

# Beverly – Hills (Johnson County) Transmission Line Project

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

ITC Midwest is planning to build an electric transmission line that travels through Linn and Johnson counties from ITC Midwest's Beverly Substation in Cedar Rapids in Linn County to the MidAmerican Energy Hills Substation located near Hills in Johnson County. The proposed route includes building a 345,000 volt (345 kV) transmission line that joins the route of an existing 161 kV transmission line which will be removed and rebuilt in a double circuit configuration (two circuits on the same structures). The structures will be built to be capable of accommodating another 345 kV transmission line. Altogether through the two counties, the line is approximately 40 miles. The segment in Johnson County is approximately 26 miles.

The final route may change and will be determined when easement negotiations with landowners are completed and the Iowa Utilities Commission has approved the project. (Please see map of the proposed line route corridor in Johnson County on the back.)

### ***Why is this line needed?***

In response to ongoing growth and the significant increase in electricity demand projected in the greater Cedar Rapids-Iowa City corridor over the next few years, the Beverly-Hills line is needed to provide essential electric transmission capacity. When placed in service, the new transmission infrastructure will also help ensure grid reliability and system resilience.

**The Beverly – Hills project will provide numerous benefits and drive value for electric consumers locally and regionally. When completed, this transmission line will:**

- Increase transmission infrastructure to **improve system reliability**
- Enhance grid resilience to better **withstand extreme weather**
- **Expand access to generation resources** for electric consumers by reducing transmission system congestion
- Improve distribution of **lower-cost energy resources**, including renewables
- **Increase transmission system capacity** to help meet current and future demand for electricity.

### ***Whose approval is required to build this line?***

The Iowa Utilities Commission (IUC) grants regulatory approvals, called franchises, to Iowa utilities seeking to build transmission lines in the state. As part of its review process, the IUC reviews many aspects of the project such as the need for the line and the proposed route. The IUC has very clear criteria and a clear process for utilities to follow to request a franchise.

### ***What is being done to ensure this line will be safe?***

This line will be designed to meet and even exceed the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), the nationally-recognized design standard in the United States, as well as the Iowa Electrical Safety Code. Among other things, these codes require construction to meet clearance requirements and withstand extreme weather conditions. As the line owner, ITC Midwest will make sure that the line is clear of trees and other vegetation.

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## What is ITC Midwest doing to minimize impact on landowners and current land uses?

ITC Midwest seeks to minimize the impact of the line on existing land uses. The company is committed to protecting the environment and will fully compensate landowners for any damages that occur during the construction process. Where possible, this line will be co-located on the same structures with existing transmission lines to mitigate the need for a new transmission corridor across privately owned land. To minimize the footprint of the line, ITC Midwest plans to use steel monopoles.

## How will ITC Midwest work with landowners?

Under Iowa law, ITC Midwest cannot negotiate for easements until after the Iowa Utilities Commission holds a public information meeting. For this project, the Johnson County meeting was held in Tiffin on October 29, 2024. In the coming weeks, ITC Midwest representatives will begin meeting with affected landowners in the proposed corridor to explain the process and their rights, and ultimately, to begin negotiations to secure voluntary easements.

Landowners are compensated for permitting ITC Midwest to secure an easement on their property. ITC Midwest understands and appreciates the impact that line construction has on landowners and pledges to treat *all* landowners with the utmost respect during this important process.

## Beverly – Hills project proposed line corridor route in Johnson County



## Project Contacts

If you have questions, you can contact ITC Midwest using our toll-free customer line at 1-877-482-4829. Once construction begins, Shawn Mathis and Cory Turenne will be ITC Midwest’s project leads.



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