

JEFFERSON COUNTY ELECTRIC RELIABILITY PROJECT

PROJECT OVERVIEW

American Transmission Company is proposing electric transmission infrastructure improvements in Jefferson County.

PROJECT NEED

The Jefferson County electric reliability project is proposed to assure continued reliability of the electric power supply to residents and businesses in Jefferson County and eastern Dane County. Electric demand in this area is projected to grow at an annual rate of 3 percent. The population of Jefferson County has grown by 14 percent since 1990, and is projected to continue to grow. During this time there have been no significant improvements made to the transmission system in the area. The Jefferson County area is currently experiencing electricity supply constraints that will worsen if the transmission system is not modified to accommodate growth.

The project would significantly improve the ability of the ATC network in Jefferson County and eastern Dane County to respond to an outage of a critical system component and minimize the potential of a wide-scale cascading electric outage. The project would complete an electrical path around the county of medium capacity lines. In the event of an outage, the project would provide an alternate path for electricity to flow, and thereby assure greater electric reliability for Jefferson County.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

ATC hosts open house events	March 2004
ATC and state agencies conduct environmental analysis	Summer 2004
ATC hosts open house events	Fall 2004
ATC files project application with PSC	Spring 2004
PSC holds public hearing	Summer 2005
PSC decision expected	Fall 2005
Construction begins	Summer 2006
Line in service	Spring 2007

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

ATC is proposing to construct approximately 17 miles of new 138-kilovolt transmission line to connect the Stony Brook substation in Waterloo to the Jefferson substation located outside the city of Jefferson.

This high-voltage transmission system brings power into the local area at points known as substations, which step down the voltage to a lower level that is safe for the local utility, We Energies or other municipal electric utilities, to bring electricity into homes and businesses. Central and western Jefferson County is served by three such substations: Stony Brook, located in the town of Waterloo, Box Elder in the town of Medina and Jefferson located in the town of Jefferson.

ATC is also proposing to upgrade the existing line from the Stony Brook substation to the Box Elder substation, and to make other improvements to all three substations in the area.

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The City of Lake Mills utility is considering construction of a new substation to connect to ATC's high voltage transmission network as part of this project. If the substation is constructed it will be connected to the new transmission line. ATC's preliminary route options include ones that would allow for the connection of the City of Lake Mills substation.

ATC is currently gathering public input on a variety of route options and will use community feedback to refine its proposal. The cost of the project is roughly \$16 million and may vary depending on the route selected.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

ATC welcomes input from the local community. Public comment on project and route options is an important part of the route identification process. This information is gathered through personal visits, public meetings and informational open houses. The regulatory agencies also invite public comment during their review processes.

For the Jefferson County Electric Reliability Project, ATC has identified a preliminary set of route options. ATC hosted two open house events in Waterloo and Lake Mills at the end of March to introduce the project and listen to feedback from the communities. ATC uses this input to study and further develop two preliminary route proposals. ATC will host open house events in November 2004 while additional route analysis is underway and just prior to submitting its regulatory application in spring 2005. Verbal or written comments may be given to ATC at any time using the contact information below.

REGULATORY REVIEW

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin is the state agency responsible for authorizing major projects to improve electric transmission infrastructure within the state. ATC will apply for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, which if granted, would authorize the company to construct the line. The application is the focus of a multi-disciplinary regulatory review to determine if the project is needed and to assess its impact on the local environment and communities. A public hearing is part of the PSC process. Permits also are needed from the Department of Natural Resources. Other state and federal agencies may be involved in the review, as well.

ABOUT ATC

Everything we do at ATC is designed to ensure and improve the reliability of electric transmission. Formed in 2001, ATC is a transmission-only utility that owns, operates, plans, monitors and maintains more than 8,900 miles of electric transmission line and approximately 450 substations in portions of Wisconsin, Upper Michigan and Illinois.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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