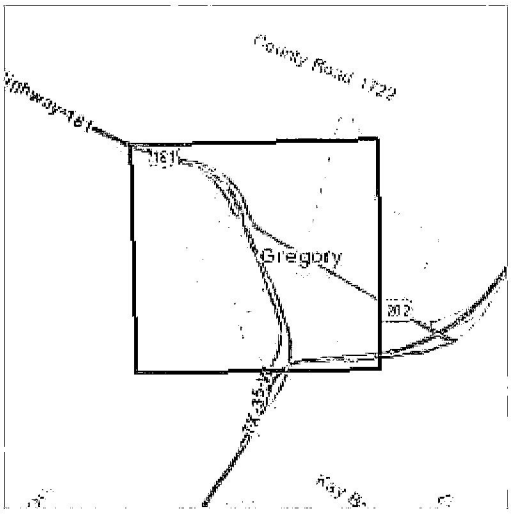
PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0119172
Project Name: Aransas Pass-Gregory
Project Type: Transmission Line - New Constr - Above Ground
Project Description: New utility construction
Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@27.92440165,-97.29969201722768,14z



Counties: San Patricio County, Texas

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 10 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries[1], as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

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1. NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Tricolored Bat *Perimyotis subflavus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Eastern Black Rail *Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10477	Threatened
Piping Plover *Charadrius melodus* Population: [Atlantic Coast and Northern Great Plains populations] - Wherever found, except those areas where listed as endangered. There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039	Threatened
Rufa Red Knot *Calidris canutus rufa* There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864	Threatened
Whooping Crane *Grus americana* Population: Wherever found, except where listed as an experimental population There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758	Endangered

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Green Sea Turtle *Chelonia mydas* Population: North Atlantic DPS There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6199	Threatened
Hawksbill Sea Turtle *Eretmochelys imbricata* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3656	Endangered
Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle *Lepidochelys kempii* There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5523	Endangered
Leatherback Sea Turtle *Dermochelys coriacea* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1493	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus*	Candidate

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.
Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act[1] and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act[2].

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats[3], should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles".

1. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.
2. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

THERE ARE NO BALD AND GOLDEN EAGLES WITHIN THE VICINITY OF YOUR PROJECT AREA.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act[1] and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act[2].

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats[3] should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles".

1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
American Golden-plover *Pluvialis dominica* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10561	Breeds elsewhere
American Oystercatcher *Haematopus palliatus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8935	Breeds Apr 15 to Aug 31
Black Skimmer *Rynchops niger* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5234	Breeds May 20 to Sep 15
Chimney Swift *Chaetura pelagica* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9406	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25
Dickcissel *Spiza americana* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9453	Breeds May 5 to Aug 31
Forster's Tern *Sterna forsteri* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/11953	Breeds Mar 1 to Aug 15
Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9501	Breeds May 1 to Jul 31
Hudsonian Godwit *Limosa haemastica* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9482	Breeds elsewhere
King Rail *Rallus elegans* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8936	Breeds May 1 to Sep 5

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Le Conte's Sparrow *Ammospiza leconteii* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9469	Breeds elsewhere
Least Tern *Sternula antillarum antillarum* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/11919	Breeds Apr 25 to Sep 5
Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679	Breeds elsewhere
Long-billed Curlew *Numenius americanus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5511	Breeds elsewhere
Marbled Godwit *Limosa fedoa* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9481	Breeds elsewhere
Mountain Plover *Charadrius montanus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3638	Breeds elsewhere
Painted Bunting *Passerina ciris* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9511	Breeds Apr 25 to Aug 15
Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9561	Breeds elsewhere
Prairie Loggerhead Shrike *Lanius ludovicianus excubitorides* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8833	Breeds Feb 1 to Jul 31
Prothonotary Warbler *Protonotaria citrea* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9439	Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 31

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Red Knot *Calidris canutus roselaari* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8880	Breeds elsewhere
Reddish Egret *Egretta rufescens* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7617	Breeds Mar 1 to Sep 15
Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres morinella* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10633	Breeds elsewhere
Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9731	Breeds Apr 25 to Aug 31
Short-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus griseus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9480	Breeds elsewhere
Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8938	Breeds Mar 10 to Jun 30
Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/11991	Breeds elsewhere
Willet *Tringa semipalmata* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10669	Breeds Apr 20 to Aug 5
Wilson's Plover *Charadrius wilsonia* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9722	Breeds Apr 1 to Aug 20

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles", specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper

Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

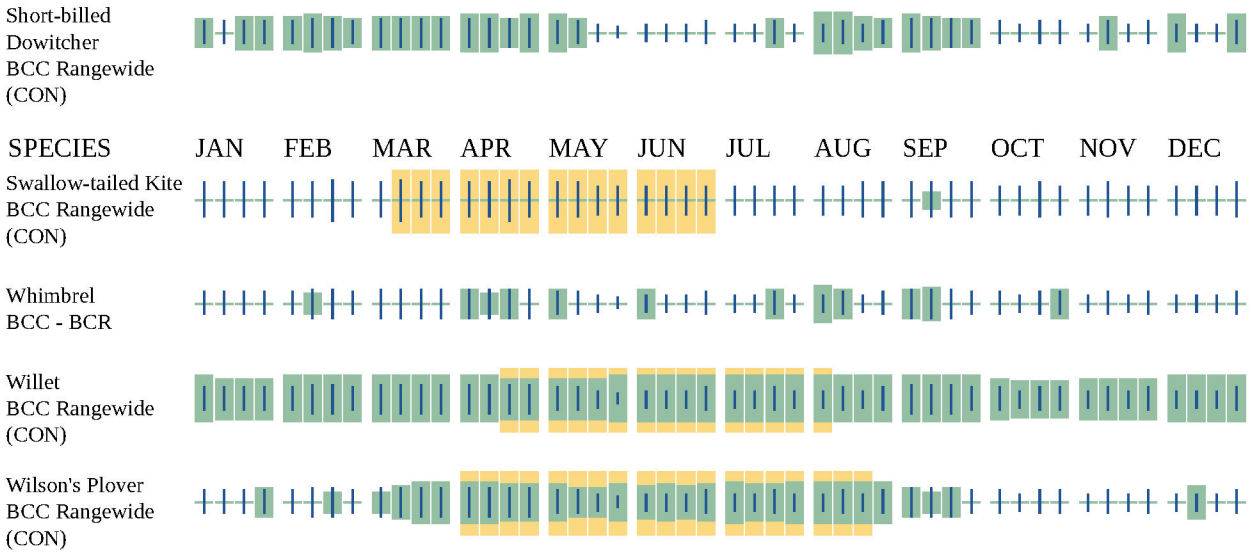
Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)
Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

Survey Effort (|)
Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data (–)
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.


BCC Rangewide (CON)
King Rail BCC Rangewide (CON)
Le Conte's Sparrow BCC Rangewide (CON)
Least Tern BCC Rangewide (CON)
Lesser Yellowlegs BCC Rangewide (CON)
SPECIES
JAN
FEB
MAR
APR
MAY
JUN
JUL
AUG
SEP
OCT
NOV
DEC
Long-billed Curlew BCC - BCR
Marbled Godwit BCC Rangewide (CON)
Mountain Plover BCC Rangewide (CON)
Painted Bunting BCC - BCR
Pectoral Sandpiper BCC Rangewide (CON)
Prairie Loggerhead Shrike BCC - BCR
Prothonotary Warbler BCC Rangewide (CON)
Red Knot BCC Rangewide (CON)
Reddish Egret BCC Rangewide (CON)
Ruddy Turnstone BCC - BCR
Sandwich Tern BCC - BCR



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

WETLANDS

Impacts to NWI wetlands and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District.

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND

- PEM1Cx

FRESHWATER POND

- PUSAx
- PUBKx

RIVERINE

- R5UBFx
- R2UBHx
- R4SBCx

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency:	Private Entity
Name:	Mikaela Egbert
Address:	16825 Northchase Dr
Address Line 2:	Suite 1200
City:	Houston
State:	TX
Zip:	77060
Email	mikaelaegbert1998@gmail.com
Phone:	3466043790

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

7600B N CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY
SUITE 320
AUSTIN, TX 78731 USA

PHONE 512-735-1800
FAX 512-735-1899

MEETING MINUTES

SUBJECT:	City of Portland Meeting		
MEETING DATE:	July 11, 2024	LOCATION:	Teams call
PROJECT NAME:	Aransas Pass-Gregory Transmission Line Rebuild Project	PROJECT #:	249460
PREPARED BY:	Kathleen Cooney		

TO:	AEP Texas		Power Engineers	Contract Land Staff	City of Portland
	Kensley Greuter	Ronika Moralez	Kathleen Cooney	Richard Robinson	Dr. Kenny Banks
	Courtney Preston				Sarah Munoz
	Justin Bennett				Shelby O'Brien

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **Project Introduction**
    - AEP Texas plans to rebuild and relocate approximately 1 mile of existing Aransas Pass-Gregory 69-kV transmission line.
    - Relocating a portion of the line for construction equipment access and because houses are in the right-of-way and under the line.
    - AEP Texas will only build one route.
2. **City of Portland Discussion**
    - AEP Texas met with County Commissioner Sonia Lopez, who said City of Portland has annexed property near the City of Gregory.
    - City of Portland can only include roads in the annexation if both sides of the road are annexed.
    - City of Portland's website allows export of maps of the city boundary and ETJ. City can share the shapefiles with AEP Texas.
    - POWER Engineers to send KMZ of the preliminary links to the group. City will ensure that the transmission line project is not in their jurisdiction.
    - AEP Texas will follow up with the County.
    - AEP Texas will follow up with the City of Portland in one week.

ACTION ITEMS:

ITEM	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Preliminary links KMZ	Send to the group.	POWER
Jurisdiction	Ensure transmission line not in City's jurisdiction.	City of Portland
Follow up	Follow up with County.	AEP Texas/POWER
	Follow up with City in one week.	AEP Texas/POWER

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

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SUITE 320
AUSTIN, TX 78731 USA

PHONE 512-735-1800
FAX 512-735-1899

MEETING MINUTES

SUBJECT:	San Patricio County Meeting		
MEETING DATE:	June 26, 2024	LOCATION:	520 Harvill Street, Sinton, TX
PROJECT NAME:	Aransas Pass-Gregory Transmission Line Rebuild Project	PROJECT #:	249460
PREPARED BY:	Kathleen Cooney		

TO:	AEP Texas	Power Engineers	San Patricio County
	Kensley Greuter	Kathleen Cooney	Sonia Lopez, Commissioner
	Courtney Preston	Aislinn McCann	Linda Gaitan, Coordinator
			Benny Murphy, Foreman

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **Project Introduction**
    - AEP Texas plans to rebuild and relocate approximately 1 mile of existing Aransas Pass-Gregory 69-kV transmission line.
    - Relocating a portion of the line for construction equipment access and because houses are in the right-of-way and under the line.
    - AEP Texas will only build one route.
2. **San Patricio County Discussion**
    - City of Portland annexed most of the area near Exxon. The City of Portland Manager is Randy Wright.
    - The City of Portland might be in charge of County roads. Tom Yardley is the Commissioner of Precinct 2.
    - A local agreement was signed with the City.
    - Phillips 66 bought property next to Exxon.

ACTION ITEMS:

ITEM	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

7600B N CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY
SUITE 320
AUSTIN, TX 78731 USA

PHONE 512-735-1800
FAX 512-735-1899

MEETING MINUTES

SUBJECT:	San Patricio County Commissioner for Precinct 2		
MEETING DATE:	July 26, 2024	LOCATION:	Teams call
PROJECT NAME:	Aransas Pass-Gregory Transmission Line Rebuild Project	PROJECT #:	249460
PREPARED BY:	Aislinn McCann		

TO:	AEP Texas	Power Engineers	San Patricio County Commissioner for District 2
	Kensley Greuter	Aislinn McCann	Tom Yardley
	Courtney Preston		

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **Project Introduction**
    - AEP Texas plans to rebuild and relocate approximately 1 mile of existing Aransas Pass-Gregory 69-kV transmission line.
    - Relocating a portion of the line for construction equipment access and because houses are in the right-of-way and under the line.
    - AEP Texas will only build one route.
2. **County Commissioner Discussion**
    - Mr. Yardley confirmed that the project is out of his jurisdiction and that none of the county roads near the site were under his jurisdiction.
    - Mr. Yardley recommended that the team reach out to Adam Gawarecki with the San Patricio County Economic Development Corporation and provided his phone number.

ACTION ITEMS:

ITEM	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Contact the San Patricio County Economic Development Corporation	Email the President and CEO, Mr. Adam Gawarecki.	POWER

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

7600B N CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY
SUITE 320
AUSTIN, TX 78731 USA

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MEETING MINUTES

SUBJECT:	San Patricio County Economic Development Corporation Meeting		
MEETING DATE:	August 1, 2024	LOCATION:	Teams call
PROJECT NAME:	Aransas Pass-Gregory Transmission Line Rebuild Project	PROJECT #:	249460
PREPARED BY:	Aislinn McCann		

TO:	AEP Texas	Power Engineers	San Patricio County Economic Development Corporation
	Courtney Preston	Aislinn McCann	Adam Gawarecki

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **Project Introduction**
    - AEP Texas plans to rebuild and relocate approximately 1 mile of existing Aransas Pass-Gregory 69-kV transmission line.
    - Relocating a portion of the line for construction equipment access and because houses are in the right-of-way and under the line.
    - AEP Texas will only build one route.
2. **San Patricio County Economic Development Corporation Discussion**
    - Mr. Gawarecki, President and CEO, stated there are no proposed developments within the area containing the preliminary alternative links for the proposed project.
    - The closest potential development is a parcel located to the northeast of the proposed project area, and that this project would not affect the potential development.

ACTION ITEMS:

No action items.

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

7600B N CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY
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AUSTIN, TX 78731 USA

PHONE 512-735-1800
FAX 512-735-1899

MEETING MINUTES

SUBJECT:	San Patricio County Drainage District (SPCDD) Meeting		
MEETING DATE:	June 26, 2024	LOCATION:	701 S. San Patricio, Sinton, TX
PROJECT NAME:	Aransas Pass-Gregory Transmission Line Rebuild Project	PROJECT #:	249460
PREPARED BY:	Kathleen Cooney		

TO:	AEP Texas	Power Engineers	SPCDD
	Kensley Greuter	Kathleen Cooney	Roy Heistermann, Drainage Consultant
	Courtney Preston	Aislinn McCann	Steve Elliott, Drainage Manager
	Ronika Moralez		

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **Project Introduction**
    - AEP Texas plans to rebuild and relocate approximately 1 mile of existing Aransas Pass-Gregory 69-kV transmission line.
    - Relocating a portion of the line for construction equipment access and because houses are in the right-of-way and under the line.
    - AEP Texas will only build one route.
2. **San Patricio County Drainage District Discussion**
    - Reviewed preliminary alternative links overlaid on existing drainage easement map.
    - One drainage is parallel to the existing transmission line along Black Welder Street.
    - AEP Texas must submit SPCDD permit application. SPCDD to email permit form to POWER Engineers.

ACTION ITEMS:

ITEM	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
SPCDD permit form	Email to POWER Engineers	SPCDD

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

7600B N CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY
SUITE 320
AUSTIN, TX 78731 USA

PHONE 512-735-1800
FAX 512-735-1899

MEETING MINUTES

SUBJECT:	TxDOT Virtual Meeting		
MEETING DATE:	February 23, 2024	LOCATION:	Teams Call
PROJECT NAME:	Aransas Pass-Gregory Transmission Line Rebuild Project	PROJECT #:	249460
PREPARED BY:	Kathleen Cooney		

TO:	**AEP Texas**		**POWER Engineers**	**TxDOT**
	Courtney Preston	Roy Bermea	Kathleen Cooney	David Brink
	Kensley Greuter	Mistie Beaver		Robert Isassi
	LaRissa Lundry	Ronika Moralez	**Contract Land Services**	Leslie Cantu
	Chad Tomanec		Savannah Meeks	
			Richard Robinson	

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **Safety Moment**
2. **Introductions**
    - David Brink, TxDOT District Coordinator
    - Robert Isassi, TxDOT Area Engineer
    - Leslie Cantu, TxDOT District Coordinator
3. **Aransas Pass-Gregory Proposed TxDOT Crossing**
    - AEP wants to double circuit the existing Dupont SW-Portland transmission line across United States Highway 181. Estimated start of construction is end of 2025.
    - TxDOT prefers to use existing alignment so there is no need for a separate crossing.
    - May need to change easement language. Ronika has reviewed easement language and needs to confirm language is acceptable.
    - The existing line that runs along the west side of FM 2986 is inside TxDOT right-of-way.
    - Railroad crossing – start early.
    - TxDOT questions for AEP:
        - Replace some or all structures?
        - Will the new structures be located in the same place? Assume yes.
        - Will AEP be involved in the permitting process? AEP's contractor will be more involved.
    - TxDOT wants to coordinate on structure size.
    - TxDOT no longer allows work over traveling public. Formal traffic control plan will be required. PE signed and sealed. AEP uses Road Safe for Road Safe.
    - LaRissa to email David and he will send the permit.
    - Coordinate with other project. TxDOT does not want them done concurrently.
    - Minimum height is 22 feet from highest point of ROW to mid-span sag. Not at grade is minimum height of 30 feet from highest point of embankment to lowest point of sag.

- Engineering team to look at affordability and safety of using structures with larger cross arms.
- All structures in state ROW maximum 36 x 36 inches and offset 36 inches. If poles are replaced an exception will be required for diameter and offset. David can provide materials for preparation and the steps needed. Exception has to go to Austin for approval.
- Angle not an issue – no exception required.
- Estimated timeframe for exception is two months. Ninety percent of correspondence is direct email to David Brink (pre-review).

ACTION ITEMS:

ITEM	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	DUE DATE
Permit	Email David requesting he send permit.	LaRissa Lundry	Spring 2024

POWER ENGINEERS, INC.

16825 NORTHCHASE DRIVE
SUITE 1200
HOUSTON, TX 77060 USA

PHONE 281-765-5500
FAX 281-765-5599

MEETING MINUTES

SUBJECT:	Foundations at TxDOT Crossing		
MEETING DATE:	March 27, 2024	LOCATION:	Teams call
PROJECT NAME:	Aransas Pass to Gregory Transmission Line Rebuild	PROJECT #:	0249460
PREPARED BY:	Ashley Brewer		

TO:	AEP Texas		POWER Engineers	TxDOT
	Courtney Preston	Kensley Greuter	Ashley Brewer	David Brink
	Chad Tomanec	Mistie Beaver	**Contract Land Services**	
	Roy Bermea	Ronika Moralez	Savannah Meeks	
	Justin Bennett		Richard Robinson	

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **Safety Moment**
2. **Limitations for Proposed TxDOT Crossing**
    - Section of transmission line west of FM 2986 can remain along with the section that runs eastward north of the railroad.
    - Minimum height is 30 feet from the lowest hanging line.
    - Current diameter of the existing structure is estimated to be around 48 inches.
    - AEP has not determined the foundation size. Can utilize two separate poles or one pole with an approximate 6-foot diameter. TxDOT needs information for both options so David Brink can check internally.
    - One- or two-pole structure depends on engineering analysis for the increased base size.
        - Start analysis with one pole.
        - Provide illustrations that show distances to the embankment and the curbs along the road and existing and proposed diameter of the structure foundations.
    - AEP engineer says two poles of the same diameter as the existing structure could be feasible. TxDOT says that could be an issue because the existing line is on a curve and two poles would be a larger footprint.
    - TxDOT prefers to use existing line ROW using two structures that are already within the highway ROW.
    - Variance is granted on a case-by-case basis. Uncertain if 6-foot diameter would be allowed.

ACTION ITEMS:

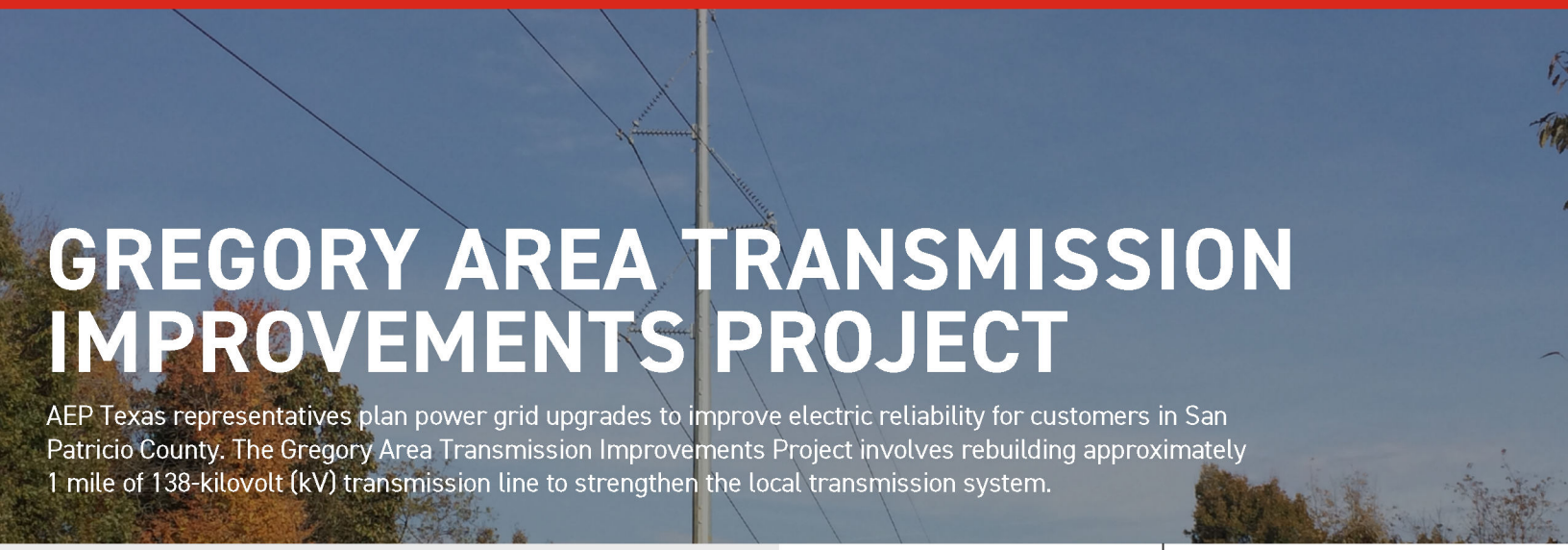
ITEM	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	DUE DATE

APPENDIX B – PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

OPEN HOUSE INVITATION LETTERS

Includes:

Project Fact Sheet (with overview map)
PUC Regulatory Process FAQ Document
Comment Card



GREGORY AREA TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

AEP Texas representatives plan power grid upgrades to improve electric reliability for customers in San Patricio County. The Gregory Area Transmission Improvements Project involves rebuilding approximately 1 mile of 138-kilovolt (kV) transmission line to strengthen the local transmission system.

WHAT

The project involves:
- Building approximately 1 mile of new 138-kV transmission line to replace a section of the existing Aransas Pass-Rincon transmission line.
- Upgrading equipment at the Gregory Substation.

AEP Texas officials plan to file a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) following a review of public input on route link development and additional route analysis. Project representatives expect to file a CCN application by November 2024. The final line route is determined by the PUC.

WHY

The proposed project:
- Replaces deteriorating equipment from the 1970s addressing age-related conditions on the power line that can lead to system outages for customers.
- Modernizes the electric system to allow more flexibility to address the area's growing power demand and ensures reliable power, reducing the likelihood and duration of outages for area customers.
- Allows the project team to review and identify potential shifts in the transmission line route to avoid encroachments within the existing right-of-way. This is necessary to ensure safe and reliable electric service and meet current engineering and safety standards.

WHERE

The project area includes the city of Gregory in San Patricio County.

How Preliminary Route Links Are Created

Each preliminary route link represents an option for the PUC to consider when selecting a final transmission line route. To determine the preliminary route links, the AEP Texas project team:
- Establishes a geographical study area that includes the endpoints for the proposed transmission line.
- Evaluates the area inside the study area, accounting for impacts to landowners, land use, existing buildings and infrastructure, geographical features, other utilities, oil and gas pipelines, and many other factors.
- Analyzes information gathered to produce possible routes, broken into sections called preliminary route links.

Landowner feedback is critical because it allows AEP Texas to further define the preliminary route links before they are submitted to the PUC as part of the CCN application.

2024

PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT
May 2024

OPEN HOUSE
June 2024

CCN* APPLICATION FILED WITH THE PUC*
November 2024

2025

ANTICIPATED PUC* APPROVAL & FINAL ROUTE DETERMINATION
August 2025

RIGHT-OF-WAY COMMUNICATIONS AND PRE-CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES BEGIN
Fall 2025

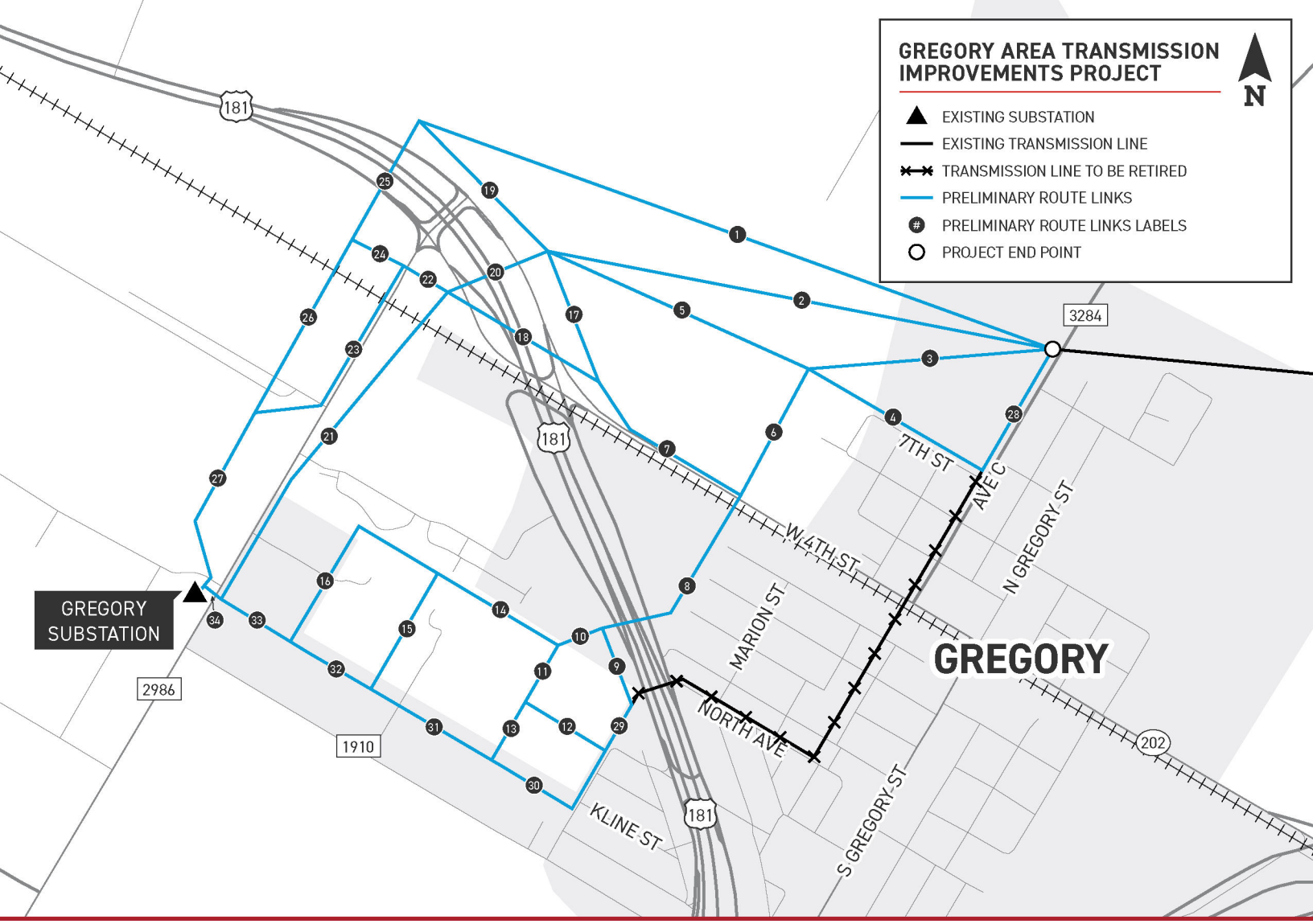
2026

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS
Early 2026

FACILITIES PLACED IN SERVICE
Summer 2026

2027

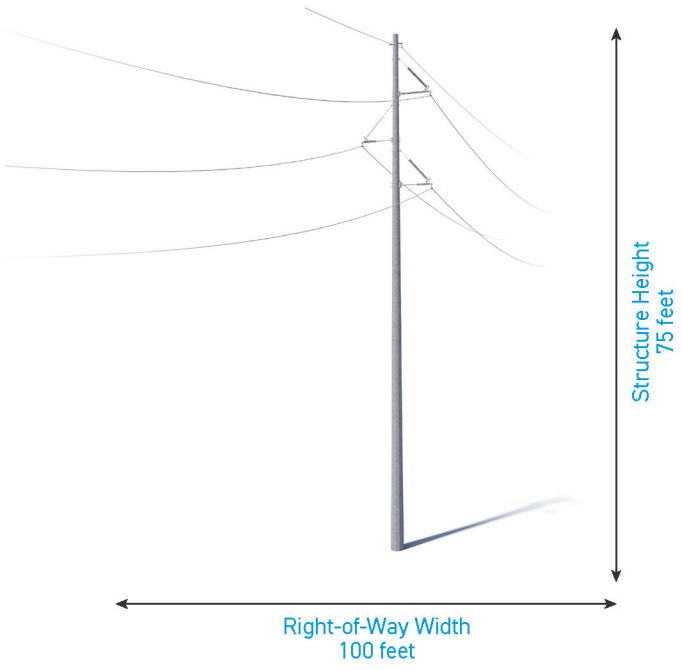
*CCN: Certificate of Convenience and Necessity; PUC: Public Utility Commission of Texas
**Timeline Subject to Change



TYPICAL STRUCTURES

AEP Texas crews plan to install single concrete poles on this project.

Typical Structure Height: Approximately 75 feet
Typical Distance Between Structures: Approximately 400 feet
Typical Right-of-Way Width: Approximately 100 feet



*Exact structure, height, and right-of-way requirements may vary.

WE VALUE YOUR INPUT. PLEASE SEND COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS TO:

ADRIANA KNIGHT · PROJECT OUTREACH SPECIALIST
AEPTEXASOUTREACH@AEP.COM · 833-329-4865
AEPTEXAS.COM/GREGORYAREA

AEP TEXAS
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GREGORY AREA TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Los representantes de AEP Texas planean mejoras en la red eléctrica para mejorar la confiabilidad eléctrica de los clientes en el condado de San Patricio. El Gregory Area Transmission Improvements Project mplica la reconstrucción de aproximadamente 1 milla de línea de transmisión de 138 kilovoltios (kV) para fortalecer el sistema de transmisión local.

QUÉ

El proyecto implica:
- Construcción de aproximadamente 1 milla de nueva línea de transmisión de 138 kV para reemplazar una sección de la línea de transmisión existente Aransas Pass-Rincon.
- Actualización de equipos en la Subestación Gregory.

Los funcionarios de AEP Texas planean presentar una solicitud de Certificado de Conveniencia y Necesidad (CCN) ante la Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Texas (PUC) luego de una revisión de los comentarios del público sobre el desarrollo de enlaces de rutas y análisis de rutas adicionales. Los representantes del proyecto esperan presentar una solicitud al CCN en noviembre de 2024. La PUC determina la ruta final de la línea.

POR QUÉ

El proyecto propuesto:
- Reemplaza el equipo deteriorado de la década de 1970 y aborda las condiciones relacionadas con el envejecimiento en la línea eléctrica que pueden provocar cortes del sistema para los clientes.
- Moderniza el sistema eléctrico para permitir más flexibilidad para abordar la creciente demanda de energía del área y garantiza energía confiable, reduciendo la probabilidad y duración de los cortes para los clientes del área.
- Permite al equipo del proyecto revisar e identificar cambios potenciales en la ruta de la línea de transmisión para evitar intrusiones en el derecho de paso existente. Esto es necesario para garantizar un servicio eléctrico seguro y confiable y cumplir con los estándares actuales de ingeniería y seguridad.

DÓNDE

El área del proyecto incluye la ciudad de Gregory en el condado de San Patricio.

Cómo se Crean Los Enlaces de Ruta Preliminares

Cada enlace de ruta preliminar representa una opción que la PUC debe considerar al seleccionar una ruta final de línea de transmisión. Para determinar los enlaces de ruta preliminares, el equipo del proyecto AEP Texas:
- Establece un área de estudio geográfico que incluye los puntos finales de la línea de transmisión propuesta.
- Evalúa el área dentro del área de estudio, teniendo en cuenta los impactos a los propietarios de tierras, el uso de la tierra, los edificios e infraestructura existentes, las características geográficas, otros servicios públicos, los oleoductos y gasoductos y muchos otros factores.
- Analiza la información recopilada para producir posibles rutas, divididas en secciones denominadas enlaces de ruta preliminares.

Los comentarios de los propietarios son fundamentales porque permiten a AEP Texas definir mejor los enlaces de ruta preliminares antes de enviarlos a la PUC como parte de la solicitud CCN.

2024

ANUNCIO DEL PROYECTO
Mayo 2024

CASA ABIERTA
Junio de 2024

CCN* SOLICITUD PRESENTADA ANTE LA PUC*
Noviembre 2024

2025

APROBACIÓN ANTICIPADA DE LA PUC* Y DETERMINACIÓN DE LA RUTA FINAL
Agosto de 2025

COMUNICACIONES DE DERECHO DE PASO Y INICIO DE ACTIVIDADES PREVIAS A LA CONSTRUCCIÓN INICIAN
Otoño 2025

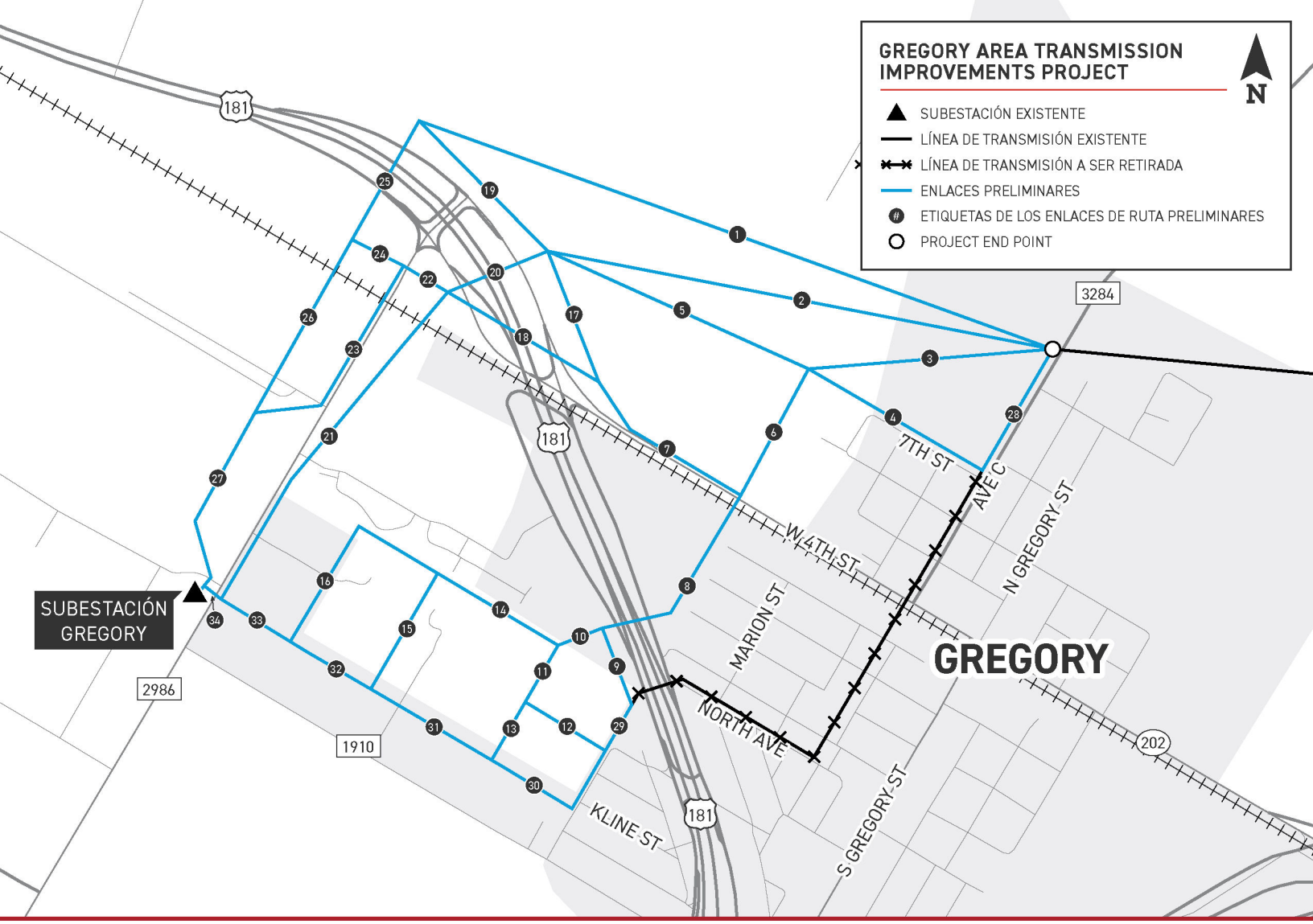
2026

INICIO DE CONSTRUCCIÓN
Principios de 2026

INSTALACIONES PUESTAS EN SERVICIO
verano 2026

2027

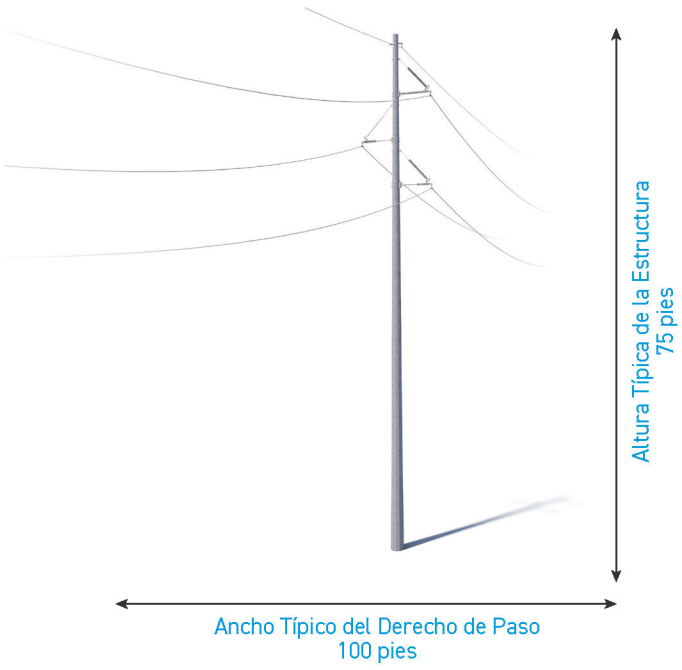
*CCN: Certificado de Conveniencia y Necesidad; PUC: Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Texas
**Calendario sujeto a cambios.



ESTRUCTURAS TÍPICAS

Los equipos de AEP Texas planean instalar postes individuales de concreto en este proyecto.

Altura Típica de la Estructura: Aproximadamente 75 pies
Distancia Típica Entre Estructuras: Aproximadamente 400 pies
Ancho Típico del Derecho de Paso: Aproximadamente 100 pies



*Los requisitos exactos de estructura, altura y derecho de paso pueden variar.

VALORAMOS SUS COMENTARIOS. POR FAVOR ENVÍE COMENTARIOS Y PREGUNTAS A:
ADRIANA KNIGHT · PROJECT OUTREACH SPECIALIST
AEPTEXASOUTREACH@AEP.COM · 833-329-4865
AEPTEXAS.COM/GREGORYAREA

AEP TEXAS
An AEP Company

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS REGULATORY PROCESS

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Public Utility Commission of Texas?

The Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) is a state agency created by the Texas Legislature to provide statewide regulation of the rates and services of certain electric, telecommunications and water utilities. The PUC has jurisdiction over AEP Texas.

How can I provide feedback on the proposed route links?

You can share your comments and concerns by:

- Returning the questionnaire you received as part of your initial informational packet
- Calling the (800) number or writing to the email address listed on the project fact sheet
- Visiting the project website and submitting questions/ comments
- Attending an in-person open house to speak directly to a project team member

How does the PUC determine the final line route?

By law, the PUC must consider a number of factors when evaluating the proposed line, including cost, environmental impacts, compatibility with existing rights-of-way, property lines and natural features.

The PUC also accounts for the proximity to existing habitable structures; recreation and historic areas; and aesthetic values.

Ultimately, the PUC approves a single line route connecting one substation to the other substation, using any combination of the proposed routing links.

Do I have an opportunity to participate in the route selection and regulatory process?

Yes. At AEP Texas, we encourage all landowners to learn about the process by viewing the provided informational materials and visiting the project website.

How do directly impacted landowners participate in the CCN proceeding?

Directly impacted landowners can participate in two ways:

- **Become an Intervenor.** Intervenors are permitted to become a party in the proceeding after showing a justiciable interest. As an Intervenor, the landowner may make legal arguments, conduct discovery, file testimony, cross examine witnesses and testify to the PUC.
- **Become a Protester.** Protesters do not choose to participate fully in the CCN proceeding as an Intervenor, but may file comments in support or opposition of the application. Protesters are not considered parties in the proceeding but can send written comments to the PUC stating their position at the time of application or hearing.

How long does the PUC review and approval process take?

This project has been deemed critical by the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT), meaning the PUC will look to approve a final line route six (6) months after company officials file the CCN application.

What happens after the final line route has been approved?

Once approved, landowners in the project area are notified of the PUC Final Order, determining the final line route. Company right-of-way agents will begin contacting landowners along the final line route to negotiate easements on their properties. Easements are rights that give AEP Texas the ability to safely construct, operate and maintain the transmission line.

Can AEP Texas use eminent domain to obtain rights-of-way?

We make every effort to work directly with affected landowners and pay fair market values for required easements, including financial damages for things like crops that might be damaged during construction.

However, AEP Texas is a certificated electric utility that is fully regulated by the PUC and therefore has the power of eminent domain.

Can I speak to someone if I have additional questions?

Yes. At AEP Texas, we strongly encourage landowners to contact us with question, comments and concerns. Please refer to the project fact sheet to find an (800) number, email address and project website.

PROCESO REGULATORIO DE LA COMISIÓN DE SERVICIOS PÚBLICOS DE TEXAS

Preguntas Frecuentes

¿Qué es la Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Texas?

La Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Texas (PUC, por sus siglas en inglés) es una agencia estatal creada por la Legislatura de Texas para proporcionar una regulación estatal de las tarifas y los servicios de ciertos servicios públicos de electricidad, telecomunicaciones y agua. La PUC tiene jurisdicción sobre AEP Texas.

¿Cómo puedo dar mi opinión sobre los enlaces de ruta propuestos?

Puede compartir sus comentarios e inquietudes:

- Devolviendo el cuestionario que recibió como parte de su paquete informativo inicial
- Llamando al número del proyecto o escribiendo a la dirección de correo electrónico que aparece en hoja informativa del proyecto
- Visitando el sitio web del proyecto y enviando preguntas y comentarios
- Asistiendo a una de las casas abiertas en persona para hablar directamente con un miembro del equipo del proyecto

¿Cómo determina la PUC el enrutamiento final de la línea?

Por ley, la PUC debe tener en cuenta una serie de factores a la hora de evaluar la línea propuesta, como el costo, el impacto ambiental, la compatibilidad con los derechos de paso existentes, las líneas de propiedad y las características naturales.

La PUC también tiene en cuenta la proximidad a las estructuras habitables existentes, las zonas recreativas e históricas y los valores estéticos.

En última instancia, la PUC aprueba una ruta de una sola línea que conecta una subestación con la otra, utilizando cualquier combinación de los enlaces de enrutamiento propuestos.

¿Tengo la oportunidad de participar en la selección de rutas y en el proceso de regulación?

Sí. En AEP Texas animamos a todos los propietarios de tierras a que se informen sobre el proceso consultando el material informativo proporcionado y visitando el sitio web del proyecto.

¿Cómo participan los propietarios directamente afectados en el procedimiento del Certificados de Conveniencia y Necesidad (CCN)?

Los propietarios de tierras directamente afectados pueden participar de dos maneras:

- **Siendo interventores.** Se permite a los interventores pueden ser parte del procedimiento después de acreditar un interés justiciable. Como Interventor, el propietario puede presentar argumentos legales, realizar pruebas, presentar testimonios, contrainterrogar a los testigos y testificar ante la PUC.
- **Siendo un protestante.** Los protestantes no pueden participar plenamente en el procedimiento de CCN como interventores, pero pueden presentar comentarios en apoyo u oposición a la solicitud. Los protestantes no se consideran ser partes del procedimiento, pero pueden enviar comentarios por escrito a la PUC indicando su posición en el momento de la solicitud o la audiencia.

¿Cuánto dura el proceso de revisión y aprobación de la PUC?

Este proyecto ha sido considerado crítico por el Consejo de Fiabilidad Eléctrica de Texas (ERCOT), lo que significa que la PUC buscará aprobar una ruta final de la línea seis (6) meses después de que los oficiales de la Compañía presenten la solicitud de CCN.

¿Qué ocurre después de que se apruebe la ruta de la línea final?

Una vez aprobada, se notifica a los propietarios de la zona del proyecto la orden final de la PUC, que determina la ruta final de la línea. Los agentes de derechos de paso de la Compañía comenzarán a ponerse en contacto con los propietarios a lo largo de la ruta de la línea final para negociar las servidumbres en sus propiedades. Las servidumbres son derechos que otorgan a AEP Texas la capacidad de construir, operar y mantener la línea de transmisión de manera segura.

¿Pueden AEP Texas utilizar el dominio eminente para obtener derechos de paso?

Hacemos todo lo posible para trabajar directamente con los propietarios afectados y pagar valores de mercado justos para las servidumbres requeridas, incluyendo daños financieros para cosas como los cultivos que podrían ser dañados durante la construcción.

Sin embargo, AEP Texas es una empresas eléctricas certificadas que están totalmente reguladas por la PUC y, por lo tanto, tienen el poder de dominio eminente.

¿Puedo hablar con alguien si tengo más preguntas?

Sí. En AEP Texas, alentamos firmemente a los propietarios de tierras a que se pongan en contacto con nosotros para hacer preguntas, comentarios e inquietudes. Consulte la hoja informativa del proyecto para encontrar el número del proyecto, la dirección de correo electrónico y el sitio web del proyecto.

COMMENT CARD

GREGORY AREA TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

AEP TEXAS
An AEP Company

FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Please fill out and mail this comment card using the enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope by July 26, 2024. If you prefer to provide comments online, visit AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea and click the "Contact Us" button.

Please provide your name and contact information below to ensure we have the most up-to-date information for our records.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

Do you wish to receive emails about this project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please complete this comment card after you have reviewed the information provided about this project.

Did you find the content provided to be informative? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, please explain

_____

_____

Please include below any information about features on your property that are in the project area.

If you prefer that a project team member contact you to discuss any of your comments, please note in the additional comments below.

Example: "Study Segment 3 is on the west side of my property at 123 Main Street, and there is an existing gas line running parallel to this study segment" and "There is a family cemetery located along the rebuild section approximately 100 feet west of 345 Broad Street."

☐ House, shed or other structure

_____

_____

☐ Springs, streams, wetlands, sensitive species or protected areas

_____

_____

GREGORY AREA
TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

AEP TEXAS
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☐ Cave, sinkhole, mine or portal

☐ Approved or documented planned project

☐ Existing conservation easement

☐ Historical or archaeological feature (i.e., homestead, Native American site)

☐ Underground utilities or pipelines (including gas, water, oil, etc.)

☐ Agricultural features including irrigation systems, drainage tiles, etc.

☐ Other land use such as private airstrips, past landfills or buried waste, radio or cellular antennas

☐ Additional comments

GREGORY AREA
TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

The routing of a transmission line project involves many considerations. Please circle the number corresponding to the level of importance that each specific factor in the routing of the transmission line is to you.

FACTORS	NOT IMPORTANT		SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT		MOST IMPORTANT
a. Maintain distance from residences, businesses, and schools	1	2	3	4	5
b. Maximize distance from parks and recreational facilities	1	2	3	4	5
c. Maximize length along existing transmission lines	1	2	3	4	5
d. Maximize length along highways or other roads	1	2	3	4	5
e. Maximize length along property boundary lines	1	2	3	4	5
f. Minimize total length of line (reduces cost of line)	1	2	3	4	5
g. Minimize visibility of the line	1	2	3	4	5
h. Minimize loss of trees	1	2	3	4	5
i. Minimize length across cropland	1	2	3	4	5
j. Minimize length through grassland or pasture	1	2	3	4	5
k. Minimize impacts on streams and rivers	1	2	3	4	5
l. Minimize length through wetlands/floodplains	1	2	3	4	5
m. Minimize impacts to archaeological and historic sites	1	2	3	4	5

If you wish to comment on the factors listed in the previous question or add any additional factors that you think should be considered, please use the space below.

GREGORY AREA
TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

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☐ **If you have a concern with a particular transmission line link shown on the map, please identify the link and describe your concern.**

LINK	CONCERN

☐ **Additional comments**

539 N Carancahua, Corpus Christi, TX 78401

TARJETA DE COMENTARIOS

GREGORY AREA TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

AEP TEXAS
An AEP Company

PREGUNTAS Y COMENTARIOS DE SEGUIMIENTO

Por favor, llene esta tarjeta de comentarios y envíela por correo usando el sobre adjunto con su dirección y sello antes del 26 de julio de 2024. Si prefiere enviar sus comentarios en línea, visite AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea y haga clic en el botón "Contáctenos".

Por favor, proporcione su nombre e información de contacto a continuación para asegurar que tenemos la información más actualizada para nuestros registros.

NOMBRE: _____

DIRECCIÓN: _____

CORREO ELECTRONICO _____ TELÉFONO: _____

¿Desea recibir correos electrónicos sobre este proyecto? ☐ Sí ☐ No

Por favor, complete esta tarjeta de comentarios después de haber revisado la información proporcionada sobre este proyecto.

¿Le ha parecido que el contenido proporcionado es informativo? ☐ Sí ☐ No

Si su respuesta es no, por favor explique

_____

_____

Por favor, incluya a continuación cualquier información sobre las características de su propiedad que se encuentren en el área del proyecto.
Si prefiere que un miembro del equipo del proyecto se ponga en contacto con usted para tratar alguno de sus comentarios, indíquelo en los comentarios adicionales que aparecen a continuación.

Ejemplo: "El segmento de estudio 3 se encuentra en el lado oeste de mi propiedad, en la calle principal 123, y hay una línea de gas existente que corre paralela a este segmento de estudio" y "Hay un cementerio familiar situado a lo largo de la sección de reconstrucción aproximadamente 100 pies al oeste de la 345 Broad Street."

☐ Casa, cobertizo u otra estructura

_____

_____

☐ Manantiales, arroyos, humedales, especies vulnerables o zonas protegidas

_____

_____

☐ Cueva, sumidero, mina o portal

☐ Proyecto planificado aprobado o documentado

☐ Servidumbre de conservación existente

☐ Elemento histórico o arqueológico (por ejemplo, una granja o un sitio de los nativos americanos)

☐ Servicios públicos subterráneos o tuberías (incluyendo gas, agua, aceite, etc.)

☐ Elementos agrícolas, como sistemas de riego, baldosas de drenaje, etc.

☐ Otros usos del suelo, como pistas de aterrizaje privadas, rellenos de tierra o residuos enterrados, antenas de radio o de telefonía móvil

☐ Comentarios adicionales

GREGORY AREA
TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

AEP TEXAS
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El enrutamiento de un proyecto de línea de transmisión implica muchas consideraciones. Marque con un círculo el número correspondiente al nivel de importancia que tiene para usted cada factor específico del enrutamiento de la línea de transmisión.

FACTORES	SIN IMPORTANCIA		ALGO IMPORTANTE		MÁS IMPORTANTE
a. Mantener distancia de las residencias, negocios y escuelas	1	2	3	4	5
b. Maximizar la distancia de parques y centros recreacionales	1	2	3	4	5
c. Maximizar la longitud a lo largo de las líneas de transmisión existentes	1	2	3	4	5
d. Maximizar la longitud a lo largo de carreteras u otros caminos	1	2	3	4	5
e. Maximizar la longitud a lo largo de los límites de la propiedad	1	2	3	4	5
f. Minimizar la longitud total de la línea (reduce el costo de la línea)	1	2	3	4	5
g. Minimizar la visibilidad de la línea	1	2	3	4	5
h. Minimizar la pérdida de árboles	1	2	3	4	5
i. Minimizar la longitud a través de las tierras de cultivo	1	2	3	4	5
j. Minimizar la longitud a través de praderas o pastos	1	2	3	4	5
k. Minimizar el impacto en los arroyos y rios	1	2	3	4	5
l. Minimizar la longitud a través de los humedales/planicies forestales	1	2	3	4	5
m. Minimizar los impactos a sitios arqueológicos e históricos	1	2	3	4	5

Si desea comentar los factores enumerados en la pregunta anterior o añadir cualquier otro factor que crea que deba tenerse en cuenta, utilice el espacio que aparece a continuación.

GREGORY AREA
TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

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☐ **Si tiene alguna inquietud con un enlace de línea de transmisión en particular que se muestra en el mapa, identifique el enlace y describa su preocupación.**

ENLACE	INQUIETUD

☐ **Comentarios adicionales**

539 N Carancahua, Corpus Christi, TX 78401

OPEN HOUSE REMINDER POST CARD

GREGORY AREA TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

June 27, 2024 · 5-7 p.m. · Gregory Municipal Complex Community Center · 310 Ayers Street, Gregory, TX

Join Us at the Gregory Area Transmission Improvements Project Open House

PROJECT INFORMATION

AEP Texas representatives plan to upgrade the local transmission power grid in San Patricio County. The Gregory Area Transmission Improvements Project involves rebuilding and relocating about a mile of 138-kilovolt transmission line in Gregory.

PROJECT BENEFITS

The project upgrades improve electric reliability, replace deteriorating equipment from the 1970s, support economic development in the area and strengthen the local grid.

SHARE YOUR INPUT

Please join us from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 27, at the **Gregory Municipal Complex Community Center.** You can view detailed maps and talk with project team members about the preliminary route links. There is no formal presentation so you can arrive at any time during the event. Spanish-speaking representatives and informational materials will also be available at the open house.

If you can't attend the in-person open house, you may visit the virtual open house at AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea to access project information, view an interactive map and submit comments. **Please share your input by July 26, 2024.**

Acompañenos en la Casa Abierta Para el Gregory Area Transmission Improvements Project

INFORMACIÓN DEL PROYECTO

Los representantes de AEP Texas planean mejorar la red eléctrica de transmisión local en el condado de San Patricio. El Gregory Area Transmission Improvements Project implica reconstruir y reubicar aproximadamente una milla de línea de transmisión de 138 kilovoltios en Gregory.

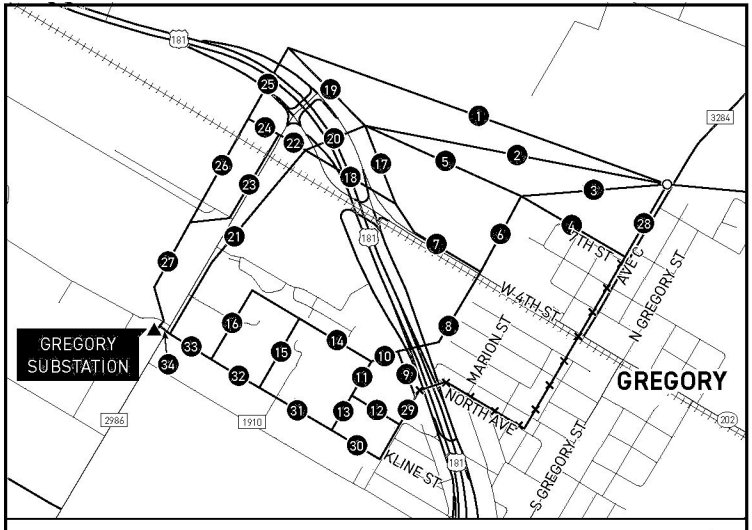
BENEFICIOS DEL PROYECTO

Las mejoras del proyecto mejoran la confiabilidad eléctrica, reemplazan los equipos deteriorados de la década de 1970, apoyan el desarrollo económico en el área y fortalecen la red local.

COMPARTE TUS COMENTARIOS

Únase a nosotros desde las 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. el jueves 27 de junio en el Gregory Municipal Complex Community Center. Puede ver mapas detallados y hablar con los miembros del equipo del proyecto sobre los enlaces de ruta preliminares. No hay presentación formal por lo que puedes llegar en cualquier momento durante el evento. Representantes de que hablan español y materiales informativos también estarán disponibles en la casa abierta.

Si no puede asistir a la casa abierta en persona, puede visitar la casa abierta virtual en AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea para acceder la información del proyecto, ver un mapa interactivo y enviar comentarios. **Comparta sus comentarios antes del 26 de julio de 2024.**



GREGORY AREA TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

N

- EXISTING TRANSMISSION LINE
- TRANSMISSION LINE TO BE RETIRED
- PRELIMINARY ROUTE LINKS
- EXISTING SUBSTATION
- # PRELIMINARY ROUTE LINKS LABELS
- PROJECT END POINT

WE VALUE YOUR INPUT.
PLEASE SEND COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS TO:

ADRIANA KNIGHT • PROJECT OUTREACH SPECIALIST
AEPTEXASOUTREACH@AEP.COM • 833-329-4865
AEPTEXAS.COM/GREGORYAREA

AEP TEXAS
An AEP Company

539 N Carancahua,
Corpus Christi, TX 78401

PROJECT FEEDBACK TRIFOLD BROCHURE

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS PANEL, TEAR IT OFF AND MAIL IT BACK TO US BY JULY 26, 2024

Please provide your name and contact information to ensure our records are up to date.

NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

Please provide feedback about your property after you review the project details and the study segments under consideration to rebuild the power line. Detailed maps of study segments are available at **AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea**.

Feedback example: "There is a family cemetery located along the rebuild section approximately 100 feet west of 345 Broad Street."

_____

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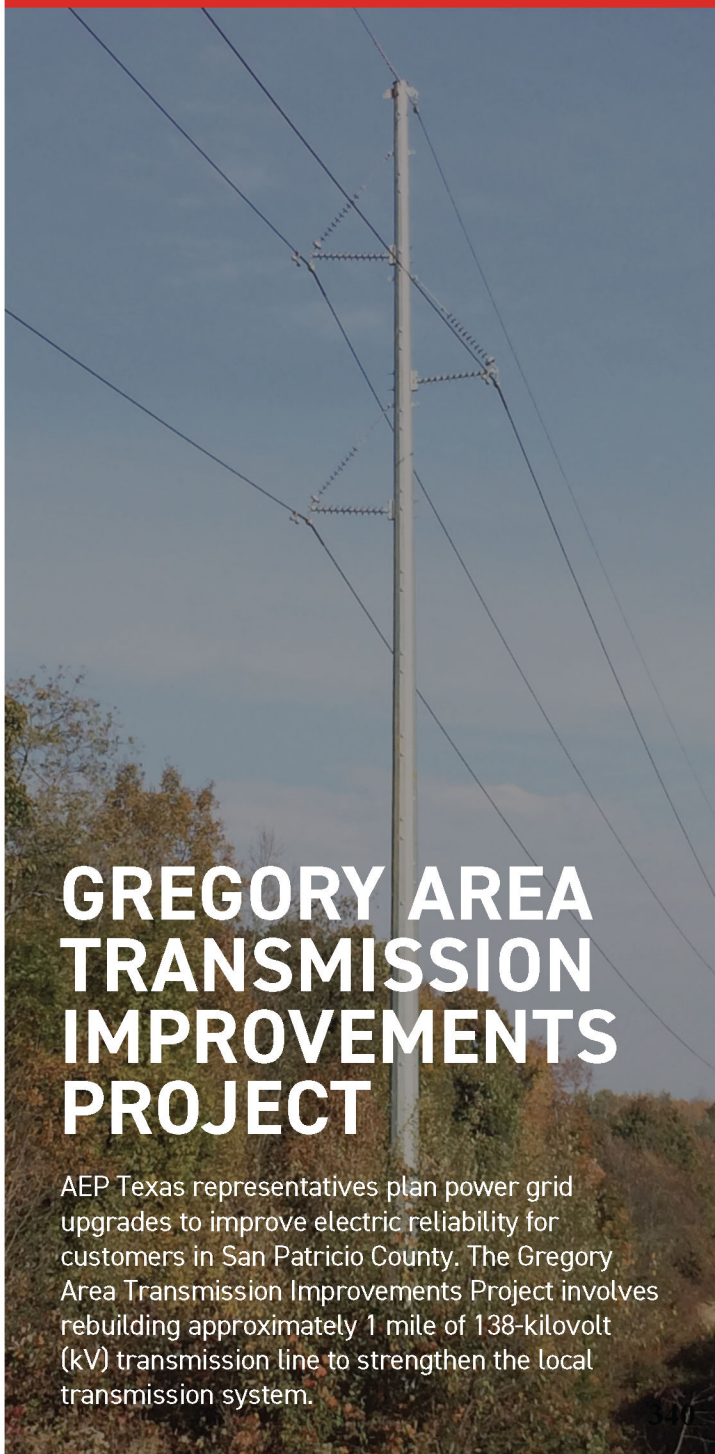
We value your input about this project. You may provide comments by hovering over this QR code with your smartphone camera and clicking on the webpage that appears.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR PROPERTY

539 N Carancahua,
Corpus Christi, TX 78401



GREGORY AREA TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

AEP Texas representatives plan power grid upgrades to improve electric reliability for customers in San Patricio County. The Gregory Area Transmission Improvements Project involves rebuilding approximately 1 mile of 138-kilovolt (kV) transmission line to strengthen the local transmission system.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT YOUR PROPERTY

Dear Neighbor,

You are receiving this letter because you own property or live in the area where AEP Texas representatives plan to upgrade the local transmission power grid in San Patricio County.

We recently contacted you about the Gregory Area Improvements Project. The project involves rebuilding and relocating about a mile of 138-kilovolt transmission line in Gregory. These upgrades improve electric reliability, replace deteriorating equipment from the 1970s, support economic development in the area and strengthen the local grid.

We are writing again to request feedback on the preliminary route links by July 26. Your feedback is important to us and helps us determine potential routes that reduce the impact on the community and environment.

You are also able to share your feedback online by visiting **AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea**. On this website you can access project information, view an interactive map, and submit comments. You can also complete and return the attached, removable comment card and mail it back to us.

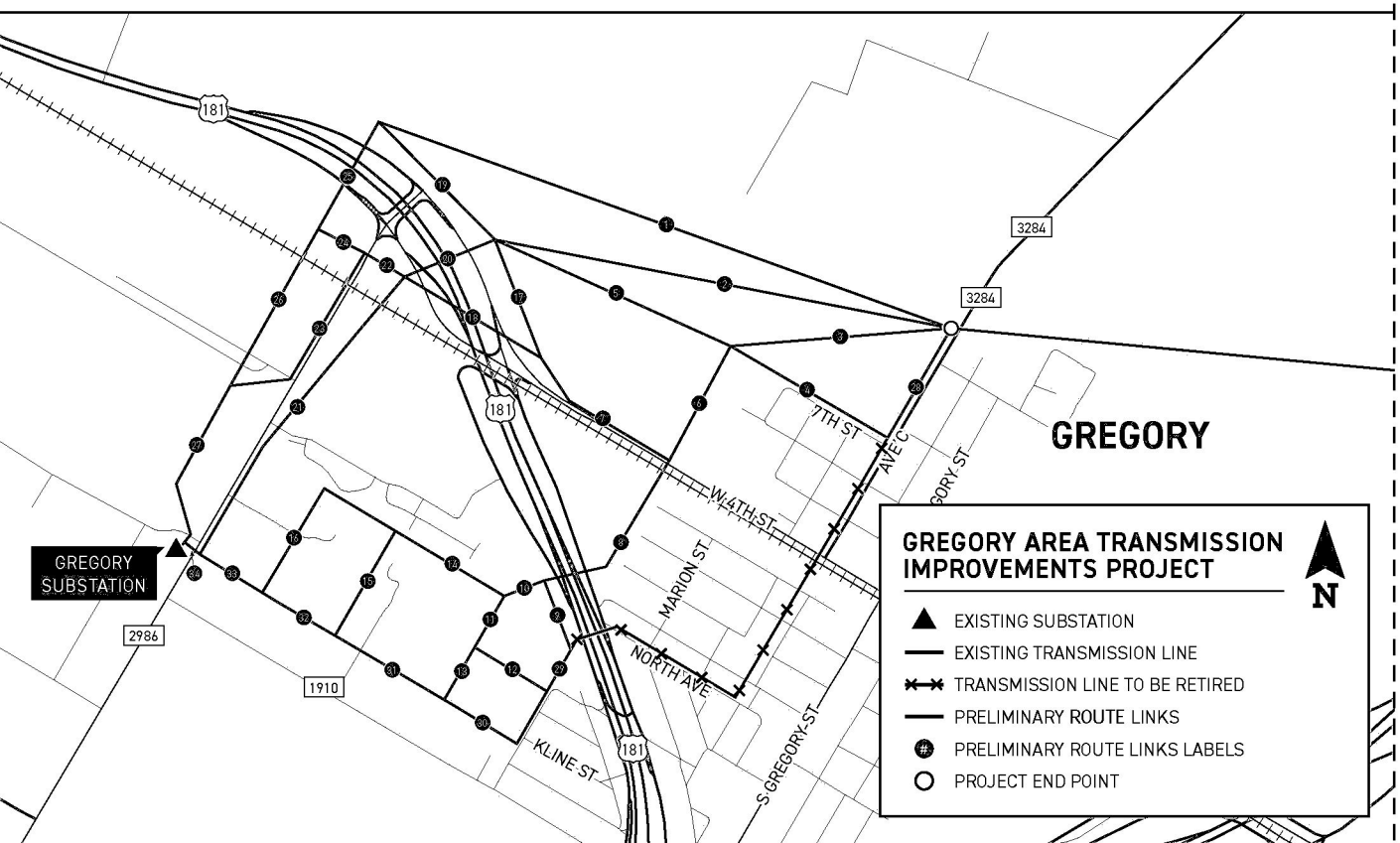
When sharing your input please feel free to include information about your property, such as:

- Historically significant buildings or landmarks such as cemeteries
- Natural features such as wetlands or springs
- Future plans for your property

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

ADRIANA KNIGHT
Project Outreach Specialist
833-329-4865 · AEPTexasOutreach@aep.com
AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea



AEP TEXAS
An AEP Company

ATTN: Adirana Knight
Project Outreach Specialist
539 N Carancahua,
Corpus Christi, TX 78401

¿PREGUNTAS O COMENTARIOS?

POR FAVOR, LLENE ESTE PANEL, RETÍRLO Y ENVÍENOS POR CORREO ANTES DEL 26 DE JULIO DE 2024.

Proporcione su nombre e información de contacto para asegurarse de que nuestros registros estén actualizados.

NOMBRE: _____

EMAIL: _____

TELÉFONO: _____

Proporcione comentarios sobre su propiedad después de revisar los detalles del proyecto y los segmentos de estudio bajo consideración para reconstruir la línea eléctrica. Los mapas detallados de los segmentos del estudio están disponibles en **AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea**.

Ejemplo de comentarios: "Hay un cementerio familiar ubicado a lo largo de la sección de reconstrucción aproximadamente a 100 pies al oeste de 345 Broad Street".

_____

_____

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Valoramos sus comentarios sobre este proyecto. Puede proporcionar comentarios pasando el cursor sobre este código QR con la cámara de su teléfono inteligente y haciendo clic en la página web que aparece.

INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE SOBRE SU PROPIEDAD

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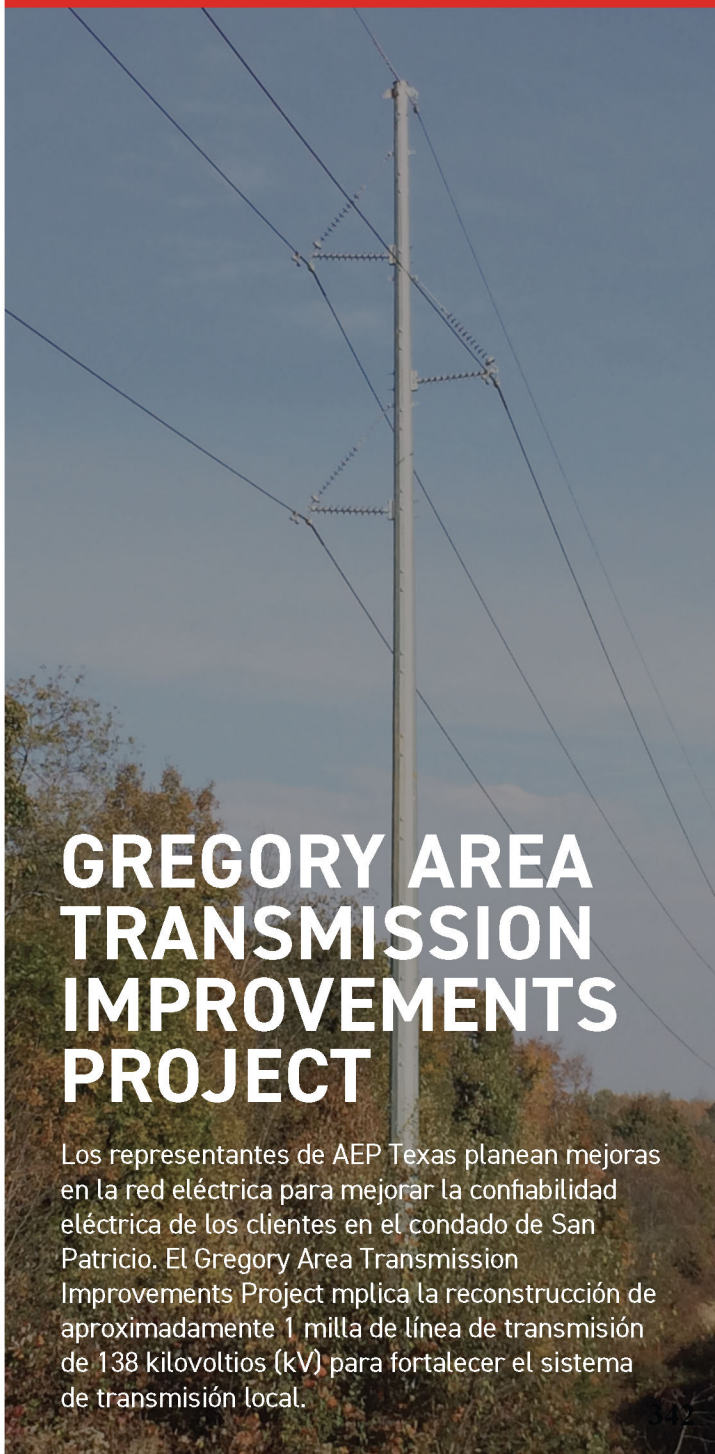
Corpus Christi, TX 78401

AEP TEXAS
An AEP Company



GREGORY AREA TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Los representantes de AEP Texas planean mejoras en la red eléctrica para mejorar la confiabilidad eléctrica de los clientes en el condado de San Patricio. El Gregory Area Transmission Improvements Project mplica la reconstrucción de aproximadamente 1 milla de línea de transmisión de 138 kilovoltios (kV) para fortalecer el sistema de transmisión local.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT YOUR PROPERTY

Querido vecino,
Usted recibe esta carta porque es propietario de una propiedad o vive en el área donde los representantes de AEP Texas planean mejorar la red eléctrica de transmisión local en el condado de San Patricio.

Recientemente nos comunicamos con usted sobre el Gregory Area Improvements Project. El proyecto implica reconstruir y reubicar aproximadamente una milla de línea de transmisión de 138 kilovoltios en Gregory. Estas mejoras mejoran la confiabilidad eléctrica, reemplazan los equipos deteriorados de la década de 1970, apoyan el desarrollo económico en el área y fortalecen la red local.

Le escribimos nuevamente para solicitar comentarios sobre los enlaces de rutas preliminares antes del 26 de julio. Sus comentarios son importantes para nosotros y nos ayudan a determinar rutas potenciales para reducir el impacto en la comunidad y el medio ambiente.

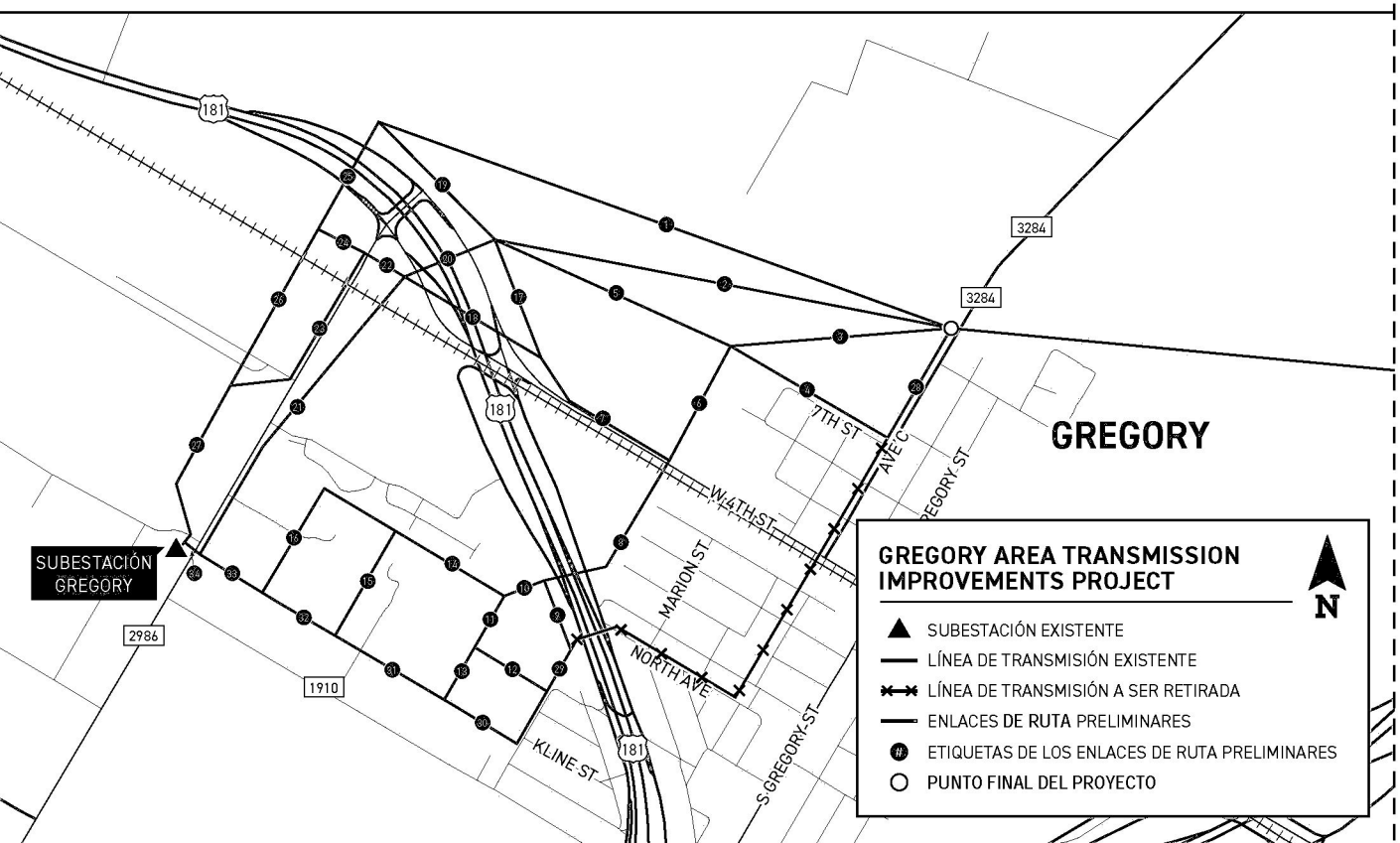
También puede compartir sus comentarios en línea visitando **AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea**. En este sitio web puede acceder a información del proyecto, ver un mapa interactivo y enviar comentarios. También puede completar y devolver la tarjeta de comentarios extraíble adjunta y enviárnosla por correo.

Al compartir su opinión, no dude en incluir información sobre su propiedad, como por ejemplo:

- Edificios o puntos de referencia de importancia histórica, como cementerios.
- Características naturales como humedales o manantiales.
- Planes futuros para su propiedad

No dude en ponerse en contacto conmigo si tiene alguna pregunta.

Sinceramente,
ADRIANA KNIGHT
Especialista en Divulgación de Proyectos
833-329-4865 · AEPTexasOutreach@aep.com
AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea



AEP TEXAS
An AEP Company

ATTN: Adirana Knight
Project Outreach Specialist
539 N Carancahua,
Corpus Christi, TX 78401

COPIES OF PROJECT WEBSITE

AEP TEXAS
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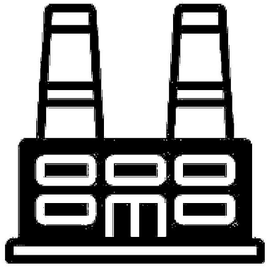
HOW THE SYSTEM WORKS

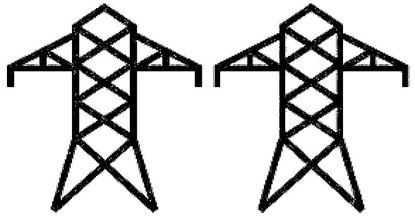
HIGH VOLTAGE

LOCAL TRANSMISSION >>



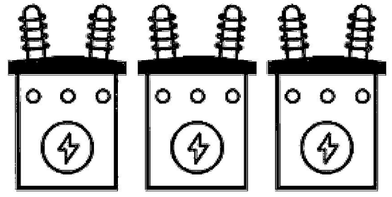
1) GENERATION STATIONS

Utilities produce electricity at coal, natural gas, nuclear, wind and hydro-electric power stations and then transports it long distances over transmission lines.



2) EHV TRANSMISSION

Extra High Voltage (EHV) electric transmission lines are generally 345 kilovolt (kV), 138 kV, and 69 kV on AEP Texas' system.



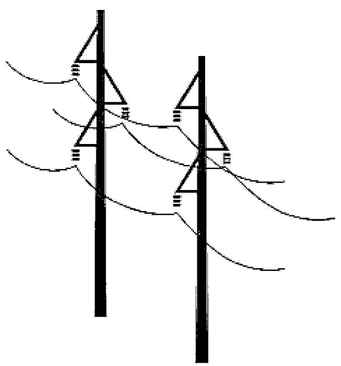
3) SUBSTATIONS

Substations direct the flow of electricity and either decrease or increase voltage levels for transport.

HOW THE SYSTEM WORKS

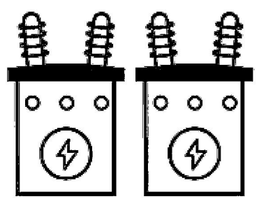
LOCAL TRANSMISSION

DISTRIBUTION >>



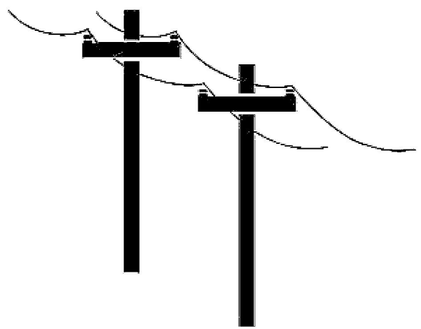
4) LOCAL TRANSMISSION

AEP Texas typically uses transmission lines to move power shorter distances - for example, to different parts of a city or county.



5) SUBSTATION

Substations transform 69 kV and 138 kV electricity into lower distribution level voltages such as 34.5 kV, 12 kV, or 7.2 kV.

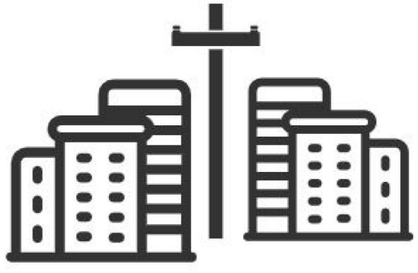


6) PRIMARY DISTRIBUTION

These main lines (also called circuits) connect substations to large parts of the community.

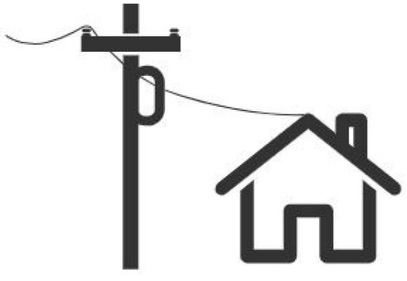
HOW THE SYSTEM WORKS

DISTRIBUTION



7) LATERAL DISTRIBUTION

These smaller capacity lines deliver electricity to neighborhoods and other smaller groups of customers.



8) INDIVIDUAL SERVICE

Smaller transformers step down voltage to levels customers can use 120/240 volts is typical for an individual residence.

TO USE AN ANALOGY, ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION IS SIMILAR TO OUR NATIONAL ROAD SYSTEM. THREE KINDS OF POWER LINES EXIST BETWEEN POWER PLANTS AND HOMES AND BUSINESSES:

- Extra-high Voltage (EHV) lines are like electrical interstate highways.
- High-voltage local transmission lines are like four-lane roads.
- Distribution lines are like two-lane roads that eventually connect to your driveway.

PROJECT NEED & BENEFITS

WHY IS THE PROJECT IMPORTANT TO OUR COMMUNITY?

MODERN EQUIPMENT

The proposed project replaces deteriorating equipment from the 1970s addressing age-related conditions on the power line that can lead to system outages for customers.

IMPROVED RELIABILITY

The transmission improvements modernize the electric system to allow more flexibility to address the area's growing power demand and ensures reliable power, reducing the likelihood and duration of outages for area customers.

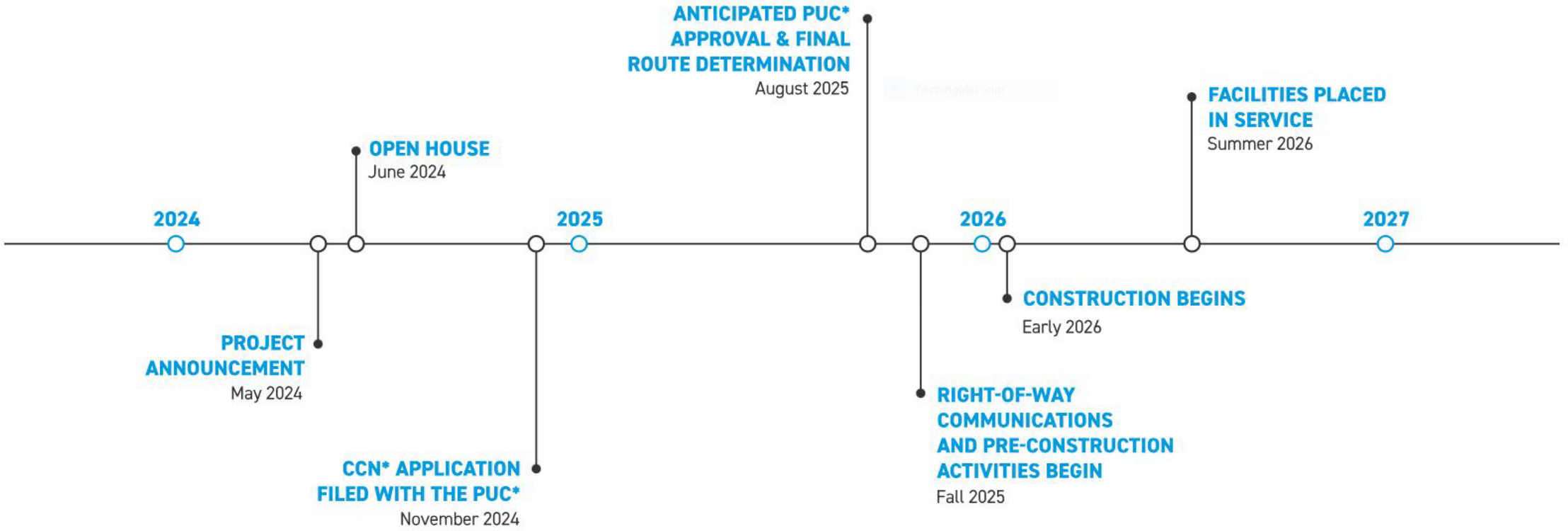
STRENGTHENS LOCAL GRID

The proposed upgrades ensure safe and reliable electric service and meet current engineering and safety standards.

0:07 / 0:35

Download Audio

PROJECT SCHEDULE



*CCN: Certificate of Convenience and Necessity; PUC: Public Utility Commission of Texas
**Timeline Subject to Change.

0:12 / 0:29

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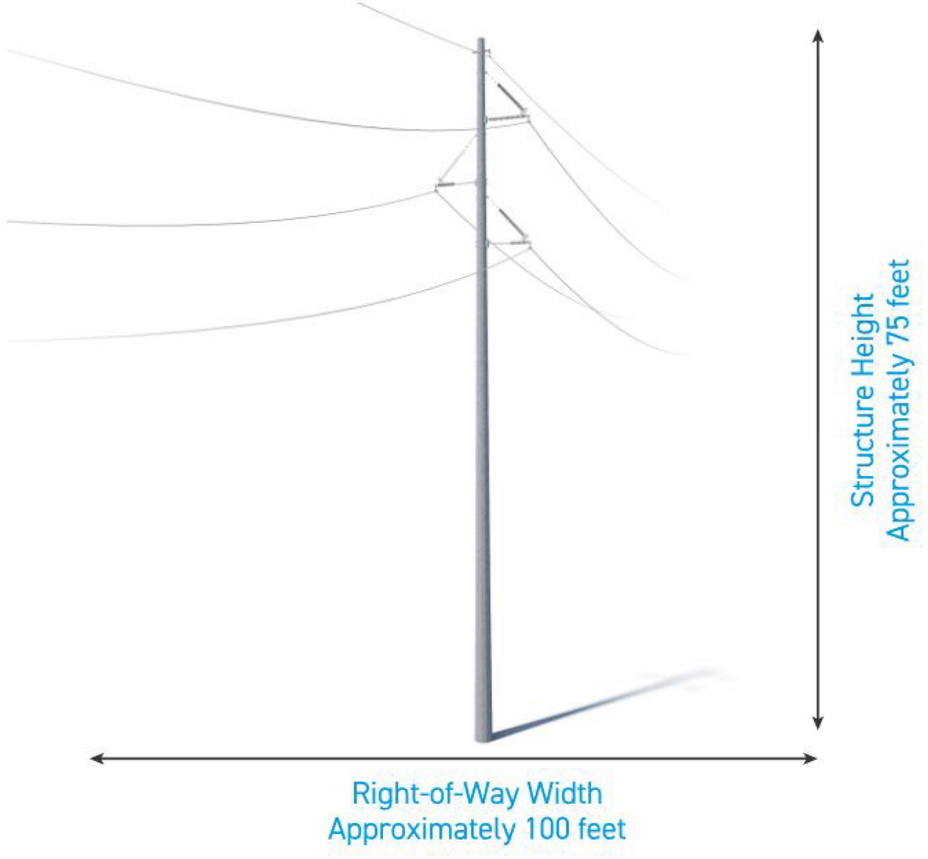
PROPOSED STRUCTURES



AEP Texas crews plan to install single concrete poles on this project.

Typical Structure Height: Approximately 75 feet
Typical Distance Between Structures: Approximately 400 feet
Typical Right-of-Way Width: Approximately 100 feet

*Exact structure, height, and right-of-way requirements may vary.

0:13 / 0:31

Download Audio

RIGHT-OF-WAY

AEP TEXAS HAS TWO KEY PHILOSOPHIES THAT PERTAIN TO POWER LINE RIGHTS-OF-WAY:

1 Routes should cause the least possible disturbance to people and the environment.

2 Property owners should be fairly compensated for any land rights that must be acquired.

0:08 / 0:31

Download Audio

RIGHT-OF-WAY

AEP Texas studies the land and, wherever possible, proposes routes that reduce impacts on property owners. AEP Texas reaches out to landowners in the following ways:

TO GAIN RIGHT-OF-ENTRY TO BEGIN:

- Environmental assessments
- Appraisal work
- Land surveying, soil boring and below grade study
- Cultural and historic resource reviews

TO SECURE RIGHT-OF-WAY AND COMMUNICATE:

- Landowner compensation
- Terms and conditions of easement
- Width of the right-of-way

TO OUTLINE AEP TEXAS' CONSTRUCTION PROCESS WITH A SPECIFIC FOCUS ON:

- Property restoration
- Damage mitigation as appropriate

0:31 / 0:31

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VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

WHAT IS VEGETATION MANAGEMENT?

The practice of controlling the growth of trees and other woody stemmed vegetation in line corridors and around substations, while maintaining respect for the environment.

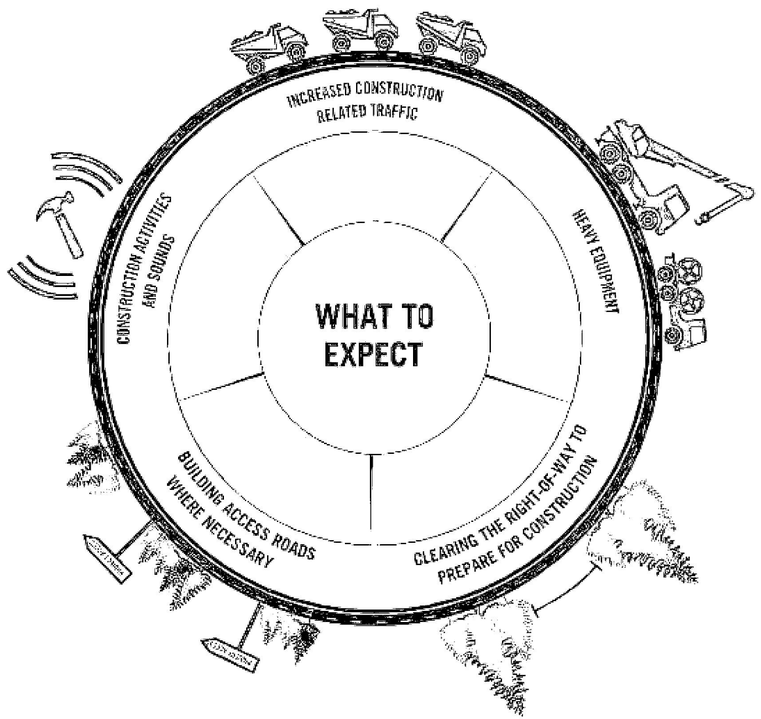
WHY IS IT DONE?

To minimize power outages caused by trees and other plants coming into contact with power lines.

THE GOALS OF AEP TEXAS' VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ARE TO:

- Protect our system and minimize outages
- Minimize any adverse environmental impacts
- Ensure compliance with all applicable laws and regulations
- Perform our work as safely as possible
- Maintain a positive relationship with land owners and the public

CONSTRUCTION PROCESS



AEP Texas understands the work related to transmission grid improvements can sometimes be an inconvenience. That's why we make every effort during the construction process to be respectful of the environment and our neighbors, while safely working to ensure reliable electric service.

AEP Texas plans to work with individual property owners throughout the construction process. Team members will provide details of upcoming work and listen to customer feedback on how we can lessen the impact of our work. In the event damages should occur during the construction process, we will work to restore property as close to its original state as possible.

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TRANSMISSION ROUTING PROCESS

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT & ROUTING STUDY:

DEFINE STUDY AREA

- Based on the end points for the transmission line
- Large enough for an adequate number of geographically diverse routes

IDENTIFY ROUTING CONSTRAINTS

- Obtain aerial photos of the study area
- Request information from federal, state, and local agencies
- Gather information regarding natural, cultural, and human resources
- Gather data from published literature and on-ground inspection
- Gather property boundary information from public records
- Identify potential constraint areas such as communities, subdivisions, airports
- Identify environmental and land-use constraints
- Identify compatible routing opportunities such as existing utility corridors

ESTABLISH ALTERNATIVE ROUTES:

INVITE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

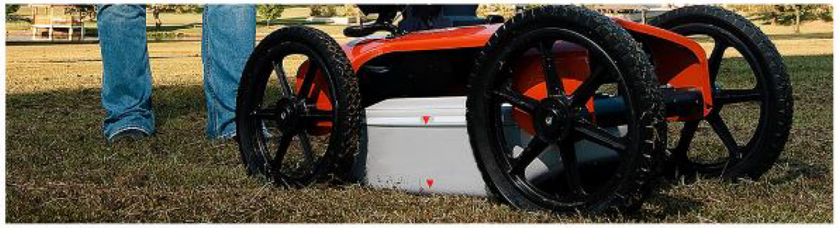
- Notify landowners of project and open house meetings
- Provide maps showing potential preliminary routing links
- Hold open house meetings to describe the project and solicit input
- Evaluate input from open house meeting attendees and comment cards
- Respond to inquiries
- Evaluate any additional input from the public, local officials, and agencies
- Revise preliminary routing links as necessary
- Produce alternative routes using retained links for final review

EVALUATE ALTERNATIVE ROUTES CONSIDERING FACTORS SUCH AS:

- Environment
- Compatible Easements
- Parks & Recreational Areas
- Engineering Constraints
- Land Use
- Apparent Property Boundaries
- Historical & Archaeological Lines
- Cost

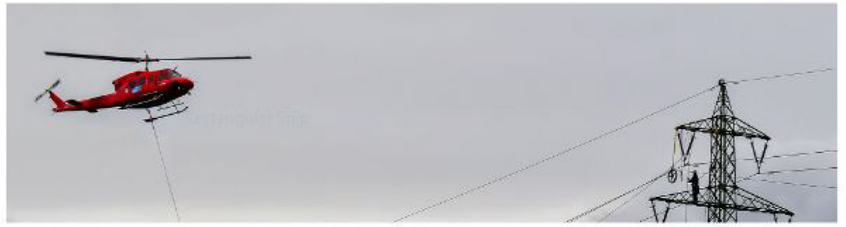
SELECT ALTERNATIVE ROUTES FOR FILING

FIELD ACTIVITIES



GROUND PENETRATING RADAR

Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) helps identify the location of underground utilities. A device that looks similar to a lawnmower, and is nondestructive to the soil, uses radio frequencies to detect objects below the ground's surface. Maps and images are created from the data.

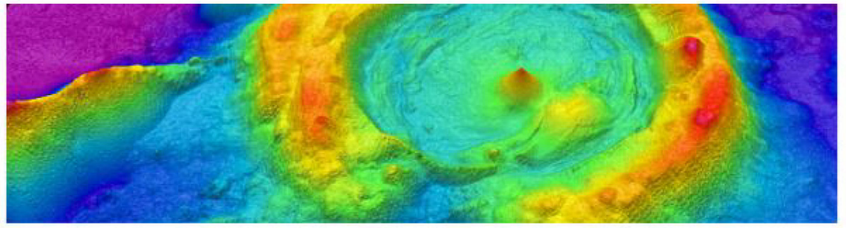


HELICOPTER

Challenging terrain or other restrictions/obstructions can make accessing certain parts of a project area difficult. In these locations, crews use helicopters to install structures, string conductors, per form line work and maintain electric facilities. Company representatives work with local media out lets to communicate these activities to the public.

HYDRO EXCAVATION

Crews use hydro excavation (hydrovac) in areas where many underground utilities are located near each other. This process involves using pressurized water to break down soil to expose underground utilities. Afterward, crews backfill the area. The process helps prevent damage to underground infrastructure while gathering important information.



LIDAR

LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) uses laser pulses to measure the distance of an object to the source. The data points result in digital 3D maps for accurate design and engineering. LiDAR surveying crews use mobile (car or aerial vehicle) or static (tripod) equipment.

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FIELD ACTIVITIES

SOIL BORINGS

Field crews use a drill to bring up soil samples and then backfill the holes. Testing the core samples helps determine soil conditions in the area. Soil conditions and types can affect structure location and foundation design.

CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Field crews walk the area and conduct multiple excavation tests to identify historical and archaeo logical artifacts. Landowners also provide information about their property to survey crews.

ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY

Surveyors collect information about the habitats and physical attributes of the project area. They also look for ecological concerns like wetlands, flood plains and forests. This process can help protect endangered species, such as the Indiana Bat and American Burying Beetle.

UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES (DRONES)

Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), or drones, perform aerial inspections and safely gather data and detailed images of electric facilities. Company employees and vendors comply with all commercial Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) guidelines. Company representatives work with local media outlets to communicate these activities to the public.

FIELD ACTIVITIES

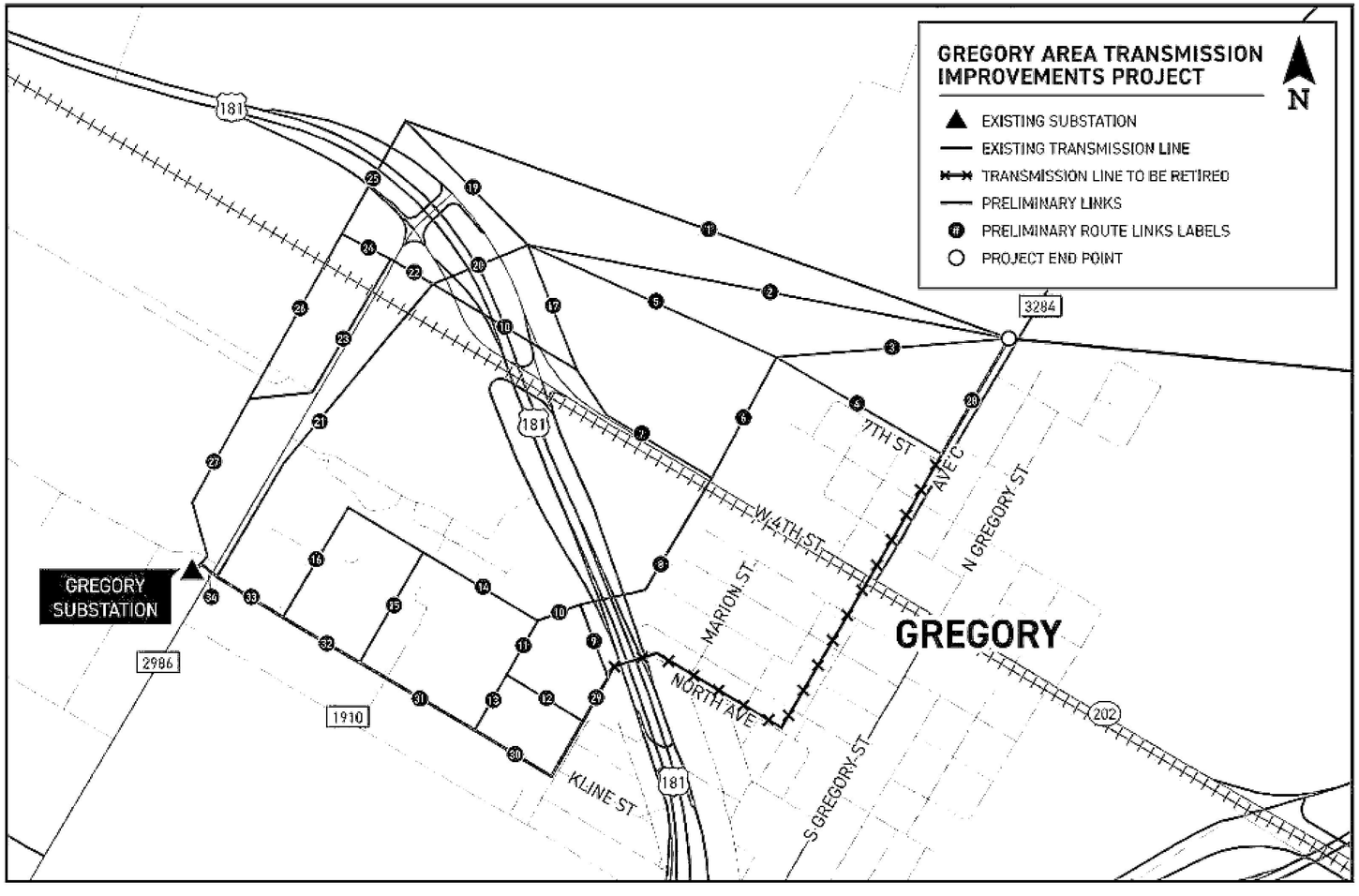
STAKING

- Field crews use staking to mark the project area, identify utility equipment and pinpoint future structure locations. This process essentially transfers engineering and construction plans to the field.
- Right-of-way crews use staking to identify parcel boundaries, easement boundaries and other utility locations within the company's rights-of-way.
- Environmental crews use staking to identify wetlands or other environmentally sensitive areas.

FIELD SURVEY

- Field survey crews help determine an appropriate route for a new transmission line by identifying constraints within the project area.
- Engineers conduct extensive studies of the terrain and soil to determine what types of structures and foundations are most suitable. They also gather information to create digital 3D maps of the project area to help engineer and design the project.

PROJECT MAP


GREGORY AREA TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
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EXISTING SUBSTATION
EXISTING TRANSMISSION LINE
TRANSMISSION LINE TO BE RETIRED
PRELIMINARY LINKS
PRELIMINARY ROUTE LINKS LABELS
PROJECT END POINT
GREGORY SUBSTATION
GREGORY
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W 4TH ST
MARION ST
NORTH AVE
S GREGORY ST
KLINE ST

TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT REVIEW PROCESS

A transmission addition is determined necessary for service reliability or connection of new load/generation.

TRANSMISSION ROUTING PROCESS:

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND ROUTING STUDY

- Define study area
- Identify routing link constraints

ESTABLISH PRELIMINARY ROUTING LINKS

- Invite public involvement (tonight's Open House)
- Finalize links, develop routes

SELECT ALTERNATIVE ROUTES FOR FILING

PUC APPROVAL PROCESS:

AEP TEXAS FILES APPLICATION AT PUC

- Direct mail notice of application to landowners, local public officials, and electric utilities
- Publication of notice in local newspaper
- 45-Days intervention period

IF NO HEARING IS REQUESTED

- Application approved administratively 180 days

IF HEARING IS REQUESTED

- Application processed within 180 days
- Hearing be administrative law judge (ALJ)
- ALJ makes recommendation to PUC

PUC MAKES THE FINAL DECISION:

- Approve or deny application
- If approved, decides location of approved route

0:11 / 0:34

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AGENCIES CONTACTED

FEDERAL

- Department of Defense Military Aviation and Installation Assurance Siting Clearinghouse
- Federal Aviation Administration
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- National Parks Service
- NRCS Texas State Office
- United States Army Corps of Engineers
  - Galveston District
  - Corpus Christi Field Office
- United States Environmental Protection Agency

ESTATAL

- Railroad Commission of Texas
- Texas General Land Office
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Texas Department of Transportation
  - Aviation Division
  - Environmental Affairs Division
  - Transportation Planning & Programming
  - Corpus Christi District Engineer
- Texas Historical Commission
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Texas Water Development Board

FUNCIONARIOS LOCALES

- Cuidad de Gregory
- Gregory-Portland Independent School District
- Funcionarios del Condado de San Patricio
- McCampbell-Porter-Ingleside Airport
- San Patricio County Drainage District
- San Patricio County Historical Commission
- San Patricio Municipal Water District

ORGANIZACIONES ADICIONALES

- Coastal Bend Audubon Society
- Coastal Bend Council of Governments
- Texas Agricultural Land Trust
- Texas Land Conservancy
- Texas Land Trust Council
- The Nature Conservancy of Texas

0:08 / 0:19

Download Audio

ENVIRONMENTAL & LAND USE CRITERIA FOR TRANSMISSION LINE EVALUATION

LAND USE

Length of:
- Alternative route
- Route utilizing existing transmission line right-of-way (ROW)
- Route parallel and adjacent to existing transmission line ROW
- Route parallel and adjacent to other existing ROW (roadways, highways, railways, canals, etc.)
- Route parallel and adjacent to apparent property lines[2] (or other natural or cultural features, etc.)
- Route across parks/recreational areas[3]
- Route across cropland
- Route across pasture/rangeland
- Route across land irrigated by traveling systems (rolling or pivot type)
- Route parallel to existing pipeline ROW <500 feet from route centerline

Number of:
- Habitable structures[1] within 300 feet of route centerline
- Additional parks/recreational areas[3] within 1,000 feet of route centerline
- Pipeline crossings
- Transmission line crossings
- Interstate, United States, and State highway crossings
- Farm-to-Market (FM) road crossings
- Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)-registered airports[4] with at least one runway more than 3,200 feet in length located within 20,000 feet of route centerline
- FAA-registered airports[4] having no runway more than 3,200 feet in length located within 10,000 feet of route centerline
- Private airstrips within 10,000 feet of route centerline
- Heliports within 5,000 feet of route centerline
- Commercial AM radio transmitters within 10,000 feet of route centerline
- FM radio transmitters, microwave towers, and other electronic installations within 2,000 feet of route centerline
- Recorded water wells within 200 feet of route centerline
- Recorded oil and gas wells within 200 feet of route centerline

Sum of evaluation criteria 3, 4, 5, and 6
Percent of evaluation criteria 3, 4, 5, and 6

[1]Single-family and multi-family dwellings, mobile homes, apartment buildings, commercial structures, industrial structures, business structures, places of worship, hospitals, nursing homes, and schools, or other structures normally inhabited by humans or intended to be inhabited by humans on a daily or regular basis within 300 feet of the centerline of a transmission project of 230 kV or less.

[2]Apparent property boundaries created by existing roads, highways, or railroad ROWs are not "double-counted" in the length of route parallel to apparent property boundaries criteria.

[3]Defined as parks and recreational areas owned by a governmental body or an organized group, club, or place of worship within 1,000 feet of the centerline of the Project.

[4]As listed in the Chart Supplement South Central US (formerly known as the Airport/Facility Directory South Central US).

[5]One-half mile, unobstructed. Lengths of route within the foreground visual zone of Interstates, United States, and State Highway criteria are not "double-counted" in the length of route within the foreground visual zone of FM roads criteria.

[6]One-half mile, unobstructed. Lengths of route within the foreground visual zone of parks/recreational areas may overlap with the total lengths of route within the foreground visual zone of interstate, United States, and State highway criteria and/or with the total lengths of route within the foreground visual zone of FM roads criteria.

All measurements are shown in miles unless noted otherwise.

ENVIRONMENTAL & LAND USE CRITERIA FOR TRANSMISSION LINE EVALUATION

AESTHETICS

Estimated length of route within foreground visual zone[5] of:
- Interstate, United States, and State highways
- FM roads

Estimated length of route within foreground visual zone[5,6] of parks/recreational areas[3]

ECOLOGY

Length of route across:
- Upland woodlands/brushlands
- Bottomland/riparian woodlands
- National Wetlands Inventory-mapped wetlands
- Known critical habitat of federally listed threatened or endangered species
- Open water (lakes, ponds, etc.)
- 100-year floodplains

Number of:
- Stream/canal crossings
- River crossings

Length of route parallel (within 100 feet) to streams or rivers

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Number of:
- Cemeteries within 1,000 feet of route centerline
- Recorded archeological and historic resources crossed by route ROW
- Additional recorded archeological and historic resources within 1,000 feet of route centerline
- NRHP-listed or determined-eligible resources crossed by route ROW
- Additional NRHP-listed or determined-eligible resources within 1,000 feet of route centerline

Length of route across areas of high archeological site potential

[1]Single-family and multi-family dwellings, mobile homes, apartment buildings, commercial structures, industrial structures, business structures, places of worship, hospitals, nursing homes, and schools, or other structures normally inhabited by humans or intended to be inhabited by humans on a daily or regular basis within 300 feet of the centerline of a transmission project of 230 kV or less.

[2]Apparent property boundaries created by existing roads, highways, or railroad ROWs are not "double-counted" in the length of route parallel to apparent property boundaries criteria.

[3]Defined as parks and recreational areas owned by a governmental body or an organized group, club, or place of worship within 1,000 feet of the centerline of the Project.

[4]As listed in the Chart Supplement South Central US (formerly known as the Airport/Facility Directory South Central US).

[5]One-half mile, unobstructed. Lengths of route within the foreground visual zone of Interstates, United States, and State Highway criteria are not "double-counted" in the length of route within the foreground visual zone of FM roads criteria.

[6]One-half mile, unobstructed. Lengths of route within the foreground visual zone of parks/recreational areas may overlap with the total lengths of route within the foreground visual zone of interstate, United States, and State highway criteria and/or with the total lengths of route within the foreground visual zone of FM roads criteria.

All measurements are shown in miles unless noted otherwise.

GREGORY AREA
TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

THANK YOU!

Thank you for visiting the project virtual open house. For more information and project updates please visit the project website, or contact us with any additional questions.

REPLAY OPEN HOUSE

DOWNLOAD SLIDE DECK

CONTACT US

VISIT PROJECT WEBSITE

OPEN HOUSE DOOR HANGER

GREGORY AREA TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

JOIN US FOR AN OPEN HOUSE
June 27, 2024 · 5-7 p.m.
Gregory Municipal Complex Community Center
310 Ayers Street, Gregory, TX

PROJECT INFORMATION

AEP Texas representatives plan to upgrade the local transmission power grid in San Patricio County. The Gregory Area Transmission Improvements Project involves rebuilding and relocating about a mile of 138-kilovolt transmission line in Gregory.

PROJECT BENEFITS

The project upgrades improve electric reliability, replace deteriorating equipment from the 1970s, support economic development in the area and strengthen the local grid.

SHARE YOUR INPUT

Please join us from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 27, at Gregory Municipal Complex Community Center. You can view detailed maps and talk with project team members about the preliminary route links. There is no formal presentation so you can arrive at any time during the event. Spanish-speaking representatives and informational materials will also be available at the open house.

If you can't attend the in-person open house, you may visit the virtual open house at AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea to access project information, view an interactive map and submit comments. Please share your input by July 26, 2024.

No final line route has been determined.

Adriana Knight
Project Outreach Specialist
AEPTexasOutreach@aep.com
833-329-4865
AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea

AEP TEXAS
An AEP Company

GREGORY AREA TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Acompañenos en la Casa Abierta
June 27, 2024 · 5-7 p.m.
Gregory Municipal Complex Community Center
310 Ayers Street, Gregory, TX

INFORMACIÓN DEL PROYECTO

Los representantes de AEP Texas planean mejorar la red eléctrica de transmisión local en el condado de San Patricio. El Gregory Area Transmission Improvements Project implica reconstruir y reubicar aproximadamente una milla de línea de transmisión de 138 kilovoltios en Gregory.

BENEFICIOS DEL PROYECTO

Las mejoras del proyecto mejoran la confiabilidad eléctrica, reemplazan los equipos deteriorados de la década de 1970, apoyan el desarrollo económico en el área y fortalecen la red local.

COMPARTE TUS COMENTARIOS

Únase a nosotros desde las 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. el jueves 27 de junio en el Gregory Municipal Complex Community Center. Puede ver mapas detallados y hablar con los miembros del equipo del proyecto sobre los enlaces de ruta preliminares. No hay presentación formal por lo que puedes llegar en cualquier momento durante el evento. Representantes de que hablan español y materiales informativos también estarán disponibles en la casa abierta.

Si no puede asistir a la casa abierta en persona, puede visitar la casa abierta virtual en AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea para acceder la información del proyecto, ver un mapa interactivo y enviar comentarios. Comparta sus comentarios antes del 26 de julio de 2024.

No se ha determinado la ruta final de la línea.

Adriana Knight
Project Outreach Specialist
AEPTexasOutreach@aep.com
833-329-4865
AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea

AEP TEXAS
An AEP Company

PRINTED PUBLIC RELEASE

AEP TEXAS
An AEP Company

May 31, 2024

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR PROPERTY
«Name_1» «Name_2»
«Mailing_Address»
«City», «State» «Zip_Code»

RE: Gregory Area Transmission Improvements Project Open House Invitation

Dear Neighbor,

You are receiving this letter because you own property or live in the area where AEP Texas representatives plan to upgrade the local transmission power grid in San Patricio County. We want to share information about the proposed upgrades and invite you to an open house to learn more.

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK

Please join us on Thursday, June 27, from 5-7 p.m. at the Gregory Municipal Complex Community Center located at 310 Ayers Street in Gregory.

See more information below.

The Gregory Area Transmission Improvements Project involves rebuilding and relocating about a mile of 138-kilovolt transmission line in Gregory.

The proposed project replaces deteriorating equipment from the 1970s addressing age-related conditions on the power line that can lead to system outages for customers. The improvements modernize the electric system to allow more flexibility to address the area's growing power demand and ensures reliable power. The updates reduce the likelihood and duration of outages for area customers. Additionally, the project allows the project team to review and identify potential shifts in the transmission line route to avoid encroachments within the existing right-of-way. This is necessary to ensure safe and reliable electric service and meet current engineering and safety standards.

The Public Utility Commission (PUC) requires AEP Texas officials to file a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) application for review and approval of the project. The PUC determines the final line route following the review of the CCN application. AEP Texas representatives plan to file a CCN application for the project this fall and expect to receive a response on the project from the PUC by **summer 2025**.

AEP Texas representatives are evaluating preliminary route links in the area for the proposed power line. Each preliminary route link represents an option for the PUC to consider when selecting a final transmission line route.

AEP Texas representatives invite you to learn more about this project and share your input on the route development process in the ways listed below.

AEP TEXAS
An AEP Company

IN-PERSON OPEN HOUSE: Join us on **Thursday, June 27, from 5-7 p.m.** at the **Gregory Municipal Complex Community Center** located **at 310 Ayers Street** in Gregory. At the open house, you can view detailed maps and talk with team members about the preliminary route links. We encourage visitors to bring the attached comment form to the meeting to provide comments to the team after reviewing maps. There will be no formal presentation, so you can arrive at any time during the event.

VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE: If you can't attend the in-person open house or are feeling unwell, you may visit the virtual open house at **AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea** to access project information, view an interactive map and submit comments.

ALTERNATE WAYS TO PROVIDE INPUT OR CONTACT THE PROJECT TEAM:

- Call **833-329-4865** to leave a message with your feedback or questions for the project team.
- Email your input or questions to AEPTexasOutreach@aep.com
- Review the enclosed fact sheet and FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions), complete the enclosed property information comment form and mail it back to us in the envelope provided.
- Submit comments to the project team through the interactive map on the project website.

When sharing your input please feel free to include information about your property, such as:

- Historically significant buildings or landmarks such as cemeteries
- Natural features such as wetlands or springs
- Future plans for your property

To learn more about the project, please visit **AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea**. **Please share your input by July 26, 2024**. We welcome and encourage your feedback about this project.

Sincerely,

AKnight

Adriana Knight
Project Outreach Specialist
833-329-4865
AEPTexasOutreach@aep.com

Para obtener más información en español, visite AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea

el 31 de mayo de 2024

INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE SOBRE SU PROPIEDA
«Name_1» «Name_2»
«Mailing_Address»
«City», «State» «Zip_Code»

RE: Gregory Area Transmission Improvements Project Invitación para Casa Abierta

Querido vecino,

Usted recibe esta carta porque es propietario de una propiedad o vive en el área donde los representantes de AEP Texas planean mejorar la red eléctrica de transmisión local en el condado de San Patricio. Queremos compartir información sobre las mejoras propuestas e invitarlo a una casa abierta para obtener más información.

QUEREMOS SUS COMENTARIOS

Únase a nosotros el jueves 27 de junio de 5 a 7 p. m. en el Gregory Municipal Complex Community Center ubicado en 310 Ayers Street en Gregory.

Vea más información a continuación.

El Gregory Area Transmission Improvements Project implica la reconstrucción y reubicación de aproximadamente una milla de línea de transmisión de 138 kilovoltios en Gregory.

El proyecto propuesto reemplaza el equipo deteriorado de la década de 1970 y aborda las condiciones relacionadas con el envejecimiento en la línea eléctrica que pueden provocar cortes del sistema para los clientes. Las mejoras modernizan el sistema eléctrico para permitir una mayor flexibilidad para abordar la creciente demanda de energía del área y garantizar una energía confiable. Las actualizaciones reducen la probabilidad y la duración de las interrupciones para los clientes del área. Además, el proyecto permite al equipo del proyecto revisar e identificar posibles cambios en la ruta de la línea de transmisión para intrusiones en el derecho de paso existente. Esto es necesario para garantizar un servicio eléctrico seguro y confiable y cumplir con los estándares actuales de ingeniería y seguridad.

La Comisión de Servicios Públicos (PUC) requiere que los funcionarios de AEP Texas presenten una solicitud de Certificado de Conveniencia y Necesidad (CCN) para la revisión y aprobación del proyecto. La PUC determina el recorrido final de la línea tras la revisión de la solicitud del CCN. Los representantes de AEP Texas planean presentar una solicitud de CCN para el proyecto este otoño y esperan recibir una respuesta de la PUC sobre el proyecto para el **verano de 2025**.

Los representantes de AEP Texas están evaluando enlaces de rutas preliminares en el área para la línea eléctrica propuesta. Cada enlace de ruta preliminar representa una opción que la PUC debe considerar al seleccionar una ruta final de línea de transmisión.

An AEP Company

Los representantes de AEP Texas lo invitan a conocer más sobre este proyecto y compartir sus comentarios sobre el proceso de desarrollo de rutas de las maneras que se enumeran a continuación.

CASA ABIERTA EN PERSONA: Únase a nosotros **el jueves 27 de junio de 5 a 7 p. m.** en el **Gregory Municipal Complex Community Center** ubicado en **310 Ayers Street** en Gregory. En la casa abierta, podrá ver mapas detallados y hablar con los miembros del equipo sobre los enlaces de ruta preliminares. Alentamos a los visitantes a traer la forma de comentarios adjunta a la reunión para brindar comentarios al equipo después de revisar los mapas. No habrá presentación formal, por lo que podrá llegar en cualquier momento durante el evento.

CASA ABIERTA VIRTUAL: Si no puede asistir a la casa abierta en persona o no se siente bien, puede visitar la casa abierta virtual en **AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea** para acceder a información del proyecto, ver un mapa interactivo y enviar comentarios.

FORMAS ALTERNATIVAS PARA COMENTAR O CONTACTAR AL EQUIPO DEL PROYECTO:

- Llame al **833-329-4865** para dejar un mensaje con sus comentarios o preguntas para el equipo del proyecto.
- Envíe sus comentarios o preguntas por correo electrónico a AEPTexasOutreach@aep.com
- Revise la hoja informativa adjunta y la hoja con preguntas frecuentes, complete el formulario de comentarios de información de propiedad adjunto y envíenoslo por correo en el sobre provisto.
- Enviar comentarios al equipo del proyecto a través del mapa interactivo en el sitio web del proyecto.

Al compartir sus comentarios, no dude en incluir información sobre su propiedad, como, por ejemplo:

- Edificios o puntos de referencia de importancia histórica, como cementerios.
- Características naturales como humedales o manantiales.
- Planes futuros para su propiedad

Para obtener más información sobre el proyecto, visite **AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea**. **Comparta sus comentarios antes del 26 de julio de 2024**. Agradecemos y alentamos sus comentarios sobre este proyecto.

Sinceramente,

AKnight

Adriana Knight
Especialista en Divulgación de Proyectos
833-329-4865
AEPTexasOutreach@aep.com

Para obtener más información en español, visite AEPTexas.com/GregoryArea

APPENDIX C – PROJECT MAPS

FIGURE C-1

Alternative Routes and Link Composition with Environmental Constraints

(USGS Topographic Background)

FIGURE C-1
ALTERNATIVE ROUTES AND LINK COMPOSITION WITH ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRAINTS (USGS TOPOGRAPHIC)

Aransas Pass-to-Gregory 138-kV Transmission Line
San Patricio County

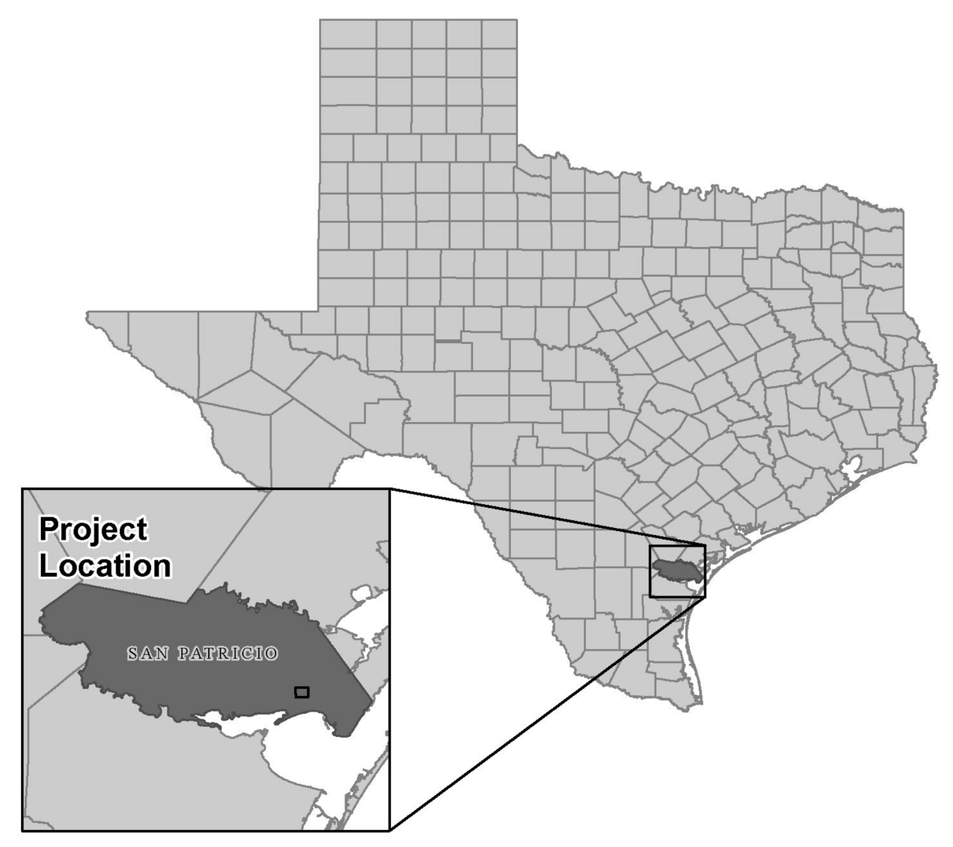
AEP TEXAS

State of Texas
San Patricio County
City of Sinton

NAD 1983 2011 StatePlane Texas South FIPS 4205 Ft US

June 06, 2025

0 — 300 — 600 — 900 — 1,200 Feet



Project Features
- Tap Point
- Primary Link, Node, & ID
- Existing Transmission Line to be Rebuilt
- Existing Substation Boundary
- Study Area

Existing Utilities
- Existing Substations

Existing Land Use Features
- School
- Place of Worship
- Communication Tower
- Wind Turbine
- Oil/Gas Well
- Oil/Gas Pipeline
- Park/Recreation Area

Transportation Features
- Highway
- County/Local Road
- Railroad

Hydrologic Features
- River/Stream (NHD)
- Waterbody (NHD)
- FEMA Flood Hazard
- NWI Mapped Wetland

Cultural Features
- National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)
- Historical Marker

Administrative Boundaries
- City Limit

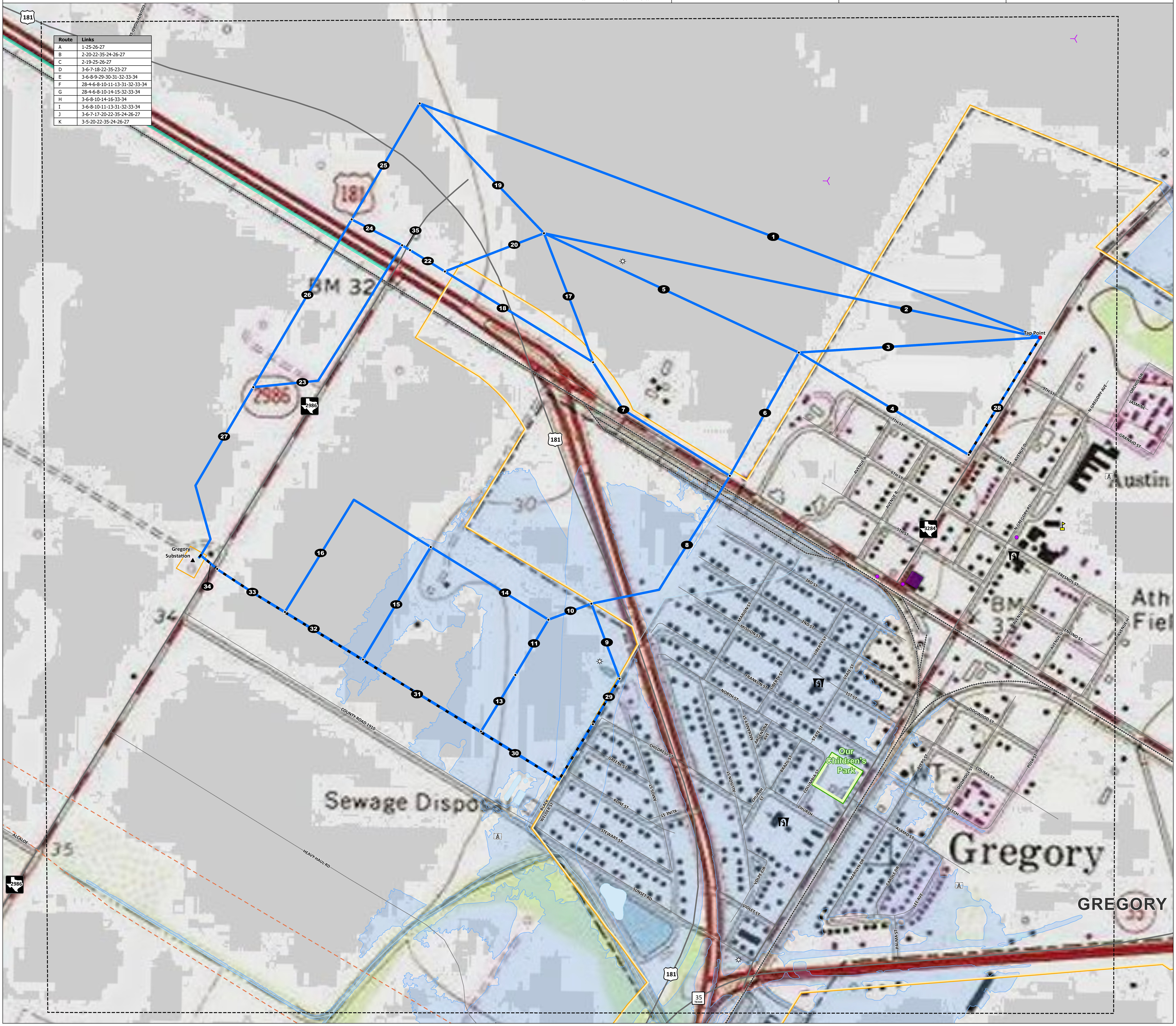
Aerial Photography: Provided by USGS
Date: 2013

Accuracy for Google imagery is approximately ±20 feet.

Some data layers including tract boundaries, roads, and oil/gas pipelines obtained from third-party sources may be inaccurate to varying degrees. These data have not been corrected in all locations and should be used as a general guide to feature locations only. Digitization of proposed transmission line segments was performed based on aerial interpretation of these features.

Some legend symbols are enlarged for easier identification.

Some features are exaggerated to better identify paralleling opportunities.



Route	Links
A	1-25-26-27
B	2-20-22-35-24-26-27
C	2-19-25-26-27
D	3-6-7-18-22-35-23-27
E	3-6-8-9-29-30-31-32-33-34
F	28-4-6-8-10-11-13-31-32-33-34
G	28-4-6-8-10-14-15-32-33-34
H	3-6-8-10-14-16-33-34
I	3-6-8-10-11-13-31-32-33-34
J	3-6-7-17-20-22-35-24-26-27
K	3-5-20-22-35-24-26-27

FIGURE C-2

Alternative Routes and Link Composition with Environmental Constraints

(Aerial Background)

Project Features
- Tap Point
- Primary Link, Node, & ID
- Existing Transmission Line to be Rebuilt
- Existing Substation Boundary
- Study Area

Existing Utilities
- Existing Substations

Existing Land Use Features
- School
- Place of Worship
- Communication Tower
- AM Communication Tower
- Wind Turbine
- Oil/Gas Well
- Oil/Gas Pipeline
- Habitable Structure and Map ID
- Park/Recreation Area

Transportation Features
- Highway
- Local/County Road
- Railroad
- Private Airstrip

Hydrologic Features
- River/Stream (NHD)
- Waterbody (NHD)
- FEMA Flood Hazard
- NWI Mapped Wetland

Cultural Features
- National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)
- Historical Marker

Administrative Boundaries
- City Limit
- Parcel Boundary

Aerial Photography: Provided by ESRI
Date: 2023

Accuracy for ESRI imagery is approximately ±20 feet.

Some data layers including tract boundaries, roads, and oil/gas pipelines obtained from third-party sources may be inaccurate to varying degrees. These data have not been corrected in all locations and should be used as a general guide to feature locations only. Digitization of proposed transmission line segments was performed based on aerial interpretation of these features.

Some legend symbols are enlarged for easier identification.

Some features are exaggerated to better identify paralleling opportunities.

State of Texas
San Patricio County
City of Sinton

NAD 1983 2011 StatePlane Texas South FIPS 4205 Ft US

June 06, 2025

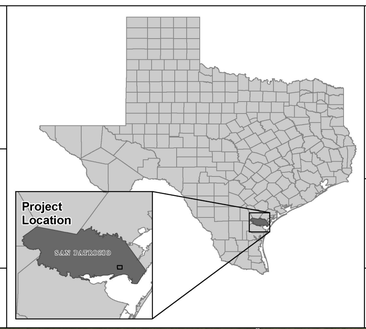


FIGURE C-2
ALTERNATIVE ROUTES AND LINK COMPOSITION WITH ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRAINTS

AEP TEXAS
An AEP Company

Aransas Pass-to-Gregory
138-kV Transmission Line
San Patricio County

0 300 600 900 1,200
Feet

Route	Links
A	1-25-26-27
B	2-20-22-35-24-26-27
C	2-19-25-26-27
D	3-6-7-18-22-35-23-27
E	3-6-8-9-29-30-31-32-33-34
F	28-4-6-8-10-11-13-31-32-33-34
G	28-4-6-8-10-14-15-32-33-34
H	3-6-8-10-14-16-33-34
I	3-6-8-10-11-13-31-32-33-34
J	3-6-7-17-20-22-35-24-26-27
K	3-5-20-22-35-24-26-27

DETAILED ESTIMATED LENGTHS OF ALTERNATIVE ROUTES (MILES)

Route	Total ROW	Total Circuit Installed	Total Circuit Capable
A	1.78	1.78	3.56
B	1.67	1.67	3.34
C	1.82	1.82	3.64
D	1.81	1.81	3.62
E	1.82	1.82	3.64
F	1.79	1.79	3.58
G	1.79	1.79	3.58
H	1.65	1.65	3.30
I	1.65	1.65	3.30
J	1.96	1.96	3.92
K	1.69	1.69	3.38

SUMMARY OF ESTIMATED COSTS OF ALTERNATIVE ROUTES

ROUTE	ESTIMATED COST
A	$7,610,383.45
B	$8,347,059.96
C	$8,010,547.91
D	$10,326,390.52
E	$7,858,266.44
F	$7,690,015.14
G	$8,095,067.57
H	$7,894,153.49
I	$7,491,479.04
J	$10,114,663.35
K	$8,459,804.27

DETAILED ESTIMATED COSTS OF ALTERNATIVE ROUTES

Alternative Route A Transmission Facilities

COST TYPE	AEP TEXAS
Right-of-way and Land Acquisition	$1,034,602
Engineering and Design (Utility)	$236,070
Engineering and Design (Contract)	$1,282,004
Procurement of Material and Equipment	$1,416,214
Construction of Facilities (Utility)	$10,000
Construction of Facilities (Contract)	$3,631,494
Other (all costs not included above)	$0
Estimated Total Cost	**$7,610,384**

Alternative Route B Transmission Facilities

COST TYPE	AEP TEXAS
Right-of-way and Land Acquisition	$982,340
Engineering and Design (Utility)	$252,709
Engineering and Design (Contract)	$1,299,187
Procurement of Material and Equipment	$1,783,574
Construction of Facilities (Utility)	$10,000
Construction of Facilities (Contract)	$4,019,250
Other (all costs not included above)	$0
Estimated Total Cost	**$8,347,060**

Alternative Route C Transmission Facilities

COST TYPE	AEP TEXAS
Right-of-way and Land Acquisition	$1,053,606
Engineering and Design (Utility)	$247,955
Engineering and Design (Contract)	$1,299,663
Procurement of Material and Equipment	$1,548,444
Construction of Facilities (Utility)	$10,000
Construction of Facilities (Contract)	$3,850,880
Other (all costs not included above)	$0
Estimated Total Cost	**$8,010,548**

Alternative Route D Transmission Facilities

COST TYPE	AEP TEXAS
Right-of-way and Land Acquisition	$1,048,855
Engineering and Design (Utility)	$275,542
Engineering and Design (Contract)	$1,342,283
Procurement of Material and Equipment	$2,508,317
Construction of Facilities (Utility)	$10,000
Construction of Facilities (Contract)	$5,141,395
Other (all costs not included above)	$0
Estimated Total Cost	**$10,326,392**

Alternative Route E Transmission Facilities

COST TYPE	AEP TEXAS
Right-of-way and Land Acquisition	$1,053,606
Engineering and Design (Utility)	$255,617
Engineering and Design (Contract)	$1,312,571
Procurement of Material and Equipment	$1,348,159
Construction of Facilities (Utility)	$10,000
Construction of Facilities (Contract)	$3,878,314
Other (all costs not included above)	$0
Estimated Total Cost	**$7,858,267**

Alternative Route F Transmission Facilities

COST TYPE	AEP TEXAS
Right-of-way and Land Acquisition	$1,039,353
Engineering and Design (Utility)	$255,439
Engineering and Design (Contract)	$1,311,093
Procurement of Material and Equipment	$1,276,718
Construction of Facilities (Utility)	$10,000
Construction of Facilities (Contract)	$1,141,938
Other (all costs not included above)	$0
Estimated Total Cost	**$5,034,541**

Alternative Route G Transmission Facilities

COST TYPE	AEP TEXAS
Right-of-way and Land Acquisition	$1,039,353
Engineering and Design (Utility)	$259,548
Engineering and Design (Contract)	$1,321,133
Procurement of Material and Equipment	$1,464,428
Construction of Facilities (Utility)	$10,000
Construction of Facilities (Contract)	$4,000,607
Other (all costs not included above)	$0
Estimated Total Cost	**$8,095,069**

Alternative Route H Transmission Facilities

COST TYPE	AEP TEXAS
Right-of-way and Land Acquisition	$972,383
Engineering and Design (Utility)	$258,481
Engineering and Design (Contract)	$1,313,891
Procurement of Material and Equipment	$1,456,279
Construction of Facilities (Utility)	$10,000
Construction of Facilities (Contract)	$3,882,664
Other (all costs not included above)	$0
Estimated Total Cost	**$7,893,698**

Alternative Route I Transmission Facilities

COST TYPE	AEP TEXAS
Right-of-way and Land Acquisition	$972,383
Engineering and Design (Utility)	$254,372
Engineering and Design (Contract)	$1,303,853
Procurement of Material and Equipment	$1,268,569
Construction of Facilities (Utility)	$10,000
Construction of Facilities (Contract)	$3,681,848
Other (all costs not included above)	$0
Estimated Total Cost	**$7,491,025**

Alternative Route J Transmission Facilities

COST TYPE	AEP TEXAS
Right-of-way and Land Acquisition	$1,120,120
Engineering and Design (Utility)	$264,901
Engineering and Design (Contract)	$1,334,154
Procurement of Material and Equipment	$2,389,107
Construction of Facilities (Utility)	$10,000
Construction of Facilities (Contract)	$4,996,381
Other (all costs not included above)	$0
Estimated Total Cost	**$10,114,663**

Alternative Route K Transmission Facilities

COST TYPE	AEP TEXAS
Right-of-way and Land Acquisition	$991,842
Engineering and Design (Utility)	$256,995
Engineering and Design (Contract)	$1,301,693
Procurement of Material and Equipment	$1,808,689
Construction of Facilities (Utility)	$10,000
Construction of Facilities (Contract)	$4,090,585
Other (all costs not included above)	$0
Estimated Total Cost	**$8,459,804**

ERCOT Independent Review of the AEPSC Aransas Pass to Rincon 69-kV Line Rebuild Project

Document Revisions

Date	Version	Description	Author(s)
05/16/2025	1.0	Final	Travis Head
		Reviewed by	Robert Golen, Prabhu Gnanam

Executive Summary

American Electric Power Service Corporation (AEPSC) submitted the Aransas Pass to Rincon 69-kV Line Rebuild Project to the Regional Planning Group (RPG) in November 2024. AEPSC proposed this project to address NERC TPL-001-5.1 reliability criteria violations (thermal overloads) in San Patricio County in the South Weather Zone.

The AEPSC proposed project was estimated to cost approximately $33.0 million and was classified as a Tier 2 project per ERCOT Nodal Protocol Section 3.11.4.3 since the proposed project would require a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) application.

ERCOT performed an Independent Review, identified reliability issues (thermal overloads identified in in San Patricio County) and evaluated three different transmission project options.

The ERCOT Independent Review (EIR) evaluated three different transmission projects options. Based on the study results described in the Section 5 and 6 of this report, ERCOT recommends the following option (Option 1) to address the reliability issues mentioned. Option 1 consists of the following:

- Rebuild the existing Aransas Pass to Gregory 69-kV transmission line to 138-kV capable, but operational at 69-kV, with normal and emergency ratings of at least 239 MVA, approximately 8.5-mile;
- Rebuild the existing Gregory to Rincon 69-kV transmission line to 138-kV capable, but operational at 69-kV, with normal and emergency ratings of at least 239 MVA, approximately 0.03-mile;
- Upgrade the existing Gregory 69-kV substation to at least 2,000 A capable station. Replace the bus-tie switch at Gregory with a bus-tie breaker;
- Upgrade the existing Gregory 69-kV transmission line terminal at Aransas Pass to at least 2,000 A capability; and
- Upgrade Gregory 69-kV transmission line terminal at Rincon to at least 2,000 A capability.

The cost estimate for Option 1 is approximately $34.0 million. A CCN application will be required for the reconstruction of the existing 69-kV line from Aransas Pass 69-kV substation to Gregory 69-kV substation due to approximately 1.0 miles of new right of way (ROW). The expected in-service date (ISD) of this project is June 2026.

Table of Contents

1 Introduction

In November 2024, American Electric Power Service Corporation (AEPSC) submitted the Aransas Pass to Rincon 69-kV Line Rebuild Project to the Regional Planning Group (RPG) to address ERCOT Planning Criteria reliability criteria violations (thermal overloads). This project is in the South Weather Zone in San Patricio County.

The AEPSC proposed project was classified as a Tier 2 project pursuant to ERCOT Nodal Protocol Section 3.11.4.3, with an estimated cost of approximately $33.0 million. A Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) application will be required for this project and the expected in-service date (ISD) of the project is June 2026.

ERCOT conducted an Independent Review for this RPG project to identify any reliability needs in the area including the project need and evaluate various transmission upgrade options. This report describes the study assumptions, methodology, and the results of ERCOT Independent Review of the project.

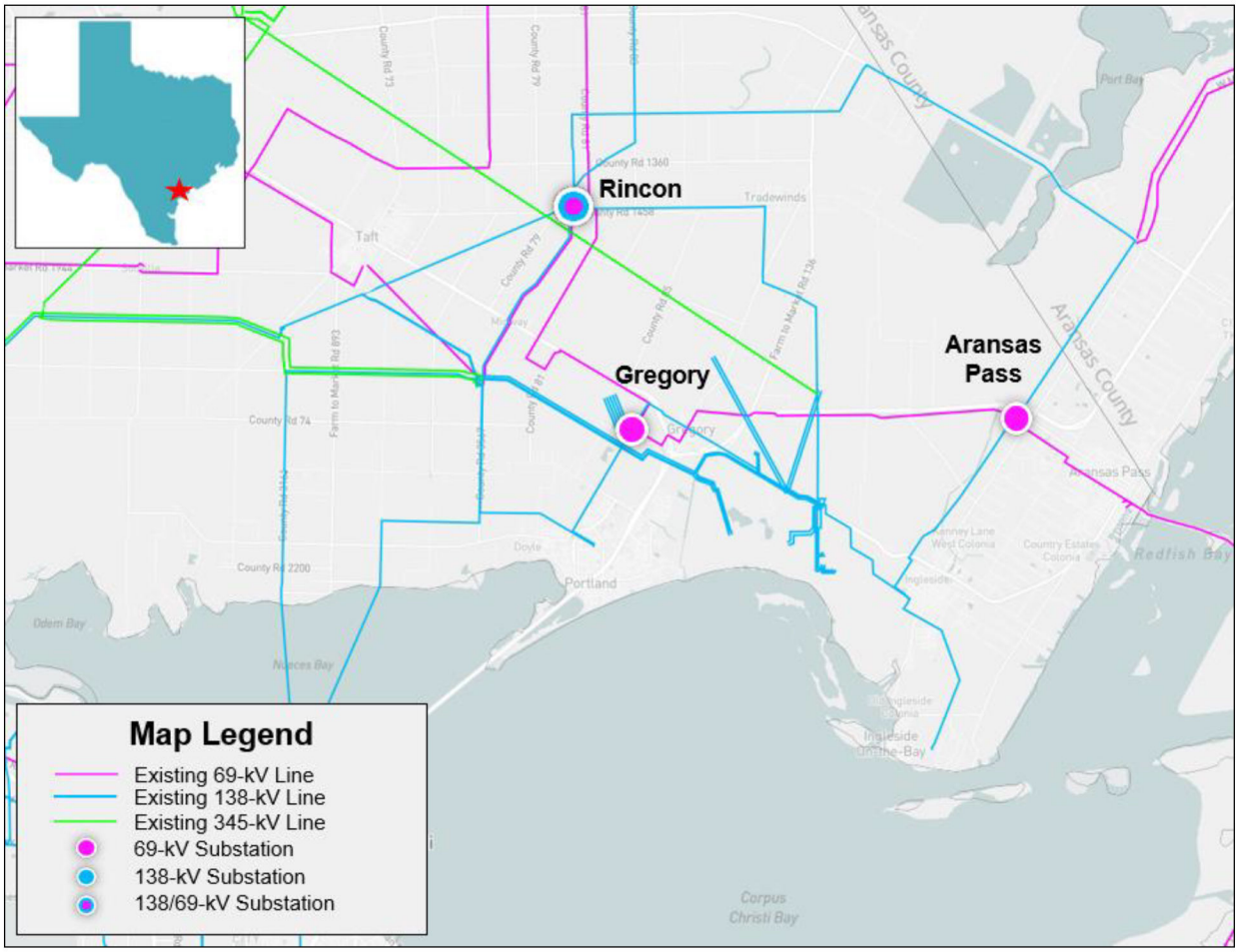


Figure 1.1: Map of Transmission System in Study Area

2 Study Assumptions and Methodology

ERCOT performed studies under various system conditions to identify any reliability issue and to determine transmission upgrades to support the proposed Aransas Pass to Rincon 69-kV Line Rebuild Project if an upgrade is deemed necessary. This section describes the study assumptions and criteria used to conduct the independent study.

2.1 Study Assumptions for Reliability Analysis

This project is in the South Weather Zone in San Patricio County. Aransas, Jim Wells, and Nueces Counties were also included in the study because of their electrical proximity to the proposed project.

2.1.1 Steady-State Study Base Case

The Final 2023 Regional Transmission Plan (RTP) cases, published on the Market Information System (MIS) on December 22, 2023, were used as reference cases in this study. Year 2026 Summer was selected for this study. The steady-state study base case was constructed by updating transmission, generation, and loads of the following 2026 Summer Peak Load case for the South and South Central (SSC) Weather Zones:

- Case: 2023RTP_2026_SUM_SSC_12222023[1].

2.1.2 Transmission Topology

Transmission projects within the study area with ISD by June 2026 were added to the study base case. The ERCOT Transmission Project Information and Tracking (TPIT)[2] report posted in October 2024 was used as reference. The added TPIT projects are listed in Table 2.1. These are all classified at Tier 4 projects. All approved Tier 1, 2, and 3 projects were already modeled in the base case; there were no new Tier 1, 2, or 3 transmission projects added.

Table 2.1: List of Transmission Projects Added to the Study Base Case

TPIT No	Project Name	Tier	Project ISD	TSP	County
71940	LCRATSC_Saxet_Substation_Addition	Tier 4	5/01/24	LCRATSC/AEPSC	Nueces

Transmission projects, listed in Table 2.2, within the study area that were not approved by Regional Planning Group (RPG) were removed from study base case.

Table2.2: List of Transmission Projects Removed from the Study Base Case

RTP Project Index	Project Name	County
2023-S1	LGE (160205) to Dupont Switch - Ingleside (8422) Ckt 1 138-kV Upgrade	AEPSC

[1] 2023 Regional Transmission Plan Postings: https://mis.ercot.com/secure/data-products/grid/regional-planning
[2] TPIT Report: https://www.ercot.com/gridinfo/planning

2.1.3 Generation

Based on the October 2024 Generator Interconnection Status (GIS)[3] report posted on the ERCOT website on November 01, 2024, there are no generators in the study area that met Planning Guide Section 6.9(1) requirements with Commercial Operations Date (COD) prior to June 2026 that will be added to the study base case if not already present in the case. All generation dispatch will be kept consistent with the 2024 RTP Methodology.

The status of each unit that was projected to be either indefinitely mothballed or retired at the time of the study were reviewed. Based on the NSO Studies – Final Reliability Determination Analysis reports[4] found on MIS along with the Capacity, Demand and Reserve (CDR) Report[5] published in May 2024, the units listed in Table 2.3 were opened in the study base case to reflect their mothballed/retired status.

Table 2.3: List of Generation Opened to Reflect Mothballed/Retired/Forced Outage Status

Bus No	Unit Name	Max Capacity (~MW)	Weather Zone
151361	CHISMGRD_BES1	101.7	North-Central
130121	SGMTN_SIGNALM2	1.4	Far West
140042	WFCOGEN_UNIT4	17.0	North
110941	SL_SL_G1	65.0	Coast
110942	SL_SL_G2	65.0	Coast
110943	SL_SL_G3	30.0	Coast
110944	SL_SL_G4	30.0	Coast
151361	CHISMGRD_BES1	101.7	North-Central

Generation listed in Table 2.4 were closed (turned on) in the study base case to reflect the change in their Generation Resource as these resources are returning to year-round service.

Table 2.4: List of Generation Closed to Reflect Returning to Service Status

Bus No	Unit Name	Max Capacity (~MW)	Weather Zone
110020	WAP_GT2	71.0	Coast
150023	MCSES_UNIT8	568.0	North-Central
110261	TGF_TGFGT_1	77.9	Coast

2.1.4 Loads

Loads in the South Weather Zone were updated based on the new confirmed loads in the South Weather Zone. The minimum reserve requirements were maintained consistent with the 2024 RTP.

[3] GIS Report: https://www.ercot.com/misapp/GetReports.do?reportTypeId=15933
[4] NSO Study Reports: https://mis.ercot.com/secure/data-products/grid/generation?id=NP3-511-M
[5] CDR Report: http://www.ercot.com/gridinfo/resource/index.html

2.2 Long-Term Load-Serving Capability Assessment

ERCOT performed long-term load-serving capability assessment under base case and higher load conditions to compare the performance of the study options.

In the higher load condition evaluation, the loads in the 69-kV and 138-kV substations in the study area were increased (customer with flexible loads remained at the same level as in the base case), and conforming loads outside of SSC Weather Zones were decreased to balance power.

2.3 Maintenance Outage Scenario

ERCOT developed an off-peak maintenance season scenario to further evaluate the study options.

The load levels in the SSC Weather Zones will be reduced to 90.1%[6] and 83.6%[6] of their summer peak load levels, respectively. This scaling is meant to reflect assumed off-peak season loads based on ERCOT load forecast for future years as well as historical load in the SSC Weather Zones.

2.4 Study Assumptions for Congestion Analysis

Congestion analysis was conducted to identify any new congestion in the study area with the addition of the preferred transmission upgrade option.

The 2024 RTP 2029 economic case was updated based on the January 2025 GIS[7] report for generation updates to conduct congestion analysis. The 2029 study year was selected based on the proposed ISD of the project.

All transmission projects listed in Table 2.1 were added and the RTP projects shown in Table 2.2 that were used as placeholders for the LGE (160205) to Dupont Switch to Ingleside (8422) Ckt 1 138-kV Upgrade project were removed from the economic base case.

There were no new generation additions added to the economic base case and all generation listed in Table 2.3 were opened in the study base case to reflect their mothballed/retired status. Furthermore, generation listed in Table 2.4 were removed from seasonal settings in the study base case as these resources are returned to year-round service.

2.5 Methodology

This section lists the Contingencies and Criteria used for project review along with tool used to perform the various analyses.

2.5.1 Contingencies and Criteria

The reliability assessments were performed based on NERC Reliability Standard TPL-001-5.1, ERCOT Nodal Protocol, and ERCOT Planning Criteria[8].

[6] This percentage was determined based on the review of top ten historical loads in Spring and Fall for the last three years associated with the South and South-Central weather zones.
[7] GIS Report: https://www.ercot.com/mp/data-products/data-product-details?id=PG7-200-ER
[8] ERCOT Planning Criteria: http://www.ercot.com/mktrules/guides/planning/current

Contingencies[9] were updated based on the changes made to the topology as described in Section 2.1 of this document. The following steady-state contingencies were simulated for the study region:

- P0 (System Intact);
- P1, P2-1, P7 (N-1 conditions);
- P2-2, P2-3, P4, and P5 (345-kV only);
- P3-1: G-1+N-1 (G-1: generation outages) {Midway Wind, Nueces Bay Repower Stg 7, and Papalote Creek Wind II}; and
- P6-2: X-1+N-1 (X-1: 345/138-kV transformers only) {Lon Hill and Whitepoint}.

All 69-kV and above buses, transmission lines, and transformers in the study region were monitored (excluding generator step-up transformers) and the following thermal and voltage limits were enforced:

- Thermal
  - Rate A (normal rating) for pre-contingency conditions; and
  - Rate B (emergency rating) for post-contingency conditions.
- Voltages
  - Voltages exceeding pre-contingency and post-contingency limits; and
  - Voltage deviations exceeding 8% on non-radial load buses.

2.5.2 Study Tool

ERCOT utilized the following software tools to perform this independent study:

- PowerWorld Simulator version 23 for Security Constrained Optimal Power Flow (SCOPF) and steady-state contingency analysis and
- UPLAN version 12.3.0.30786 to perform congestion analysis.

3 Project Need

Steady-state reliability analysis was performed in accordance with NERC TPL-001-5.1 and ERCOT Planning Criteria described in Section 2.5 of this document. This analysis indicated no violations were observed under NERC TPL-001-5.1 and ERCOT planning criteria in the study area as shown in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1: Violations Observed Under NERC TPL-001-5.1 and ERCOT Planning Criteria in the Study Area

NERC Contingency Category	Voltage Violations	Thermal Overloads	Unsolved Power Flow
P0: N-0	None	None	None
P1, P2-1, P7: N-1	None	None	None
P3: G-1+N-1	None	None	None
P6-2: X-1+N-1	None	None	None

[9] Details of each event and contingency category is defined in the NERC reliability standard TPL-001-5.1

The planned maintenance outage evaluation was also conducted on the base case to identify project need. This analysis indicated a thermal overload in the study area.

One 69-kV transmission line overload was observed under an N-1-1 contingency condition. This issue is summarized in Table 3.2 and visually illustrated in Figure 3.1.

Table 3.2: Thermal Overloads Observed Under Planned Maintenance Outage Evaluation in the Study Area

Overloaded Element	Worst Contingency (N-1-1)	Length (~miles)	Max Loading (%)
Aransas Pass to Gregory 69-kV Transmission Line	Dupont Switch Ingleside to Ingleside 138-kV Line + Rockport to Rincon 138-kV Line	8.5	134.15

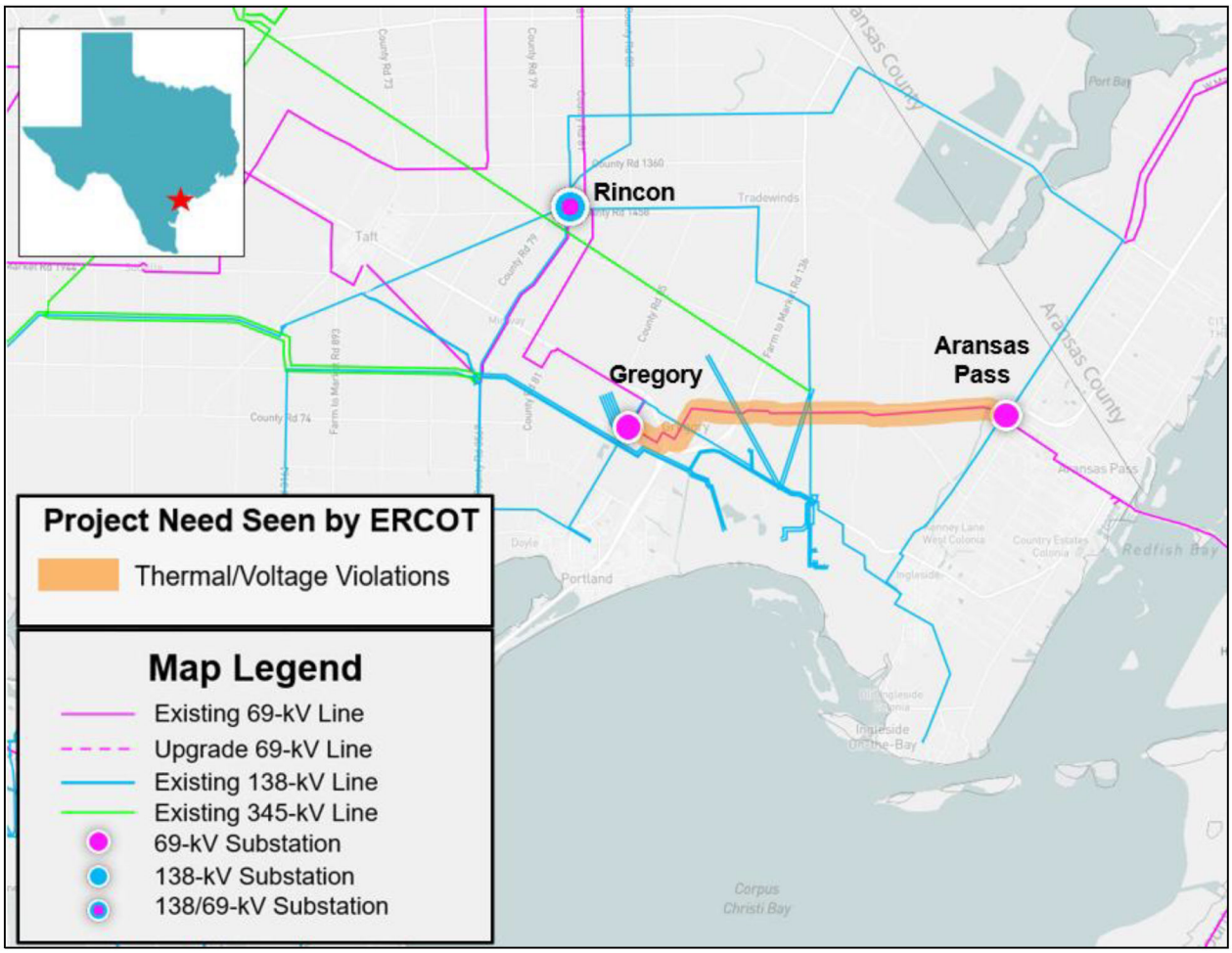


Figure 3.1: Study Area Map Showing Project Need under Planned Maintenance Outage Evaluation

4 Description of Project Options

ERCOT initially evaluated three system improvement options to address the thermal overload that was observed in the study base case in the study area.

Option 1 (AEPSC Proposed Solution) consists of the following:

- Rebuild the existing Aransas Pass to Gregory 69-kV transmission line to 138-kV capable, but operational at 69-kV, with normal and emergency ratings of at least 239 MVA, approximately 8.5-mile;
- Rebuild the existing Gregory to Rincon 69-kV transmission line to 138-kV capable, but operational at 69-kV, with normal and emergency ratings of at least 239 MVA, approximately 0.03-mile;
- Upgrade the existing Gregory substation to at least 2,000 A capable station. Replace the bus-tie switch at Gregory with a bus-tie breaker;
- Upgrade the existing Gregory 69-kV transmission line terminal at Aransas Pass to at least 2,000 A capability; and
- Upgrade Gregory 69-kV transmission line terminal at Rincon to at least 2,000 A capability.

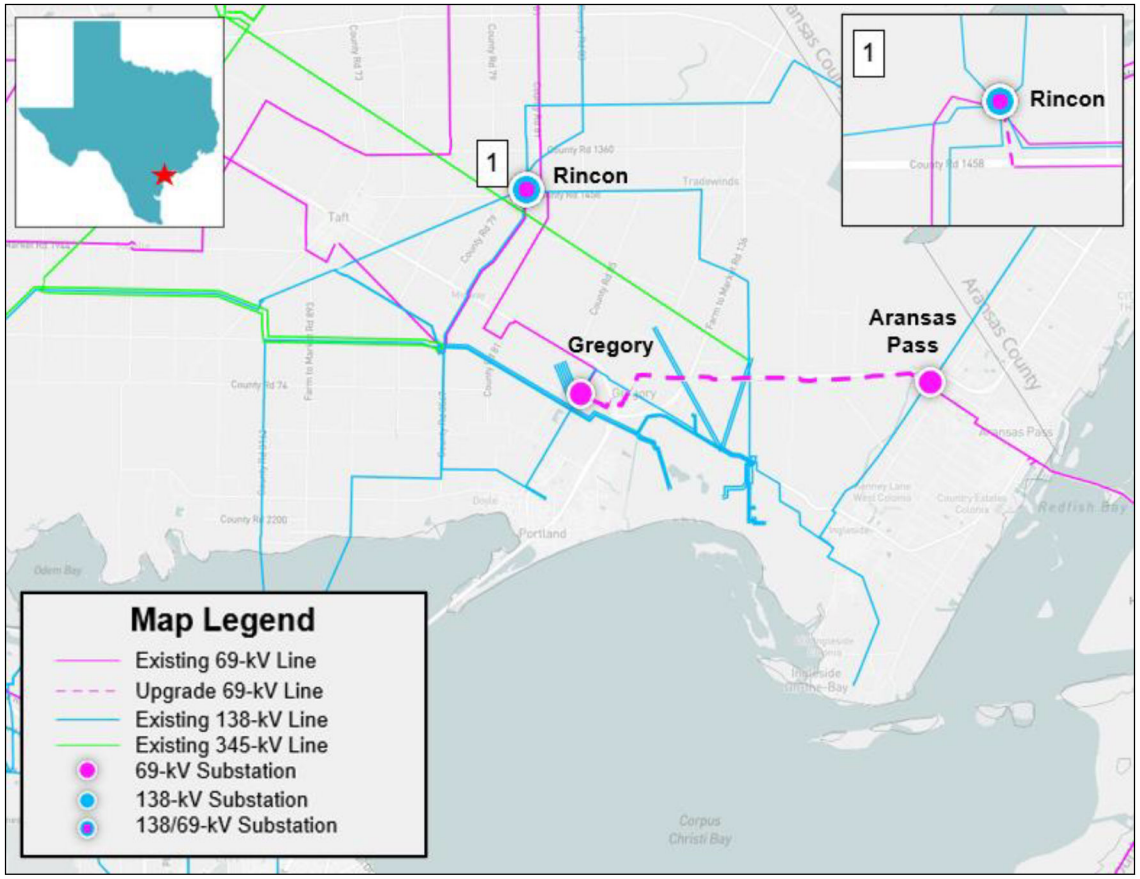


Figure 4.1: Map of Study Area with Option 1

Option 2 consists of the following:

- Build a new Gregory to Gibbs 138-kV transmission line, with normal and emergency ratings of at least 239 MVA, approximately 0.36-mile;
- Install a new 138/69-kV transformer, with normal and emergency ratings of at least 239 MVA;
- Rebuild the existing Aransas Pass to Gregory 69-kV transmission line to 138-kV capable, but operational at 69-kV, with normal and emergency ratings of at least 239 MVA, approximately 8.5-mile;
- Rebuild the existing Gregory to Rincon 69-kV transmission line to 138-kV capable, but operational at 69-kV, with normal and emergency ratings of at least 239 MVA, approximately 0.03-mile;
- Upgrade the existing Gregory substation to at least 2,000 A capable station. Replace the bus-tie switch at Gregory with a bus-tie breaker;
- Upgrade the existing Gregory 69-kV transmission line terminal at Aransas Pass to at least 2,000 A capability; and
- Upgrade Gregory 69-kV transmission line terminal at Rincon to at least 2,000 A capability.

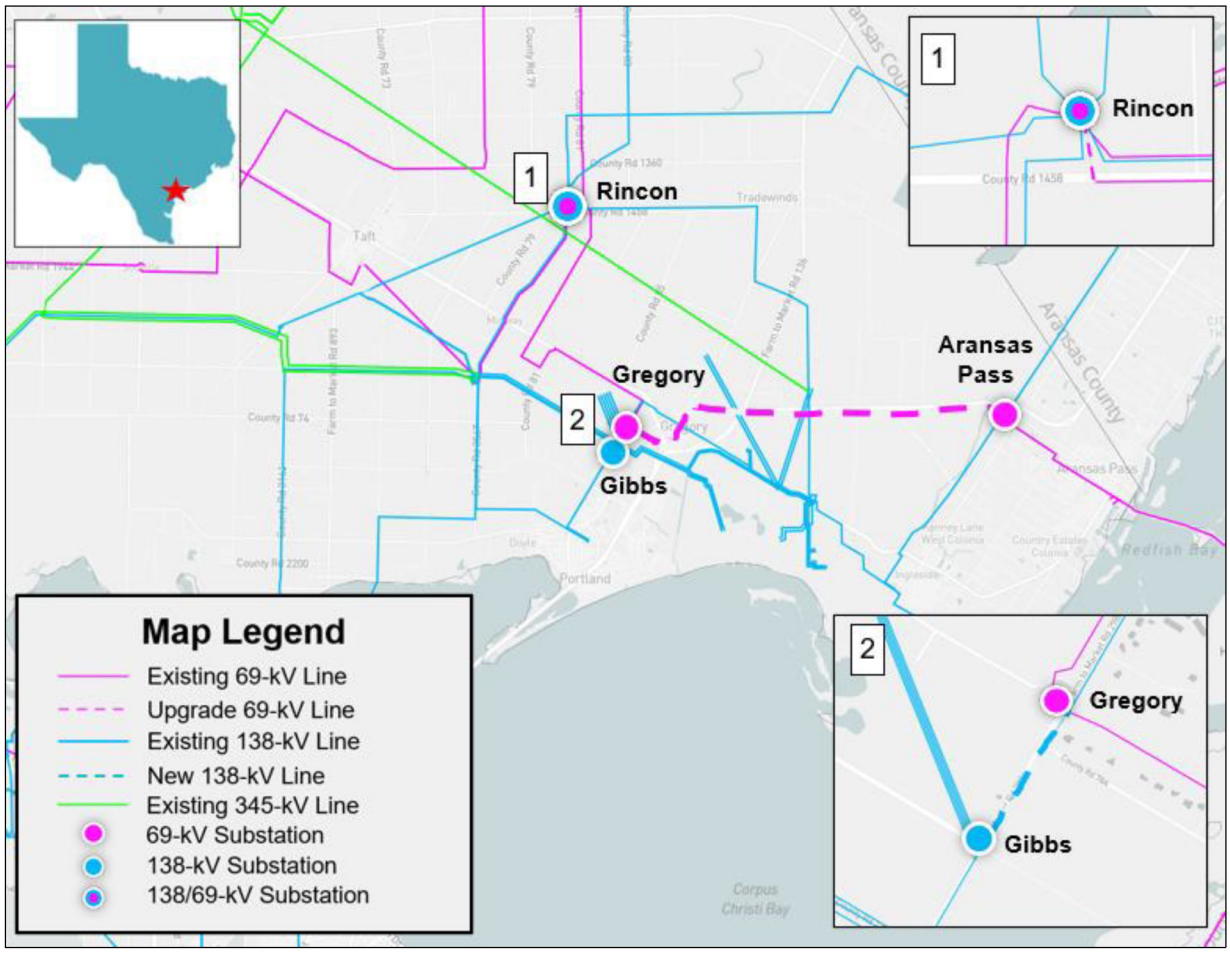


Figure 4.2: Map of Study Area with Option 2

Option 3 consists of the following:

- Build a new Ingleside to Dupont Switch to Ingleside 138-kV double-circuit transmission line on double-circuit capable structures with both circuits in place, with normal and emergency ratings of at least 478 MVA, approximately 3.25-mile;
- Rebuild the existing Ingleside substation to at least 2,000 A capable station; and
- Install a new 138-kV transmission line terminal at Ingleside to Dupont Switch to at least 2,000 A capability.

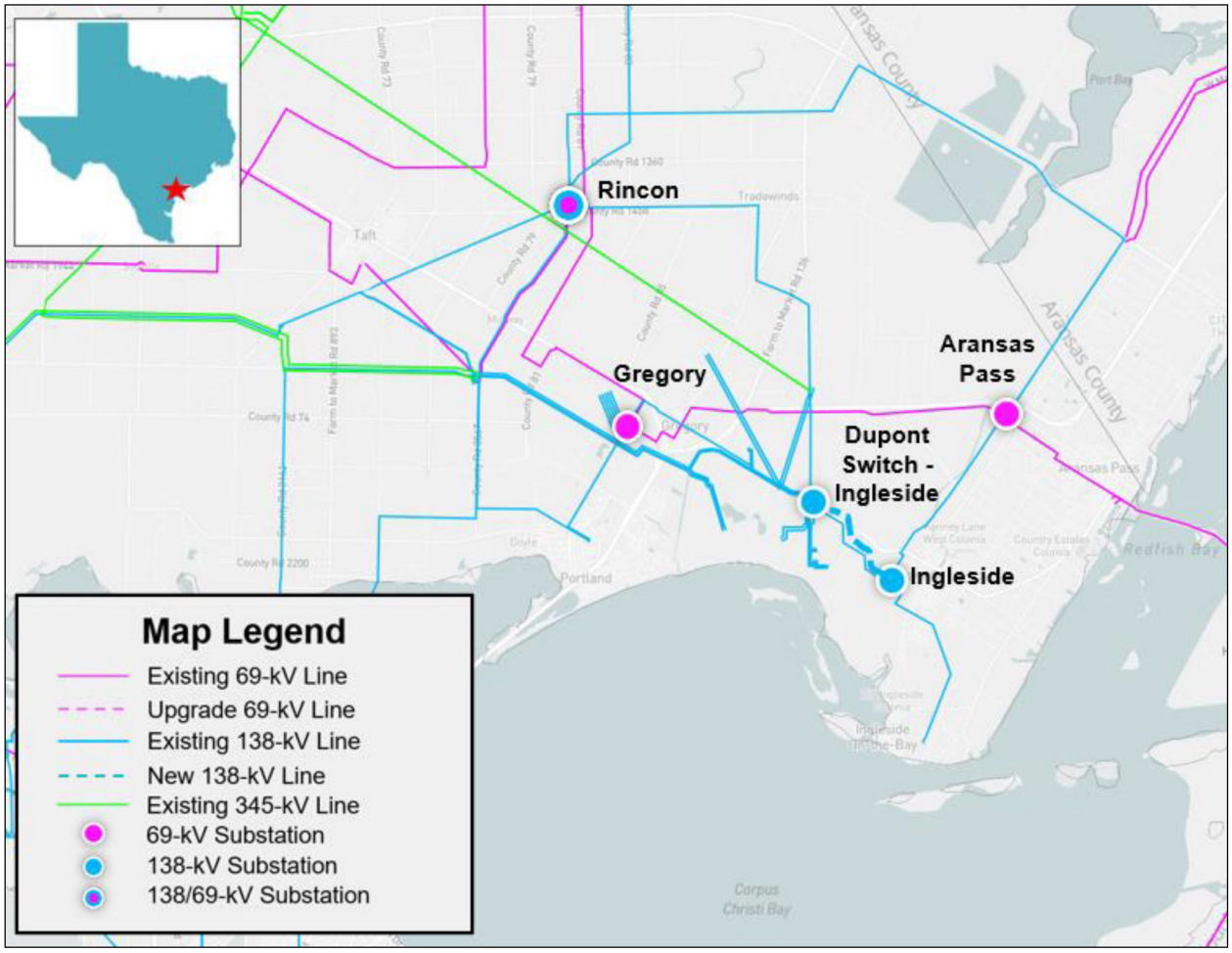


Figure 4.3: Map of Study Area with Option 3

5 Option Evaluations

ERCOT performed reliability analysis, planned maintenance outage evaluation, and load-serving capability to evaluate all options and to identify any reliability impact of the options in the study area. This section details these studies and their results and compares the options.

5.1 Results of Reliability Analysis

All three initial options were evaluated based on the contingencies described in the methodology section of the report, and no reliability criteria violation were identified for Option 1, Option 2, and Option 3 as shown in Table 5.1.

Table 5.1: Results of Initial Reliability Assessment of All Three Options

Option	N-1			X-1+N-1		G-1+N-1	
	Unsolved Power Flow	Thermal Overload	Voltage Violation	Thermal Overload	Voltage Violation	Thermal Overload	Voltage Violation
1	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
2	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
3	None	None	None	None	None	None	None

5.2 Long-Term Load-Serving Capability Analysis

ERCOT performed a long-term load-serving capability assessment on the three options to compare the relative performance between these three options.

The results show Options 1, Option 2, and Option 3 have similar performance of incremental load-serving capability. These results are shown in Table 5.2.

Table 5.2: Results of Long-Term Load-Serving Capability Assessment of All Three Options

Option	Incremental Load-Serving Capability (~MW)
1	39
2	40
3	41

5.3 Planned Maintenance Outage Evaluation

Using the P1, P2.1, and P7 contingencies based on the review of the system topology of the area, ERCOT conducted an N-2 contingency analysis for each option to represent system element outage(s) under planned maintenance condition (N-1-1) in the area. Then, each N-2 violation was run as an N-1-1 contingency scenario, with system adjustments between the contingencies. The transmission elements in the local area of the Aransas Pass to Rincon 69-kV Line Rebuild Project were monitored in the maintenance outage evaluation.

As shown in Table 5.3, the results of this maintenance assessment indicate that Option 1, Option 2, and Option 3 performed similarly.

Table 5.3: Results of Planned Maintenance Outage Evaluation for All Three Options

Option	Voltage Violations	Thermal Overloads	Unsolved Power Flow
1	None	None	None
2	None	None	None

Option	Voltage Violations	Thermal Overloads	Unsolved Power Flow
3	None	None	None

5.4 Cost Estimate and Feasibility Assessment

AEPSC performed feasibility assessments and provided final cost estimates for the three options. Table 5.4 summarizes the cost estimate, estimated mileage of CCN required, option feasibility, and expected ISD for the three options.

Table 5.4: Cost Estimates and Expected ISD for All Three Options

Option	Cost Estimates (~$M)	CCN Required (~Miles)	Feasible	Expected ISD
1	34.0	1.00	Feasible	June 2026
2	52.0	1.36	Feasible	June 2026
3	48.0	3.25	Feasible	June 2026

6 Comparison of Options

Based on the results from Option Evaluations in Section 5, Options 1, Option 2, and Option 3 are summarized in Table 6.1

Table 6.1: Comparison of All Three Options

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Addresses Project Needs	Yes	Yes	Yes
Meets ERCOT and NERC Reliability Criteria	Yes	Yes	Yes
Improves Long-Term Load-Serving Capability	Yes	Yes	Yes
CCN Needed (~miles)	Yes (1.00)	Yes (1.36)	Yes (3.25)
Capital Cost Estimates[10] (~$M)	34.0	52.0	48.0

ERCOT recommends Option 1 as the preferred option to address the reliability need in the study area based on the following considerations:

- Option 1 addresses project need in the study area;
- Option 1 meets ERCOT and NERC Reliability Criteria;
- Option 1 is the least expensive option and requires the least amount of CCN mileage
- Option 1 improves long-term load-serving capability

7 Congestion Analysis

ERCOT conducted a congestion analysis to identify any potential impact on system congestion related to the addition of the recommend project, Option 1, using the 2024 RTP 2029 economic study case.

[10] The cost estimates were provided by the TSP.

The results of congestion analysis indicated no additional congestion in the area due to the addition of the recommended transmission upgrades of Option 1.

8 Conclusion

ERCOT evaluated the three transmission upgrade options to resolve the thermal overload in the study area. Based on the results of the independent review, ERCOT recommends Option 1 as the preferred solution because it addresses the thermal violation with no reliability issues, is the least cost option, improves long-term load-serving capability, and requires the least amount of CCN milage.

Option 1 (AEPSC Proposed Solution) consists of the following:

- Rebuild the existing Aransas Pass to Gregory 69-kV transmission line to 138-kV capable, but operational at 69-kV, with normal and emergency ratings of at least 239 MVA, approximately 8.5-mile;
- Rebuild the existing Gregory to Rincon 69-kV transmission line to 138-kV capable, but operational at 69-kV, with normal and emergency ratings of at least 239 MVA, approximately 0.03-mile;
- Upgrade the existing Gregory substation to at least 2,000 A capable station. Replace the bus-tie switch at Gregory with a bus-tie breaker;
- Upgrade the existing Gregory 69-kV transmission line terminal at Aransas Pass to at least 2,000 A capability; and
- Upgrade Gregory 69-kV transmission line terminal at Rincon to at least 2,000 A capability.