

PRIMARY GOAL IS TO DELAY APPROVAL BY THE COUNTY BOARD TO ALLOW MORE TIME FOR CAREFUL CONSIDERATION BY THE TOWNSHIPS ALONG THE PROPOSED ROUTE.

What is the stated need from Xcel

- Insufficient voltage on the upper part of the peninsula
- Xcel's legal responsibility to provide reliable service to their customers

Questions that need answers

- Where do people send personal testimonies to
- Is there truly a proven need
- Is solar financially better
- Is it possible to explore alternatives if we had more time
- County Board needs to hear from stakeholder
- County Board and PSC are both influential in this process
- Russell Bailey – Bayfield Electric Board is willing to talk to anyone who calls 715-774-3311
- Where can we get impartial expert advice
- What are the health risks
- Ask for more public input to further people's understanding
- What is the role of the DNR – we need to know the environmental impacts of the proposed route (Maybe Kim Bro could be our liaison)
- Does the towers of the new line conflict with the Town's comprehensive plan
- Who determined/determines the criteria for the need for this line in the first place
 - Can we get unbiased external information on this need
 - Can we get specific information about the outages that have occurred in the past several years
- Tim Rogers, senior Xcel person at the Open House, is willing to attend town meetings to answer questions
- How can we insure that herbicides are not used to keep vegetation cleared underneath the lines (Someone was told by Xcel that private individuals could request that it not be used but would it be better to have a comprehensive ban throughout our Township; for the entire ROW)
- Can we make a presentation to the full County Board to allow time for more information to get out to the public

Note: There are 96 property owners in the Town of Washburn whose property is on one side or the other of the the proposed route.

Sub-groups created to address specifics in key areas:

- Government and other involved entities
 - Communicate with local representatives at the state level (Janet Bewley and Tammy Baldwin)
 - Sub-topic: Abolish the practice of Eminent Domain on private property
 - Develop lines of communications with the 4 other Townships affected
 - Communicate directly with County Board members to better explain our concerns and requests
 - Determine a process/plan for opening up communication with the Public Service Commission (PSC)
 - Develop line of communication with Xcel and Bayfield Electric Coop
 - Meet with county foresters to find out their position
- Alternative Energy Sources
 - Solar generation and storage
- Communication
 - Creating the “message” or content
 - Process to get the message out to public in general
 - Consider website and/or Facebook
 - Email list
 - Newspapers/radio
- Research and data – study committee
 - Take time to do research in order to better understand the impact of the proposed project
 - Here is some [advice on organizing to change power company proposals regarding transmission lines](#) (not Wisconsin but general advice anyway):
 - <http://www.ceds.org/tl.html>
- *Intervener Compensation* option to “seek compensation in order to intervene in a commission proceeding” (Chapter PSC 3)
 - What is it about
 - Would we be eligible
 - What is the application process

Miscellaneous information

- Can solar power/storage be considered as a viable solution for increasing available power
 - Chris La Forge is willing to share information about his work in Malaysia
 - Mike BeBeau is the head of public relations for Xcel in our area. He would be a good contact person to have involved in our efforts

- The Town of Eileen was successful in re-routing a transmission line in their Town; what was their process
 - http://apps.psc.wi.gov/vs2010/dockets/content/detail.aspx?dockt_id=4220-CE-175
 - [Town of Eileen succeeded in getting a change](#)
- A County Board member suggested to someone in the meeting that if 4 out of the 5 Townships impacted by the new line came to the Board opposing the current plan, that would have influence on their decision to approve the ROW on county land.
 - In the government sub-group break out session, volunteers came forward to contact a member(s) from each Town to alert them to the resolution being proposed to the Town of Washburn
- Consensus that public participation is important