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Welcome

Ainsworth Wind-Bassett 115kV Transmission Line Project

Public Open House
March 25, 2026

Who We Are

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Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) is the state's largest electric generating utility and has been providing dependable and affordable electricity for more than half a century. NPPD currently serves all or parts of 84 of the state's 93 counties.

- Governed by an elected 11-member Board of Directors
- Serves both retail and wholesale customers
- More than 62% of Nebraska customer-generation resources are carbon-free
- Uses a divers mix of generation resources, including:


Coal


Wind


Nuclear


Diesel/other


Hydroelectric


Solar

The Path of Electricity

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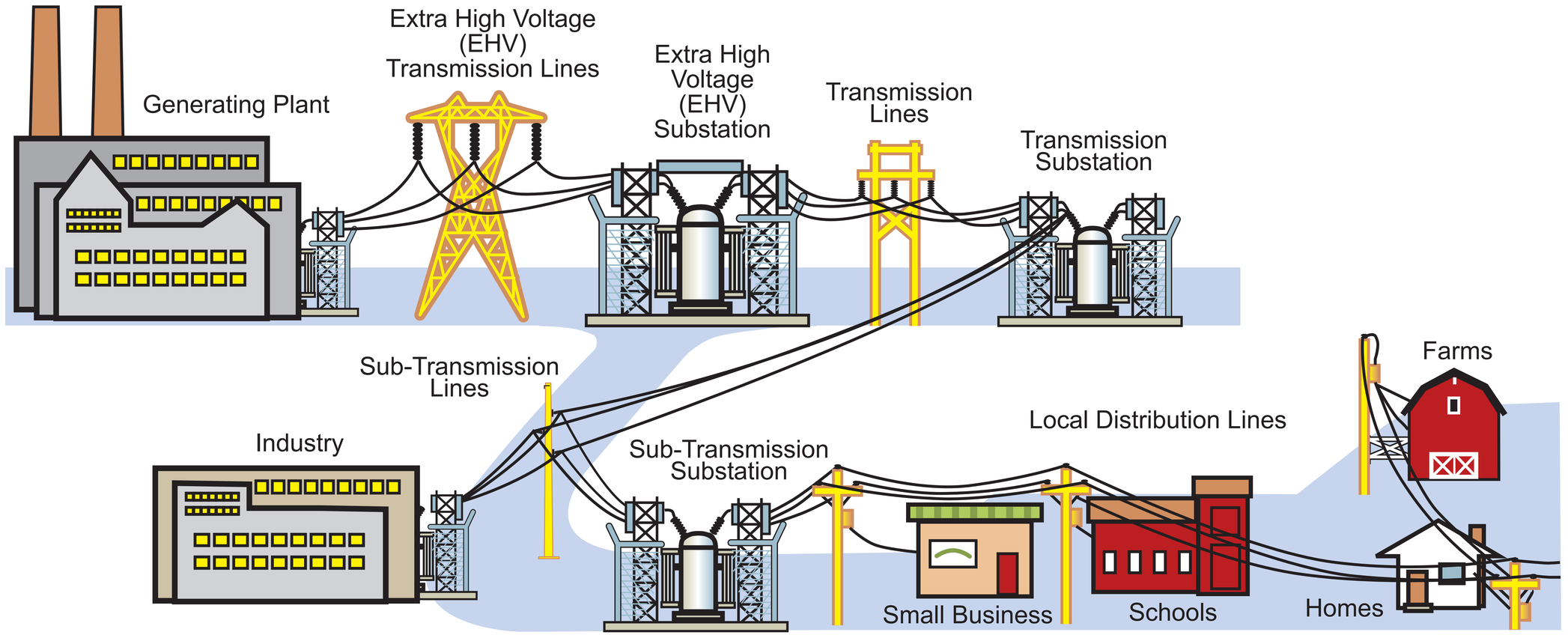
From the power plant, electricity is delivered through a series of lines and substations where the voltage is reduced to the proper level for end-use customers.



Southwest Power Pool

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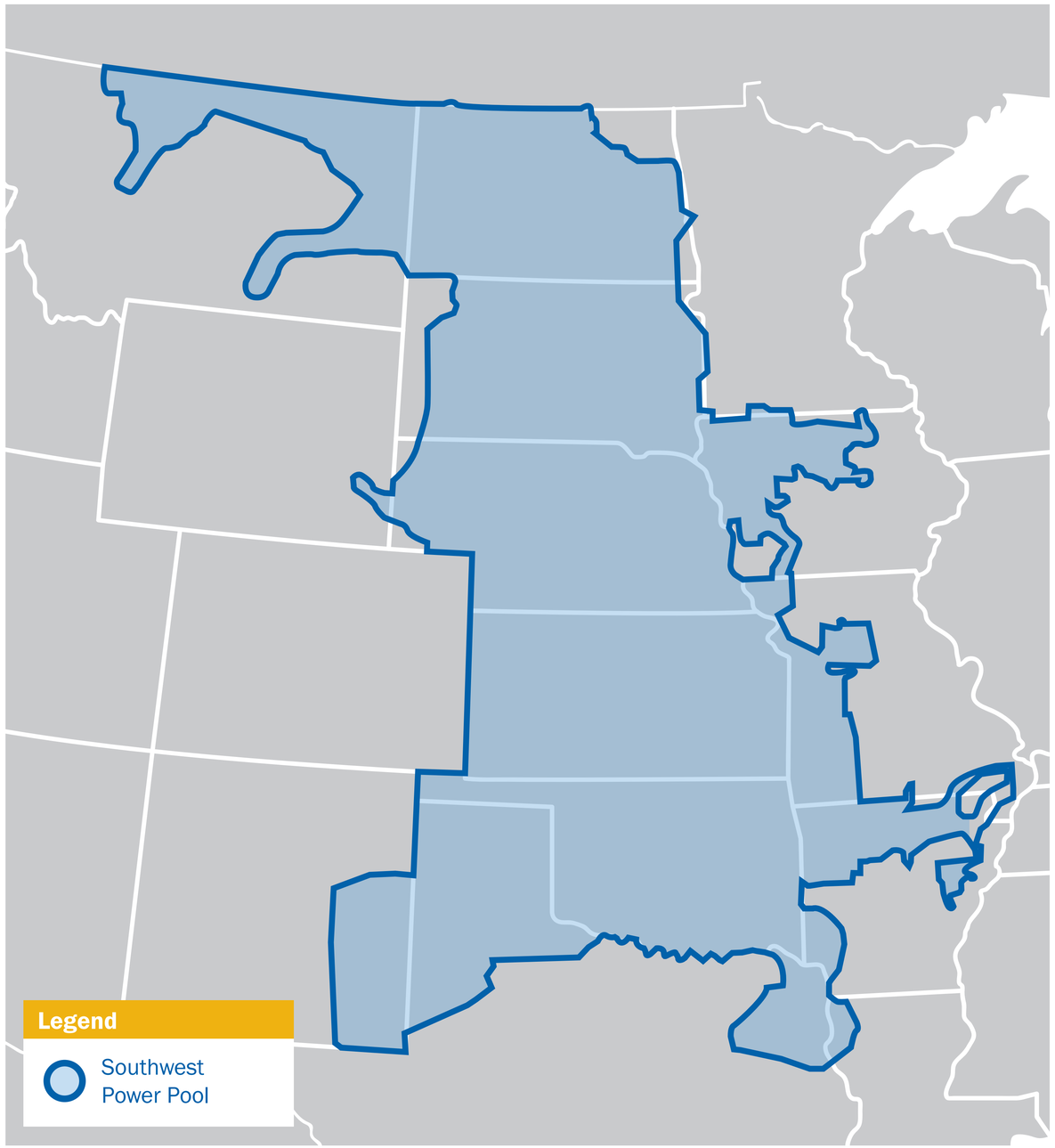
NPPD has been a member of the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) since April 2009. The SPP's primary focus is to ensure reliable power supplies, adequate transmission infrastructure, and competitive wholesale electricity prices.

This project will help strengthen the SPP electric system and to accommodate current and project future loads.



Purpose and Need

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NPPD plans to build approximately 25 miles of 115,000-volt (115-kilovolt [kV]) transmission line to accommodate current and projected future loads and provide additional reliability and enhanced resiliency in the North Central Nebraska area.

The project:

- Provides enhanced reliability and resiliency for NPPD customers
- Provides for a new transmission path in the North Central Nebraska area to serve the future projected load levels in the area
- Addresses local area contingency events to support voltage levels from Ainsworth – Bassett – O'Neill
- Meets the projected reliability needs identified in the Southwest Power Pool Integrated Transmission Plan
- Ainsworth Wind-Bassett 115kV project is the most effective transmission alternative to meet the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) reliability standards in this area

Routing, Siting, and Public Involvement

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NPPD uses a thorough and comprehensive public involvement process when siting new transmission lines. Routing a line requires balancing a variety of factors – from proximity to homes, towns, and community amenities to land use, environmental concerns, and construction challenges. When planning new transmission lines, we must consider the most suitable location for the line to be built.

While the shortest, most direct path might seem best, that is not always the case. Public input plays a key role in this process. Routes for a transmission project are typically developed over the course of multiple phases and are then narrowed down to a final route.

PHASE 1

- Identify study area
- Host Public Open House 1

PHASE 2

- Determine preferred and alternative routes using input from the public and considering constraints
- Host Public Open House 2

PHASE 3

- Determine proposed route using input from the public and considering constraints
- Host Public Hearing
- Announce final line route not earlier that 30 days after the Public Hearing
- Host Public Open House 1

Project Schedule

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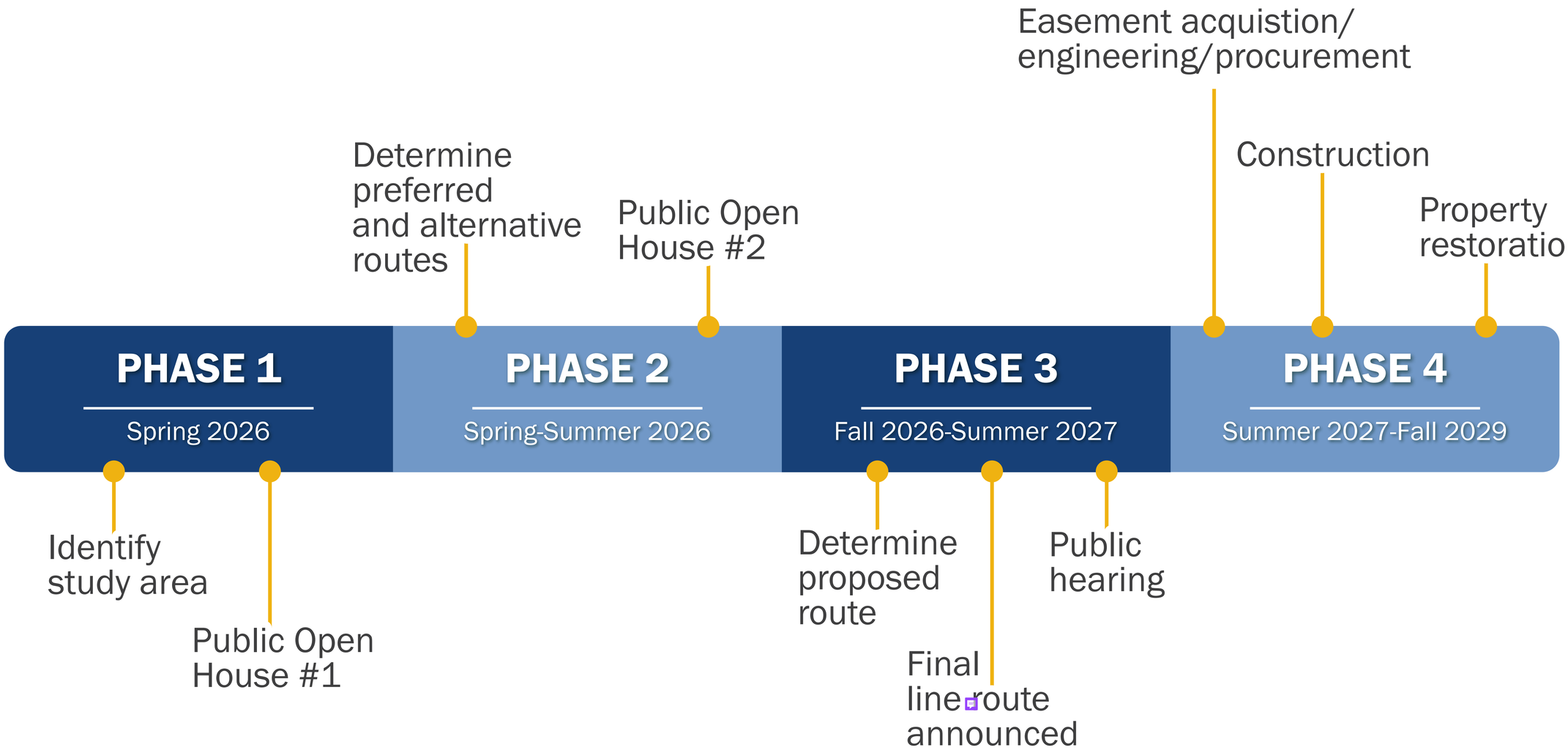

Ainsworth Wind-Bassett Study Area

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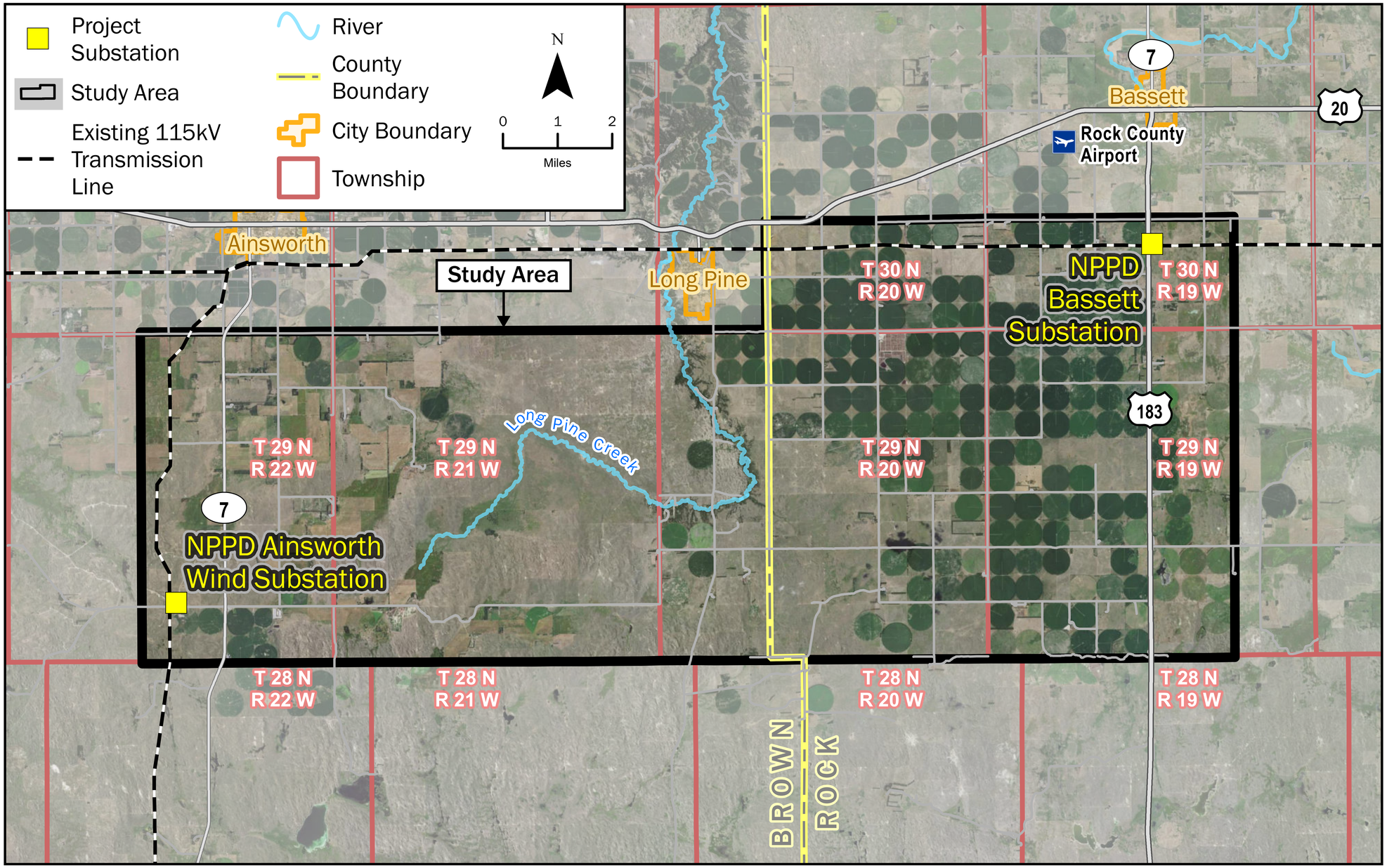

Routing Study Process

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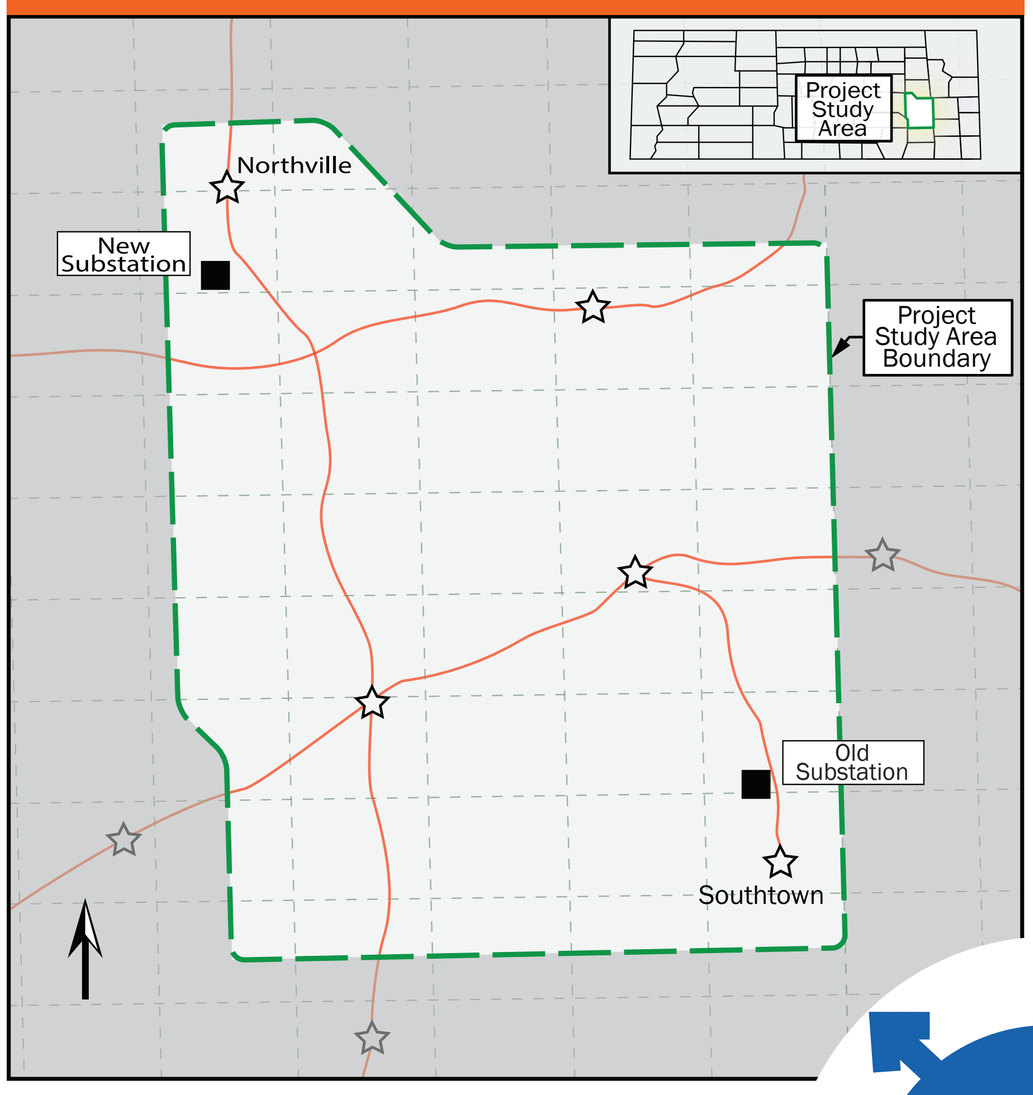
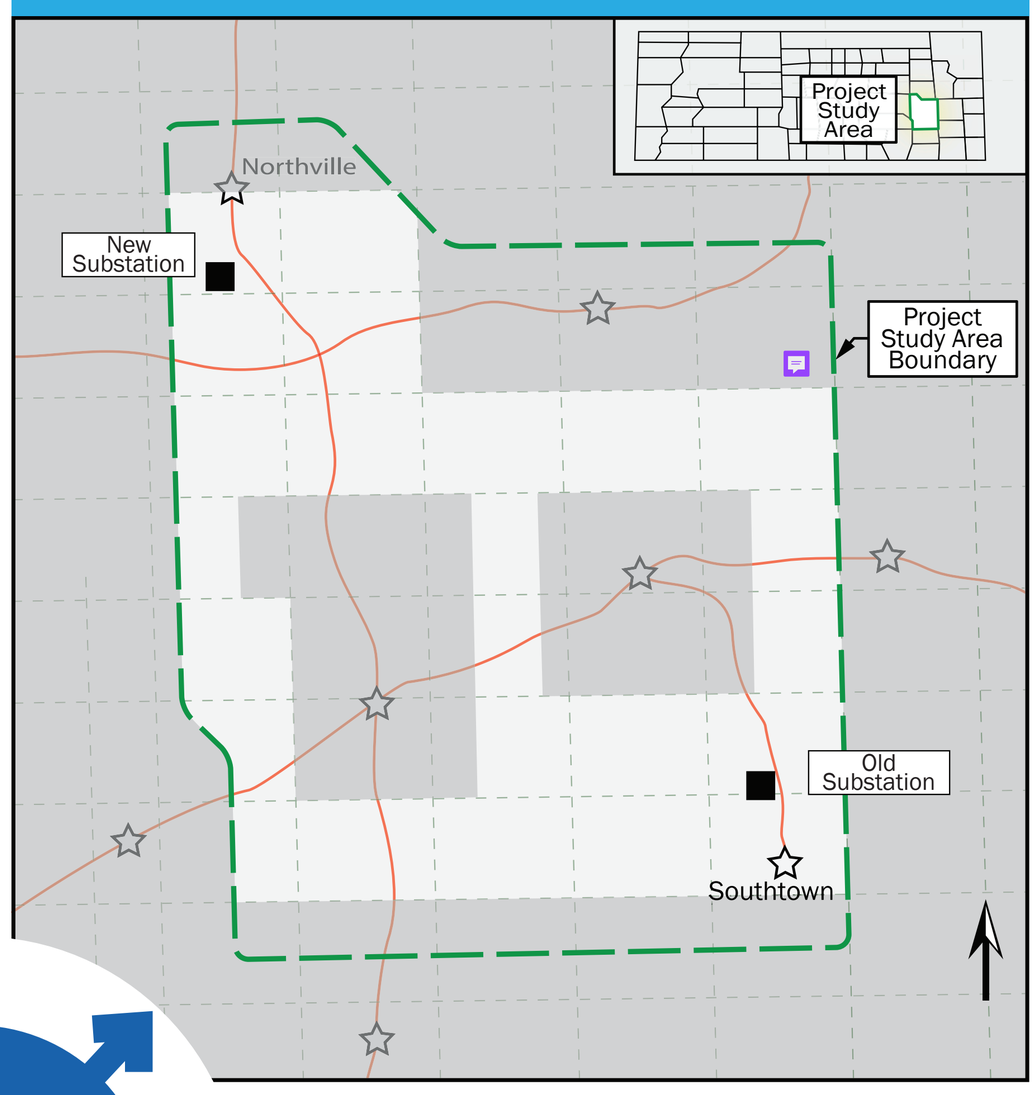
YOU ARE HERE

1. Example of a Study Area

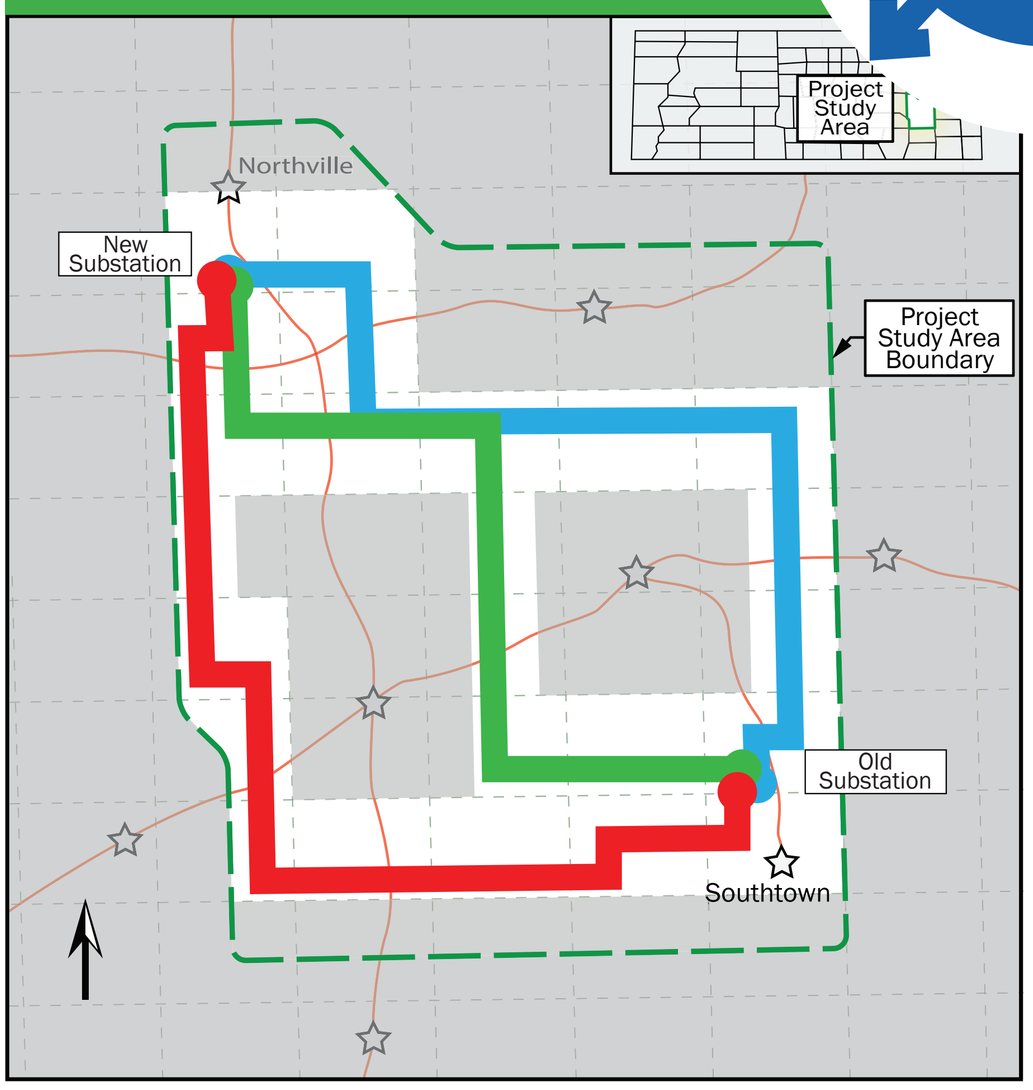


2. Example of Corridors

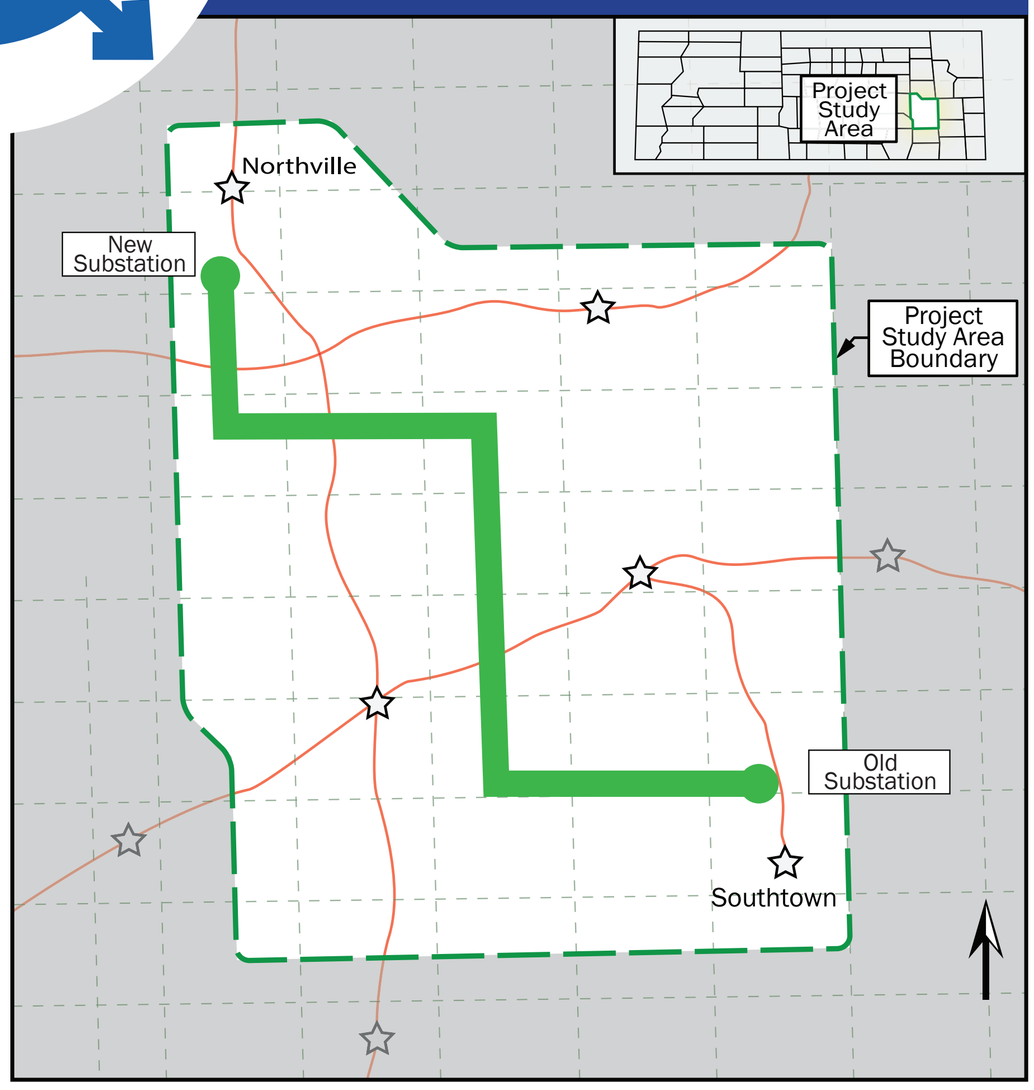


PUBLIC INPUT

3. Example of Alternative Routes



4. Example of a Final Route



Routing and Siting Evaluation Criteria

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Transmission line routing involves trade-offs among a variety of factors called routing criteria. The most promising route options balance each of the three types of criteria, which are social, environmental, and engineering.

Social

- Businesses
- Cemeteries
- Commercial/ Industry
- New/Plotted Developments
- Residences/ Homes
- Places of Worship
- Agriculture
- Schools
- Parks & Recreation

Environmental

- Floodplains
- Wooded Areas
- Wetlands/ Waterways
- Conservation Areas
- Federal & State Lands
- Historic & Archaeological Sites
- Threatened & Endangered Species

Engineering

- Airports
- Railroads
- Irrigation/ Pivots
- Wells
- Existing Infrastructure
- Site Topography
- Constructability
- Highways
- Structures (other)
- Existing/Planned Utilities
- Cost

Environmental Resources

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Environmental resources are evaluated as part of the route selection process and may include:

- Agricultural lands
- Recreational areas
- Water resources (lakes, streams, wetlands, and floodplains)
- Wildlife habitat areas
- Sensitive, threatened and endangered species
- Cultural and historical resources
- Visual resources

NPPD coordinates with federal, state, and local agencies and organizations such as:

- Federal Aviation Administration
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy
- Nebraska Department of Transportation
- Natural Resources Districts
- History Nebraska
- Local Airport Authorities
- Private Non-Government Organizations

Transmission Line Structures

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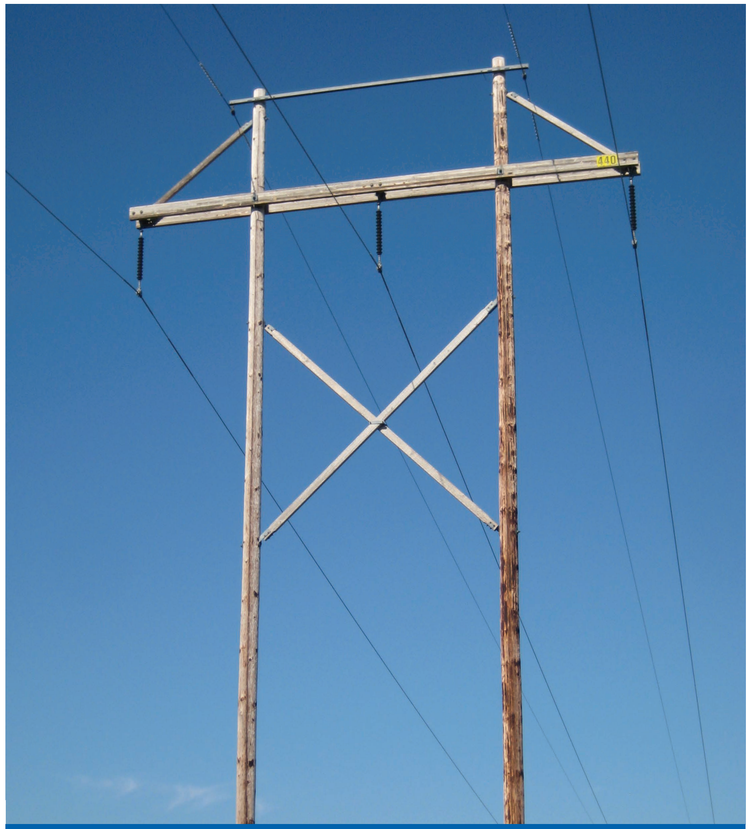
There are two typical types of structures that would be used on this project:

- 115kV single-pole wood or steel structure
- 115kV H-frame wood structure

TYPICAL SINGLE-POLE WOOD OR STEEL STRUCTURE



TYPICAL H-FRAME WOOD STRUCTURE

Typical Right-of-Way Width

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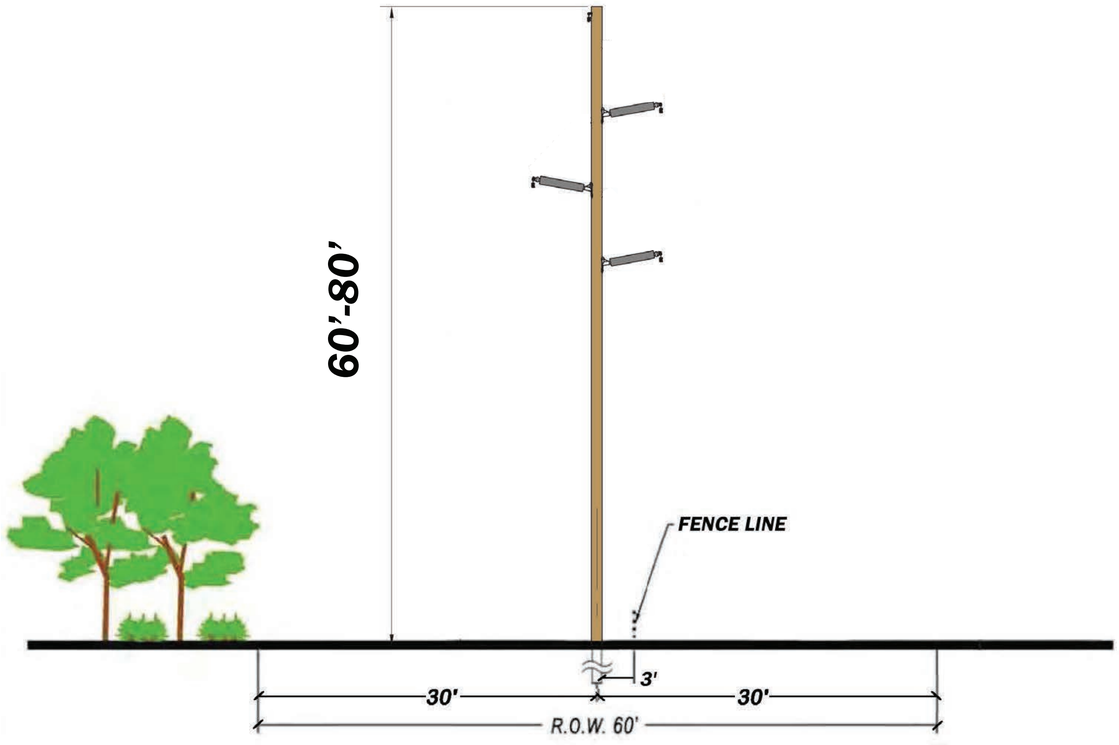
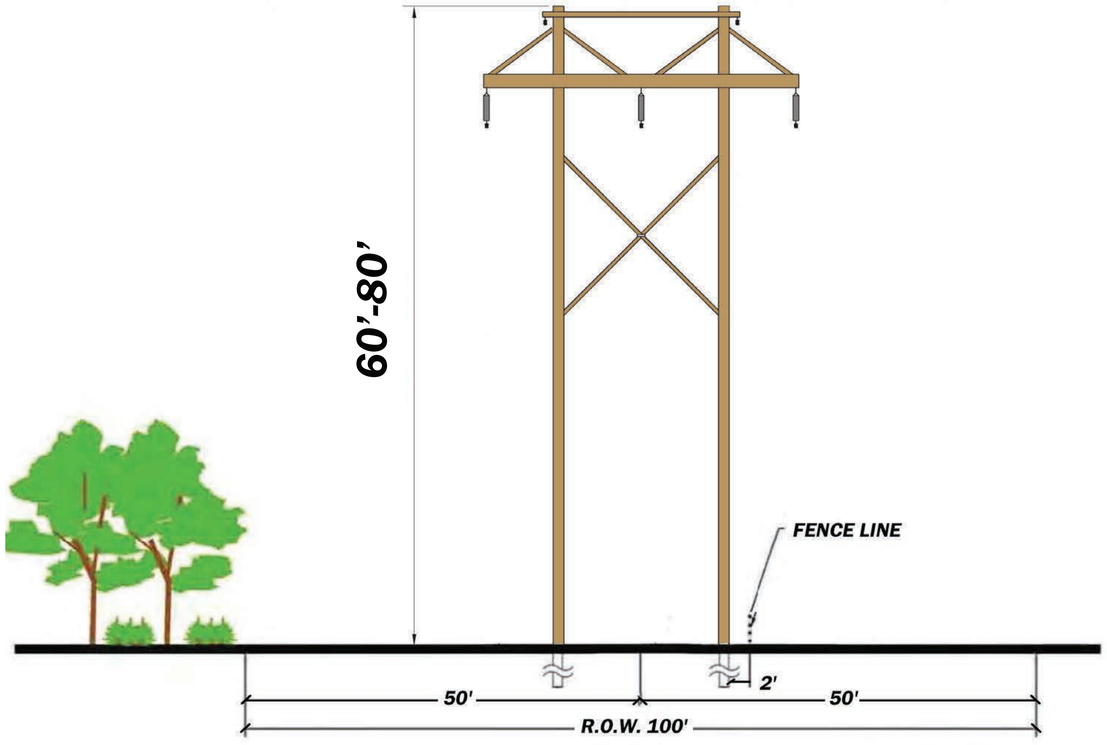


Typical 115kV Single Circuit, Single-Pole Structure



Typical 115kV Single Circuit, H-Frame Structure

Height of structure and right-of-way (R.O.W.) width can vary based on special circumstances.

Typical Structure Locations

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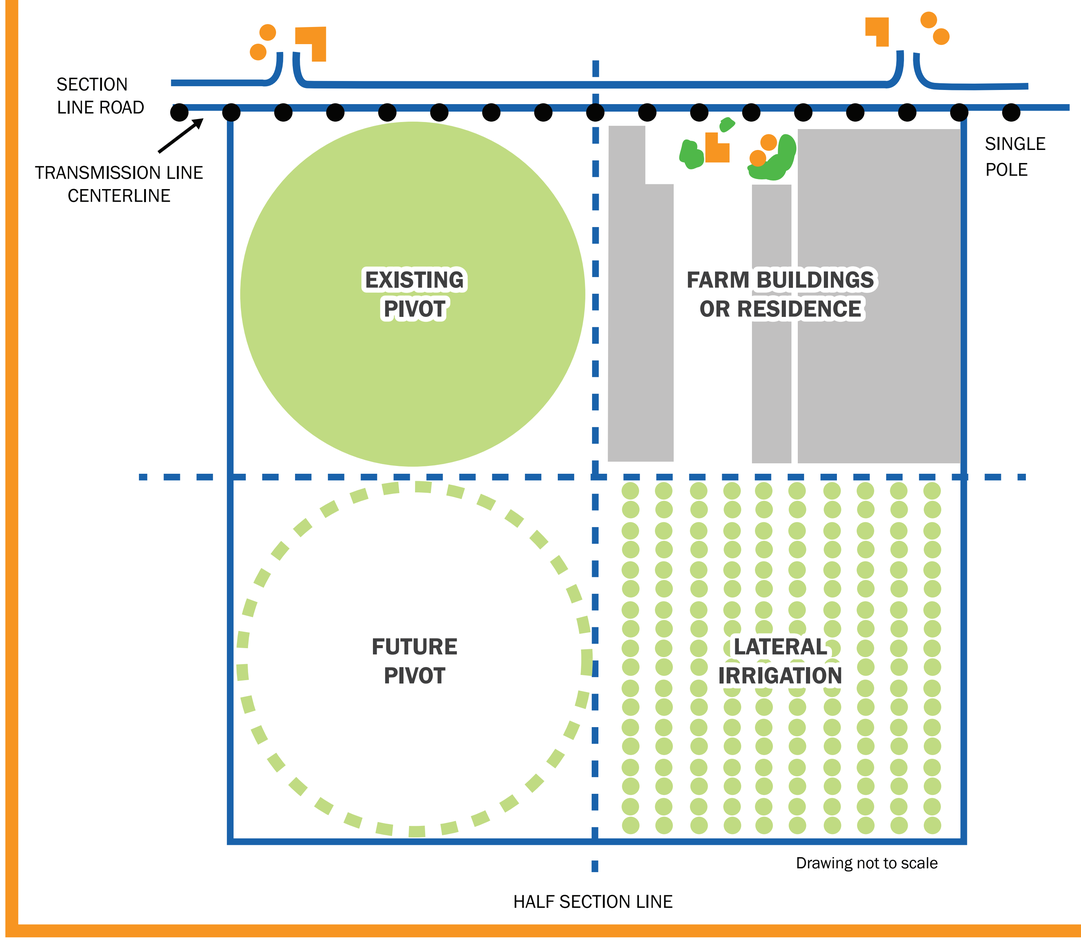
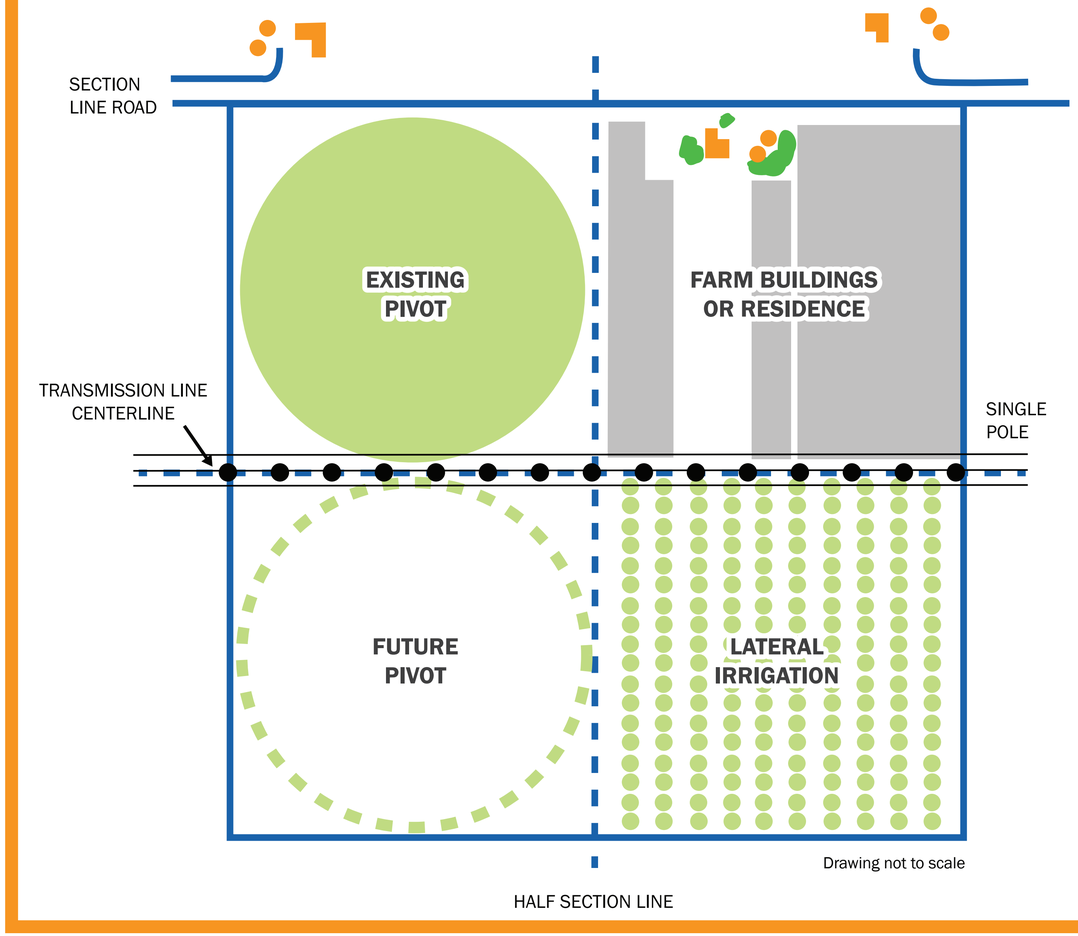
115kV Single-Pole Structure Placement Along Road:
Typically ~ 15 structures per mile



115kV Single-Pole Structure Placement Along Half Section Line:
Typically ~15 structures per mile



Typical Structure Locations

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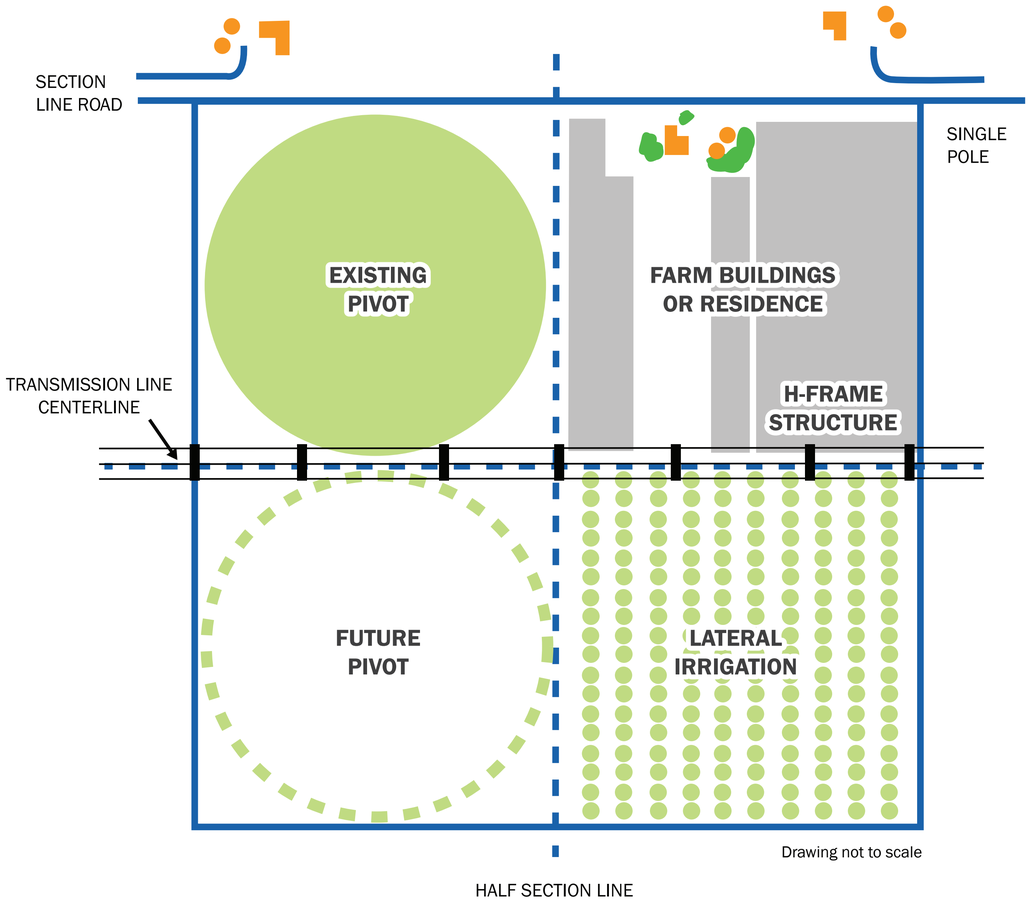
115kV H-frame Structure Placement Along Half Section Line:

Typically ~7 structures per mile



Building Relationships

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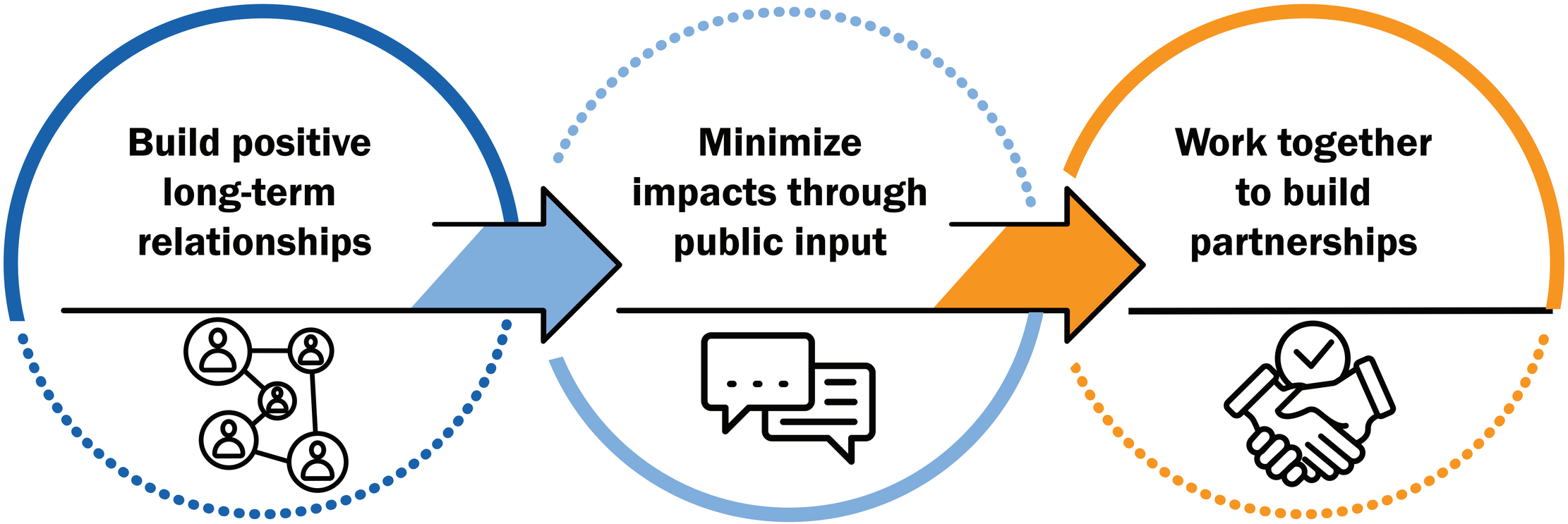

Right-of-Way Activities

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We strive to build positive, long-term relationships with landowners and tenants during right-of-way activities.

Right-of-Entry Agreement – if needed, will provide access for:

- Environmental assessments
- Appraisal work
- Survey activities
- Cultural and historical resource assessments

Easement Acquisition:

- Compensation
- Terms and conditions
- Right-of-way width

Post Construction:

- Construction damage compensation
- Property restoration

Easement Compensation

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Determination of land value

Land Market Valuations

- Independent appraisers will conduct real estate market study and analysis
- Market study will be focused on the area of the proposed line route
- Market study and analysis based on comparable sales and the highest and best use of property
- Each parcel will be viewed and its value determined

Easement Compensation

After land valuations are completed, and prior to actual negotiations, NPPD will establish easement payment amounts for each parcel based on:

- Land valuation
- Limited rights obtained by NPPD
- Impacts on structures on farming or land operations
- Any other special considerations

Based on past NPPD projects, a payment in the range of 80% of market value of the land area within the boundaries of the right-of-way is customary.

Easement Compensation

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Easement Compensation

- 80% of the fee value of the easement area

Payment for any special consideration on a case-by-case basis.

Construction Damages

In addition to the easement payment, the property owner or tenant will be compensated for any damages to crops, fences or other property that may occur during construction or when maintenance is required in the future.

Input Needed!

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Help us identify constraints and opportunities regarding:

- Residences
- Grain bins and outbuildings
- Planned (permitted) housing units
- Platted subdivisions
- Well locations
- Gravity flow irrigation and flow direction
- Terraces and drain tiles
- Planned pivots and water permits
- Underground facilities
- Future land use
- Cemeteries, churches, and schools
- Commercial and industrial development
- Communication towers
- Cultural and historic resources
- Environmental areas

What should we know about your property?

Stay Involved

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Thank you for attending! You can stay involved with the Ainsworth Wind–Bassett 115kV Transmission Line project by following project news in NPPD newsletters, newspapers, and on social media, or by visiting our website at **nppd.com/AinsworthWind-Bassett**

1-888-677-3412

@nebraskapublicpowerdistrict

nppd.com/AinsworthWind-Bassett

@nebraska_public_power

@NPPDTV

@NPPDnews

Criteria Prioritization Exercise

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Instructions: You have a total of three dot stickers. Please place them in the box(es) next to the criteria you believe should be prioritized as we determine the route for this transmission line.

Businesses
Cemeteries
Commercial/Industry
New/Plotted Developments
Residences/Homes
Places of Worship
Agriculture
Schools
Parks & Recreation
Floodplains
Wooded Areas
Wetlands/Waterways
Conservation Areas
Federal & State Lands
Historic & Archaeological Sites
Threatened & Endangered Species
Airports
Railroads
Irrigation/Pivots
Wells
Existing Infrastructure
Site Topography
Constructability
Highways
Structures (other)
Existing/Planned Utilities
Cost