Pawnee-Daniels Park 345 kilovolt transmission project

Project overview
The Pawnee-Daniels Park project includes the construction of 125 miles of 345 kilovolt (kV) double circuit transmission line between Pawnee Substation, near Brush, CO, and the Daniels Park Substation, south of the Denver-metro area, as well as one new 345kV substation and expansion of five other 230 kV and 345 kV substations. Construction is underway on portions of the project. The in-service date is October 2019.

Construction Update
The transmission line construction is divided into 12 segments including a recently permitted 20 mile double circuit 345 kV line between the new Harvest Mile Substation in Aurora to Daniels Park Substation. Construction on the 20-mile Harvest Mile-Daniels Park segment will start in late 2018. Construction started on the Harvest Mile Substation in May 2017. A 29 mile segment between Missile Site Substation and Smoky Hill Substation includes the construction of new single pole 345 kV double circuit structures/line and the removal (or wreck-out) of older 230kV wood h-frame structures. Two of the 12 transmission line segments are complete and three are under construction.

Project Need
The project is required to facilitate future generation development, including Xcel Energy’s Rush Creek Wind Generation Project. It will help support Resource Planning predictions for other generation development in the region, meets SB-100 requirements for Energy Resource Zones (ERZ) 1 and 2, and improve system reliability.

Regulatory and Permit Approvals
The Colorado Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) approved a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity application for the project on April 9, 2015.

The CPCN included an in-service date for the project of May 2022 with construction beginning in 2020. However, in late 2015, Congress extended the Production Tax Credit for new wind generation projects, but with a declining recovery schedule for projects that start construction after 2016. As a result of this, Xcel Energy filed with the CPUC asking them to

PROJECT QUICK FACTS
- Estimated in-service date: 2019
- Voltage: 345 kV line
- Estimated length: 125 miles
- Estimated cost: $178 million
modify their previous decision in order to accelerate the in-service date to October 2019 and the construction start date to January 2019 for the Harvest Mile to Daniels Park portion of the project. In September 2016 we, along with multiple parties, agreed to a settlement that included moving the in-service date to 2019. The settlement agreement received final approval October 2016. View the settlement agreement. Advancing the in-service date of the Pawnee-Daniels Park project will help ensure that customers reap the tax credit benefits which significantly reduce the cost of wind generation.

Final local permits were approved for the projects in December, 2017. Permits were obtained with the City of Aurora, Arapahoe County, Douglas County and Town of Parker.

**Contact us**

If you have a question or comment surrounding the Pawnee-Daniels Park project please send us a message at PawneeDanielsPark@xcelenergy.com.