NOPALITO TO SAND DOLLAR TO LAS BRISAS
AND
LON HILL TO SAND DOLLAR TO LAS BRISAS
PROJECT

Q. WHY IS THE PROJECT NEEDED?

A. A new generation plant is being constructed with the capacity to deliver 1300 MWs of power into the ERCOT network. Pursuant to Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) rules, a transmission service provider shall interconnect its facilities with new generating resources and construct facilities needed for such interconnection. An interconnection study, pursuant to ERCOT interconnection guidelines and procedures were performed to determine the necessary transmission improvements to deliver this new generation reliably into the ERCOT transmission network. This study determined the need for two 345 kV transmission lines; one transmission line from the existing Lon Hill Substation to a newly constructed ETT Sand Dollar Substation to the new generation station Las Brisas and a second transmission line from a new ETT Nopalito Substation cut into the existing Lon Hill to Whitepoint/South Texas Project 345 kV transmission lines extending to the a newly constructed ETT Sand Dollar Substation to the new generation station Las Brisas.

Q. WHAT IS ERCOT?

A. In early 1996, the PUCT issued revised rules to incorporate the Texas Legislature's changes to the Public Utility Regulatory Act (PURA) to create an Independent System Operator (ISO). Essentially an ISO is an independent, third-party entity that oversees the activities related to the reliable and safe transmission of electricity within a specified geographic area in Texas. However, as part of the electric retail choice implementation by the Texas Legislature, in the case of the ERCOT ISO, it also provides the platform for an open, competitive marketplace in the areas in Texas open to retail competition. Under PURA, the ERCOT ISO is required to perform four primary functions:

1. Ensure non-discriminatory access to the transmission and distribution systems for all electricity buyers and sellers.
2. Ensure the reliability and adequacy of the regional electric network.
3. Ensure that information related to customer retail choice is provided in a timely manner.

4. Ensure that electricity production and delivery are accurately accounted for among all regional generators and wholesale buyers and sellers.

Q. WHO IS ETT?

A. Electric Transmission Texas, LLC (ETT) is a new utility holding a certificate in Texas to provide transmission service that is co-owned by subsidiaries of American Electric Power (AEP) and MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company (MidAmerican). AEP is the parent company of AEP Texas Central Company (AEP TCC). AEP had sought a partner to help share in the financing of a large amount of transmission expenditures that AEP Texas was facing in the next 10 to 15 years related to wind energy expansion and aggressive load growth. The result was a partnership (50% equal ownership) between AEP and MidAmerican. AEP will engineer, construct, and operate these new transmission facilities for ETT.

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE PUBLIC MEETING?

A. The public meeting provides ETT and its routing consultant the opportunity to obtain public input on the route identification and evaluation process, while also providing a venue to educate the public on the project and the routing process involved. Input received at the public meeting is then used in possible refinement to the potential route links presented. All public meetings will be held in the evening and on days that are not intended to conflict with landowners' availability to attend a meeting. Meetings are "come and go" settings with different stations set up to discuss different aspects of the proposed transmission line, from the need for the transmission line to the routing evaluation process. Questionnaires will also be provided for attendees to solicit responses that will also be considered as part of the routing process.

Q. WILL AN ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS OF THESE ROUTES BE PERFORMED?

A. Yes. ETT's experienced routing consultant, which employs professional personnel with backgrounds in different environmental sciences, will also perform an environmental assessment for the proposed transmission line project. This environmental assessment will be filed as part of the Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) application that must be filed with the PUC to obtain approval for the routing and construction of the transmission line project.

Q. WHO APPROVES THE CONSTRUCTION AND ROUTING OF THE TRANSMISSION LINE?

A. ETT's activities are regulated by the PUCT, which has the ultimate authority to approve the construction of and the routing of the transmission lines for ETT.

Q. HAS THE TRANSMISSION LINE APPROVALS BEEN OBTAINED?

A. ETT has not obtained approval for routes at this time for these proposed transmission lines. ETT is currently working with an experienced consultant in routing evaluation and will present the routing results and make recommendations to the PUCT at a later date for its consideration and approval. ETT plans on filing its CCN applications for these proposed transmission lines, which is necessary for the PUCT to consider the approval of the line and the line route, in the summer of 2011.

Q. WHAT ARE THE PROJECTED IN SERVICE DATES FOR THIS TRANSMISSION LINES?

A. The target in service dates for the transmission lines are spring 2014.

Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN WHAT AN EASEMENT IS?

A. An easement is a legal document that gives a utility the right to use privately owned land for a specific purpose. The landowner retains ownership of the property. The proposed project will require easements to be obtained from landowners on the routes approved by the PUCT. Easement rights would be purchased along the path of the transmission line as needed to allow for installation, operation and maintenance of the transmission line.

Q. HOW IS THE LANDOWNER IMPACTED BY THESE EASEMENTS?

A. Easements provide the utility the ability to clear right-of-way and construct electric facilities within the easement boundaries. Clearing includes the removal of trees and shrubs in the easement that would interfere with the safe operation and the maintenance of the transmission line. Erosion control measures are implemented during the clearing and construction process. After ETT has obtained a necessary easement from a landowner that landowner will be contacted prior to clearing and construction activities. ETT will undertake reasonable efforts to minimize disturbances to the landowner's use of the property and the impact to landowner's property in general during clearing and construction activities. After completing construction of the transmission line, the surface of the easement area will be restored as near possible to its original contours and grades and be re-vegetated as necessary using native species while giving consideration to landowner preferences. The landowner may continue to use the easement property for activities such as ranching and hunting, as long as the activity does not interfere with the construction, operation and maintenance of the line and does not jeopardize the safe use of the easement area. The PUCT does require that a new easement restrict the new construction of any above-ground structures within the right-of-way.

Q. WHAT WILL BE THE EASEMENT WIDTH REQUIRED?

A. A 150-foot wide easement will be typically required. Additional easement area may be required for structure anchors and guy wires as well as multiple structures at line angle locations.

Q. WHEN WILL ETT APPROACH THE LANDOWNERS FOR EASEMENTS?

A. ETT will only approach landowners after it is assured that the PUCT is going to approve a specific route or has approved a specific route. Only those landowners located on the approved route will be contacted for easements. At this time, ETT does not know which alternative route that the PUCT would ultimately approve.

Q. WHAT IS A TYPICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE STRUCTURES TO BE BUILT?

A. ETT anticipates that the typical structure will be single pole double circuit capable and made of steel. The typical monopole steel structure would between 130 to 160 feet above groundline with a typical span distance between structures of 600 feet. A structure height must comply with the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) regarding minimum clearances to the ground, roadways, structures, other utility structures, etc. These clearance requirements are for the safety of the general public. A typical structure diagram is attached.

Q. ARE THE STRUCTURES SECURE AND SAFE?

A. Yes. ETT designs and constructs transmission lines with safety in mind. Materials are used that comply with the strength requirements of all applicable codes, including the NESC (as required by Texas statute) and the American Standard Testing Materials Specifications. ETT's design and construction practices meet or exceed all of these codes and specifications. These codes and specifications were developed in part to protect the general public from electrical shock. Also, if a severe event occurs, such as extreme wind conditions from a thunderstorm, and causes an overhead conductor to break and fall to the ground or upon the structure, ETT has in place protective devices to de-energize the line to further protect the general public. However, downed conductors should be considered dangerous and ETT requests that if one is found that contact with it should be avoided. ETT should be called immediately.