

ALAMOSA TO ANTONITO

INFORMATION SHEET
COLORADO

SPRING 2023 UPDATE



The Alamosa to Antonito Transmission Line Rebuild Project, announced in November 2021, involves replacing approximately 39 miles of a 60-year-old, 69-kilovolt (kV) transmission power line between the Alamosa Terminal and Antonito substations. The existing power line is critical to providing reliable service to customers and cannot be taken out of service while being replaced. For that reason, Xcel Energy initiated a study in the fall of 2021 to identify a new corridor that minimizes environmental and community impacts while meeting engineering and safety standards. The new line will be rebuilt to current design standards that will improve system reliability, meet customer energy needs now and into the future, and reduce wildfire risk.

Project need

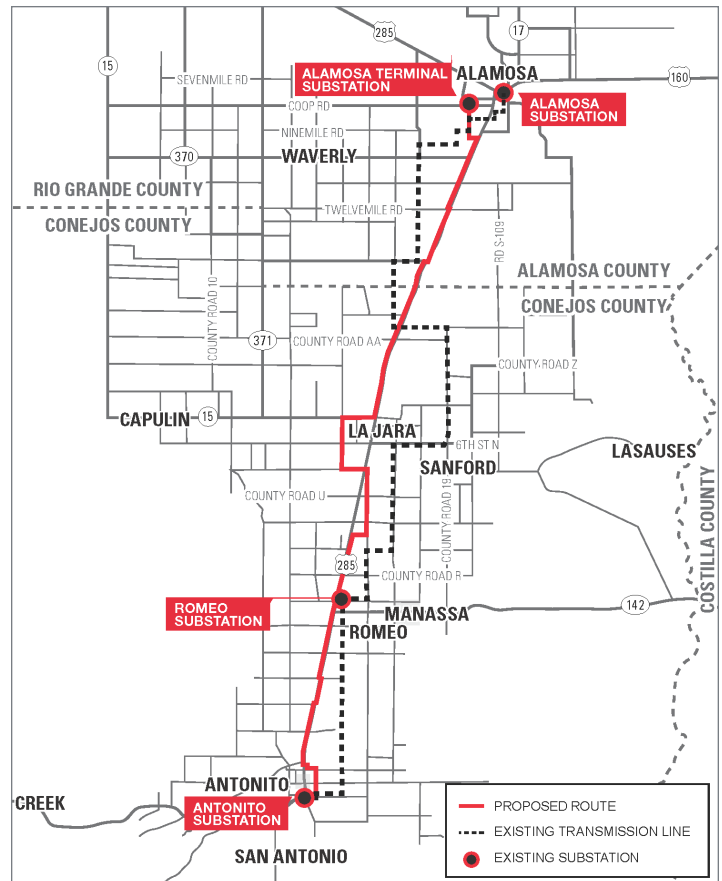
Due to natural weathering, lightning damage and unscheduled interruptions in service, the wood pole structures, equipment and components that were installed more than 60 years ago need to be replaced. The new infrastructure will more effectively meet current and future customer energy needs, improve overall electric service to homes and businesses in Alamosa and Conejos counties and mitigate fire risk from extreme weather events.

Project description

The existing 69 kV transmission line will be rebuilt. All structures removed and rebuilt with new fire-resistant steel structures, new conductors and new optical ground wire (OPGW). The OPGW keeps our system smart by providing a communication channel to transport system performance data to aid in faster, more efficient response times if power is interrupted. The OPGW also aids as a grounding source for lightning during storms.

ALAMOSA TO ANTONITO TRANSMISSION LINE REBUILD PROJECT

Routing study results – Selected route



September 2021 –
March 2022

Transmission
routing study



2021 – 2025

Public outreach



Fall 2022

Preferred route
announcement



Spring 2023

Permitting



Spring – Fall 2023

Surveying and
easement
procurement

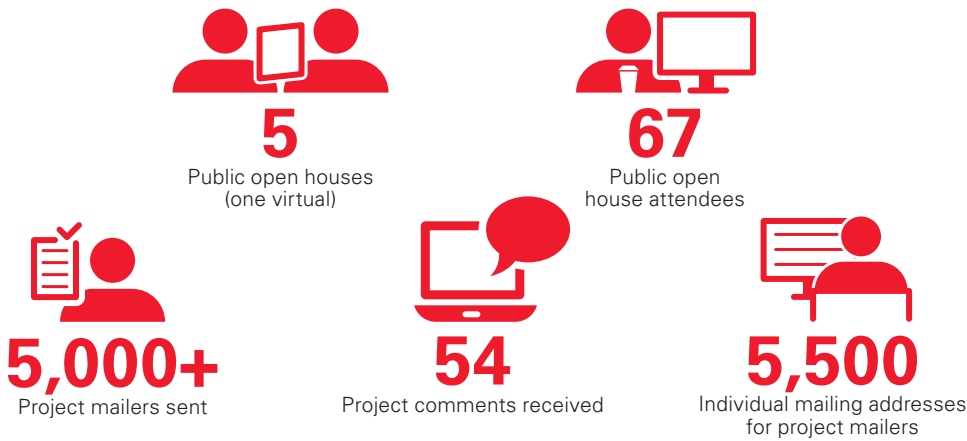


2024–2025

Construction

ALAMOSA TO ANTONITO

Outreach by the numbers



Outreach

Since fall 2021, Xcel Energy has been working with communities, landowners, and other stakeholders to identify and evaluate a range of transmission line route alternatives, which have been documented in a transmission line routing study. After evaluating several route alternatives, Xcel Energy selected the proposed transmission line route for permitting in Alamosa and Conejos counties. Routing criteria we evaluated includes existing land use, proximity to residences, wildlife species and critical habitat, archaeological and architectural resources, aesthetics/visual resources, and input received from the community during public open houses and meetings with landowners.

Learn more at xcelenergy.com/AlamosaToAntonito
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