



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 14, 2013

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The Big Stone South to Ellendale project announces open house meetings February 25-27, 2013

Bismarck, N.D. – The Big Stone South to Ellendale (BSSE) project will host five open house meetings Feb. 25 – 27, 2013, throughout the study corridors to review preliminary routes, gather feedback from communities, provide project information, and answer questions. The meeting format will be open house with a brief formal presentation after the first half hour. Project team members will be available to answer questions before or after the presentation.

Please join us at one of the meetings. Times, dates and locations of each are in the table below.

Monday, February 25	Tuesday, February 26	Wednesday, February 27
5:30 – 7:00 pm Presentation at 6:00 pm Groton Area School 406 North 2 nd Street Groton, SD	11:30 am – 1:00 pm Presentation at 12:00 pm Fireside Restaurant & Lounge 415 1 st Ave North Ellendale, ND	11:30 am – 1:00 pm Presentation at 12:00 pm The Galley 230 Highway 12 Webster, SD
	5:30 – 7:00 pm Presentation at 6:00 pm Amacher Auditorium Britton-Helca High School 759 5 th Street Britton, SD	5:30 – 7:00 pm Presentation at 6:00 pm Milbank Visitor Center Community Room 1001 E 4 th Ave Milbank, SD



A list of the open houses also can be found on www.BSSEtransmissionline.com and on the project information line (888) 283-4678. Materials used during the meetings will be available on the project website along with an interactive map of the preliminary routes.

The BSSE project is a proposed approximately 150-mile to 175-mile transmission line from the proposed Big Stone South substation near Big Stone City, SD, to the proposed Ellendale 345 kV substation near Ellendale, ND. Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. and Otter Tail Power Company jointly will develop, construct and operate the transmission line.

The BSSE transmission line will connect to other similar transmission lines within the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator (MISO) transmission network. Together these projects will:

- Improve reliability for the regional power system.
- Increase system capacity to address growth in regional demand.
- Support public policy by enabling renewable energy to be integrated into the system.
- Boost regional economies by creating construction and operation jobs and supporting local businesses.

Project owners expect a three-year construction period, beginning in 2016 . The cost will be approximately \$300 million to \$340 million. Visit www.BSSEtransmissionline.com for more information.



Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. distributes natural gas and generates, transmits and distributes electricity and provides related services in the northern Great Plains. The company serves approximately 130,000 electric customers and 245,000 natural gas customers in 262 communities in North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana and Wyoming. Montana-Dakota is a division of MDU Resources Group, Inc. For more information, visit www.montana-dakota.com. For more information about MDU Resources Group, visit www.mdu.com.

Otter Tail Power Company, an electric utility owned by Otter Tail Corporation, serves 129,000 customers in a 70,000 square-mile area in northeastern South Dakota, eastern North Dakota, and west central Minnesota. For more information about Otter Tail Power Company, visit www.otpc.com. For more information about Otter Tail Corporation visit www.ottertail.com.