NorthWestern® Energy
Delivering a Bright Future

RECEIVED
SEP 04 2014
BY:

September 2, 2014

Charity Fechter
Planning Director
Madison County
100 Wallace Street
Virginia City, MT 59755

Re: Twin Bridges Power Line Reroute

Dear Ms. Fechter,

Enclosed find a floodplain permit application for the above referenced project. Northwestern Energy (NWE) is proposing to reroute an existing power line out of private landowner's fields into public road right-of-way as part of NWE's Distribution System Integrity Project. The project consists of installing 25 new poles and wire using augers, backhoes and bucket trucks. The elevation of the pole locations ranges from 4645' to 4656' which appears to be within the 100 year flood zone as displayed on panel 02P of the Big Hole River Floodplain Study. NWE does not anticipate any rise in flood elevations as a result of this project as the existing poles will be removed.

The project will improve power reliability to the Twin Bridges area and upon completion the existing line will be decommissioned and removed from the area. Northwestern would like to complete the project late this summer or early fall.

Please call or drop me an email if you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

Sady Babcock

Sady Babcock
Environmental Permitting Specialist

Enc.

40 East Broadway Street | Butte, MT 59701 | O 406-497-1000 | F 406-497-2535

Revised: 2/16/12 (310 form 270) Form may be downloaded from: www.dnrc.mt.gov/permits/default.asp	**AGENCY USE ONLY**: Application # _____ Date Received _____ Date Accepted _____ / Initials _____ Date Forwarded to DFWP _____

This space is for all Department of Transportation and SPA 124 permits (government projects).
Project Name _____
Control Number _____ Contract letting date _____
MEPA/NEPA Compliance ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, #14 of this application does not apply.

JOINT APPLICATION FOR PROPOSED WORK IN MONTANA'S STREAMS, WETLANDS, FLOODPLAINS, AND OTHER WATER BODIES

Use this form to apply for one or all local, state, or federal permits listed below. The applicant is the responsible party for the project and the point of contact unless otherwise designated. **"Information for Applicant"** includes agency contacts and instructions for completing this application. To **avoid delays**, submit all required information, including **a project site map and drawings.** Incomplete applications will result in the delay of the application process. **Other laws may apply**.

The applicant is responsible for obtaining all necessary permits and landowner permission before beginning work.

✓	PERMIT	AGENCY	FEE
	310 Permit	Local Conservation District	No fee
	SPA 124 Permit	Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks	No fee
✓	Floodplain Permit	Local Floodplain Administrator	Varies by city/county ($25 - $500+)
	Section 404 Permit, Section 10 Permit	U. S. Army Corps of Engineers	Varies ($0 - $100)
	318 Authorization 401 Certification	Department of Environmental Quality	$250 (318); $400 - $20,000 (401)
	Navigable Rivers Land Use License or Easement	Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Trust Lands Management Division	License $25; Easement $50, plus annual fee

A. APPLICANT INFORMATION

NAME OF **APPLICANT** (person responsible for project): Northwestern Energy
Has the landowner consented to this project? ☑ Yes ☐ No
Mailing Address: 40 East Broadway, Butte, MT 59701
Physical Address: Same
Day Phone: (406) 497-3148 Evening Phone: (406) 565-2461 E-Mail: sady.babcock@northwestern.com

NAME OF **LANDOWNER** (if different from applicant): MDT - Butte; Madison County
Mailing Address: 3751 Winne, Butte, MT 59701; 100 Wallace, Virginia City, MT 59755
Physical Address: _____
Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

NAME OF **CONTRACTOR/AGENT** (if one is used): Sady Babcock, Northwestern Energy
Mailing Address: 40 East Broadway, Butte, MT 59701
Physical Address: _____
Day Phone: 406-497-3148 Evening Phone: 406-565-2461 E-Mail: sady.babcock@northwestern.com

B. PROJECT SITE INFORMATION

NAME OF **STREAM** or **WATER BODY** at project location Big Hole River Nearest Town Twin Bridges
Address/Location: _____ Geocode (if available): _____
____1/4 ____1/4 ____1/4, Section 28, 33, Township 3S, Range 6W County Madison
Longitude _____, Latitude _____

The state owns the beds of certain state navigable waterways. Is this a state navigable waterway? Yes or No.
If yes, send copy of this application to appropriate DNRC land office – see Information for Applicant. ☐ ✓

ATTACH A PROJECT SITE MAP OR A SKETCH that includes: 1) the water body where the project will take place, roads, tributaries, landmarks; 2) a circled "X" representing the exact project location. IF NOT CLEARLY STATED ON THE MAP OR SKETCH, **PROVIDE WRITTEN DIRECTIONS TO THE SITE.**

C. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. **TYPE OF PROJECT** (check all that apply)

- ☐ Bridge/Culvert/Ford Construction
- ☐ Bridge/Culvert/Ford Removal
- ☐ Road Construction/Maintenance
- ☐ Bank Stabilization/Alteration
- ☐ Flood Protection
- ☐ Channel Alteration
- ☐ Irrigation Structure
- ☐ Water Well/Cistern
- ☐ Excavation/Pit
- ☐ Fish Habitat
- ☐ Recreation (docks, marinas, etc.)
- ☐ New Residential Structure
- ☐ Manufactured Home
- ☐ Improvement to Existing Structure
- ☐ Commercial Structure
- ☐ Wetland Alteration
- ☐ Temporary Construction Access
- ☐ Other _____
- ☐ Mining
- ☐ Dredging
- ☐ Core Drill
- ☐ Placement of Fill
- ☐ Diversion Dam
- ☑ Utilities
- ☐ Pond
- ☐ Debris Removal

2. **PLAN OR DRAWING** of the proposed project **MUST** be attached. **This plan or drawing must include:**

- a plan view (looking at the project from above)
- dimensions of the project (height, width, depth in feet)
- location of storage or stockpile materials
- drainage facilities
- an arrow indicating north
- a cross section or profile view
- an elevation view
- dimensions and location of fill or excavation sites
- location of existing or proposed structures, such as buildings, utilities, roads, or bridges

3. **IS THIS APPLICATION FOR** an annual maintenance permit? ☐ Yes ☑ No
(If yes, an annual plan of operation must be attached to this application – see "Information for Applicant")

4. **PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION DATE.** Include a project timeline. Start date 8 / 30 / 2014
Finish date 9 / 30 / 2014 Is any portion of the work already completed? ☐ Yes ☑ No
(If yes, describe the completed work.)

5. **WHAT IS THE PURPOSE** of the proposed project?

The purpose of the project is to reroute and replace an electric distribution line to improve the reliability of power to the Twin Bridges area. The line will be moved from private property to public right of way along State and County roads.

6. **PROVIDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION** of the proposed project.

Northwestern Energy (NWE) is proposing to reroute (into MDOT right of way) and install approximately 6,700 feet of new distribution power line as part of their statewide system integrity project. This project will include installation of 25 new power poles, electrical line and transformers and the removal of the old line. To set the new poles a hole will be excavated and/or augered to a depth of approximately 6 feet deep. The pole will be set, backfilled and compacted with the material excavated from the hole. A small amount of material will be mounded around the pole to allow for settling. The old line will be removed.

7. **WHAT IS THE CURRENT CONDITION** of the proposed project site? Describe the existing bank condition, bank slope, height, nearby structures, and wetlands.

Not applicable. No stream banks will be impacted as a result of the installation of the power line.

8. **PROJECT DIMENSIONS.** How many linear feet of bank will be impacted? How far will the proposed project encroach into and extend away from the water body?

Not applicable. No stream banks will be impacted as a result of the installation of the power line.

9. **VEGETATION.** Describe the vegetation present on site. How much vegetation will be disturbed or covered with fill material during project installation? (Agencies require that only vegetation necessary to do the work be removed.) Describe the revegetation plan for all disturbed areas of the project site in detail.

The vegetation along the highway right of way is dominated by introduced grass species (timothy, smooth brome, orchard grass) with occasional willows and miscellaneous forbs. An area approximately 6 feet by 6 feet will be disturbed or covered by excavation and fill materials. Following installation of the pole the area will be compacted and broadcast seeded with smooth brome.

10. **MATERIALS.** Describe the materials to be used and how much.

Cubic yards/Linear feet	Size and Type	Source
Native material for fill.	25 power poles - 12" circumference ~ 40' Length	

11. **EQUIPMENT.** What equipment is proposed to be used for the work? Where and how will the equipment be used on the stream bank and/or the waterbody?

A line truck, bucket truck and backhoe will be used for the work. The line truck has a auger that will be used to drill the pole holes. It will also be used to set the poles. The bucket truck will be used to lift the lineman up to pull in the conductor. A backhoe will be used to dig the pole holes if the auger cannot drill the holes due to large rocks.

12. **DESCRIBE PLANNED EFFORTS TO MINIMIZE PROJECT IMPACTS.** Consider the impacts of the proposed project, even if temporary. What efforts will be taken to:

- Minimize erosion, sedimentation, or turbidity?

  Excavated material around the pole will be compacted and seeded immediately following installation.

- Minimize stream channel alterations?

  No stream channels will be altered.

- Minimize effects to stream flow or water quality caused by materials used or removal of ground cover?

  No stream flow or water quality will be impacted.

- Minimize effects on fish and aquatic habitat?

  No fish or aquatic habitat will be effected.

- Minimize risks of flooding or erosion problems upstream and downstream?

  There will be no addition risk of flooding or erosion problem. Erosion control Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be implemented if near a stream. Old poles will be removed so there will be no rise in the floodplain due to the project.

- Minimize vegetation disturbance, protect existing vegetation, and control weeds?

  NWE will only disturb vegetation at the pole locations. It will be immediately seeded to prevent weeds from establishing.

13. **WHAT ARE THE NATURAL RESOURCE BENEFITS** of the proposed project?

The power line will be moved out of private landowners hay fields into public right of way which will reduce disturbance to natural resources from maintenance.

14. **LIST ALTERNATIVES** to the proposed project. Why was the proposed alternative selected?

No Action - Maintain old power line
Proposed Action - This alternative was selected because it will upgrade the power line and improve reliability of power to Twin Bridges.

D. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR SECTION 404, SECTION 10, AND FLOODPLAIN PERMITS ONLY.
If applying for a Section 404 or Section 10 permit, fill out questions 1-3. If applying for a floodplain permit, fill out questions 3-6. (Additional information is required for floodplain permits – See "Information for Applicant.")

1. Will the project involve placement of fill material below the ordinary high water mark, a wetland, or other waters of the US? If yes, what is the surface area to be filled? How many cubic yards of fill material will be used? Note: A delineation of the wetland may be required.

Approximately 7 power poles will be place in wetlands. No additional fill will be used to compact the poles only excavated material will be used to backfill the poles.

2. Description of avoidance, mitigation, and compensation (see Information for Applicant). Attach additional sheets if necessary.

The line was designed to avoid wetlands and open water as much as possible and at the same time meet regulated design standards.

3. List the names and address of landowners adjacent to the project site. This includes properties adjacent to and across from the project site. (Some floodplain communities require certified adjoining landowner lists).

SRI River Holdings, C/O George Trishman, Twin Bridges, MT 59745

Peter Novich, P. O. Box 394, Twin Bridges, MT 59745

Frank Colwell-Trustee, P. O. Box 400, Twin Bridges, MT 59745

4. List all applicable local, state, and federal permits and indicate whether they were issued, waived, denied, or pending. Note: All required local, state, and federal permits, or proof of waiver must be issued prior to the issuance of a floodplain permit.

Utility Occupancy Permit - MT Department of Transportation & Madison County; 404 - Corp of Engineers. Both pending.

5. Floodplain Map Number Big Hole Floodplain Study - 02P

6. Does this project comply with local planning or zoning regulations? ☑ Yes ☐ No

E. SIGNATURES/AUTHORIZATIONS -- Each agency must have original signatures signed in blue ink.

After completing the form, make the required number of copies and **then sign each copy.** Send the copies with original signatures and additional information required directly to each applicable agency.

The statements contained in this application are true and correct. The applicant possess' the authority to undertake the work described herein or is acting as the duly authorized agent of the landowner. The applicant understands that the granting of a permit does not include landowner permission to access land or construct a project. Inspections of the project site after notice by inspection authorities are hereby authorized.

APPLICANT (Person responsible for project):
Print Name: Mary Gail Sullivan, NWE Manager

7-22-14
Signature of Applicant Date

LANDOWNER:
Print Name: Not Applicable for Utilities

Signature of Landowner Date

*CONTRACTOR/AGENT:
Print Name: _____

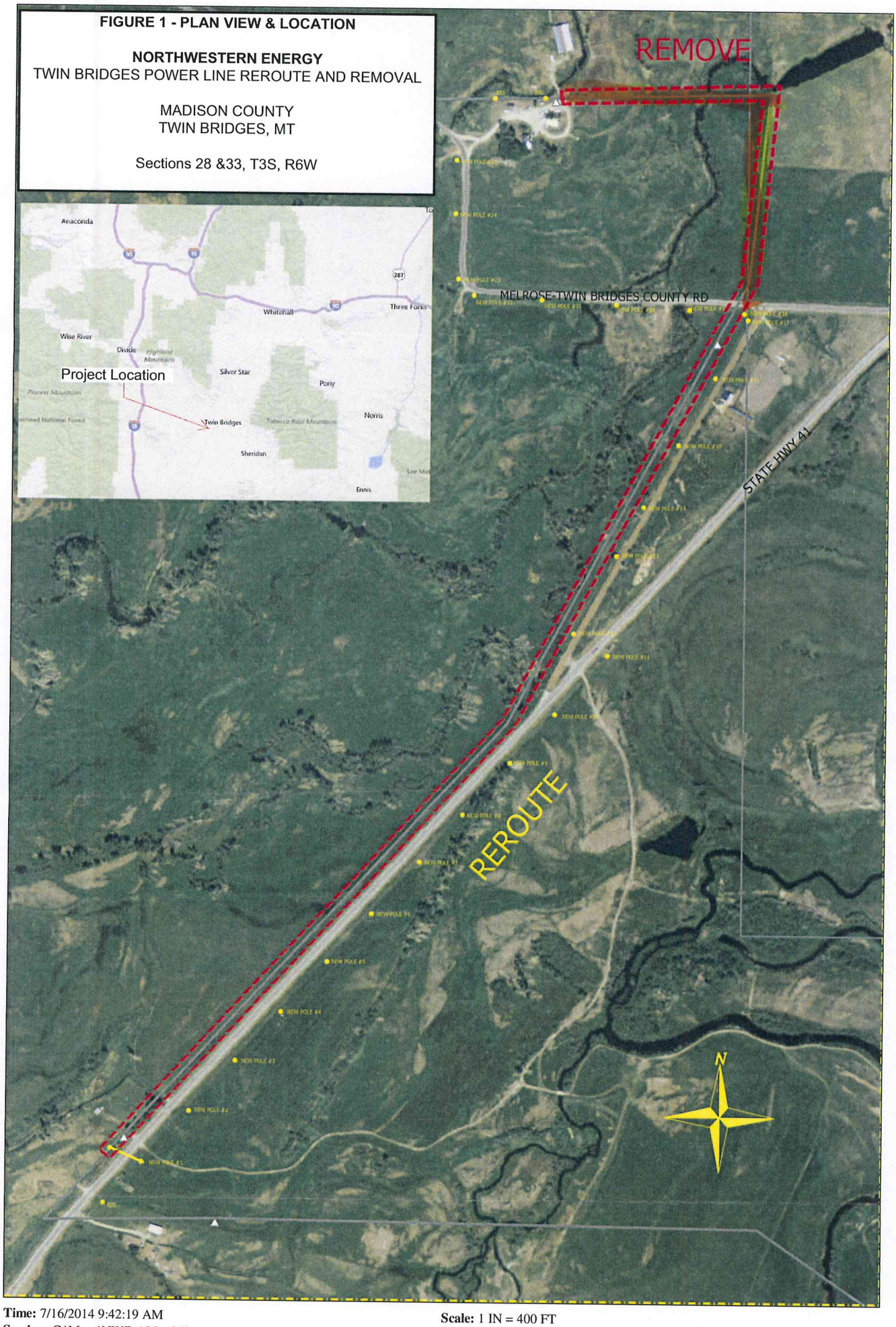
Signature of Contractor/Agent Date
*Contact agency to determine if contractor signature is required.

FIGURE 1 - PLAN VIEW & LOCATION

NORTHWESTERN ENERGY
TWIN BRIDGES POWER LINE REROUTE AND REMOVAL

MADISON COUNTY
TWIN BRIDGES, MT

Sections 28 &33, T3S, R6W

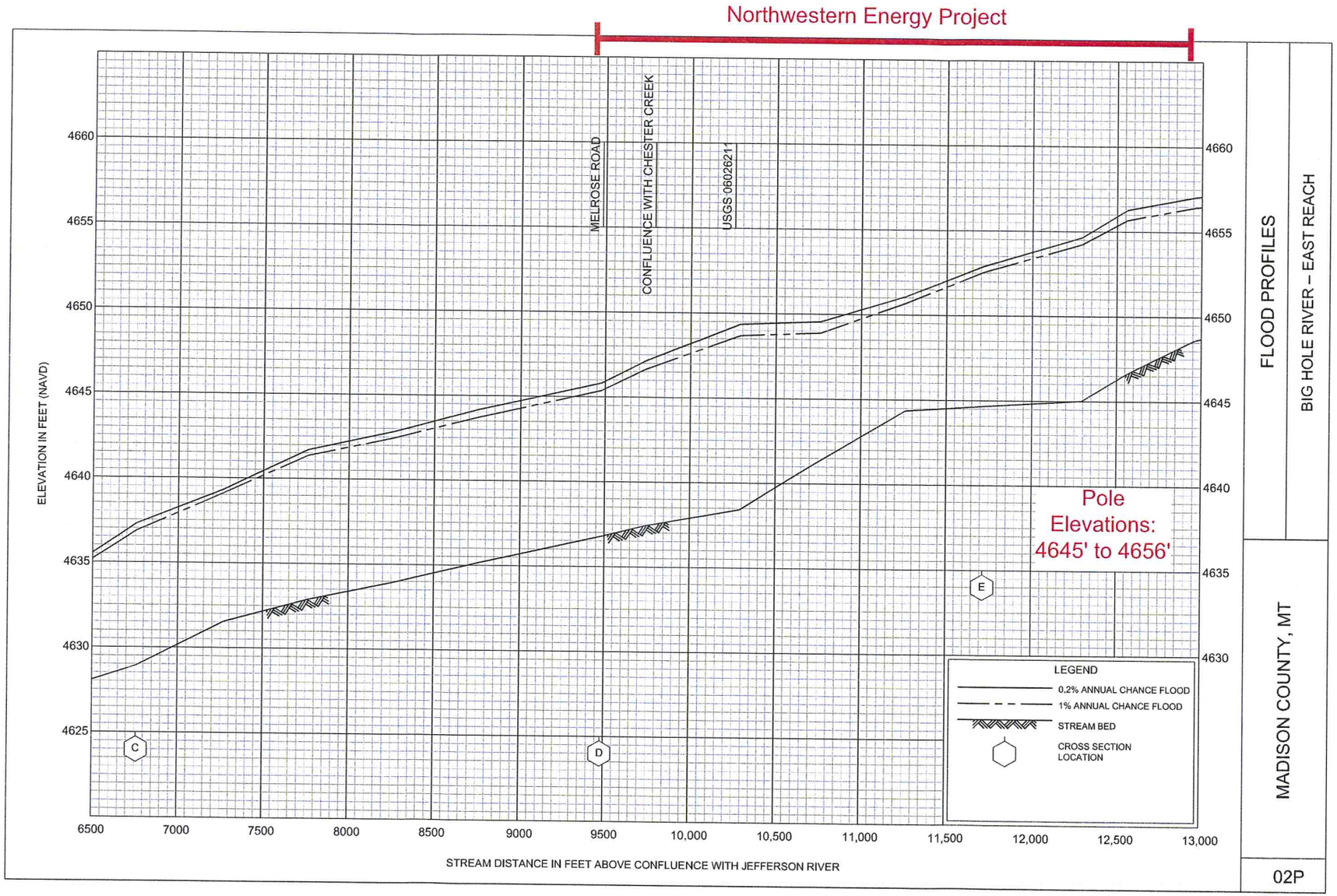


Time: 7/16/2014 9:42:19 AM
Session: C:\Maps\NWE-ALL_Office.gts

Scale: 1 IN = 400 FT

NorthWestern Energy Map Extract

This information is proprietary and confidential data of NorthWestern Energy
Center: (1238643.0, 483053.2) *Zoom: 1147.0*



FLOOD PROFILES

BIG HOLE RIVER – EAST REACH

MADISON COUNTY, MT

02P

Figure 2 - Typical Power Line Profile

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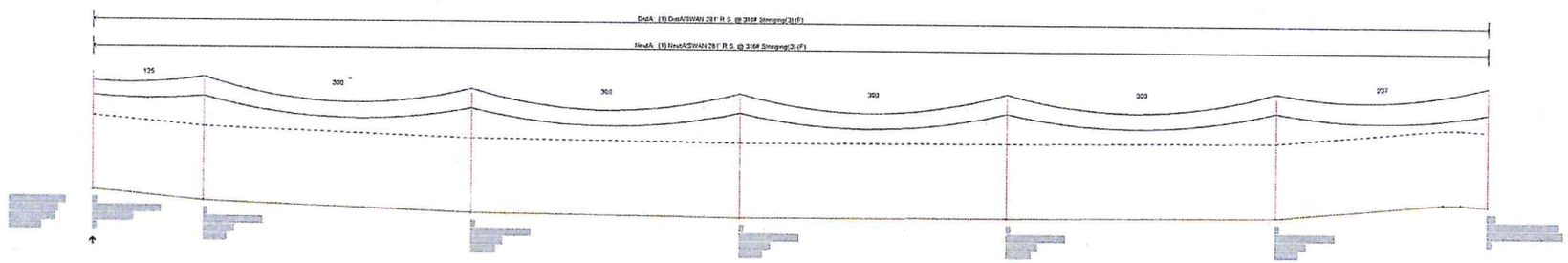
Twin Bridges Reroute
Madison County
Twin Bridges, MT

TWIN BRIDGES REROUTE SPECIFICATIONS
Pole Length - 40'
Burial Depth - 6'
Average Distance Between Poles - 310'



An LD-Pro® Worksketch

			Sta/Ckt Name:	
			Sta/Ckt Number:	
^ Location Map / Directions ^			Phases:	
Bucket:	Truck:	4 WD:	Flaggers:	Voltage:
Name:				"Q" Map Position
Location:			Scale: NTS	
Drawn By:			Quad:	
Date: 4/10/2014			Map:	
W.O. #: XXXXXXXXXXXXX	R/W#:			
OPS Orders:			Tax Dist. Name:	
			Tax Dist. Number:	
			County:	Page: 1 of 1

TWIN BRIDGES REROUTE
OWNERSHIP MAP
MADISON COUNTY, MT

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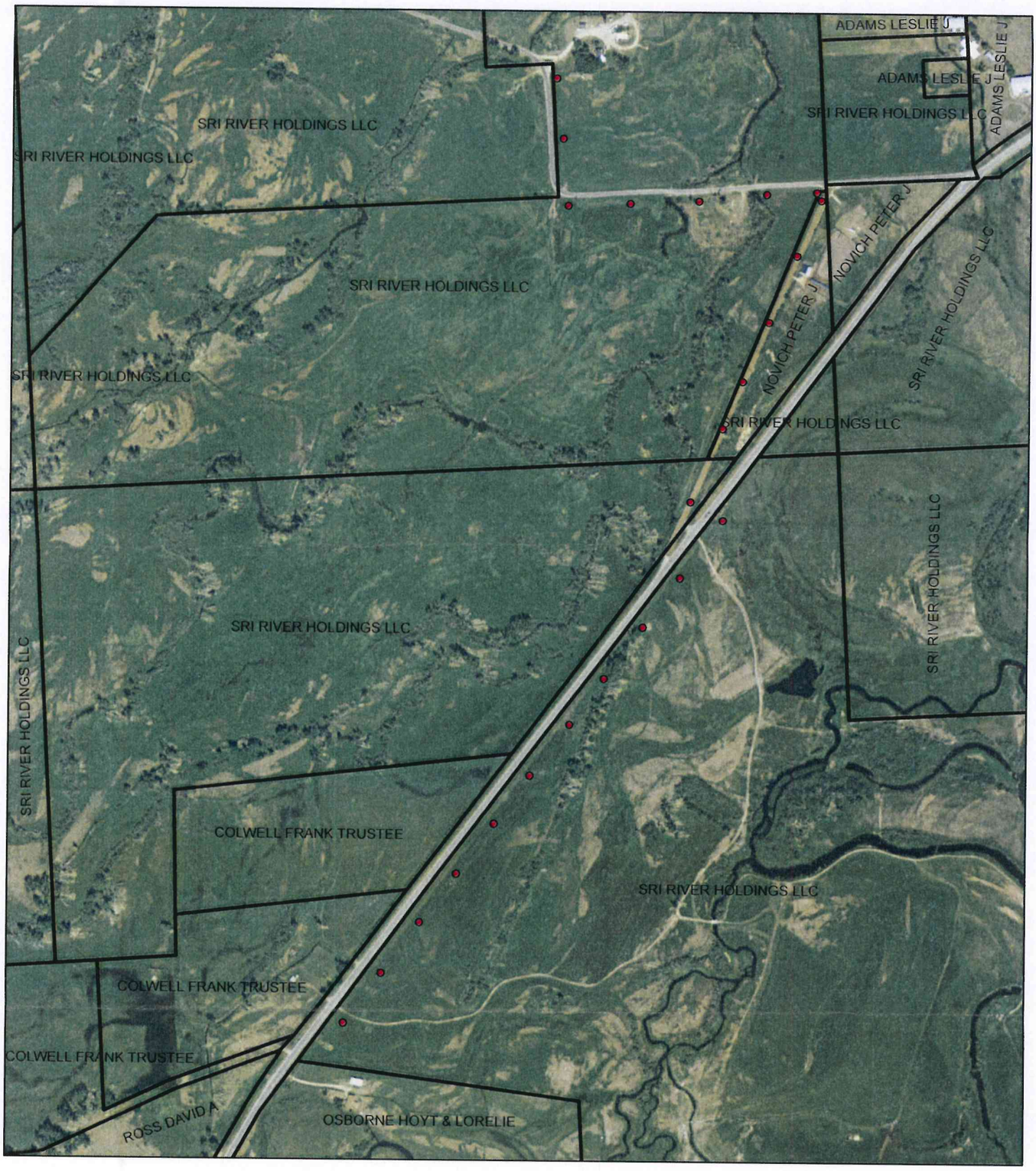
● - New Poles - All will be located within MDOT or Madison County Right-of-Way

1 inch = 643 feet



es Reroute_Ownership

Range	Section_	LegalDescr	OwnerName	OwnerAddre	OwnerCity	Ow: OwnerZipCo
06 W	28	S28, T03 S, R06 W, ACRES 5.26, TRI TR IN SE4SE4 BTWN CO RDS	NOVICH PETER J	PO BOX 394	TWIN BRIDGES MT	59754-0394
06 W	28	S28, T03 S, R06 W, ACRES 6.37, TRI TR IN SE4 BTWN CO RDS	NOVICH PETER J	PO BOX 394	TWIN BRIDGES MT	59754-0394
06 W	33	S33, T03 S, R06 W, ACRES 105.533, PT OF N2NW4, SW4NW4, NW4NE4, W OF RD	SRI RIVER HOLDINGS LLC	C/O GEORGE TRISCHMAN	TWIN BRIDGES MT	59754-0447
06 W	33	COLWELL #1 MINOR SUBDIVISION, S33, T03 S, R06 W, Lot 2, ACRES 20, PLAT 4/268	COLWELL FRANK TRUSTEE	PO BOX 400	TWIN BRIDGES MT	59754-0400
06 W	33	COLWELL #1 MINOR SUBDIVISION, S33, T03 S, R06 W, Lot 1, ACRES 20, PLAT 4/268	COLWELL FRANK TRUSTEE	PO BOX 400	TWIN BRIDGES MT	59754-0400
06 W	28	S28, T03 S, R06 W, ACRES 183.55, SE4SW4, NW4SE4, PARCELS IN SW4NE4, NE4SW4, SW4SW4, NE4SE4,	SRI RIVER HOLDINGS LLC	C/O GEORGE TRISCHMAN	TWIN BRIDGES MT	59754-0447

Range	Section_	LegalDescr	OwnerName	OwnerAddre	OwnerCity	Ow: OwnerZipCo
		SW4SE4 (LESS R/W) OUTSIDE CL				
06 W	33	S33, T03 S, R06 W, C.O.S. 7/2229-BA, ACRES 228.48, INCLUDES PT OF RELOCATION PARCEL #10, E2NE4, SW4NE4, N2SE4, PT OF NW4NE4, SE4NW4, NE4SW4 LESSNE4NE4 WITHIN CL	SRI RIVER HOLDINGS LLC	C/O GEORGE TRISCHMAN	TWIN BRIDGES	MT 59754-0447