

application must be on 8.5- by 11-inch plain white paper only (no colored paper, over-sized paper, or special covers) with a minimum font size of 11 letters per inch. Top, bottom, and side margins must be no less than three-quarters of an inch. All pages must be clearly numbered. The paper copies of the application package should be stapled with a single staple at the upper left-hand corner. Do not staple the original. Other bindings will not be accepted.

b. Full Application Content. Project Summary Table, SF 424, and 424A shall be submitted with the application for acceptance. Assemble information in the following order: Project Summary Table, SF 424, SF424A, project narrative, budget justification narrative, budget, financial feasibility, and appendices. Forms for the Project Summary, SF424, and SF424A can be found at <http://www.fpl.fs.fed.us/tmu> (under Woody Biomass Grants). The project narrative consists of statement of need, project coordinator(s) and partner(s), goals and objectives, technical approach work plan, impact on National Forest System forest restoration activities, environmental documentation, project work plan and timeline, social impacts, evaluation and monitoring plan, and equipment description. The project narrative shall provide a clear description of the work to be performed, how it will be accomplished, and its impact on National Forest System lands. It shall address the technical approach work plan under criteria b listed in section 5. The project narrative is limited to a total of 10 pages and excludes Project Summary Table, budget justification, budget, appendices and financial documentation.

c. Detailed Financial Information. Detailed financial information is requested to assess the potential and the capability of the applicant. All financial information remains confidential and is not accessible under the Freedom of Information Act. If the applicant has questions about how confidential information is handled they should contact Patricia Brumm at [pbrumm@fs.fed.us](mailto:pbrumm@fs.fed.us). The financial information should provide a general overview of historical and projected (pro forma) financial performance. Standard accounting principles should be used for developing the required financial information. Strong applications have benefited from the use of a certified accountant to develop this information. Applicants should refer to the Technology Marketing Unit's Web site at <http://www.fpl.fs.fed.us/tmu> (under Woody Biomass Grants) or at

<http://www.grants.gov> for the financial information requirements, as well as Web sites for standard financial templates.

d. Full Application Delivery. Full applications must be postmarked by February 13, 2009, and received no later than 5 p.m. Central Standard Time on February 20, 2009, by Patricia Brumm at the Forest Products Laboratory. Hand-delivered or fax applications will not be accepted. E-mail applications should be submitted through <http://www.grants.gov>. No exceptions allowed. Please send full applications to the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

### 8. Appendices

The following information must be included in the appendix of the pre-application and the full application package:

a. Letter of Support and Biomass Availability from Local USDA Forest Service District Ranger or Forest Supervisor Is Required: This letter must describe the status of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), acres, timeframes, available volumes, and opportunities for applicant to access these volumes. These letters shall be submitted with both the pre-application and full application.

b. Letters of Support from Partners, Individuals, or Organizations: Letters of support should be included in an appendix and are intended to display the degree of collaboration occurring between the different entities engaged in the project. These letters must include commitments of cash or in-kind services from all partners and must support the amounts listed in the budget. Each letter of support is limited to one page in length.

c. Key Personnel Qualifications: Qualifications of the project manager and key personnel should be included in an appendix. Qualifications are limited to two pages in length and should contain the following: resume, biographical sketch, references, and demonstrated ability to manage the grant.

Dated: September 5, 2008.

**James Hubbard,**

*Deputy Chief, State and Private Forestry.*

[FR Doc. E8-21112 Filed 9-10-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

#### **Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc.: Notice of Extension of Public Comment Period for Public Scoping in Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement**

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent To Extend Public Comment Period for Public Scoping for Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency delivering the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, hereinafter referred to as Rural Development and/or the Agency, is extending the public comment period for the public scoping in preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed action by Minnkota Power Cooperative (Minnkota Power), Otter Tail Power Company, and Minnesota Power to construct a 230 kV electric transmission line from Bemidji to Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

Rural Development and the State of Minnesota Office of Energy Security (OES) are jointly preparing an EIS to evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed transmission line pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (U.S.C. 4231 *et seq.*) in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508), 36 CFR 800.2(a); section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act 16 U.S.C. 470f and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800); the Minnesota Environmental Policy Act (MEPA), Minnesota Statute, Chapter 116D.04; the Minnesota Power Plant Siting Act (MPPSA); Minnesota Statute, Chapter 216 E.03 and Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4400. The U.S. Forest Service-Chippewa National Forest, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe are participating as Cooperating Agencies in development of the EIS.

Two public scoping documents, an Alternatives Evaluation Study (AES) and a Macrocorridor Study (MCS), were prepared to provide public information on the proposed project. Using information from the AES and the MCS and considering input provided by government agencies, private organizations, and the public, Rural Development and OES, in consultation

with the Cooperating Agencies, will determine the scope of the EIS.

The MCS Study included maps of only three of the four transmission line corridor alternatives. This report has been updated to include the map of four transmission line macrocorridor options that are currently part of the study area. Notices distributed in local areas to notify the public of the proposed project included only one macrocorridor option with two route alternatives the applicants proposed in the State of Minnesota Route Permit Application. To ensure that interested parties located within the any of the four transmission line macrocorridor alternatives are provided adequate opportunity for comment, notices are being reissued and the public comment period is being extended for one month.

**DATES:** A Notice of Intent To Hold Public Scoping Meetings and Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed project was published in the **Federal Register** on July 18, 2008. The public comment period has been extended and written comments relating to the proposed project will be accepted until 5 p.m. Eastern Time on September 30, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** To send comments or for further information, contact Barbara Britton, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA Rural Development Utilities Programs, at 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone (202) 720-1414, fax: (202) 690-0629, e-mail [Barbara.Britton@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:Barbara.Britton@wdc.usda.gov) or Suzanne Steinhauer, Project Manager, Minnesota Department of Commerce, Office of Energy Security, at 85 Seventh Place, Suite 500, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55010, telephone (651) 296-2888, e-mail [Suzanne.Steinhauer@state.mn.us](mailto:Suzanne.Steinhauer@state.mn.us). A copy of the AES and MCS can be obtained from the Agency Web site at <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/eis/eis.htm>, by contacting Bob Lindholm of Minnesota Power at (888) 373-4113, [bemidjiinfo@capx2020.com](mailto:bemidjiinfo@capx2020.com), and at the public libraries listed below:

Bemidji Public Library, 509 America Avenue, NW., Bemidji, MN 56601.  
Cass Lake Community Library, 223 Cedar Avenue, NW., P.O. Box 836, Cass Lake, MN 56633.  
Grand Rapids Area Library, 140 NE. 2nd Street, Grand Rapids, MN 55744.  
Blackduck Community Library, 72 First Street, SE., P.O. Box 326, Blackduck, MN 56630.  
Margaret Welch Memorial Library, P.O. Box 106, 5051 State 84, Longville, MN 56655.  
Walker Public Library, 207 4th Street, P.O. Box 550, Walker, MN 56484.

Bovey Public Library, Village Hall, 402 2nd Street, P.O. Box 130, Bovey, MN 55709-0130.

Coleraine Public Library, Independent Building, 203 Cole Avenue, P.O. Box 225, Coleraine, MN 55722-0225.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Minnkota Power, Otter Tail Power, and Minnesota Power propose to construct a new transmission line from Bemidji to Grand Rapids, Minnesota. The proposal is designed to correct a local load serving inadequacy for the Bemidji area and the northern Red River Valley in West Central Minnesota. The line would originate from Minnkota's 230 kV Wilton Substation located just west of Bemidji, Minnesota, to Minnesota Power's 230 kV Boswell Substation in Cohasset, Minnesota, northwest of Grand Rapids, Minnesota. It is part of the CapX2020 long-range planning effort that has identified a comprehensive framework for new transmission infrastructure that will be needed to maintain reliability of the transmission system throughout Minnesota and the surrounding region. Minnkota Power, Otter Tail Power, and Minnesota Power are partners in this investment, and Minnkota Power is seeking financing from Rural Development Utilities Programs for its portion of the investment.

The proposed project may require permits from the United States Department of the Army Corps of Engineers (COE) under section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, 33 U.S.C. 403, for the project's overhead wires to cross the Mississippi River, and under section 404 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1344, to place transmission line structures and associated backfill into waters of the United States. The proposed project may require a Special Use Permit to cross the Chippewa National Forest from the United States Forest Service under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act pursuant to 36 CFR 251.58, if it traverses the Chippewa National Forest. The proposed project may require a permit to cross Federal Aid Highways under the Department of Transportation Act 23 CFR 1.23 and 1.27; 23 U.S.C. 116, 123, and 315; 23 CFR 645; and 23 CFR 771. The proposed project may require a certification from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under section 401 of the Clean Water Act if it traverses tribal lands. The proposed project must be considered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service for compliance with the Endangered Species Act 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*, the Migratory Bird Act U.S.C. 703-712, 50 CFR Ch 1, and the Bald and

Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1972 16 U.S.C. 668. The proposed project may require a right of way permit from the United States Bureau for Indian Affairs to cross American Indian trust lands pursuant to 25 CFR 169. The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe may be a signatory to any agreement prepared under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act addressing resolution of adverse effects of the proposed project, if identified, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.6, particularly if the proposed project traverses the Leech Lake Band Reservation.

Dated: September 5, 2008.

**Mark S. Plank,**

*Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff, USDA/Rural Development/Utilities Programs.*

[FR Doc. E8-21178 Filed 9-10-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-15-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the emergency provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

*Agency:* International Trade Administration.

*Title:* Market Research to Broaden and Deepen U.S. Exporter Base.

*OMB Control Number:* None.

*Form Number(s):* ITA-8710; ITA-8711; ITA-8712; and ITA-8713.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Burden Hours:* 1,800.

*Number of Respondents:* 4,000.

*Average Hours per Response:* 15 minutes, ITA-8710 and ITA-8713; and 30 minutes, ITA 8711 and ITA-8712.

*Needs and Uses:* Expanding U.S. exports is a national priority essential to improving U.S. trade performance. The Department of Commerce (DOC), International Trade Administration (ITA), U.S. Commercial Service (CS) serves as the key U.S. government agency responsible for promoting exports of goods and services from the United States, particularly by small and medium-sized enterprises, and assisting U.S. exporters in their dealings with foreign governments.

Section 4721 of 15 U.S. Code contains several provisions that direct the CS to, "identify United States businesses with the potential to export goods and services and provide such businesses with advice and information on establishing export businesses." As