

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2010 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

LCCMR ID: 161-E2

Project Title:

CapX2020 Routing: Blufflands & Mississippi River

LCCMR 2010 Funding Priority:

E. Natural Resource Conservation Planning and Implementation

Total Project Budget: \$ \$127,680

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: 1 year, 2010 - 2011

Other Non-State Funds: \$ \$0

Summary:

This project will provide extensive high quality oblique aerial & ground, photography to help ensure environmentally compatible Routing for the CapX2020 power lines through the Blufflands & Mississippi River landscapes

Name: Robert Hurt

Sponsoring Organization: Robert J. Hurt Landscape Photography

Address: Box 177
Dakota MN 55925

Telephone Number: (507) 643-6765

Email: archenv@acegroup.cc

Fax: _____

Web Address: _____

Location:

Region: SE

County Name: Olmsted, Winona

City / Township:

_____ Knowledge Base	_____ Broad App.	_____ Innovation
_____ Leverage	_____ Outcomes	
_____ Partnerships	_____ Urgency	_____ TOTAL

MAIN PROPOSAL

PROJECT TITLE: CapX2020 Routing: Blufflands & Mississippi River

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

WHY Currently the CapX2020 high voltage power line project has been approved by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission which has granted the "Certificate of Need" assuring the project's construction. The massive high voltage lines and towers will be crossing the entire state of Minnesota with the final leg going from Rochester, through the scenic and biologically sensitive Blufflands region, crossing the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge, and terminating in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Being the largest power line ever to be constructed in the history of the state, it is posing numerous environmental & visual threats to the fragile Blufflands landscape and the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge.

The next step of the CapX2020 project is the Routing Process that involves mapping resources, identifying opportunities and constraints within the project study area, and evaluating each alternative. There will be a series of public hearings to get input from residents, landowners, local and tribal governments, business groups, state agencies, and other stakeholders. As a result of these hearings the final routing will be established.

GOALS The goal of the project is to ensure that the final routing, the specific siting, and the methods of construction will protect the environmental, cultural, and visual aspects of the Blufflands landscape and the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge to the highest degree possible.

HOW This project will provide extensive high quality oblique aerial, ground, and water level photography to document, in detail, the various proposed routes and the specific landscapes and waterscapes along the proposed corridors of the Blufflands and Mississippi River project area. Photographic images will be identified, cataloged and accurately located on a series of maps at varying scales. Select photographs will be digitally modified to illustrate representative images of the power lines and towers upon the landscapes and waterscapes. Electronic and printed copies of the photographs and maps will be made available and presented to residents, landowners, local and tribal governments, business groups, state agencies, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and other stakeholders so as to provide an informative and realistic knowledge base to help evaluate and communicate with the planners of the CapX2020 project, and to assist in identifying and assuring the least damaging routing and construction alternatives.

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT RESULTS

Result 1: Project Preparation and Coordination	Budget: \$ _____ 2000 _____
Deliverable	Completion Date
1.) Meet/coordinate with CapX2020 planners and public/private stakeholders	8 / 1 / 2010
2.) Identify maps & GPS coordinates of proposed route locations & areas of interest	8 / 1 / 2010
Result 2: Aerial, Ground, & Water Photography	Budget: \$ _____ 68,000 _____
Deliverable	Completion Date
1.) Provide oblique aerial photography producing between 2000 and 3000 digital images	10 / 15 / 2010
2.) Provide ground/water photography producing between 600 and 1200 digital images	10 / 15 / 2010
Result 3: Identify Photographic Locations on various scale maps	Budget: \$ _____ 8000 _____
Deliverable	Completion Date
1.) Refer to GPS locations of photographs and graphically illustrate on a series of maps	12 / 1 / 2010
Result 4: Coordinate with Stakeholders and Identify Areas of Concern	Budget: \$ _____ 15,000 _____
Deliverable	Completion Date
1.) Meet/coordinate with state/federal agencies (DNR, USF&W, etc.) & other stakeholders and identify specific geographic locations of environmental, cultural, and visual concern regarding CapX2020 routing locations and specific construction details	12 / 31 / 2010
2.) Organize, document, & and illustrate areas of concern of agencies & other stakeholders	12 / 31 / 2010

Result 5: <i>Present Photography, Maps, and Comments to Stakeholders</i>	Budget: \$ <u> 18000 </u>
Deliverable	Completion Date
1.) <i>Conduct a series of public meetings and present maps, photographs, and areas of concern to residents, landowners, local and tribal governments, business groups, state agencies, and other stakeholders</i>	2 / 15 / 2011
2.) <i>Document the comments and concerns brought forward at the public meetings</i>	3 / 15 / 2011
3.) <i>Provide a final report consisting of photographs, maps, areas of concern, and comments from the public, agencies, and other stakeholders as well as a summary of the final decisions and the terms made by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) and other governing agencies regarding the approval of the Blufflands / Mississippi River portion of the CapX2020 project. Compare the final terms and requirements of the CapX2020 project as contrasted to the comments and concerns brought forward at the public meetings, and from agencies and other stakeholders regarding the protection of the environmental, cultural, and visual aspects of the Blufflands landscape and the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge</i>	6 / 30 / 2011

Result 6: *General Project Administration and Management* **Budget:** \$ 16,680
15,000

Deliverable	Completion Date
1.) <i>Throughout the project provide general administrative and coordination tasks with LCCMR, CapX2020 planners, and other agencies and organizations</i>	6 / 30 / 2011

III. PROJECT STRATEGY

Project Team/Partners

Robert Hurt, the Project Manager and principal of Robert J. Hurt Landscape Photography, has a strong background in photography, conservation land planning and architecture. His photography centers on ground, water, and oblique aerial work, and his client base is primarily organizations working on conservation issues such as U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Minnesota DNR, Audubon Minnesota & National Audubon, The Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Lands, Conservation Fund, etc. His photography assignments have focused on the Upper Mississippi River and the Blufflands landscape of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa. His conservation land planning work is highlighted by the 1995 / 1998 LCCMR funded Winona County/La Crescent Area Common Vision project which dealt with growth management and environmental issues in the heart of the Blufflands landscape. James Rozovics has a strong background in architecture and photography and was principal of a 12 person Chicago based architectural firm. In addition, he was involved with Smart Growth planning for the community of Prairie du Sac which is located in the Wisconsin Blufflands. Robert Hurt and James Rozovics have collaborated on a number of architectural and planning projects throughout their careers. Currently, both are living in the Minnesota Blufflands near La Crescent, Minnesota and the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge. Robert Hurt will be the Project Manager and will be doing aerial, ground and water level photography. James Rozovics will be doing, ground and water level photography. Both will participate in all other tasks. Throughout the project they will be working closely with the Minnesota DNR, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other agencies and stakeholders.

B. Timeline Requirements

The Timeline Requirements are tied into the CapX2020 planning and construction timeline as well as the spring / summer / fall photography window. The portion of the high voltage power line that will be going through the Blufflands region and crossing the Mississippi River will be the last segment to have public hearings and final approval. However, due to the best time to do the photography, we would be starting immediately on July 1, 2010 and proceeding along at a fairly rapid pace as shown in the Description of Project Results.

C. Long-Term Strategy

This proposal is not a component of a specific, larger or longer-term project or effort that will require additional investment over time than is being requested here.

Project Budget

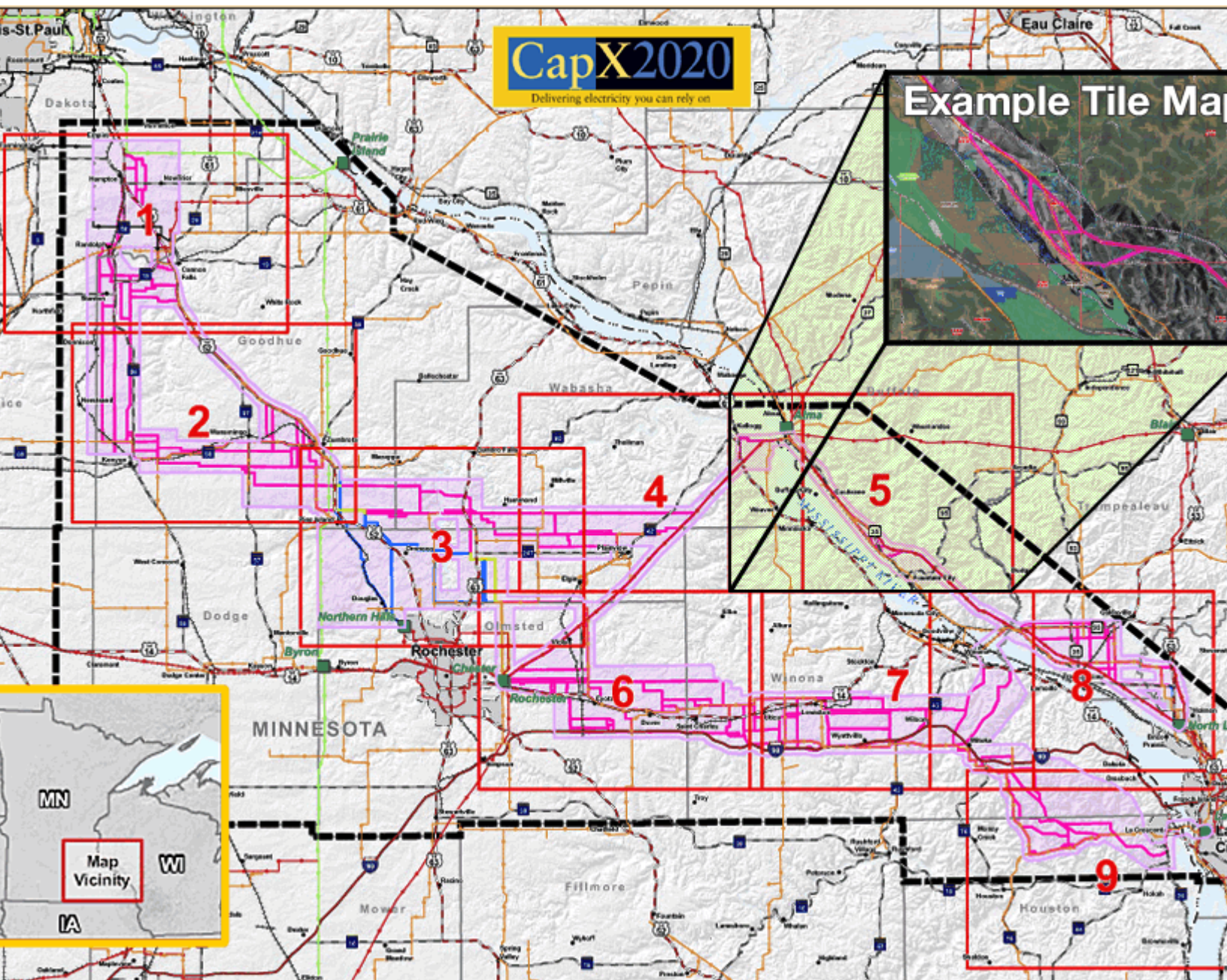
IV. TOTAL PROJECT REQUEST BUDGET

1 YEAR

BUDGET ITEM (See list of Eligible & Non-Eligible Costs, p. 13)	AMOUNT
Personnel: Robert Hurt - 100% of full time - Project Manager, Project Preparation and Coordination, Aerial, Ground, & Water Photography, Identify Photographic Locations on various scale maps, Coordinate with Stakeholders and Identify Areas of Concern, Present Photography, Maps, and Comments to Stakeholders, General Project Administration and Management	\$90,000
Personnel: James Rozovics - 60% of full time - Project Assistant Project Preparation and Coordination, Ground, & Water Photography, Identify Photographic Locations on various scale maps, Coordinate with Stakeholders and Identify Areas of Concern, Present Photography, Maps, and Comments to Stakeholders	\$24,000
Contracts: Pilot and Plane for aerial photography	\$6,200
Equipment/Tools/Supplies: Supplies for mapping, photographic prints, charts, etc.	\$3,000
Acquisition (Fee Title or Permanent Easements)	\$0
Travel: In-state travel - for ground photography, coordination meetings, public presentations 6000 miles @ \$.58 = \$3480	\$3,480
Additional Budget Items: Final Reports - Assume 50 copies with 25 pages B & W & 25 Color @20 each = \$1000	\$1,000
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET REQUEST TO LCCMR	\$127,680

V. OTHER FUNDS

SOURCE OF FUNDS	AMOUNT	Status
Other Non-State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period:	NA	
Other State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period:	NA	
In-kind Services During Project Period:	NA	
Remaining \$ from Current Trust Fund Appropriation (if applicable):	NA	
Funding History:	NA	



ROBERT J. HURT

LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY

625 Main Street, Post Office Box 177, Dakota, Minnesota 55925
Telephone: 507-643-6765 Email: archenv@acegroup.cc

MAY 2008

COMMITMENT TO QUALITY AND SERVICE

Robert J. Hurt has been engaged in the art of landscape photography for more than 40 years. His love for the land as well as his architectural and conservation planning background have shaped an artistic perspective for recording the wonders and beauty of special places around the world. Hurt's photo collections are portrayed from the ground, water and air and center on the natural environment, rural landscapes and intriguing aspects of the built environment. The spirit of his work provides a critical means for changing the way we see and respond to our valued surroundings. Sought after on a national level, Hurt's aerial photography recorded from low level flight, offers an insightful perspective of unique and beautiful land and water vistas. Feature articles about Mr. Hurt and his photography were recently published in Big River and Lake Superior Magazines, and in 2001 his work won the national landscapes photography competition sponsored jointly by Anheuser-Busch and The Conservation Fund.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

The photographic services offered by Robert J. Hurt include but are not limited to the following:

Stock Photography - A large collection of landscape photography is available from North America, South America, Europe, and Asia with a special emphasis on the Upper Mississippi River basin.

Custom Assignment Services - Single site to multi-day photographic shoots are provided for aerial, ground, & boat photographic work to meet specific client needs.

Fine Art Photographic Prints - Created from the photographer's premier landscape images, archival prints in a variety of sizes may be purchased framed, matted, and/or unframed.

Digital Darkroom Services - Stunning photographic images are delineated and perfected through the sophisticated skills of the digital darkroom technicians at Robert J. Hurt Landscape Photography.

High Resolution Film Scanning - By capturing extraordinary detail from photographic film, high resolution film scanning transforms original photos into precise digital computer files.

Multi-media Slide Presentations - Beautiful photographic images synchronized to an emotional sound track are custom designed and orchestrated to provide a stimulating theater-like commencement to conferences, workshops, corporate meetings, and conventions.

PARTIAL LISTING OF CLIENTS

- U.S. Department of the Interior / National Park Service
- The National Audubon Society / Audubon Magazine
- U.S. National Aquarium / National Marine Sanctuary Foundation - Washington, DC
- The National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium - Dubuque, Iowa
- The Kapalua Land Company, Maui, Hawaii
- Mayo Clinic / Callaway Galleries
- Lutsen Mountain Ski Resort, Lutsen, MN
- Destination Resorts, Snowmass, Colorado
- Grand Excursion 2004, Upper Mississippi River 11-Day / 52-City Celebration
- The Nature Conservancy
- Trust for Public Lands
- The McKnight Foundation
- The Conservation Fund
- U.S. Geological Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- The Gunflint Trail Association
- Meredith Publishing / Midwest Living Magazine "Mississippi River Getaways"
- Granite Peak Ski Resort at Rib Mountain
- The Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation
- National Farmers' Union
- Ducks Unlimited
- The City of St. Paul, Minnesota
- St. Paul Convention and Visitors Bureau
- St. Paul Riverfront Corporation
- Caterpillar Inc.
- Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center
- Gundersen Lutheran Healthcare
- Franciscan Skemp Healthcare
- Bluefin Bay on Lake Superior
- "Spirit of America - Heartland Voices, World Views"
- Xcel Energy
- The Minnesota Land Trust
- The Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources
- Minnesota DNR 5-year Parks Contract
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources
- The Blufflands Alliance
- Grand Superior Lodge
- American Farmland Trust
- SkipperLiner
- Lake Superior Magazine
- Mississippi Valley Conservancy
- Wisconsin Natural Resources Magazine
- Viterbo University
- Wisconsin Great River Road
- Big River Magazine
- Aquatic Engineering
- The Wisconsin DNR
- The Wisconsin Department of Tourism
- Vermont Life Magazine
- Minnesota State College System
- The Magazine Group
- Prairie Moon Nursery
- The Minnesota Parks & Trails Council
- Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance
- Latin American School Feeding Network
- Ashley Furniture Industries, Inc.
- Wabasha Convention & Visitors Bureau
- "Immortal River - The Upper Mississippi in Ancient and Modern Times" - University of Wisconsin Press
- Organic Valley
- Davy Engineering, La Crosse, Wisconsin