



MEDIA ADVISORY

October 27, 2025

On-site Contacts:

Great River Energy
Lori Buffington
763-445-5715
lbuffington@grenergy.com

ITC Midwest
Rod Pritchard
319-297-6840
rpritchard@itctransco.com

Xcel Energy
Randy Fordice
612-345-2674
randy.l.fordice@xcelenergy.com

PowerOn Midwest open houses begin November 3

Members of the public invited to learn about project, receive information about upcoming route development process

What:

Great River Energy, ITC Midwest and Xcel Energy will host public open house meetings across southern Minnesota to introduce PowerOn Midwest, a series of new electric transmission projects anchored by a 765 kV backbone transmission line. The projects will connect eastern South Dakota, southern Minnesota and the broader region, enhancing grid reliability in the Upper Midwest to meet growing and changing energy needs in the coming decades.

The open houses will provide landowners, stakeholders and community members with an opportunity to learn about the need for the project, the timeline and the regulatory process, and provide feedback to the project team.

When and where:

Open houses will take place from **November 3 - November 14** in the following counties: Lincoln, Lyon, Pipestone, Murray, Nobles, Rock, Jackson, Cottonwood, Martin, Faribault, Freeborn, Dodge, Mower, Goodhue and Dakota. A full schedule is attached and can also be found at PowerOnMidwest.com. There will be no formal presentation, and participants can stop by anytime during the listed times. Each open house will provide the same information including project displays and overview maps to review and collect input.

Why:

The way we generate and use electricity is changing — and electricity needs in our region are projected to significantly increase in the coming decades. PowerOn Midwest includes a proposed 765 kV backbone transmission line designed to meet those growing needs. The project will enhance grid reliability and resiliency across eastern South Dakota, southern Minnesota and the broader Upper Midwest region. This project delivers on our commitment to

customers and electric cooperative members that electricity is delivered where and when it's needed every hour of every day — regardless of the weather, electric generation source or energy use levels.

At the open houses, PowerOn Midwest representatives will:

- Explain the **need for PowerOn Midwest**, including how it supports reliability and economic growth.
- Outline the regulatory process, including the upcoming **Certificate of Need application** filing (planned for February 2026) and the subsequent **Route Permit application** phase (beginning in 2027).
- Offer attendees a chance to **engage directly with project staff**, ask questions, share feedback and understand how to participate in the regulatory and route development processes.

Additional information:

Property owners within the study area received letters the week of October 20 inviting them to attend. County commission briefings are also underway. The project team is committed to early and proactive engagement, recognizing the importance of local input in shaping the future of the electric grid.

The PowerOn Midwest projects were approved by the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), the regional grid operator, in December 2024. The projects were identified due to their ability to meet the region's long-term energy needs, including delivering electric reliability for customers and cooperative members, enabling new electric generation in the region and providing system resilience in extreme weather situations. All projects must still receive state regulatory approval before any construction activities can begin.

Phase 1 Open House Logistics

Week 1

	Date	Time	County	Location
1	Monday, November 3	10 am – 12 pm	Lincoln	Lake Benton Area Community & Event Center, 114 Center St. S, Lake Benton, MN 56149
2	Monday, November 3	4 pm – 6 pm	Lyon	Five Family Ranch, 2717 County Road 6, Marshall, MN 56258
3	Tuesday, November 4	10 am – 12 pm	Pipestone	Hiawatha Lodge, 201 4th St. NW Pipestone, MN 56164
4	Tuesday, November 4	4 pm – 6 pm	Murray	American Legion, 106 W Front St., Fulda, MN 56131
5	Wednesday, November 5	10 am – 12 pm	Nobles	Worthington Event Center, 1447 Prairie Dr., Worthington, MN 56187
6	Wednesday, November 5	4 pm – 6 pm	Rock	Generations Events Center, 105 S. Estey St., Luverne, MN 56156
7	Thursday, November 6	10 am – 12 pm 4 pm – 6 pm	Jackson	Heron Lake Community Center, 312 10th St., Heron Lake, MN 56137

Week 2

	Date	Time	County	Location
1	Monday, November 10	10 am – 12 pm	Cottonwood	Windom Community Center, 1750 Cottonwood Lake Dr., Windom, MN 56101
2	Monday, November 10	4 pm – 6 pm	Martin	Knights of Columbus, 920 East 10th St., Fairmont, Minnesota 56031
3	Tuesday, November 11	10 am – 12 pm	Faribault	Naseic Event Center, 789 Business Park Dr., Wells, MN 56097
4	Tuesday, November 11	4 pm – 6 pm	Freeborn	Wedgewood Cove, 2200 W 9th St., Albert Lea, MN 56007
5	Wednesday, November 12	10 am – 12 pm 4 pm – 6 pm	Dodge	Events Sports Bar and Grill, 401 8th St. SE, Kasson, MN 55944
6	Thursday, November 13	10 am – 12 pm	Mower	Hormel Nature Center, 1304 21st St. NE, Austin, MN 55912
7	Thursday, November 13	4 pm – 6 pm	Goodhue	Zumbrota VFW, 21 E 1st St., Zumbrota, MN 55992
8	Friday, November 14	9 am – 11 am	Goodhue	Grand 02 Event Center, 32057 64th Ave., Cannon Falls, MN 55009

