

Working With Landowners

Easement Acquisition and Survey Permission

An easement is a permanent right authorizing a utility to use the Right-of-Way (ROW) to build and maintain a transmission line. Access may be needed for construction and long-term maintenance of the transmission line.

To assist with transmission line engineering and design, we would acquire temporary access or permission from landowners. Engineering, environmental, cultural, and land survey studies will be conducted to develop the final transmission line route.

We will use market data from recent sales of similar properties to determine fair and appropriate compensation. Every effort will be made to reach a fair and reasonable settlement. When negotiations are unsuccessful, which is rare, we may have to exercise our eminent domain authority.



Easements and Agriculture

Irrigation

Siting of structures would be placed to avoid conflicts with irrigation equipment and its operation to the extent possible. Site specific circumstances can be addressed with applicable landowners.

Planting and Harvesting

ROW agents would work with individual landowners to determine when to avoid construction during the planting and harvesting seasons. If damage to crops cannot be avoided, compensation for crop loss would be offered.

Livestock

In coordination with the landowner, segments of fences may be removed or access gates may be installed during line construction. Crews would construct temporary fences and work with landowners to minimize impacts to and protect livestock. If the landowner is in agreement, gates could be left in place to facilitate future maintenance activities.



Working in the Right-of-Way

Normally, access by the landowner within the transmission line easement is not restricted, and agricultural activities can still occur. Activities not permitted within the easement are those that jeopardize the integrity of the structures or reduce the ground-to-line clearance, such as construction of buildings.

Landowners need to exercise caution when operating tall equipment, moving irrigation pipes, fueling vehicles, or conducting other activities within the easement to prevent electrical shock or contact with the line.