



your lines. your lights.

your community.

SPRING 2014

A Message from the President

Elm Creek to Summit Spring Newsletter

Elm Creek to Summit

Spring 2014

Dear Neighbors,

We are pleased to announce that ITC is making steady progress with the pre-construction phase of the Elm Creek to Summit 345-kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line project with the purpose to improve the reliability of the high-voltage grid in central Kansas.

An initiative such as this takes a considerable amount of cooperation from many stakeholders. On behalf of the ITC team, I want to thank everyone from landowners to local officials to contractors and our strategic partners for their cooperation in the successful launch of this project.

As a reminder, ITC will construct approximately one-half of the 60-mile, 345kV electric transmission line connecting a new substation adjacent to the ITC Elm Creek Substation, approximately four miles northwest of Aurora, to Westar Energy's Summit Substation, about five miles northeast of Assaria. ITC will construct the northern portion of the line and with Mid-Kansas Electric Company, LLC (MKEC), co-own and operate roughly 30 miles of the project. Westar Energy will build, own and operate the southern half of the line. The project will also involve upgrades at both substations.

To date, professional Right-of-Way Agents from Universal Field Service (UFS), who represent ITC, have likely contacted many of our landowners as they are negotiating easements which will allow us to conduct preliminary work such as surveying, environmental and cultural studies, permitting, soil boring and eventually construction and maintenance of the transmission line.

We value the communities in which we operate and welcome the opportunity to share timely project information with you. You may call our field office at (785) 392-5112 with questions or concerns, or visit our field office located at 306 West 2nd Street in Minneapolis, KS to speak with one of our agents.

As always, we are grateful for your continued support and look forward building positive and effective relationships with all of our project stakeholders in the months and years to come.

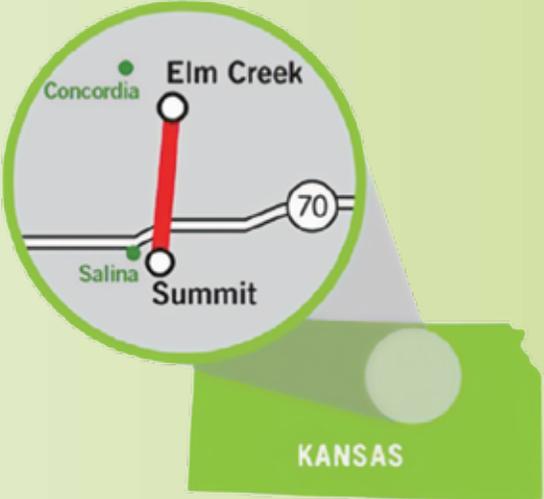
Kristine M. Schmidt
Kristine Schmidt
President, ITC Great Plains

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Reminder!

An easement is the right to use the property of another for a specific purpose – in this case to construct, operate and maintain high-voltage electric transmission lines.



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ITC: Committed to the Community

ITC strives to be a good neighbor and support 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.

Concordia Community Day

ITC sponsored the Concordia High School Alumni Community Day event, attended by more than 100 Concordia alumni and local elected officials. The highlight of the event was a baseball game featuring the school team against the alumni where ITC was recognized on the pitcher's mound for their commitment to Cloud County before the game commenced.



Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce and Lions Club

As a new member of the Minneapolis, Kan. Chamber of Commerce, ITC met with the chamber director to explore ways we can further partner together. In addition, ITC was invited to be the keynote speaker during the Minneapolis Lion's Club monthly luncheon. The group was updated on our Elm Creek to Summit project and informed of the right-of-way acquisition process. The President of the Lions Club invited ITC back later this year for another project update.



Ottawa County Local Emergency Planning Committee

ITC presented its Emergency Responder Outreach Program to more than 20 Emergency Responders and volunteers from Ottawa County. The group was informed about the emergency procedures for ITC facilities.

Concordia "Build Week"

Concordia recently hosted a "Build Week" in which volunteers help assemble playground equipment for the city. ITC sponsored the lunch for the large crowd of volunteers and community leaders supporting the event.



Cloud County Community College Scholarship

Wind Energy Technology students at Cloud County Community College (CCCC) will benefit again this year from the scholarship dollars provided by ITC. ITC staff was on campus to present Wind Energy Students, faculty and college staff with the scholarship funds demonstrating ITC's commitment to alternative energy education for future utility professionals.



Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce Events

ITC attended and met with business leaders from Ottawa County at the Chamber's Annual Banquet. The Chamber Director discussed opportunities for ITC to play a major role in the county's biggest event, Minnie-K day. Minnie-K day is a countywide celebration held in Minneapolis each year. ITC sponsored a bounce house, which was located in front of the Universal Field Services office in downtown Minneapolis. ■



AC vs. DC Technology

ITC has consistently made the case for expanding and strengthening the nation's electric transmission backbone, so we are glad to see continued investment in the system. From ITC's perspective, both Direct Current (DC) and Alternating Current (AC) technologies offer benefits, but the choice of technology depends on what the line developer and customers are seeking to accomplish.

A common analogy is that AC lines are like a highway, with multiple on- and off-ramps along the way, while DC lines act more like a tunnel. Converting DC voltage to AC voltage is expensive, so connections are generally only made at the ends of the line.

DC technology is appropriate for transporting energy long distances between two specific points, but doesn't offer many of the same regional and local economic, reliability and other transmission system benefits that an integrated AC transmission line would offer.

AC lines can more easily be networked with the existing transmission infrastructure in the region. An integrated AC line provides grid operators multiple paths to move power around the system, improving regional reliability and giving generators flexibility about where to locate their generation.

ITC believes that any transmission proposal for the region needs to be reviewed by a regional transmission organization, such as SPP. The interdependency of the nation's transmission system requires careful analysis of the impacts of adding any new infrastructure to the system. DC lines need to be carefully planned and designed to ensure that the DC lines don't have any unexpected negative impact on the existing AC system. ■



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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>. ■