

Delivering your energy future

August 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 a new 115 kilovolt transmission line from the Sammamish substation (9221 Willows Road NE in Redmond) to or near the Juanita substation (10910 NE 132nd Street in Kirkland).

Where will the new transmission line be constructed?

Since September 2011, we have been working with a stakeholder advisory group, comprised of Kirkland and Redmond community, business and government representatives, and consulting with the broader community to explore possible routes for the new line.

After 10 months of discussion and review of community input, the stakeholder advisory group made their preferred route recommendation on July 18, 2012, which is shown in Figure 1. The recommended route begins at the Sammamish substation and ends on Northeast 124th Street where the new transmission line will interconnect with an existing transmission line south of the Juanita substation. The segment of existing line between the interconnection point and Juanita substation would need to be reconducted or rebuilt to transmit the power to Juanita substation.

We have not yet made our final route decision. We are sharing the advisory group's recommended route with the community and gathering comments on it. Using public comments and the advisory group's recommendation, we will make a final route decision later this summer and notify the community of the final route.

To learn more about the community-involved siting process, visit PSE.com/SammJuan115.

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 during times of peak usage or when parts of the system are out of service).

The Moorlands system transmission lines currently serve 12 local substations. As demand grows, we are reaching the capacity limits for portions of the electric system. This means under certain

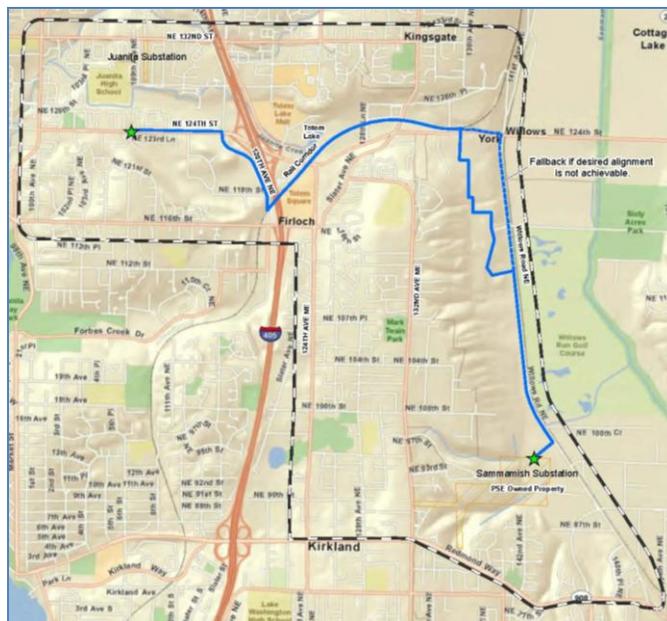


Figure 1. Stakeholder advisory group's recommended preferred route. For maps, visit PSE.com/SammJuan115.

conditions transmission lines in the area can overload. If the lines overload, nearly 150,000 customers in the northern Redmond-Kirkland area are at risk of a power outage.

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, reduce the risk for power outages and ensure PSE can continue to supply customers in the northern Redmond-Kirkland area with dependable power for years to come.

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 final 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, guys and insulators
- Stringing transmission line conductors
- 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.

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 or contact:

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We also welcome your comments and questions on our Sammamish-Juanita 115 kV project at info@sammjuan115.com.