

THE TRANSMISSION LINE



ITC MIDWEST LOCAL GOVERNMENT & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER • FALL 2021

Welcome to the ITC Midwest Local Government and Community Affairs newsletter. We appreciate the opportunity to share with you the activities of ITC Midwest and our investments in the regional electricity transmission system. If you have any comments, questions or feedback, please contact us at 1-877-482-4829.



MESSAGE FROM DUSKY TERRY, PRESIDENT OF ITC MIDWEST

NEW INITIATIVES LAUNCHED TO DRIVE VALUE AND PROMOTE CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT AT ITC MIDWEST

As part of our core mission to maintain a safe and reliable electric transmission system, we're focused on providing value for our customers and ultimately electric consumers. Throughout 2021, we've launched several initiatives to drive value and promote continuous improvement at ITC Midwest. In the future, we'll be reporting on our progress. But for now, I'll outline some of the initiatives that I'm confident will help us deliver greater value going forward:

JOINT ITC MIDWEST/ALLIANT ENERGY TASK FORCE

Earlier this year, a joint task force was formed between leaders from ITC Midwest and Alliant Energy to discuss grid strategy and help ensure enhanced communication, coordination and cooperation for the benefit of electric consumers. Teams of subject matter experts representing both companies have been meeting to discuss a variety of topics, including:

- Impacts of electrification of the economy
- Rates management and cost containment strategies
- Economic development/new load growth/growth of existing customer loads
- Future focus areas of system planning and development
- Generation and resource planning
- MISO regional planning – Long Range Transmission Plan (LRTP)
- Improved coordination of projects
- Emerging technology – role and potential impact
- Joint fiber and communications planning

Representatives from both companies have found these working group discussions to be helpful. In the early going, several initiatives are being pursued to create even better coordination and efficiencies between our companies.

CUSTOMER AFFORDABILITY STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE ACTION PLAN

I am leading a customer affordability strategy initiative for the ITC operating companies, including ITC Midwest. The objective of our initiative is to continuously improve our performance while maintaining cost-effective, efficient and secure operations.

One of our strategies is to prioritize capital investment based on a growth strategy that recognizes rate impact, using this simple framework:

- Good investments: adds value (improving customer reliability/resiliency)
- Better investments: pays for itself (serving new customer, technology/automation, generator interconnection or increased load)
- Best investments: reduces rates (investing in capital to reduce operating expenses, regionally cost-allocated or large load addition)

Another strategy is to cap O&M/G&A growth at an average annual rate of 2%, with a focus on preventative maintenance and technology.

Our ITC strategy team also envisions new and improved processes to allow us to better manage and control spending. Ultimately, we want to clearly demonstrate the value of ITC's investments and operational excellence in providing access to a competitive marketplace and lower cost renewable energy resources.



**FOR THE
GREATER GRID**

**IN THIS
ISSUE**

- Traer-Dysart Line Rebuild Project Completed
- Scott Drzycimski Joins ITC Midwest
- ITC Midwest Supports Community Visioning Program



WORKING FOR THE GREATER GRID - ITC MIDWEST PROJECT UPDATES

TRAER-DYSART LINE REBUILD PROJECT COMPLETED

New line will improve electric transmission reliability, increase system capacity

In September, ITC Midwest completed the rebuild of a 161 kV transmission line extending from ITC substations northeast of Dysart to southwest of Traer. A segment of the line is double-circuited with a 34.5 kV line that has now been rebuilt to allow for 69 kV operation.

The Traer–Dysart 161 kV line was updated due to its age and ongoing operational issues that led to increased outages. After an engineering review of the line and the associated outages, it was determined that a complete rebuild of the line was necessary to address the issues that were leading to the increased outages. Among other design improvements, the new line was upgraded using tubular steel structures and incorporating conductor, insulators and hardware to better withstand extreme weather conditions.

The ITC Midwest team worked together to complete the project, working through several challenges:

- There were initially more than 50 objections filed with the Iowa Utilities Board by landowners who were opposed to the initial route proposed for the 161 kV rebuild along Highway 8. ITC Midwest responded to landowner concerns and reverted back to the existing line route, and all objections to the project were lifted with 100 percent voluntary easements granted by landowners.
- The line was rebuilt along the Old Creamery Nature Trail east of Dysart maintained by the Benton County Conservation Board. ITC Midwest is working with Benton County Conservation with pooled resources to restore the trail with improved vegetation and enhanced appearance.
- The line runs through the City of Dysart along the C.R. Roberts Memorial Trail. The new line design reduced the number of transmission structures through Dysart by one-third from 24 to 16, enhancing the visual appeal along the trail.
- Due to careful work by the construction crew, the use of matting and a dry summer, construction impacts were minimized with little restoration required.
- Two unavoidable planned outages affecting Dysart Municipal Utilities were successfully completed during two overnights with the work completed quickly and safely to minimize impacts on electric consumers. ITC Midwest worked closely with city leaders to communicate the outages in advance to community members.



ITC Midwest Local Government and Community Affairs Area Manager Cydney Lovell (left) with Benton County Conservation Director Shelby Williams.

“ITC Midwest is working with us on completing a prairie restoration on both sides of the Old Creamery Nature Trail which was our original goal. ITC is helping with every aspect and phase of the restoration, which is amazing, and then also restoring the trail back to its original state, probably even better than what we had honestly. It’s been super easy to work with ITC and everything has gone absolutely great.”

— Benton County Conservation Director
Shelby Williams



“I walk the trail twice a week and it looks great. The crews did a great job cleaning up and the lines look great. I recognize there are fewer poles and less utility infrastructure along the trail. The recreational trail is an awesome area for the people of Dysart to enjoy.”

— Dysart Mayor Tim Glenn

ITC Midwest Local Government and Community Affairs Area Manager Scott Arnold (left) with Dysart Mayor Tim Glenn.



SCOTT DRZYCIMSKI JOINS ITC MIDWEST AS DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In September, Scott Drzycimski joined ITC Midwest as Director of Public Affairs. Scott is well-known to many in our communities and our industry due to his long tenure with Alliant Energy.



“Scott brings extensive leadership experience, an understanding of industry trends and a strategic business focus to this position,” said ITC Midwest President Dusky Terry. “He is adept at relationship development through his prior work in media relations, marketing, economic development, community relations and large customer engagement. Scott is uniquely qualified to drive value for our customers and help us demonstrate that value.”

Scott joined Alliant Energy as a web business analyst in 2003. He quickly advanced through communications positions with increasing responsibility, and in late 2012 was named Senior Manager of Corporate Communications. In 2014, Scott transitioned to Community and Economic Development, and since early 2017 has served as Director of Customer, Community and Economic Development. In his previous position, Scott has supervised a team of more than a dozen professionals with responsibility for Alliant Energy’s large customer account management, existing customer retention and growth programs, community support and relationship management, and economic development.

At ITC Midwest, Scott works closely with the team to lead the development and execution of strategy to build equity and trust with stakeholders who influence and determine policy outcomes for the operating company.

A Cedar Rapids native, Scott earned his bachelor’s degree at Iowa State University and his MBA at the University of Northwestern – St. Paul. With involvement in many community organizations over the years, he is past president and current treasurer for the Cedar Rapids Community School District Foundation Board of Trustees and serves on the Salvation Army Advisory Board. Scott and his wife Laura, and their two children, reside in Cedar Rapids.

“ITC Midwest did a great job letting everyone know when the planned outages were going to happen. The outages were minimal and it went really well,” said Dysart Mayor Tim Glenn. “The whole process has been pretty seamless. ITC has been great with responses and providing updates, and we’re happy it was completed ahead of schedule.”

Following the successful completion of construction, the rebuilt line was energized in September. As a key route to move electricity in this region of Iowa, the new line will improve electric transmission reliability and increase system capacity to serve the growing needs of customers.



@ITCHoldingsCorp



@ITCGrid



ITC Holdings Corp

www.itc-holdings.com



**FOR THE
GREATER GRID**

123 Fifth Street SE • Cedar Rapids IA 52401

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE TRANSMISSION LINE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT &
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER



ITC MIDWEST LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS CONTACTS

Dusky Terry, President
Mobile: (515) 423-9582
Email: dterry@itctransco.com

Troy Weary, Regional Manager
Mobile: (515) 509-4273
Email: tweary@itctransco.com

Cydney Lovell, Area Manager - Cedar Rapids
Mobile: (319) 721-2476
Email: clovell@itctransco.com

Scott Arnold, Area Manager - Des Moines
Mobile: (319) 551-8482
Email: sarnold01@itctransco.com

Lori Broghammer, Area Manager - Albert Lea
Mobile: (641) 220-4600
Email: lbrogghammer@itctransco.com

GENERAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: 877-482-4829
Email: general@itctransco.com

ITC MIDWEST SUPPORTS COMMUNITY VISIONING PROGRAM TO BENEFIT RURAL COMMUNITIES

ITC Midwest is committing \$15,000 to support the Iowa's Living Roadways Community Visioning Program to benefit Alleman, Conrad, Tama, Toledo, Wheatland and Calamus. Now in its 25th year, the successful statewide initiative targets rural communities under 10,000 residents. The Community Visioning Program integrates landscape planning and design with sustainable action to empower community leaders and volunteers in making sound, meaningful decisions to improve the local landscape and transportation systems.

Anchored by committees of local residents, the program connects local community leaders with technical experts from Trees Forever, a private-sector landscape architect, and the Iowa State University Department of Landscape Architecture to create a transportation enhancement plan reflecting the values and identity of each community. Financial support is provided by the Iowa Department of Transportation.

Throughout the process, each committee identifies and investigates the physical and cultural dimensions of landscape issues, sets goals for change, and develops implementation strategies for meeting community goals. Successful completion of the visioning process results in a transportation enhancement plan and implementation strategies that empower communities to build meaningful townscapes, step by step, as resources become available.

Over the years, the Community Visioning Program has created success stories across Iowa. About 98% of visioning communities complete one project, with nearly 50% of participating communities completing four or more projects.