



## Connections inaugural issue

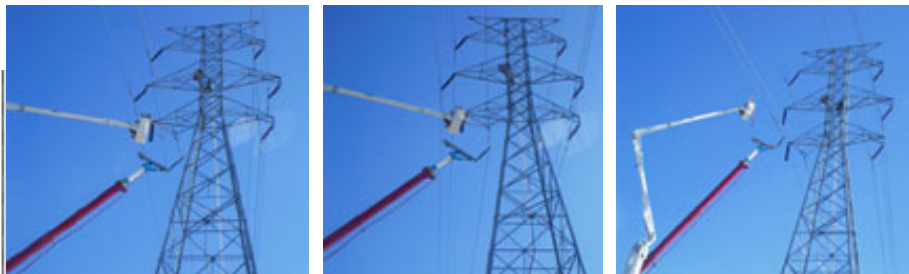
**Welcome to the inaugural issue of Connections!**

**Connections** is an electronic newsletter created to keep you, our customer, up to date on key projects and issues.

With **Connections**, you will learn about progress on projects and receive information on the Midwest Market Initiative, FERC and other matters of importance to you. You will be able to review archived newsletters, print, search for information and provide feedback to us at ATC.

We are eager to hear your ideas, feedback and suggestions for **Connections**. Send us a note or complete the **feedback form** located in the newsletter with ideas for articles you would like to see in upcoming issues.

Live line work on Kegonsa-Christiana in Dane County



### IN THIS Issue

#### Project Updates

- > Columbia Substation
- > Kegonsa-Christiana

#### Upcoming Events

- > Network Customer Meeting

#### Ideas Wanted!

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## Columbia Substation

### Columbia Substation equipment installation increases reliability

In Fall 2001, ATC's Transmission Planning Group identified improvements that needed to be made at the Columbia substation in order to improve reliability. In Spring 2002, ATC installed a breaker and one-half configuration at the Columbia 345 kV substation that provided increased reliability for one of the three lines that exit the substation. In total, approximately \$2.6 million will be spent to improve the reliability on all of the three lines by the end of the project in April 2003.

ATC and Alliant employees teamed up to complete the first phase of the project in a very short, eight-month time frame. These crews went "the extra mile" to complete the project. Matt Weber, ATC Project Manager, complimented the crews. He said, "without the combined efforts of these individuals, the benefits of this work would not have been realized."

The benefit of this work was soon realized. On February 9, 2003, a failure of one of the two breakers on the Columbia to North Madison line occurred. It took ten days to repair the breaker; however, the work that was done to install the new breaker at Columbia avoided costly redispach and allowed construction work to continue on other important transmission lines. The potential impact of this outage would have cost ATC customers almost \$3 million.

ATC Transmission Reliability Administrator Bill Hoesly offered, "from this one event, it is evident that the breaker addition at Columbia was critical to system reliability."

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#### PROJECT SNAPSHOT

##### PHASE 1

- Install a 345kV breaker to keep Columbia--North Madison in service in case one breaker failed and to upgrade the relay system

##### PHASE 2

- Install an additional 345kV breaker and upgrade the relay system on the Columbia -- South Fond du Lac and Columbia -- Rockdale lines

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# Kegonsa-Christiana

## Line remains in service for Kegonsa - Christiana work

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How do you rebuild a transmission line and keep it in service at the same time? Just ask ATC Project Manager Stan Tessmer and the crew from PAR Electrical Contractors, Inc. Since early February, PAR has worked to reinforce the towers, replace insulators and move conductors -- all while the power has continued to flow.

This line is very important to the Dane County transmission system. Loss of this line can result in low voltages to our customers and overloading of other adjacent lines and substation equipment. Fortunately, the "energized" technology exists. Robotic arms enable crews to separate energized 138kV lines from their towers. The crews are specially equipped and highly trained to complete their work safely and without interruption of service.

After installing sets of insulators, PAR crews transferred the conductors to temporary locations. Installation of the new conductors began in late March and, weather permitting, will be completed before mid-April. The new conductors will be energized in parallel with the old prior to transferring the entire load to the new wires.

When the new conductors are connected and in-service, the old wires will be removed. A new fiber optic-containing shield wire will be installed and the right-of-way will be cleaned-up and restored as needed. It is anticipated that all of this will be completed before the end of May.

Participating on the team are David Wojtczak, ATC transmission planner, design engineer Ryan Callahan, construction coordinator Henry Jinks and a project team from Power Engineers, Inc.

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## upcoming events

### Network Customer Meeting

Friday, May 16  
8:30am - 3:00pm  
ATC Pewaukee  
N19 W23993 Ridgeview Pkwy West  
Waukesha

### Midwest Market Initiative Meetings

For a complete list of Midwest ISO meetings click on the following link.

<http://www.midwestiso.org/meetings.shtml>

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