

BSSA Big Stone South to Alexandria

WELCOME

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

SECOND ROUND

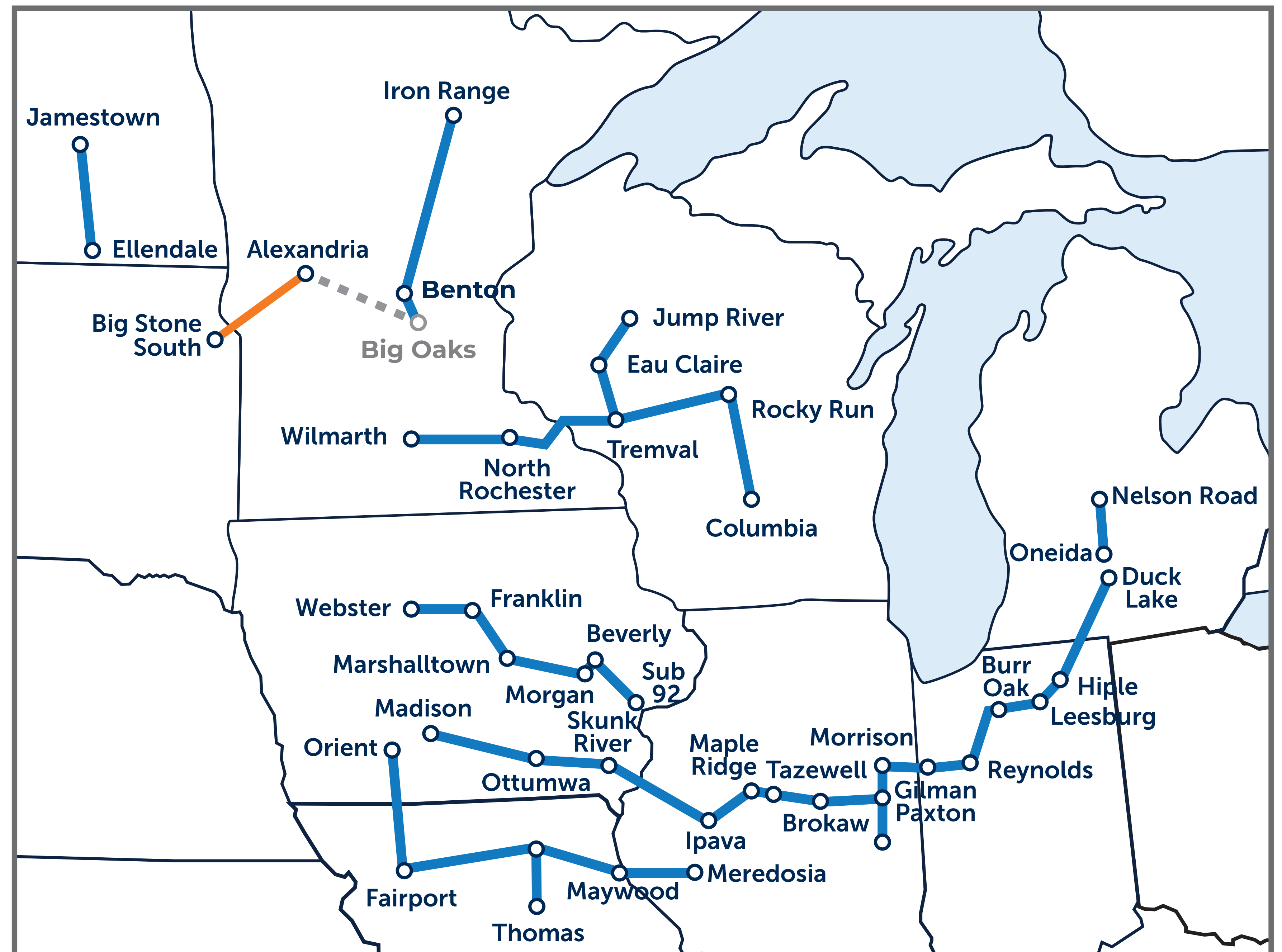




Both Otter Tail Power Company and Missouri River Energy Services are members of the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, also referred to as MISO.

MISO is a non-profit, member-based regional transmission organization that provides reliable, cost-effective electric systems and operations; dependable and transparent prices; open access to markets; and planning for long-term efficiency.

MISO has approved 18 new transmission projects throughout the Midwest that are needed by 2030 to ensure a **reliable** and **resilient** transmission system in the future.

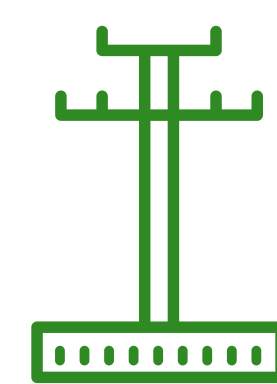


Otter Tail Power Company and **Missouri River Energy Services** (representing *Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency*) are partnering to develop, construct, and co-own a new 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line. The Big Stone South to Alexandria transmission line (BSSA) will run between Otter Tail Power Company’s Big Stone South Substation in South Dakota and the Alexandria Substation owned by Missouri River Energy Services near Alexandria, Minnesota.

The project will benefit the region by helping to:



Ensure electric reliability



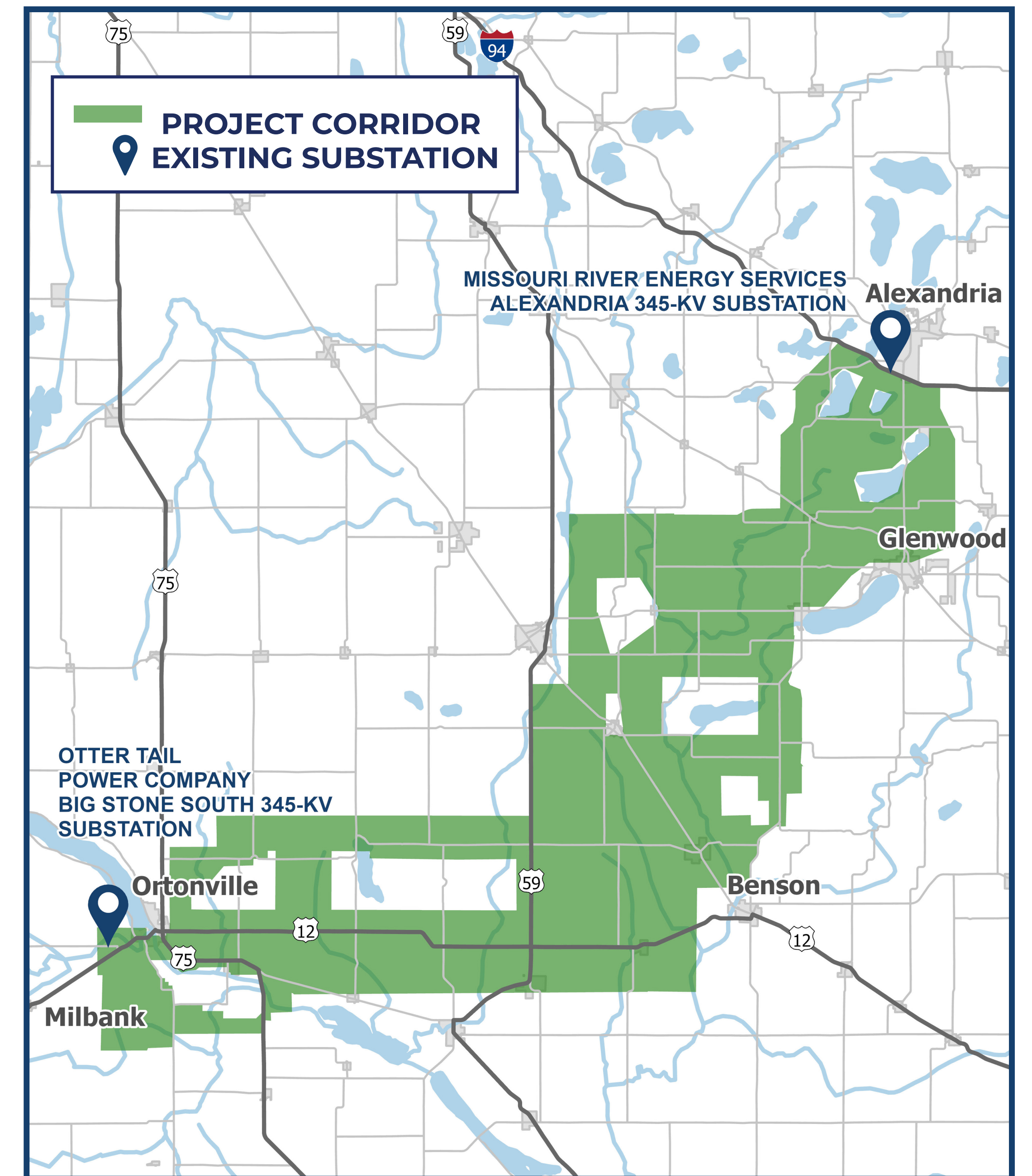
Reduce transmission congestion



Increase access to low-cost energy



Increase resiliency to extreme weather events

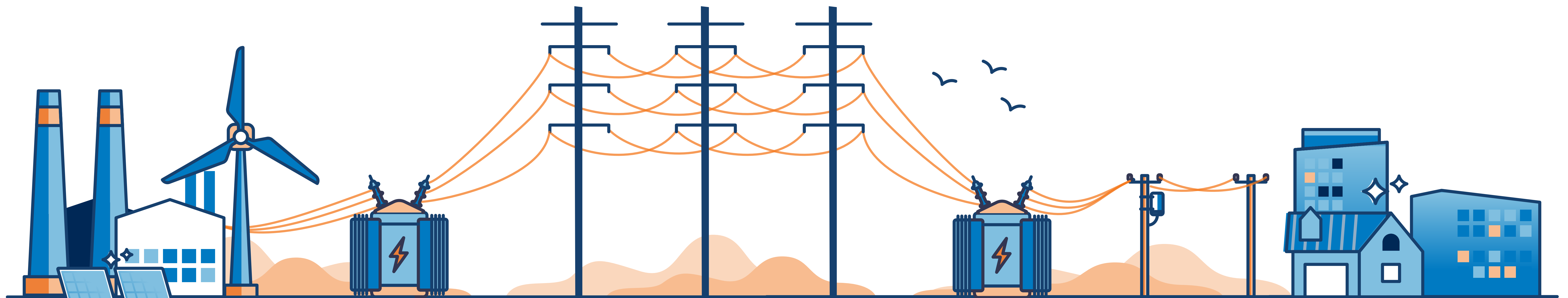


▲ Project corridor is marked in green on the map above and is subject to change.

1 Electricity can be generated in many ways, including coal-fired plants, wind power, combustion turbines, solar power, and hydroelectric plants.

3 Transmission lines carry high-voltage electricity long distances from where it's produced to where it'll be used.

5 Distribution lines carry the electricity on the lower voltage systems to neighborhoods and communities.



2 Electricity is brought onto the grid where it connects to the high-voltage transmission system.

4 Transformers lower the voltage of electricity so it can be safely delivered to customers.

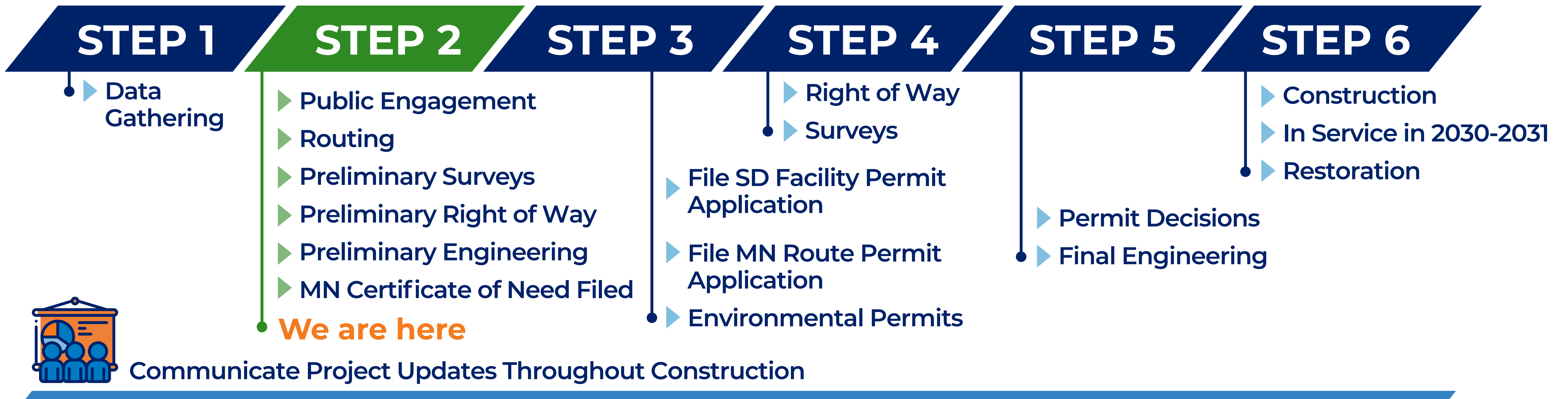
Generation

Transmission

Distribution



Engagement Opportunities



Processes and timing may vary from MN to SD. Our project team will refine the timing of these steps to be in compliance with each respective state's requirements.

The BSSA transmission line will be constructed in both Minnesota and South Dakota, and the two states have different processes and timelines. Both states consider compliance with relevant laws and rules, as well as its potential impacts on the environment, inhabitants in the routing area, and orderly development of the region. After we've filed, the PUCs in each state will provide opportunities for additional feedback through public meetings and hearings.



MINNESOTA

Two major approvals must be obtained from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MN PUC) before a high voltage transmission line can be built: a Certificate of Need and a Route Permit. The Certificate of Need proceeding examines whether the proposed facilities are necessary and what the appropriate size, configuration and timing of the project should be. In a separate Route Permit proceeding, the MN PUC determines the route and design of the line.



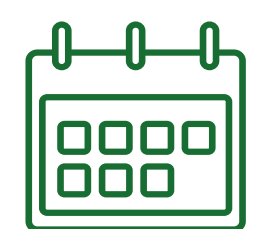
CERTIFICATE OF NEED

- ▶ Public meetings



ROUTE PERMIT

- ▶ Public meetings
- ▶ Public hearings



ROUTE PERMIT APPLICATION DECISION

Estimated timeline is 18-24 months from time of route permit application filing anticipated in Q4 of 2024.



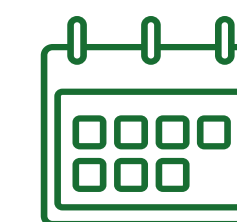
SOUTH DAKOTA

There is one major approval that needs to be obtained from the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (SD PUC) before a high voltage transmission line can be built: a Facility permit. The SD PUC reviews routing applications for high voltage transmission lines, and if approved, issues an order granting a Facility Permit authorizing the construction and operation of the facility.



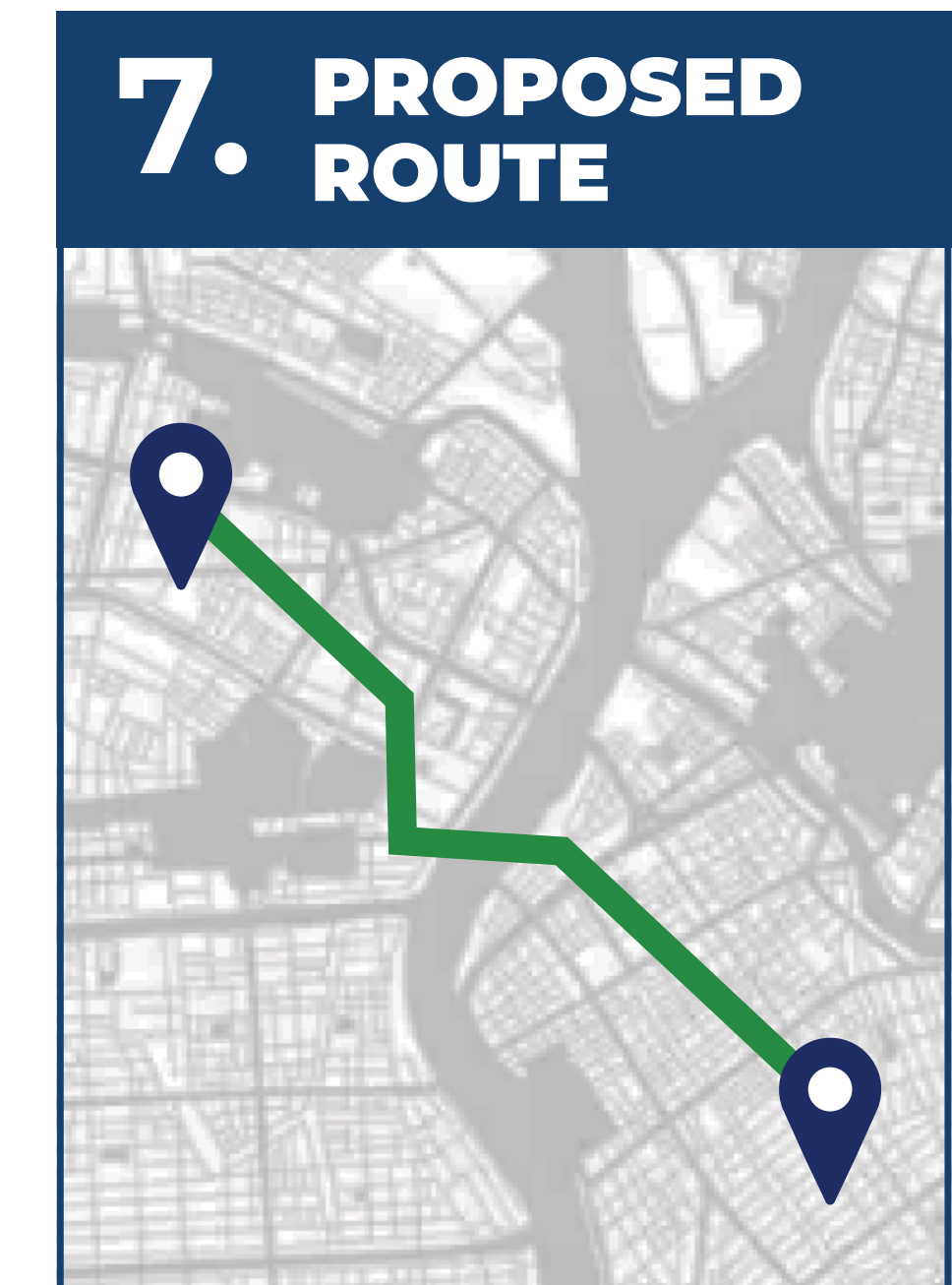
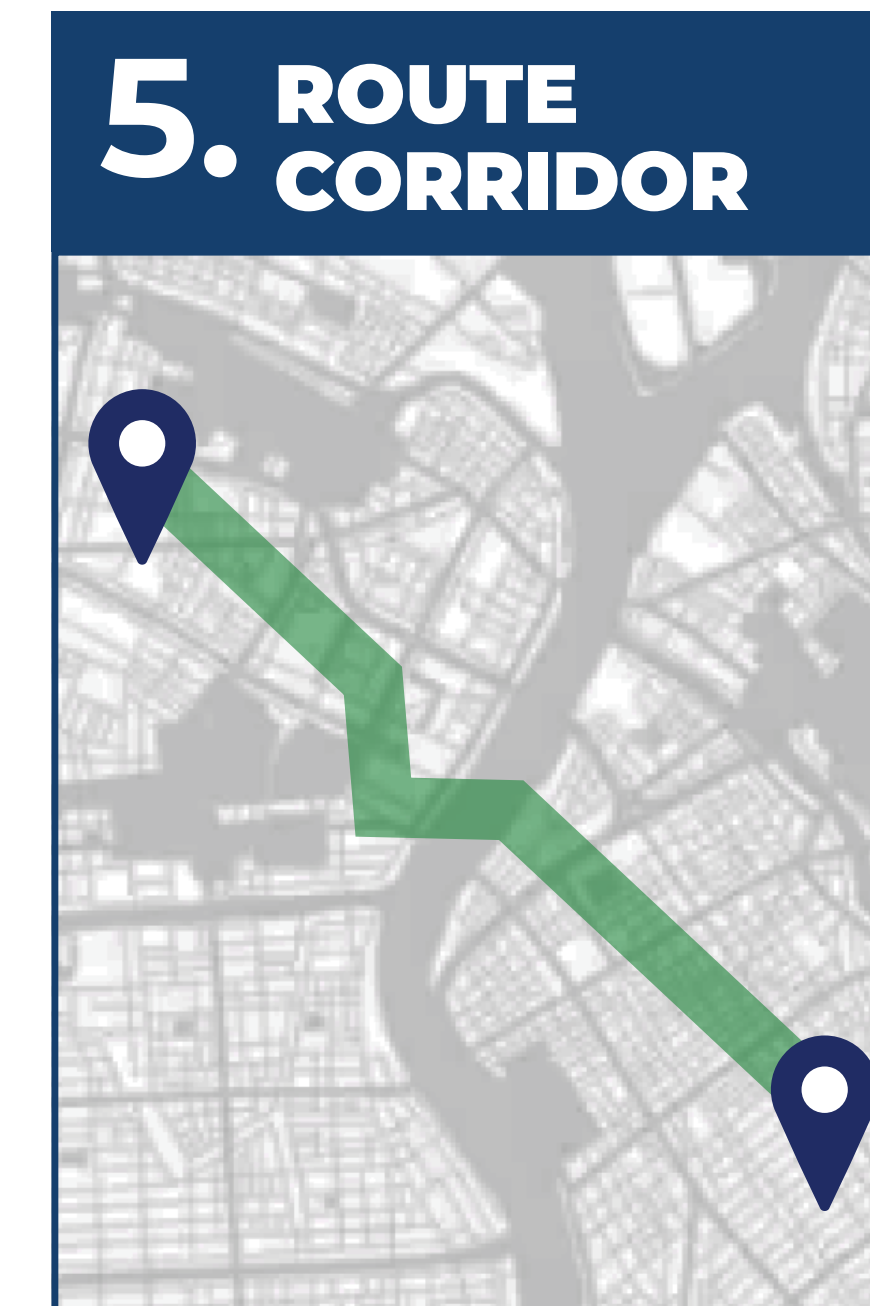
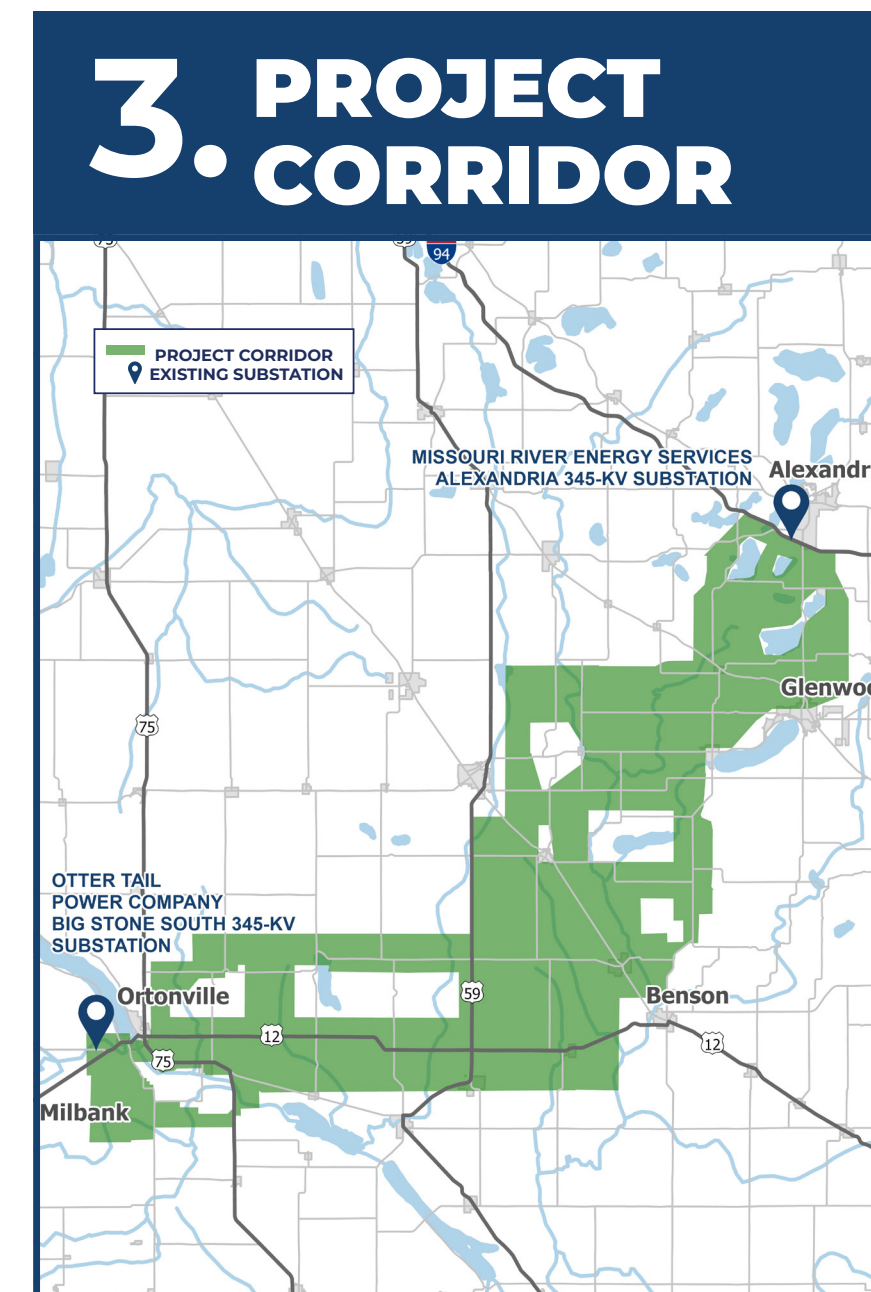
FACILITY PERMIT

- ▶ Public hearing



FACILITY PERMIT APPLICATION DECISION

To be completed within 12 months from time of facility permit application filing anticipated in early Q2 of 2024.



With an established project need from MISO, we identified a large study area that contained both substations.

A series of open houses were held to introduce the project and provide an opportunity to ask questions and provide input early.

The team utilized the input gathered to identify project corridors where construction may be possible.

Another series of open houses will gather input to help the team identify opportunities and constraints within the project corridor.

The project team will use the feedback received to continue narrowing the project corridor into a proposed route corridor.

A third and final series of open houses will be held to provide the opportunity for additional feedback on the route corridor.

A proposed route will be submitted to the Public Utilities Commission, who will review and hold a public hearing before making a decision on the route permit.

MONOPOLE

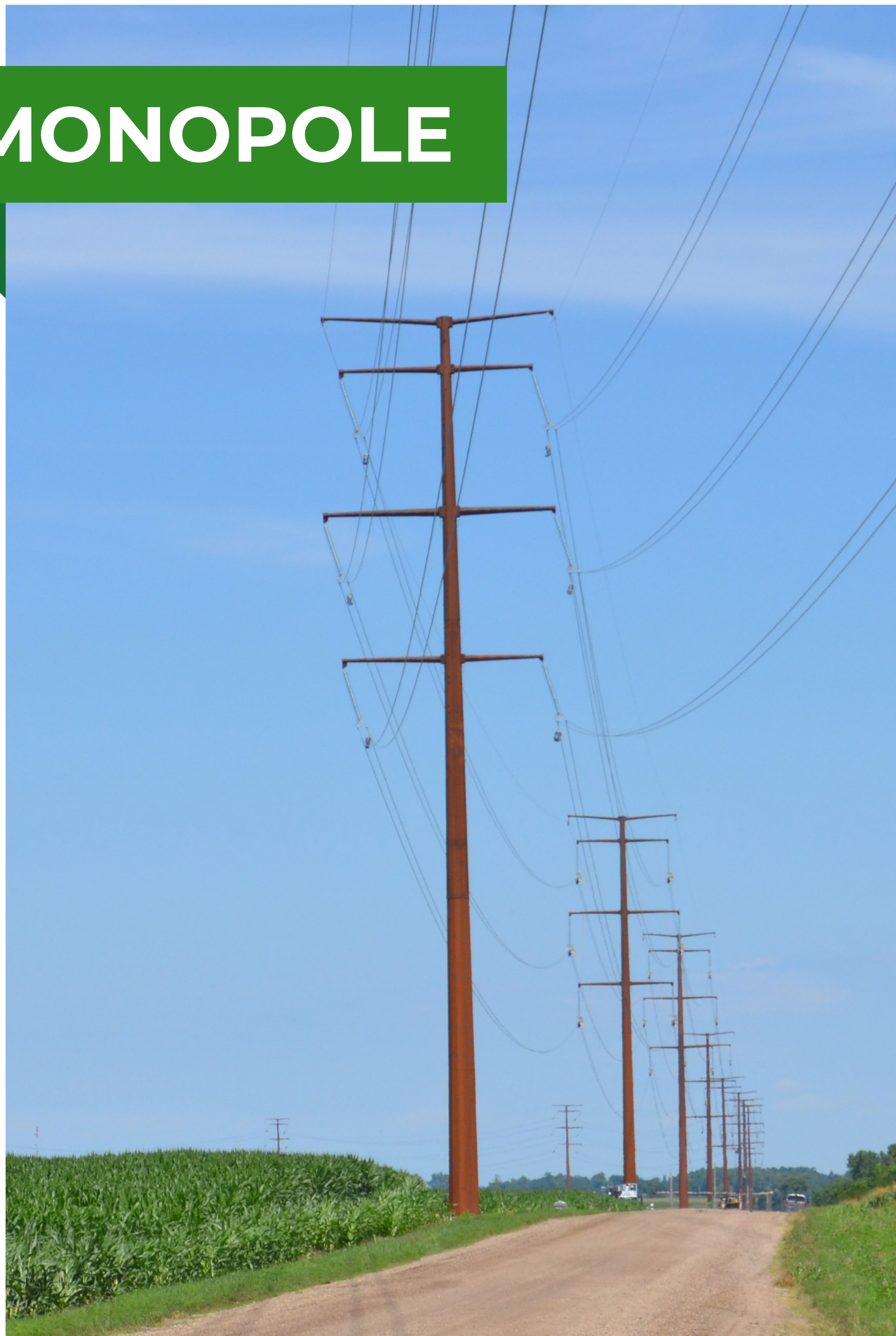
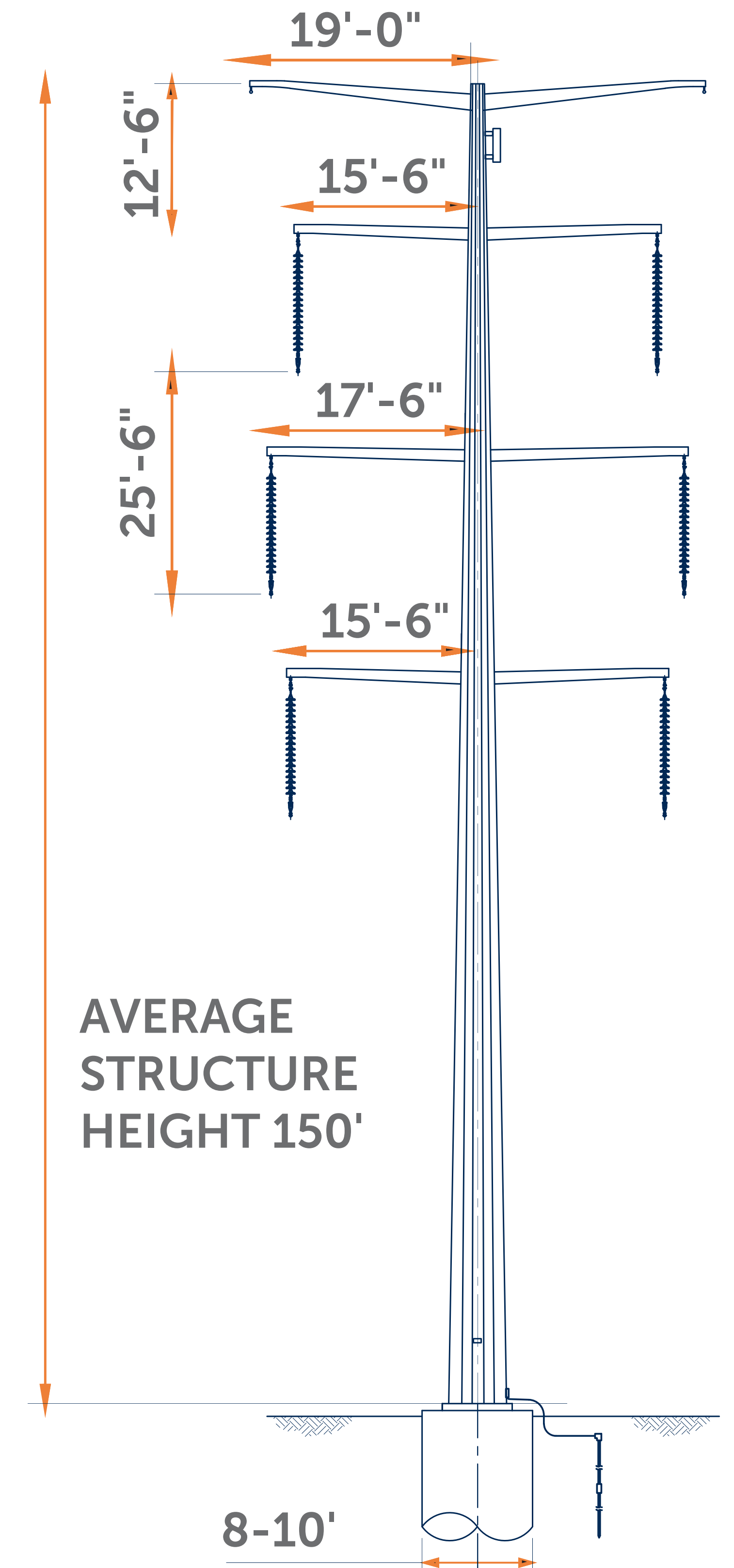


Image shown is an example of a similar double-circuit structure.

The typical structure will be 150 feet tall.

The structure type may vary across the project but primarily will be comprised of single pole, self-weathering steel with double circuit capability, meaning it can support a second set of conductors.

There will be three phases of conductors and two overhead shield wires—one will be an optical ground wire (OPGW) and the other stranded steel (overhead ground wire).



ONGOING OUTREACH

Long before construction begins, right-of-way agents will be out coordinating with landowners, local government agencies, and other stakeholders. You will be involved throughout the process, and if you have any questions or concerns, our project team will work with you!

1.



Surveys

2.



Temporary Access

3.



Foundation Drilling & Pouring

4.



Structure Setting

5.



Conductor Stringing

6.



Restoration

? What is Right of Way?

Right of way is a portion of land needed for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the transmission line. Typically a width of 150 feet is needed for a 345-kV transmission line. Right of way is typically secured through negotiation and acquisition of an easement agreement.

? What is Right of Entry?

To assess potential routes and conduct the necessary environmental, engineering, and geologic studies/surveys, right-of-way agents will work with landowners and residents to acquire a temporary right-of-entry agreement. This agreement does not give permission for construction.

? What is an Easement?

An easement is the legal document that allows Otter Tail Power Company and Missouri River Energy Services to construct, operate, and maintain transmission structures and lines on your property.

A **150-foot-wide easement** will be necessary to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed 345-kV transmission line.

? Right-of-way agents will reach out to landowners in potential routing areas to discuss right-of-way needs.

1  Landowners in the project area will be notified of the project, and right-of-way agents will reach out to begin the acquisition process.

2  A right-of-way agent will present the landowner an easement based on the fair market value.

3  We'll work with landowners to resolve any questions or concerns and reach an agreement to grant an easement.

4  Once the project receives final approval, the utilities will construct, operate, and maintain the transmission line.

You will be involved throughout the process, and if you have any questions or concerns, our project team will work with you!

Stay Informed

To stay up-to-date on the project, you can visit our website at:

 www.BigStoneSouthtoAlexandria.com

Use your phone's camera to scan the QR code.



Get Connected

Our next round of public meetings will be early 2024. We hope you are able to join us as we provide more information regarding the development of this project.

There will be many opportunities to participate throughout the project development and permitting process. You can submit feedback, attend public meetings, ask questions, and learn more!



Questions or comments about the project?

connect@BigStoneSouthtoAlexandria.com

(800) 598-5587