

Exhibit B

**APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT TO CONDUCT A DESIGNATED ACTIVITY OF
STATE INTEREST OR TO ENGAGE IN DEVELOPMENT IN A DESIGNATED AREA
OF STATE INTEREST**

To: Permit Authority, El Paso County (EPC)

Re: Colorado's Power Pathway

From:

Jennifer Chester
Senior Manager, Siting and Land Rights
Xcel Energy
1800 Larimer Street, Suite 400
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Date Submitted: June 4, 2024, application fee paid July 16, 2024

Date Received and Accepted as Complete: April 1, 2025

1. Matter of State Interest.

The applicant requests that a permit be issued for each of the items checked below:

A permit to conduct one or more of the following matters of state interest:

- a. Efficient utilization of municipal and industrial water projects
- b. Site selection and construction of major new domestic water and sewage treatment systems and/or major extension of existing domestic water and sewage treatment systems
- c. Site selection and construction of major facilities of a public utility**
- d. Development in areas containing or having a significant impact upon floodplain natural hazard areas
- e. Site selection and expansion of airports
- f. Site selection of arterial highways and interchanges and collector highways
- g. Site selection of rapid or mass transit facilities

2. Proposed Activity or Development.

Pathway is a \$1.7 billion investment proposed by Xcel Energy to improve the state's electric grid and enable future renewable energy development around the state. Pathway will ensure safe, reliable, and economical electric service to the public, boost the regional economy, and create jobs during its construction. Pathway includes:

- Installation of approximately 550 miles of new 345-kilovolt (kV) double-circuit transmission line in 12 counties;
- Construction of four new electric substations (Canal Crossing, Goose Creek, May Valley and Sandstone); and
- Expansion, equipment additions, or equipment upgrades at four existing electric substations (Fort St. Vrain, Pawnee, Harvest Mile, and Tundra).

Pathway facilities proposed in El Paso County include approximately 45 miles of new 345-kV double-circuit electric transmission line. Proposed activities in El Paso County will also include seeking approval of all temporary construction areas associated with construction of the Pathway facilities totaling approximately 82.9 acres in El Paso County. Pathway will be constructed in segments, with the approximately 45 miles of transmission line proposed in El Paso County being constructed as part of Segment 5.

3. Location of Development

Approximately 45 miles of new 345-kV double-circuit electric transmission line are proposed in the eastern portion of unincorporated El Paso County. The proposed transmission line route in El Paso County is generally oriented in a north to south direction in the area south of Simla, near the El Paso/Lincoln county line. The location of the proposed transmission route in El Paso County is shown in the Vicinity Map, Attachment B.

4. Legal Description

A list of the townships, ranges, and sections of the Pathway facilities subject to this Application is provided with the Application materials in the exhibit, titled Legal Description, uploaded to El Paso County's Electronic Development Application Review Program.

5. Owners and Interests

Title documentation listing the owners and interests for each property along the proposed transmission line route in El Paso County is included as Attachment P. A list of parcels (by County Assessor Parcel Number) and names of roads that will be crossed by the proposed transmission line is included as Attachment Q.

6. Submission Requirements

Attachment A: Application Form
Attachment B: Vicinity Map
Attachment C: Siting and Routing Study for Segment 5
Attachment D: Noxious Weed Control Measures
Attachment E: Noise and EMF Study
Attachment F: Land Use and Zoning Map
Attachment G: Soils, Geologic, and Natural Hazard Areas Map
Attachment H: Emergency Response Procedures
Attachment I: Transportation Memorandum
Attachment J: Pole Details, Representative Photographs, and Simulations
Attachment K: Water Resources Map
Attachment L: Preliminary Drainage Analysis
Attachment M: List of Adjacent Property Owners
Attachment N: Existing Transmission Line Map
Attachment O: NRCS Soil Report
Attachment P: Owners and Interests
Attachment Q: Parcels Crossed by Transmission Line Easement and List of Roads Adjacent to Transmission Line Easement
Attachment R: Studies Evaluating Potential Impacts to Livestock From Electric Transmission Lines
Attachment S: Colorado Public Utilities Commission Decision Regarding Noise And Magnetic Field Reasonableness
Attachment T: Fire District Coordination Letters
Attachment U: Results of the Federal Aviation Administration Notice Criteria Tool for Transmission Pole Locations in El Paso County
Attachment V: Cultural Resource Desktop Review for Colorado's Power Pathway in El Paso County
Attachment W: Monitoring and Mitigation Plan
Attachment X: Typical Cross-Section of Proposed Transmission Line Corridor and El Paso County Road Right-of-Way
Attachment: Colorado Geological Survey Receipt
Attachment: Soils & Geology Report
Attachment: Legal Description
Attachment: Mineral Rights Certification
Attachment: Drainage Report – Preliminary
Attachment: Federal Aviation Administration Information
Attachment: Development Agreement
Attachment: Map Set
Attachment: Cost and Schedule Information from the Colorado's Power Pathway
Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Application

7. Additional Information Required

Information required by the El Paso County Planning and Community Development Department has been submitted with this application. Additional information requested

during the referral agency review of the application is provided in the revised Application text, Attachments Q through X, and Revised Application Form (Resubmitted Attachment A; this document), Revised Vicinity Map (Resubmitted Attachment B), Revised Land Use and Zoning Map (Resubmitted Attachment F), Revised Attachment H, Emergency Response Procedures (Resubmitted Attachment H), Revised Transportation Memorandum (Resubmitted Attachment I), Revised Preliminary Drainage Analysis (Resubmitted Attachment L), Revised Fire District Coordination Letters (Resubmitted Attachment T), Revised Results of the Federal Aviation Administration Notice Criteria Tool for Transmission Pole Locations in El Paso County (Resubmitted Attachment U), Revised Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (Resubmitted Attachment W), Revised Development Agreement, Revised Map Set, and Attachment: Cost and Schedule Information from the Colorado's Power Pathway Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Application.

8. Duration of Permit

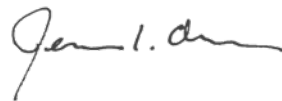
Transmission lines are not typically deemed to be no longer required or decommissioned; instead, they are typically rebuilt. Xcel Energy requests that the 1041 permit be in effect in perpetuity.

9. Application Fee.

The Development Plan Review Fee of \$3,800 was paid by Xcel Energy on July 16, 2024.

APPLICANT:

By:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Chester", written over a horizontal line.

Jennifer Chester
Xcel Energy
Senior Manager, Siting & Land Rights