



## Connections update issue

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

In this issue, find out about two major projects, Forest Junction and Whitewater -- Mukwonago. Also learn about the National Capacitor Bank Project that continues to play a role in the restoration of Michigan's Upper Peninsula event. (*Check out the "before" and "after" photos of the new substation at National below.*)

This new issue features the latest news from Transmission Planning and System Operations. Learn about the most recent MISO Customer Meeting and ATC Network Customer Meeting in May.

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.

National Capacitor Bank Project May 22, 2003 and June 13, 2003



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#### Ideas Wanted!

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## National Capacitor Bank Michigan's Upper Peninsula

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In response to the flooding in Michigan's Upper Peninsula in mid-May, ATC initiated the National Capacitor Bank Project. It was designed to allow 50 Mw of load to be used at the mine after the Presque Isle Power Plant began generation again.

The project consisted of moving an out-of-service 138kV capacitor bank from Forest Junction to the National Substation in Ishpeming. From groundbreaking to in-service, and despite six days of soaking rains, the project took only 16 days. The capacitor bank was energized on June 13, 2003.

The project's original purpose was to assist moving electricity to the mine, but other benefits now have become apparent. The permanent installation of the capacitor bank will contribute to the stabilization of the area, offer more operator control, and reduce the potential for a voltage collapse in the U.P.

Ken Jauquet, ATC project manager, commented that "commendations are due all around for a great job. Great teamwork and dedicated effort on the part of ATC staff, Black and Veatch, MJ Electric, Coleman Engineering, and We Energies made completion of this project in an extremely short timeframe possible."

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## Forest Junction

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May 2003 marked the cutover of all transmission lines associated with the Forest Junction Project. The project is a of a new, 13-acre 345kV/138kV transmission substation in the Town of Brillion, that involved rebuilding a 75-year-old, 20.2-mile transmission line from the new Forest Junction Substation to the WPS Hwy V Substation in Bellevue, the addition of a new transmission line from the new Forest Junction Substation to the Lost Dauphin Substation in the Town of Lawrence (Brown County), and demolition of existing facilities.

The Forest Junction Project addresses the growing demand for electricity in the greater Fox River Valley and Green Bay areas, expands the limited facilities in the region, reduces the potential for existing facilities to overload, and accommodates future growth. This results in improved reliability for the area and increased transfer capability.

From construction kickoff in September 2001, the project maintained an aggressive schedule. The first 12 miles of the rebuild was completed in March 2002, and the construction of the new substation was completed in December 2002. The new transmission line was placed in service in January 2003 with the complete cut-over of all lines done in May 2003. All that remains is the demolition of the existing station. That work is targeted to be finished in August 2003.

ATC Project Manager Al Bayer is pleased with the progress of the project. "This very significant system improvement was completed on schedule and substantially below budget. Our success is directly attributable to the skill of the construction contractors used and the terrific support provided by We Energies' Appleton area electricians, relay technicians and start-up personnel."



## Forest Junction

Arial photo of old (left) and new (right) Forest Junction Substations - June 2003. Substations are highlighted to show difference in size.

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## Whitewater - Mukwonago Upgrade Project

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The Whitewater - Mukwonago Upgrade Project was placed in service on May 13, 2003. The project included reconductoring the line, replacing 25 angle structures and foundations, and replacing the hanger bars on three arms of each remaining 164 lattice steel tower. One wavetrapp and jumpers had to be replaced at Mukwonago Substation. In addition, one line breaker, two bus tie circuit breakers, seven disconnects, two wavetraps, and jumpers needed replacement at Whitewater Substation.

ATC Project Manager Jim Vespalec stated that although the work may have seemed very straightforward, the team was challenged by several environmental concerns. Much of the line went through sensitive areas including the Lulu Lake Conservancy and Phantom Lake. To reduce the impact to the environment from vehicular traffic and provide access to some remote locations, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin required the use of a helicopter to deliver and remove equipment and materials.

The project was initiated to increase power transfer capability, improve safety and reliability of the line, and provide increased line capacity to the new Riverside generation project scheduled to go online June 2004.

Vespalec offered kudos to all involved in the project. "There was a very short time frame to request bids and complete construction," he said.. "Through the cooperative efforts of the Wisconsin DNR, The Nature Conservancy, our contractors, and project team members, we were able to finish construction in five months."



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## Department News

Here's an update on what's going on in two ATC departments, Transmission Planning and System Operations.

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#### Planning for Your Needs

Work continues on the 2003 edition of the 10-Year Transmission System Assessment. The 2003 version contains many new enhancements from the prior year, including analysis and discussion of transfer capability and improved zone and project corridor maps.

The full and summary documents will be issued in September. Watch for details about the release of the reports and zone meetings coming soon. We value your input and look forward to your feedback on the reports as well as your participation in the meetings.

We welcome your feedback at any time. Please feel free to contact Scott Barnhart at [sbarnhart@atcllc.com](mailto:sbarnhart@atcllc.com) or [planning@atcllc.com](mailto:planning@atcllc.com) with your comments, concerns and suggestions.

#### Around the System

System Operations is putting the final touches on ATC's System Restoration Plan. The ATC version of the plan looks at system restoration from an entirely new vantage point for the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan System (WUMS). The plan identifies the best generation cranking paths available in the area uninhibited by control area boundaries. Thanks to the input that we received from our control area customers, ATC has been able to put together a well-coordinated plan. More detailed information on this project will be coming in next month's issue.

On another note, the flooding in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan caused the longest TLR Level 5 event in history. The event lasted nearly one month, May 15 - June 12, 2003, and required a lot of overtime and patience on the part of employees and customers. ATC was able to work with MISO to waive the Standards of Conduct, providing our customers with a means to share information to optimize system performance and minimize the amount of load curtailments.

If you are wondering who those smiling faces are on the other end of the telephone from your distribution and control area operators, please contact Karen Dewey at 262.506.6757 or [kdewey@atcllc.com](mailto:kdewey@atcllc.com) for a copy of ATC's 2003 calendar featuring our System Operations teams in both Cottage Grove and Pewaukee. There are two calendars, one for each location, so please specify which one(s) you are requesting.

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We welcome your feedback at any time. Please feel free to contact Don Morrow at 262.506.6880 or [dmorrow@atcllc.com](mailto:dmorrow@atcllc.com) with comments, concerns and suggestions.

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## upcoming events

### Business Partner Meeting - Co-op Customers

Tuesday, August 19 - Rock County Electric Cooperative -  
Janesville, Wisconsin

### Network Customer Meeting

Next meeting - Late August/Early September  
Date to be announced

### 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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