

PowerOn Midwest™

Big Stone South to Brookings

Otter Tail Power Company and Xcel Energy have partnered to develop the proposed PowerOn Midwest - South Dakota project, a 765 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to serve customers in South Dakota and throughout the Upper Midwest. The project is part of a regional effort to modernize the electric grid, ensure continued electric reliability, and meet growing energy needs throughout the region.

PowerOn Midwest—tomorrow's reliability starts today.

Benefits

RELIABLE ELECTRICITY

Delivering on our commitment to customers that electricity is delivered where and when it's needed—regardless of the weather, electric generation resource, or demand.

FUTURE-READY GRID

Addresses rising electricity demand, which is projected to grow significantly over the next two decades.

CUSTOMER AND ECONOMIC BENEFIT

Enabling cost-effective generation while improving reliability, opening doors for future economic growth across the region.

ACCESS TO NEW ELECTRIC GENERATION

Supporting the addition of a wider range of energy resources to the grid, providing diverse, balanced, and reliable power supply for the future.

Schedule

If approved, the project would be built beginning in the late 2020s and expected to be in-service between 2032-2034. Developing and building major new transmission lines is a multi-year process that begins with significant planning which identifies general project areas, includes comprehensive outreach to local landowners and officials to identify potential route options, and a robust regulatory review by state officials who review projects like these. The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (SD PUC) will review the project and grant a Facility Permit if approved.

2025
Project planning, initial stakeholder and landowner engagement

2026-2027
Facility Permit application filed with SD PUC, route development, public engagement, negotiate easement options with landowners

2027-2029
Regulatory review, including public input hearings, engineering design, environmental surveys, real estate coordination

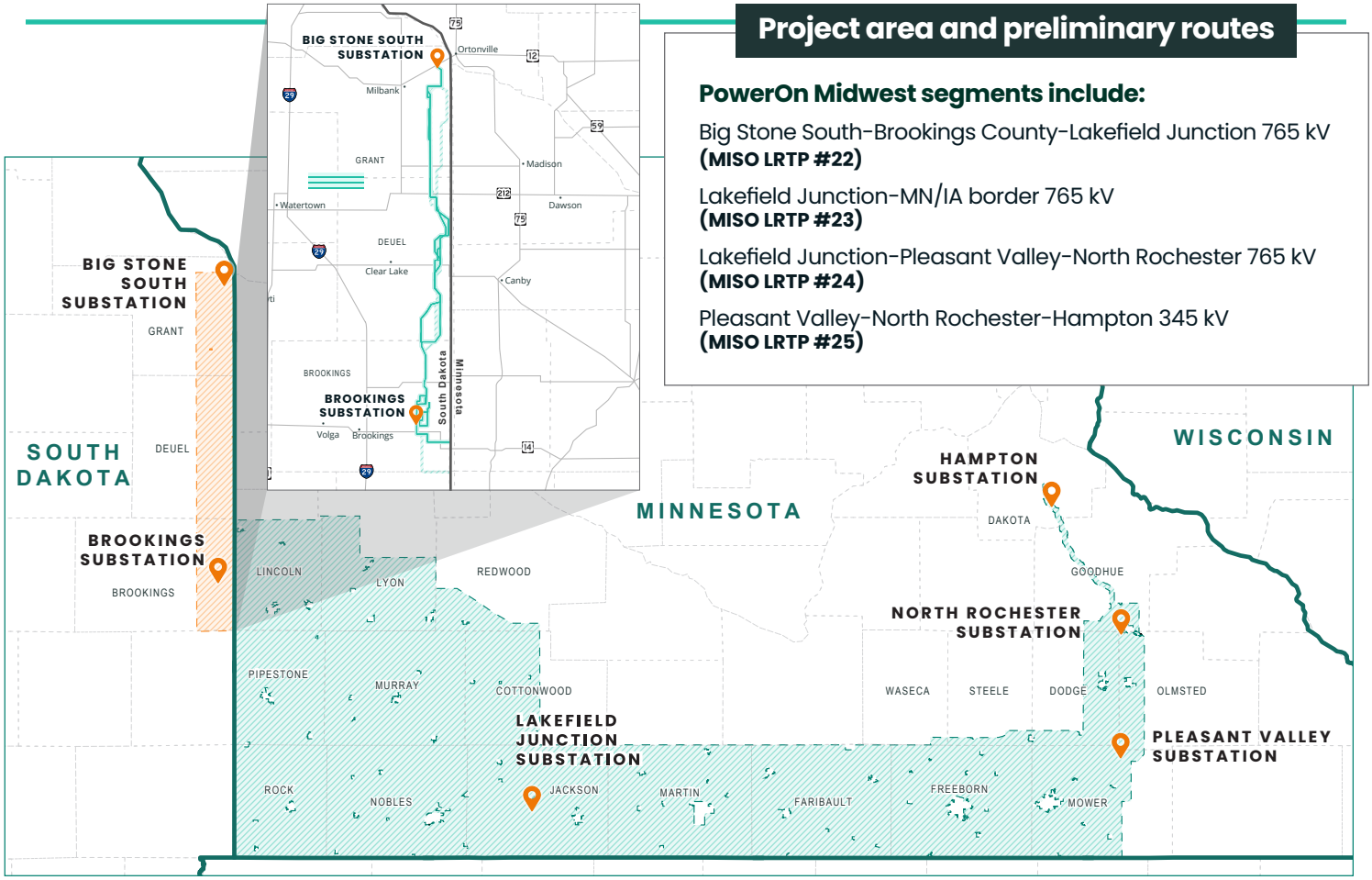
2030-2034
Construction

2032-2034
Anticipated in-service

PowerOn Midwest

Otter Tail Power Company | Xcel Energy

Project area and preliminary routes



PowerOn Midwest segments include:

Big Stone South-Brookings County-Lakefield Junction 765 kV
(MISO LRTP #22)

Lakefield Junction-MN/IA border 765 kV
(MISO LRTP #23)

Lakefield Junction-Pleasant Valley-North Rochester 765 kV
(MISO LRTP #24)

Pleasant Valley-North Rochester-Hampton 345 kV
(MISO LRTP #25)

South Dakota regulatory process

In South Dakota, PowerOn Midwest must obtain a Facility Permit from the SD PUC. This process (currently underway) evaluates the need, location, and design of the transmission line. The SD PUC also considers environmental, social, and economic impacts, and public input is a key part of the review process.

South Dakota County regulatory process

The project will apply for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) in each county where the transmission line may be located. A CUP from each county must be obtained before the transmission line can be constructed.

How to participate

- Attend public open meetings, and provide comments to the SD PUC
- Submit comments via website, email, or telephone
- Visit the project website to view the latest project information
- Connect with the project team or request a presentation

Engagement highlights since Fall 2025

- 12 dedicated public meetings and community events
- More than 150 comments received and addressed
- One-on-one engagement with governments and community groups

CONTACT US

SD.PowerOnMidwest.com | SouthDakota@PowerOnMidwest.com | 866-869-2087