

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



TRANSOURCE ENERGY ANNOUNCES NEW PA/MD ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION PROJECT TO INCREASE CONSUMER ACCESS TO MORE AFFORDABLE POWER

**The Independence Energy Connection Project is expected to
save consumers \$600 million in energy costs**

COLUMBUS, Ohio, June 1, 2017 – Transource Energy, a partnership between American Electric Power (NYSE: AEP) and Great Plains Energy (NYSE:GXE), today announced plans to develop the Independence Energy Connection (IEC), a new overhead electric transmission project in Pennsylvania and Maryland to increase consumer access to more affordable power in the region.

PJM Interconnection, the regional transmission organization responsible for managing the high-voltage electricity grid for 13 states, including Maryland and Pennsylvania, identified concerns with the delivery of electricity into the region and reviewed solution proposals from competitive transmission companies. PJM selected Transource's solution to address the market-efficiency issues and awarded construction of the project to the company in August 2016.

Totaling \$320 million, the project will connect to two existing 500-kilovolt (kV) transmission lines in Pennsylvania and provide two new additional pathways for electricity to alleviate electric gridlock. PJM estimates that the project will save the region's customers approximately \$600 million in electric costs over the next 15 years.

The project's electric system upgrades include approximately 40 miles of new 230-kV overhead transmission lines, two new substations and additional upgrades to integrate the facilities into the grid.

- **The East segment of the project includes approximately 15 miles of new overhead electric transmission line that will connect a new substation to be constructed in southern York County, Pa., to the existing Conastone Substation, near Norrisville, in Harford County, Md.**
- **The West segment of the project includes approximately 25 miles of new overhead electric transmission line that will connect a new substation to be constructed in Franklin County, Pa., to the existing Ringgold Substation, near Smithsburg, in Washington County, Md.**

Transource is hosting public open houses to solicit feedback on preliminary study segments. The open houses will be set up as a workshop so attendees can talk with Transource team members, learn about the project, review maps and provide input. There is no formal presentation so attendees are welcome to come at any point throughout the evening.

"Gathering input from people in the project area is important as we build facilities," said Todd Burns, Transource director. "These open house events provide the opportunity for us to meet with residents, talk about the project, gather feedback and be available in person to answer their questions."

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The open houses are scheduled for:

- **Wednesday, June 7 from 6-9 p.m., North Harford High School, Pylesville, Md.**
- **Thursday, June 8 from 6-9 p.m., Chanceford Community Center, Brogue, Pa.**
- **Monday, June 12 from 6-9 p.m., Smithsburg High School, Smithsburg, Md.**
- **Tuesday, June 13 from 6-9 p.m., Eugene C. Clarke Jr. Community Center, Chambersburg, Pa.**
- **Wednesday, June 14 from 6-9 p.m., Waynesboro Area Senior High School, Waynesboro, Pa.**
- **Thursday, June 15 from 6-9 p.m., Kauffman Ruritan Club and Community Center, Chambersburg, Pa.**

Based on the input from the initial open house events, Transource will narrow the list of potential study segments and host a second set of open house events before identifying proposed routes for the new transmission lines. The company plans to file applications to construct the project with state regulators by the end of the year.

IEC is expected to be completed in mid-2020. Additional information can be found on the project website at www.TransourceEnergy.com/Projects/Independence.

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About Transource®

Transource® is a partnership between American Electric Power (AEP) and Great Plains Energy (GPE) focused on the development of, and investment in, competitive electric transmission projects across the United States. In all, AEP and GPE own and operate nearly 45,000 miles of transmission lines and have more than 100 years of expertise in the planning, design, engineering, construction and operation of transmission systems. AEP owns 86.5 percent of Transource. GPE owns 13.5. Transource is a member of three regional transmission organizations — PJM Interconnection, the Midwest Independent System Operator (MISO) and the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) — which together serve all or part of 28 U.S. states, the District of Columbia and the province of Manitoba in Canada. Headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, Transource also has offices in Kansas City, Missouri; Tulsa, Oklahoma; and Dallas, Texas.

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Transource Independence Energy Connection Project

Transource® has been selected to construct the Independence Energy Connection project, a new overhead electric transmission line project, to increase consumer access to more affordable power and address a problem with the electric grid.

The project will be built in two segments, East and West. It includes the construction of two substations in Pennsylvania and approximately 40 miles of new 230 kilovolt (kV) overhead electric transmission line crossing into Maryland.

Independence Energy Connection – East

Approximately 15 miles of new overhead electric transmission line will connect a new substation that will be constructed in southern York County, Pennsylvania, to the existing Conastone Substation near Norrisville in Harford County, Maryland.

Independence Energy Connection – West

Approximately 25 miles of new overhead electric transmission line will connect a new substation that will be constructed in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, to the existing Ringgold Substation near Smithsburg in Washington County, Maryland.

Project Need and Benefits

PJM designated this \$320 million investment as critical to alleviating grid congestion in the mid-Atlantic region and saving customers more than \$600 million in energy costs over the next 15 years.

The need for the project was identified by PJM Interconnection, a regional transmission organization responsible for making sure 65 million customers in 13 states, including Pennsylvania and Maryland, have an adequate supply of electricity. PJM used a competitive bid process, and Transource was awarded the project based on its solution to the power grid problem.



Committed to Community Engagement

Transource welcomes community and landowner feedback and engagement. Transource will host public open houses to gather input on preliminary study segments.

Combining the unique capabilities of American Electric Power and Great Plains Energy, Transource brings more than 100 years of experience to execute and operate successful, competitive electric transmission projects focused on delivering solutions that benefit the consumer.

The success of Transource is built on our commitment to respecting the people with whom we work and the environment in which we operate. Transource prioritizes:

- Proactive and early engagement with landowners and stakeholders
- Transparent proceedings throughout the project
- Maintaining a positive working relationship with all regulatory and environmental agencies

Stay Updated on the Project

Learn more, subscribe to project updates and submit comments for consideration.

Call: 1-800-440-4213

Submit Your Comments:
www.transourceenergyprojects.info

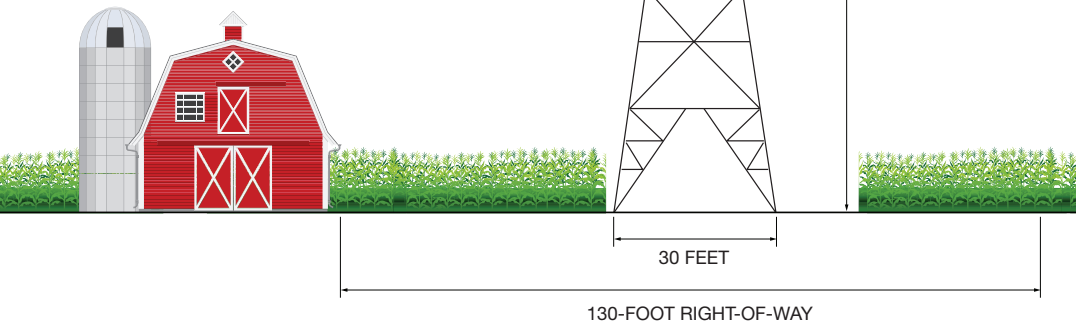
Learn more about the project:
www.TransourceEnergy.com/Projects/Independence



Proposed Structure

230 kV Double Circuit Lattice

The rendering depicts a typical 230 kV double circuit lattice structure that is being proposed for the project; however, structure type and height may vary along the route. The typical right-of-way is 130 feet wide for safe construction, operation and maintenance of the facilities.



Project Timeline

2017

- Determine study segments
- Incorporate public input
- Submit application to regulators

2018

- Right-of-way acquisition and permitting
- Regulatory approval

2019

- Construction

2020

- Project in-service

Project Areas



- Potential sites under consideration for future substations, only one will be constructed at Rice and Furnace Run
- Existing substation location
- Existing 500 kV line

The shaded areas represent the general project areas being considered for construction of two new 230 kV overhead electric transmission lines and two new substations.