

STATE OF MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

**ROUTE PERMIT FOR
Big Stone South to Alexandria 345 kV Transmission Line**

A HIGH-VOLTAGE TRANSMISSION LINE AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES

**IN
Big Stone, Swift, Pope, Stevens and Douglas Counties, MN**

**ISSUED TO
Otter Tail Power Company and Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency**

PUC DOCKET NO. E017, ET10/TL-23-160

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

Otter Tail Power Company and Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency

are authorized by this route permit to construct and operate a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line along a route approved by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

The high-voltage transmission line shall be constructed within the route identified in this route permit and in compliance with the conditions specified in this route permit.

Approved and adopted this 25th day of June, 2026

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION



Sasha Bergman,
Executive Secretary

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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 Otter Tail Power Company and Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (Permittees) pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 216E and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7850. This route permit authorizes the Permittee to construct and operate an approximately 92.3-mile 345 kilovolt (kV) double-circuit capable transmission line and associated facilities in Big Stone, Swift, Stevens, Pope, and Douglas counties, Minnesota (Minnesota portion of the Big Stone South to Alexandria Transmission Line Project, henceforth known as Transmission Facility). The high-voltage transmission line shall be constructed within the route identified in this route permit and in compliance with the conditions specified in this route permit.

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

Permittees will construct and operate an approximately 92.3-mile 345 kilovolt (kV) double-circuit capable transmission line and associated facilities in Big Stone, Swift, Stevens, Pope, and Douglas counties, Minnesota. The Transmission Facility consists of the following three regions:

- 1) South Region: construction of a new, up to approximately 39.8 miles of double circuit capable 345-kV transmission line from the Minnesota-South Dakota border approximately one mile south of Ortonville, Minnesota to a point in Tara Township, Swift County, Minnesota;
- 2) Central Region: construction of a new, up to approximately 34.4 miles of double circuit capable 345-kV transmission line from a point in Tara Township to a point in Ben Wade Township, Pope County, Minnesota; and
- 3) North Region: construction of a new, up to approximately 18.1 miles of double circuit capable 345-kV transmission line from a point in Ben Wade Township to the existing Alexandria Substation near the city of Alexandria, Douglas County, Minnesota.

Refer to the attached Detailed Route Maps to view permitted route locations.

The Transmission Facility will also include associated facilities.

The Transmission Facility is located in the following:

County	Township Name	Township	Range	Section
Big Stone	Ortonville	121	46	13-15, 21-24
Big Stone	Odessa	121	45	16-25
Big Stone	Akron	121	44	8-17, 19-21, 28-30
Swift	Shible	121	43	13-18
Swift	Moyer	121	42	1, 11-18
Swift	Marysland	121	41	6, 7, 18
Swift	Fairfield	122	42	12, 13, 24, 25, 36
Swift	Tara	122	41	4, 5, 7-9, 16-19, 30, 31
Stevens	Moore	123	41	3-5, 8, 9, 16, 17, 20, 21, 28, 29, 32, 33
Stevens	Hodges	124	41	1, 2, 11-16, 21-24, 27, 28, 32-34
Pope	Walden	124	40	3-10, 17, 18
Pope	New Prairie	125	40	1, 2, 11, 12, 14, 22, 23, 26, 27, 34, 35
Pope	White Bear Lake	125	39	5, 6, 7, 8
Pope	Ben Wade	126	39	1, 2, 11-14, 23, 24, 26, 32-35
Douglas	Holmes City	127	39	25, 36
Douglas	Lake Mary	127	38	1-3, 10, 15, 16, 21, 22, 28-33
Douglas	La Grand	128	38	35, 36

2.1 Structures

The Transmission Facility is anticipated to be constructed on steel-monopole structures. Specialty structures such as H-frame or two- or three-pole structures may be used where unique features are encountered along the route, such as crossing roadways or other transmission lines. The Transmission Facility is expected to require approximately 525 to 575 transmission structures between 90 and 180 feet tall with spans ranging from 200 to 1,400 feet between structures, depending on geological, environmental, or engineering constraints identified during micro-siting. The maximum actual span distances will be determined on a case-by-case basis depending on a number of site-specific considerations such as terrain and

structure location. The structures will be bolted to concrete, drilled pier foundations embedded in the ground. Foundation sizes vary generally from 7 to 14 feet in diameter and from 25 to 80 feet in depth.

2.2 Conductors

The Transmission Facility will include the initial installation of a single-circuit 345 kV transmission line and associated grounding wires, one of which will be an optical ground wire (OPGW) for relaying communications and the second will be an overhead ground wire (OHGW). Each circuit of the line will consist of three sets of conductors, one for each phase, hung vertically from insulators attached to davit arms on each side of the monopole structure. Each phase will have a total of two conductor bundles with 18-inch, vertical spacing. The phase conductors are expected to be twisted pair (TP), 636 ACSR “Grosbeak.” TP conductors consist of two conductors placed side by side and twisted at a predefined distance by the manufacturer. Each phase will consist of two of these TP conductors to provide optimal current carrying capacity at 345 kV.

The table below details specifics on the various structure and conductor types as presented in the route permit application and final environmental impact statement.

Line Type	Conductor	Structure		Foundation Diameter (feet)	Height (feet)	Span (Average) (feet)
		Type	Material			
345 kV Double-circuit Tangent, Standard	Twisted pair (TP), 636 Aluminum Conductor Steel Reinforced (ACSR) “Grosbeak” or similar performance conductor	Monopole with Davit Arms	Corten (weathered) Steel	8 to 9	100 to 180	400 to 1,400
345 kV Double-circuit Running Angle	TP, 636 ACSR “Grosbeak” or similar performance conductor	Monopole with Davit Arms	Corten (weathered) Steel	9 to 11	120 to 170	400 to 1,200

345 kV Double-circuit Large Angle and Dead end, Standard	TP, 636 ACSR "Grosbeak" or similar performance conductor	Monopole with Davit Arms	Corten (weathered) Steel	12 to 14	90 to 140	200 to 1,200
345 kV Double-circuit Tangent, Crossing Span	TP, 636 ACSR "Grosbeak" or similar performance conductor	Monopole with Davit Arms	Corten (weathered) Steel	9 to 10	90 to 160	400 to 1,200
345 kV Double-Circuit Crossing Dead-end	TP, 636 ACSR "Grosbeak" or similar performance conductor	Monopole with Davit Arms	Corten (weathered) Steel	12 to 14	90 to 160	400 to 1,200
345 kV Double-circuit Large Angle and Dead end, 2-Pole	TP, 636 ACSR "Grosbeak" or similar performance conductor	Two poles with Davit Arms	Corten (weathered) Steel	8 to 10 (each pole)	90 to 130	200 to 1,200

2.3 Substations and Associated Facilities

The Transmission Facility may involve construction of a new fiber optic Regeneration Station along the designated route. The Regeneration Station would have an approximate final footprint of 100 feet wide by 100 feet long (0.23 acre). Within the final 0.23-acre footprint, the Regeneration Station would include a small shelter building, a 30-foot-wide permanent access road, underground 240-volt electrical utilities, and may require equipment for backup power. The entire footprint of the Regeneration Station will be permanently fenced and covered with gravel and may have low wattage flood lighting on the outside of the shelter building for security purposes. A temporary construction workspace of 150 feet by 200 feet (0.69 acre) will also be required to construct the Regeneration Station.

3 DESIGNATED ROUTE

The route designated by the Commission is depicted on the route maps attached to this route permit (Designated Route). The Designated Route is generally described as follows:

The Transmission Facility will consist of the following regions and Routing Alternatives, as identified in the February 18, 2026 Administrative Law Judge Report and modified in the Commission's Order granting this Route Permit:

- 1) South Region: from the Minnesota-South Dakota border approximately one mile south of Ortonville, Minnesota, following BSSR04 and connecting to SSR01 incorporating S205, to a point in Tara Township, Swift County, Minnesota.
- 2) Central Region: from a point in Tara Township, following HSR01 and connecting to CSR02 and then connecting to WBLSR04 to a point in Ben Wade Township, Pope County, Minnesota.
- 3) North Region: from a point in Ben Wade Township following ASR01 incorporating Route Segments N9 and N205 to the existing Alexandria Substation near the city of Alexandria, Douglas County, Minnesota.

The Designated Route generally has an authorized route width of 1,000 feet (500 feet on either side of the centerline), with areas of reduced or widened route width as identified on the attached Detailed Route Maps.

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. Stat. § 216I.09 and Section 10 of this route permit.

4 RIGHT-OF-WAY

This route permit authorizes the Permittees to obtain a new permanent right-of-way for the transmission line up to 150 feet in width. 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 Permittees 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 (MnDOT), the procedures for accommodating utilities in trunk highway rights-of-way.

5 GENERAL CONDITIONS

The Permittees 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 Permittees shall provide all affected landowners with a copy of this route permit and the complaint procedures. 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 Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees shall notify landowners prior to entering or conducting maintenance within their property, unless otherwise negotiated with the landowner. The Permittees shall keep records of compliance with this section and provide them upon the request of Commission staff.

5.3 Construction and Operation Practices

The Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees may change the field representative at any time upon notice to the Commission, affected landowners, local government units and other interested persons. The Permittees 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 Permittees shall train all employees, contractors, and other persons involved in the Transmission Facility construction regarding the terms and conditions of this route permit. The Permittees shall keep records of compliance with this section and provide them upon the request of Commission staff.

5.3.3 Independent Third-Party Monitoring

Prior to any construction, the Permittees shall propose a scope of work and identify an independent third-party monitor to conduct construction monitoring on behalf of the Commission. The scope of work shall be developed in consultation with and approved by the Commission. This third-party monitor will report directly to and will be under the control of the Commission with costs borne by the Permittees. Commission 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 Commission.

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 Permittees shall restore service promptly. Where any impacts to utilities have the potential to occur the Permittees shall 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 Permittees shall cooperate with county and city road authorities to develop appropriate signage and traffic management during construction. The Permittees shall keep records of compliance with this section and provide them upon the request of Commission staff.

5.3.5 Temporary Workspace

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

5.3.6 Noise

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

5.3.7 Aesthetics

The Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees shall implement those erosion prevention and sediment control practices recommended by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) 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 MPCA 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 MPCA that provides for the development of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan that describes methods to control erosion and runoff.

The Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees shall use wooden or composite mats to protect wetland vegetation.

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

The Permittees 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 Permittees shall meet the USACE, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, and local units of government wetland and water resource requirements.

5.3.10 Vegetation Management

The Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees shall restrict pesticide use to those pesticides and methods of application approved by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), DNR, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). 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 Permittees shall contact the landowner at least 14 days prior to pesticide application on their property. The Permittees may not apply any pesticide if the landowner requests that there be no application of pesticides within the landowner's property. The Permittees shall provide notice of pesticide application to landowners and beekeepers operating known apiaries within three miles of the pesticide application area at least 14 days prior to such application. The Permittees shall keep pesticide communication and application records and provide them upon the request of Commission staff.

5.3.12 Invasive Species

The Permittees shall employ best management practices to avoid the potential introduction and spread of invasive species on lands disturbed by Transmission Facility construction activities. The Permittees shall develop an Invasive Species Prevention Plan and file it with the Commission at least 14 days prior to the pre-construction meeting. The Permittees shall comply with the most recently filed Invasive Species Prevention Plan.

5.3.13 Noxious Weeds

The Permittees 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 Permittees shall select site appropriate seed certified to be free of noxious weeds. To the extent possible, the Permittee shall use native seed mixes. The Permittees shall keep records of compliance with this section and provide them upon the request of Commission staff.

5.3.14 Roads

The Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees shall immediately halt construction and promptly notify local law enforcement and the State Archaeologist. The Permittees shall not resume construction at such location until authorized by local law enforcement or the State Archaeologist. The Permittees shall keep records of compliance with this section and provide them upon the request of Commission staff.

5.3.16 Avian Protection

The Permittees in cooperation with the DNR 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 Permittees shall submit documentation of its avian protection coordination with the plan and profile pursuant to Section 9.2.

5.3.17 Drainage Tiles

The Permittees shall avoid, promptly repair, or replace all drainage tiles broken or damaged during all phases of the Transmission Facility's life unless otherwise negotiated with the affected landowner. The Permittees shall keep records of compliance with this section and provide them upon the request of Commission staff.

5.3.18 Restoration

The Permittees 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 Permittees shall file with the Commission a Notice of Restoration Completion.

5.3.19 Cleanup

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

5.3.20 Pollution and Hazardous Wastes

The Permittees shall take all appropriate precautions to protect against pollution of the environment. The Permittees shall be responsible for compliance with all laws applicable to the generation, storage, transportation, clean up and disposal of all waste generated during construction and restoration of the Transmission Facility.

5.3.21 Damages

The Permittees 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 Permittees shall keep records of compliance with this section and provide them upon the request of Commission staff.

5.4 Electrical Performance Standards

5.4.1 Grounding

The Permittees 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 Permittees shall address and rectify any induced current problems that arise during transmission line operation.

5.4.2 Electric Field

The Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees shall keep records of compliance with this section and provide them upon the request of Commission staff.

5.5 Other Requirements

5.5.1 Safety Codes and Design Requirements

The Permittees 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 Permittees shall comply with all applicable state statutes and rules. The Permittees 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.

At least 14 days prior to the pre-construction meeting, the Permittees 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 name; 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.

The Permittees shall demonstrate that it has obtained all necessary permits, authorizations, and approvals by filing an affidavit stating as such and an updated Other Permits and Regulations Submittal prior to commencing construction. The Permittees shall provide a copy of any such permits, authorizations, and approvals at the request of Commission staff.

6 SPECIAL CONDITIONS

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

6.1 Grounding of Structures and Operation of Equipment

Within 30 days of issuance of this route permit, the Permittees shall provide all affected landowners with educational materials on appropriate grounding of structures and operation of equipment near the Project. The Permittees shall file with the Commission an affidavit of distribution demonstrating compliance within 30 days of issuance of this route permit.

6.2 Survey of State-Listed Species

Prior to the start of construction, the Permittees shall resubmit a valid Natural Heritage Review and continue to coordinate with the DNR regarding implementation of avoidance measures for state-protected threatened and endangered species. The Permittees, in coordination with the DNR, shall design and conduct preconstruction field surveys to assess the presence of existing state-listed species within relevant areas that could be impacted by the project. Surveys must be conducted by a qualified surveyor and follow the standards as directed in the Natural Heritage Reviews associated with the project. The results of the surveys shall be filed with the

Commission at least 30 days prior to the pre-construction meeting to confirm compliance with conditions in this permit.

6.3 Calcareous Fens

Should any calcareous fens be identified within five miles of the Designated Route, the Permittees must work with DNR to determine if any impacts will occur during any phase of the Project. If the Project is determined to impact any calcareous fens, the Permittees must develop a Calcareous Fen Management Plan in coordination with the DNR, as specified in Minn. Stat. § 103G.223. Should a Calcareous Fen Management Plan be required, the approved plan must be submitted concurrently with the plan and profile required in Section 9.2 of the Permit. Should a no effect determination result from DNR coordination, documentation must be submitted concurrently with the plan and profile required in Section 9.2 of the Permit.

6.4 Tree Clearing Timing

In accordance with applicable U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service guidance and requirements, the Permittees shall restrict the timing of tree clearing activities to periods outside of the summer occupancy period for Northern Long-eared Bat (April 15 – September 30) in order to avoid and/or minimize potential impacts to protected bat species, including the Northern Long-Eared Bat.

6.5 Vegetation Management Plan

The Permittees shall develop a vegetation management plan (VMP), in coordination with the Vegetation Management Plan Working Group (VMPWG), using best management practices established by the MDNR and BWSR. The Permittees shall file the VMP and documentation of the coordination efforts between the Permittees and the DNR with the Commission concurrent with submittal of the plan and profile required in Section 9.2 of the Permit.

The VMP must address the following:

- a. the timing of vegetation removal;
- b. maintaining floodplain vegetation to the extent feasible;
- c. herbicide use;
- d. minimizing impacts to sensitive areas, including but not limited to, MBS Sites of Biodiversity Significance, DNR Native Plant Communities, and state-managed lands;
- e. vegetation management within and near Wildlife Management Areas, State Trails, and State Water Trails; and
- f. timing restrictions for tree removal from April 15 – September 30 to minimize impacts to threatened and endangered species.
- g. seed mixes used on state lands, areas adjacent to state lands, and sensitive habitat areas with state-listed species.

6.6 Wildlife-Friendly Erosion Control

The Permittees shall use only “bio-netting” or “natural netting” types of erosion control materials and mulch products without synthetic (plastic) fiber additives or malachite green dye.

6.7 Facility Lighting

The Permittees must use shielded and downward facing lighting and LED lighting that minimizes blue hue.

6.8 Dust Control

The Permittees shall utilize non-chloride products for onsite dust control during construction.

6.9 Prevailing Wage

The Permittees, its contractors, and subcontractors shall (1) pay no less than the prevailing wage rate as defined in Minn. Stat. § 177.42; and (2) 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 Commission staff.

6.10 Labor Statistics Reporting

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

6.11 Archeological and Historic Resources

Concurrent with submittal of the plan and profile required in Section 9.2 of this permit, the Permittees shall demonstrate that they have coordinated with the State Historic Preservation

Office, the Office of the State Archaeologist, and the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council, as applicable, regarding potential impacts to archaeological and historic resources.

6.12 Rare Natural Communities

The Permittees shall file with the Commission concurrent with submittal of the plan and profile required in Section 9.2 of this permit, documentation of coordination with the DNR to identify those areas of the Designated Route that contain rare natural communities as determined by the DNR.

6.13 Shallow Groundwater Locations

The Permittees shall file with the Commission concurrent with submittal of the plan and profile required in Section 9.2 of this permit separate foundation drawings that depict locations where shallow depths to groundwater are identified within the Designated Route during geotechnical design of the project as well as appropriate mitigation measures that will be employed in shallow groundwater areas.

6.14 Blasting Plan

If bedrock blasting is required during any phase of project construction, the Permittees shall file with the Commission concurrent with submittal of the plan and profile required in Section 9.2 of this permit the bedrock blasting plan developed in coordination with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives or the local authority that enforces explosive rules, whichever is applicable. If bedrock blasting is required in areas that contain rare natural communities as determined by the DNR, the Permittees shall coordinate with the DNR on the blasting plan and shall address commitments to best management practices to mitigate, minimize, or avoid potential impacts to rare natural communities in those areas.

6.15 Avian Protection

The Permittees in cooperation with the DNR 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 Permittees shall submit documentation of its avian protection coordination concurrent with submittal of the plan and profile required pursuant to Section 9.2.

6.16 Tree Replacement Plan

The Permittees in coordination with impacted landowners, the DNR and the affected counties shall develop a plan to replace any trees that are removed for construction of the project by

planting new seedling or sapling trees prioritizing impacted landowner properties in the affected counties in the project area. Permittees shall file the plan with the Commission at least 14 days before the pre-construction meeting. At least 45 days prior to the preconstruction meeting, the Permittees shall make a tree replacement plan compliance filing including the estimated cost of the plan.

The Tree Replacement Plan may include an alternative proposal to fund tree replacements through DNR Forestry Programs or other similar public programs. Plantings shall be prioritized in counties through which the line crosses.

7 DELAY IN CONSTRUCTION

If the Permittees have not commenced construction or improvement of the route within four years after the date of issuance of this route permit, the Permittees shall file a Failure to Construct Report and the Commission shall consider suspension of this route permit in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 216I.14.

8 COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

At least 14 days prior to the pre-construction meeting, the Permittees 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 Permittees shall assist 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 Permittees shall participate in a pre-construction meeting with Commission staff to review pre-construction filing requirements, scheduling, and to coordinate monitoring of construction and site restoration activities. Within 14 days following the pre-construction meeting, the Permittees 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 Permittees shall file with the Commission, 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 Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees may submit additional and/or revised documentation and may not commence construction until the Commission has notified the Permittees in writing that it has determined that the planned construction is consistent with this route permit.

If the Permittees intend to make any significant changes in its plan and profile or the specifications and drawings after submission to the Commission, the Permittees shall notify the Commission, 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 Permittees 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 Permittees do not commence construction of the Transmission Facility within six months of this route permit issuance, the Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees 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 Permittees shall allow Commission designated representatives to perform the following, upon reasonable notice, upon presentation of credentials and at all times in compliance with the Permittees' 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 Permittees. The Commission may amend the conditions after affording the Permittees and interested persons such process as is required under Minn. Stat. §216I.09.

11 TRANSFER OF ROUTE PERMIT

The Permittees may request at any time that the Commission transfer this route permit to another person or entity (transferee). In its request, the Permittees 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. Stat. § 216I.13.

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. Stat. 216I.14, 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 Consumer Affairs Office at 1-800-657-3782 (voice messages are acceptable) or consumer.puc@state.mn.us. For e-mail reporting, the email

subject line should read “PUC EIP 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 the eDockets system. The eDockets system is located at: <https://efiling.web.commerce.state.mn.us/> . If no complaints were received during the preceding month, the permittee shall file a summary indicating that no complaints were received.

If, once the project begins operating, 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 Consumer Affairs Office at 1-800-657-3782 or consumer.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: Otter Tail Power Company and Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency

PERMIT TYPE: Route Permit

PROJECT LOCATION: Big Stone, Swift, Pope, and Douglas Counties, MN

PUC DOCKET NUMBER: 23-160

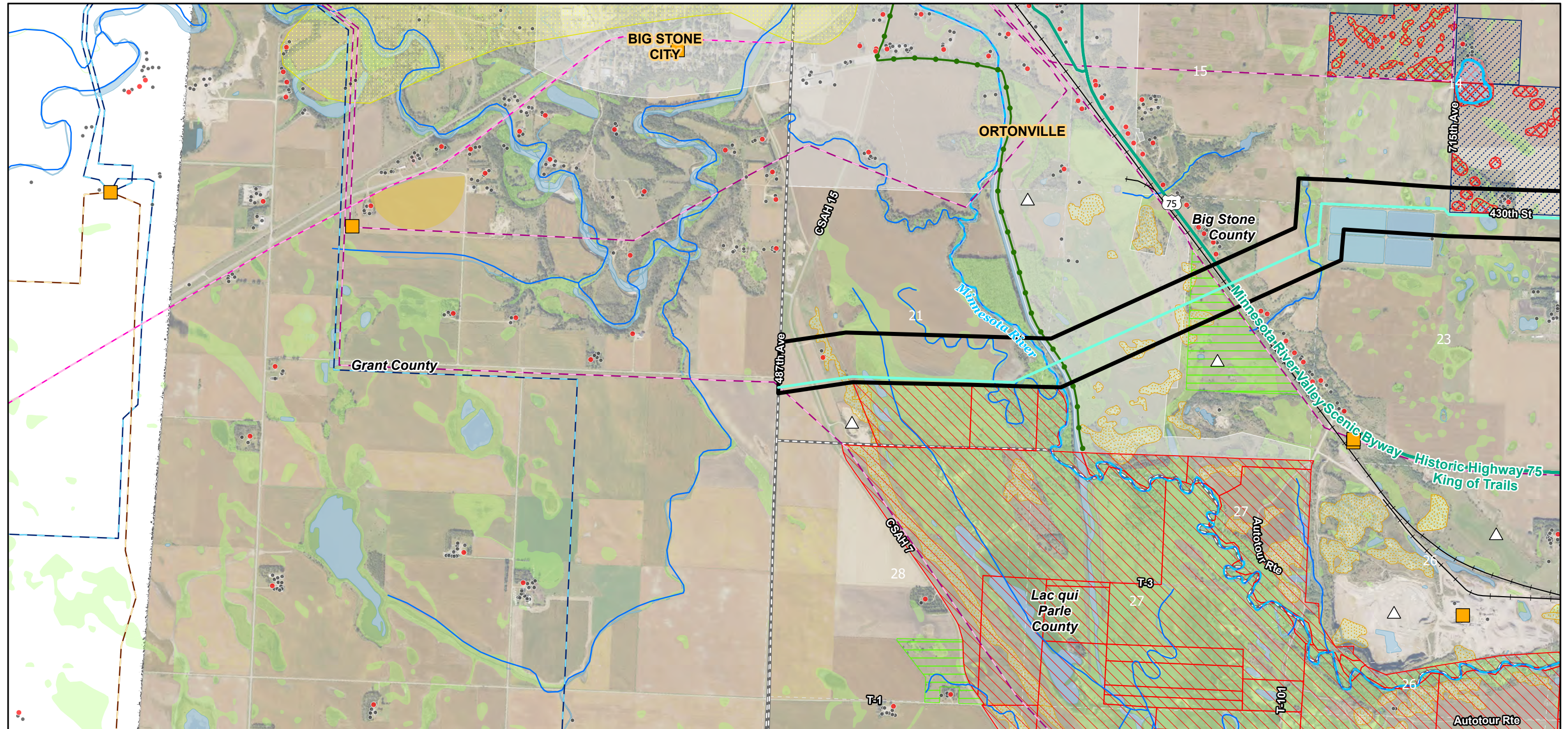
Filing Number	Permit Section	Description of Compliance Filing	Due Date
1	5.1	Route Permit Distribution	30 days of issuance
2	5.3.1	Field representative	14 days prior to precon meeting
3	5.3.11	Application of pesticides	Notice 14 days prior to application
4	5.3.12	Invasive Species	14 days prior to precon meeting
5	5.3.18	Restoration	Within 60 days of completion of restoration
6	5.5.2	Other permits and regulations	14 days prior to precon meeting
7	6.1	Grounding of structures and operation of equipment	Within 30 days of issuance of permit
8	6.2	Survey of state-listed species	30 days prior to precon meeting
9	6.10	Labor statistics reporting	Within 45 days of the end of the quarter

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.

Filing Number	Permit Section	Description of Compliance Filing	Due Date
10	6.16	Tree replacement plan	File plan 14 days prior to precon meetings; compliance filing 45 days before precon meeting
11	8	Complaint procedures	14 days prior to precon meeting
12	9.1	Pre-Construction meeting	14 days following precon meeting
13	9.2	Plan and profile	14 days prior to precon meeting; 30 days after precon meeting; 5 days before implementing changes
14	9.4	In-Service date	3 days
15	9.5	As-Builts	90 days after completion of construction
16	9.6	GPS data	Within 90 days of completion of construction

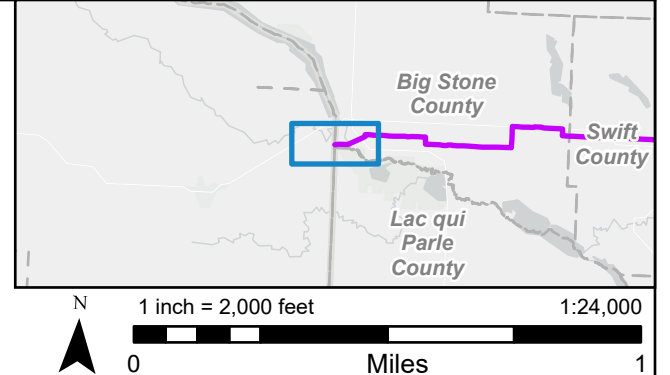
ATTACHMENT 3
Route Permit Maps

Detailed PUC Route Map 1 of 20

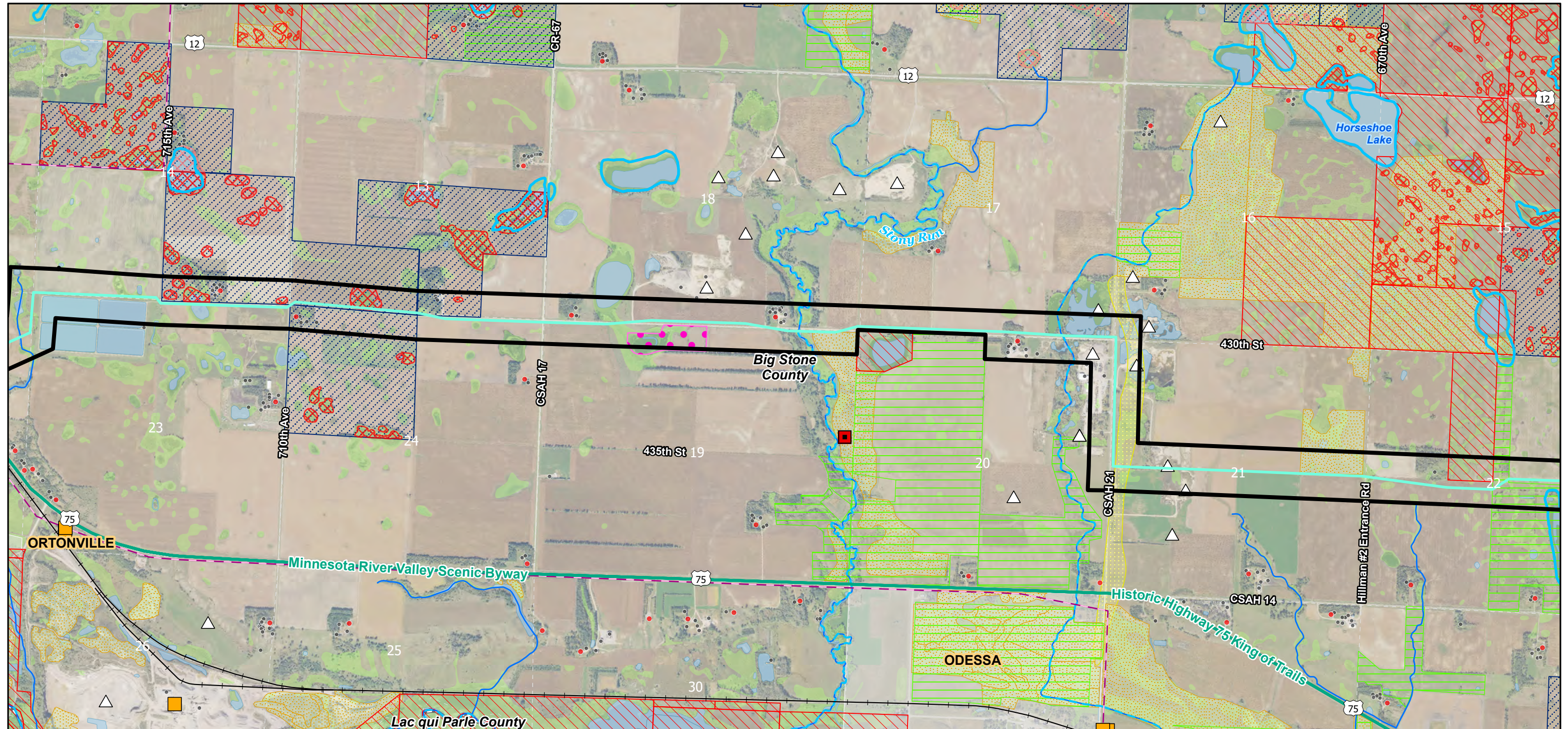


Legend

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|---|------------------------|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | DNR Public Water Basin | USFWS Interest | DNR Native Plant Community | Residence |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Public Watercourse | Grassland Easement | Center-pivot Irrigation | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| Existing Substation | DNR Rivers and Streams | Wetland Easement | Existing Transmission Line | Aggregate Resource |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | MN State Trail | Fee Title | 115 kV | Railroad |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | MN Scenic Byway | USFWS Pre 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | 230 kV | County Boundary |
| | Pipeline | USFWS Post 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | 345 kV | Municipality |
| | | Wellhead Protection Areas | | |

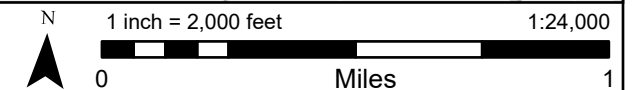
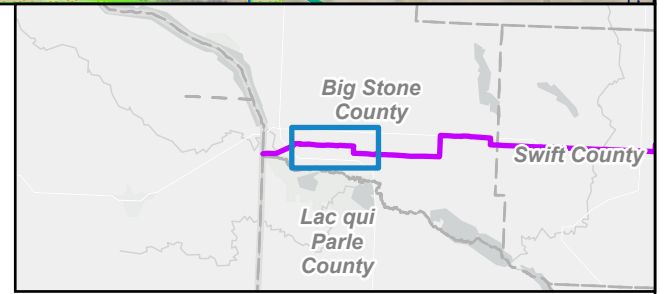


Detailed PUC Route Map 2 of 20

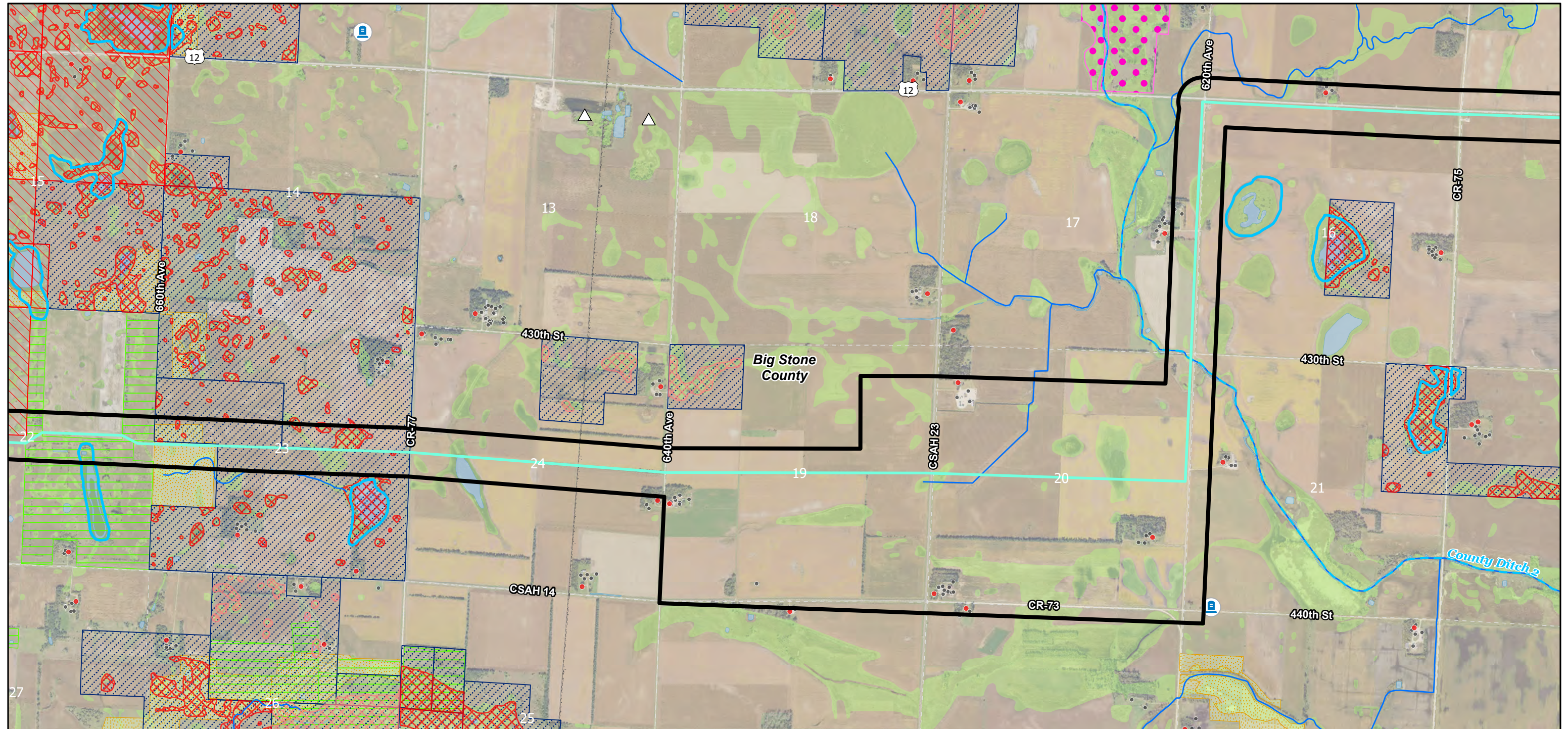


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|---|------------------------|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | DNR Public Water Basin | Wetland Easement | DNR Native Plant Community | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Public Watercourse | Fee Title | Existing Transmission Line | Aggregate Resource |
| Existing Substation | DNR Rivers and Streams | USFWS Pre 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | 115 kV | Railroad |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | Calcareous Fen | USFWS Post 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Wellhead Protection Areas | County Boundary |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | MN Scenic Byway | BWSR RIM Conservation Easement | Residence | Municipality |
| USFWS Interest | Grassland Easement | | | |

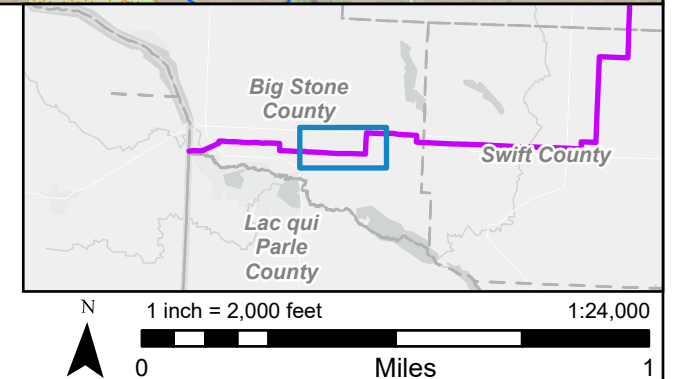


Detailed PUC Route Map 3 of 20

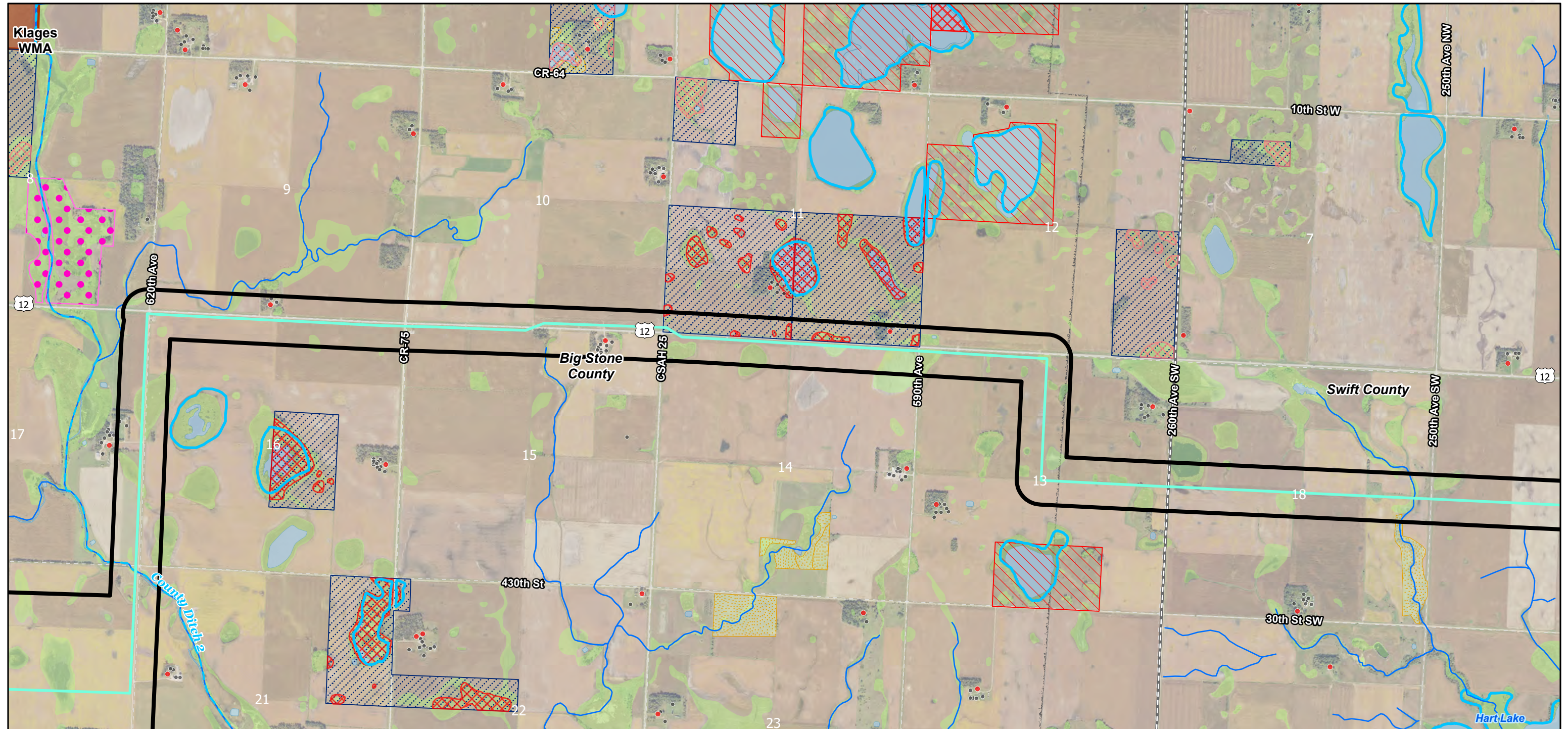


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|---|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | USFWS Interest | USFWS Post 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Residence |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Public Water Basin | Grassland Easement | BWSR RIM Conservation Easement | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | DNR Public Watercourse | Wetland Easement | DNR Native Plant Community | Cemetery |
| DNR Rivers and Streams | Fee Title | USFWS Pre 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Aggregate Resource | County Boundary |

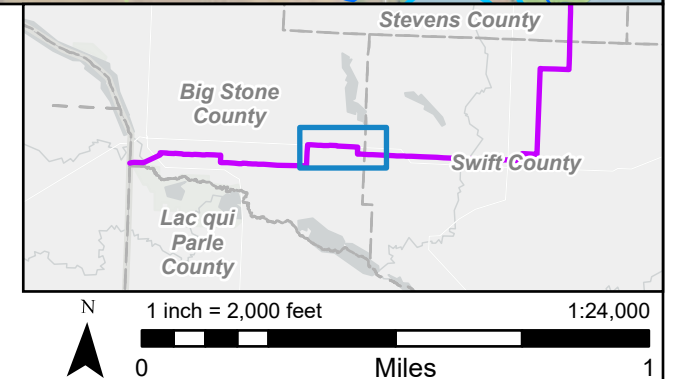


Detailed PUC Route Map 4 of 20

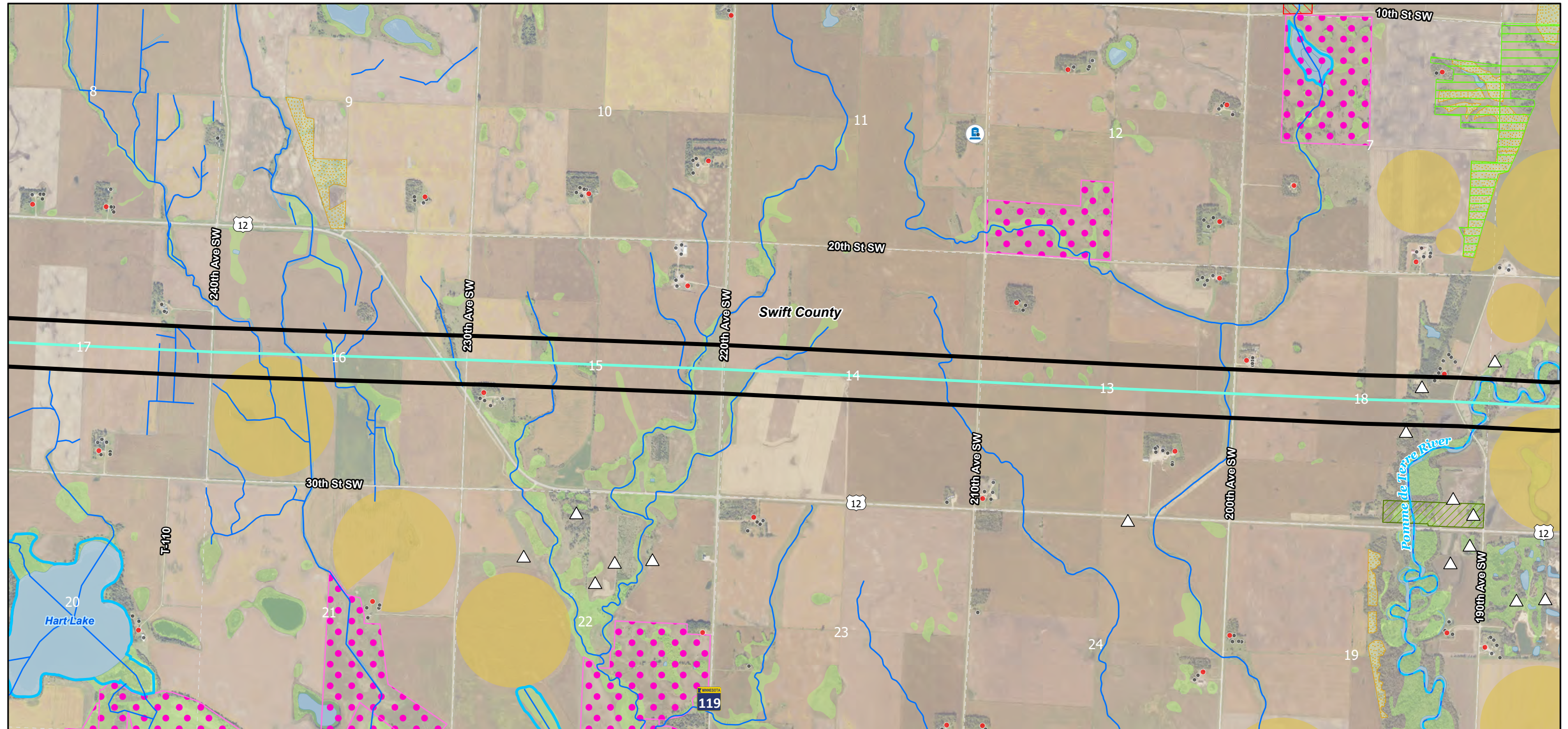


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| PUC Decision Route Width | DNR Public Water Basin | USFWS Pre 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | DNR Native Plant Community |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Public Watercourse | USFWS Post 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Wildlife Management Area |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | DNR Rivers and Streams | BWSR RIM Conservation Easement | Residence |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | USFWS Interest | Wetland Easement | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| | Wetland Easement | Fee Title | County Boundary |

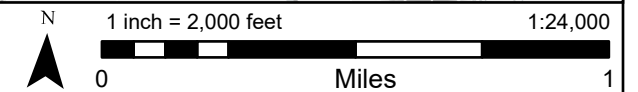
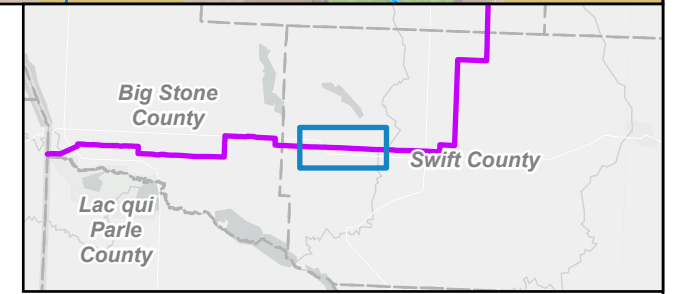


Detailed PUC Route Map 5 of 20

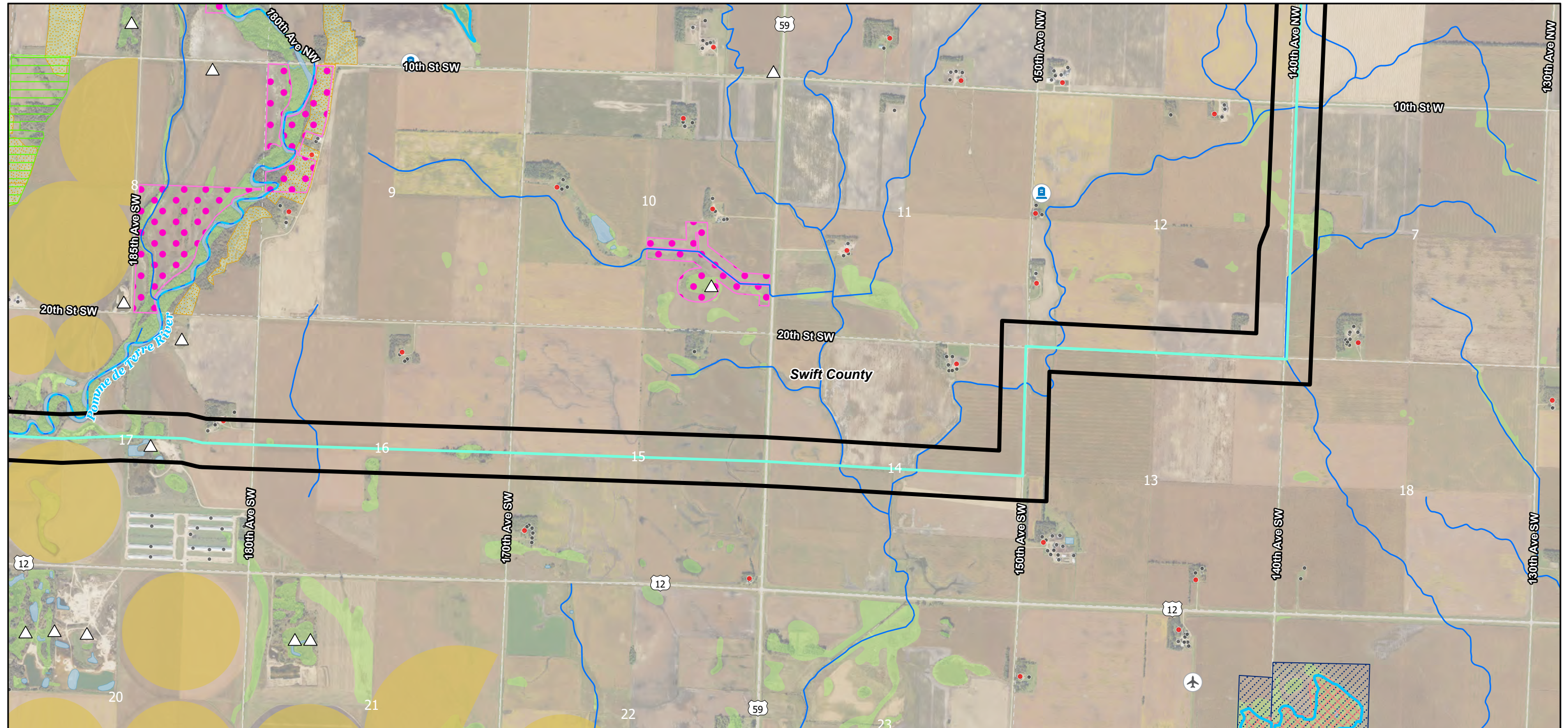


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|---|------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | DNR Public Water Basin | Park | Residence |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Public Watercourse | BWSR RIM Conservation Easement | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | DNR Rivers and Streams | DNR Native Plant Community | Cemetery |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | USFWS Interest | Center-pivot Irrigation | Aggregate Resource |
| | Grassland Easement | | County Boundary |
| | Fee Title | | |

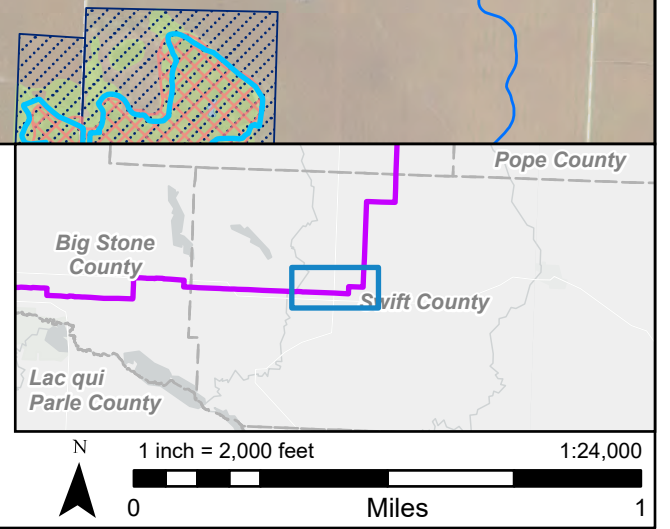


Detailed PUC Route Map 6 of 20

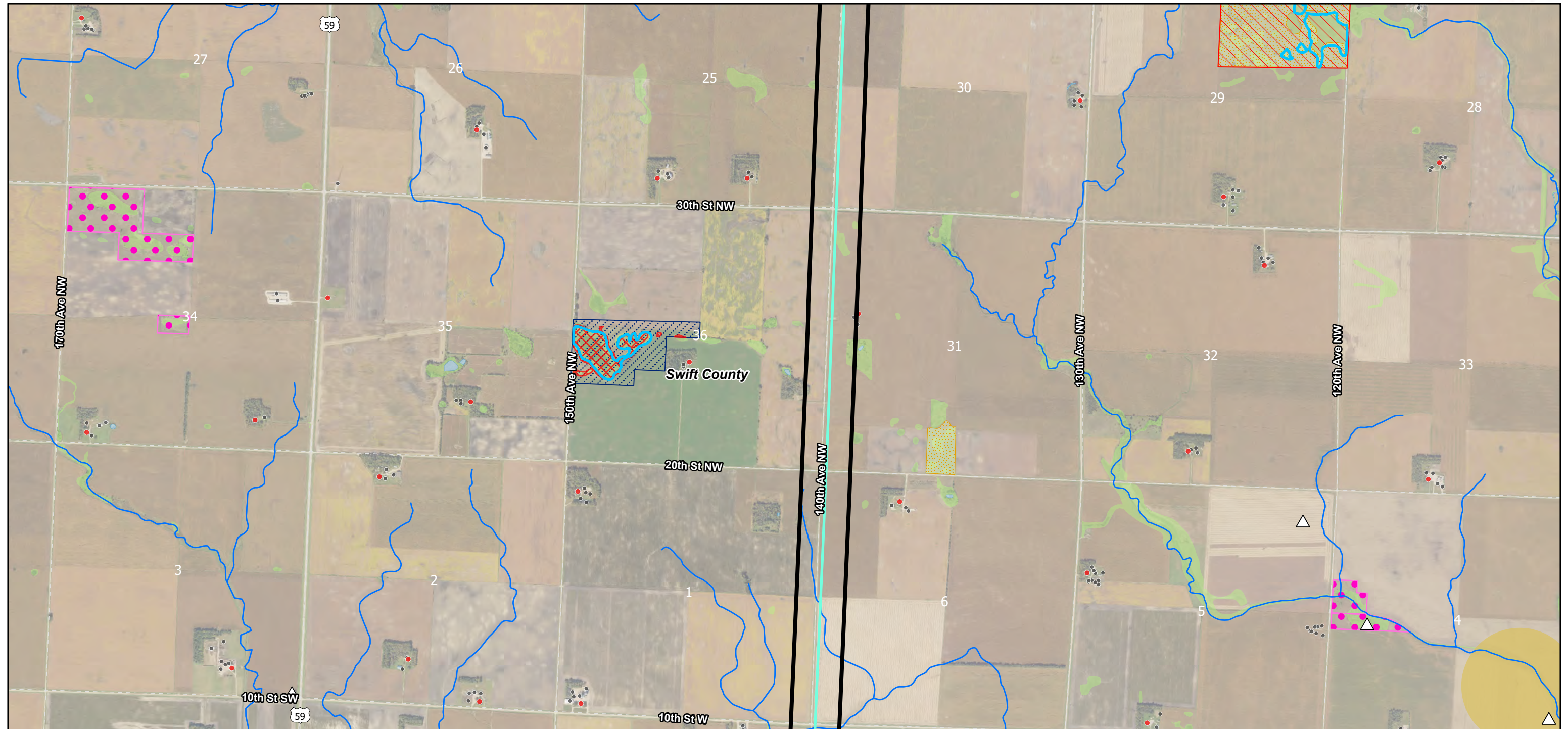


Legend

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|---|------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | DNR Public Water Basin | USFWS Post 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Residence |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Public Watercourse | BWSR RIM Conservation Easement | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | DNR Rivers and Streams | DNR Native Plant Community | Cemetery |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | USFWS Interest | DNR Native Plant Community | Aggregate Resource |
| | Grassland Easement | Center-pivot Irrigation | Airport |
| | Wetland Easement | | County Boundary |

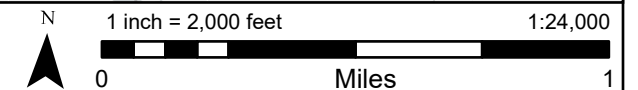
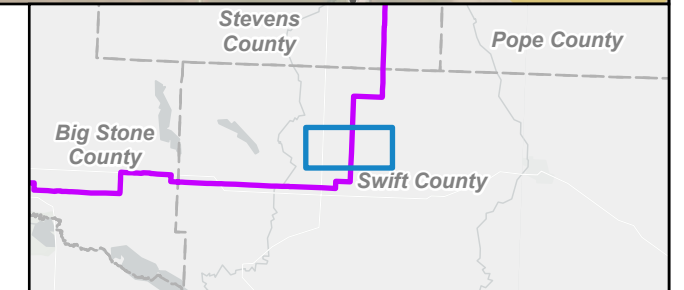


Detailed PUC Route Map 7 of 20

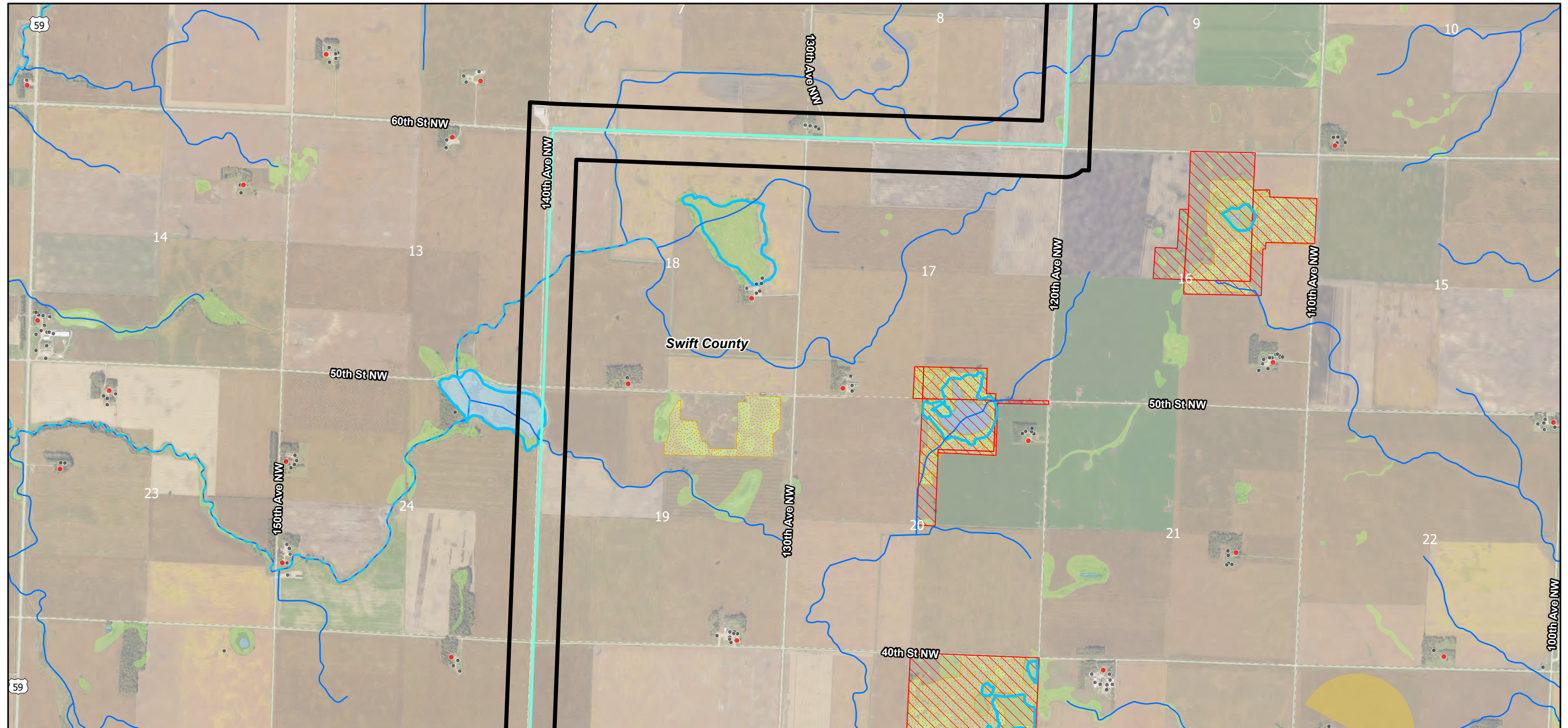


Legend

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | DNR Public Water Basin | USFWS Pre 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Residence |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Rivers and Streams | BWSR RIM Conservation Easement | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | USFWS Interest | Wetland Easement | Aggregate Resource |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | Wetland Easement | DNR Native Plant Community | County Boundary |
| | Fee Title | Center-pivot Irrigation | |



Detailed PUC Route Map 8 of 20



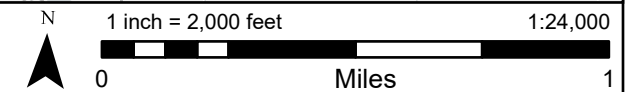
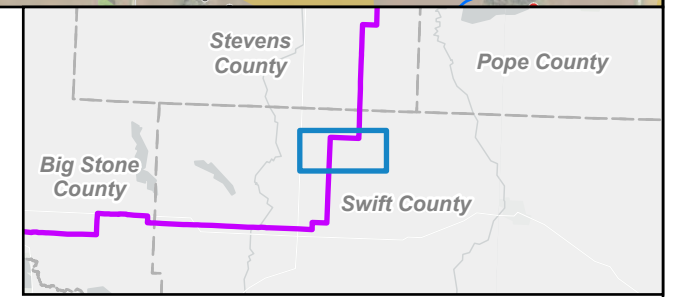
Legend

- PUC Decision Route Width
- PUC Decision Alignment
- Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody

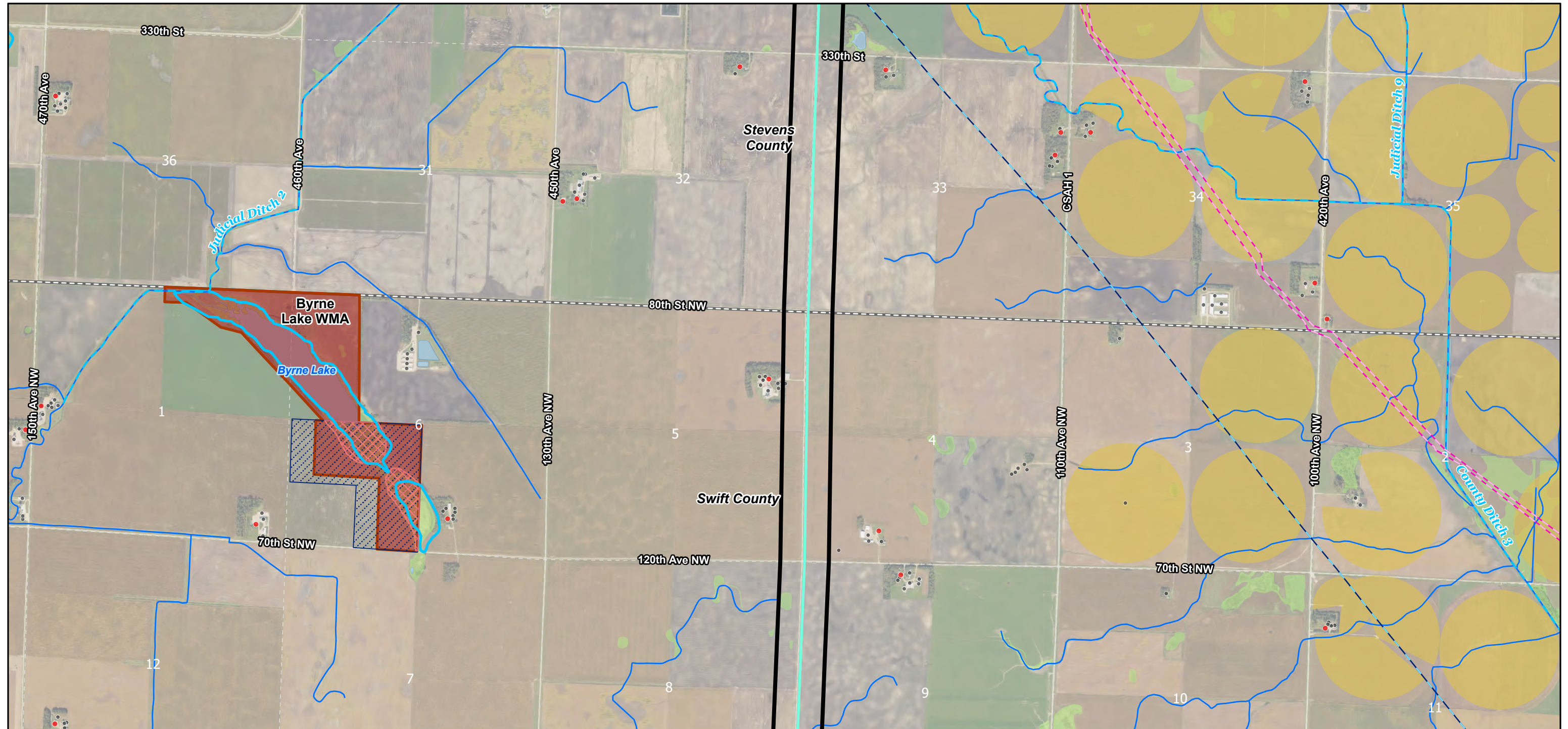
- Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland
- DNR Public Water Basin
- DNR Public Watercourse
- DNR Rivers and Streams

- #### USFWS Interest
- Fee Title
 - DNR Native Plant Community
 - Center-pivot Irrigation

- Residence
- Other Structure (Not a residence)
- County Boundary

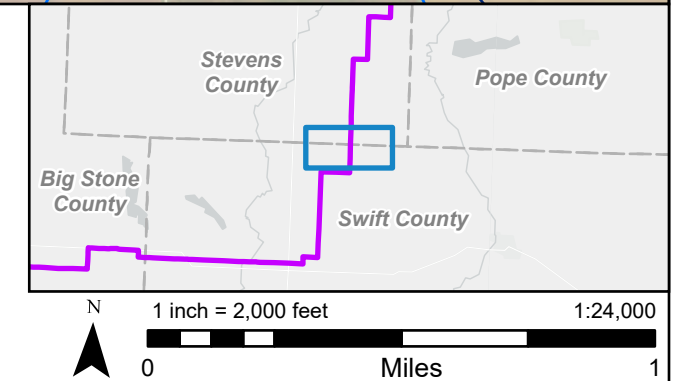


Detailed PUC Route Map 9 of 20

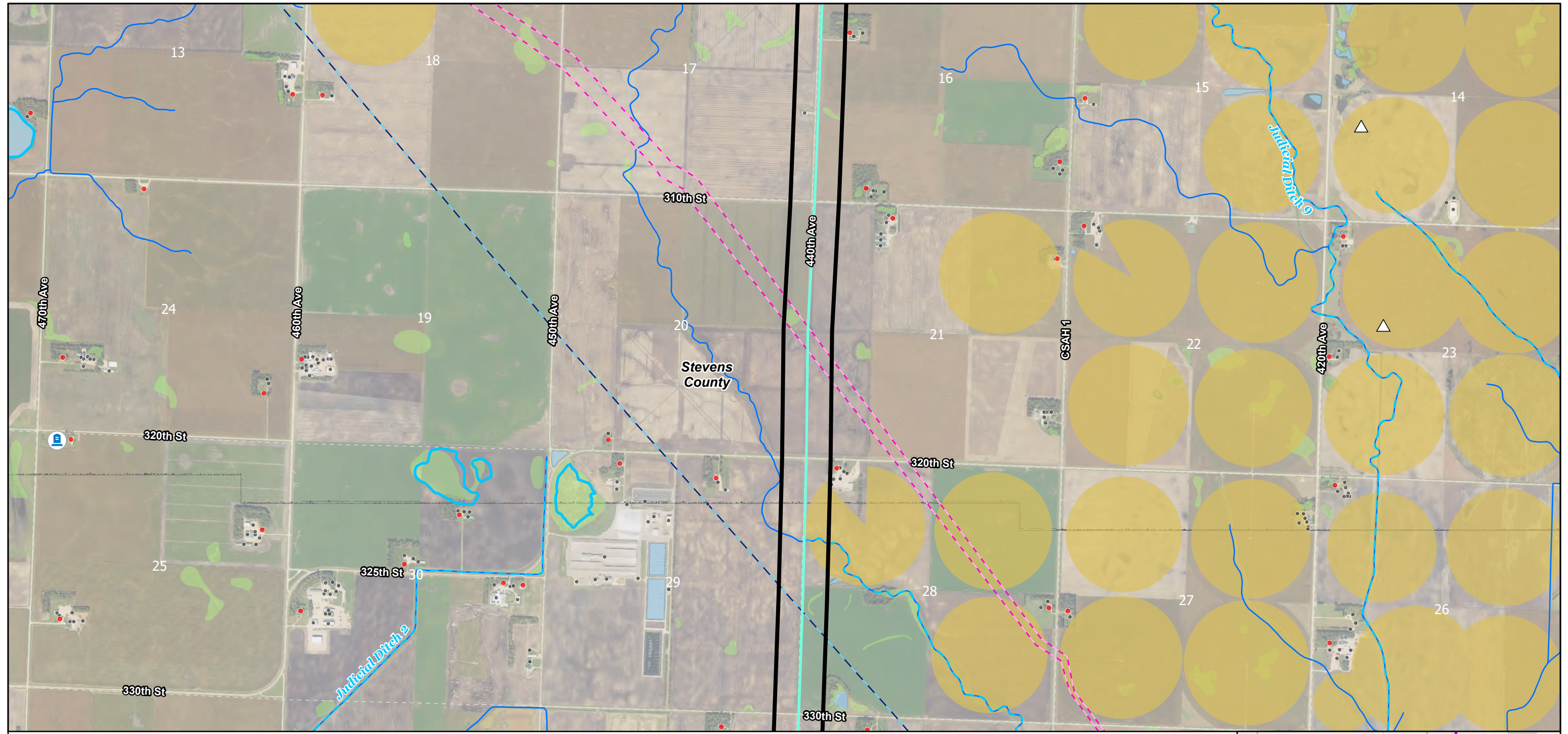


Legend

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | USFWS Interest | Existing Transmission Line |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Public Water Basin | Wetland Easement | Residence |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | DNR Public Watercourse | USFWS Post 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| | DNR Rivers and Streams | Wildlife Management Area | County Boundary |
| | Pipeline | Center-pivot Irrigation | |

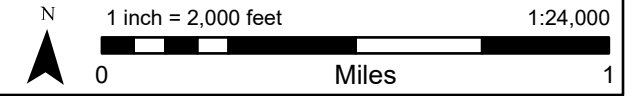
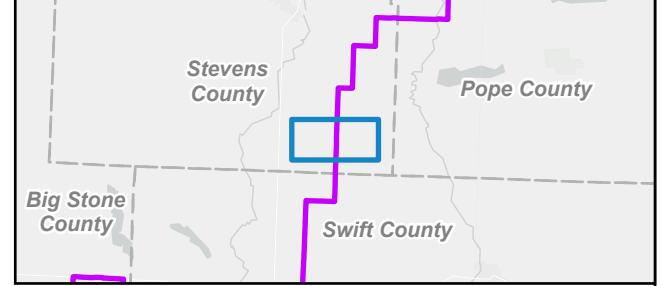


Detailed PUC Route Map 10 of 20

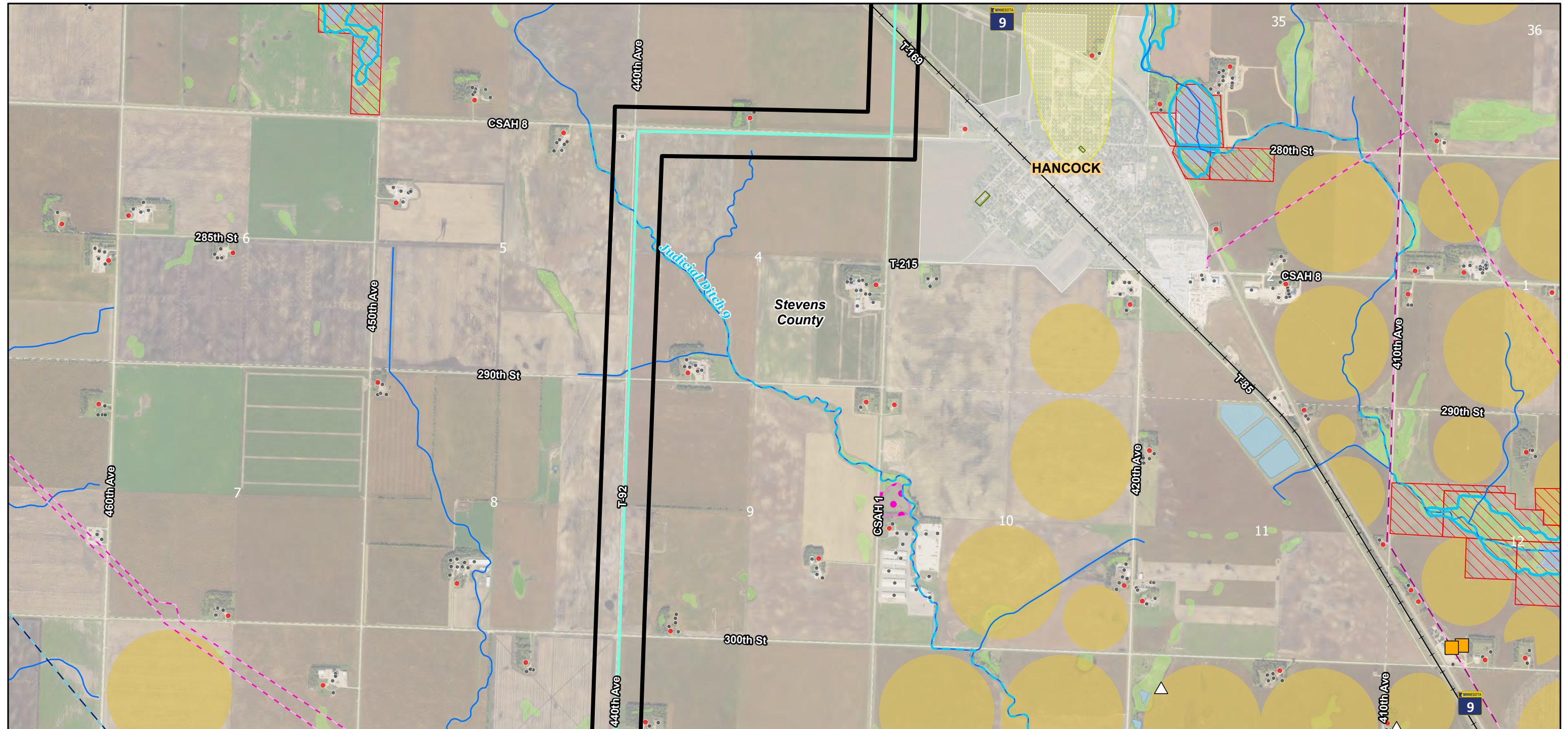


Legend

- | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | Pipeline | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Public Water Basin | Center-pivot Irrigation | Cemetery |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | DNR Public Watercourse | Existing Transmission Line | Aggregate Resource |
| | DNR Rivers and Streams | 230 kV | County Boundary |
| | | Residence | |

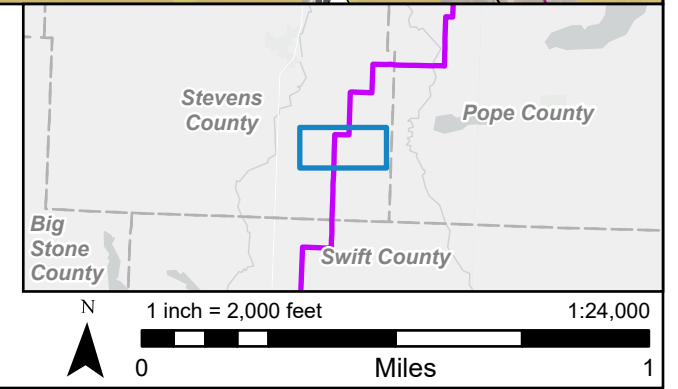


Detailed PUC Route Map 11 of 20

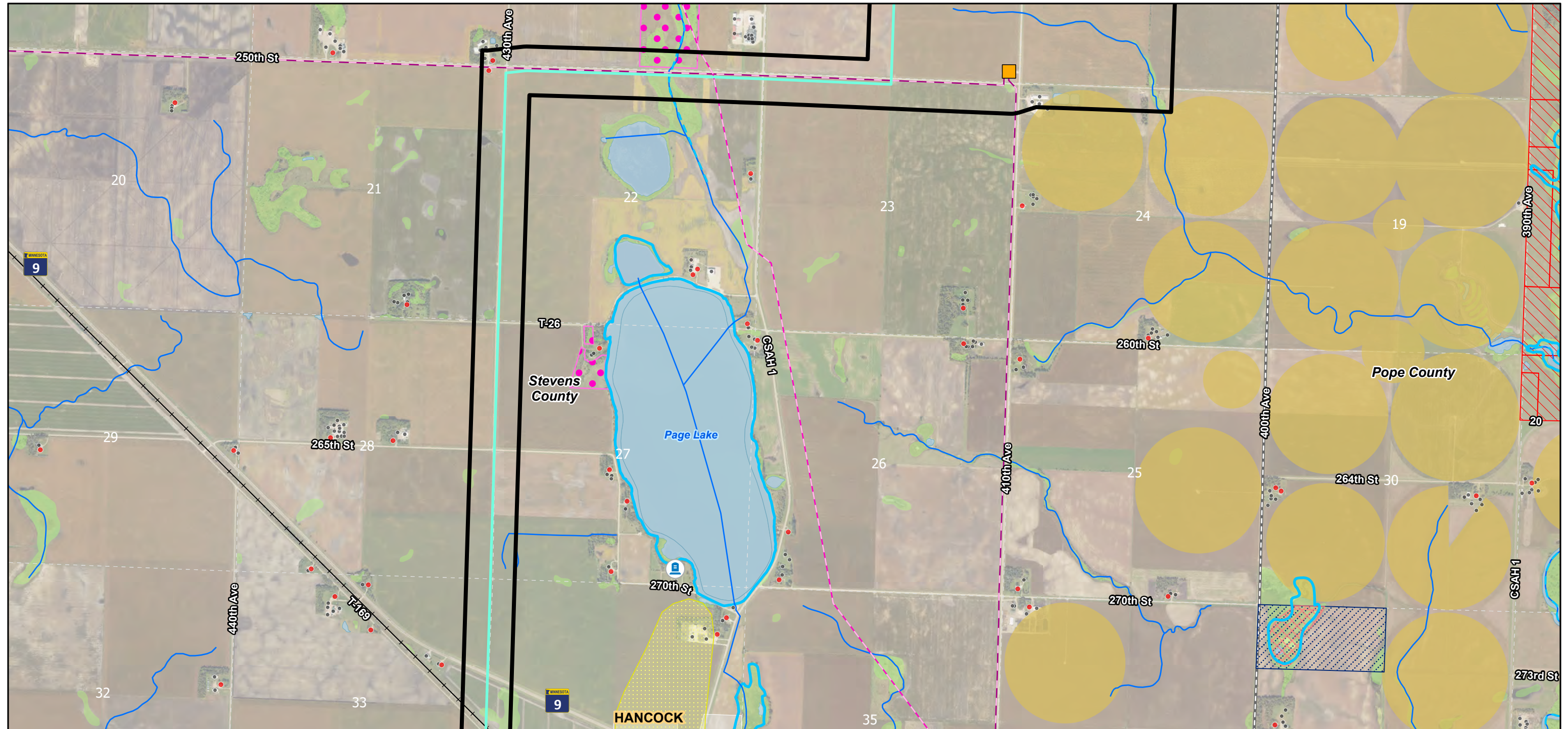


Legend

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | USFWS Interest | Existing Transmission Line | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Public Water Basin | Fee Title | 115 kV | Aggregate Resource |
| Existing Substation | DNR Public Watercourse | Park | 230 kV | Railroad |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | DNR Rivers and Streams | BWSR RIM Conservation Easement | Wellhead Protection Areas | County Boundary |
| Pipeline | | Center-pivot Irrigation | Residence | Municipality |

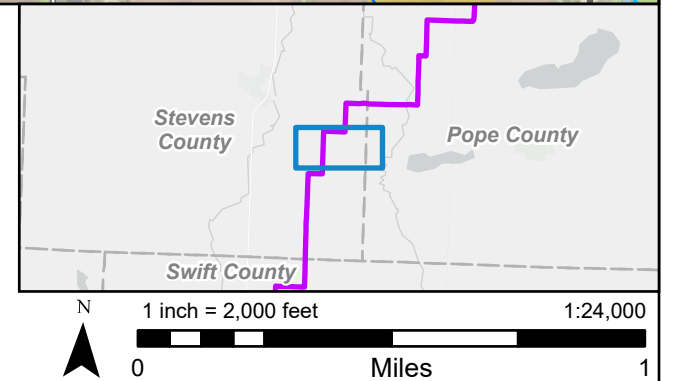


Detailed PUC Route Map 12 of 20

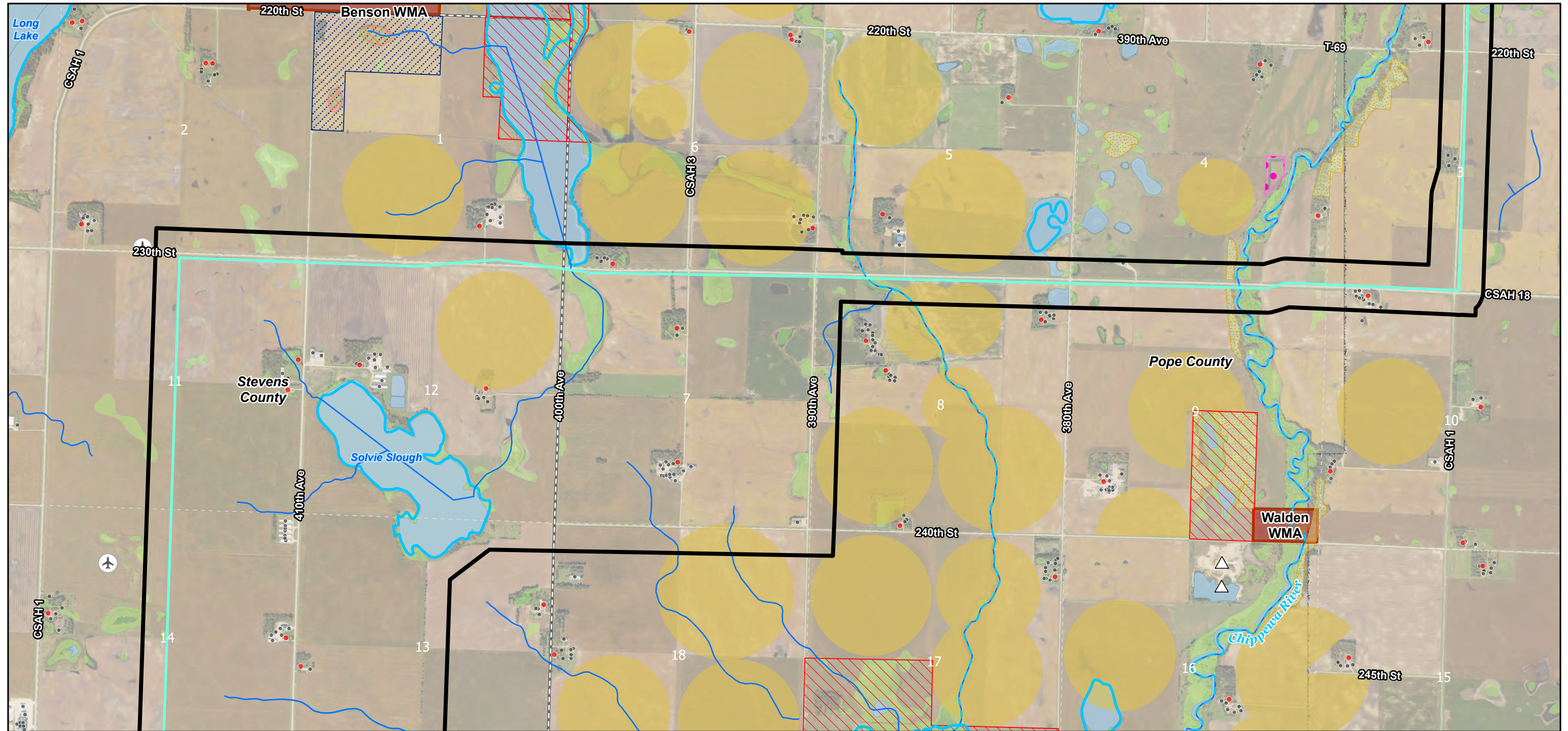


Legend

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | USFWS Interest | Center-pivot Irrigation | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Public Water Basin | Wetland Easement | Existing Transmission Line | Cemetery |
| Existing Substation | DNR Public Watercourse | Fee Title | 115 kV | Railroad |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | DNR Rivers and Streams | USFWS Post 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Wellhead Protection Areas | County Boundary |
| Pipeline | BWSR RIM Conservation Easement | Fee Title | Residence | Municipality |

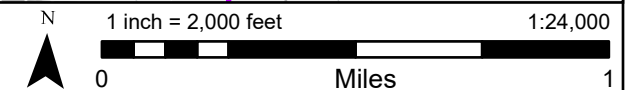
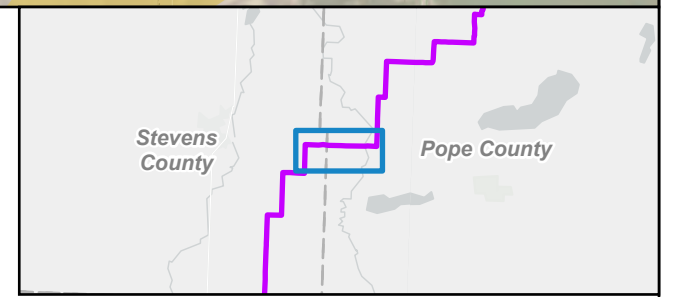


Detailed PUC Route Map 13 of 20

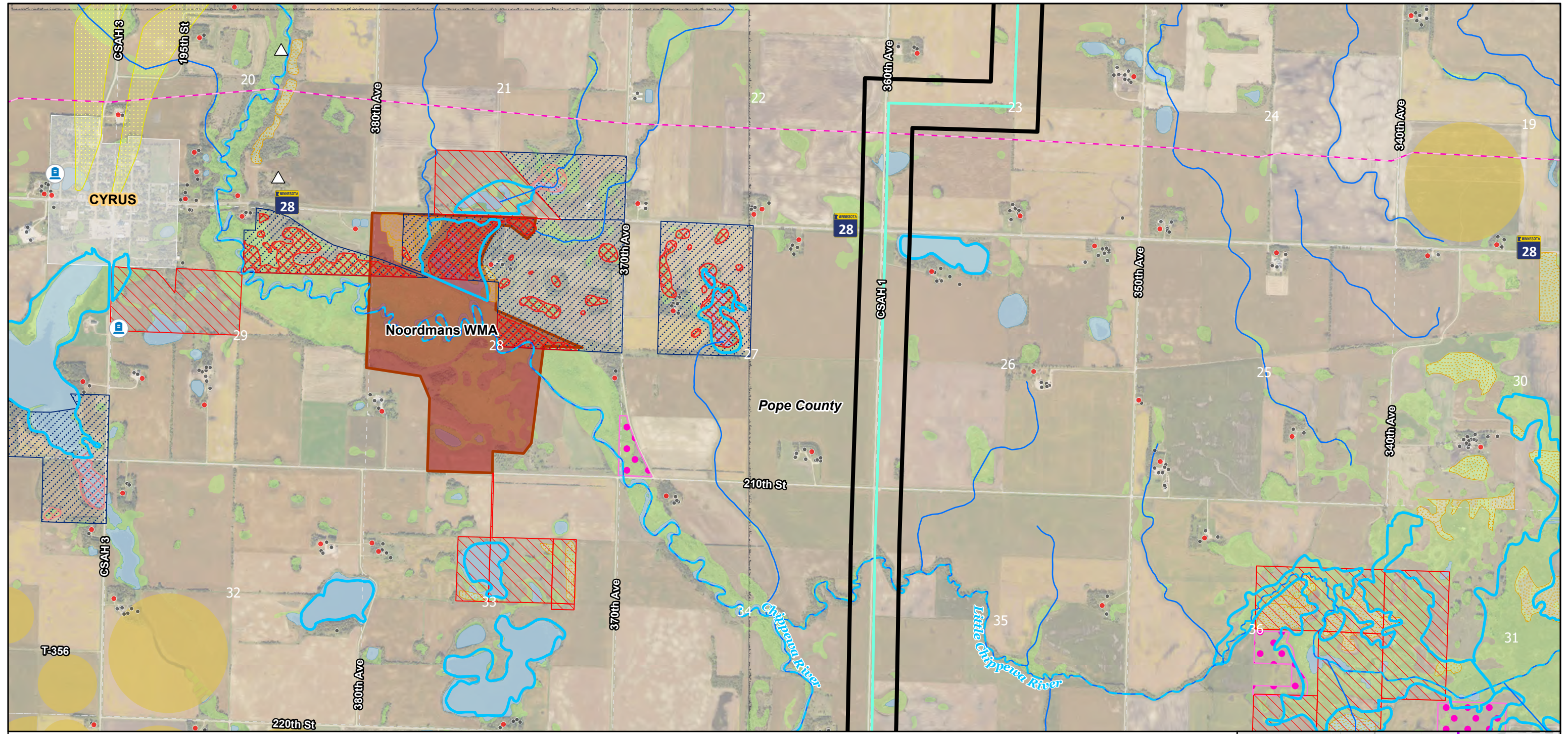


Legend

- | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | DNR Public Water Basin | USFWS Post 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Center-pivot Irrigation | Private Airport |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Public Watercourse | BWSR RIM Conservation Easement | Residence | County Boundary |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | DNR Rivers and Streams | DNR Native Plant Community | Other Structure (Not a residence) | Aggregate Resource |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | USFWS Interest | Wildlife Management Area | Airport | |
| | Wetland Easement | | | |
| | Fee Title | | | |

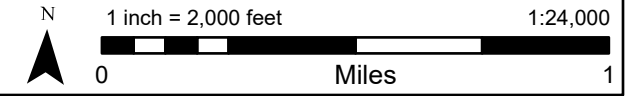
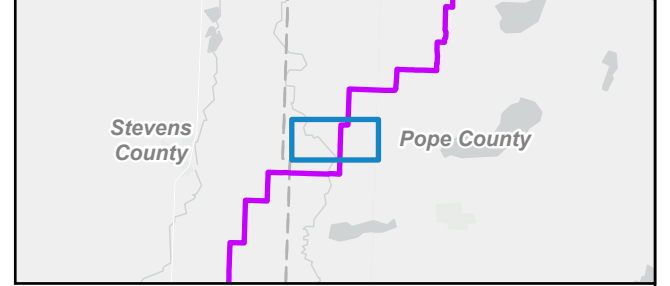


Detailed PUC Route Map 14 of 20

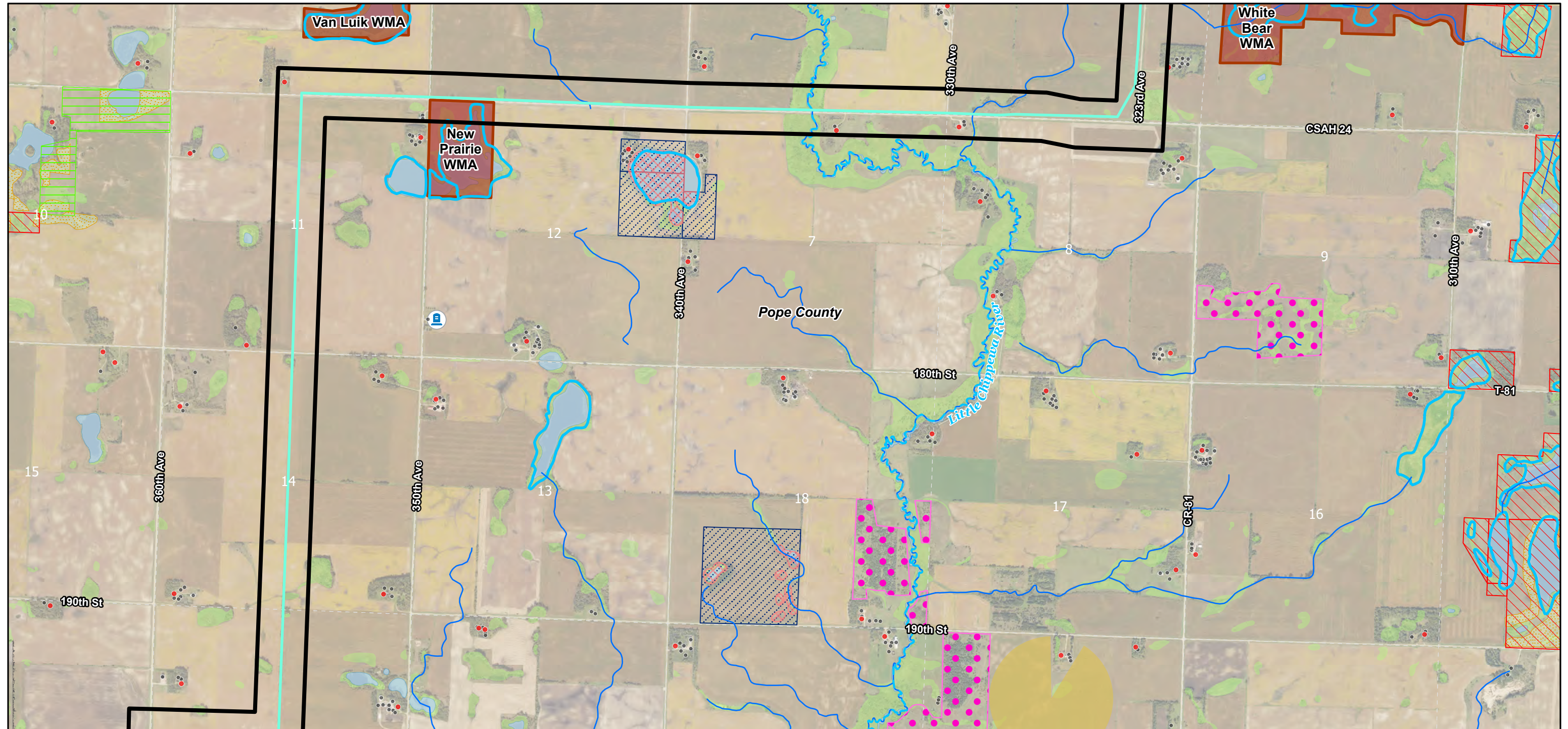


Legend

- | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | DNR Public Water Basin | Fee Title | DNR Native Plant Community | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Public Watercourse | USFWS Pre 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Wildlife Management Area | Cemetery |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | DNR Rivers and Streams | USFWS Post 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Center-pivot Irrigation | Aggregate Resource |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | Pipeline | BWSR RIM Conservation Easement | Wellhead Protection Areas | County Boundary |
| USFWS Interest Wetland Easement | Residence | Municipality | | |

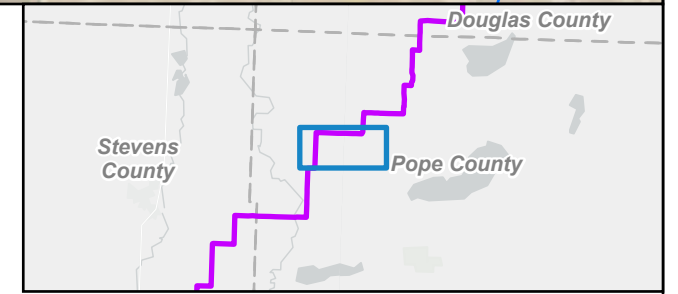


Detailed PUC Route Map 15 of 20

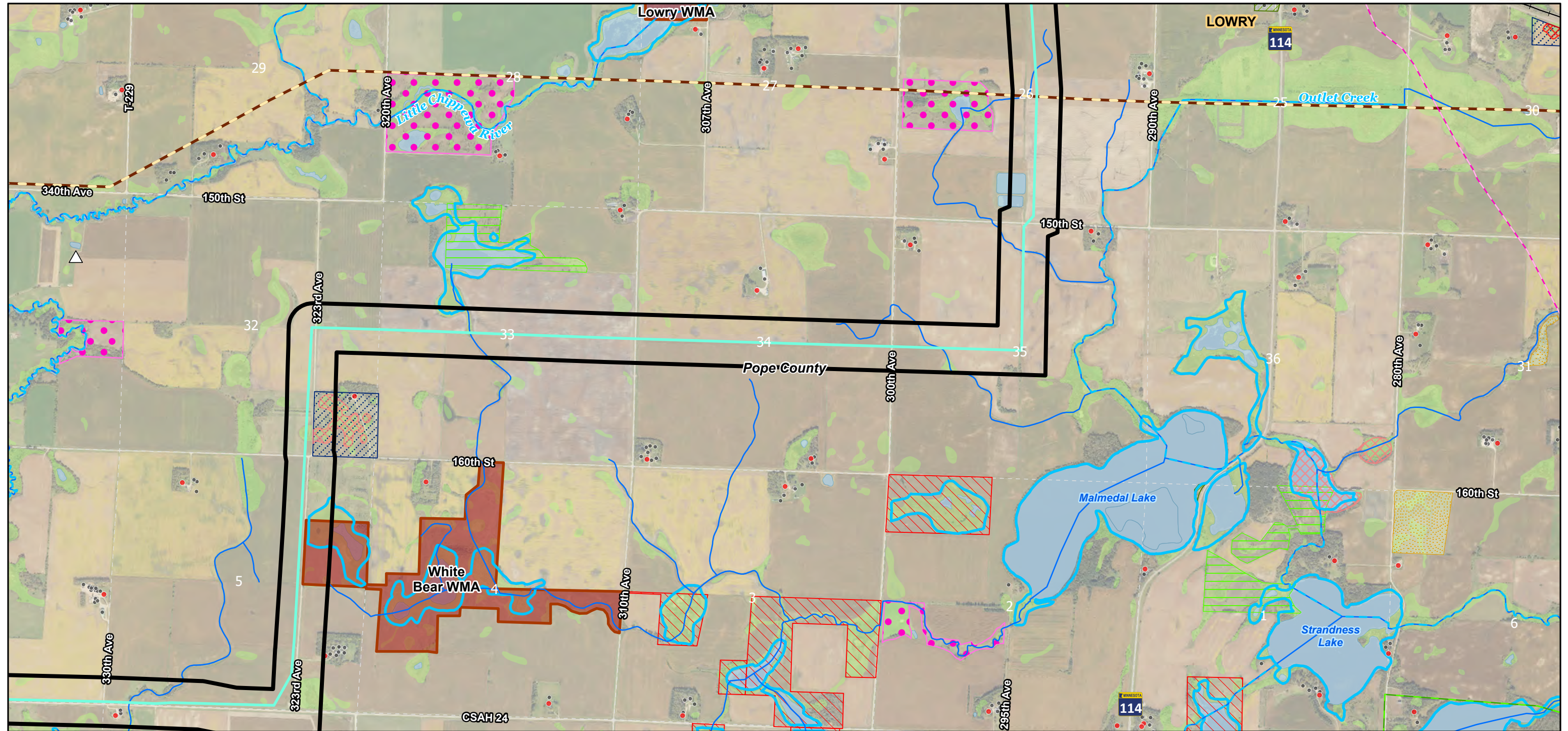


Legend

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | DNR Public Water Basin | Fee Title | Wildlife Management Area |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Public Watercourse | USFWS Post 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Center-pivot Irrigation |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | DNR Rivers and Streams | BWSR RIM Conservation Easement | Residence |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | USFWS Interest | DNR Native Plant Community | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| | Grassland Easement | Cemetery | County Boundary |
| | Wetland Easement | | |

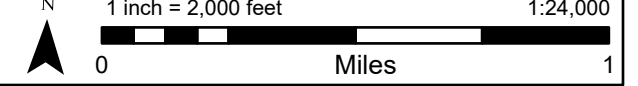
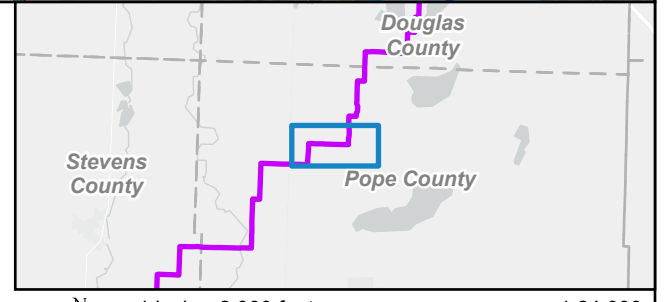


Detailed PUC Route Map 16 of 20

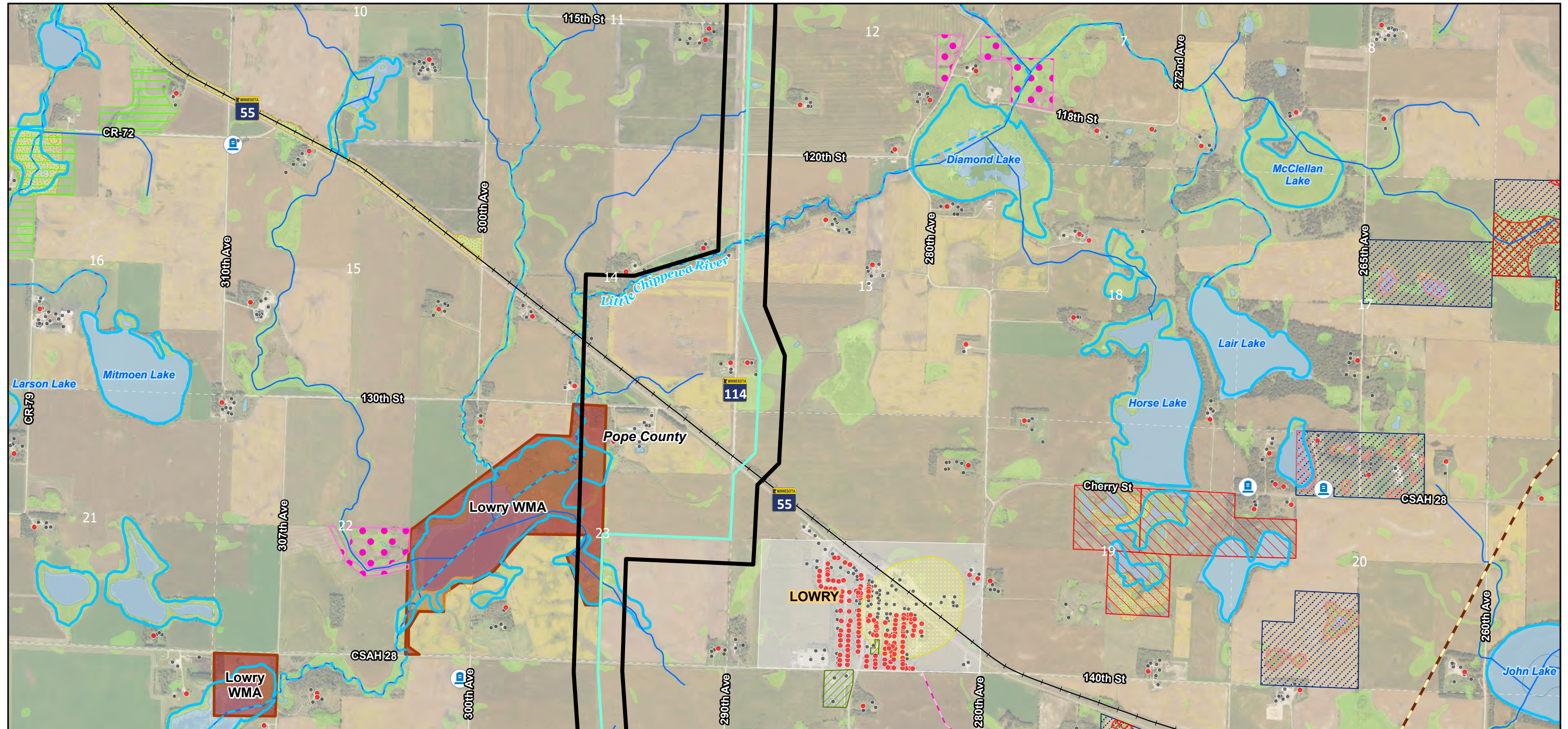


Legend

- | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | DNR Public Watercourse | USFWS Pre 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | DNR Native Plant Community | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Rivers and Streams | USFWS Post 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Wildlife Management Area | Aggregate Resource |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | Pipeline | Park | Existing Transmission Line | Railroad |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | USFWS Interest | BWSR RIM Conservation Easement | 69 kV | County Boundary |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | Grassland Easement | Fee Title | 400 kV | Municipality |
| DNR Public Water Basin | Wetland Easement | | Residence | |

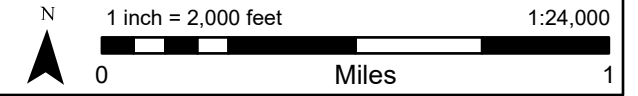
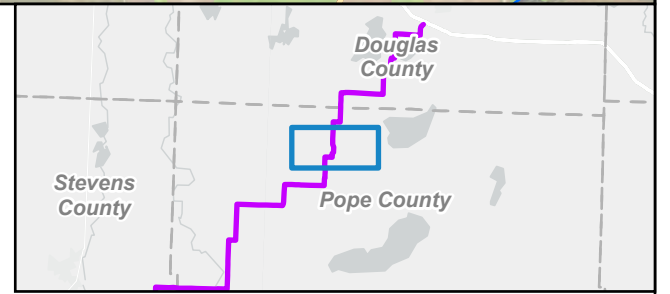


Detailed PUC Route Map 17 of 20

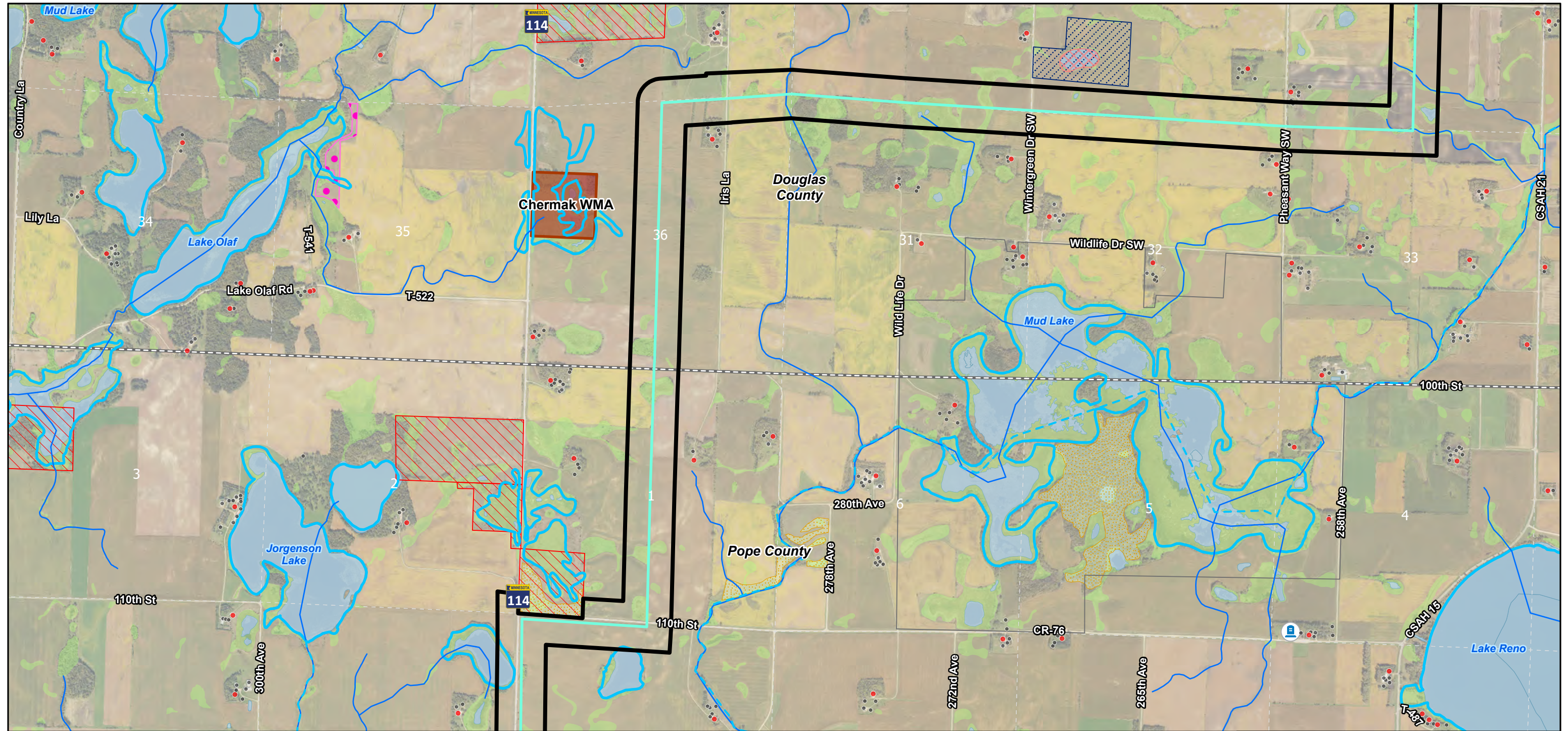


Legend

- | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | DNR Public Watercourse | USFWS Pre 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | DNR Native Plant Community | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Rivers and Streams | USFWS Post 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Wildlife Management Area | Cemetery |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | Pipeline | Park | Existing Transmission Line | Railroad |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | USFWS Interest | BWSR RIM Conservation Easement | 400 kV | County Boundary |
| DNR Public Water Basin | Grassland Easement | Wellhead Protection Areas | Residence | Municipality |
| | Wetland Easement | | | |
| | Fee Title | | | |

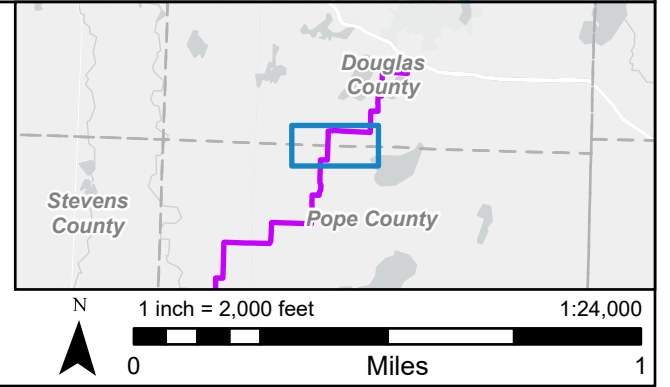


Detailed PUC Route Map 18 of 20

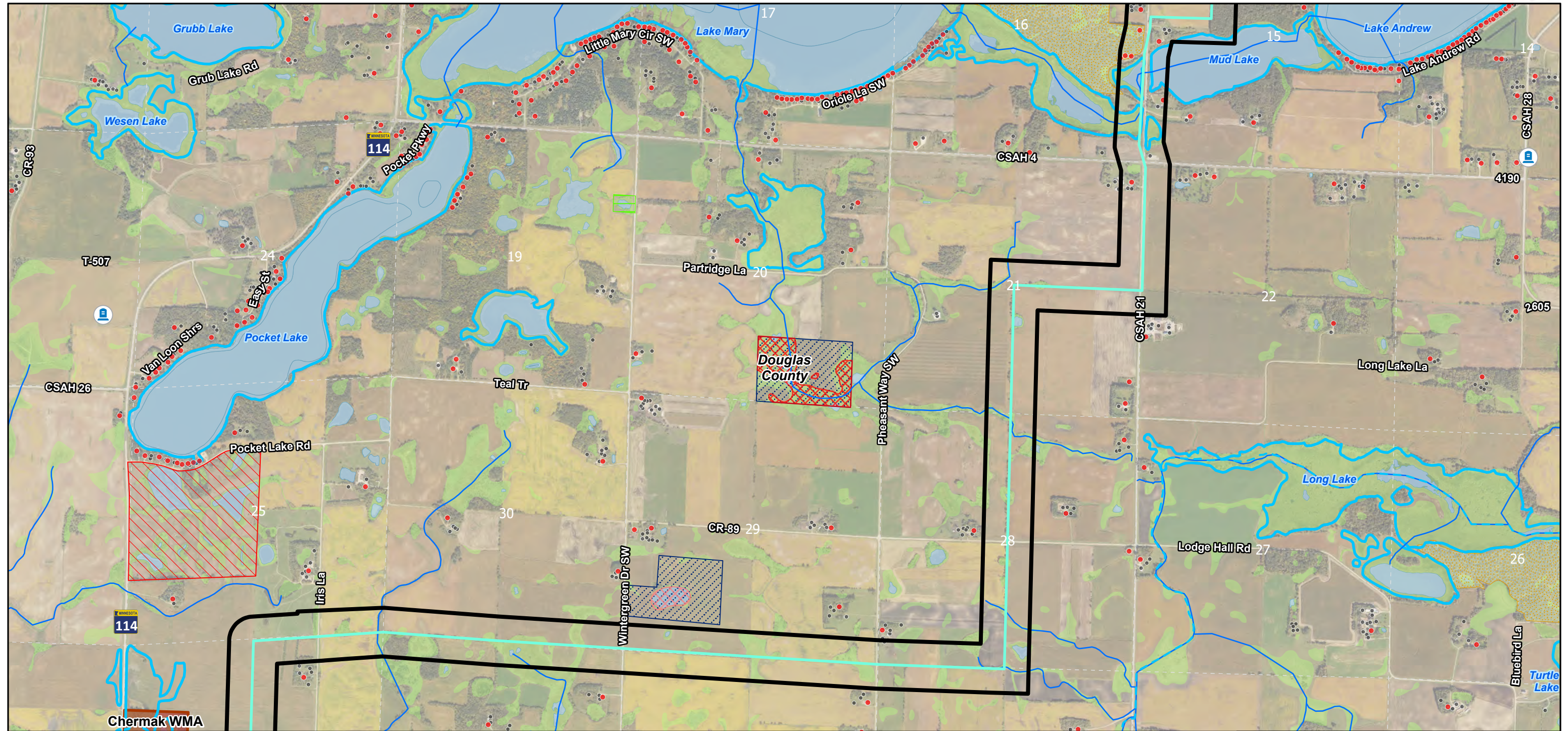


Legend

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | DNR Public Water Basin | Other | Wildlife Management Area |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Public Watercourse | USFWS Post 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Residence |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | DNR Rivers and Streams | BWSR RIM Conservation Easement | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | USFWS Interest | Wetland Easement | Cemetery |
| | Fee Title | DNR Native Plant Community | County Boundary |

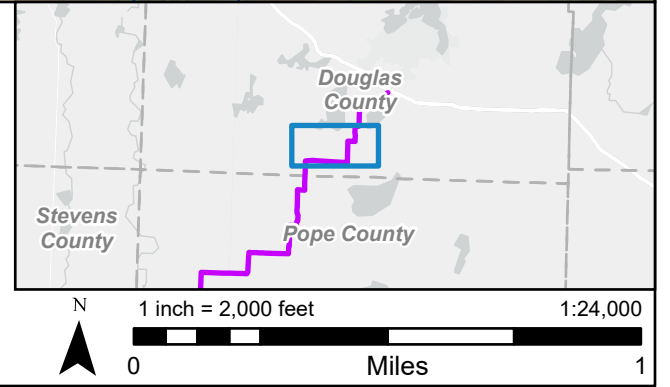


Detailed PUC Route Map 19 of 20

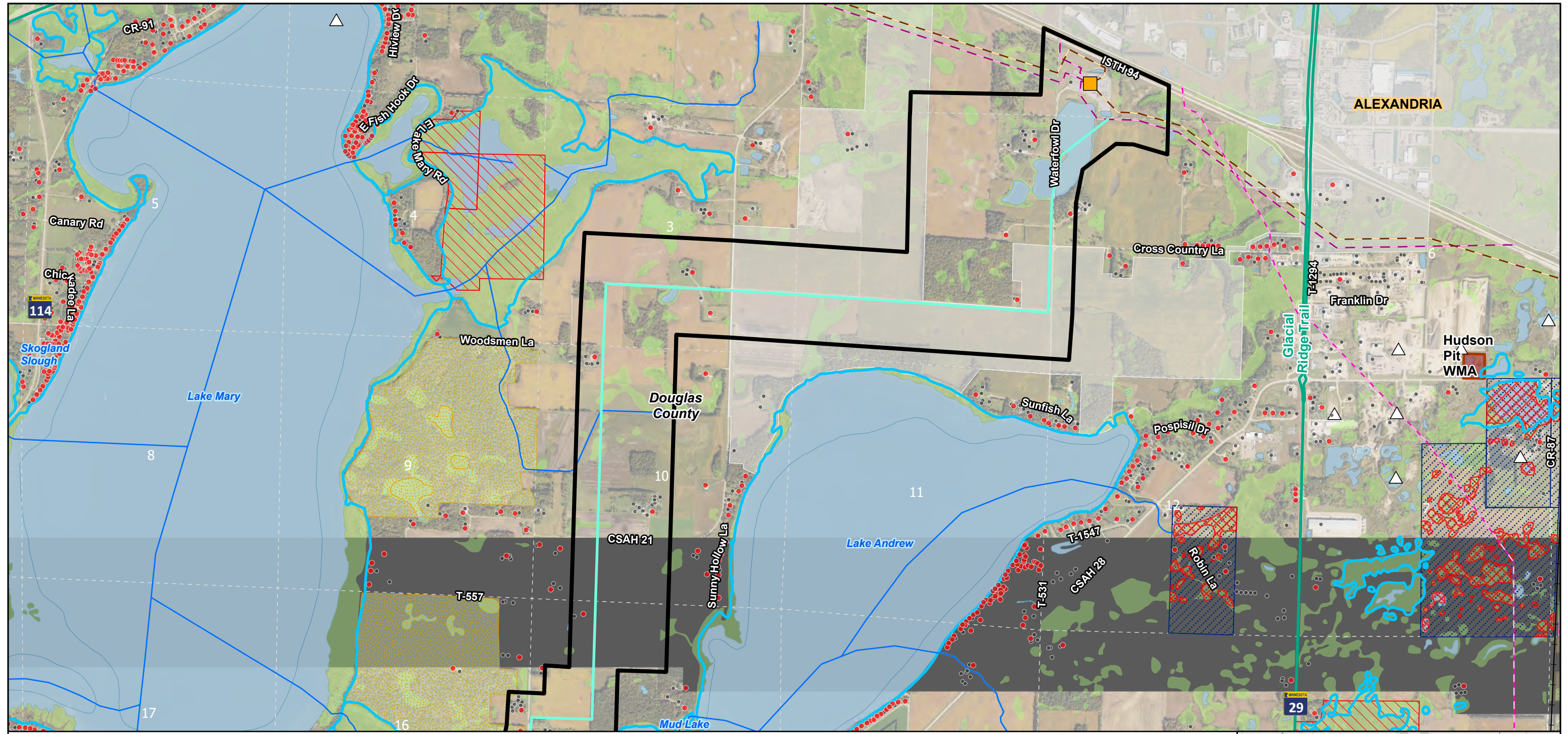


Legend

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | DNR Public Water Basin | Fee Title | Wildlife Management Area |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Public Watercourse | USFWS Pre 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Residence |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | DNR Rivers and Streams | USFWS Post 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | USFWS Interest | DNR Native Plant Community | Cemetery |
| | Grassland Easement | | County Boundary |
| | Wetland Easement | | |

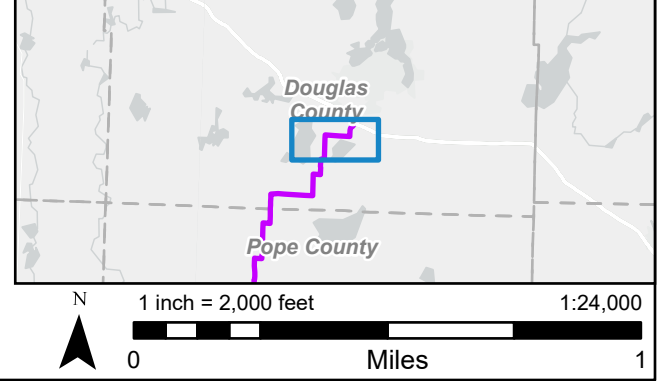


Detailed PUC Route Map 20 of 20



Legend

- | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|---|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PUC Decision Route Width | DNR Public Water Basin | Other | DNR Native Plant Community | Other Structure (Not a residence) |
| PUC Decision Alignment | DNR Rivers and Streams | USFWS Pre 1976 Protected Wetlands Basin | Wildlife Management Area | Aggregate Resource |
| Existing Substation | MN Scenic Byway | RSL Type | 115 kV | Railroad |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Waterbody | Pipeline | Farm Service Agency Transfer Parcel | 345 kV | County Boundary |
| Undelineated National Wetland Inventory Wetland | USFWS Interest | BWSR RIM Conservation Easement | Residence | Municipality |
| | Wetland Easement | | | |
| | Fee Title | | | |



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-017,ET-10/TL-23-160**

Dated this **25th** day of **June, 2026**

/s/ Robin Benson

#	First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Agency	Address	Delivery Method	Alternate Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
1	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	23-160 Official
2	Jon	Brekke	jbrekke@grenergy.com	Great River Energy		12300 Elm Creek Boulevard Maple Grove MN, 55369-4718 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
3	Christina	Brusven	cbrusven@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson Byron		60 S 6th St Ste 1500 Minneapolis MN, 55402-4400 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
4	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	23-160 Official
5	Generic	Commerce Attorneys	commerce.attorneys@ag.state.mn.us		Office of the Attorney General - Department of Commerce	445 Minnesota Street Suite 600 St. Paul MN, 55101 United States	Electronic Service		Yes	23-160 Official
6	Richard	Dahl	richard.dahl@mrenergy.com	Missouri River Energy Services		3724 West Avera Drive Sioux Falls SD, 57108 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
7	Bridget	Duffus	bduffus@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.		60 S Sixth St Ste 1500 Minneapolis MN, 55402-4400 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
8	Robert M.	Endris	rendris@otpc.com	Otter Tail Power Company		215 South Cascade St. Fergus Falls MN, 56537 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
9	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	23-160 Official
10	Jessica	Fyhrie	jfyhrie@otpc.com	Otter Tail Power Company		PO Box 496 Fergus Falls MN, 56538-0496 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
11	Barton	Gernander	bgernander@burnshansen.com			8401 Wayzata Blvd., Ste. 300 Minneapolis MN, 55426 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official

#	First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Agency	Address	Delivery Method	Alternate Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
12	Erik	Gravley	egravley@earthlink.net			3871 Woodsmen Ln SW Alexandria MN, 56308 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
13	Amber	Grenier	agrenier@otpc.com	Otter Tail Power Company		215 S. Cascade St. Fergus Falls MN, 56537 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
14	Lee	Hanson	lee@hanlawoffice.com	Hanson Law Office		1010 West St. Germain St Suite 750 St. Cloud MN, 56301 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
15	Adam	Heinen	aheinen@dakotaelectric.com	Dakota Electric Association		4300 220th St W Farmington MN, 55024 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
16	Abigail	Hencheck	ahencheck@mncenter.org	Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy		1919 University Ave W Suite 515 St. Paul MN, 55104 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
17	Lori	JohnsonWarner	lori.johnson@earthlink.net			18198 145th St. NW Elk River MN, 55330 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
18	Nick	Kaneski	nick.kaneski@enbridge.com	Enbridge Energy Company, Inc.		11 East Superior St Ste 125 Duluth MN, 55802 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
19	James D.	Larson	james.larson@avantenergy.com	Avant Energy Services		220 S 6th St Ste 1300 Minneapolis MN, 55402 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
20	Benjamin	Levine	blevine@mnpower.com	Minnesota Power		30 West Superior Street Duluth MN, 55802 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
21	Patrick	Mahlberg	pmahlberg@fredlaw.com	Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.		60 S Sixth St Ste 1500 Minneapolis MN, 55402-4400 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
22	Larry	Mahoney				1910 50th St. NW Appleton MN, 56208 United States	Paper Service		No	23-160 Official
23	Kavita	Maini	kmaini@w i.rr.com	KM Energy Consulting,		961 N Lost Woods Rd	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official

#	First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Agency	Address	Delivery Method	Alternate Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
				LLC		Oconomowoc WI, 53066 United States				
24	Christine	Marquis	regulatory.records@xcelenergy.com	Xcel Energy		414 Nicollet Mall MN1180-07-MCA Minneapolis MN, 55401 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
25	Andrew	Moratzka	andrew.moratzka@stoel.com	Stoel Rives LLP		33 South Sixth St Ste 4200 Minneapolis MN, 55402 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
26	Christa	Moseng	christa.moseng@state.mn.us		Office of Administrative Hearings	P.O. Box 64620 Saint Paul MN, 55164-0620 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
27	Susan	Nelson	susan@hanlaw office.com			1010 West St. Germain Street, Suite 750 St. Cloud MN, 56301 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
28	Matthew	Olsen	molsen@otpc.com	Otter Tail Power Company		215 South Cascade Street Fergus Falls MN, 56537 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
29	Kevin	Pranis	kpranis@liunagroc.com	Laborers' District Council of MN and ND		81 E Little Canada Road St. Paul MN, 55117 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
30	Generic Notice	Regulatory	regulatory_filing_coordinators@otpc.com	Otter Tail Power Company		215 S. Cascade Street Fergus Falls MN, 56537 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
31	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	23-160 Official
32	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	23-160 Official
33	J.P.	Schumacher	jps@mrenergy.com	Missouri River Energy Services		null null, null United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
34	Janet	Shaddix Elling	jshaddix@janetshaddix.com	Shaddix And Associates		7400 Lyndale Ave S Ste 190 Richfield MN,	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official

#	First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Agency	Address	Delivery Method	Alternate Delivery Method	View Trade Secret	Service List Name
						55423 United States				
35	Dalah	Smith	jjsmithmn@gmail.com			4972 Broadmoor Drive Independence MN, 55359 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
36	Cary	Stephenson	cstephenson@otpc.com	Otter Tail Power Company		215 South Cascade Street Fergus Falls MN, 56537 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
37	Amelia	Vohs	avohs@mncenter.org	Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy		1919 University Avenue West Suite 515 St. Paul MN, 55104 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
38	Stacy	Wahlund	swahlund@otpc.com	Otter Tail Power Company		215 S. Cascade St Fergus Falls MN, 56537 United States	Paper Service		No	23-160 Official
39	Jason	Weiers	jweiers@otpc.com	Otter Tail Power Company		215 South Cascade Street PO Box 496 Fergus Falls MN, 56538 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official
40	Brian	Zavesky	brian.zavesky@mrenergy.com	Missouri River Energy Services		3724 West Avera Dr PO Box 88920 Sioux Falls SD, 57108 United States	Electronic Service		No	23-160 Official