

# Sammamish-Juanita 115 kV project

May 2016

Customer energy usage at times can strain and/or exceed the capacity of the existing electric system in northern Redmond-Kirkland, reducing the ability to provide dependable power to area residents and businesses.

To increase electric system capacity and improve reliability, Puget Sound Energy plans to construct a new 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the Sammamish substation in Redmond to just south of the Juanita substation in Kirkland to interconnect with an existing transmission line that crosses over NE 124th Street.

## Improving electric reliability for Kirkland-Redmond customers

Demand for power is growing. The electric system serving northern Kirkland and Redmond – referred to as the Moorlands electric system – provides power for more than 55,000 customers.

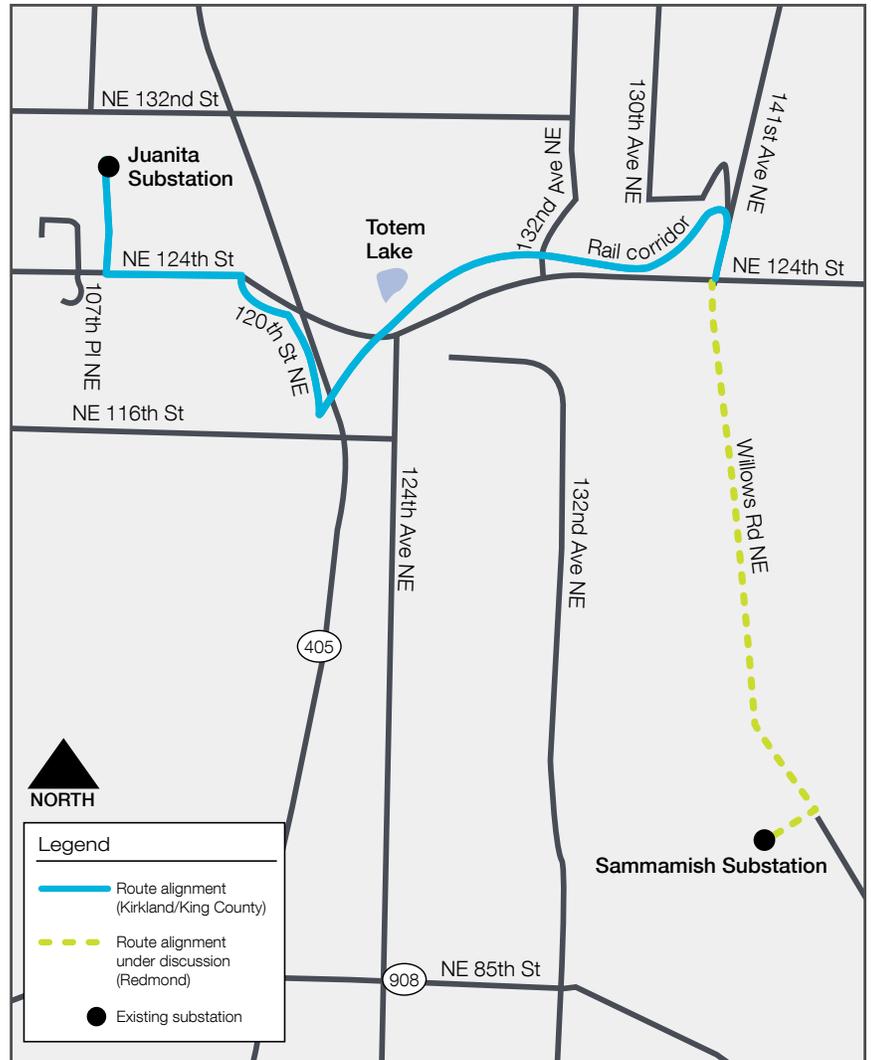
The Moorlands system faces two problems – capacity (being able to deliver enough power) and reliability (ensuring we can provide power during times of peak usage or when parts of the system are out of service). As demand grows, portions of the Moorlands electric system are reaching capacity limits. This means under certain conditions transmission lines in the area can overload. If the lines overload, residents and businesses are at risk of a power outage.

By building the new Sammamish-Juanita transmission line we can reconfigure the Moorlands electric system to transfer two substations to another transmission system, freeing up capacity on the Moorlands system. The new transmission line will improve system reliability by adding an additional transmission pathway to the Moorlands system.

The new transmission line will increase electric capacity, reduce the risk for power outages and ensure we can continue to supply customers in the northern Kirkland-Redmond area with dependable power for years to come.

## Community involvement

PSE launched the Sammamish-Juanita 115 kV project in 2008 and held initial public meetings. We convened a stakeholder advisory group in 2011 to



help identify a route for the new transmission line. After careful deliberation during multiple meetings, three community meetings and more than 400 comments, the advisory group recommended a preferred route.

To learn more about the community-involved siting process, visit [pse.com/sammjuan115](http://pse.com/sammjuan115).

## 2016 project update

Using the advisory group's recommended route, we've refined the route alignments in Kirkland and Redmond, while learning about on-the-ground environmental conditions and potential mitigation for environmentally-sensitive areas.

We're also coordinating with property owners and agencies, like the Washington Department of Transportation, King County, Eastside Rail Corridor Regional Advisory Council, and the cities of Kirkland and Redmond, to inform our work.

Our work on the different portions of the project area varies, specifically:

- In Kirkland, we have a route alignment along the rail corridor, 120th Avenue NE and NE 124th Street. This is shown on the map. We plan to submit permit applications for this portion of the project by summer 2016.
- In Redmond, we are working with the City to finalize the route alignment.

## Project schedule

- Initial community meetings: Summer 2008 and Spring 2009
- Stakeholder advisory group and community meetings: Fall 2011 – Summer 2012
- Stakeholder advisory group route recommendation: Summer 2012
- Design and permitting: Fall 2012 – Fall 2016
- Construction: 2017

## What will the work entail?

- Trimming and removing vegetation along the route
- Installing new transmission poles, guys and insulators
- Stringing transmission line conductors (i.e., wire)
- Site restoration

Construction will be confined to normal daytime working hours during the week, with the possibility of some work on Saturdays. When working in or along roads, signs and flaggers will help direct traffic. We do not anticipate any scheduled power outages during construction; however, if an outage is needed customers will be notified in advance of the outage occurring.

## Why are transmission lines necessary?

Transmission lines are key elements in the electric distribution system. The lines safely transport high voltage electricity from power generation sources like dams and wind farms to substations in local communities. Transmission normally takes place at voltages of 55 kV and higher.

## PSE's commitment

PSE's mission is to deliver vital energy to meet the needs of our customers now and in the future. We're committed to listening to our customers, maintaining an informed and open conversation about our work, and being responsive to customer needs.

We also welcome your comments and questions on your project.



Example 115 kV pole design



To learn more, visit  
[pse.com/sammjuan115](http://pse.com/sammjuan115)



Dave Jenness  
Project Manager  
1-888-404-8773



Email [majorprojects@pse.com](mailto:majorprojects@pse.com)  
with your questions and comments.