

## Ninth & Central - Sunset 115 kV Transmission Line Rebuild Project

### Project Profile

Avista is rebuilding 2.75 miles of transmission line along the lower South Hill bluff that serves portions of the South Hill and Spokane Valley and supports downtown Spokane. This is the second year of a two-year project that will improve service reliability and safety, meet the growing energy needs of our customers and reduce energy loss.

The rebuild of this portion of the transmission line includes:

- reducing the number of structures and poles by replacing 1940s-era wooden poles, which are past their expected life, with 15-30 foot taller wood-equivalent steel poles, and
- installing more efficient power lines and equipment.

The 2017 work is expected to begin in September and be completed in November 2017.

### Where will the 2017 work be occurring?

- The work begins near 57<sup>th</sup> and Hatch and continues northerly along the South Hill bluff across the Qualchan Golf Course driving range to Avista's Sunset substation located on the east side of Hangman Creek.
- Minimal power outages are expected to occur during the work. Customers impacted by a temporary power outage will be notified in advance.



## Questions & Answers

### When will the project begin?

- The work is expected to start in September and be completed by the end of November 2017.

### What impact will there be to this portion of the South Hill bluff?

- In addition to public safety, our focus is on minimizing impact to the environment in the construction corridor. Areas where some disturbance is necessary to perform the work will be restored to its pre-work condition.
- Minimal improvements are needed to an existing access road at the Sunset substation to reach three structures and to an existing access road north of the Highland Park neighborhood to reach two structures. *No new access roads will be created.*
- To access the remaining structures, plans call for a helicopter to remove existing poles and place new ones into hand-dug holes. Utility Task Vehicles, e.g., a side-by-side, will be used.
- The number of poles and structures will be reduced, although the poles will be 10-30 feet higher than the current poles which have been in service since the 1940s.
- The construction area will be restored to its pre-work condition.

### Will the work impact trail users in the area?

- The safety of trail users and minimizing impact on existing trails in the construction corridor are very important.
- In advance of work starting, signs will be placed at trail access points to the construction corridor. Trail users will be urged to stay safe by staying out of the construction corridor.
- After the line rebuild is completed, trails in the construction corridor will reopen.

### What differences will there be between the new transmission line and the existing line?

- Technology and customer needs have changed significantly since the Ninth & Central – Sunset transmission line was constructed about 70 years ago.

#### *Existing transmission line*

- 22 structures with 48 poles
- Wooden cedar poles
- 40-60 feet tall
- 0.6" diameter copper conductor, black from oxidation
- No fiber optic connectivity or lightning protection
- 78-megawatt maximum capacity

#### *Rebuilt transmission line*

- 18 structures with 42 poles
- Self-weathering steel, rust color
- 55-75 feet tall
- 1.1" diameter aluminum conductor, grey in color
- Fiber optic line for connectivity and lightning protection
- 350-megawatt maximum capacity

### How can I stay informed on the work?

- We will be providing updates to neighborhood councils closest to the transmission line.
- If you would like to receive the updates directly, send an email to [transmission\\_rebuild@avistacorp.com](mailto:transmission_rebuild@avistacorp.com)

### Who do I contact with questions about the transmission line rebuild?

**Bryan Hyde**

Transmission Engineer

(509) 495-2990, [bryan.hyde@avistacorp.com](mailto:bryan.hyde@avistacorp.com)

