

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: SOO GREEN HVDC LINK PROJECTCO, LLC	DOCKET NO. E-22436
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**PETITION FOR ELECTRIC
TRANSMISSION LINE FRANCHISE**

COMES NOW SOO Green HVDC Link ProjectCo, LLC, authorized to transact business in the State of Iowa, and whose address is 1600 Utica Avenue South, 9 Floor, St. Louis Park, MN, 55416, and petitions the Utilities Board (Board) for a franchise to erect, maintain and operate an electric transmission line in **Clayton County**, Iowa, as provided in Iowa Code chapter 478 (2021).

The proposed line will consist of approximately (using circuit miles):

- a. 44.26 miles of line capable of operating at a maximum voltage of +/- 525,000¹ volts,
- b. _____ miles of line capable of operating at a maximum voltage of _____ volts, and
- c. _____ miles of line capable of operating at a maximum voltage of _____ volts.

Construction of this proposed line is proposed to commence by Q3, 2025. For those portions of the proposed line to be located on private property, 1 easements have been obtained of the total of 12 required.²

I

Petitioner asserts that the proposed line is necessary to serve a public use, represents a reasonable relationship to an overall plan of transmitting electricity in the public interest, and will comply with all laws and regulations administered by the Board, and submits the following attached exhibits which are a part of this petition:

¹ The high voltage direct current design is a bipolar design which includes a pair of conductors, each operating in opposite polarity, +525,000/-525,000 volts.

²

SOO Green has obtained a license from the Canadian Pacific Railway for use of the right-of-way, but because it grants all rights necessary to construct the project, it serves the same purpose as an easement. SOO Green is seeking condemnation rights for 11 additional easements in the Canadian Pacific Railway right-of-way from adjacent landowners because they have filed objections in the docket asserting an interest in the Canadian Pacific Railway right of way.

Exhibit A, a legal description of the route over which the proposed electric line would be constructed. (199 IAC 11.5(1)(a))

Exhibit B, a map showing the proposed route and such other natural or man-made features as are pertinent or required, and the names and addresses of the owners of other utility or service facilities near the route. (199 IAC 11.5(1)(b))

Exhibit C, engineering specifications and technical information showing the proposed type and manner of construction, on the forms specified by the Board. (199 IAC 11.5(1)(c))

Exhibit D, describing the need for and the public use that would be served by the proposed line, the allegations required by Iowa Code § 478.3(2), and other information pertinent to the project and this petition. (199 IAC 11.5(1)(d))

II

* Petitioner requests authority to exercise the right of eminent domain to secure the necessary right-of-way for the proposed project. Attached to this petition is Exhibit E, a description of the lands over which this authority is requested and the rights being sought. (199 IAC 11.5(1)(e))

III

Petitioner has mailed the required notification of the filing of this petition to potentially affected parties including other electric, pipeline, telephone, communication, cable television, rural water district and railroad companies that are crossed by or in shared right-of-way with the proposed electric line. Attached to this petition is Exhibit F, showing that the notification was sent. (199 IAC 11.5(1)(f))

IV

* Petitioner has held the informational meeting(s) required by Iowa Code § 478.2 for this project, and attached to this petition, pursuant to Iowa Code § 478.3, is Exhibit G, an affidavit that the meetings have been held in each county affected by the proposed project and stating the date, time, and place of each meeting. Exhibit G includes copies of the mailed notice letter and the published notice(s) of the informational meeting. (199 IAC 11.5(1)(g))

V

~~* Petitioner is requesting separate poles lines for a portion of this project and attached to this petition is Exhibit H, a request describing in detail the good cause for the board to authorize the construction of separate pole lines. (199 IAC 11.5(1)(h))~~

VI

~~* Petitioner requests that a temporary construction permit be granted allowing construction of this line to commence. Petitioner asserts that the proposed project is eligible for a permit under Iowa Code § 478.31, is the nearest electrical utility to the proposed point of service, and has attached to this petition~~

~~any necessary endorsed approvals of highway or railroad authorities. Petitioner acknowledges that the final order of the Board on this petition may require the removal, relocation, or reconstruction of all or any portion of an electric line built under authority of a temporary construction permit.~~

VII

Petitioner requests that the Board consider and take appropriate action on this petition for franchise and requests that an official notice be prepared for publication once each week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper located in the county concerned.

Petitioner may request that an early official notice be prepared and sent to Petitioner after the review of Exhibits A and B is completed. The request for early official notice shall be made in the cover letter and Petitioner shall provide a brief explanation of the need for the early official notice. Petitioner understands and assumes the risk that an additional official notice may be required if the details of the project change or objections are filed after the early official notice that are not withdrawn before the review of the petition is completed. A request for an early official notice will not be considered if Petitioner is requesting eminent domain authority.

In addition to a published route description, petitioner will make available to the public a map of the proposed route, a copy of which is attached to this petition, and requests the notice for publication state: (indicate which)

 A map showing the proposed route is published with the notice; or,

 X A map of the proposed route may be obtained free of charge by calling

1-888-214-8848, or by writing to:

SOO Green HVDC Link ProjectCo, LLC

ATTN: Raj Rajan

1600 Utica Avenue South, 9th Floor

St. Louis Park, Minnesota 55416

VIII

The proposed line will be constructed and maintained in conformance with the requirements of 199 Iowa Administrative Code chapter 25 "Iowa Electrical Safety Code," including amendments, and with the requirements of Iowa Code chapter 478.

IX

Petitioner agrees to pay all costs and expenses of the franchise proceeding, whether or not objections are filed, including costs of inspections or examinations of the route, hearing, salaries, publishing of notice, and any other expenses reasonably attributable to the proceeding.

X

Petitioner accepts that the provisions of all laws and regulations relating to public utilities, franchises, and transmission lines, which are in force or which may be hereafter enacted, shall apply to its existing line or lines, franchises, and rights with the same force and effect as if the franchise had been granted, or the lines constructed, or rights obtained under the provisions of Iowa Code chapter 478, and amendments thereto.

Dated this 7th day of February, 2023.

SOO Green HVDC Link ProjectCo, LLC
(Company)

By /s/ Raj Rajan
(Signature)*

Raj Rajan
(Name - Printed)

Vice President, Development, SOO Green HVDC
Link ProjectCo, LLC
(Title)

* Please redact any actual signature or use typed signature (example /s/ John Doe) before filing.

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF MINNESOTA

COUNTY OF DAKOTA

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ss:

I, Raj V. Rajan, state under oath that I am Vice President, Development, SOO Green HVDC Link ProjectCo, LLC of Petitioner named above and that I have authority to execute this instrument and that I have read the Petition, know the contents, and that the statements are true and correct.

[Redacted Signature]

(Signature of Affiant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Raj Rajan,

this 7 day of February, 2023.

[Redacted Signature]

Notary Public

