Enhanced power reliability

SMUD is upgrading a large transmission line in the city of Sacramento and portions of Sacramento County to provide more reliable service to our customers. We’ll be replacing three wires on the towers that run between the Hurley large bulk substation on Hurley Way to the Procter & Gamble co-generation plant on 83rd Street.

The project will be constructed in 2 phases. Phase 1 begins around the end of March and runs through mid-April. The second phase is expected to start in the fall/winter 2020-21.

Beginning in spring 2020, you may notice SMUD or our contractors performing work to replace the existing all-aluminum wire with an advanced aluminum composite wire along the 6.25-mile stretch.

The project has been designed to minimize construction impacts. We don’t anticipate service outages to local businesses or homes during construction.

Project benefits

Replacing the wires will allow SMUD to increase its overall transmission system flexibility to help ensure we can deliver reliable electrical service, particularly in the summer months when the demand for electricity is highest.

The project involves four main steps

To improve safety, we’ll install guard netting over public streets, roadways and highways, or implement traffic controls where space is limited.

Pulleys will be installed at each tower along the line to help remove the old wire and string the new wire behind it.

The new wire will then be locked into final position. This process will be repeated for each section of the line.

When all the sections are complete the line will be put back into service.
Stay informed

Email PowerlineUpgrade@smud.org for more information.
smud.org/PowerlineUpgrade

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the project schedule?
Phase 1 of construction is scheduled to begin in spring 2020 and phase 2 in the fall/winter 2020-21, weather permitting.

What are the likely construction impacts?
- Some heavy construction equipment such as cranes and trucks.
- Some multi-use trails and greenbelts along the route may be temporarily closed.
- Traffic control on roads where space does not allow for protective netting.
- Sections of parking lots along the route briefly closed.
- Project designed to minimize night work and noise impacts.

How will you keep me informed?
We held two public meetings in fall 2019. For the latest information, go to smud.org/PowerlineUpgrade or email PowerlineUpgrade@smud.org.

Will the project have any environmental impacts?
For this project, we performed an environmental assessment and concluded it will not have a significant impact.