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2026

HAPPY
NEW YEAR!

2026

PSC SCHEDULES PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR PROPOSED TRANSMISSION LINE

BISMARCK, N.D. (PSC) – The North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) will hold three public hearings in January regarding a proposal to construct a transmission line in Dickey, LaMoure and Stutsman Counties. The project is known as the JETx Transmission Line.

Otter Tail Power Company (OTP) and Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU) are requesting a siting permit for approximately 92 miles of double circuit capable 345-kV transmission line. Initial construction would include one line with the ability to add a second line when needed. The companies are proposing the project to enhance reliability in local areas, including the city of Jamestown. The estimated cost of the project is \$406 million.

The project would run from OTP’s existing Jamestown 345-kV substation to MDU’s existing Ellendale 345-kV substation in Dickey County. (Note to the media: A map showing the proposed location of the project has been provided to you for use with any announcements/stories you print.)

Details for the public hearings are as follows:

Monday, Jan. 12, 2026 – 10 a.m. Central
American Legion Post #137
82 Main Street, Ellendale, ND 58436
This hearing will focus primarily on portions of the project in Dickey County

Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2026 – 9:30 a.m. Central
Edgeley Armory
508 1st Ave. West, Edgeley, ND 58433
This hearing will focus primarily on portions of the project in LaMoure County

Friday, Jan. 16, 2026 – 9 a.m. Central
Baymont by Wyndham
Jamestown Conference Center

& Water Park
507 25th St. SW, Jamestown, ND 58401
This hearing will focus primarily on portions of the project in Stutsman County

The hearings provide an opportunity for members of the public to contribute to the PSC’s official record. Any comments from members of the public must be received at a hearing to be part of the record. People with concerns or support/opposition for the project are encouraged to attend one of the hearings and present their information. Information received after the hearings will not be part of the official record and cannot be used as a basis for the Commission’s decision unless certain additional procedures are followed.

Technical hearings for the project will also be held in Bismarck, which will allow parties to present evidence, examine witnesses, and cross-examine witnesses. These hearings are open to the public, but there will likely be no opportunity for public input during these hearings. Members of the public wishing to testify should attend one of the three public hearings. The hearings will also be available for viewing using the web stream link available at the PSC’s website at www.psc.nd.gov.

Technical hearings will be held on Jan. 8 and 9, starting at 8:30 a.m. each day in the Pioneer Room in the State Capitol Building.

The North Dakota Public Service Commission is a constitutionally created state agency with authority to permit, site and regulate certain business activities in the state including electric and gas utilities, telecommunications companies, power plants, electric transmission lines, pipelines, railroads, commercial weighing devices, pipeline safety and coal mine reclamation. For more information, contact the Public Service Commission at (701) 328-2400 or www.psc.nd.gov.

Commissioners hold special end of year meeting

The LaMoure County Commissioners met on December 30th for a special, end of the year meeting.

The first item on the agenda was approving the beer and liquor license for the Rabbit Hole in Adrian.

The only other item was to approve paying all the end of the year bills, which they did.

What's Happening in Kulm

Kulm Hometown Events is sponsoring a Dairyland Donkey Basketball Event at the Kulm Public School on Sunday, January 11th, 2026, at 4PM.

Stay tuned for notifications of Kulm events in What's Happening in Kulm, in the LaMoure County Chronicle. "Thanks for reading!"

Cookie Decorating at LaMoure elementary



On Wednesday, Dec. 17th, there was a Pre-K - 6th grade Christmas Cookie Decorating Party, with parents/grandparents & friends joining their child for a festive party!

More photos inside.

BENEDICTINE ST. ROSE STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Natalie Thompson – COTA & Wellness Director



Natalie Thompson - COTA & Wellness Director at Benedictine Living Community, LaMoure

If you’ve spent any time at Benedictine Living Community–LaMoure, chances are you’ve met Natalie Thompson, our dedicated Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA) and Wellness Director. With her warm smile and compassionate approach, Natalie has quickly become an essential part of both our team and our residents’ lives.

Natalie grew up in Oakes, North Dakota, just a short drive from LaMoure. “I was born and raised in Oakes, so I’ve always been familiar with the LaMoure area,” she shared. Her local roots and appreciation for small-town life made LaMoure feel like the perfect fit when she joined the Benedictine family.

After graduating from Oakes High School, Natalie attended North Dakota State College of Science (NDSCS), earning her Associate of Applied Science degree through the Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA) program. Before beginning her healthcare career, she worked locally at Sweets N’ Stories and The Angry Beaver in Oakes — experiences that no doubt helped her develop the people skills she uses daily at BLC-LaMoure.

Natalie first discovered her passion for working with older adults during her fieldwork experience at Benedictine Living Community–Wahpeton. “I knew I wanted to work with the older adult population after that experience,” she said. “I wanted to help people and truly make a difference in their lives.”

When the opportunity arose to join Benedictine-LaMoure, Natalie knew it was meant to be. “I enjoyed my fieldwork experience with Benedictine-Wahpeton and love smaller communities such as LaMoure,” she explained. “I also feel that Benedictine’s core values are important and valued at work.”

In her dual role as Wellness Director and COTA, Natalie supports residents in activities that are both meaningful and engaging, while also helping individuals regain independence and overcome physical, emotional, and social challenges. “The residents and staff are what I enjoy most about working here,” Natalie said. “Every day is different, and there’s always something to learn. It’s the relationships and the little moments that make it all worthwhile.”

Natalie’s personal values align beautifully with the Benedictine core values of hospitality, stewardship, justice, and respect. She describes herself as caring, compassionate, and a strong communicator who advocates for the vulnerable

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HAPPINESS AND WELLBEING

Overall, how satisfied are you with your life right now? Are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, not too satisfied or not at all satisfied?

10% Not too
6% Not at all
38% Somewhat
48% Very

Compared to this time last year, how would you describe your overall happiness? Are you happier, less happy or about the same?

10% Happier
22% Less happy
68% Same

How optimistic are you about the coming year? Are you very optimistic, somewhat optimistic, not too optimistic or not at all optimistic?

18% Not at all
26% Very
40% Somewhat
16% Not too

Are you proud to be a North Dakotan?

91% Yes
9% No

Note: Pollsters called 625 North Dakota voters Dec. 10-13. The poll has an error margin of +/- 4%.

Source: North Dakota News Cooperative, Mason-Dixon Polling & Strategy

Troy Becker / The Forum

North Dakotans are overwhelmingly proud of their state and satisfied with their lives, with pride rooted in safety, community and faith, the latest North Dakota Poll commissioned by the North Dakota News Cooperative shows.

See story on page 3

Thank You for your patronage in 2025!
We look forward to serving you in the New Year!

Wishing everyone a Healthy & Prosperous New Year!

LaMoure Credit Union

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