

# Open House Scheduled for Bayfield Second Circuit Transmission Project

A public open house has been scheduled on Monday, September 24 for the Bayfield Second Circuit Transmission project at the Harborview Event Center in Washburn. Xcel Energy plans to submit an application for a Certificate of Authority to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) in 2018 seeking approval for the project. The two route alternatives which will be submitted to the PSCW will be presented at the September open house.

The proposed Bayfield Second Circuit Transmission project includes a new 34.5 kilovolt (kV) transmission line and two new substations. The proposed transmission line would run from a new Fish Creek Substation about four miles west of the City of Ashland to a new Pikes Creek Substation about two miles west of the City of Bayfield, Wisconsin. With feedback from landowners in the area, Xcel Energy has identified two potential route alternatives for the project. The West Route alternative is approximately 22 miles long with an additional four mile 34.5 kV line connecting to the City of Washburn. The East Route alternative, which uses the existing transmission line corridor, is approximately 19 miles long, and would require construction of a temporary bypass line in a separate corridor during construction of the new line (view overview map inside). More detailed maps are available at [xcelenergy.com/Bayfield](http://xcelenergy.com/Bayfield).

## OPEN HOUSE DETAILS

**September 24, 2018**

**4 - 8 PM**

**Harborview Event Center**

130 Harbor View Drive

Washburn, WI

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414 Nicollet Mall (6)  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

## Bayfield Second Circuit Transmission Project Need



Electricity is currently provided to communities on the east side of the Bayfield Peninsula via a single 34.5 kilovolt transmission line that was built between 1957 and 1971 (46 to 60 years old). Any failure on the line south of Bayfield or Washburn results in power outages to those communities as there is not a back-up transmission line in the area. The existing system experiences low voltages during peak usage days. The proposed Bayfield Second Circuit project would increase reliability and solve voltage concerns by providing an additional source of electricity to the area. This second source of power would help ensure that electricity continues to feed the area should the existing transmission line be damaged or require maintenance.

### Proposed Project Timeline

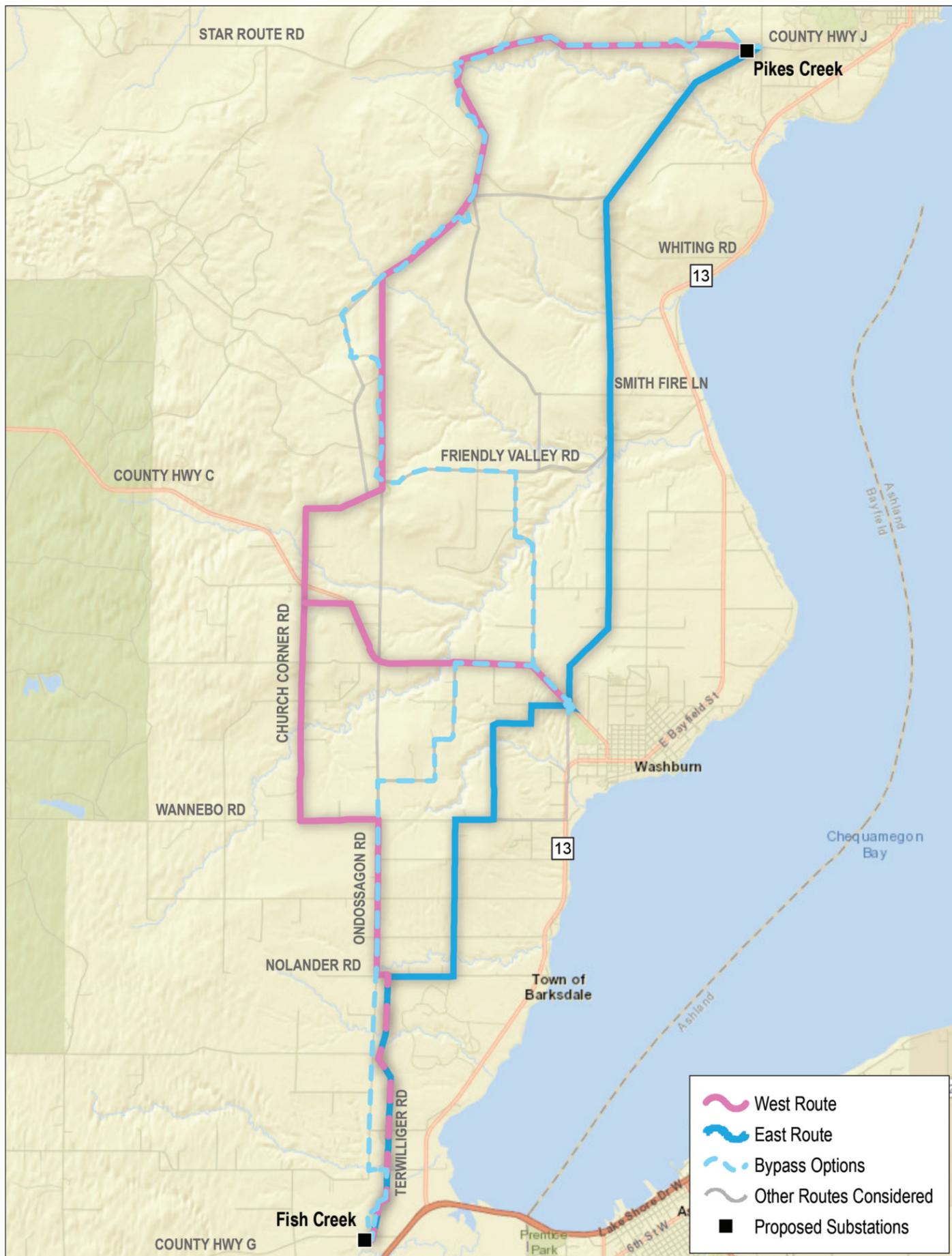
**2018** – Submit Certificate of Authority to Wisconsin Public Service Commission

**2019** – Begin land rights acquisition (pending project approval)

**2020** – Begin construction

**2021** – Estimated in-service date

# Bayfield Second Circuit Transmission Project Route Options



## Route Alternative Details

### West Route

The West Route follows the existing transmission corridor for approximately four miles between County Road G and Nolander Road. The segment south of Nolander Road would be built on double circuit structures with the existing line. Double circuiting involves constructing new poles (structures) and attaching the new and existing lines (both circuits) on opposite sides of the same poles. At Nolander Road the line diverges from the existing corridor and follows Ondossagon, Wannebo and Church Corner roads to the west and north, before crossing a road-less stretch to get to Bayfield County Forest roads. This part of the line would be single-circuit; meaning only one circuit would be built on each pole. The segment connecting the new transmission line to Washburn would also be a single-circuit line.

If the West Route is selected, in locations where the new transmission alignment follows existing distribution lines, those distribution lines will likely be buried underground prior to construction of the transmission line. Earlier in the process we had indicated that the distribution lines could potentially be placed on the same poles as the transmission line (underbuilt). After meeting with representatives from Bayfield Electric we have determined that relocating distribution lines underground along most, if not all, of the West Route, is the best option.

### East Route

The East Route uses the same corridor where the existing transmission line is located. If the East Route is selected the new line will be built on double-circuit poles with the existing transmission line. The new line would be on one side, and

the existing line would be located on the other side of the poles. Because electric service to Washburn and Bayfield needs to be maintained throughout construction of the new line, the project team has determined that the most viable way to construct within the existing transmission line corridor would be to construct a temporary bypass line separated from the existing line. This would allow the existing line to be de-energized and removed before constructing the new line, and would alleviate a number of serious safety concerns and more challenging construction requirements. The proposed alignment for the temporary bypass line is included in the project map above. The bypass line would be done in two phases: Phase 1 from County Road G to Washburn, and Phase 2 from Washburn to Bayfield. The intent would be to construct the bypass line as close to the roads as possible to minimize the amount of tree clearing that would be necessary.

### Contact Us

If you have questions or comments on the Bayfield Second Circuit Transmission Project you can contact:

**Ellen Heine**  
Sr. Land Agent  
Ellen.l.heine@xcelenergy.com  
612-330-6073

**Learn more about the project and view all route options on the website at [xcelenergy.com/Bayfield](http://xcelenergy.com/Bayfield).**