

Minnesota Power to buy wind transmission line

US-based Minnesota Power has announced its intention to buy a transmission line as part of its strategy to develop wind energy in order to meet a state mandate requiring 25 per cent renewable energy supply by 2025. Under the agreement, the company will purchase a direct current transmission line from Square Butte Electric Cooperative for approximately US\$80 million. The 465 mile line currently transmits energy from the Milton Young coal-fired power station in North Dakota to a Minnesota Power-owned substation in Minnesota. As part of the deal, Minnesota Power will gradually phase out the power it purchases from the Milton Young station and replace it with wind generated electricity. The transaction is subject to regulatory approvals and is anticipated to close in 2009.

[Source essa news]