

PUGET SOUND ENERGY'S SEABECK RELIABILITY PROJECT



Puget Sound Energy (PSE) is investing in a comprehensive electric system upgrade to address reliability and capacity issues in the Seabeck area. This project will significantly improve the electric system in the area by addressing vegetation interference that currently causes frequent and prolonged outages for residents.

What is capacity?

Capacity is an energy resource's maximum output—like how much energy a power plant can generate, or power lines can carry, at once. Adding capacity to our system ensures enough supply to meet your community's growing energy needs—now and for years to come!

Why this project is needed

PSE continuously monitors electric service reliability across our system to identify areas for improvement. The Seabeck area has significant reliability and capacity challenges that result in an above-average number of outages for customers, including:

Poor reliability: The two electric circuits serving your community experience frequent and long-lasting power outages, with one circuit heavily impacted by tree-related outages due to its long overhead exposure.

Delayed restoration: The local geography makes restoration efforts more challenging, resulting in longer outages for customers.

Capacity overloaded: Both circuits are overloaded and approaching their safe capacity limits, meaning the system cannot reliably serve all customers during periods of high demand. Since the power lines and substations were first built decades ago, the region has experienced population growth and increased electricity demand. During peak usage times, the current system can experience low voltage, which may mean it cannot reliably deliver the full amount of power needed to each home or business, potentially reducing efficiency and damaging equipment.

What is a circuit?

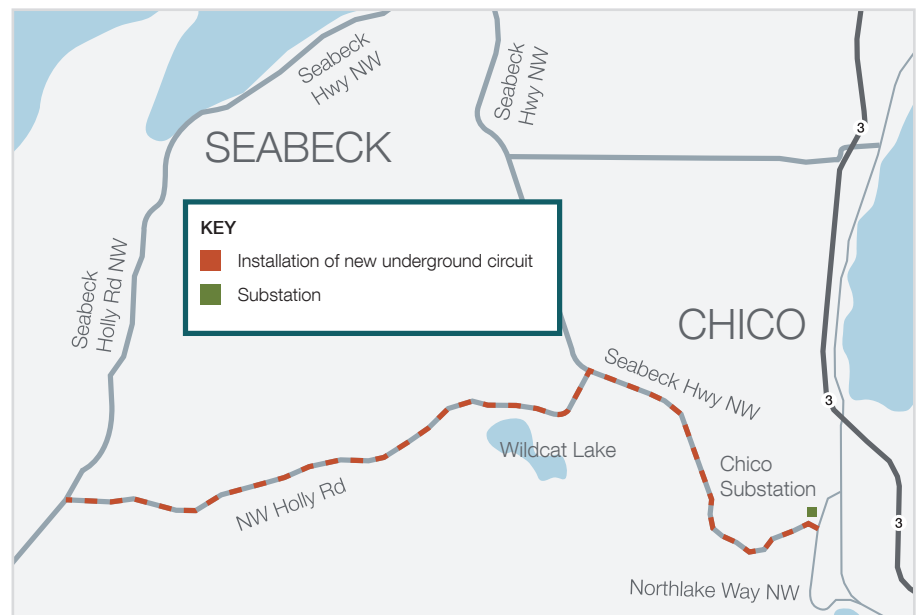
Circuits are paths that carry electricity, and individual circuits are what comprise PSE's entire electric system. Each circuit is comprised of power lines and other equipment that deliver electricity from substations to customers.

What we're building

The project plans to install new underground power lines from the Chico substation along Seabeck Highway and Northwest Holly Road to complement the existing overhead system. While these new feeder lines will be installed underground, overhead utilities will remain, as well as service lines to feed existing customers.

This underground construction will significantly improve reliability and dramatically reduce the frequent tree-related outages that the Seabeck community has experienced for years. When outages do occur, fewer customers will be affected due to the additional circuit, sectionalizing the existing overhead lines, enhanced automation, improved load distribution, and increased operational flexibility. Additionally, moving feeder lines underground greatly reduces the risk of wildfires, particularly important during summer months when dry conditions and high winds create elevated fire danger in the area.

This comprehensive upgrade will also spread electrical demand more evenly across our system to avoid overloading the power lines. Once complete, customers will experience significantly fewer and shorter power outages, better power quality with improved voltage, and a robust electric system designed to reliably serve the community's needs for many years to come.



Anticipated project timeline and next steps

In 2026, we'll be working with local agencies to secure the required permits. We'll also be reaching out to certain property owners to discuss the acquisition of easements needed to complete the project.

We anticipate construction on this project may begin in mid-2027, followed by restoration and mitigation work, to be completed in 2028. It's our goal to minimize construction impacts as much as possible, and we will share details and impacts with the community before construction begins.

During the permitting process you may see crews from PSE and our contractors working intermittently along Seabeck Highway and Northwest Holly Road to mark utility locates and complete survey work. These survey activities will support design, engineering and permitting activities.

We're committed to keeping you informed throughout this important reliability project. The project webpage will be updated regularly with new information as it becomes available.

PSE.com/Seabeck

Energy is essential for communities, and PSE is committed to creating
a better energy future for all customers in the Seabeck area.