

# QUAD COUNTY ELECTRIC RELIABILITY PROJECT



## Answers to common questions regarding electric transmission line construction

**Q. Why is this rebuild project needed?**

**A.** This project will strengthen the reliability of the system serving the project area. The wires and poles are aging and need to be replaced.

**Q. What is the total length of the line this project will replace?**

**A.** Approximately 58 miles.

**Q. Will there be any interruptions in service during construction?**

**A.** To ensure the safety of construction crews, it is possible that power may be interrupted for brief periods of time in areas where low-voltage distribution lines are located near the work areas. ATC will attempt to notify customers of planned outages.

**Q. Why can't the line be buried?**

**A.** This project is a rebuild of an existing aging line, and burying the lines is not practical for these reasons:

1. The extra cost of placing the lines underground can be several times more than the cost of an overhead transmission line, both to build and maintain (in the event of an outage)
2. New easements would be needed for each property owner where current easements already exist.

**Q. What can I expect during construction?**

**A.** We are working out the details of the construction design and work plan for each segment. Landowners will be notified in advance of construction activities with details about the schedule, hours, equipment and vehicles associated with the construction. Engineers will be in the field periodically in advance of the actual construction.

**Q. What will be the sequence of the construction? How do I know when it will begin in my area?**

**A.** Construction will initiate in fall 2014 and will occur in phases. Pre-construction notification including information about the construction schedule will be sent to landowners in advance of the start of construction.

**Q. Are the poles going to look the same or are they changing?**

**A.** We will be replacing the wires (conductors) as well as the poles. Although plans have not been finalized, most of the aging lattice frames and H-frames will be replaced with single steel poles. In most cases, the new structures will be slightly taller (10' - 15') to accommodate the increased size of the wires.



**Q. Will construction crews be working exclusively in the right-of-way?**

**A.** In some instances, crews will need to gain access to the construction site through private property and will need a temporary access easement to do so. Temporary access easements have a beginning and an end date. The existing easements allow for the construction work and facility replacement that is planned for this project, including access to the right-of-way.

**Q. Who is Henkels & McCoy?**

**A.** ATC uses contract construction crews that specialize in the construction of electric power lines and facilities. Henkels & McCoy has been hired to construct this project.

**Q. What about property damage?**

**A.** Following construction, ATC and its contractors will work to restore damage to private property as a result of construction. This includes potential rutting, damage to fences, driveways or other private property. Since ATC already has rights for tree removal, no compensation is granted for the removal of trees or vegetation located in the existing easement.

**Q. Will there be any trees removed?**

**A.** Trees and dense vegetation within the easement will be removed to allow construction crews to work safely. We will discuss vegetation removal plans with landowners in advance. Most of the vegetation work associated with this project will occur in the summer and early fall of 2014, and will be done by Wright Tree Service Co. The easement should remain free of tall-growing trees and woody vegetation following construction to help ensure the safe and reliable operation of the line.

**Q. This construction will close the bike path in the segment in / around Delafield. What will ATC do to minimize this impact?**

**A.** We will work with Waukesha County and other municipalities where recreation trails are located to coordinate our work, which may include closures or detours. Should any damage occur, ATC will complete restorative work either during the construction phase, in warmer months or both.

**Q. What if I have a question?**

**A.** Please visit [www.atc-projects.com](http://www.atc-projects.com) or contact Mary Carpenter, senior local relations representative, by calling (262) 506-6922 or by emailing [mcarpenter@atcillc.com](mailto:mcarpenter@atcillc.com).



ATC is a Green Tier company, selected by the Wisconsin DNR for demonstrating superior environmental performance and continual improvement.

*Information current as of July 2013*



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