Minn. R. 7850.4100, as does the right-of-way and alignment identified in this route permit, and shall be specifically identified and documented in and approved as part of the plan and profile submitted pursuant to Section 9.2 of this route permit.⁴

This guidance – comparable overall impacts relative to the factors in Minn. R. 7850.4100 – is applicable to changes in the anticipated alignment within the designated route. EIP staff believes that it would be

³ Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, *Notice of Comment Period on Route Permit Amendment Application*, December, 4, 2025, eDockets No. [202512-225525-01](#)

⁴ Route Permit, Minnesota Energy Connection Project, pg. 5, Section 4 – Right-Of-Way, June 11, 2025, eDockets No. [20256-219826-01](#)

appropriate to use this guidance (or something similar) to evaluate entirely new routes and alignments. Accordingly, EIP staff uses this guidance in evaluating Xcel Energy’s proposed permit amendment.

EIP Staff Analysis and Comments

EIP staff have reviewed the permit amendment request and provides the following analysis and comments in response to the Commission’s notice. Staff notes that Xcel Energy’s proposed amended route was not analyzed as an alternative route option in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prepared for this project.⁵ Thus, analysis and comments here are based on Xcel Energy’s permit amendment request.

Human Settlement Impacts

EIP staff believes that Xcel Energy’s proposed amended route will increase impacts to human settlements in the project area, particularly with respect to aesthetic and property values.

Xcel Energy notes that the amended route will not result in additional residences within 500 feet of the proposed amended alignment.⁶ However, for purposes of analyzing certain impacts of the project, 500 feet is not a relevant distance. The EIS for the project describes the regions of influence (ROI) for specific project impacts.⁷ The ROI for aesthetic impacts and for property value impacts is noted in the EIS as the “local vicinity,” which is defined as “within 1,600 feet of the anticipated alignment.”⁸

The proposed amended route will bring three, new residences within this 1,600 feet ROI (Table 1, Map 1). Thus, there will be new aesthetic and property value impacts for these residences. Impacts that would not occur along the permitted route.

Table 1. Additional Residences with 1,600 Foot ROI⁹

Residence	Distance from Alignment of Permitted Route (feet)	Distance from Alignment of Amended Route (feet)
A	1,900	700
B	3,400	800
C	3,500	900

⁵ Minnesota Department of Commerce, Energy Environmental Review and Analysis, *EIS Main Text*, January 22, 2025, eDockets No. [20251-214220-01](https://puc.eip.mn.gov/web/project/15000) (Hereinafter EIS)

⁶ RPAR, pg. 5, Section 3.1 Human Settlement -Proximity to Residences

⁷ EIS, pg. 74, Section 5.1.2 Regions of Influence

⁸ EIS, pg. 75, Table 5-1 – Regions of Influence

⁹ Distances in the table were determined using MN Energy Connection WebView GIS mapping tool which can be found on the Commission’s Website, accessed December 16, 2025, <https://puc.eip.mn.gov/web/project/15000>.

Xcel Energy notes that “passersby on County Road 4 will likely not observe a change to the viewshed resulting from the project based on the proximity of the proposed amended route to existing distribution line structures.”¹⁰ EIP staff disagrees with this characterization. Though there may be existing distribution lines along County Road 4, staff believes that new 345 kV transmission line structures would significantly change the viewshed along this segment of County Road 4 and would result in aesthetic impacts along this segment that would not occur with the permitted route.

Public Health Impacts

Xcel Energy’s proposed amended route moves the route south to traverse an additional 2 miles on the north side of County Road 4. EIP staff agrees with Xcel Energy that the proposed amended route does not change the voltage, current, or number of proposed transmission lines associated with the project.¹¹ However, amending the location of the route alters the resources that could be impacted.

The ROI for electric and magnetic fields (EMF) is the right-of-way (ROW). The ROW for the project is 150 feet – 75 feet on each side of the transmission line. Potential EMF impacts can be minimized by placing the line away from residences and adhering to electric field standards for transmission lines.¹² EIP staff notes that the proposed amended route would place the line nearer to residences and to the users of County Road 4. The EIS finds that potential impacts due to EMF from the project are anticipated to be minimal.¹³ This said, potential EMF impacts associated with the proposed amended route, though minimal, will differ from those of the permitted route.

Environmental Impacts

EIP staff believes that Xcel Energy’s proposed amended route will slightly decrease impacts to environmental resources in the project area, particularly with respect to vegetation and tree clearing.

Xcel Energy performed a review of the National Wetland Inventory as well as a desktop wetland review and confirmed there are three wetland crossings located within the right-of-way of the proposed amended route and six wetland crossing associated with the permitted route.¹⁴ Further, Xcel Energy notes that the proposed amended route would have an impact on an additional 0.3 acres of surface waters and wetlands.¹⁵

¹⁰ RPAR pg. 3, Section 3.1 Aesthetics

¹¹ RPAR, pg. 5, Section 3.3 Public Health and Safety – Electromagnetic Fields and Stary Voltage

¹² EIS, pg. 118, Section 5.3.1 Electric Magnetic Fields (EMF)

¹³ Id. (“Impacts to human health from possible exposure to EMFs are not anticipated. The HVTL would be constructed to maintain proper safety clearances and the substations would not be accessible to the public. EMF associated with the project are below Commission permit requirements, and state and international guidelines. Potential impacts would be long-term and localized. These unavoidable impacts would be of a small size and can be mitigated.”)

¹⁴ RPAR, pg. 8, Section 3.10.2.2 Surface Water and Wetlands

¹⁵ Though noting these impacts as “negligible”

In comparison to the permitted route, the proposed amended route will result in a reduction of 3.2 acres of upland forest clearing.¹⁶ It is unclear to EIP staff what percentage reduction this acreage represents.

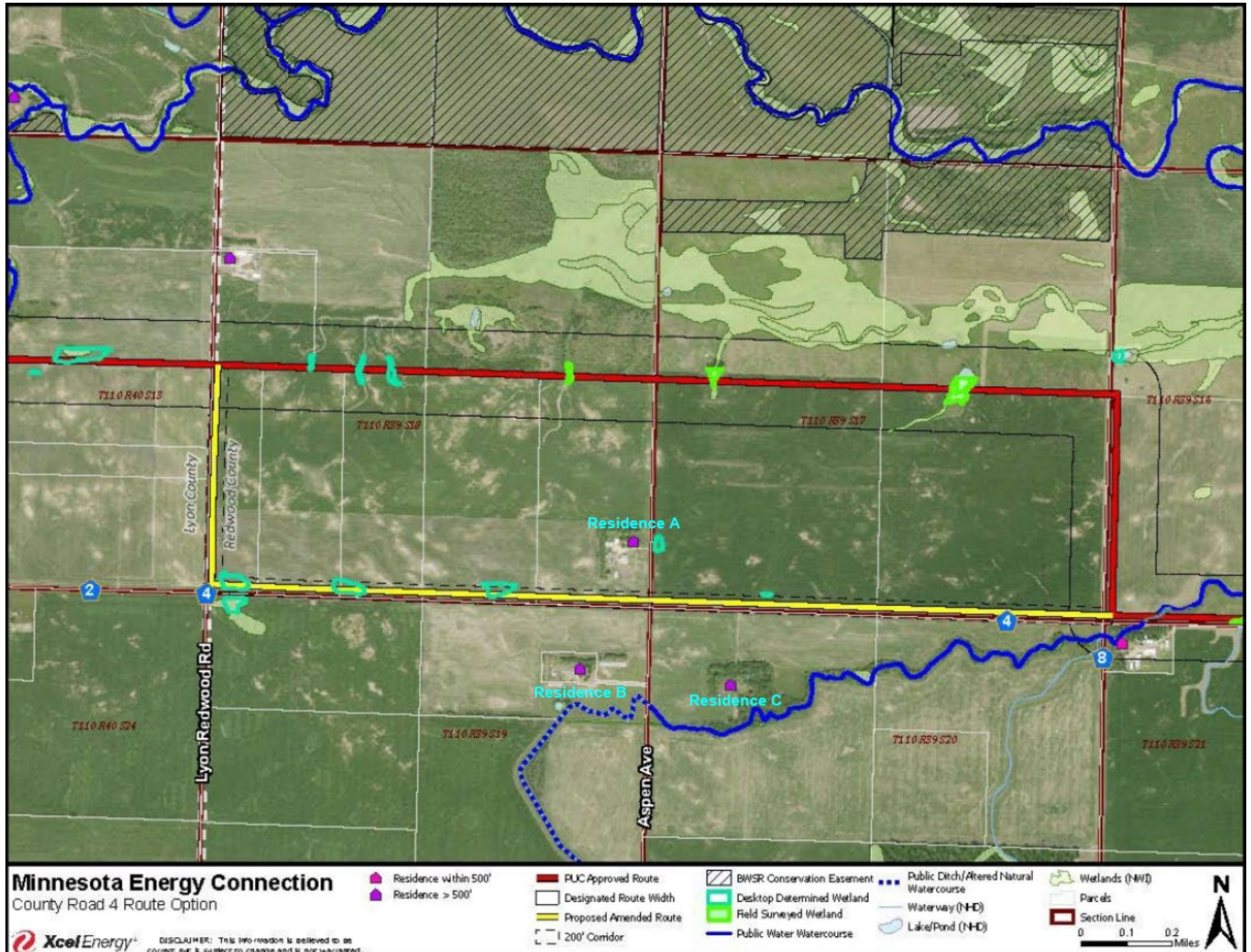
EIP Staff Recommendations

Based on the above analysis, EIP staff believes that the proposed amended route would increase aesthetic and property value impacts of the project and would decrease environmental impacts of the project specifically related to tree clearing. If the Commission believes that the proposed amended route has comparable overall impacts relative to the factors in Minn. R. 7850.4100, then staff believes the Commission should authorize the permit amendment. If not, staff believes the Commission should deny the permit amendment.

Staff notes that of the four rationales provided for the permit amendment, three of them – avoiding wetland drainages, avoiding drain tile outlets, and accommodating erosion control berm – appear to be addressable by prudent structure placement along the permitted route. Staff believes that the fourth rationale, tree clearing, is marginally addressed by structure placement and depends to a much greater extent on the route selected for the project in this area.

¹⁶ RPAR, pgs. 8-9 Section 3.10.4 Vegetation

Map 1. Proposed Amended Route¹



¹ Adapted from Xcel's RPAR, Map 1 Proposed Amended Route, but modified to designate Residences A, B, and C

STATE OF MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

**AMENDED ROUTE PERMIT FOR THE
MINNESOTA ENERGY CONNECTION PROJECT**

A HIGH-VOLTAGE TRANSMISSION LINE AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES

IN

SHERBURNE, STEARNS, KANDIYOHI, MEEKER, RENVILLE, REDWOOD, AND LYON COUNTIES

ISSUED TO

NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY D/B/A XCEL ENERGY

PUC DOCKET NO. E-002/TL-22-132

In accordance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 216E and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7850 this route permit is hereby issued to:

Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy

Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy (Permittee) is authorized by this route permit to construct and operate approximately 176 miles of 345-kilovolt double-circuit high-voltage transmission line and associated facilities.

The high-voltage transmission line and associated facilities shall be built within the route identified in this route permit and as portrayed on the route maps and in compliance with the conditions specified in this route permit.

Approved and adopted this 24th day of April, 2026

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION



Sasha Bergman,
Executive Secretary

CONTENTS

1	ROUTE PERMIT	1
1.1	Pre-emption.....	1
2	TRANSMISSION FACILITY DESCRIPTION.....	1
2.1	Structures	1
2.2	Conductors	2
2.1	Substations and Associated Facilities	2
3	DESIGNATED ROUTE	3
3.1	Special Expanded Route Width A (Saint Augusta Area).....	4
3.2	Special Expanded Route Width B (Kenwood Avenue Area)	4
3.3	Special Expanded Route Width C (Minnesota River Crossing Area)	4
4	RIGHT-OF-WAY	5
4.1	Special Alignment A	5
4.2	Special Alignment B	5
4.3	Special Alignment C	6
5	GENERAL CONDITIONS	6
5.1	Route Permit Distribution.....	6
5.2	Access to Property	6
5.3	Construction and Operation Practices.....	6
5.3.1	Field Representative	7
5.3.2	Employee Training - Route Permit Terms and Conditions	7
5.3.3	Independent Third-Party Monitoring.....	7
5.3.4	Public Services, Public Utilities, and Existing Easements	7
5.3.5	Temporary Workspace.....	8
5.3.6	Noise	8
5.3.7	Aesthetics.....	8
5.3.8	Soil Erosion and Sediment Control.....	9
5.3.9	Wetlands and Water Resources.....	9
5.3.10	Vegetation Management	10
5.3.11	Application of Pesticides	10
5.3.12	Invasive Species	10
5.3.13	Noxious Weeds	11
5.3.14	Roads.....	11
5.3.15	Archaeological and Historic Resources	11

	5.3.16 Avian Protection.....	12
	5.3.17 Restoration.....	12
	5.3.18 Cleanup	12
	5.3.19 Pollution and Hazardous Wastes	12
	5.3.20 Damages.....	13
5.4	Electrical Performance Standards.....	13
	5.4.1 Grounding	13
	5.4.2 Electric Field	13
	5.4.3 Interference with Communication Devices.....	13
5.5	Other Requirements	14
	5.5.1 Safety Codes and Design Requirements	14
	5.5.2 Other Permits and Regulations	14
6	SPECIAL CONDITIONS	14
6.1	Tribal Monitoring.....	15
6.2	Calcareous Fens	15
6.3	Vegetation Clearing Before Construction	15
6.4	City of Saint Augusta.....	16
6.5	Substation Construction	16
6.6	Public Safety Emergency Response Plan	16
6.7	Groundwater	16
6.8	Protected Species	16
6.9	Lighting	17
6.10	Dust Control.....	17
6.11	Decommissioning Plan.....	17
6.12	Distribution Line Co-location	17
6.13	Labor Statistic Reporting	17
6.14	Prevailing Wage	18
7	DELAY IN CONSTRUCTION	18
8	COMPLAINT PROCEDURES.....	18
9	COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS	19
9.1	Pre-Construction Meeting	19
9.2	Plan and Profile.....	19
9.3	Status Reports	20
9.4	In-Service Date.....	20

9.5	As-Builts	20
9.6	GPS Data	20
9.7	Right of Entry	20
10	ROUTE PERMIT AMENDMENT	21
11	TRANSFER OF ROUTE PERMIT	21
12	REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF ROUTE PERMIT	22

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Complaint Handling Procedures for Permitted Energy Facilities

Attachment 2 – Compliance Filing Procedures for Permitted Energy Facilities

Attachment 3 – Route Permit Maps

1 ROUTE PERMIT

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) hereby issues this route permit to Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy (Permittee) pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 216E and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7850. This route permit authorizes the Permittee to construct and operate a 345-kilovolt double-circuit high-voltage transmission line and associated facilities as identified in the attached route maps, hereby incorporated into this document (Minnesota Energy Connection Project, henceforth known as Transmission Facility).

1.1 Pre-emption

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216E.10, this route permit shall be the sole route approval required for construction of the transmission facilities and this route permit shall supersede and preempt all zoning, building, or land use rules, regulations, or ordinances promulgated by regional, county, local and special purpose governments.

2 TRANSMISSION FACILITY DESCRIPTION

The transmission facility includes the construction and operation of approximately 176 miles of new 345-kilovolt double-circuit high-voltage transmission line and associated facilities, including modifications to existing substations and construction of a terminal substation (Garvin Substation), an intermediate substation, and a voltage support substation, as identified in the attached route maps.

2.1 Structures

The structure types as described in the Permittee’s route permit application are detailed in the table below.

Line Type	Structure		Foundation Diameter (feet)	Structure Height (feet)	Average Span Between Structures (feet)
	Type	Material			
345-kilovolt Double-Circuit, Tangent, Small and Medium Angles	Monopole with Davit Arms	Weathering Steel	7-10	90-160	1,000

Line Type	Structure		Foundation Diameter (feet)	Structure Height (feet)	Average Span Between Structures (feet)
	Type	Material			
345-kilovolt Double-Circuit, Large Angle and Dead-End	Two Poles with Davit Arms	Weathering Steel	Up to 12	90-160	1,000

2.2 Conductors

Conductor types may include:

- a double-bundled (twisted-pair) 2x636 kcmil aluminum conductor steel reinforced or similar performance with a capacity of 3,000 amps or greater.

2.1 Substations and Associated Facilities

The associated facilities authorized by this Route Permit include:

- Expansion of the existing Sherco Solar West Substation and modifications to both the Sherco Solar West Substation and the existing Sherco Substation, including the installation of new substation equipment such as: breakers, switches, continuously variable transmissions (CVTs), arresters, and bus work.
- Construction of an approximately 30-acre voltage support substation, including the installation of a Series Capacitor, one 150-megavolt amp reactive power (MVAR) static synchronous compensator (STATCOM) system per line, appropriate voltage support equipment, and construction of a control building and an access road.
- Construction of an approximately 20-acre intermediate substation with a control building and an access road.
- Construction of an approximately 40-acre terminal substation (Garvin Substation), including the installation of two 116/-58 MVAR STATCOMS, shunt reactors, breakers, switches, CVTs, arresters, bus work, and construction of a control building and an access road.

3 DESIGNATED ROUTE

The route and route widths designated by the Commission are summarized below and shown on the detailed route maps attached to this route permit (Designated Route). The Designated Route can be summarized as follows:

The northernmost endpoint of the route begins at the existing Sherco Solar West Substation near the city of Becker, Minnesota, and proceeds southwest for approximately 176 miles through Sherburne, Stearns, Kandiyohi, Meeker, Renville, Redwood, and Lyon counties ending at the southernmost endpoint, a new Garvin Substation near the town of Garvin, Minnesota.

The Designated Route generally has an authorized route width of 1,000 feet with areas of reduced or expanded route width as identified in the table below.

Area	Route Width	Approximate Length of Route (mile)	Route Map Number(s) in Attachment 3
Sherco to Sherco Solar West Substations	150 feet	3.14	Map 1
Voltage Support Substation	1.25 mile	15.70	Maps 25 to 31
Intermediate Substation 1	1.25 mile	5.30	Maps 59 to 61
Intermediate Substation 2	1.01 mile	2.86	Maps 56 to 58
Garvin Substation	0.48 mile	---	Map 68
Conservation Easement	0.80 mile	1.92	Map 45
Special Expanded Route Width A	2,000 feet	1.05	Map 7
Special Expanded Route Width B	3,200 feet	1.00	Map 50
Special Expanded Route Width C	Variable 3,000-4,000 feet	2.46	Maps 44 and 45

The Designated Route includes an anticipated alignment and a right-of-way. The right-of-way is the physical land needed for the safe operation of the transmission line. The Permittee shall locate the alignment and associated right-of-way within the Designated Route unless otherwise authorized by this route permit or the Commission. The Designated Route provides the Permittee with flexibility for minor adjustments of the alignment and right-of-way to accommodate landowner requests and unforeseen conditions.

Any modifications to the Designated Route or modifications that would result in right-of-way placement outside the Designated Route shall be specifically reviewed by the Commission in accordance with Minn. R. 7850.4900 and Section 10 of this route permit.

3.1 Special Expanded Route Width A (Saint Augusta Area)

The route width shall be expanded an additional 1,000 feet southeast from the corner of the route at the intersection of 228th Street and County Road 7 where the route turns south along Country Road 7 to allow greater flexibility in determining an appropriate transmission alignment (Attachment 3, Map 7).

3.2 Special Expanded Route Width B (Kenwood Avenue Area)

The route width shall be expanded an additional 2,200 feet east from Kenwood Avenue where the route follows Kenwood Avenue north from 310th Street, for the purpose of identifying an alternative alignment along the field line to mitigate impacts on the homestead at 31252 Kenwood Avenue and that reduces environmental and human impacts (Attachment 3, Map 50).

The Permittee shall consult with the affected townships, BWSR, DNR and the affected landowners, and shall file with the Commission the results of the consultations and any modifications to the transmission line alignment that have been mutually agreed to within the expanded route width.

3.3 Special Expanded Route Width C (Minnesota River Crossing Area)

The approved route width shall be expanded (1) an additional 2,500 feet east starting at County Road 19 and south across the Minnesota River Valley; (2) an additional 3,500 feet south along the approved route between the Minnesota River Valley and Porter Avenue; and (3) east from Porter Avenue to include all of the property owned by Cletus Gewerth and the residence east of Porter Avenue, for the purpose of identifying an alternative alignment that reduces environmental, cultural, historical and human impacts (Attachment 3, Maps 44 and 45).

The Permittee shall consult with the Lower Sioux Indian Community (specifically their leaders responsible for tribal historic preservation, land management, and natural resources), affected townships, BWSR (specifically those responsible for managing conservation easements in the area), DNR, and the affected landowners concerning the transmission line alignment in this area. This includes assessing whether triple-circuiting with the existing 69-kilovolt transmission line or employing H-frame structures would increase or decrease impacts in the area. The Permittee shall file with the Commission the results of the consultations and any mutually agreed modifications to the transmission line alignment within the expanded route width.

4 RIGHT-OF-WAY

This route permit authorizes the Permittee to obtain a new permanent right-of-way for the transmission line up to 150 feet in width. In certain locations, a wider right-of-way may be required due to site-specific conditions, specialty structures, or both. The permanent right-of-way is typically 75 feet on both sides of the transmission line measured from its centerline or alignment.

The anticipated alignment is intended to minimize potential impacts relative to the criteria identified in Minn. R. 7850.4100. The final alignment must generally conform to the anticipated alignment identified on the route maps unless changes are requested by individual landowners and agreed to by the Permittee or for unforeseen conditions that are encountered or as otherwise provided for by this route permit.

Any right-of-way or alignment modifications within the Designated Route shall be located so as to have comparable overall impacts relative to the factors in Minn. R. 7850.4100, as does the right-of-way and alignment identified in this route permit, and shall be specifically identified and documented in and approved as part of the plan and profile submitted pursuant to Section 9.2 of this route permit.

Where the transmission line parallels existing highway and other road rights-of-way, the transmission line right-of-way shall occupy and utilize the existing right-of-way to the maximum extent possible; consistent with the criteria in Minn. R. 7850.4100, and the other requirements of this route permit; and for highways under the jurisdiction of the Minnesota Department of Transportation, the procedures for accommodating utilities in trunk highway rights-of-way.

4.1 Special Alignment A

The east-west alignment of the transmission line in Redwood County shall be placed on the south side of Highway 68 starting at the intersection of County Highway 7 and State Highway 68 and extending west for approximately 1.5 miles (Attachment 3, Map 56).

4.2 Special Alignment B

The east-west alignment of the transmission line in Stearns County shall be placed on the south side of 135th Street between 108th Avenue and 113th Avenue (Attachment 3, Map 13).

4.3 Special Alignment C

The transmission alignment along County Road 7 in Stearns County shall be modified to cross over the road to the opposite sides of homesteads and the daycare along that section of the route (Attachment 3, Maps 7 and 8).

5 GENERAL CONDITIONS

The Permittee shall comply with the following conditions during construction and operation of the Transmission Facility over the life of this route permit.

5.1 Route Permit Distribution

Within 30 days of issuance of this route permit, the Permittee shall provide all affected landowners with a copy of this route permit, the complaint procedures, the contact information of the designated land agents of the Permittee assigned to the respective landowners, and the contact information of the senior land agent of the Permittee. An affected landowner is any landowner or designee that is within or adjacent to the Designated Route. In no case shall a landowner receive this route permit and complaint procedures less than five days prior to the start of construction on their property. The Permittee shall also provide a copy of this route permit and the complaint procedures to the applicable regional development commissions, county environmental offices, and city and township clerks. The Permittee shall file with the Commission an affidavit of its route permit and complaint procedures distribution within 30 days of issuance of this route permit.

5.2 Access to Property

The Permittee shall notify landowners prior to entering or conducting maintenance within their property, unless otherwise negotiated with the landowner. The Permittee shall keep records of compliance with this section and provide them upon the request of the Minnesota Department of Commerce (Commerce) or Commission staff.

5.3 Construction and Operation Practices

The Permittee shall comply with the construction practices, operation and maintenance practices, and material specifications described in the permitting record for this Transmission Facility unless this route permit establishes a different requirement in which case this route permit shall prevail.

5.3.1 Field Representative

The Permittee shall designate a field representative responsible for overseeing compliance with the conditions of this route permit during construction of the Transmission Facility. This person shall be accessible by telephone or other means during normal business hours throughout site preparation, construction, cleanup, and restoration.

The Permittee shall file with the Commission the name, address, email, phone number, and emergency phone number of the field representative at least 14 days prior to the pre-construction meeting. The Permittee shall provide the field representative's contact information to affected landowners, local government units and other interested persons at least 14 days prior to the pre-construction meeting. The Permittee may change the field representative at any time upon notice to the Commission, affected landowners, local government units and other interested persons. The Permittee shall file with the Commission an affidavit of distribution of its field representative's contact information at least 14 days prior to the pre-construction meeting and upon changes to the field representative.

5.3.2 Employee Training - Route Permit Terms and Conditions

The Permittee shall train all employees, contractors, and other persons involved in the Transmission Facility construction regarding the terms and conditions of this route permit. The Permittee shall keep records of compliance with this section and provide them upon the request of Commerce or Commission staff.

5.3.3 Independent Third-Party Monitoring

Prior to any construction, the Permittee shall propose a scope of work and identify an independent third-party monitor to conduct Project construction monitoring on behalf of the Department of Commerce. The scope of work shall be developed in consultation with and approved by the Department of Commerce. This third-party monitor will report directly to and will be under the control of the Department of Commerce with costs borne by the Permittee. Commerce staff shall keep records of compliance with this section and will ensure that status reports detailing the construction monitoring are filed with the Commission in accordance with scope of work approved by the Department of Commerce.

5.3.4 Public Services, Public Utilities, and Existing Easements

During Transmission Facility construction, the Permittee shall minimize any disruption to public services or public utilities. To the extent disruptions to public services or public utilities occur these shall be temporary, and the Permittee shall restore service promptly. Where any impacts to utilities have the potential to occur the Permittee will work with both landowners and local

entities to determine the most appropriate mitigation measures if not already considered as part of this route permit.

The Permittee shall cooperate with county and city road authorities to develop appropriate signage and traffic management during construction. The Permittee shall keep records of compliance with this section and provide them upon the request of Commerce or Commission staff.

5.3.5 Temporary Workspace

The Permittee shall limit temporary easements to special construction access needs and additional staging or lay-down areas required outside of the authorized right-of-way. Temporary space shall be selected to limit the removal and impacts to vegetation. The Permittee shall obtain temporary easements outside of the authorized transmission line right-of-way from affected landowners through rental agreements. Temporary easements are not provided for in this route permit.

The Permittee may construct temporary driveways between the roadway and the structures to minimize impact using the shortest route feasible. The Permittee shall use construction mats to minimize impacts on access paths and construction areas. The Permittee shall submit the location of temporary workspaces and driveways with the plan and profile pursuant to Section 9.2.

5.3.6 Noise

The Permittee shall comply with noise standards established under Minn. R. 7030.0010 to 7030.0080. The Permittee shall limit construction and maintenance activities to daytime working hours to the extent practicable.

5.3.7 Aesthetics

The Permittee shall consider input pertaining to visual impacts from landowners or land management agencies prior to final location of structures, rights-of-way, and other areas with the potential for visual disturbance. The Permittee shall use care to preserve the natural landscape, minimize tree removal and prevent any unnecessary destruction of the natural surroundings in the vicinity of the Transmission Facility during construction and maintenance. The Permittee shall work with landowners to locate the high-voltage transmission line to minimize the loss of agricultural land, forest, and wetlands, and to avoid homes and farmsteads. The Permittee shall place structures at a distance, consistent with sound engineering principles and system reliability criteria, from intersecting roads, highways, or trail crossings.

5.3.8 Soil Erosion and Sediment Control

The Permittee shall implement those erosion prevention and sediment control practices recommended by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Construction Stormwater Program. If construction of the Transmission Facility disturbs more than one acre of land or is sited in an area designated by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency as having potential for impacts to water resources, the Permittee shall obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System/State Disposal System Construction Stormwater Permit from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency that provides for the development of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan that describes methods to control erosion and runoff.

The Permittee shall implement reasonable measures to minimize erosion and sedimentation during construction and shall employ perimeter sediment controls, protect exposed soil by promptly planting, seeding, using erosion control blankets and turf reinforcement mats, stabilizing slopes, protecting storm drain inlets, protecting soil stockpiles, and controlling vehicle tracking. Contours shall be graded as required so that all surfaces provide for proper drainage, blend with the natural terrain, and are left in a condition that will facilitate re-vegetation and prevent erosion. All areas disturbed during construction of the Transmission Facility shall be returned to pre-construction conditions.

5.3.9 Wetlands and Water Resources

The Permittee shall develop wetland impact avoidance measures and implement them during construction of the Transmission Facility. Measures shall include spacing and placing the power poles at variable distances to span and avoid wetlands, watercourses, and floodplains. Unavoidable wetland impacts as a result of the placement of poles shall be limited to the immediate area around the poles. To minimize impacts, the Permittee shall construct in wetland areas during frozen ground conditions where practicable and according to permit requirements by the applicable permitting authority. When construction during winter is not possible, the Permittee shall use wooden or composite mats to protect wetland vegetation.

The Permittee shall contain soil excavated from the wetlands and riparian areas and not place it back into the wetland or riparian area. The Permittee shall access wetlands and riparian areas using the shortest route feasible in order to minimize travel through wetland areas and prevent unnecessary impacts. The Permittee shall not place staging or stringing set up areas within or adjacent to wetlands or water resources, as practicable. The Permittee shall assemble power pole structures on upland areas before they are brought to the site for installation.

The Permittee shall restore wetland and water resource areas disturbed by construction activities to pre-construction conditions in accordance with the requirements of applicable state and federal permits or laws and landowner agreements.

The Permittee shall meet all requirements of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and local units of government.

5.3.10 Vegetation Management

The Permittee shall minimize the number of trees to be removed in selecting the right-of-way specifically preserving to the maximum extent practicable windbreaks, shelterbelts, living snow fences, and vegetation in areas such as trail and stream crossings where vegetative screening may minimize aesthetic impacts, to the extent that such actions do not violate sound engineering principles or system reliability criteria.

The Permittee shall remove tall growing species located within the transmission line right-of-way that endanger the safe and reliable operation of the transmission line. The Permittee shall leave undisturbed, to the extent possible, existing low growing species in the right-of-way or replant such species in the right-of-way to blend the difference between the right-of-way and adjacent areas, to the extent that the low growing vegetation that will not pose a threat to the transmission line or impede construction.

5.3.11 Application of Pesticides

The Permittee shall restrict pesticide use to those pesticides and methods of application approved by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Selective foliage or basal application shall be used when practicable. All pesticides shall be applied in a safe and cautious manner so as not to damage adjacent properties including crops, orchards, tree farms, apiaries, or gardens. The Permittee shall contact the landowner at least 14 days prior to pesticide application on their property. The Permittee may not apply any pesticide if the landowner requests that there be no application of pesticides within the landowner's property. The Permittee shall provide notice of pesticide application to landowners and beekeepers operating Minnesota Department of Agriculture-registered apiaries within three miles of the pesticide application area at least 14 days prior to such application. The Permittee shall use the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Apiary Registry (<https://mn.beecheck.org/map>) to identify apiaries for purposes of compliance with this condition. The Permittee shall keep pesticide communication and application records and provide them upon the request of Commerce or Commission staff.

5.3.12 Invasive Species

The Permittee shall employ best management practices to avoid the potential introduction and spread of invasive species on lands disturbed by Transmission Facility construction activities. The Permittee shall develop an Invasive Species Prevention Plan and file it with the Commission

at least 14 days prior to the pre-construction meeting. The Permittee shall comply with the most recently filed Invasive Species Prevention Plan.

5.3.13 Noxious Weeds

The Permittee shall take all reasonable precautions against the spread of noxious weeds during all phases of construction. When utilizing seed to establish temporary and permanent vegetative cover on exposed soil the Permittee shall select site appropriate seed certified to be free of noxious weeds. To the extent possible, the Permittee shall use native seed mixes. The Permittee shall keep records of compliance with this section and provide them upon the request of Commerce or Commission staff.

5.3.14 Roads

The Permittee shall advise the appropriate governing bodies having jurisdiction over all state, county, city, or township roads that will be used during the construction phase of the Transmission Facility. Where practical, existing roadways shall be used for all activities associated with construction of the Transmission Facility. Oversize or overweight loads associated with the Transmission Facility shall not be hauled across public roads without required permits and approvals.

The Permittee shall construct the fewest number of site access roads required. Access roads shall not be constructed across streams and drainage ways without the required permits and approvals. Access roads shall be constructed in accordance with all necessary township, county or state road requirements and permits.

The Permittee shall promptly repair private roads or lanes damaged when moving equipment or when accessing construction workspace, unless otherwise negotiated with the affected landowner.

5.3.15 Archaeological and Historic Resources

The Permittee shall make every effort to avoid impacts to archaeological and historic resources when constructing the Transmission Facility. In the event that a resource is encountered, the Permittee shall consult with the State Historic Preservation Office and the State Archaeologist. Where feasible, avoidance of the resource is required. Where not feasible, mitigation must include an effort to minimize Transmission Facility impacts on the resource consistent with State Historic Preservation Office and State Archaeologist requirements.

Prior to construction, the Permittee shall train workers about the need to avoid cultural properties, how to identify cultural properties, and procedures to follow if undocumented

cultural properties, including gravesites, are found during construction. If human remains are encountered during construction, the Permittee shall immediately halt construction and promptly notify local law enforcement and the State Archaeologist. The Permittee shall not resume construction at such location until authorized by local law enforcement or the State Archaeologist. The Permittee shall keep records of compliance with this section and provide them upon the request of Commerce or Commission staff.

5.3.16 Avian Protection

The Permittee in cooperation with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources shall identify areas of the transmission line where bird flight diverters will be incorporated into the transmission line design to prevent large avian collisions attributed to visibility issues. Standard transmission design shall incorporate adequate spacing of conductors and grounding devices in accordance with Avian Power Line Interaction Committee standards to eliminate the risk of electrocution to raptors with larger wingspans that may simultaneously come in contact with a conductor and grounding devices. The Permittee shall submit documentation of its avian protection coordination with the plan and profile pursuant to Section 9.2.

5.3.17 Restoration

The Permittee shall restore the right-of-way, temporary workspaces, access roads, abandoned right-of-way, and other public or private lands affected by construction of the Transmission Facility. Restoration within the right-of-way must be compatible with the safe operation, maintenance, and inspection of the transmission line. Within 60 days after completion of all restoration activities, the Permittee shall file with the Commission a Notification of Restoration Completion.

5.3.18 Cleanup

The Permittee shall remove and properly dispose of all waste and scrap from the right-of-way and all premises on which construction activities were conducted upon completion of each task. The Permittee shall remove and properly dispose of all personal litter, including bottles, cans, and paper from construction activities on a daily basis.

5.3.19 Pollution and Hazardous Wastes

The Permittee shall take all appropriate precautions to protect against pollution of the environment. The Permittee shall be responsible for compliance with all laws applicable to the generation, storage, transportation, clean up and disposal of all wastes generated during construction and restoration of the right-of-way.

5.3.20 Damages

The Permittee shall fairly restore or compensate landowners for damage to crops, fences, private roads and lanes, landscaping, drain tile, or other damages sustained during construction. The Permittee shall keep records of compliance with this section and provide them upon the request of Commerce or Commission staff.

5.4 Electrical Performance Standards

5.4.1 Grounding

The Permittee shall design, construct, and operate the transmission line in a manner so that the maximum induced steady-state short-circuit current shall be limited to five milliamperes root mean square (rms) alternating current between the ground and any non-stationary object within the right-of-way, including but not limited to large motor vehicles and agricultural equipment. All fixed metallic objects on or off the right-of-way, except electric fences that parallel or cross the right-of-way, shall be grounded to the extent necessary to limit the induced short-circuit current between ground and the object so as not to exceed one milliamperes rms under steady state conditions of the transmission line and to comply with the ground fault conditions specified in the National Electric Safety Code. The Permittee shall address and rectify any induced current problems that arise during transmission line operation at its expense.

The Permittee shall provide education materials on appropriate grounding of structures and operation of equipment near the transmission line to all landowners with permanent metal structures and irrigation systems within 75 feet of the alignment. Content of the educational materials shall be developed in the Agricultural Impact Mitigation Plan and must include contact information for a representative of the Permittee who will work with landowners to address and rectify any induced current problems that arise because of transmission line operation.

5.4.2 Electric Field

The Permittee shall design, construct, and operate the transmission line in such a manner that the electric field measured one meter above ground level immediately below the transmission line shall not exceed 8.0 kV/m rms.

5.4.3 Interference with Communication Devices

If interference with radio or television, satellite, wireless internet, GPS-based agriculture navigation systems or other communication devices is caused by the presence or operation of

the Transmission Facility, the Permittee shall take whatever action is necessary to restore or provide reception equivalent to reception levels in the immediate area just prior to the construction of the Transmission Facility. The Permittee shall keep records of compliance with this section and provide them upon the request of Commerce or Commission staff.

5.5 Other Requirements

5.5.1 Safety Codes and Design Requirements

The Permittee shall design the transmission line and associated facilities to meet or exceed all relevant local and state codes, the National Electric Safety Code, and North American Electric Reliability Corporation requirements. This includes standards relating to clearances to ground, clearance to crossing utilities, clearance to buildings, strength of materials, clearances over roadways, right-of-way widths, and permit requirements.

5.5.2 Other Permits and Regulations

The Permittee shall comply with all applicable state rules and statutes. The Permittee shall obtain all required permits for the Transmission Facility and comply with the conditions of those permits unless those permits conflict with or are preempted by federal or state permits and regulations. The Permittee shall submit a copy of such permits upon the request of Commerce or Commission staff.

At least 14 days prior to the pre-construction meeting, the Permittee shall file with the Commission an Other Permits and Regulations Submittal that contains a detailed status of all permits, authorizations, and approvals that have been applied for specific to the Transmission Facility. The Other Permits and Regulations Submittal shall also include the permitting agency or authority, the name of the permit, authorization, or approval being sought, contact person and contact information for the permitting agency or authority, brief description of why the permit, authorization, or approval is needed, application submittal date, and the date the permit, authorization, or approval was issued or is anticipated to be issued.

6 SPECIAL CONDITIONS

The special conditions shall take precedence over other conditions of this permit should there be a conflict.

6.1 Tribal Monitoring

The Permittee is required to coordinate with the Lower Sioux Indian Community (Lower Sioux) and Bois Forte Band of Chippewa (Bois Forte) during preconstruction and construction activities that are within a buffer of 250 yards of known historical and culturally sensitive areas including, but not limited to, Site 21RW0001, and sites near the Minnesota River. Coordination efforts must include, but are not limited to, Tribal construction monitors. The Permittee must submit a filing at least 14 days before the preconstruction meeting detailing the coordination that took place between the Lower Sioux and Bois Forte. The Permittee must also describe the mitigation and routing strategies taken to avoid impacting culturally sensitive areas.

6.2 Calcareous Fens

The Permittee shall work with the DNR to determine if any impacts to calcareous fen will occur during any phase of the Project.

6.3 Vegetation Clearing Before Construction

If the Permittee will clear vegetation for any portion of the Transmission Facility prior to completion of the design necessary to provide a plan and profile contemplated under Section 9.2, the Permittee shall file with the Commission at least 14 days prior to such vegetation clearing activities:

- If applicable, any vegetation management plan that is applicable to any portion of the Transmission Facility being proposed for vegetation clearing;
- A map showing the area proposed for vegetation removal and its location within the Designated Route and compared to the right-of-way identified in this route permit;
- A statement of confirmation that the Permittee has obtained, or will obtain before commencing, necessary land rights and agency permits for the proposed vegetation removal. The required permits must be provided prior to vegetation clearing.
- The Permittee's plan for notifying landowners in the identified area(s) and for providing contact information for the Permittee's field representative; and
- If the Permittee has made any modifications to the right-of-way or alignment within the Designated Route from that identified in this route permit, the Permittee shall demonstrate that the right-of-way to be cleared of vegetation will be located so as to

have comparable overall impacts relative to the factors in Minn. R. 7850.4100, as does the right-of-way and alignment identified in this route permit.

6.4 City of Saint Augusta

The Permittee shall coordinate with the city of Saint Augusta to further understand the Project's potential impacts to the city's ongoing residential developments. Proof of this coordination shall be filed 14 days prior to the plan and profile submittal for this location.

6.5 Substation Construction

Notwithstanding any other requirements in this Route Permit, the Permittee may commence construction of the substations identified in Section 2.1 of this Route Permit, provided that Permittee complies, as applicable, with Sections 9.1 and 9.2 of this Route Permit with respect to the specific scope of the construction activities sought to be conducted by Permittee.

6.6 Public Safety Emergency Response Plan

The Permittee shall file a public version of its public safety emergency response plan 14 days prior to its last plan and profile submittal.

6.7 Groundwater

The Permittee shall conduct geotechnical evaluations prior to Project construction to identify locations where potential groundwater impacts could occur. If shallow depths to groundwater resources are identified during geotechnical design of the Project, the Permittee shall employ appropriate structures with wider, shallower foundations. These locations must be shown on the plan and profile submitted for the Project, and appropriate mitigation measures must be identified as part of the filing.

6.8 Protected Species

The Permittee shall coordinate with the DNR to avoid adverse impacts to protected species and implement appropriate, species-specific BMPs if project activities take place during any of the species' active seasons. Proof of this coordination shall be filed with the respective plan and profile submittal(s) for the Project.

6.9 Lighting

The Permittee shall utilize downward facing lighting on associated facilities. If LED lights are used, the Permittee shall follow MnDOT Approved Products for luminaries and a nominal color temperature below 2700K. If available, the Permittee shall choose products that have the lowest number for backlight and glare.

6.10 Dust Control

The Permittee shall not use dust control products that contain chlorides, to avoid the potential for chloride products accumulating to levels that are toxic to plants and wildlife.

6.11 Decommissioning Plan

The Permittee shall file a decommissioning plan or an explanation of why one is not appropriate 14 days prior to the last preconstruction meeting for the Project.

6.12 Distribution Line Co-location

The Permittee shall coordinate with distribution line owners to relocate existing distribution lines that would be in conflict with the Transmission Facility alignment and where relocation is technically feasible. In cases where it is technically feasible and will mitigate impacts on residences or irrigated fields, the Permittee shall work with distribution line owners to co-locate the distribution lines on the Permittee's structures.

6.13 Labor Statistic Reporting

The Permittee shall file quarterly Labor Statistic Reports with the Commission within 45 days of the end of the quarter regarding construction workers that participated in the construction of the Project. The Labor Statistic Reports shall:

- A. detail the Permittee's efforts and the site contractor's efforts to hire Minnesota workers; and
- B. provide an account of:
 - 1. the gross number of hours worked by or full-time equivalent workers who are Minnesota residents, as defined in Minn. Stat. § 290.01, subd. 7;

2. the gross number of hours worked by or full-time equivalent workers who are residents of other states, but maintain a permanent residence within 150 miles of the Project; and
3. the total gross hours worked or total full-time equivalent workers.

The Permittee shall work with its contractor to determine the suitable reporting metric. The report may not include personally identifiable data.

6.14 Prevailing Wage

The Permittee, its contractors, and subcontractors shall pay no less than the prevailing wage rate as defined in Minn. Stat. § 177.42 and shall be subject to the requirements and enforcement provisions under Minn. Stat. §§ 177.27, 177.30, 177.32, 177.41 to 177.435, and 177.45. The Permittee shall keep records of contractor and subcontractor pay and provide them at the request of Commerce or Commission staff.

7 DELAY IN CONSTRUCTION

If the Permittee has not commenced construction or improvement of the route within four years after the date of issuance of this route permit the Permittee shall file a Failure to Construct Report and the Commission shall consider suspension of this route permit in accordance with Minn. R. 7850.4700.

8 COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

At least 14 days prior to the pre-construction meeting, the Permittee shall file with the Commission the complaint procedures that will be used to receive and respond to complaints. The complaint procedures shall be in accordance with the requirements of Minn. R. 7829.1500 or Minn. R. 7829.1700, and as set forth in the complaint procedures attached to this route permit.

Upon request, the Permittee shall assist Commerce or Commission staff with the disposition of unresolved or longstanding complaints. This assistance shall include, but is not limited to, the submittal of complaint correspondence and complaint resolution efforts.

9 COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

Failure to timely and properly make compliance filings required by this route permit is a failure to comply with the conditions of this route permit. Compliance filings must be electronically filed with the Commission.

9.1 Pre-Construction Meeting

Prior to the start of construction, the Permittee shall participate in a pre-construction meeting with Commerce and Commission staff to review pre-construction filing requirements, scheduling, and to coordinate monitoring of construction and site restoration activities. Multiple pre-construction meetings and submissions under Section 9.2 are allowed. Within 14 days following the pre-construction meeting, the Permittee shall file with the Commission a summary of the topics reviewed and discussed and a list of attendees. The Permittee shall indicate in the filing the anticipated construction start date.

9.2 Plan and Profile

At least 14 days prior to the pre-construction meeting, the Permittee shall file with the Commission, and provide the Department of Commerce, and the counties where the Transmission Facility, or portion of the Transmission Facility, will be constructed with a plan and profile of the right-of-way and the specifications and drawings for right-of-way preparation, construction, structure specifications and locations, cleanup, and restoration for the Transmission Facility. The documentation shall include maps depicting the plan and profile including the right-of-way, alignment, and structures in relation to the route and alignment approved per this route permit.

The Permittee may not commence construction until the earlier of (i) 30 days after the pre-construction meeting or (ii) or until the Commission staff has notified the Permittee in writing that it has completed its review of the documents and determined that the planned construction is consistent with this route permit.

If the Commission notifies the Permittee in writing within 30 days after the pre-construction meeting that it has completed its review of the documents and planned construction, and finds that the planned construction is not consistent with this route permit, the Permittee may submit additional and/or revised documentation and may not commence construction until the Commission has notified the Permittee in writing that it has determined that the planned construction is consistent with this route permit.

If the Permittee intends to make any significant changes in its plan and profile or the specifications and drawings after submission to the Commission, the Permittee shall notify the Commission, the Department of Commerce, and county staff at least five days before implementing the changes. No changes shall be made that would be in violation of any of the terms of this route permit.

9.3 Status Reports

The Permittee shall file with the Commission monthly Construction Status Reports beginning with the pre-construction meeting and until completion of restoration. Construction Status Reports shall describe construction activities and progress, activities undertaken in compliance with this route permit, and shall include text and photographs.

If the Permittee does not commence construction of the Transmission Facility within six months of this route permit issuance, the Permittee shall file with the Commission Pre-Construction Status Reports on the anticipated timing of construction every six months beginning with the issuance of this route permit until the pre-construction meeting.

9.4 In-Service Date

At least three days before the Transmission Facility is to be placed into service, the Permittee shall notify the Commission of the date on which the Transmission Facility will be placed into service and the date on which construction was completed.

9.5 As-Builts

Within 90 days after completion of construction, the Permittee shall submit to the Commission copies of all final as-built plans and specifications developed during the Transmission Facility construction.

9.6 GPS Data

Within 90 days after completion of construction, the Permittee shall submit to the Commission, in the format requested by the Commission, geo-spatial information (e.g., ArcGIS compatible map files, GPS coordinates, associated database of characteristics) for all structures associated with the Transmission Facility and each substation connected.

9.7 Right of Entry

The Permittee shall allow Commission designated representatives to perform the following,

upon reasonable notice, upon presentation of credentials and at all times in compliance with the Permittee's site safety standards:

- (a) To enter upon the facilities easement of the property for the purpose of obtaining information, examining records, and conducting surveys or investigations.
- (b) To bring such equipment upon the facilities easement of the property as is necessary to conduct such surveys and investigations.
- (c) To sample and monitor upon the facilities easement of the property.
To examine and copy any documents pertaining to compliance with the conditions of this route permit.

10 ROUTE PERMIT AMENDMENT

This route permit may be amended at any time by the Commission. Any person may request an amendment of the conditions of this route permit by submitting a request to the Commission in writing describing the amendment sought and the reasons for the amendment. The Commission will mail notice of receipt of the request to the Permittee. The Commission may amend the conditions after affording the Permittee and interested persons such process as is required under Minn. R. 7850.4900.

11 TRANSFER OF ROUTE PERMIT

The Permittee may request at any time that the Commission transfer this route permit to another person or entity (transferee). In its request, the Permittee must provide the Commission with:

- (a) the name and description of the transferee;
- (b) the reasons for the transfer;
- (c) a description of the facilities affected; and
- (d) the proposed effective date of the transfer.

The transferee must provide the Commission with a certification that it has read, understands and is able to comply with the plans and procedures filed for the Transmission Facility and all conditions of this route permit. The Commission may authorize transfer of the route permit after affording the Permittee, the transferee, and interested persons such process as is required under Minn. R. 7850.5000.

12 REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF ROUTE PERMIT

The Commission may initiate action to revoke or suspend this route permit at any time. The Commission shall act in accordance with the requirements of Minn. R. 7850.5100, to revoke or suspend this route permit.

ATTACHMENT 1

Complaint Handling Procedures for Permitted Energy Facilities

**MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
COMPLAINT HANDLING PROCEDURES FOR
PERMITTED ENERGY FACILITIES**

A. Purpose

To establish a uniform and timely method of reporting and resolving complaints received by the permittee concerning permit conditions for site or route preparation, construction, cleanup, restoration, operation, and maintenance.

B. Scope

This document describes complaint reporting procedures and frequency.

C. Applicability

The procedures shall be used for all complaints received by the permittee and all complaints received by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) under Minn. R. 7829.1500 or Minn. R. 7829.1700 relevant to this permit.

D. Definitions

Complaint: A verbal or written statement presented to the permittee by a person expressing dissatisfaction or concern regarding site or route preparation, cleanup or restoration, or other permit conditions. Complaints do not include requests, inquiries, questions or general comments.

Substantial Complaint: A written complaint alleging a violation of a specific permit condition that, if substantiated, could result in permit modification or suspension pursuant to the applicable regulations.

Unresolved Complaint: A complaint which, despite the good faith efforts of the permittee and a person, remains unresolved or unsatisfactorily resolved to one or both of the parties.

Person: An individual, partnership, joint venture, private or public corporation, association, firm, public service company, cooperative, political subdivision, municipal corporation, government agency, public utility district, or any other entity, public or private; however organized.

E. Complaint Documentation and Processing

1. The permittee shall designate a representative responsible for filing complaints to the Commission's eDocket system. This person's name, phone number and email address shall accompany all complaint submittals. The name and contact information for the representative shall be kept current in eDockets.
2. A person presenting the complaint should, to the extent possible, include the following information in their communications:
 - a. name, address, phone number, and email address;
 - b. initial date of the complaint;
 - c. tract, parcel number, or address of the complaint;
 - d. a summary of the complaint; and
 - e. whether the complaint relates to a permit violation, a construction practice issue, or other type of complaint.
3. The permittee shall document all complaints by maintaining a record of all applicable information concerning the complaint, including the following:
 - a. docket number and project name;
 - b. name of complainant, address, phone number and email address;
 - c. precise description of property or parcel number;
 - d. name of permittee representative receiving complaint and date of receipt;
 - e. nature of complaint and the applicable permit condition(s);
 - f. summary of activities undertaken to resolve the complaint; and
 - g. a statement on the final disposition of the complaint.

F. Reporting Requirements

The permittee shall commence complaint reporting at the beginning of project construction and continue through the term of the permit, unless otherwise required below. The permittee shall report all complaints to the Commission according to the following schedule:

Immediate Reports: All substantial complaints shall be reported to the Commission the same day received, or on the following working day for complaints received after working hours. Such reports are to be directed to the Commission's Public Advisor at 1-800-657-3782 (voice messages are acceptable) or publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us. For e-mail reporting, the email

subject line should read “PUC EFP Complaint” and include the appropriate project docket number.

Monthly Reports: During project construction, restoration, and operation, a summary of all complaints, including substantial complaints received or resolved during the preceding month, shall be filed by the 15th of each month to Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary, Public Utilities Commission, using the eDockets system. The eDockets system is located at: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/home.jsp>. If no complaints were received during the preceding month, the permittee shall file a summary indicating that no complaints were received.

If a project has submitted twelve consecutive months of complaint reports with no complaints, monthly reports can terminate by a letter to eDockets notifying the Commission of such action. If a substantial complaint is received (by the company or the Commission) following termination of the monthly complaint report, as noted above, the monthly reporting should commence for a period of six months following the most recent complaint or upon resolution of all pending complaints.

If a permittee is found to be in violation of this section, the Commission may reinstate monthly complaint reporting for the remaining permit term or enact some other commensurate requirement via notification by the Executive Secretary or some other action as decided by the Commission.

G. Complaints Received by the Commission

Complaints received directly by the Commission from aggrieved persons regarding the permit or issues related to site or route preparation, construction, cleanup, restoration, or operation and maintenance will be promptly sent to the permittee.

The permittee shall notify the Commission when the issue has been resolved. The permittee will add the complaint to the monthly reports of all complaints. If the permittee is unable to find resolution, the Commission will use the process outlined in the Unresolved Complaints Section to process the issue.

H. Commission Process for Unresolved Complaints

Complaints raising substantial and unresolved permit issues will be investigated by the Commission. Staff will notify the permittee and appropriate people if it determines that the

complaint is a substantial complaint. With respect to such complaints, the permittee and complainant shall be required to submit a written summary of the complaint and its current position on the issues to the Commission. Staff will set a deadline for comments. As necessary, the complaint will be presented to the Commission for consideration.

I. Permittee Contacts for Complaints and Complaint Reporting

Complaints may be filed by mail or email to the permittee's designated complaint representative, or to the Commission's Public Advisor at 1-800-657-3782 or publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us. The name and contact information for the permittee's designated complaint representative shall be kept current in the Commission's eDocket system.

ATTACHMENT 2

Compliance Filing Procedures for Permitted Energy Facilities

**MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
COMPLIANCE FILING PROCEDURE FOR
PERMITTED ENERGY FACILITIES**

A. Purpose

To establish a uniform and timely method of submitting information required by Commission energy facility permits.

B. Scope and Applicability

This procedure encompasses all known compliance filings required by permit.

C. Definitions

Compliance Filing: A filing of information to the Commission, where the information is required by a Commission site or route permit.

D. Responsibilities

1. The permittee shall file all compliance filings with Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary, Public Utilities Commission, through the eDockets system. The eDockets system is located at:
<https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/home.jsp>

General instructions are provided on the eDockets website. Permittees must register on the website to file documents.

2. All filings must have a cover sheet that includes:
 - a. Date
 - b. Name of submitter/permittee
 - c. Type of permit (site or route)
 - d. Project location
 - e. Project docket number
 - f. Permit section under which the filing is made
 - g. Short description of the filing

3. Filings that are graphic intensive (e.g., maps, engineered drawings) must, in addition to being electronically filed, be submitted as paper copies and on CD. Paper copies and CDs should be sent to: 1) Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55101-2147, and 2) Department of Commerce, Energy Environmental Review and Analysis, 85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101-2198.

The Commission may request a paper copy of any electronically filed document.

PERMIT COMPLIANCE FILINGS¹

PERMITTEE:

PERMIT TYPE:

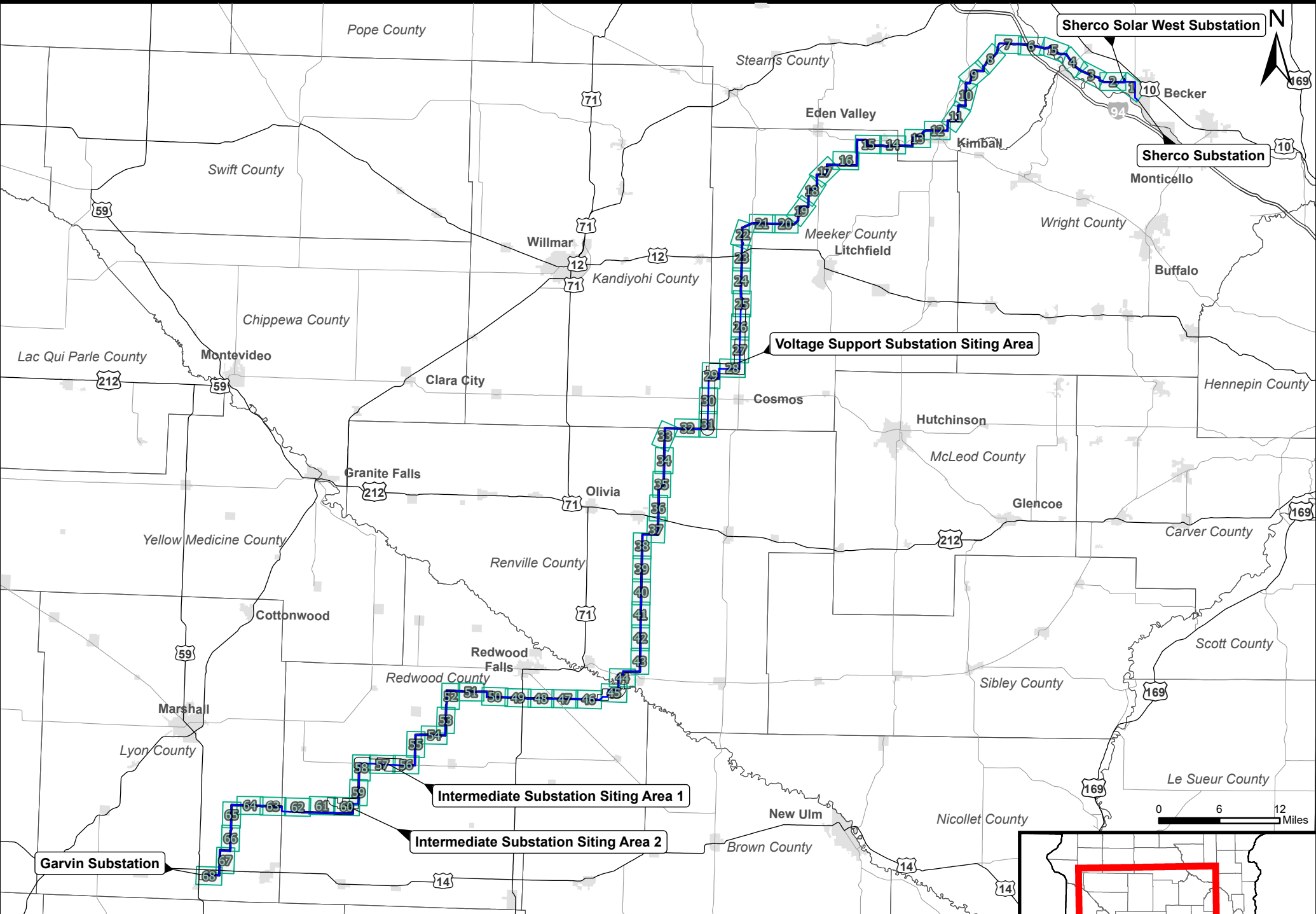
PROJECT LOCATION:

PUC DOCKET NUMBER:

Filing Number	Permit Section	Description of Compliance Filing	Due Date

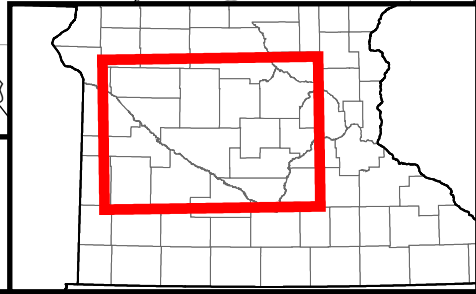
¹ This compilation of permit compliance filings is provided for the convenience of the permittee and the Commission. It is not a substitute for the permit; the language of the permit controls.

ATTACHMENT 3
Route Permit Maps



Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Overview Map

- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- County Boundaries
- Route Map Page Number
- Municipality



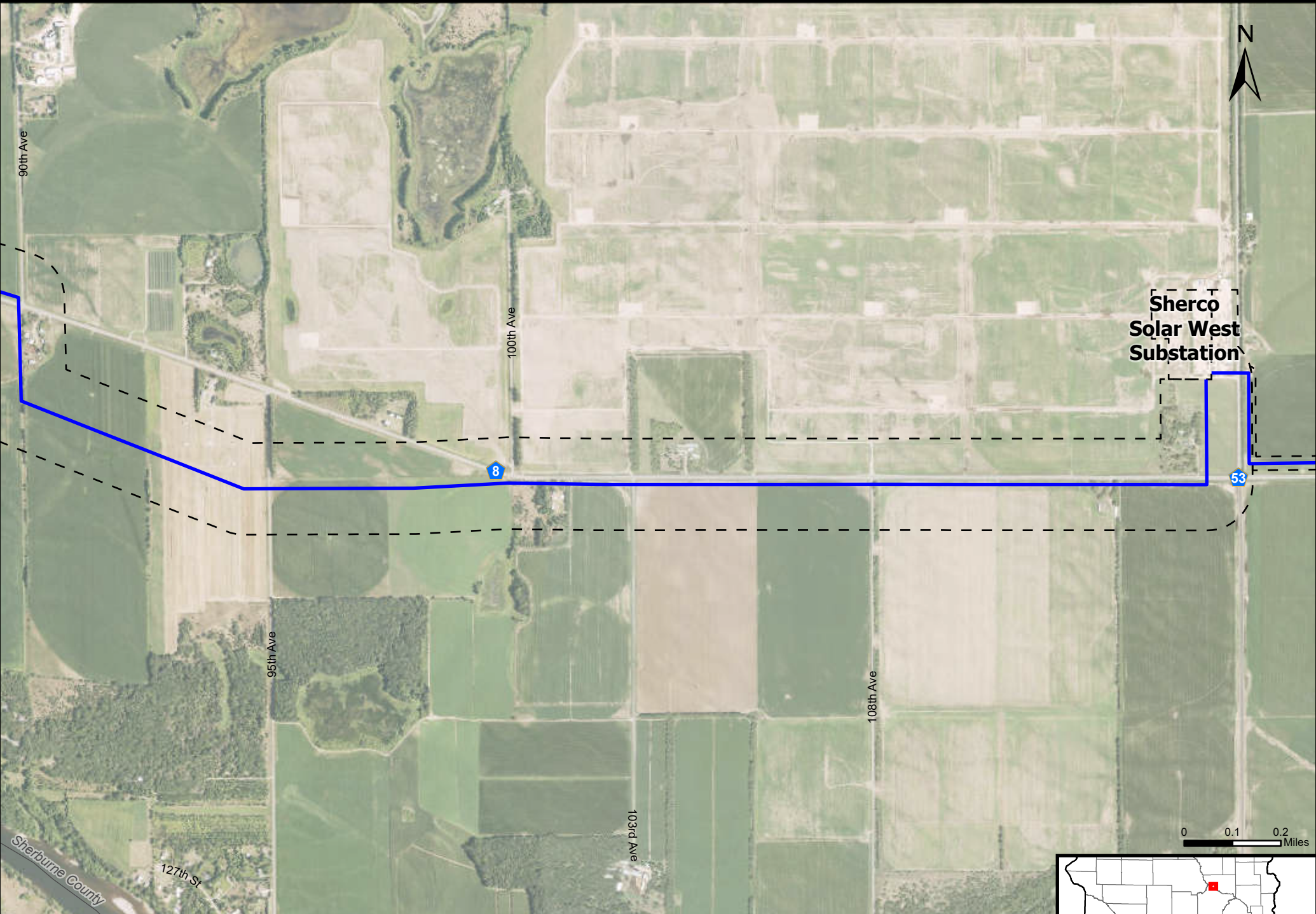
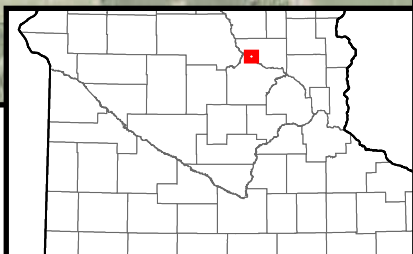
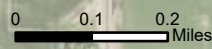


Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Sherburne County

- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary

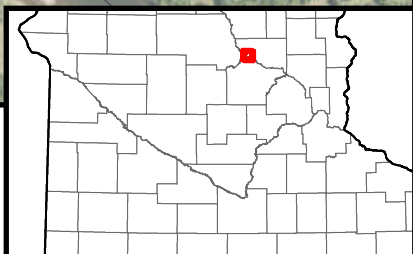
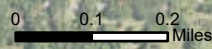


Sherco
Solar West
Substation



Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Sherburne County

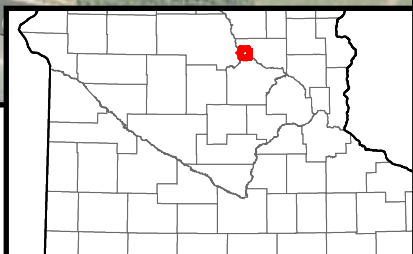
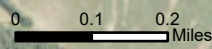
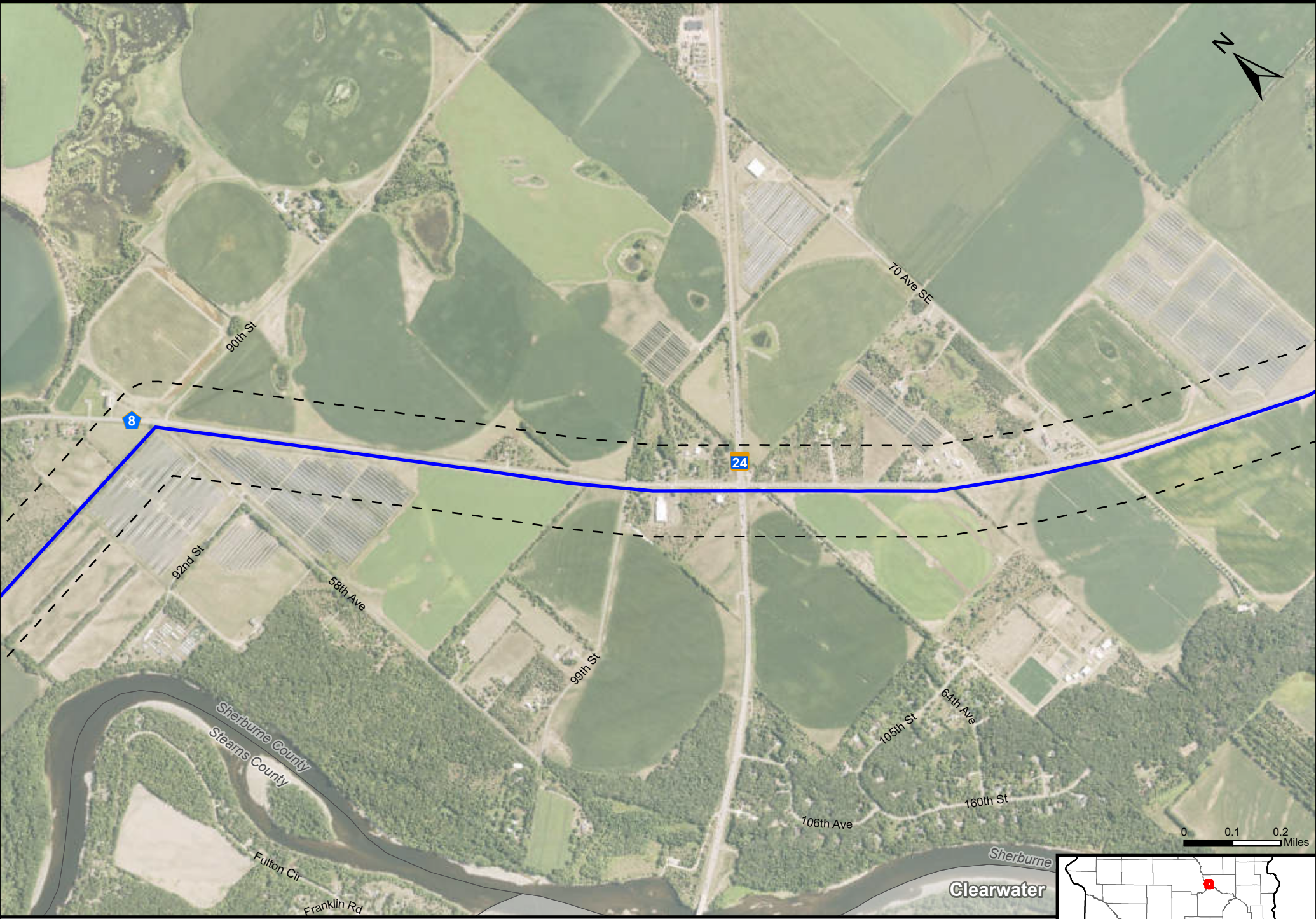
-  MNEC Approved Route
-  Route Width
-  Municipality
-  County Boundary



Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Sherburne County

-  MNEC Approved Route
-  Route Width
-  Municipality
-  County Boundary



Minnesota Energy Connection

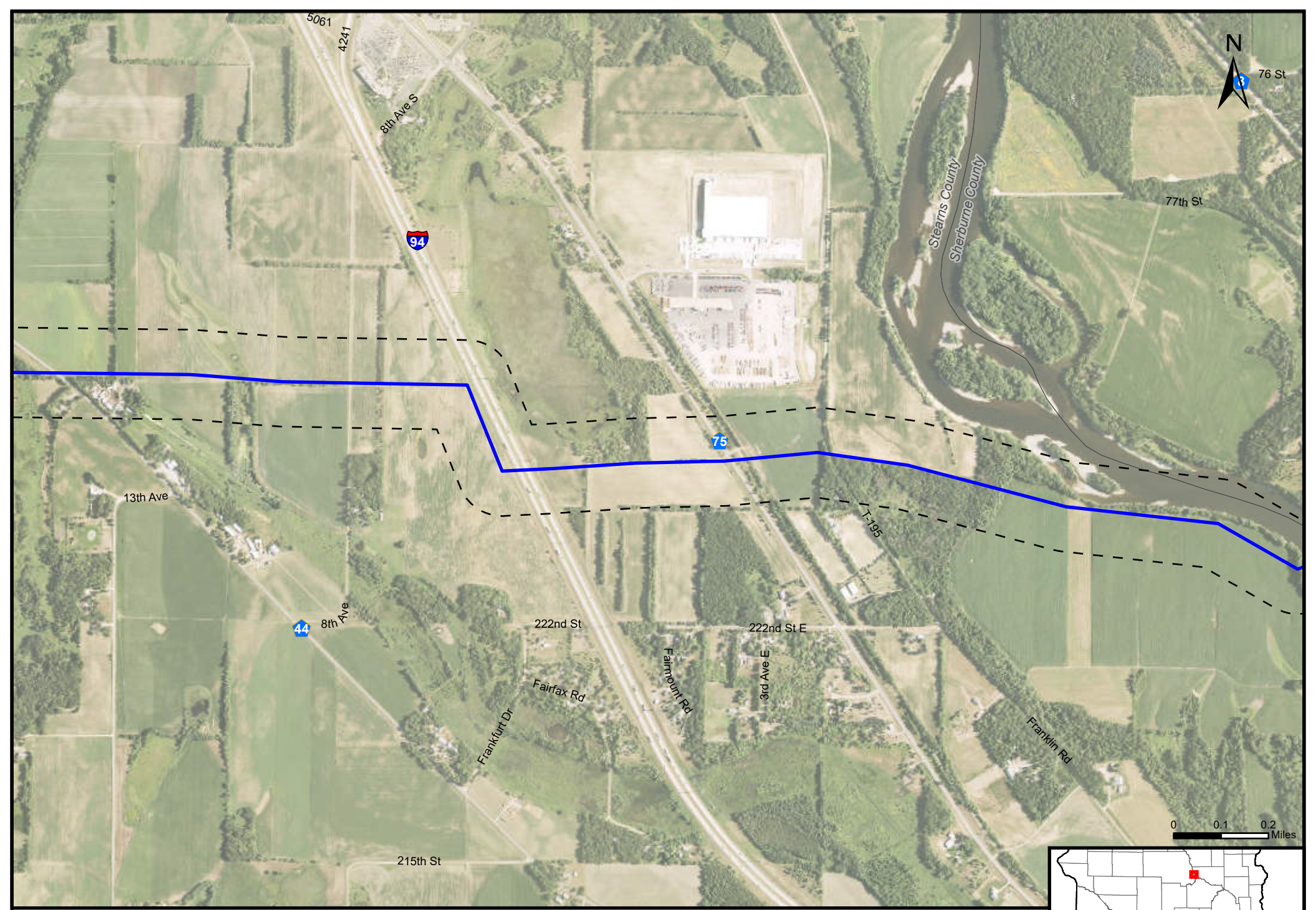
Route Maps | Sherburne County

- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary



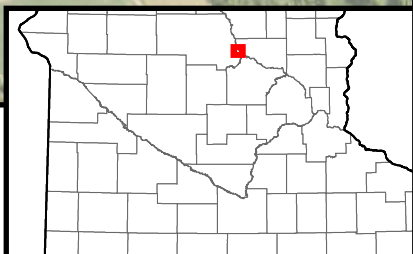
Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Stearns and Sherburne County

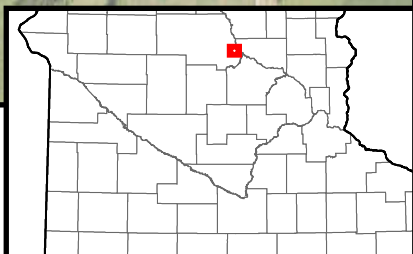
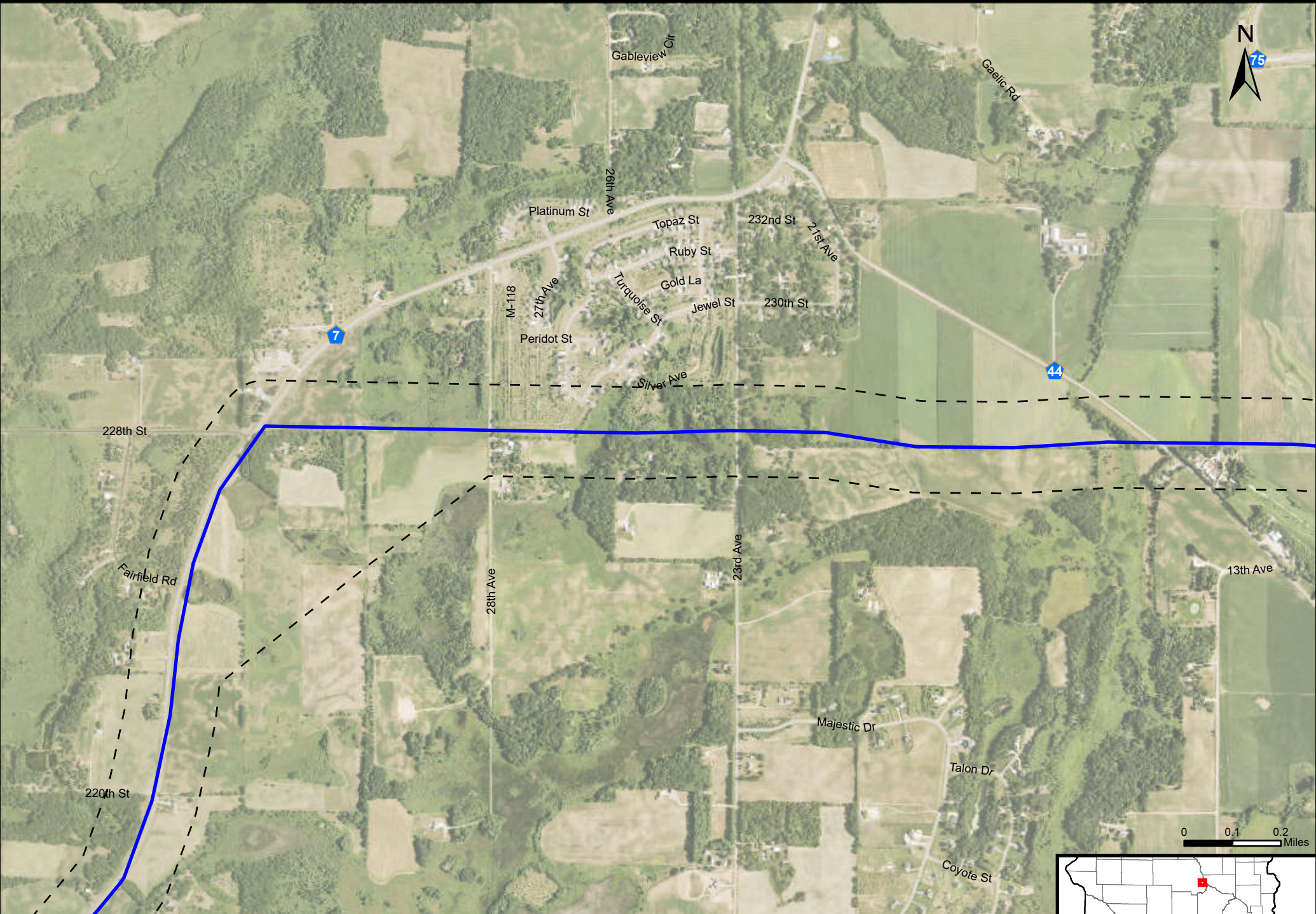
- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary





Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Stearns County



- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary

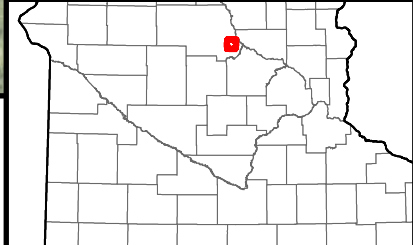
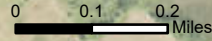




Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Stearns County

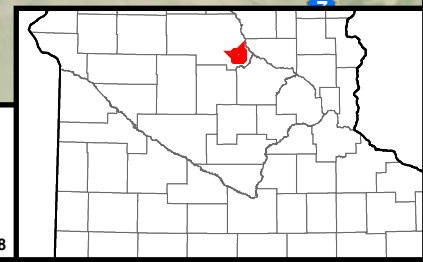
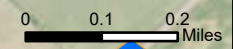
 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

 Municipality
 County Boundary





Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Stearns County

- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary





Minnesota Energy Connection



Route Maps | Stearns County

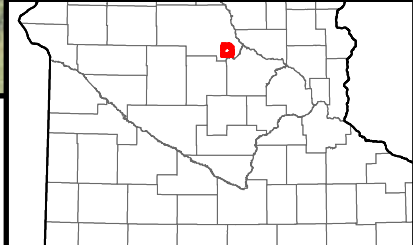
-  MNEC Approved Route
-  Route Width
-  Municipality
-  County Boundary



Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Stearns County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

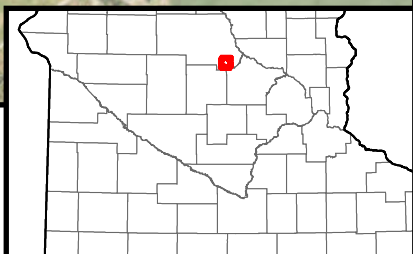
 Municipality
 County Boundary

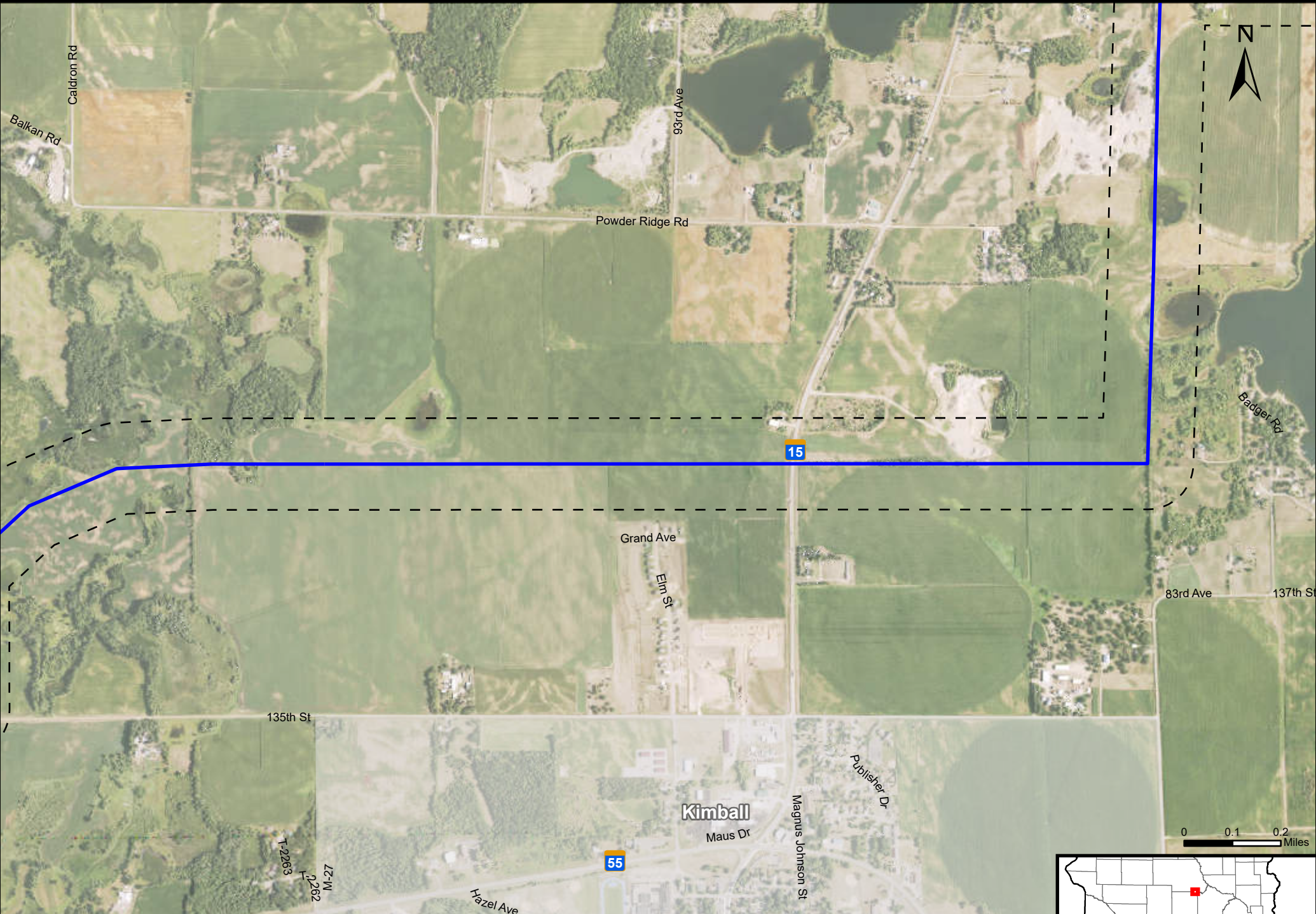




Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Stearns County

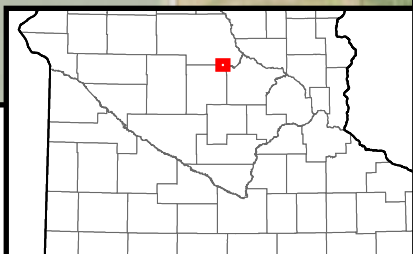
- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary

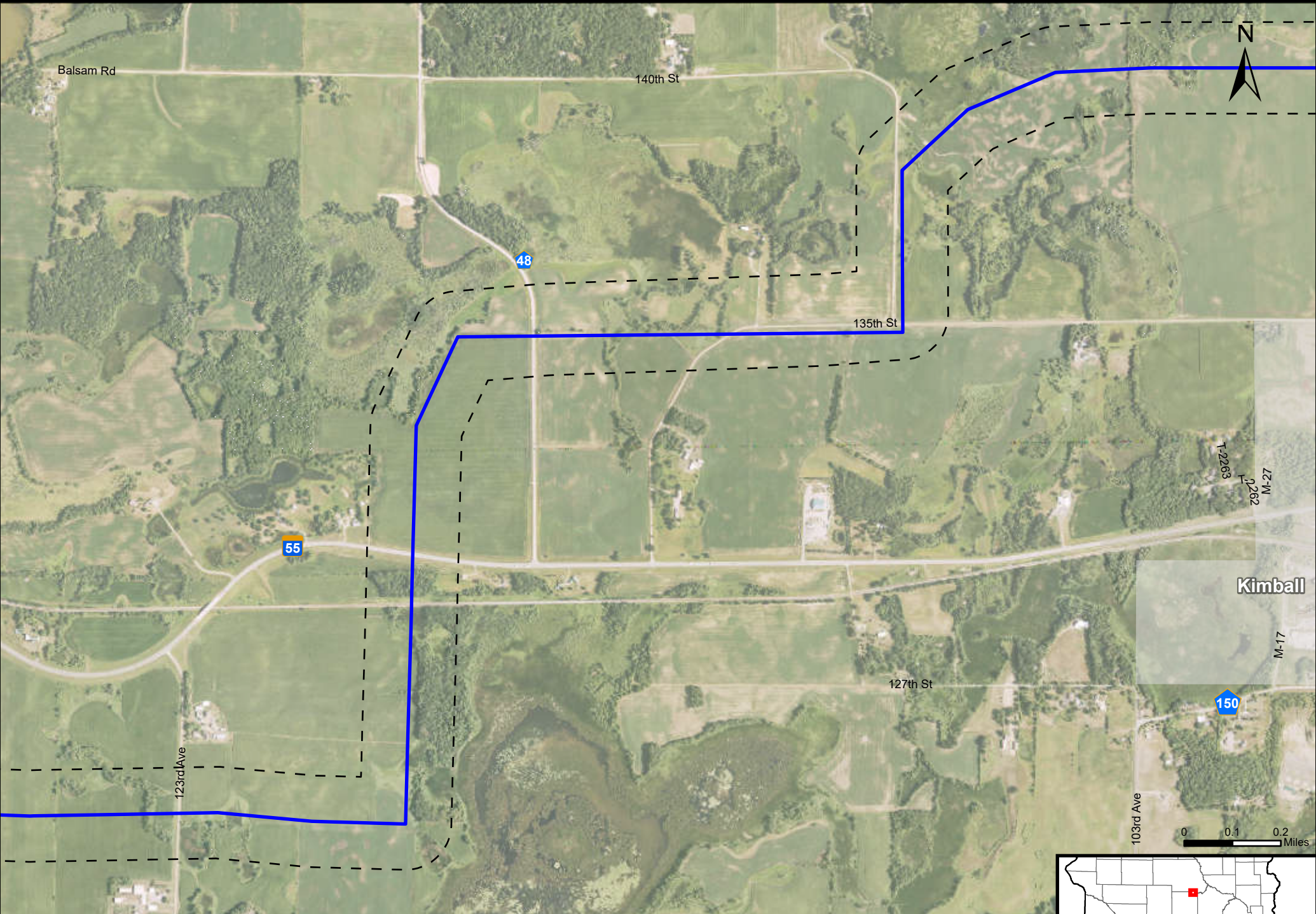




Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Stearns County

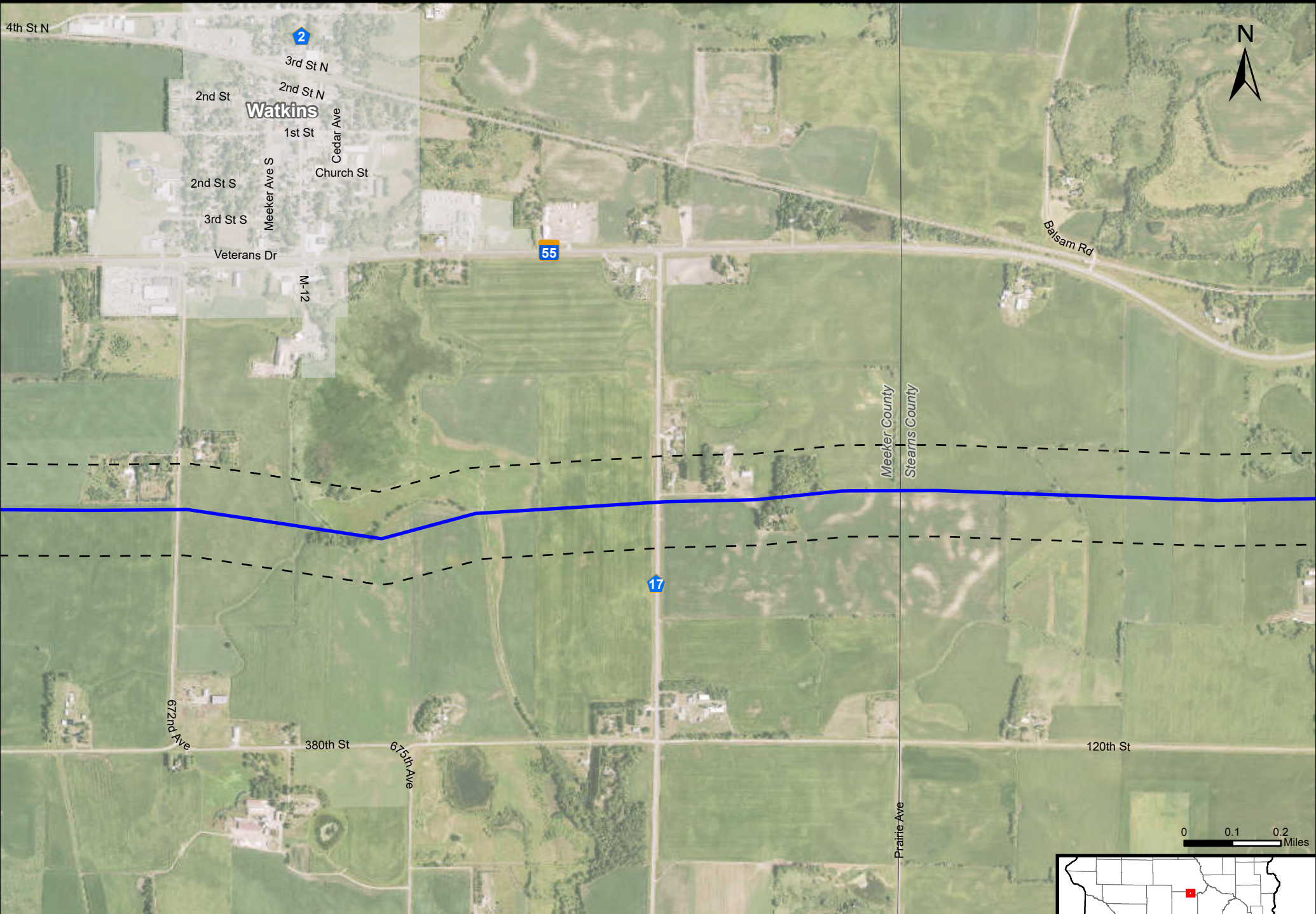
- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary





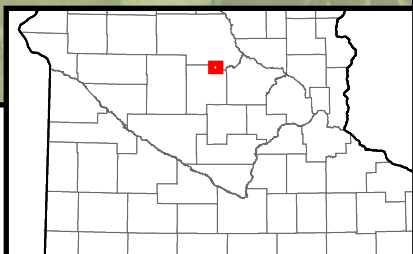
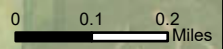
Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Stearns County

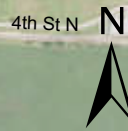
- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary



Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Stearns and Meeker County

- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary





4th St N

667th Ave

Glen Rd

Shile Rd

Watkin

55

647th Ave

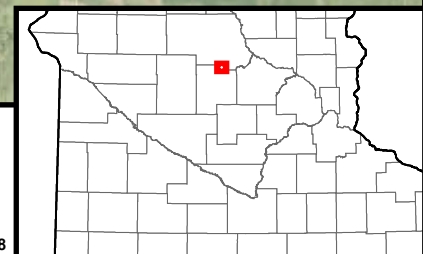
385th St

2

657th Ave



380th St



0 0.1 0.2 Miles

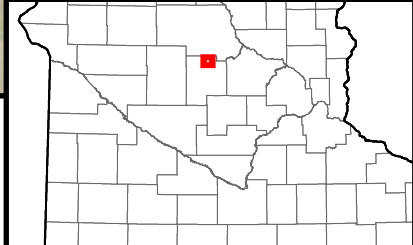
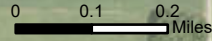


Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Meeker County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

 Municipality
 County Boundary



Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Meeker County

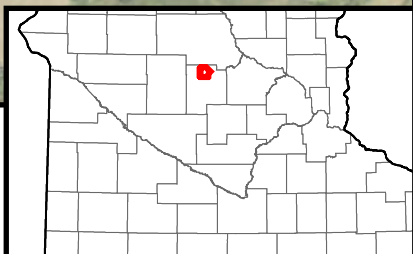
- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary

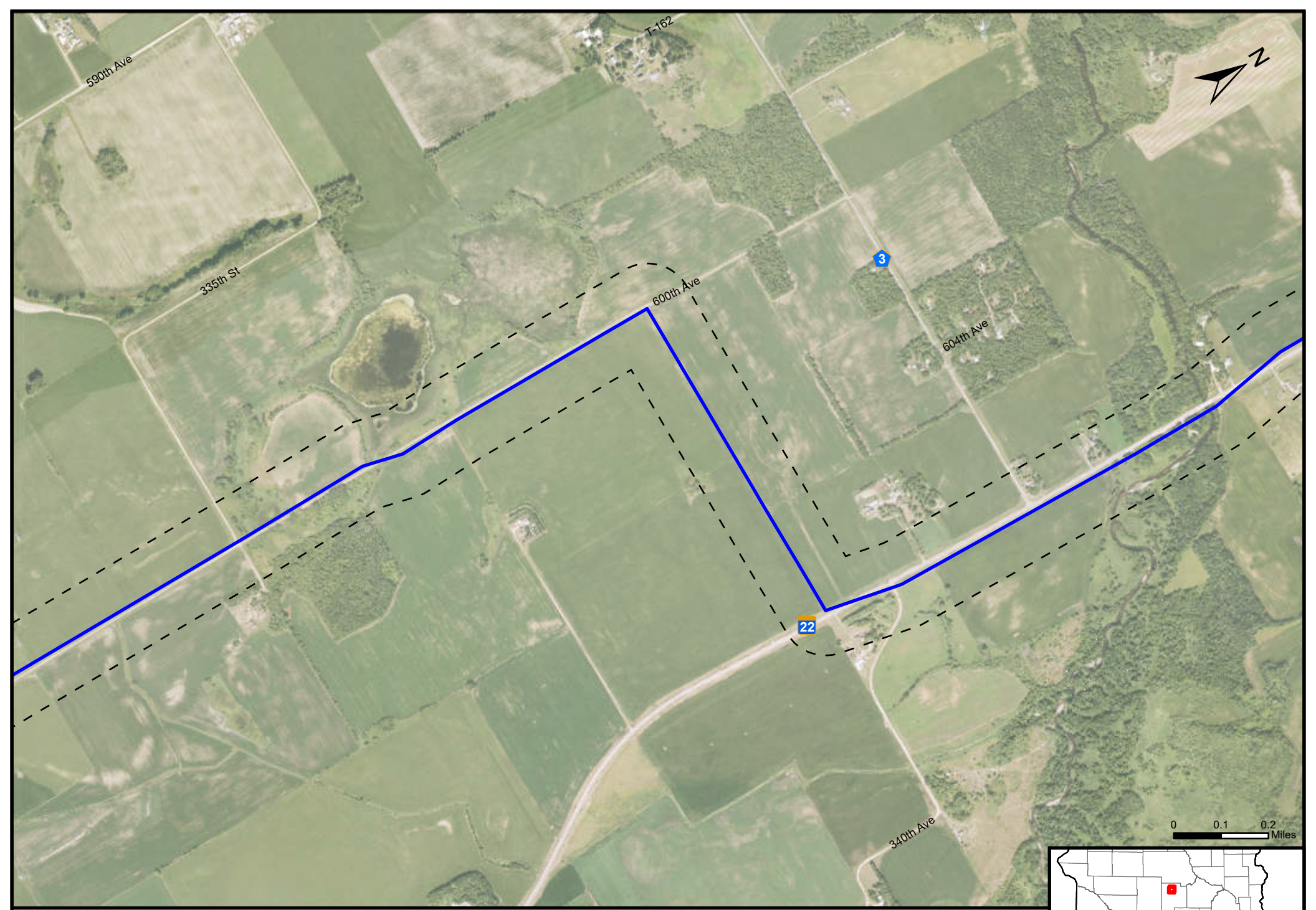


Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Meeker County

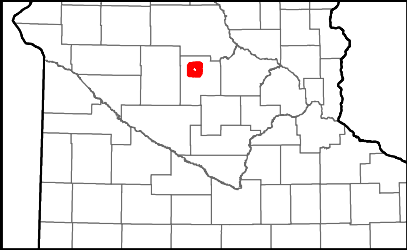
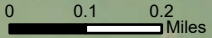
- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary





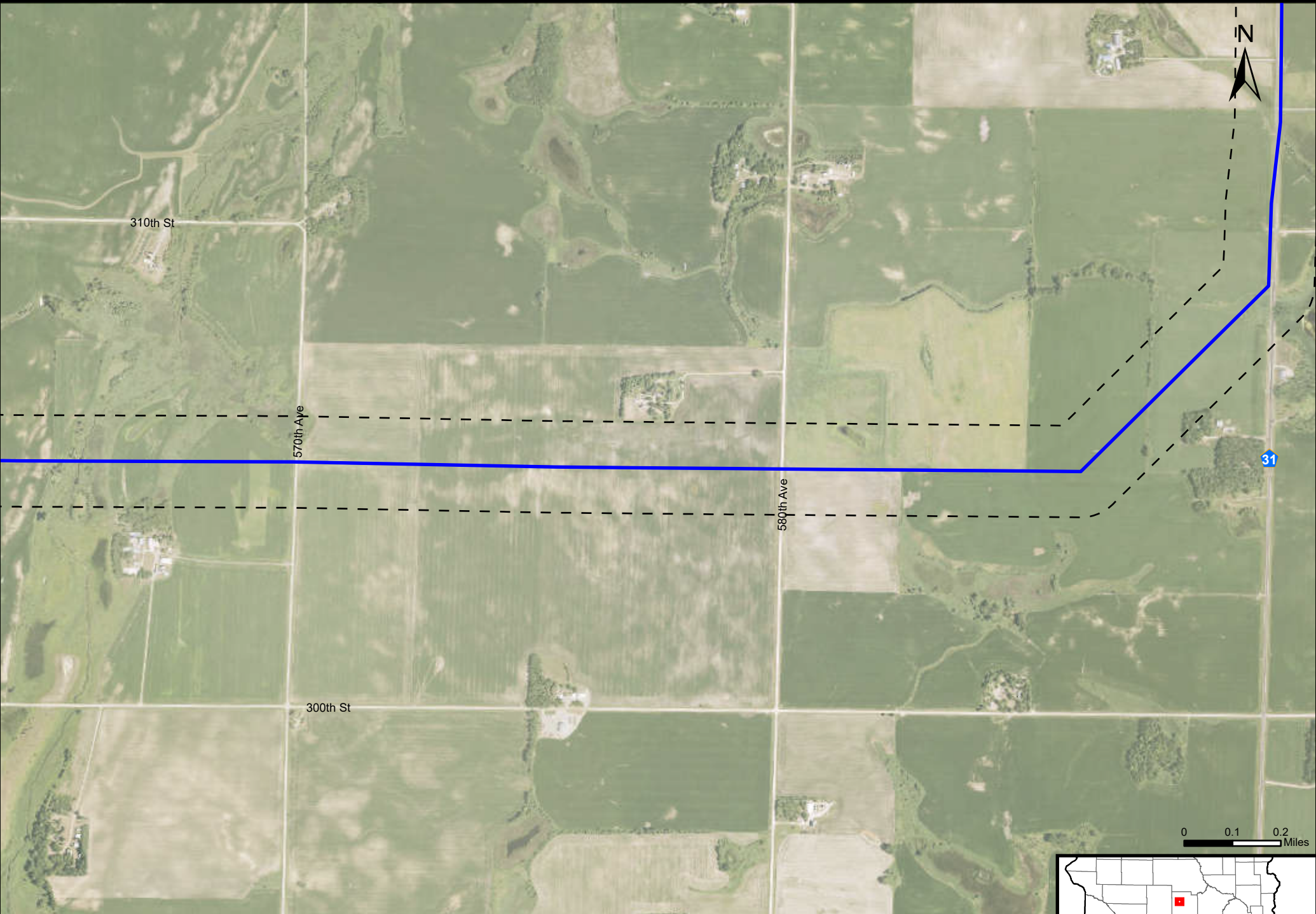
Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Meeker County

- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary



Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Meeker County

- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary



Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Meeker County

- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary



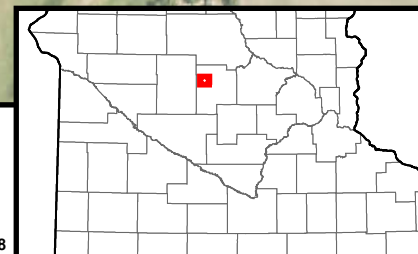
310th St

560th Ave

300th St



4



0 0.1 0.2 Miles

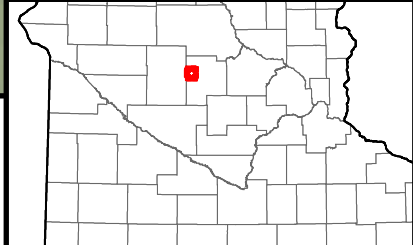
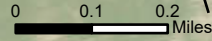


Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Meeker County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

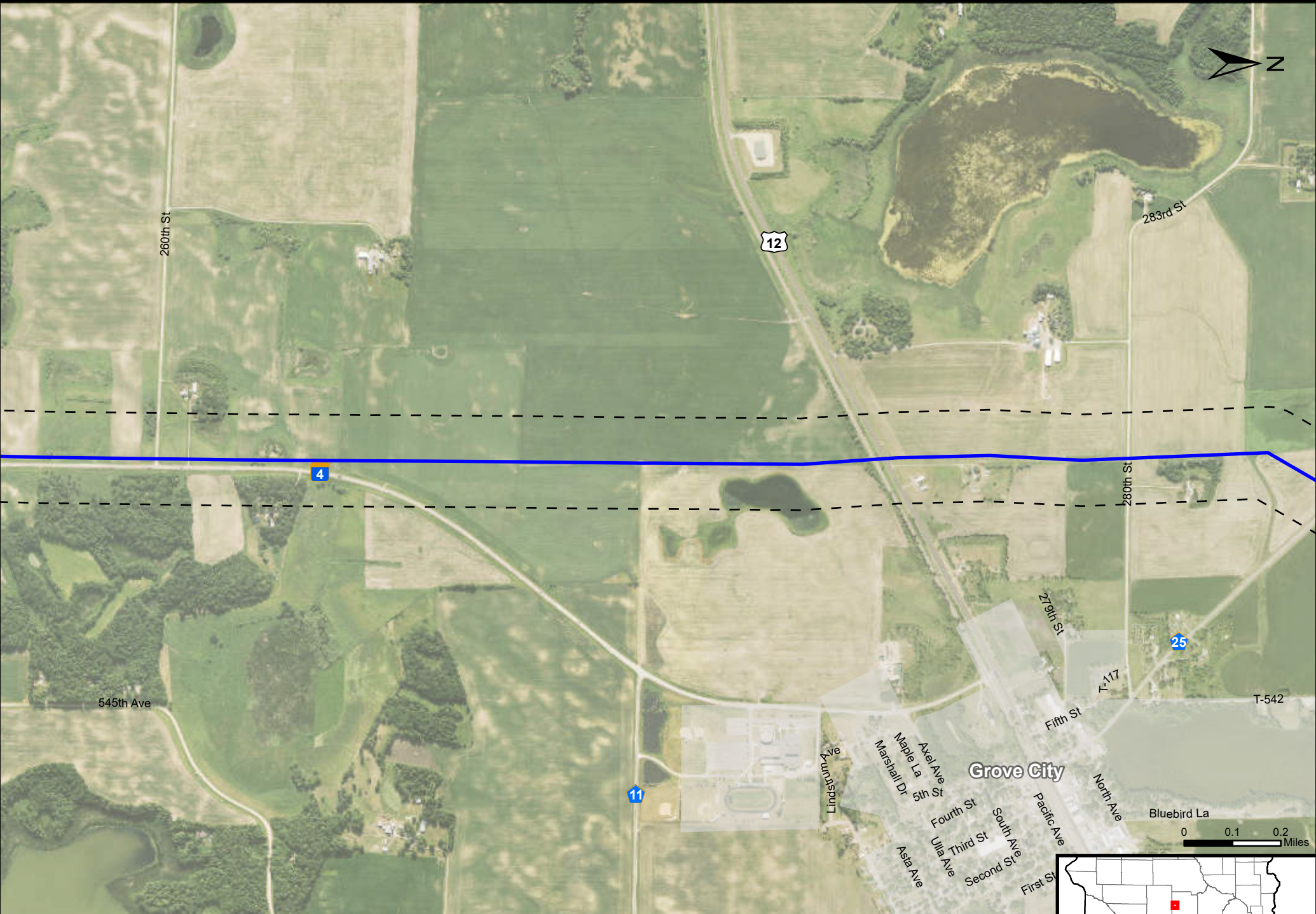
 Municipality
 County Boundary



Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Meeker County

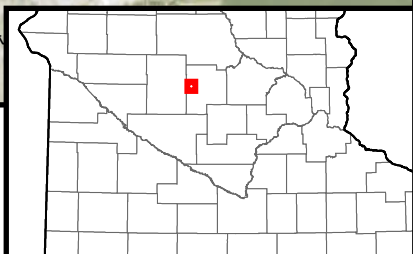
- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary

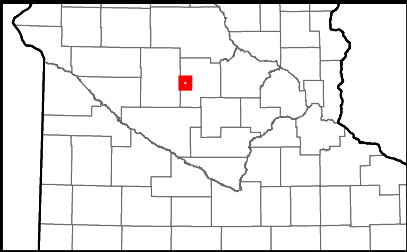
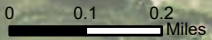
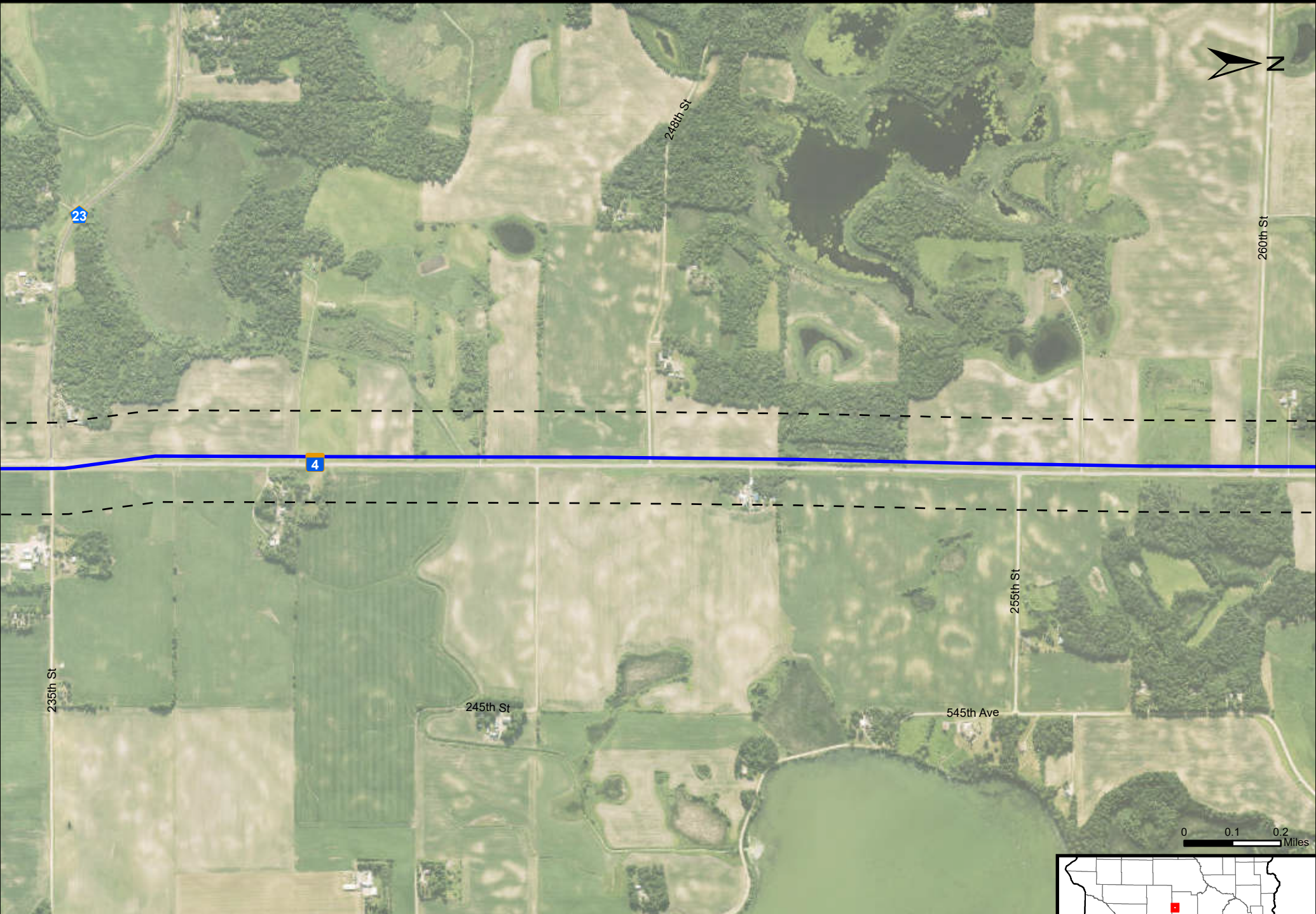


Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Meeker County



-  MNEC Approved Route
-  Route Width
-  Municipality
-  County Boundary





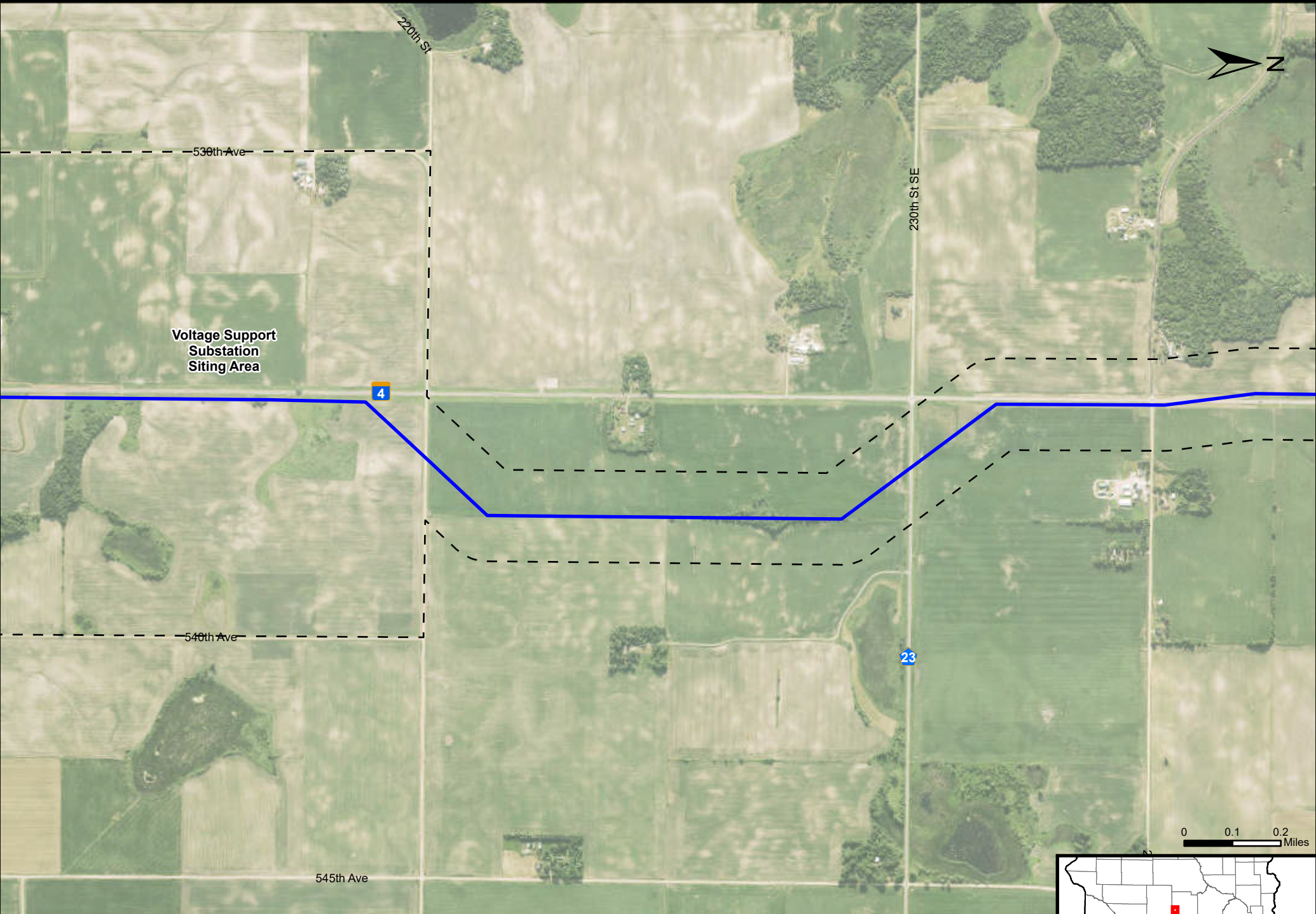


Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Meeker County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

 Municipality
 County Boundary



Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Meeker County

- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary



190th St

8130

530th Ave

210th St

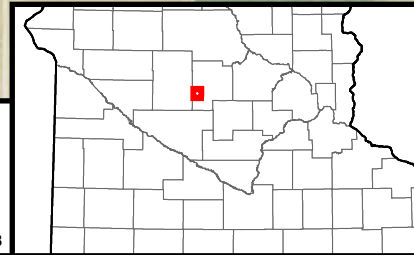
Voltage Support
Substation
Siting Area

28

4



540th Ave



0 0.1 0.2
Miles



Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Meeker County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

 Municipality
 County Boundary



170th St

536th Ave

Voltage Support
Substation
Siting Area

4

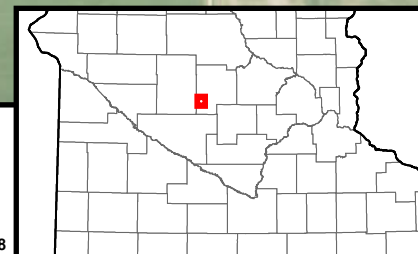
180th St

190th St

22



540th Ave



0 0.1 0.2 Miles

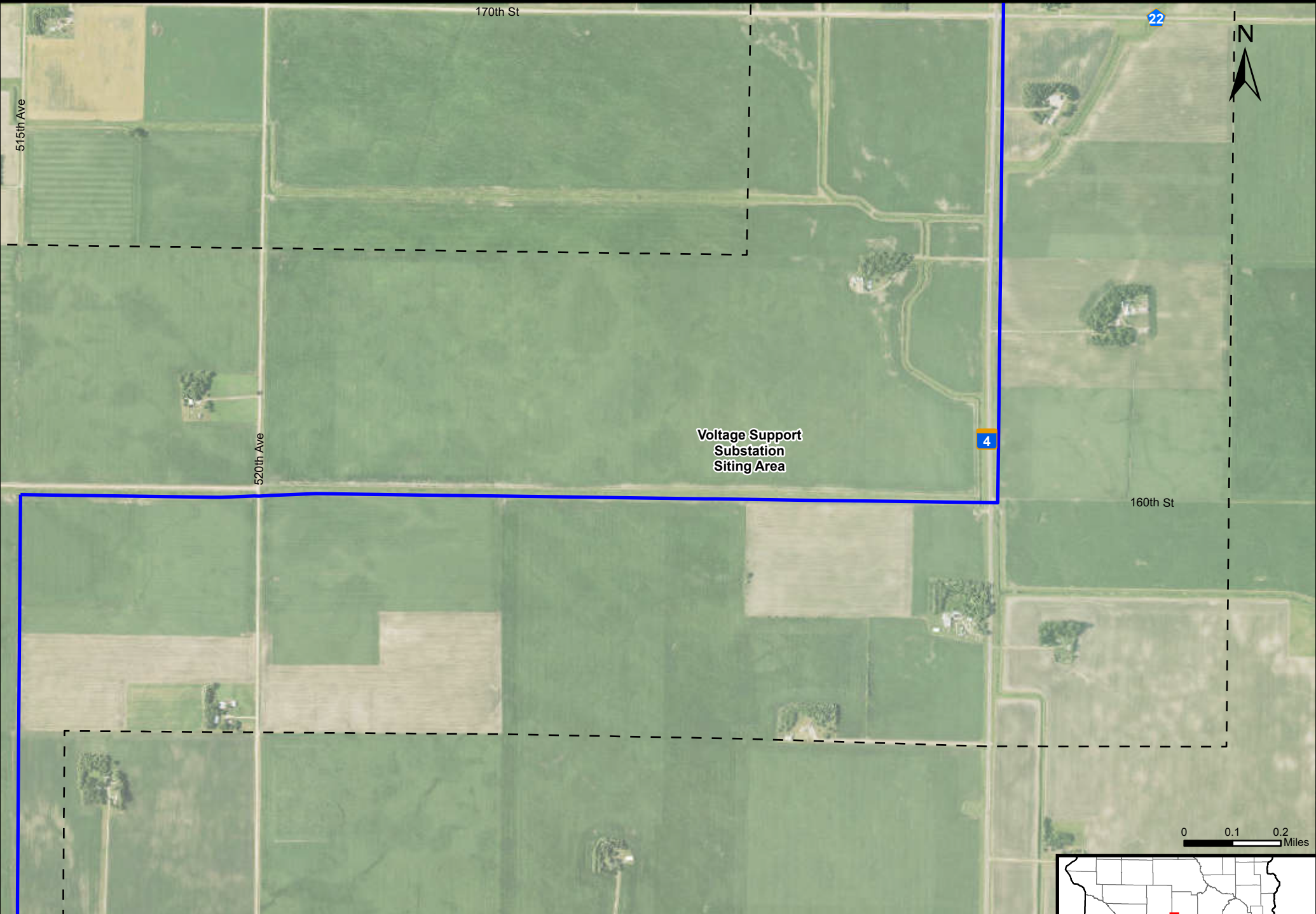


Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Meeker County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

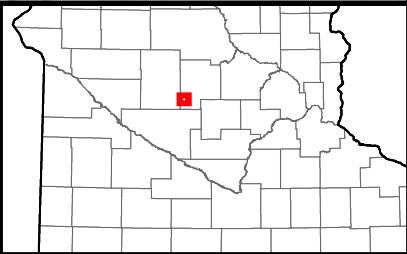
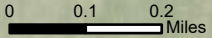
 Municipality
 County Boundary

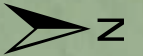


Voltage Support
Substation
Siting Area

4

22





17

Voltage Support
Substation
Siting Area

Kandi-Meeker Rd

Kandiyohi County
Meeker County

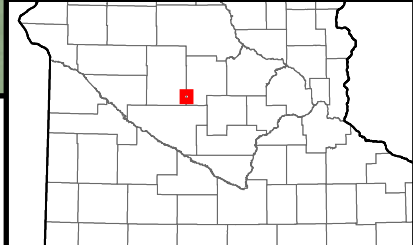
Kandi-meeker Rd

160th St

515th Ave



37



0 0.1 0.2 Miles



Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Meeker and Kandiyohi County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

 Municipality
 County Boundary



210th Ave SE

Voltage Support
Substation
Siting Area

Kandiyohi County

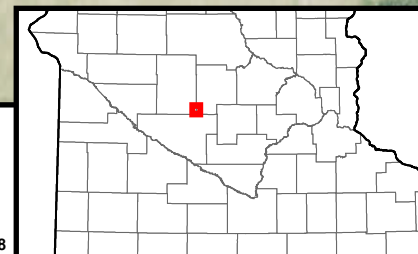
Meeker County



Kandi-Meeker Rd



120th St



0 0.1 0.2 Miles

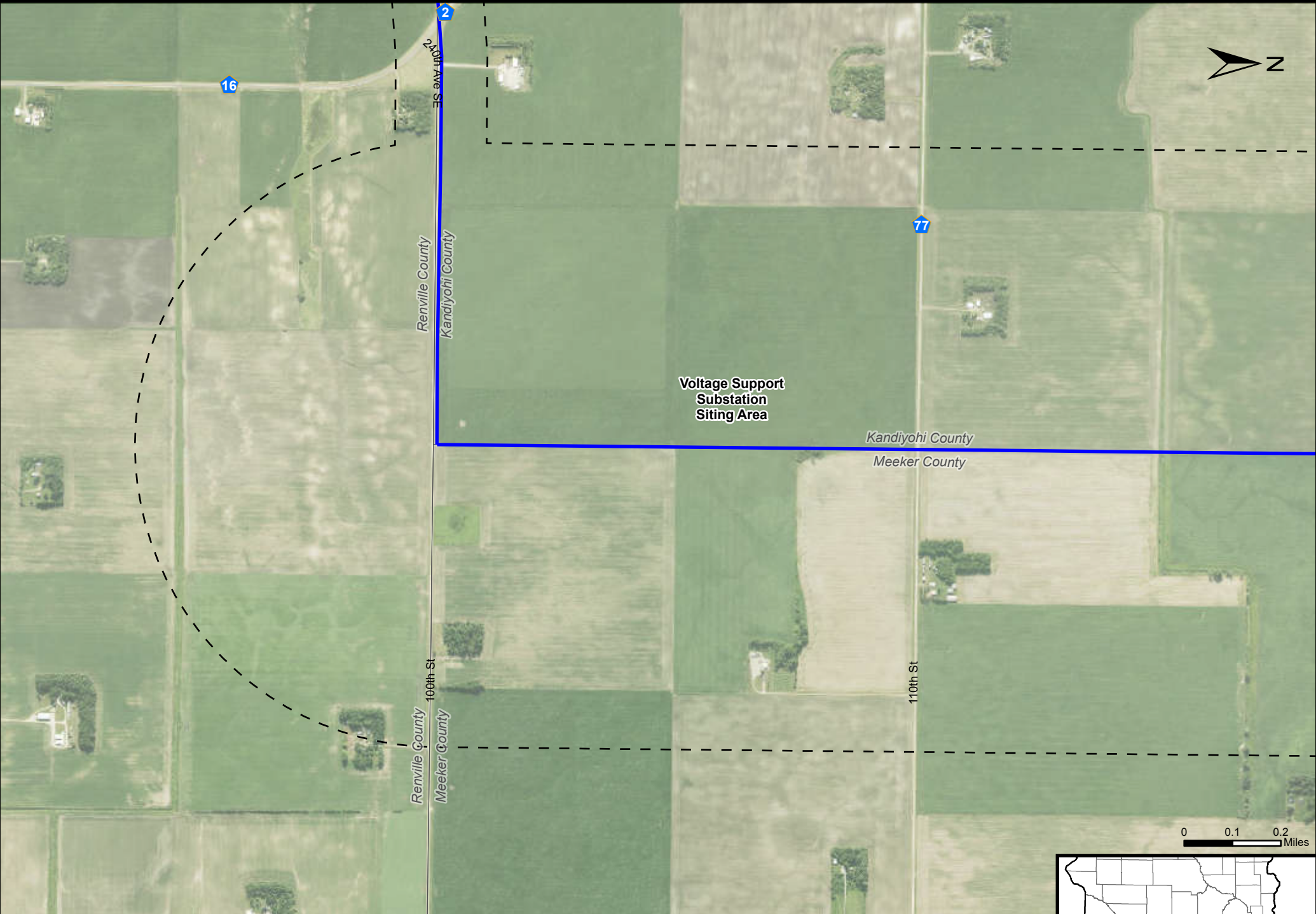


Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Meeker and Kandiyohi County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

 Municipality
 County Boundary



Voltage Support
Substation
Siting Area

Renville County

Kandiyohi County

Kandiyohi County

Meeker County

Renville County

Meeker County

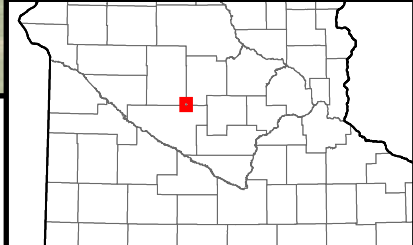
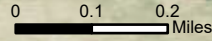
110th St

100th St

16

2

77



Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Meeker, Renville and Kandiyohi County

- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary



165th St SE

2

240th Ave SE

Kandiyohi County

Renville County

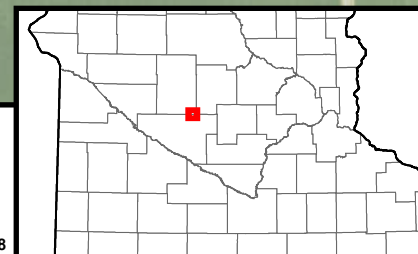
430th St

440th St

16



895th Ave



0 0.1 0.2 Miles



Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Renville and Kandiyohi County

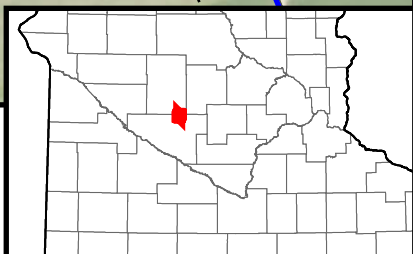
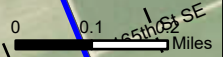
 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

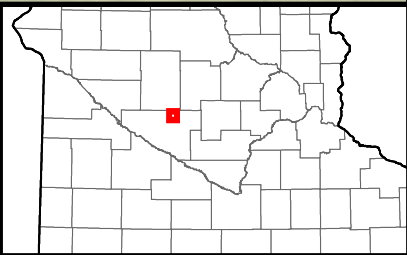
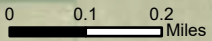
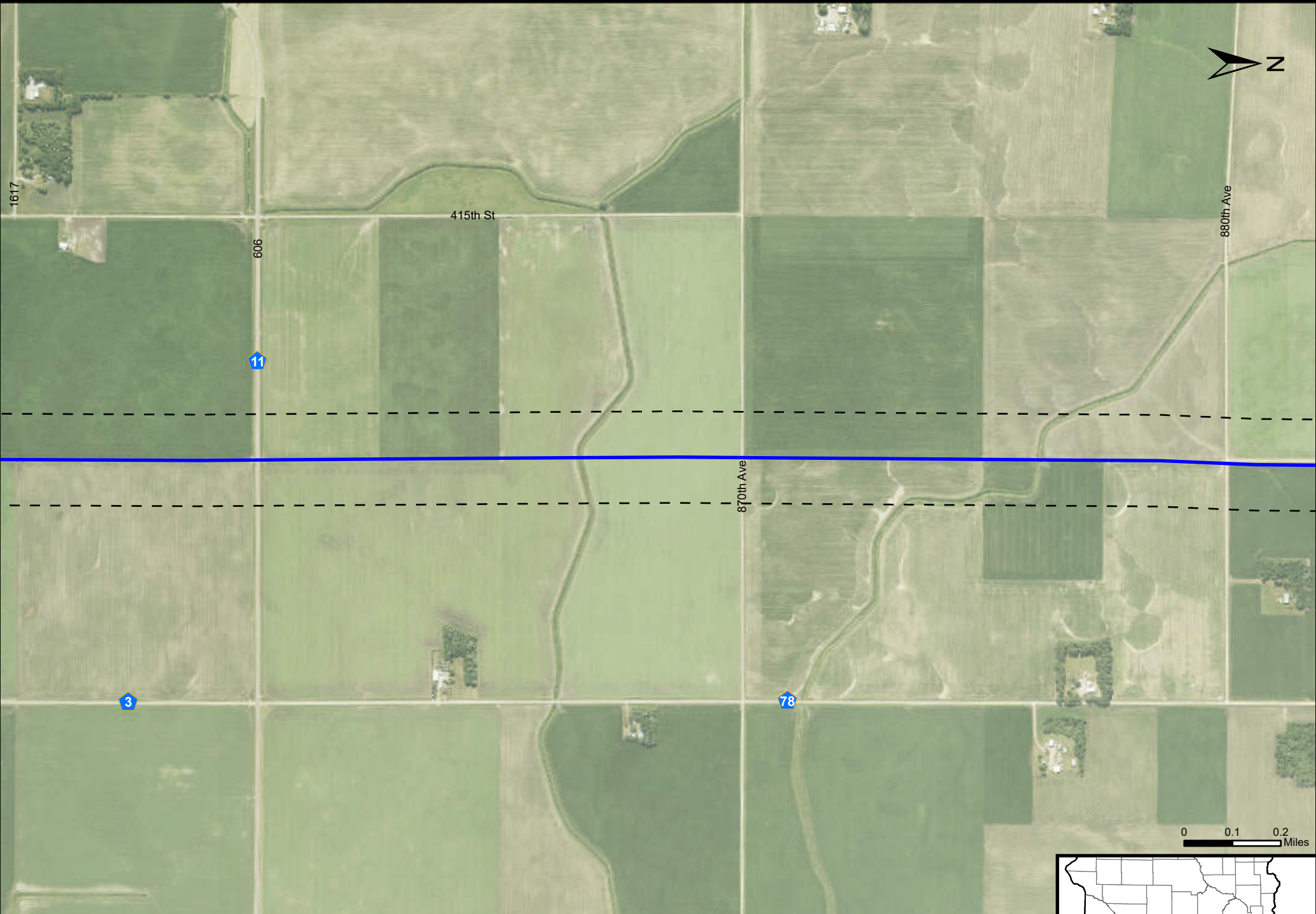
 Municipality
 County Boundary



Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Renville and Kandiyohi County



- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary

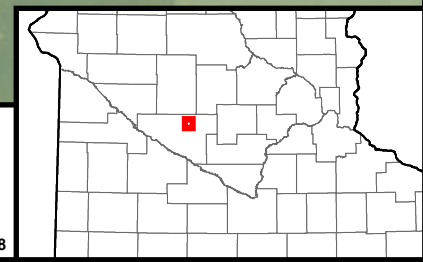
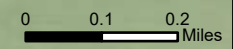
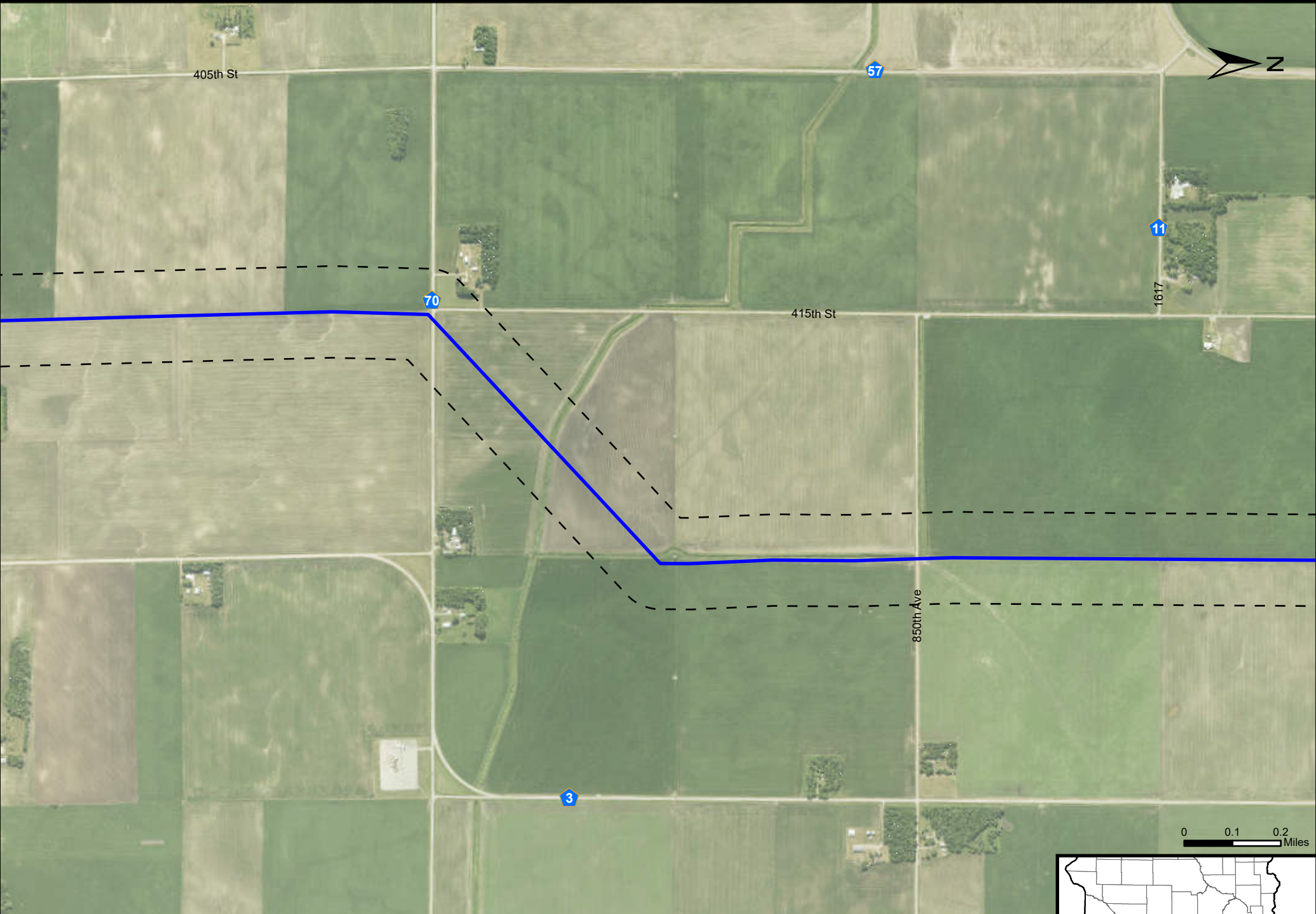




Minnesota Energy Connection




Route Maps | Renville County

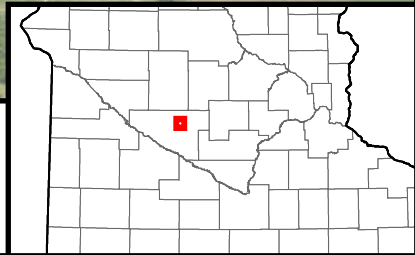
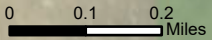
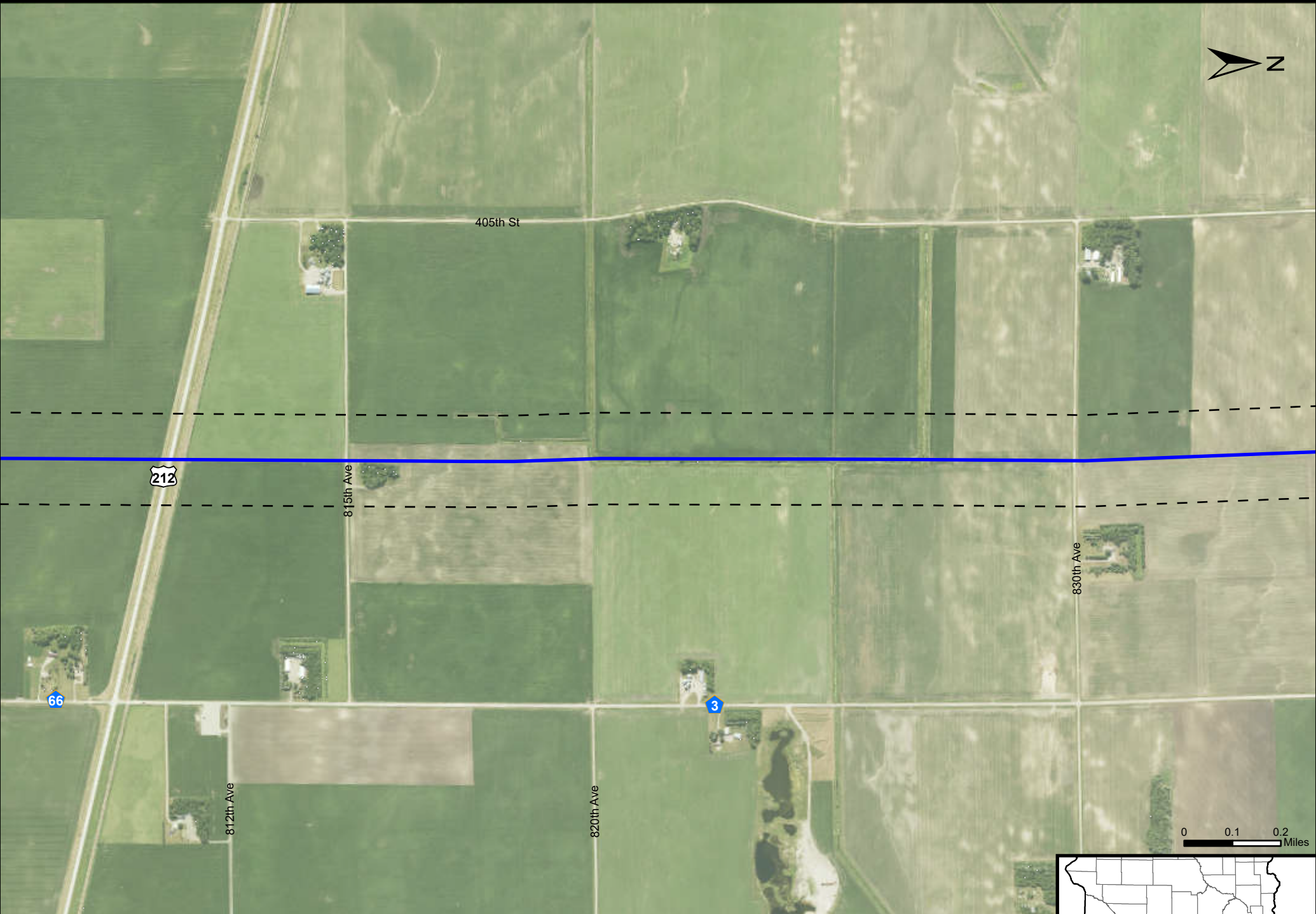
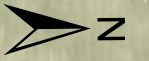
-  MNEC Approved Route
-  Route Width
-  Municipality
-  County Boundary



Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Renville County

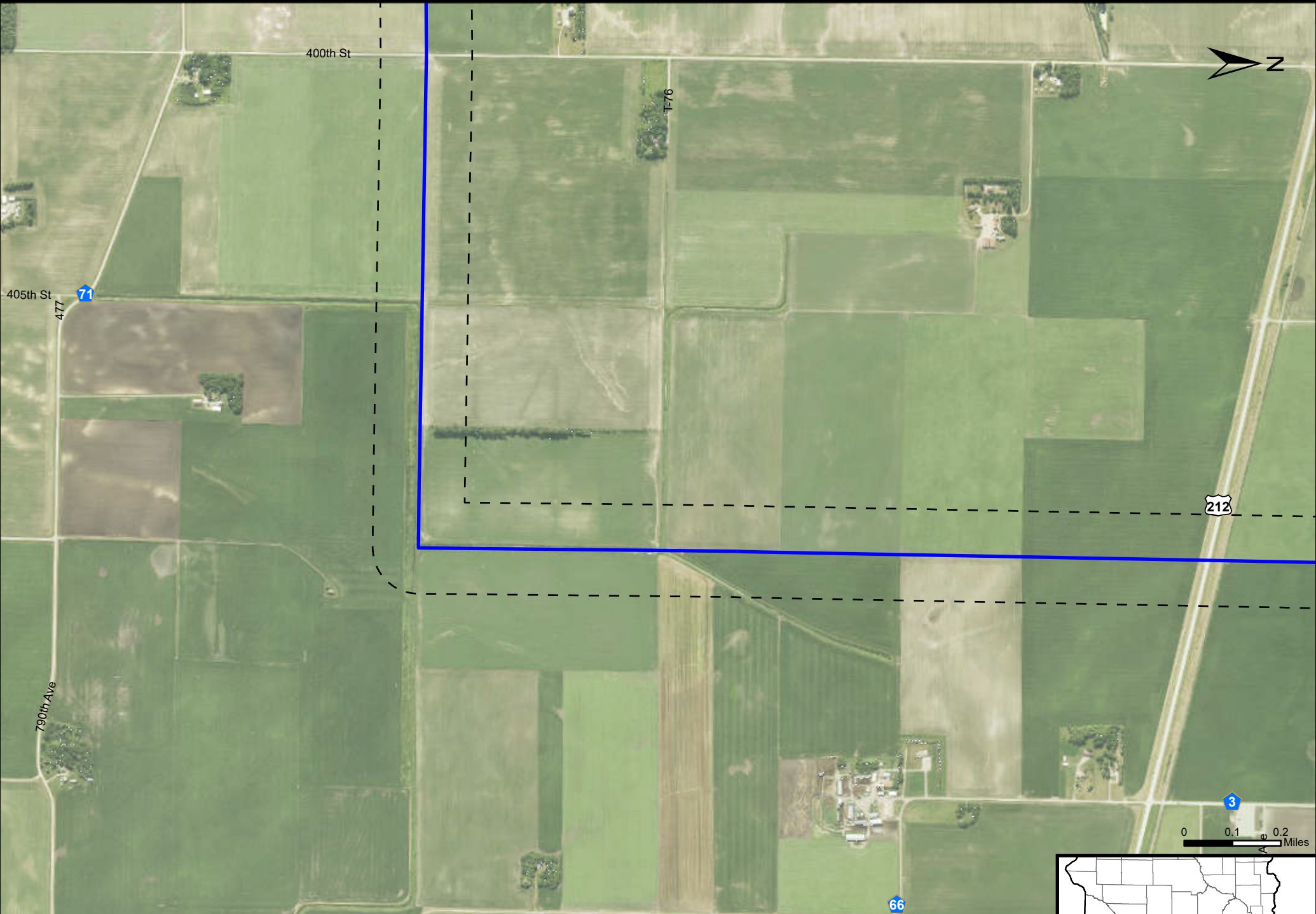
-  MNEC Approved Route
-  Route Width
-  Municipality
-  County Boundary



Minnesota Energy Connection

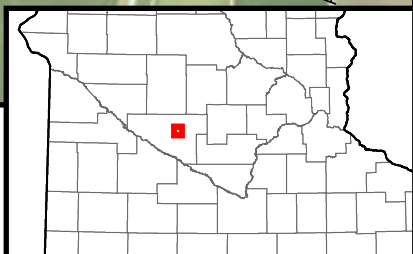
Route Maps | Renville County

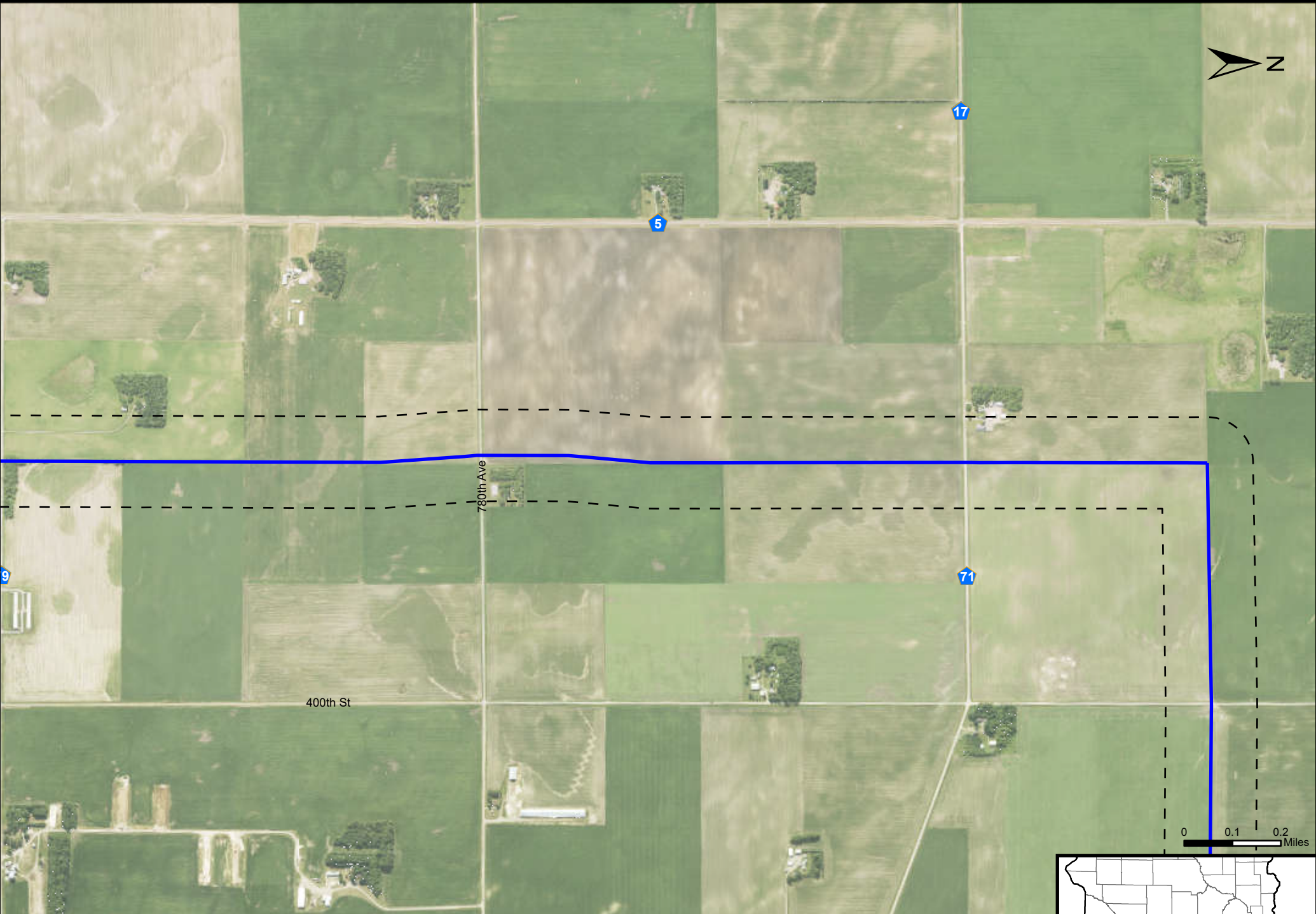
- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary





Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Renville County



- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary

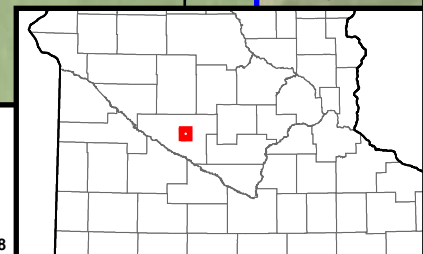


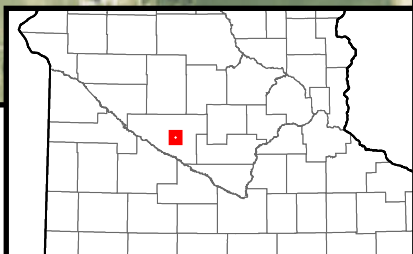
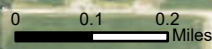
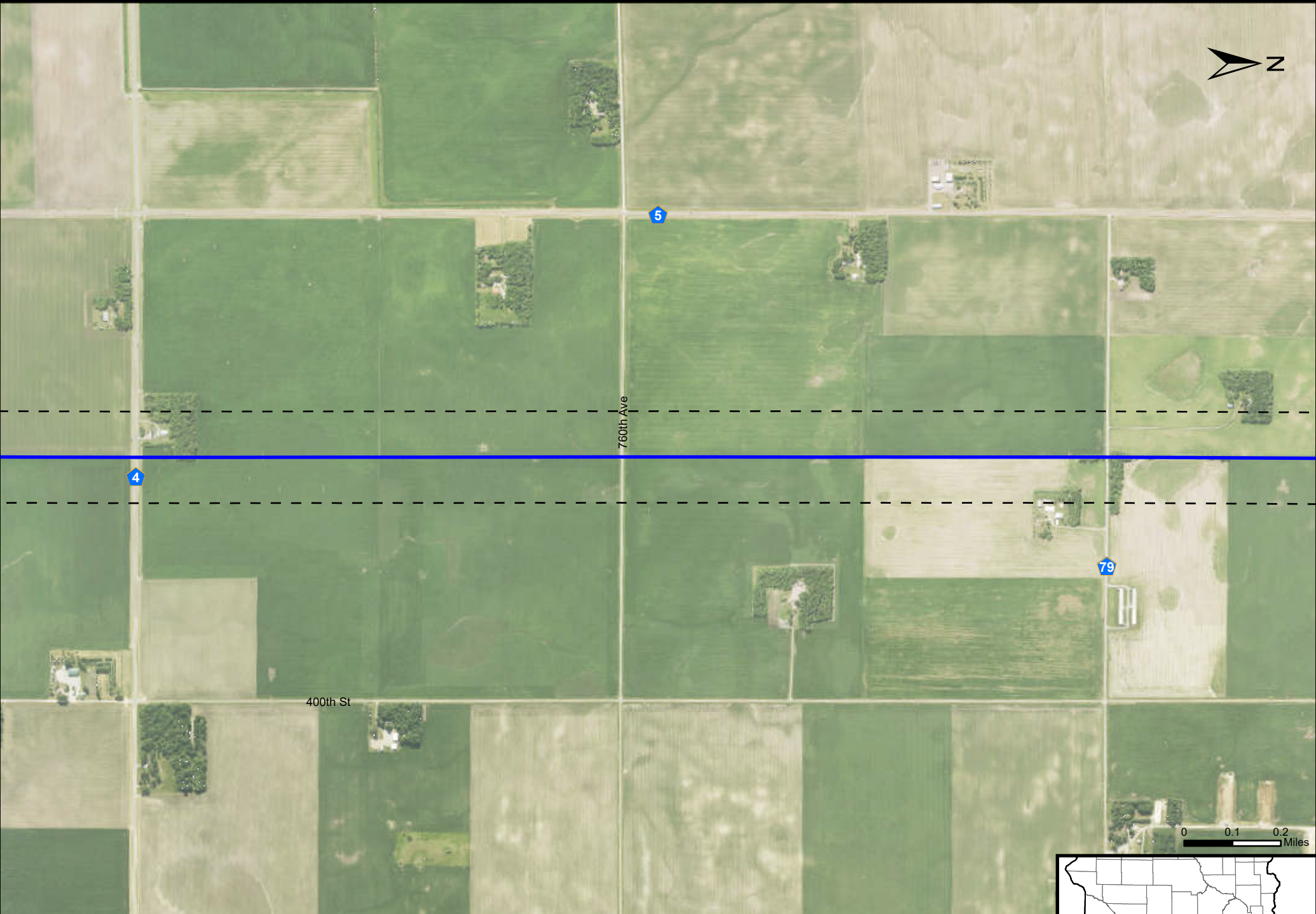


Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Renville County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

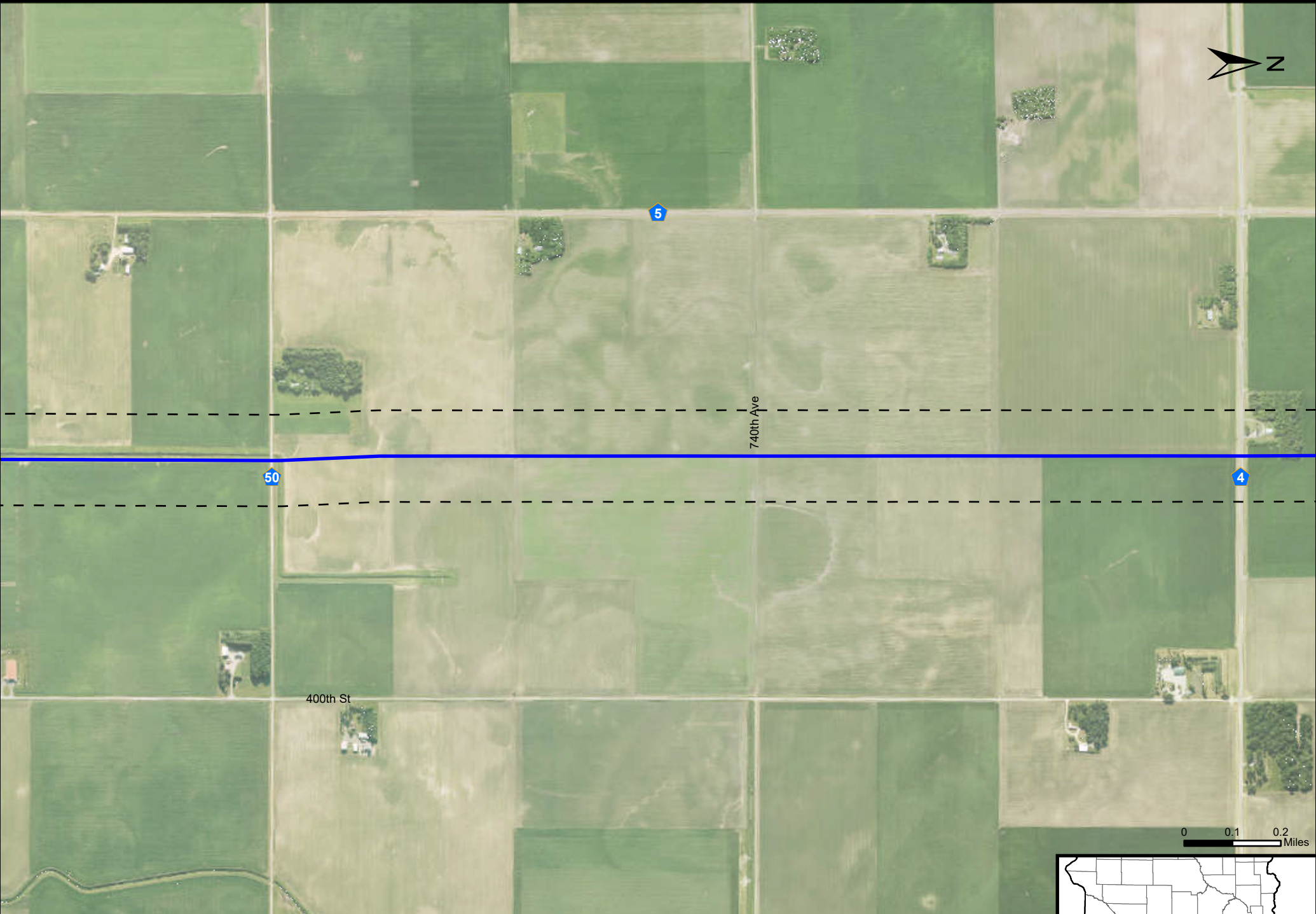
 Municipality
 County Boundary







Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Renville County



-  MNEC Approved Route
-  Route Width
-  Municipality
-  County Boundary

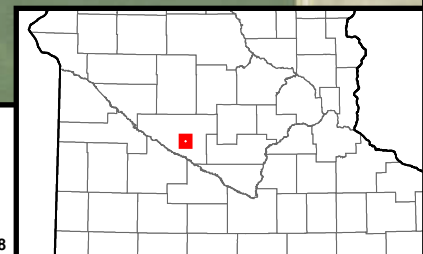


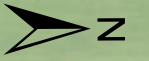
Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Renville County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

 Municipality
 County Boundary





19

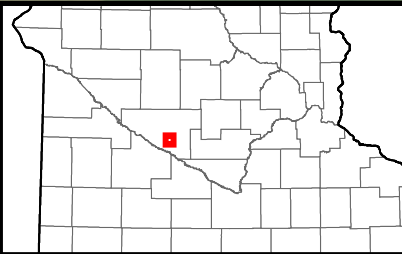
5

720th Ave

710th Ave



400th St



0 0.1 0.2 Miles



Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Renville County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

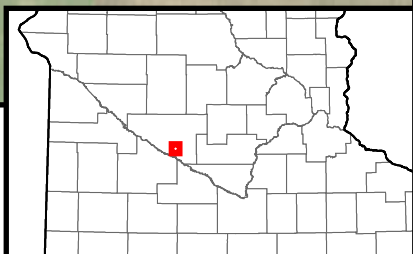
 Municipality
 County Boundary



Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Renville County

-  MNEC Approved Route
-  Route Width
-  Municipality
-  County Boundary





660th Ave

670th Ave

5

73



680th Ave



Franklin

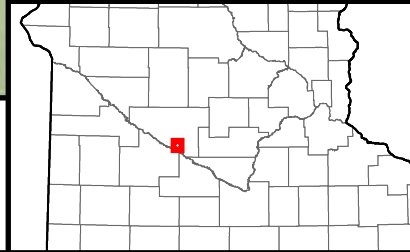
0 0.1 0.2 Miles

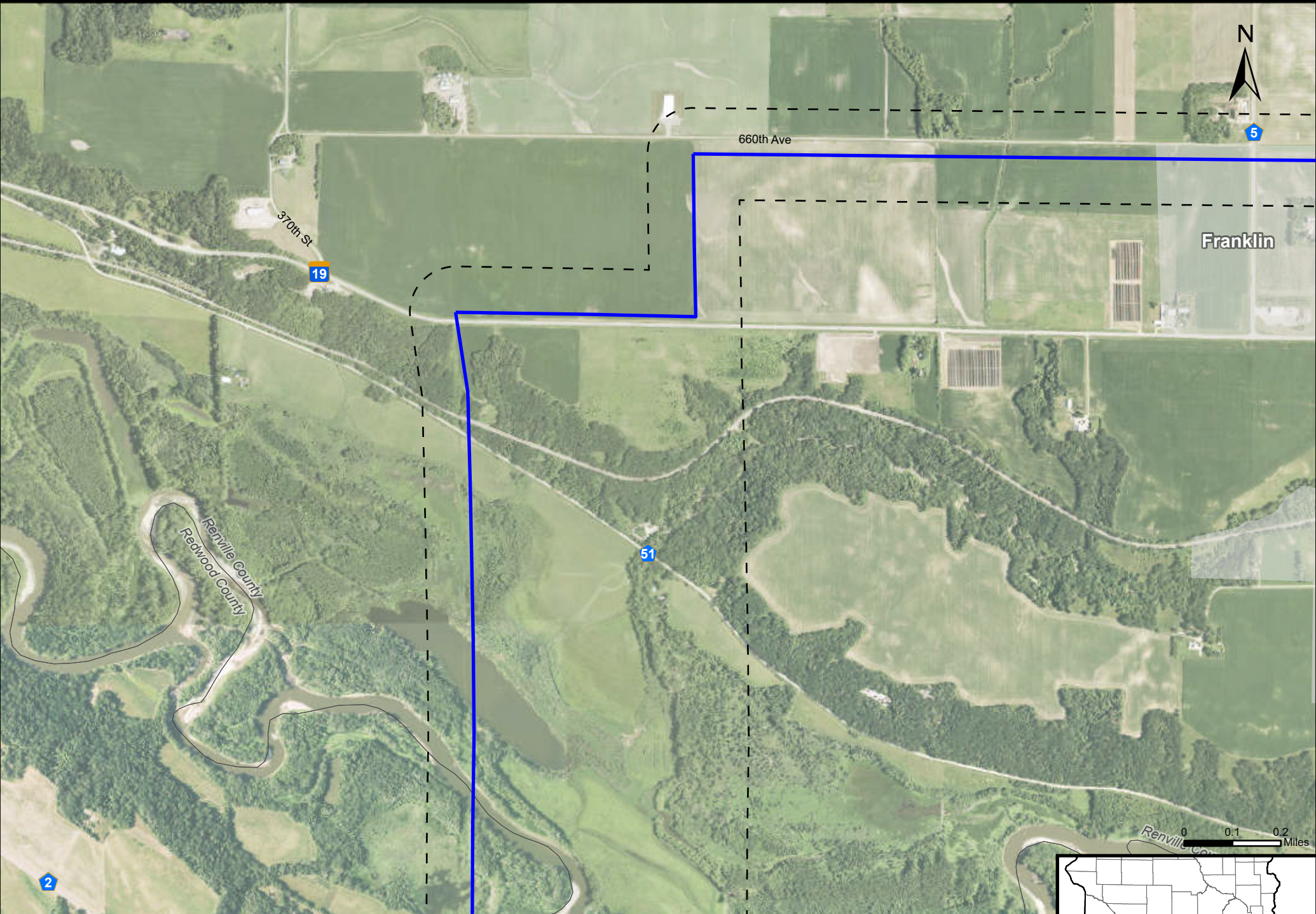
Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Renville County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

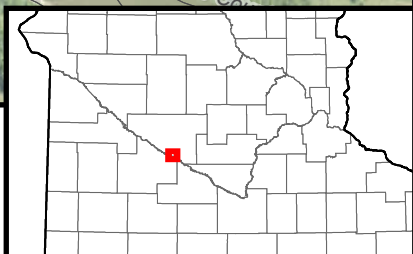
 Municipality
 County Boundary





Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Renville and Redwood County

- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary





Renville County
Redwood County

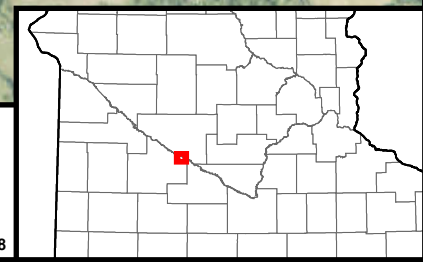
320th St

2

305th St



Ranch Ave

0 0.1 0.2 Miles



Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Renville and Redwood County

-  MNEC Approved Route
-  Route Width
-  Municipality
-  County Boundary



Omega Ave

310th St



13



Porter Ave

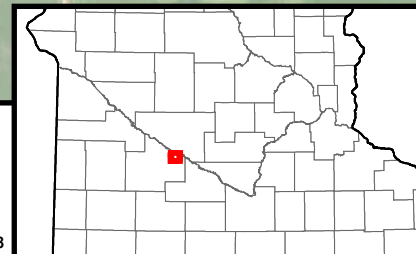
0 0.1 0.2 Miles

Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Redwood County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

 Municipality
 County Boundary





Noble Ave

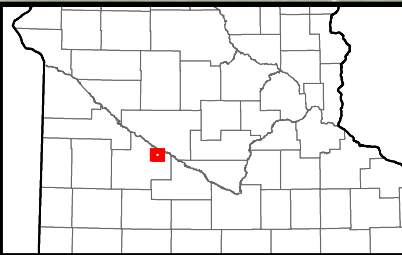
310th St

Ocean Ave

Omega Ave



67



0 0.1 0.2 Miles



Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Redwood County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

 Municipality
 County Boundary



315th St

67

Mystic Ave

310th St

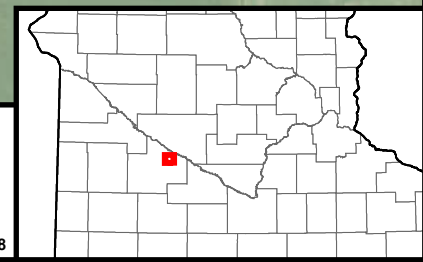
Magnolia Ave

Midway Ave

1



305th St



0 0.1 0.2 Miles



Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Redwood County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

 Municipality
 County Boundary



315th St

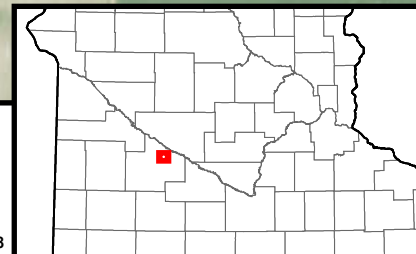
Magnolia Ave



Liberty Ave



Laser Ave



0 0.1 0.2 Miles

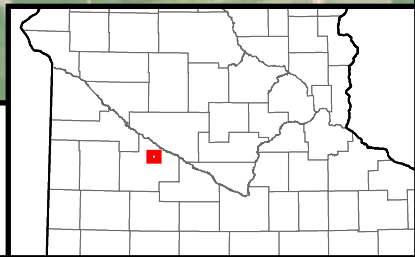
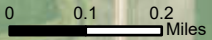
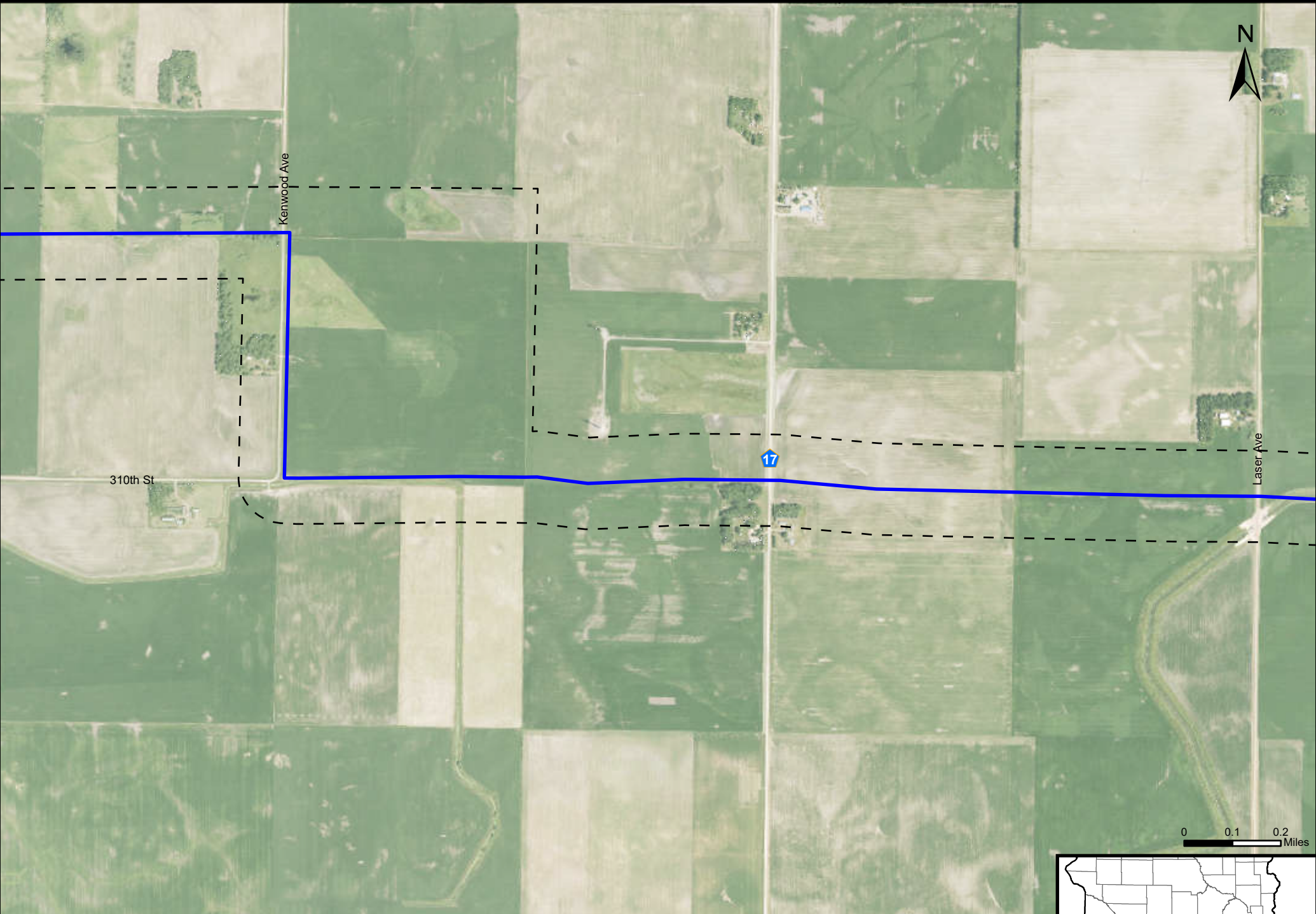


Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Redwood County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

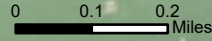
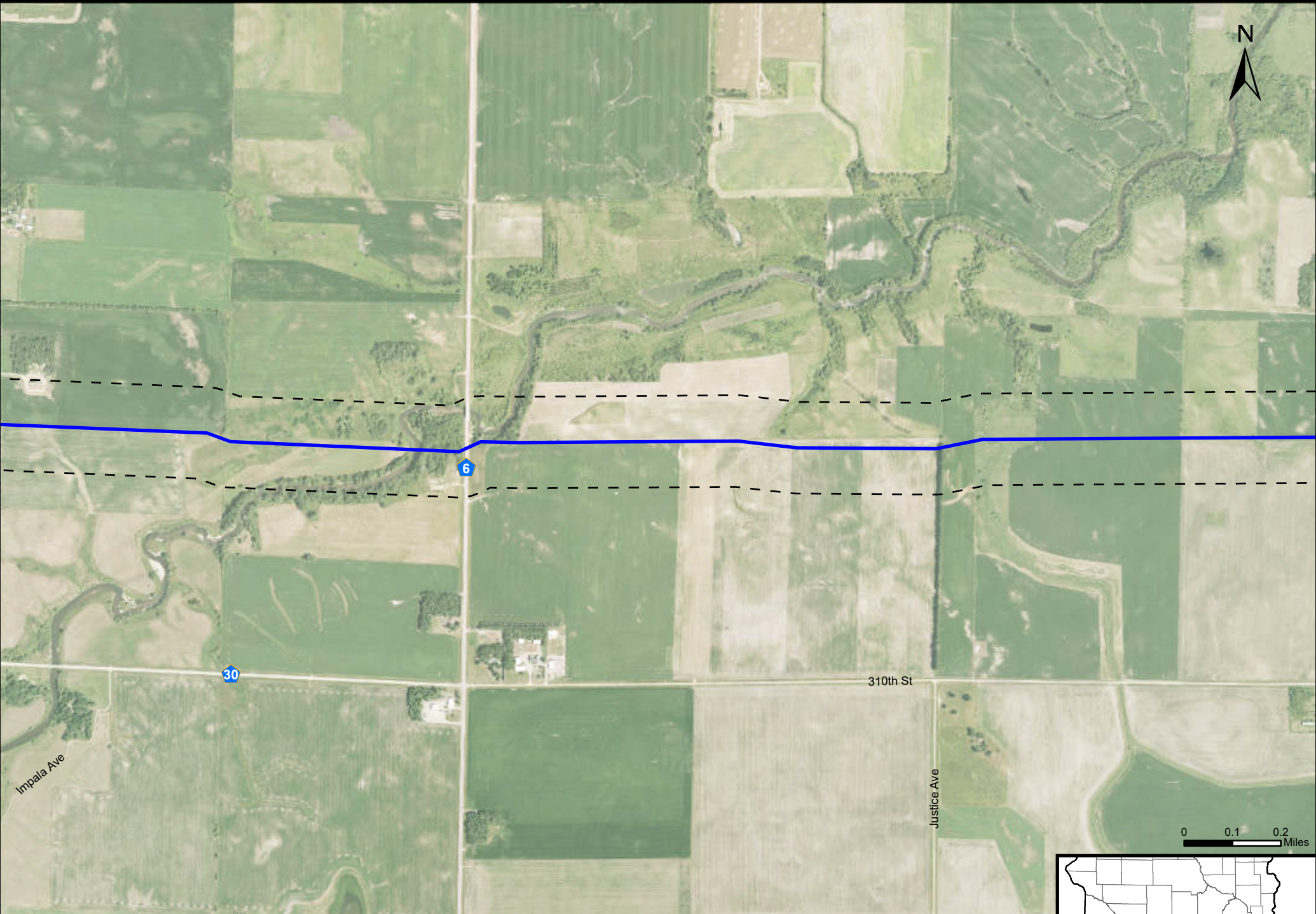
 Municipality
 County Boundary



Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Redwood County

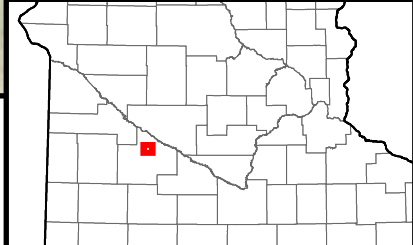
-  MNEC Approved Route
-  Route Width
-  Municipality
-  County Boundary

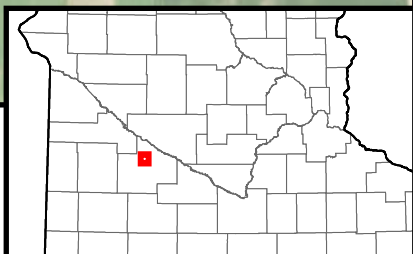
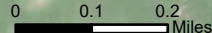
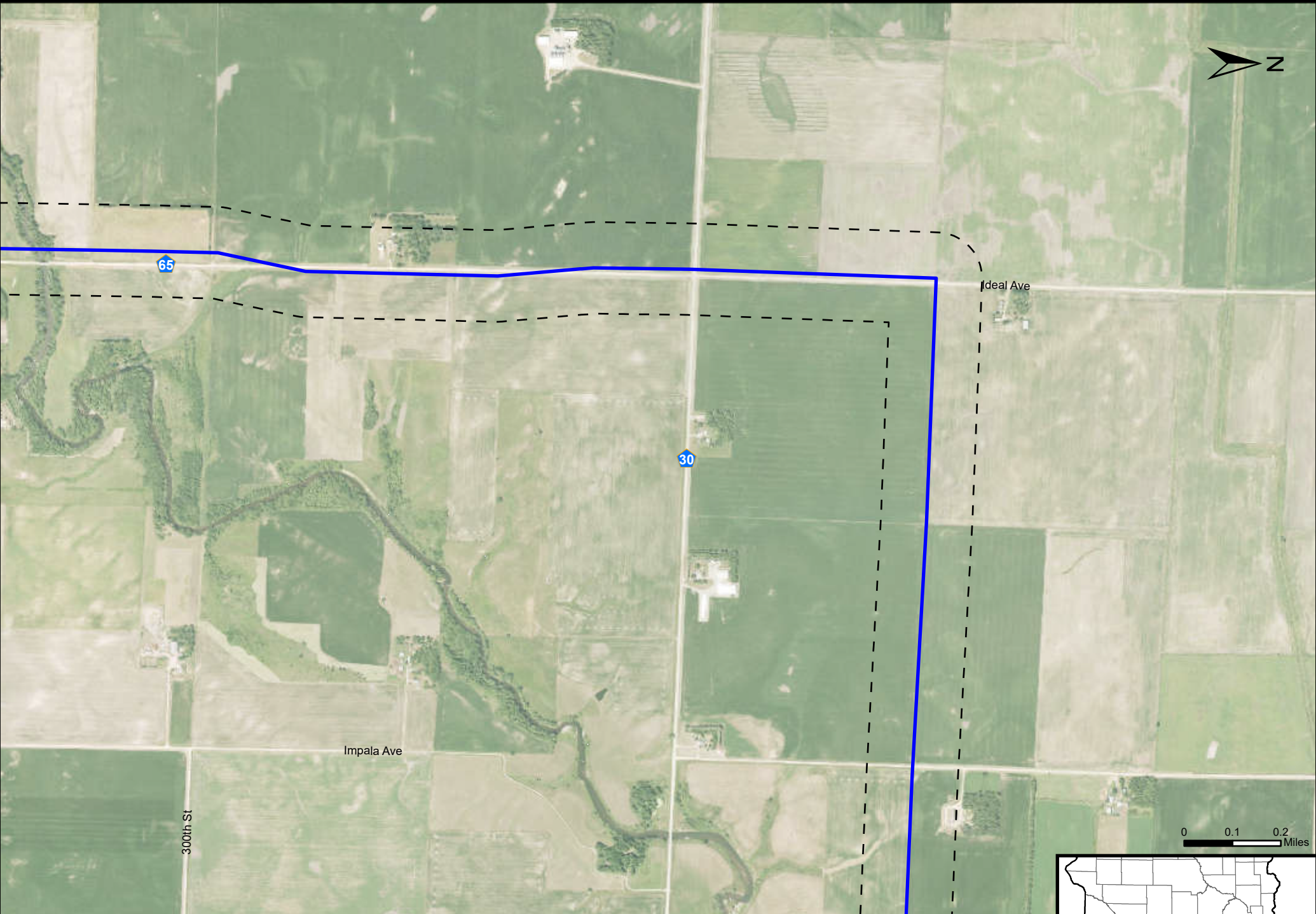


Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Redwood County

-  MNEC Approved Route
-  Route Width
-  Municipality
-  County Boundary





Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Redwood County

-  MNEC Approved Route
-  Route Width
-  Municipality
-  County Boundary



Ideal Ave

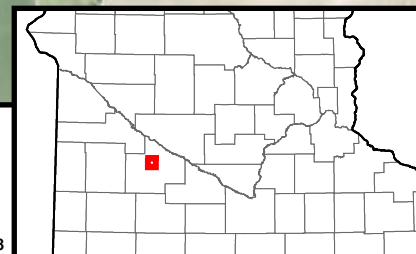
12

65

290th St



295th St



0 0.1 0.2 Miles

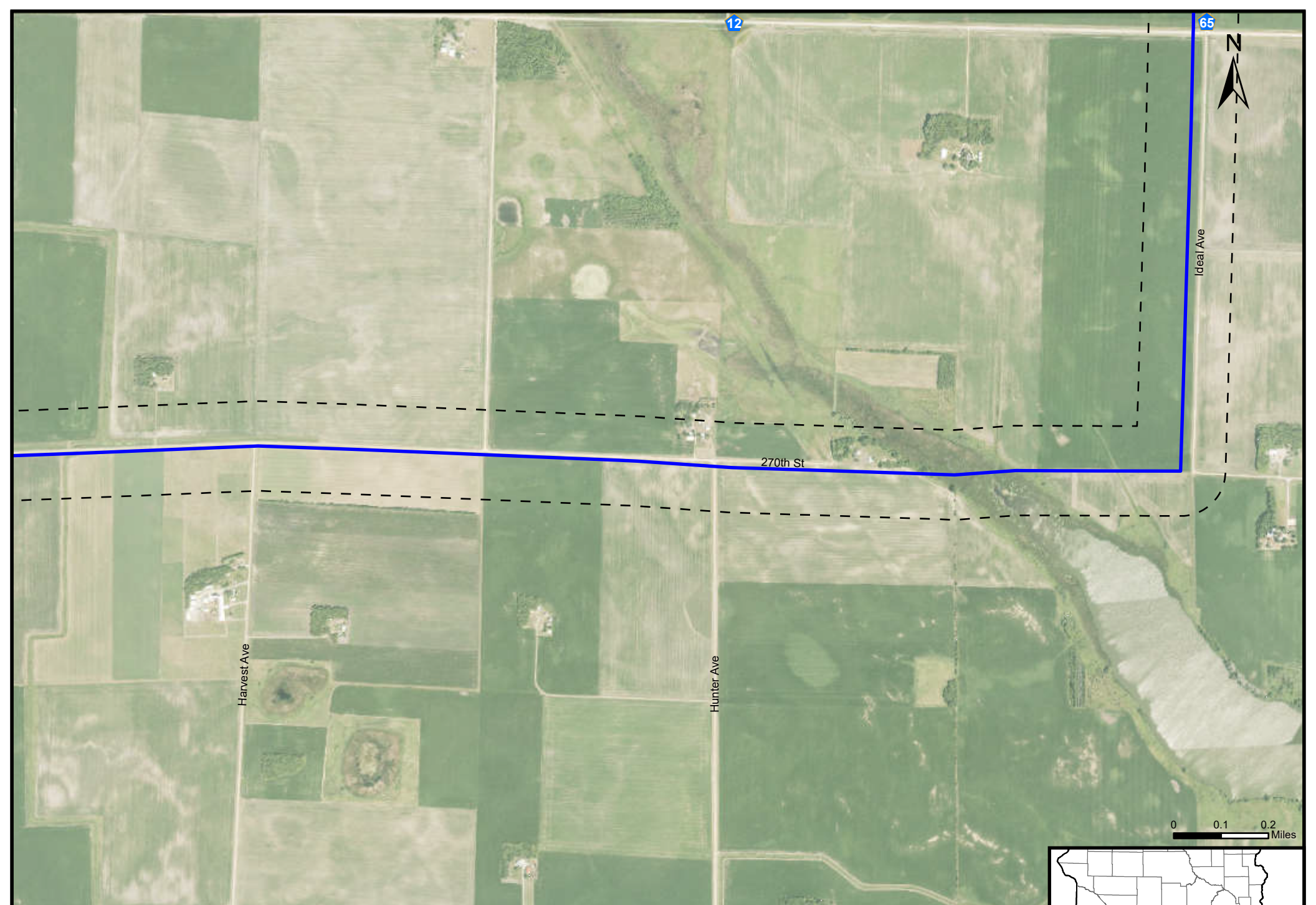


Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Redwood County

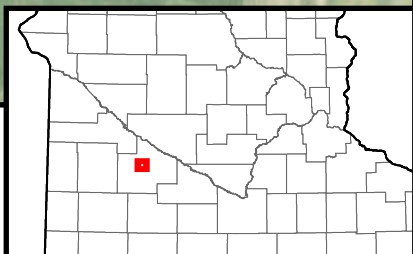
 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

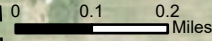
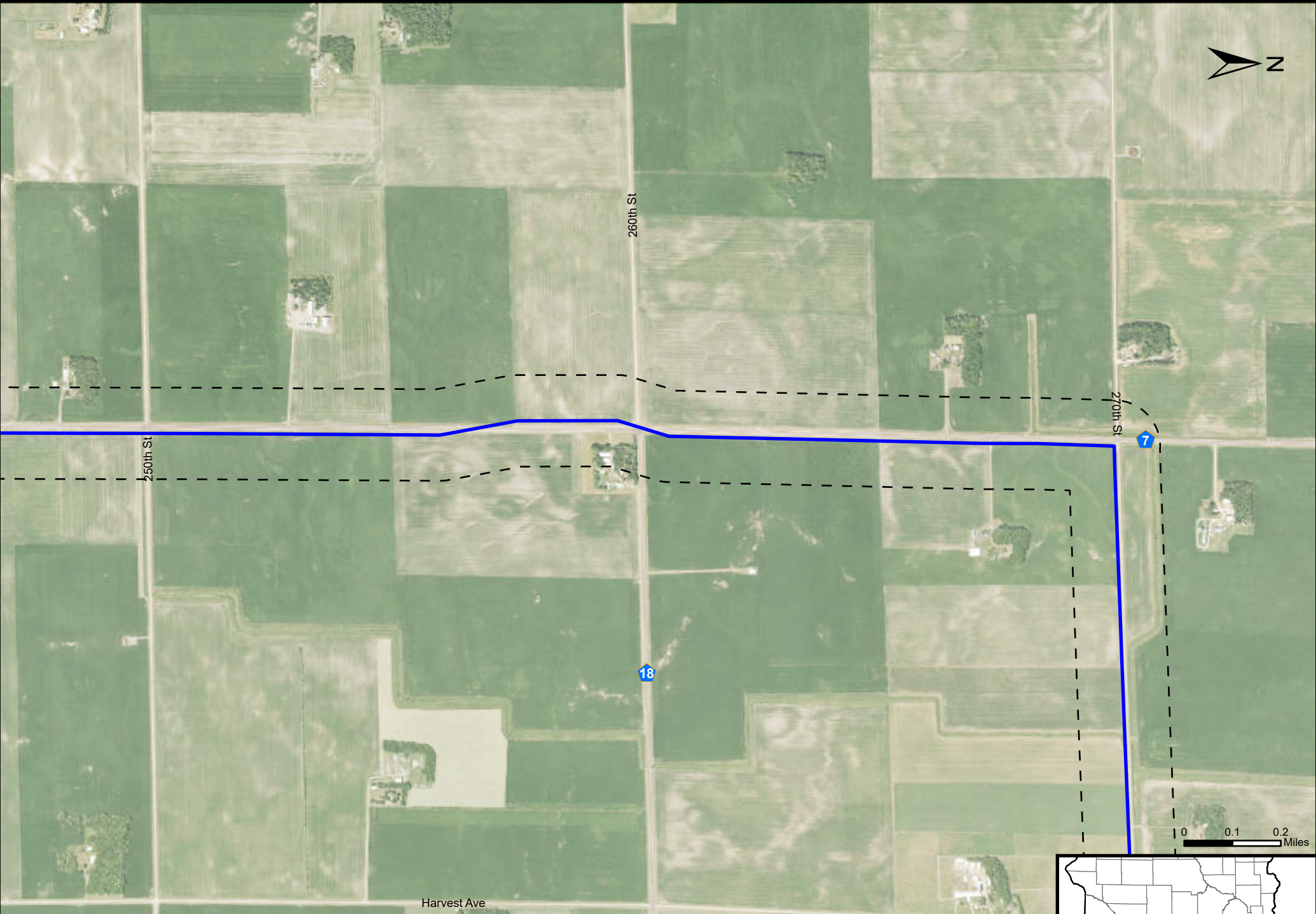
 Municipality
 County Boundary



Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Redwood County

- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary

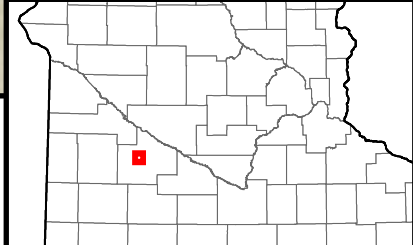




Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Redwood County

-  MNEC Approved Route
-  Route Width
-  Municipality
-  County Boundary





250th St

Garden Ave

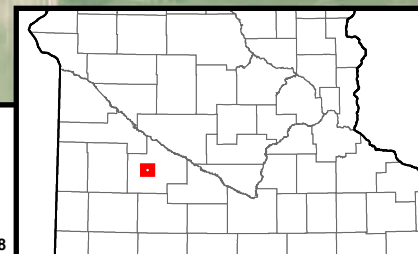
Frontier Ave

Intermediate
Substation
Siting Area 2

68



7



0 0.1 0.2 Miles



Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Redwood County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

 Municipality
 County Boundary



Lucan

Oak St
1st St
Pine St
2nd St
3rd St
4th St
Elm St

Intermediate
Substation
Siting Area 2

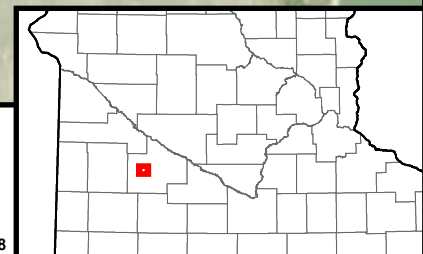
Frontier Ave

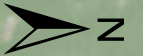
10

68

Fairview Ave

0 0.1 0.2 Miles





Duncan Ave

68

230th St



Intermediate Substation Siting Area 2



Eagle Ave

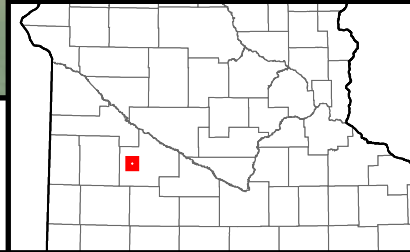
0 0.1 0.2 Miles

Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Redwood County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

 Municipality
 County Boundary





**Intermediate
Substation
Siting Area 1**

Duncan Ave

66

200th St



210th St



Eagle Ave

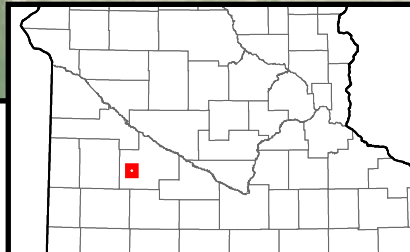
0 0.1 0.2 Miles

Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Redwood County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

 Municipality
 County Boundary





Intermediate
Substation
Siting Area 1

200th St

5

Duncan Ave

4

0 0.1 0.2 Miles


Minnesota Energy Connection

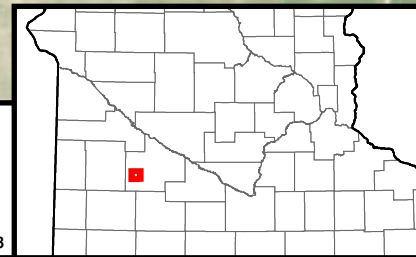
Route Maps | Redwood County

 MNEC Approved Route

 Route Width

 Municipality

 County Boundary





205th St

Crown Ave

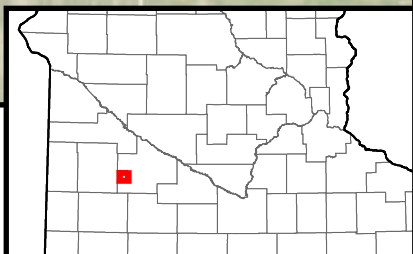
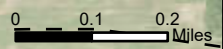
Intermediate
Substation
Siting Area 1

200th St

57



4



Bunker Ave



Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Redwood County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

 Municipality
 County Boundary



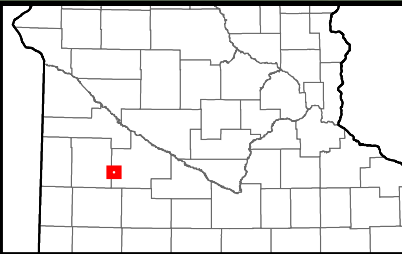
Lyon Redwood Rd

Aspen Ave

8



4



0 0.1 0.2 Miles

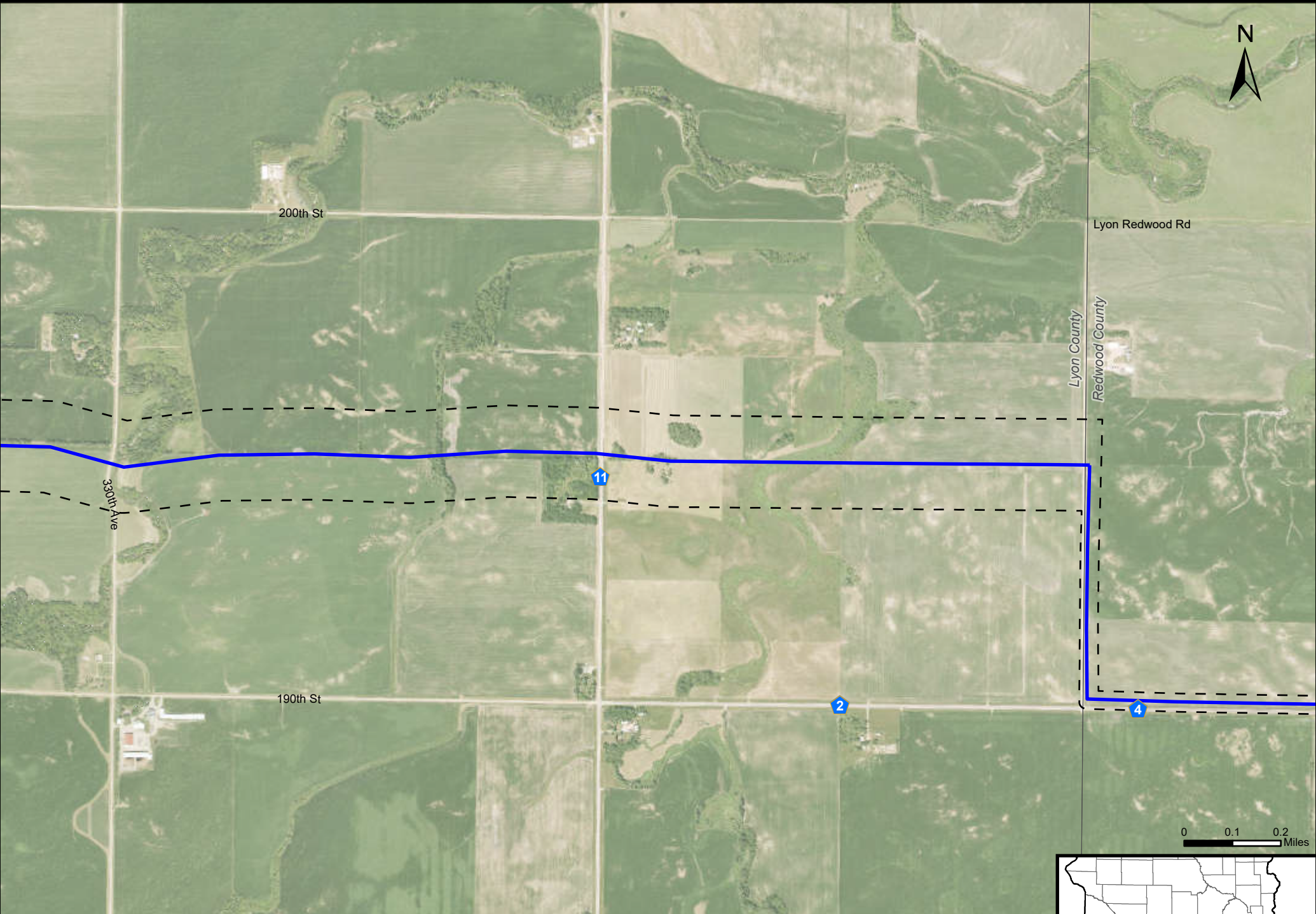


Minnesota Energy Connection

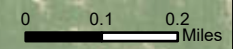
Route Maps | Redwood County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

 Municipality
 County Boundary






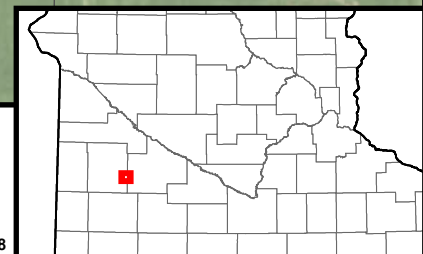
Lyon County
Redwood County

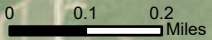
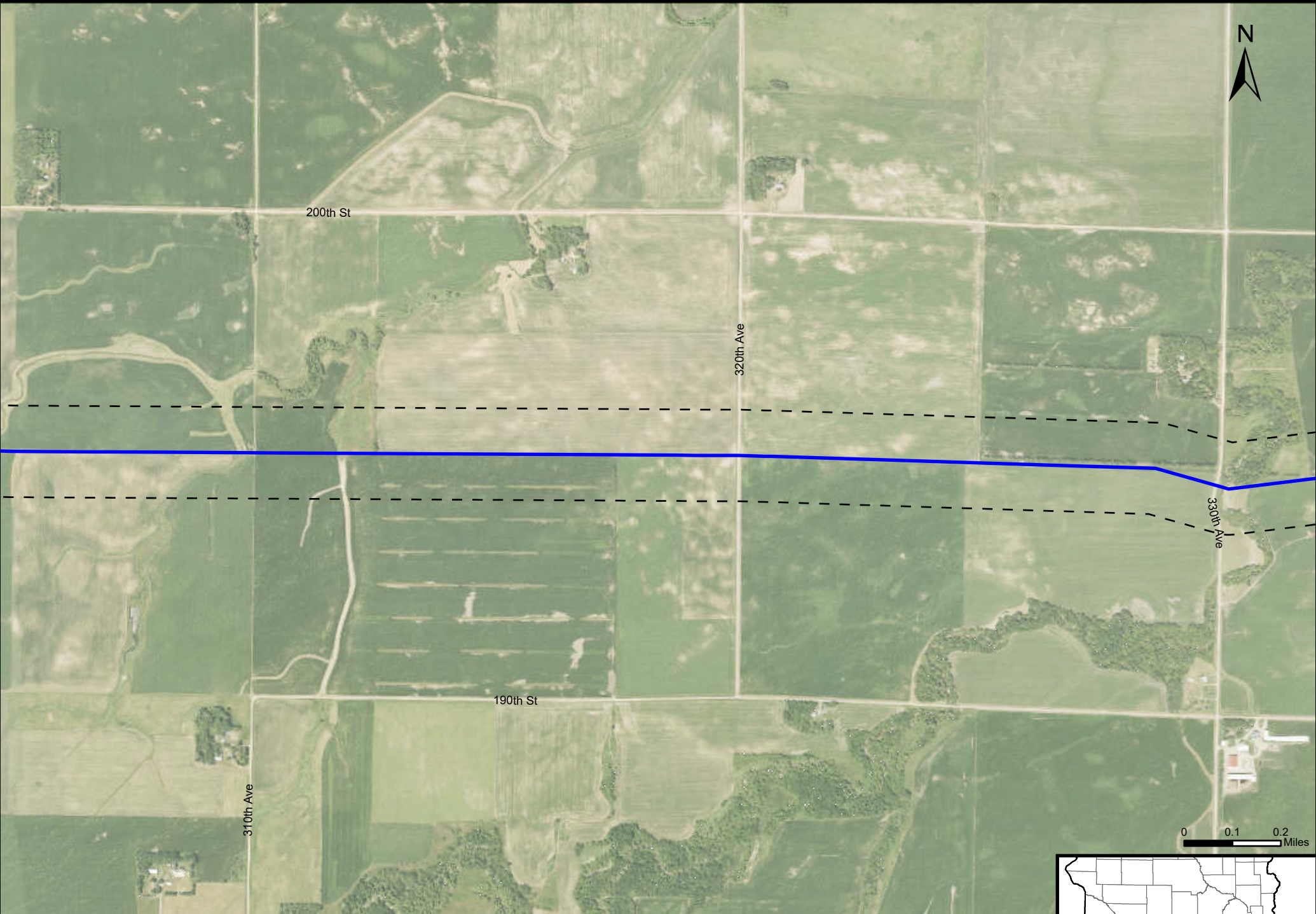


Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Redwood and Lyon County



-  MNEC Approved Route
-  Route Width
-  Municipality
-  County Boundary





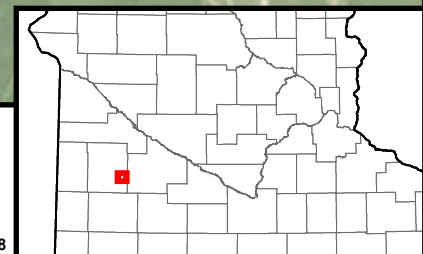


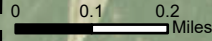
Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Lyon County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

 Municipality
 County Boundary

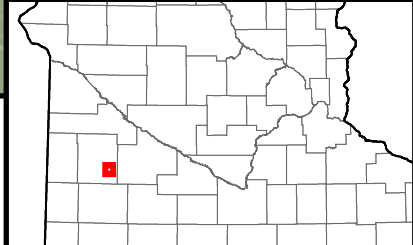


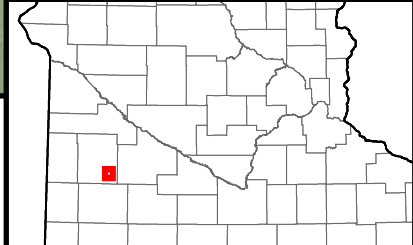
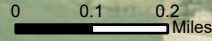
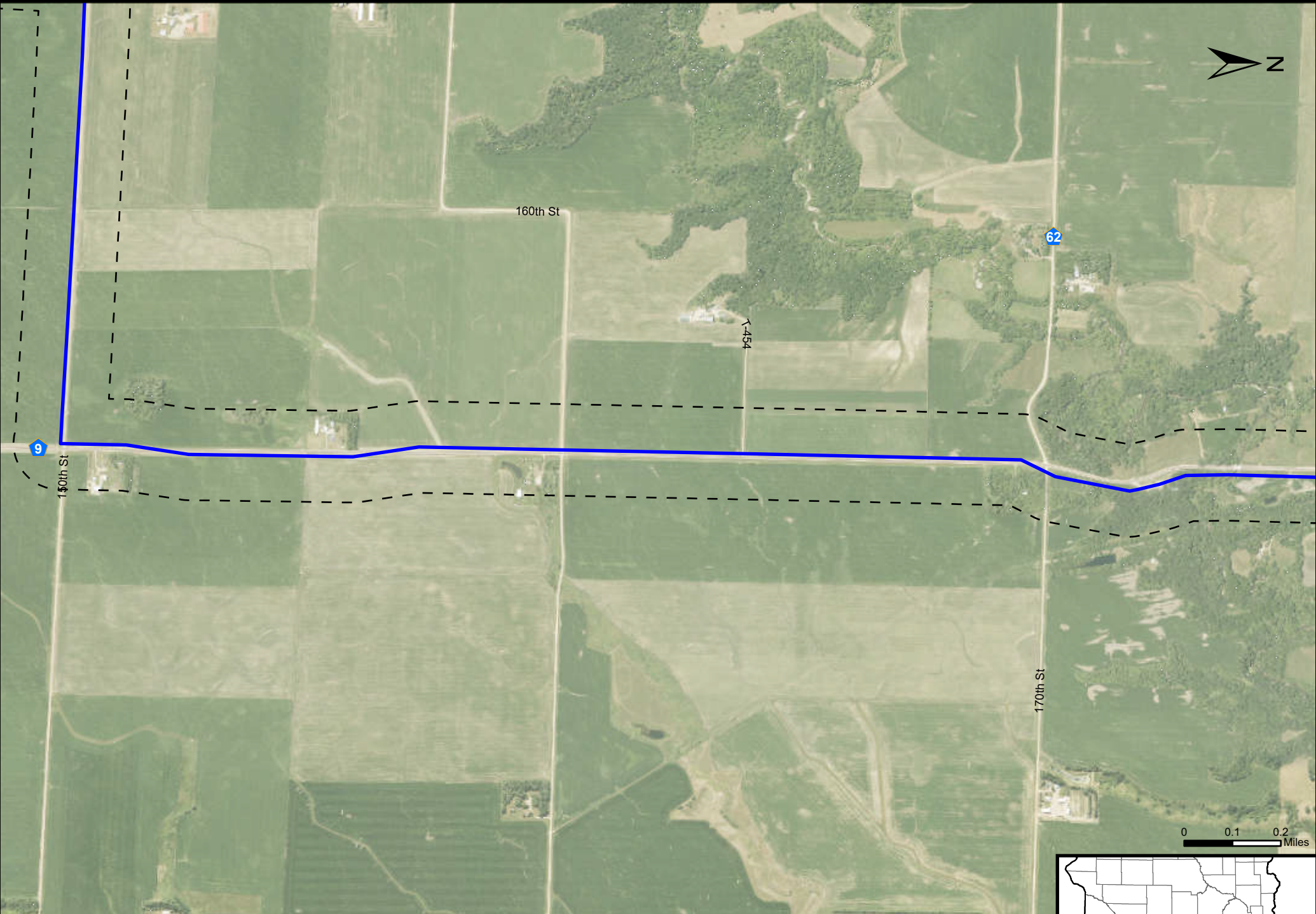
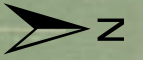


Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Lyon County

-  MNEC Approved Route
-  Route Width
-  Municipality
-  County Boundary





Minnesota Energy Connection
Route Maps | Lyon County

- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary



290th Ave

14

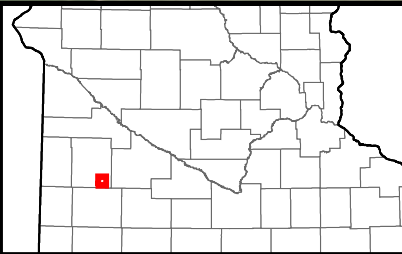
140th St

71

9



150th St



0 0.1 0.2 Miles



Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Lyon County

 MNEC Approved Route
 Route Width

 Municipality
 County Boundary

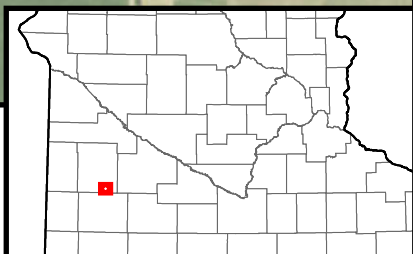


1st St **Garvin** 14

Minnesota Energy Connection

Route Maps | Lyon County

- MNEC Approved Route
- Route Width
- Municipality
- County Boundary



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Robin Benson, hereby certify that I have this day, served a true and correct copy of the following document to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list by electronic filing, electronic mail, courier, interoffice mail or by depositing the same enveloped with postage paid in the United States mail at St. Paul, Minnesota.

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission ORDER

Docket Numbers: E-002/TL-22-132

Dated this **24th** day of **April, 2026**

/s/ Robin Benson

#	First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Agency	Address	Delivery Method	Alternate Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
1	Lisa	Agrimonti	lagrimonti@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.		60 South Sixth Street Suite 1500 Minneapolis MN, 55402-4400 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
2	Mara	Ascheman	mara.k.ascheman@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy		414 Nicollet Mall Fl 5 Minneapolis MN, 55401 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
3	David	Bell	david.bell@state.mn.us		Department of Health	POB 64975 St. Paul MN, 55164 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
4	Sasha	Bergman	sasha.bergman@state.mn.us		Public Utilities Commission	121 7th Pl E Ste 350 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	22-132Official
5	Todd	Boonstra	todd_boonstra@fw.s.gov	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service		22274 615th Ave Litchfield MN, 55355 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
6	Mike	Bull	mike.bull@state.mn.us		Public Utilities Commission	121 7th Place East, Suite 350 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	22-132Official
7	Generic	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us		Office of the Attorney General - Department of Commerce	445 Minnesota Street Suite 1400 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	22-132Official
8	Water Programs	Coordinator	waterprograms.bw.sr@state.mn.us		Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources	520 Lafayette Road N St. Paul MN, 55155 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
9	Ian M.	Dobson	ian.m.dobson@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy		414 Nicollet Mall, 401-8 Minneapolis MN, 55401 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
10	Randall	Doneen	randall.doneen@state.mn.us		Department of Natural Resources	500 Lafayette Rd, PO Box 25 Saint Paul MN, 55155 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
11	Bret	Eknes	bret.eknes@state.mn.us		Public Utilities Commission	Suite 350 121 7th Place East St. Paul MN, 55101-2147 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
12	Kate	Fairman	kate.fairman@state.mn.us		Department of Natural Resources	Box 32 500 Lafayette Rd St. Paul MN,	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official

#	First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Agency	Address	Delivery Method	Alternate Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
						55155-4032 United States				
13	Annie	Felix Gerth	annie.felix-gerth@state.mn.us			Board of Water & Soil Resources 520 Lafayette Rd Saint Paul MN, 55155 United States	Electronic Service		No	22- 132Official
14	Sharon	Ferguson	sharon.ferguson@state.mn.us		Department of Commerce	85 7th Place E Ste 280 Saint Paul MN, 55101- 2198 United States	Electronic Service		No	22- 132Official
15	Scott	Groux	scott.groux@aes.com	Birch Coulee Solar LLC		2180 S 1300 E Suite 500 Salt Lake City UT, 84106 United States	Electronic Service		No	22- 132Official
16	Kari	Howe	kari.howe@state.mn.us		DEED	332 Minnesota St, #E200 1ST National Bank Bldg St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		No	22- 132Official
17	Dean	Hunter	dean.hunter@state.mn.us		Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry	443 Lafayette Rd N St. Paul MN, 55155-4341 United States	Electronic Service		No	22- 132Official
18	Wyatt	Johansen	wyatt.johansen14@gmail.com			11206 190th Street Tracy MN, 56175 United States	Electronic Service		No	22- 132Official
19	Breann	Jurek	bjurek@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson & Byron PA		60 S Sixth St Ste 1500 Minneapolis MN, 55402 United States	Electronic Service		No	22- 132Official
20	Raymond	Kirsch	raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us		Public Utilities Commission	121 7th Place E, Suite 350 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		No	22- 132Official
21	Chad	Konickson	chad.konickson@usace.army.mil	U.S.Army Corps of Engineers		332 Minnesota St. Suite E1500 Saint Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		No	22- 132Official
22	Stacy	Kotch Egstad	stacy.kotch@state.mn.us		MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	395 John Ireland Blvd. St. Paul MN, 55155 United States	Electronic Service		No	22- 132Official
23	Christine	Marquis	regulatory.records@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy		414 Nicollet Mall MN1180-07- MCA Minneapolis	Electronic Service		No	22- 132Official

#	First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Agency	Address	Delivery Method	Alternate Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
						MN, 55401 United States				
24	Dawn S	Marsh	dawn_marsh@fw s.gov	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service		Minnesota- Wisconsin Field Offices 4101 American Blvd E Bloomington MN, 55425 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
25	James	Mortenson	james.mortenson@state.mn.us		Office of Administrative Hearings	PO BOX 64620 St. Paul MN, 55164-0620 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
26	Carol A.	Overland	overland@legalectric.org	Legalelectric - Overland Law Office		1110 West Avenue Red Wing MN, 55066 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
27	Stephen	Rakow	stephen.rakow @state.mn.us		Department of Commerce	Suite 280 85 Seventh Place East St. Paul MN, 55101-2198 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
28	Generic Notice	Residential Utilities Division	residential.utilities@ag.state.mn.us		Office of the Attorney General - Residential Utilities Division	1400 BRM Tower 445 Minnesota St St. Paul MN, 55101-2131 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	22-132Official
29	Stephan	Roos	stephan.roos@state.mn.us		Minnesota Department of Agriculture	625 Robert St N Saint Paul MN, 55155- 2538 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
30	Janet	Shaddix Elling	jshaddix@janetshaddix.com	Shaddix And Associates		7400 Lyndale Ave S Ste 190 Richfield MN, 55423 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
31	Bria	Shea	bria.e.shea@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy		414 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis MN, 55401 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
32	Suzanne	Todnem	suzanne.todnem@state.mn.us		Office of Administrative Hearings	600 Robert Street North PO Box 64620 St. Paul MN, 55164 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
33	Jayne	Trusty	execdir@sw rdc.org	SWRDC		2401 Broadw ay Ave #1 Slayton MN, 56172 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official

#	First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Agency	Address	Delivery Method	Alternate Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
34	Jen	Tyler	tyler.jennifer@epa.gov	US Environmental Protection Agency		Environmental Planning & Evaluation Unit 77 W Jackson Blvd. Mailstop B-19J Chicago IL, 60604-3590 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
35	Garrick	Valverde	garrick.valverde@apexcleanenergy.com	Apex Clean Energy		8665 Hudson Boulevard North Suite 200 Lake Elmo MN, 55042 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
36	Haley	Waller Pitts	hw.allerpitts@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.		60 S Sixth St Ste 1500 Minneapolis MN, 55402-4400 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
37	Cynthia	Warzecha	cynthia.warzecha@state.mn.us	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources		500 Lafayette Road Box 25 St. Paul MN, 55155-4040 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
38	Alan	Whipple	sa.property@state.mn.us		Minnesota Department Of Revenue	Property Tax Division 600 N. Robert Street St. Paul MN, 55146-3340 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official
39	Jonathan	Wolfgram	jonathan.wolfgram@state.mn.us		Office of Pipeline Safety	445 Minnesota St Ste 147 Woodbury MN, 55125 United States	Electronic Service		No	22-132Official