

## Lebanon Hills Transmission Line Project - Open House

Tues., 11/28, 5-7pm

Eagan City Hall, 3830 Pilot Knob Rd., Eagan

Great River Energy (GRE) and Dakota Electric Association will host an open house meeting to collect public input on the proposed rebuild of a 1.35-mile-long transmission line and conversion of the Lebanon Hills Substation to 115 kV. *No formal presentation is planned -- you are welcome to attend at anytime.*

### Potential Impacts to Lebanon Hills

(1) Approximately 0.85 miles of existing power lines will be rebuilt within the boundaries of Lebanon Hills; GRE is requesting a new easement along this corridor.

- The power lines originate from a substation near the Cliff/Dodd intersection and travel west approximately .85 miles within park boundaries along Cliff Rd.
- Currently this line is *permitted* to be on Dakota County Park property -- Dakota County owns the land and is responsible for land management along the corridor.
- With the proposal, GRE is requesting an *easement* along this corridor -- GRE would own the land and be responsible for land management along the corridor.



*Transmission lines to be rebuilt and location of new easement along Cliff Rd.*

(2) Suggested by GRE to the Dakota County Board at the Nov. 7 Physical Development meeting, in lieu of an easement payment, GRE in partnership with Xcel Energy will commit to provide to Dakota County Parks:

- A native prairie specialist to establish native, pollinator friendly habitat within the transmission line easement area.
- Removal of the existing Xcel Energy transmission line which runs through the park from Cliff Road south to 120th Street West. The removal will consist of all above ground infrastructure, and the release of the associated easements" — *which means ownership of that 1-mile corridor will be granted back to Dakota County Parks.*



*Existing power line and north-south easement through Lebanon Hills.*

### Our Conclusion

In the best interest of Lebanon Hills Regional Park:

- The new easement being requested should be conditional upon the current easement (from Cliff Rd. to 120th St. W) formally being granted back to Dakota County Parks, including removal of the existing infrastructure and the landscape restored as determined by Dakota County Parks Natural Resources Department.
- Documentation for the new easement south of Cliff Rd. must include language which defines land management for that corridor as determined by the natural resources department.
- The new easement should be located in a manner that will allow for the planned greenway bike trail as per the recently approved Central Greenway Connectivity Study— the easement must not create a need to relocate the greenway through the park.

***With these three conditions met, this project would be beneficial to Lebanon Hills.***