



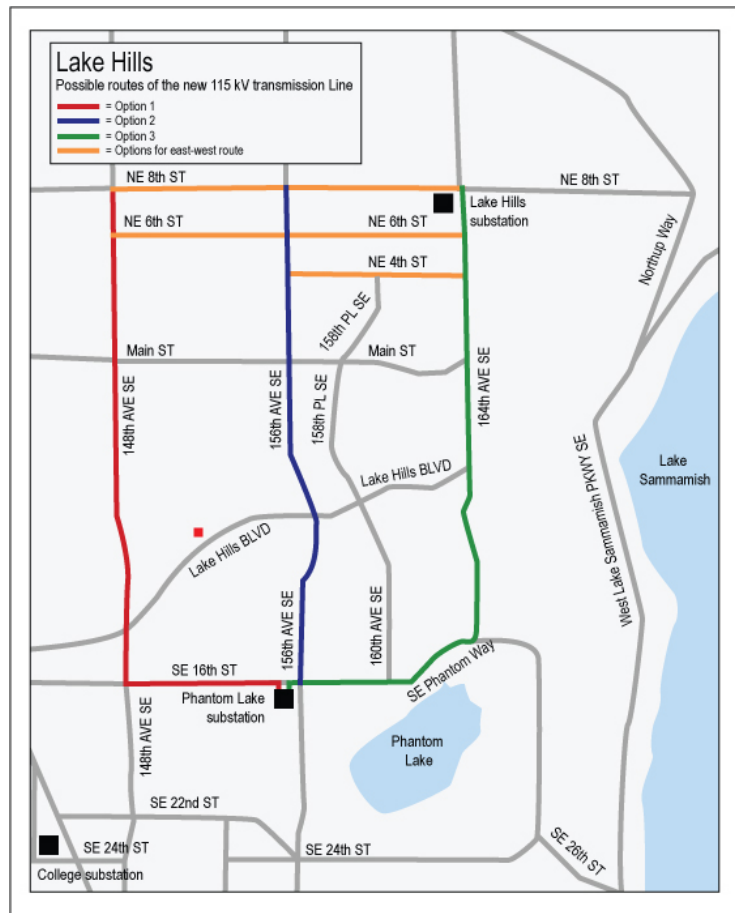
Puget Sound Energy to upgrade electrical system in Crossroads, Robinswood, Lake Hills and Phantom Lake neighborhoods of Bellevue

What is the project?

Puget Sound Energy plans to construct a 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from our Phantom Lake substation (located on the southwest corner of NE 8th Street and 164th Avenue SE) to our Lake Hills substation (located at the southwest corner of SE 16th Street and 156th Avenue SE in Bellevue). PSE has yet to determine the specific route of the transmission line; the map highlights three possible routes.

Why is PSE building a new transmission line?

PSE is building the new transmission line to increase the reliability of the electrical system and to allow for better use of existing capacity. Currently our Phantom Lake, Lake Hills and College substations are served radially, which means they are each served by one transmission line. A radial system does not allow for redundancy in the electrical system. If the line serving the substation goes out, the substation and the customers served by it lose power. The new transmission line will create a "loop", which means each substation will be fed by two transmission lines. So, if one line goes out the other line will still feed the substation and electricity to customers in the area. In addition, because the substations are served radially, PSE is unable to use each of the substations' design capacity. The new transmission line will allow PSE to better use the existing capacity of the substations without additional substation expansion.



How will this benefit you and your community?

The new transmission line will increase electric reliability to customers in the Bellevue areas of Crossroads, Robinswood, Lake Hills and Phantom Lake.

What will the work entail?

- Trimming and removing vegetation along the route
- Installing new transmission poles and insulators
- Stringing transmission line
- Site restoration, including landscaping

Project schedule

- Design and permitting: 2008
- Construction: late spring 2009
- Completion: winter 2009

Construction will be confined to normal daytime working hours during the week, with the possibility of some work on Saturdays. The majority of the work will be in roads along public rights of way. When working in or along roads, signs and flaggers will help direct traffic. The project is expected to take six months.

What can I expect to see or hear during construction?

Typical construction equipment will be used including back hoes, cranes, bucket trucks, and work trucks. Construction will involve vegetation removal and installation of new transmission poles and conductors.

Why are transmission lines necessary?

Transmission lines are key links in the electrical distribution process. The lines safely transport high voltage electricity from power sources, including hydroelectric dams and wind farms, to substations in local communities. Transmission normally takes place at voltages of 115 kV and higher.

Transmission lines supply high-voltage power to substations where the power is then transformed to lower voltages that can be safely distributed to customers.

PSE's commitment

PSE remains focused on our vital mission to provide essential energy to our customers. At the same time, the company works hard to keep people informed of scheduled activities in their communities, and to ask for suggestions and opinions as those activities are being planned.

For additional information/questions please contact:

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