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Xcel Energy transmission line project complete

Rifle to Parachute line to enhance reliability on Western Slope

DENVER (January 5, 2017) – Xcel Energy’s new electric transmission line project from Rifle, Colo. to Parachute, Colo. is complete and energized. The 20-mile, 230-kilovolt (kV) transmission line went into service on Dec. 22.

The new line provides additional transmission capacity to serve the current and anticipated oil and gas production and exploration in the project area. The line crosses private property as well as public land operated by the Bureau of Land Management.

Construction on the project began in March, 2016 and included upgrade work on two connecting substations; Xcel Energy’s Rifle (Ute) Substation located southeast of the town of Rifle and the Parachute Substation located on Highways 6 and 24. The cost of the project is estimated at \$28 million.

“The project is needed to enhance the reliability of the Western Slope transmission system in order to meet anticipated load growth caused by oil and gas development in Mesa and Garfield counties,” said George Sanders, Xcel Energy transmission project manager. “It is imperative that uninterrupted electrical service to the area is available, for both safety and everyday activities.”

Transmission lines move electricity from power generating sources into load centers such as towns and industrial areas. At the substations, transformers lower the voltage before power is sent down lines in the streets for distribution to customers.

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About Xcel Energy

Xcel Energy (NYSE: XEL) provides the energy that powers millions of homes and businesses across eight Western and Midwestern states. Headquartered in Minneapolis, the company is an industry leader in responsibly reducing carbon emissions and producing and delivering clean energy solutions from a variety of renewable sources at competitive prices. For more information, visit xcelenergy.com or follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).