









# POWERDELIVERED

December 2016

#### Happy holidays!

As they say, it's the most wonderful time of the year! Even with the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, construction of the BSSE Transmission Line continues. As temperatures cool and frozen conditions set in, now is an important time in the construction process because these conditions help minimize our ground impact. Check out our article about winter construction to learn more.

The BSSE route contains environmentally and culturally sensitive areas that we avoid and protect during construction. One of the precautionary steps we take to ensure these

resources stay pristine is having a field monitor present throughout construction. Continue reading to learn more about our commitment to protecting these resources.

We appreciate the ongoing support we've received from landowners and communities. Your partnership has been critical to the project's progress. As always, contact us with questions. Enjoy the holiday season!

Sincerely,

The BSSE Project Team





c/o HDR 701 Xenia Ave, Suite 600 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55416

## **WHAT'S INSIDE?**

- Safety Spotlight
- Construction Update
- Environmental and Cultural Monitoring



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Contact us if you'd like to be added or removed from our mailing list.



## Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!

If weather predictions are true, we're in for a frigid winter and more snow than last year. To keep warm and safe as temperatures drop, our crews will wear appropriate coldweather gear and take breaks to warm up.

We need to keep temporary roads clear to allow safe access to and from construction sites. Please drive carefully and leave plenty of space between you and the snow plows.



### **CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

#### WINTER IS IDEAL FOR CONSTRUCTION

Spring, summer, and fall weather conditions may be ideal for road construction, but winter weather conditions are ideal for transmission line construction. Cold temperatures freeze the ground, minimizing ground disturbance from heavy construction equipment. Winter conditions also enable construction crews access to challenging, typically wet, areas without impacting plants or birds.

A wet early spring can make driving conditions difficult for residents and construction crews. To avoid this, and to abide by state and county restrictions, we minimize use of heavy construction equipment during this time. When conditions dry and restrictions are lifted, we'll resume construction.



## RESOURCE SPECIALISTS MONITOR CONSTRUCTION

Our construction team includes highly skilled professionals with specific jobs and skill sets. One unique team member is our field monitor, who is trained to identify and protect environmentally sensitive areas.



These areas may include protected wetlands, culturally significant artifacts, or endangered species habitat. The field monitor works with construction crews to review equipment locations in relation to identified sensitive areas marked with stakes, flags, and fences.



Please leave all stakes, flags, and fences in place within the route. These marking tools help us identify areas to avoid.

