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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 1665

02/27/2025

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Elections Finance and Government Operations

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to transportation; authorizing public water and sewer systems to install
1.3 water and sewer pipelines in public road rights-of-way; amending Minnesota
1.4 Statutes 2024, section 222.37, subdivision 1.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 222.37, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Use requirements.** (a) Any water power, telegraph, telephone, pneumatic
1.8 tube, pipeline, community antenna television, cable communications or electric light, heat,
1.9 power company, entity that receives a route permit under chapter 216E for a high-voltage
1.10 transmission line necessary to interconnect an electric power generating facility with
1.11 transmission lines or associated facilities of an entity that directly, or through its members
1.12 or agents, provides retail electric service in the state, or fire department may use public
1.13 roads for the purpose of constructing, using, operating, and maintaining lines, subways,
1.14 canals, conduits, transmission lines, hydrants, or dry hydrants, for their business, but such
1.15 lines shall be so located as in no way to interfere with the safety and convenience of ordinary
1.16 travel along or over the same; and, in the construction and maintenance of such line, subway,
1.17 canal, conduit, transmission lines, hydrants, or dry hydrants, the entity shall be subject to
1.18 all reasonable regulations imposed by the governing body of any county, town or city in
1.19 which such public road may be. If the governing body does not require the entity to obtain
1.20 a permit, an entity shall notify the governing body of any county, town, or city having
1.21 jurisdiction over a public road prior to the construction or major repair, involving extensive
1.22 excavation on the road right-of-way, of the entity's equipment along, over, or under the
1.23 public road, unless the governing body waives the notice requirement. A waiver of the
1.24 notice requirement must be renewed on an annual basis. For emergency repair an entity

2.1 shall notify the governing body as soon as practical after the repair is made. Nothing herein
2.2 shall be construed to grant to any person any rights for the maintenance of a telegraph,
2.3 telephone, pneumatic tube, community antenna television system, cable communications
2.4 system, or light, heat, power system, electric power generating system, high-voltage
2.5 transmission line, or hydrant system within the corporate limits of any city until such person
2.6 shall have obtained the right to maintain such system within such city or for a period beyond
2.7 that for which the right to operate such system is granted by such city.

2.8 (b) Any public water district, sewer district, or combination water and sewer district
2.9 established under chapter 116A may install water and sewer lines and all other ancillary
2.10 infrastructure within a public road right-of-way in accordance with paragraph (a).