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Xcel Energy completes North Dakota transmission line and substation

Magic City-McHenry transmission line will enhance reliability in Minot and the region

Minot, ND (Sept. 11, 2018) — Xcel Energy today celebrated the completion of its newest transmission line and substation in the Minot area. The event featured Lieutenant Governor Brent Sanford, state and local officials and company representatives.

The Magic City-McHenry transmission line will provide enhanced electric reliability in Minot and the region by adding an additional electricity source for customers. The 20-mile, double circuit 230/115 kilovolt transmission line runs between the existing McHenry substation near Velva and the new Magic City substation in Minot.

“This transmission line is another example of how we’re investing in North Dakota to provide the best possible service for our customers and local communities,” said Chris Clark, president, Xcel Energy-North Dakota. “Building new transmission lines means not only enhanced electric reliability but also increased economic development in the region as these types of projects use area contractors and purchase local materials as much as possible.”

“It’s exciting to celebrate the completion of yet another transmission project in North Dakota,” said Michael Lamb, senior vice president transmission, Xcel Energy. “We are proud of the work of our crews and contractors who worked more than 100,000 hours safely building the transmission line and substation that will better serve this region.”

“This new transmission line provides the capacity and electrical reliability the Minot region needs to continue growing its population and economy for decades to come, said North Dakota Lieutenant Governor Brent Sanford. “We commend Xcel Energy for its nearly \$50 million investment and its commitment to the communities served by this project.”

Construction of the transmission line began in October 2017. The nearly \$50 million project will be energized in October 2018 and will replace the existing line that was built more than 60 years ago. The structures for the new line also take up less ground area than the old double structures, which allows farmers to work right up to the structure base. Removal of the old structures will begin in late 2018.

More than 200 single pole steel structures, 878,000 feet of power line and 3,200 cubic yards of poured concrete were used to build this new transmission line.

Local contractors on this project included KLJ Engineering, Strata Concrete and Sundre Sand & Gravel. Crews supported the local Minot economy during construction using local businesses including hotels, restaurants, and other businesses in the service industry.

Xcel Energy also collaborated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Partners for Wildlife program to plant 40 acres of pollinator habitat around the new substation in May. The native plants which include nearly two dozen different wildflowers are beneficial to pollinators including the monarch butterfly, bees and birds. It typically takes three years for a pollinator habitat to develop.



*Single pole steel structures (left) were used on the new transmission line.
The H-frame structures (right) will be removed later this year.*

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About Xcel Energy

Xcel Energy (NASDAQ: XEL) provides the energy that powers millions of homes and businesses across eight Western and Midwestern states. Headquartered in Minneapolis, the company is an industry leader in responsibly reducing carbon emissions and producing and delivering clean energy solutions from a variety of renewable sources at competitive prices. For more information, visit [xcelenergy.com](https://www.xcelenergy.com) or follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).