

# WEMPLETOWN PADDOCK TRANSMISSION LINE UPGRADE

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

American Transmission Company is proposing electric transmission infrastructure improvements in southern Rock County and northern Illinois.

## PROJECT NEED

South central Wisconsin's electric system is connected to the north central Commonwealth Edison system by a single high voltage transmission line. The 15-mile 345 kilovolt transmission line (commonly known as the Wempletown to Paddock line) electrically connects the greater Rockford, Illinois area to the greater Janesville/Beloit area. This line is one of three high capacity lines connecting the southern portion of ATC's transmission system to ComEd.

Wisconsin is a net importer of electricity, meaning that as a whole, the state generates about 85 percent of what it uses and imports the rest. These three lines serve as the primary means for the state's utilities to import large volumes of power. Because Wisconsin does not have enough redundancy in its high voltage system to be able reroute significant amounts of high-volume transactions in the event of an outage, the amount that the state's utilities can import is limited by reliability criteria. Construction of a second 345 kV line into Wisconsin would eliminate this constraint and ensure reliable and consistent access to the lowest cost regional bulk power supplies.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

**Wisconsin Segment** The bulk of the work in Wisconsin is the installation of approximately four miles of new 345kV line on existing double circuit poles between the Paddock substation and the Illinois border. In addition, there will be some minor work in and around the Paddock substation to accommodate the new Wempletown to Paddock line.

**Illinois Segment** The bulk of the work in Illinois is the installation of approximately eleven miles of new 345kV line on existing double circuit poles between the Wempletown substation and the Illinois border. A short segment of the eleven-mile stretch (.77 miles) immediately north of the Wempletown substation will require new double circuit structures, but no additional right-of-way. In addition, a new 345kV line terminal will need to be installed at the Wempletown substation to accommodate the new Wempletown to Paddock transmission line.

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**REGULATORY REVIEW**

ATC will apply for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity from the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, which if granted, would authorize the company to upgrade the line. ComEd and ATC have requested approval from the Illinois Commerce Commission as well. Permits from other agencies may be necessary.

**SCHEDULE**

- File request for approval with Illinois Commerce Commission . . . . . Fall 2004
- File project application with Public Service Commission of Wisconsin . . . . . Late 2004
- Receive project decision from ICC . . . . . Late 2004
- Receive project decision from PSCW . . . . . Early 2005
- Construction start . . . . . Spring 2005
- Construction finish.. . . . . Summer 2005

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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