



Town hall meeting on CapX 2020 power line project Aug. 27 (08/19/2009)

State Sen. Sharon Erickson Ropes, DFL-Winona, will be hosting a town meeting on Aug. 27 to discuss the CapX 2020 high voltage power line (La Crosse project) and its effect on southeastern Minnesota and the surrounding area. The meeting will be held at the American Legion, 121 South Grant St. in Houston at 6 p.m. All are welcome to join the discussion.

“I have heard from concerned constituents about this project,” said Sen. Erickson Ropes. “Following an on-site visit, we decided that a broader discussion that will give people an opportunity to ask questions was needed. I think we should bring in some people from both sides of the discussion to have a respectful conversation about the project.”

According to Xcel Energy, Dairyland Power, and the nine other utilities proposing the nearly \$2 billion project, CapX2020 is designed to improve power reliability for the Twin Cities, Rochester, and La Crosse areas, as well as to improve access to generation. For more information on the project, including proposed route maps, visit the utility’s website at www.capx2020.com.

The news of new high voltage power lines has been a cause of concern for a number of residents, businesses, and landowners, who have formed a coalition from Minnesota and Wisconsin called Citizens Energy Task Force (CETF). CETF and other groups have formally challenged the CapX2020

Certificate of Need, providing evidence that the project is not needed and suggesting alternatives for energy that will not harm the environment and will cost significantly less. CETF gives a voice to those who question the need for the high voltage power lines, and who support clean, sustainable, locally generated power sources. For more information from CETF, visit <http://cETF.us/>. Additional information on the concerns regarding CapX2020 can be found at www.ilsr.org, www.nawo and www.nocapx2020.info.