

*Delivering your energy future*

June 2012

## What is the project?

Customer energy usage at times can strain and/or exceed the capacity of the existing electric system in the northern Redmond-Kirkland area, 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 approximately four miles of 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from our Sammamish substation (9221 Willows Road NE in Redmond) to or near to our existing Juanita substation (10910 NE 132<sup>nd</sup> Street in Kirkland).

We are working with Kirkland and Redmond community members to select a preferred route for the project.

## Where will the new transmission line be constructed?

At this time, a preferred route has not been identified. Since September 2011, we have been working with a stakeholder advisory group, comprised of community and business leaders, to help us develop possible route alternatives and better understand community concerns.

PSE and the advisory group used computer modeling to develop potential routes for discussion. Using feedback from the December 2011 community meeting and public comments, PSE and the advisory group narrowed more than 30 route options down to three alternatives.

Routing a transmission line in an urban area is challenging, so we have spent months identifying issues and routing modifications in order to present feasible and constructible alternatives to the community.

The goal is to develop a community-acceptable, constructible and permissible route. Additional public meetings will be held during the route selection process. You will receive information and have opportunities to provide input and feedback as the preferred route is developed.

## Why is this project important to Redmond-Kirkland residents and businesses?

Demand for power is growing. The northern Redmond-Kirkland area electric system – referred to as the Moorlands electric system – serves a population of nearly 150,000 residential, commercial and industrial customers. The Moorlands system faces two problems – capacity (being able to supply enough power) and reliability (ensuring we can provide power even when parts of the system are out of service).

The Moorlands system transmission lines currently serve 12 local substations and the system is approaching its capacity limits. As demand grows, we are reaching the capacity limits for portions of the electric system. This means under certain conditions transmission lines in the area can overload, resulting in power outages to customers.

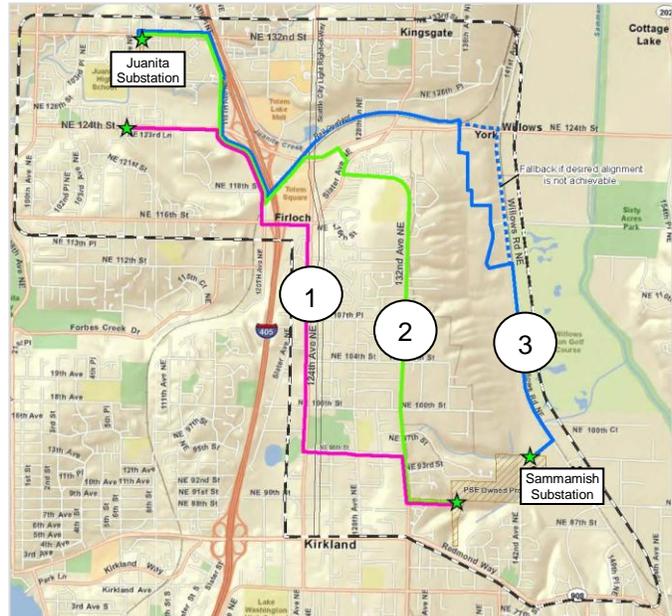


Figure 1. Stakeholder advisory group recommended route alternatives. For maps, visit [PSE.com/SammJuan115](http://PSE.com/SammJuan115).

By building the new Sammamish-Juanita 115 kV transmission line we can reconfigure the Moorlands system to transfer two substations to another transmission system, thereby freeing up capacity on the Moorlands system. The new Sammamish-Juanita line will improve system reliability by adding an additional transmission pathway to the Moorlands system.

### **How will this benefit you and your community?**

The new transmission line will increase electric capacity, ensuring continued delivery of dependable power to residents and businesses in the northern Redmond-Kirkland area.

### **Project schedule**

- Initial community meetings: Summer 2008 and spring 2009
- Stakeholder advisory group meetings: Fall 2011 – summer 2012
- Community meetings: Fall 2011 – summer 2012
- Route analysis and preferred route selection: Summer 2012
- Design and permitting: Fall 2012 – spring 2013
- Construction: 2013 – 2014
- Completion: 2014

### **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

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.

### **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 are committed to keeping everyone informed of scheduled activities in their communities, and to ask for suggestions and opinions as we plan those activities.

For additional information/questions, please visit our project Web page at [PSE.com/SammJuan115](http://PSE.com/SammJuan115) or contact:

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We also welcome your comments and questions on our Sammamish-Juanita 115 kV project at [info@sammjuan115.com](mailto:info@sammjuan115.com).