

THE TRANSMISSION LINE

ITC GREAT PLAINS NEWSLETTER • SUMMER 2023



Welcome to the ITC Great Plains newsletter. We appreciate the opportunity to share with you the activities of ITC Great Plains 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.



ITC GREAT PLAINS NAMES NEW PRESIDENT

DUSKY TERRY TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Dusky Terry has been named president of ITC Great Plains, where he will provide leadership and strategic direction as the business unit head for the electric transmission operating company serving parts of Kansas and Oklahoma.

Mr. Terry joined ITC in 2019 as vice president, ITC Holdings Corp. and president of ITC Midwest – positions he will maintain while also leading ITC Great Plains.

“ITC Great Plains has earned a reputation for operational excellence, strong local relationships, and enhanced electric transmission reliability,” said Mr. Terry. “Modernizing the power grid is key to meeting consumer demands for low-cost, reliable energy from diverse generation sources. The company remains a committed partner in driving energy solutions across Kansas and Oklahoma.”

Mr. Terry has spent the past four years leading ITC Midwest, which owns, operates and maintains more than 6,600 miles of high-voltage electric transmission infrastructure serving much of Iowa and parts of Minnesota, Illinois and Missouri, with a project in development in Wisconsin. Under Mr. Terry’s leadership, ITC Midwest has successfully completed several major transmission projects over the past few years to significantly improve system reliability and enhance grid resilience.

“Dusky has extensive electric utility industry experience, strong public policy and legislative background, and solid knowledge of ITC operations,” said ITC Holdings Corp. Senior Vice President and Chief Business Officer Krista Tanner. “His experience and success as president for ITC Midwest will be a tremendous asset to ITC Great Plains as we continue to plan, build and operate significant projects to improve electric transmission infrastructure across our footprint.”

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND

A lifelong Iowan, Mr. Terry grew up on a farm in southwest Iowa and spent the first half of his career in the public policy arena before joining Central Iowa Power Cooperative (CIPCO), an electric generation and transmission cooperative, in 2008. He was promoted to vice president in 2013 and led a team responsible for business development, wholesale ratemaking and marketing/energy efficiency programs. His responsibilities expanded to include load forecasting and long-term resource planning where he played a key role in the deployment of CIPCO’s utility-scale solar projects.

Prior to CIPCO, Mr. Terry served in Iowa Governor Tom Vilsack’s office as an adviser and policy director working to advance the Governor’s policy agenda.

Mr. Terry currently serves as chair of the Iowa Utility Association Board of Directors. An active community volunteer, he previously served as president of the Earlham Lions Club and two terms as the mayor of Earlham, Iowa. He also held leadership positions on the Better Business Bureau of Iowa Board, Madison County Development Board, and Greater Madison Community Foundation Board. Mr. Terry earned a Bachelor of Arts in public administration from the University of Northern Iowa.

ITC Great Plains operates approximately 470 circuit miles of transmission lines in Kansas and Oklahoma. The company maintains regional offices in Dodge City, Topeka and Wichita, Kansas, and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.



FOR THE
GREATER GRID.

IN THIS
ISSUE

- ITC Great Plains Charitable Giving
- ITC Supports Monarch Butterfly Habitat
- Think Safety First this Harvest Season

ITC GREAT PLAINS SUPPORTS NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THROUGH CHARITABLE GIVING

Through the ITC Charitable Giving Program, ITC Great Plains makes contributions to local nonprofits as part of the company's commitment to the many communities it serves. ITC supports qualified nonprofit organizations whose programs and projects emphasize the company's focus on education, environmental stewardship, social services, and health and wellness.

The local and regional organizations that have received grants and their projects include:

- **Capper Foundation** – With a mission of building abilities and empowering people of all ages living with disabilities in Topeka, Kansas, a \$10,000 grant has been awarded for the construction of a wheelchair-adaptable swing to foster inclusion and enhanced mental health.
- **Goodland Academy** – With a focus on providing education and a stable environment for all children and adolescents in Choctaw County, Oklahoma, a \$5,000 grant was awarded to the Host Home Program to provide a unique alternative to currently homeless youth.
- **Kansas Oral History Project** – With the purpose of collecting oral histories of various aspects of life in Kansas, including electric transmission, a \$3,000 grant was awarded to this non-profit organization.
- **Kiowa County Historical Society** – In support of the preservation efforts of the nationally historic Fromme-Birney round barn a \$2,000 grant was awarded to the Kiowa County Historical Society.
- **Mental Health Association of South Central Kansas** – To support mental health services, a \$10,000 grant was awarded to the Access to Care Program, a grant-supported program that provides funding to those without the financial resources to obtain proper mental healthcare.
- **Project G.A.I.N.** – With a focus on equipping youth with knowledge and experience in leadership, innovation, fellowship and education, a \$5,000 grant was awarded to launch of L.I.F.E. University, a new youth program providing youth services for Choctaw, Pushmataha and McCurtain counties.
- **Topeka Civic Theatre and Academy** – With a mission of bringing a diverse community together to learn about, experience and celebrate the joys of live theatre, a \$2,500 grant was awarded to aid in reaching those experiencing the theatre as audience members as well as those performing in Topeka and Shawnee Counties.
- **Greater Wichita YMCA** – In support of human services, a \$10,000 grant was awarded to the LIVESTRONG at the YMCA Program offering adults affected by cancer a safe, supportive environment to participate in physical and social activities focused on healing the whole person.

Additional contributions will be awarded to support the communities we serve throughout 2023.



ITC Great Plains Regional Manager of Community Relations Kim Goodnight (center) presents check to Greater Wichita YMCA Branch Director Jason Pedigo (left) and Administrative Assistant Susanne Blauket (right).



ITC COMMITS 98,000 ACRES TO MONARCH BUTTERFLY HABITAT

VOLUNTARY FEDERAL PROGRAM PROTECTS DECLINING POLLINATORS;
ACRES LOCATED IN SIX STATES ACROSS MIDWEST REGION

In keeping with a longtime commitment to conservation efforts and good land stewardship for the communities it serves, ITC has enrolled 98,000 acres across six states in a federal program to protect and grow habitat for the threatened monarch butterfly.

The monarch butterfly is an important pollinator that has seen drastic population losses over the past 20 years — by as much as 80% for eastern populations of the butterfly and a shocking 99% for western populations. This isn't just bad news for the butterflies. Pollinators are necessary to more than a third of crop production.

In response to this decline, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has taken proactive measures and created a nationwide Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) designed to engage energy companies like ITC in vital conservation efforts that benefit the monarch butterfly. The voluntary program establishes consistent conservation measures and provides regulatory certainty for participating landowners.



“At ITC, we always want to do the right thing. With this program, we can make a difference in our communities by engaging in efforts to restore and protect the monarch butterfly population.”

— ITC Environmental Manager Mike McNulty

WHAT IS A CCAA?

A CCAA is a formal agreement to address the conservation needs of at-risk species before they become listed as threatened or endangered under the Federal Endangered Species Act. Landowners voluntarily commit to conservation measures that help stabilize or restore the species with the goal that an endangered listing will become unnecessary.

ITC is an ideal candidate for the monarch CCAA program because the company maintains large strips of land in rights-of-way, or easements, for its electric transmission lines. In fact, ITC was one of the first dozen utilities to apply and was recently accepted after a yearlong application process.

“The landscape-scale restoration work ITC is doing to establish and enhance pollinator habitat on utility corridors is essential to the survival of monarchs, plus it will support many other conservation values,” said Lisa Hein, Senior Director for Conservation Programs for the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation. “We appreciate ITC’s leadership and believe the proactive measures will encourage others to take similar action.”

The utility is committed to implementing conservation measures that will serve to benefit monarch butterfly habitat on a minimum of 42 percent of its enrolled lands on an annual basis. This far exceeds the 18 percent as required by the CCAA. The locations and number of enrolled ITC acres are wide-reaching and will have a significant beneficial impact for monarch butterflies:



ITC GREAT PLAINS

Kansas – 5,200 acres

Oklahoma – 400 acres



ITC MICHIGAN

Michigan – 49,600 acres



ITC MIDWEST

Iowa – 38,600 acres

Minnesota – 3,400 acres

Illinois – 1,100 acres

“Saving the monarch requires a collective effort to provide habitat on the landscape,” said Sean P. Sweeney, Fish and Wildlife Biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. “We welcome the participation of ITC in the Nationwide Candidate Conservation Agreement for Monarch Butterfly on Energy and Transportation Lands. ITC joins a growing group of businesses and agencies dedicated to securing the future of the monarch by creating and conserving habitat along rights of way across the country.”

The land is largely rural because it can better sustain large populations of monarchs. Cropland, medium-intensity development and urban spaces were ruled out, as these land uses are not likely to contain any meaningful monarch habitat.

“These 98,000 acres all have potential for monarch habitat. While these acres are already being managed according to best vegetation management practices, we will now also manage for monarch habitat,” said McNulty.

That means timing seasonal mowing so it doesn’t affect the monarch breeding season, selective herbicide spraying and brush removal, developing more grassland and prairie habitat, seeding and planting, and letting the land rest, too.

The CCAA also requires regular monitoring and reporting on monarch habitat and populations on these acres. For example, field crews will collect data on the amount of milkweed — vital vegetation for monarch butterfly habitat for its nectar and as a host for eggs.

A HISTORY OF GOOD STEWARDSHIP

In addition, our environmental team is involved in the design, installation and management of ITC Great Plains pollinator habitat located at the company’s Thistle Substation in Medicine Lodge, Kansas. This nearly 11-acre pollinator habitat will improve stormwater quality via infiltration, reduce costs of turf-grass management, and serve an important larval host by providing nectar and pollen resources for pollinators. This habitat will also help save declining wildlife species like the monarch butterfly, native bumble bees, and grassland-nesting birds.

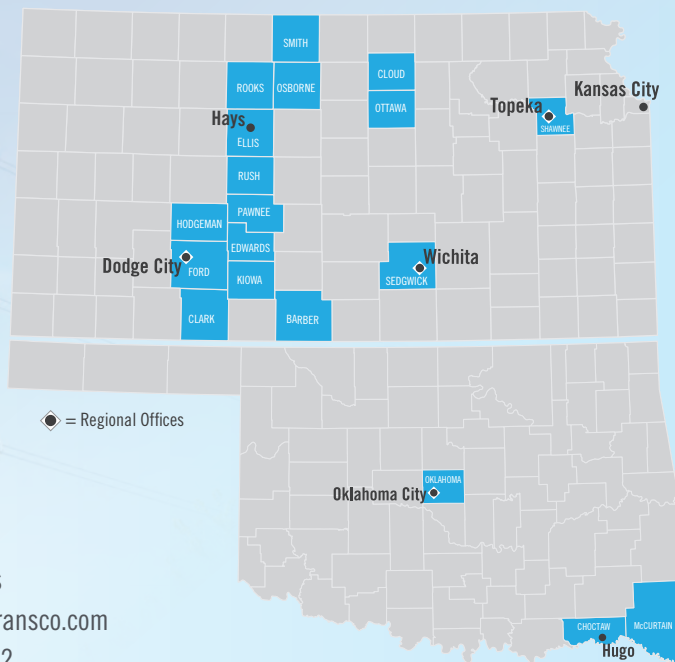
ITC is also a member of the Midwest Rights-of-Way as Habitat Working Group and the Wildlife Habitat Council with 14 sites enrolled in the Conservation Certification Program.

Many of these conservation efforts provide an opportunity to develop government, corporate and community partnerships as well as the opportunity to work collaboratively on environmental solutions that benefit all community stakeholders.

GET TO KNOW ITC GREAT PLAINS:

CUSTOMER & BUSINESS SOLUTIONS / STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS

Stakeholder Relations works with utility and generation stakeholders such as investor-owned utilities, rural cooperatives, municipal electric utilities, wind developers, large industrial customers and independent power producers to address transmission-related issues. Among many responsibilities, the Stakeholder Relations team works to identify and align growth strategies for mutual success. This includes reviewing planned and unplanned outage coordination, facilitating the ITC response to line move requests, growth opportunities, and handling equipment damage claims.

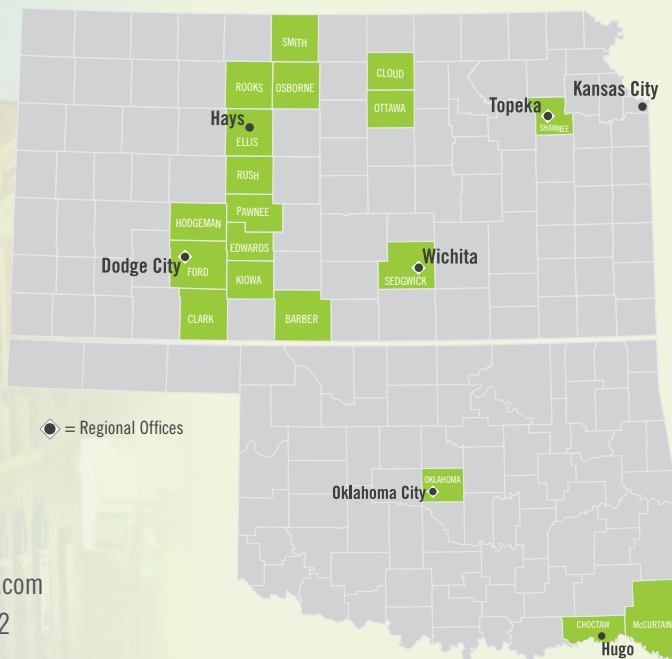


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LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

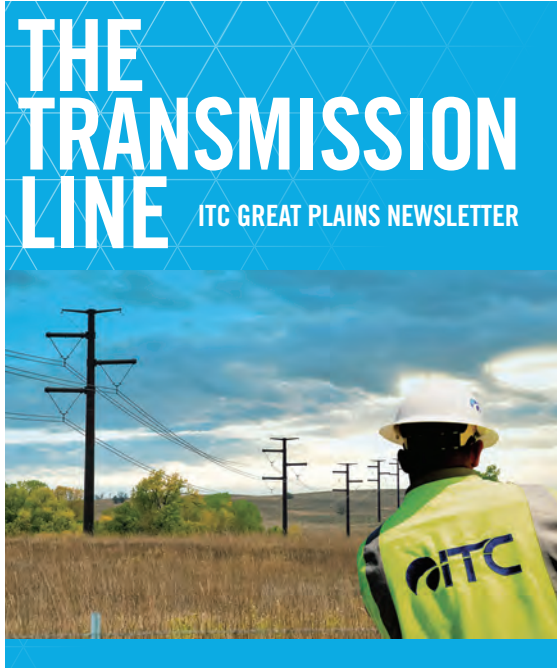
Local Government and Community Affairs Area Managers work with local city councils, county commissions, township officials, natural resources districts, chambers of commerce, economic development boards, department of transportation staff members and others to coordinate ITC communications, work activities and transmission system projects.



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THINK SAFETY WITH ELECTRICITY DURING HARVEST

AS FALL HARVEST BEGINS, HERE ARE SOME SAFETY TIPS TO KEEP IN MIND:



- Farm equipment should always be kept a safe distance away from power lines. Today's large combines and augers can extend high into the air. Farm operators should practice extreme caution and use a spotter to ensure they stay far away from power lines when using tall equipment.
- Motorists should be on the lookout for slow moving combines and tractors throughout harvest season. Drivers should slow down and be cautious when meeting or passing farm equipment on roadways.
- Modern combines have GPS systems to improve efficiency in harvesting crops. Please be mindful of utility poles and guy wires located in or close to fields to accurately map GPS to avoid contacting facilities which can cause injuries and outages, as well as damage equipment and property.
- Overhead power lines are not the only electrical hazard on the farm. Guy wires, which are used to stabilize poles, can also be easily snagged by farm equipment. If a guy wire is damaged, it is important to contact the appropriate utility company to evaluate the situation and make proper repairs.
- Agriculture and reliable electricity are both essential for our Great Plains way of life and our economy. Following these simple safety tips can help ensure a safe harvest season.