

Cranberry-Conover-Plains Electric Reliability Project

A construction update on a project to ensure local electric system reliability.

June 2008

New line energized; upgrade begins on lines to the east

The new, 16-mile high-voltage power line between the Cranberry Substation south of Eagle River and the new Lakota Road Substation near Conover is energized and providing much-needed support to the electric system serving the North Woods.

The new 138-kilovolt line links transmission facilities in northern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The connection reduces costly constraints on the existing system, which was subject to overloading and potential service interruptions as demand for electricity increased in the area.

The line may be energized, but the project is not complete. "While we strive to avoid sensitive areas and minimize the impact of construction, we want area residents to know that we are committed to restoring the corridor after construction."

– Lee Meyerhofer, local relations representative for American Transmission Co.

"We appreciate the patience and support we have received from the community while planning for and during construction of the Cranberry-Conover line," says Lee Meyerhofer, local relations representative for American Transmission Co. "We announced the project to the local officials and residents in summer 2004, received approval from the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin in late 2006, and began construction in August 2007."

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Some of the tallest poles on the project – 115 feet – were used to cross the Eagle River.

sensitive areas and minimize the impact of construction, we want area residents to know that we are committed to restoring the corridor after construction. We will be working through the summer to do just that. Repairs to Adams Road, where the underground portion of the line was installed, are already underway."

Conover-Plains rebuild underway

The transmission project also includes the upgrade of 73 miles of existing lines and substations between Conover and Quinnesec, Mich., Construction to upgrade facilities on the segment between the Twin Lake crossing and Iron River, Mich., from 69 to 138 kilovolts

began earlier this month with tree clearing. (See map on pages 2 and 3.)

Two additional segments – between Iron River and the Twin Falls Substation near Iron Mountain, and between Twin Falls and the Plains Substation near Quinnesec, Mich. – will be rebuilt in 2009 and 2010.

Anticipated completion date for the upgrade is June 2010.

For more information on the project, visit our new Web site: www.atc-projects.com



Route changed through Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest

When the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin approved the Cranberry-Conover-Plains project in November 2006, it directed ATC to relocate the lines in the Elvoy bog complex in Vilas County from the existing corridor to a location along County Highway A. It was the PSCW's position that the relocation would avoid a sensitive wetland area and that the move would be consistent with state siting policy by co-locating along a roadway corridor.

In reviewing ATC's application for a special use permit, however, the US Forest Service directed ATC to rebuild the line in the existing corridor that crosses the bog. The PSCW re-opened the case for the limited purposes of considering this development, and in late May, approved ATC's request to amend the PSCW's directive and allow replacement in the bog.



New Lakota Road Substation goes into service

The new Cranberry-Conover transmission line linking electric systems in northern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan required a new substation. The Lakota Road Substation is just south of the existing Conover Substation on Vilas County Highway K.



An environmental monitor of a different sort

An eagle observes progress along the Cranberry-Conover transmission line in Vilas County.



ATC in the community

Eight cords of firewood were donated to Trees for Tomorrow in Eagle River. The wood was cleared from the Cranberry-Conover corridor earlier in the year.



Who we are

Everything we do at ATC is designed to ensure the reliable operation of the electric transmission system. ATC is a transmission-only utility that owns, operates, builds and maintains transmission facilities in portions of Wisconsin, Upper Michigan, Minnesota and Illinois.

Questions or comments?

**Please call Lee Meyerhofer,
1-866-899-3204, ext. 6572**

ATC is proud to be a Green Tier participant

The Wisconsin DNR Green Tier program recognizes businesses and organizations such as ATC that demonstrate superior environmental performance and continual improvement.

