



your lines. your lights.

your community.

WINTER 2013

Letter from the President

Dear Neighbors,

Welcome to the first in a series of newsletters we will provide for you, our neighbors, along the route of the new Elm Creek to Summit 345,000 volt (345 kV) AC transmission line. We intend to bring you timely updates on project activities and answer any questions you may have about it. We value the contribution you are making to this important project and want to make sure we keep you well informed as the project progresses.

Several weeks ago you received an introductory letter from our Real Estate department advising you that a professional land consultant from Universal Field Service (UFS) will be contacting you to begin the right-of-way easement acquisition process. Your UFS agent will be your point of contact with ITC Great Plains throughout the project. Our agents are working out of a field office at 306 West 2nd Street in Minneapolis, KS, and you may also call the office at (785) 392-5112 at any time with your questions or concerns.

Now that our discussions with you are underway, I want to stress that ITC is committed to treating landowners with respect. My expectation is that in all your dealings with our company you will be treated honestly and respectfully, from the initial landowner meetings on through the design, construction and cleanup processes. If that is not your experience, please let us know. We are grateful for your support and look forward to building a strong relationship with you in the months and years ahead.

Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you a happy and safe holiday season from everyone at ITC Great Plains.

Sincerely,

Kristine Schmidt
President, ITC Great Plains

Easement Acquisition

The first step in building the Elm Creek to Summit transmission line is obtaining the right of way (ROW) necessary for the line route. ITC will be purchasing easements for the land needed for the project. This means ITC will have the right to use a strip of land approximately 200 feet wide for construction, operation and maintenance of the transmission line. Property owners retain ownership of the land and can continue most uses of it. Please see page three for more information on the easement acquisition process.

Elm Creek to Summit

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About the Elm Creek to Summit Project

The Elm Creek to Summit line will provide a critical link to help improve electric reliability, reduce congestion on the electric transmission system and help new sources of generation connect to customers. Under a co-development agreement with Mid-Kansas Electric, LLC, ITC will construct, co-own with MKEC and operate the northern half of the line, approximately 30 miles, from a new substation southeast of Concordia to a point near Justice Road, east of Wells, in Ottawa County. Westar Energy, Inc. will construct, own, and operate the southern section. The route for the line was approved by the Kansas Corporation Commission in August 2013.



3500 SW Fairlawn Rd., Suite 101
Topeka, KS 66614

877.ITC.ITC9 (877.482.4829)
www.itcgreatplains.com



ITC: Partnering with the Community

ITC is committed to being a good neighbor by supporting the local communities where we operate. This commitment is a cornerstone of our business and part of our mission to be a best-in-class transmission provider.

Cloud County Community College

This past spring, ITC Great Plains presented a check to Cloud County Community College (CCCC) to support the school's Wind Energy Technology scholarship program. Kristine Schmidt, president of ITC Great Plains, visited CCCC to congratulate the Wind Energy students, faculty and staff for the growth of the CCCC Wind Energy Technology Program. In just a few short years, the program has grown from fewer than 10 students to nearly 100. The CCCC program is one of only seven Wind Energy Technology programs in the nation to earn the American Wind Energy Association's Seal of Approval.



President of ITC Great Plains Kristine Schmidt, middle left, presents the scholarship donation check to Wind Energy Technology instructor Bruce Graham, middle right. Also present for the check presentation were a number of Wind Energy students and CCCC faculty, staff and administration.

Orphan Train Museum

To demonstrate ITC's commitment to the Cloud County area, ITC Great Plains sponsored parking lot restoration efforts for the "one of a kind museum in Kansas." Between 1854 and 1929 an estimated 200,000 orphaned, abandoned and homeless children were part of the Orphan Train Movement. The children were sent from New York City to rural communities across the country. The Orphan Train Movement is one of the largest social reform relocation efforts in our Nation's history and the beginning of documented foster care in America.



Knowing that one in 25 Americans are connected to an Orphan Train Rider, the museum's mission is to collect, preserve, interpret and disseminate knowledge about the movement.

Concordia Fall Fest

This fall, ITC sponsored and attended the Concordia Chamber of Commerce's Fall Fest. The festival is an annual tradition that attracts Cloud County residents for the entertainment, food, car show and parade. ITC's sponsored the Fest's fireworks display. Nearly 10,000 people join in on the fun each year!

Ottawa County Fair

In July ITC contributed to the success of the county fair by sponsoring the Scrambler family ride during the carnival. Other activities included a parade and antique tractor show, ranch rodeo, kid's games, watermelon feed, ice cream social, entertainment, mud volleyball and demolition derby.



Ottawa County Historical Museum

ITC is proud to be a sponsor of this unique complex which features a number of compelling exhibits, including one on legendary scientist George Washington Carver who lived in Minneapolis as a teenager from 1880 to 1884. Other attractions include an exhibit on the first-ever discovery of a *Silvisaurus Condrayi* dinosaur in Ottawa County in 1955; collections of fossils, meteorites and Native American artifacts; and the story of Grace Bedell who sent a letter to then-presidential candidate Abraham Lincoln suggesting he grow a beard. ■



Meet the Land Agents

The UFS agents for the Elm Creek to Summit project bring years of right of way experience, including ITC projects in Kansas and Michigan. Pictured outside the Minneapolis field office are (left to right) Wyatt Price, Charlie Price and Tracy Summers.



The Easement Acquisition Process

Land agents from Universal Field Service (UFS), representing ITC Great Plains, are in the process of contacting landowners to schedule individual appointments to begin the easement acquisition process. Each landowner is assigned a specific agent who will serve as the liaison between you and ITC. The agent will be available to you throughout the development and construction of the project.

Phase 1: Initial meeting between land agent and property owner

At this meeting, you will discuss the Right of Entry Agreement and communicate to the land agent the important characteristics of your property. This agreement gives ITC and its contractors access rights to your property for surveying, environmental studies and soil boring activities.

Phase 2: Necessary investigation and analysis conducted pursuant to Right of Entry Agreement

ITC's land agent will remain in contact with you and will serve as an intermediary between landowners and ITC's contractors. You should communicate all concerns regarding access to your land to the land agent. If soil boring is needed, the location of the boring will be staked one week prior to the boring. It is very important that you determine whether the proposed location is appropriate and communicate this to the land agent.

Phase 3: Offer

The land agent will schedule a meeting with you to discuss the offer. You will be provided an easement form and easement acquisition

offer based on the results of a market study conducted by a local appraiser on the fair market value of the land that will be subject to the easement. The offer will not include reimbursement for any damage to the property due to construction; instead, the nature and extent of damages, if any, will be determined following construction and ITC will reimburse you. ■

Transmission Lines and Your Property

Access to your property: We are committed to working with landowners throughout the siting, design, and construction process to attempt to minimize impacts to your property. We will work with you to establish favorable points of access to the right of way. Because of the weight of equipment and materials used in construction, there may be impacts on property such as soil disturbance or compaction. After construction is completed, we will compensate landowners for any damage due to our construction activities and attempt to return your property as near as possible to its preexisting condition.

Ongoing use of your land: Vehicles and equipment generally will be free to pass under the new lines, and in most cases you will be able to use your land in the same way you used it prior to construction of the line. After construction is completed, ITC will attempt to notify you when future access is needed for non-emergency maintenance or other purposes related to the line.

In the next edition of the Elm Creek to Summit newsletter we will provide information about the construction process. ■

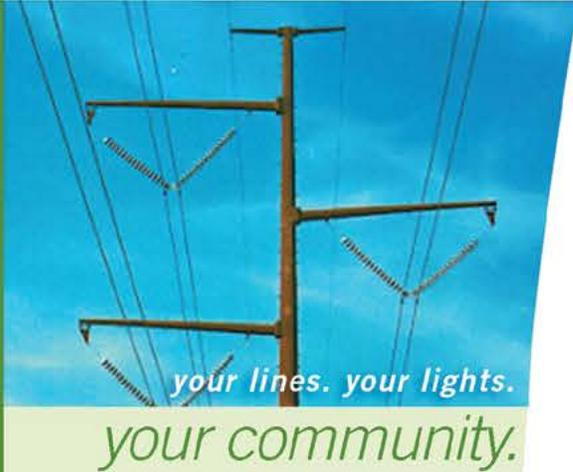


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Return Service Requested

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FAST FACTS

Line length: Approximately 30 miles

Line route: From a new substation adjacent to the ITC Elm Creek substation southeast of Concordia in Cloud County to a point near Justice Road, east of Wells, in Ottawa County.

Voltage: 345,000 (345kV)

Right-of-way width: 200 feet

Structure type: Steel monopole, single circuit

Structure height: 120 – 160 feet

Distance between structures: 800 – 1,500 feet

Structures per mile: Typically 6

Substation: Elm Creek

KEY DATES & TIMELINE:

Fall 2012 – Preliminary routing & community outreach

December 2012 – Public Open House events in Miltonvale, Bennington & Salina

Q1-Q2 2013 – Route selection & refined cost estimate; Southwest Power Pool review & approval

May 2013 – Route application filed with the Kansas Corporation Commission

August 2013 – KCC route approval

Q4 2013-2015 – Right-of-way acquisition

2014-2015 – Engineering design

2015-2016 – Construction

2016 – Target completion date

2018 – SPP required in-service date

ABOUT ITC GREAT PLAINS:



ITC Great Plains, LLC is a transmission-only utility with authority to construct, own, operate and maintain a regulated, high-voltage transmission system in the Southwest Power Pool region. Based in Topeka, Kansas, ITC Great Plains operates more than 190 circuit miles of transmission lines in Kansas and Oklahoma. ITC Great Plains is a subsidiary of ITC Grid Development, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of ITC Holdings Corp., the nation's largest independent electric transmission company. For more information, please visit <http://www.itctransco.com>. ■