APPENDIX A

MEETING SUMMARY REPORTS

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project—Phase III

Bromley–Prairie Center 115kV Transmission Line

Public Open House Summary Report for October 19, 2011

TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

1100 W. 116th Avenue
Westminster, CO 80234

Contents

Appendices

Figures

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1. Introduction

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. (Tri-State) and their member cooperative United Power held a public open house on October 19, 2011, to share information with community residents and stakeholders regarding the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project, Phase III (Project). The meeting was held in Brighton, Colorado, at the Hampton Inn, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. The Project consists of a proposed 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the existing Bromley Substation to the existing Prairie Center Substation and would be located in the city of Brighton and in unincorporated Adams County. Phase III is proposed to complete the third and final phase of the overall United Power Transmission System Improvement Project, which is needed to ensure that United Power can continue to reliably supply electricity to residents, businesses, and critical services in the rapidly growing local community.

2. Notifications

Property owners within the study area and within 0.5 mile of an alternative route or a considered but eliminated route were mailed notifications of the meeting via standard U.S. Postal Service on October 3, 16 days prior to the meeting. The notification area and all the alternative line routes presented at the public open house are shown on Figure 1. At the request of United Power, the notification area was extended beyond 0.5 mile in a neighborhood northeast of the study area bounded by Himalaya Street (50th Avenue), East 160th Street (Colorado State Route 7), and North Frontage Road along Interstate 76 (I-76). Other stakeholders who are not landowners, such as the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory (RMBO) and public officials from the city of Brighton and Adams County, were notified by direct mail letters from Project team members. These letters were mailed on October 4, 15 days prior to the meeting.

Tri-State also notified the public about the public open house through advertisements in local newspapers. Newspaper advertisements were published in the *Brighton Banner* and the *Brighton Blade* print editions on October 5 and 6 and in the Local Color Magazine's *Daily Post* online newspaper on October 12. A copy of the regular mail notifications to landowners and stakeholders, the stakeholder list, and the newspaper advertisement notifications are included in Appendix A.

3. Public Open House

The public open house featured display boards, sheet maps of the Project route alternatives, fact sheets, visual simulations, and map books. Tri-State, United Power, and their consultants were available to discuss the Project. Selected materials that were available for review at the open house are included in Appendix B. Other materials are available for review by request to Tri-State.

Tri-State provided display boards that presented background information about the Project, the purpose and need for the Project, Project maps, engineering details, environmental and avian considerations, the permitting processes, establishing rights-of-way, and the routing process. Corresponding fact sheets were provided that covered the same information as the display boards. Tri-State also provided the following materials: a book containing photographs of transmission structures recently constructed for the United Power Phase II: Reunion to Prairie Center Project, a book of photographic simulations of the Project, a resource map book, and sheet maps that could be used to record comments. The photographs and

photographic simulations were available for viewing on a large-screen television as well. Comment forms and sign-in sheets were provided for stakeholders to record their comments and attendance.

Eighteen individuals signed in at the open house. The completed sign-in sheets are included in Appendix C.

Three comment forms were submitted prior to deadline of November 4. The completed comment forms are included in Appendix C. They contained the following comments:

- Commenter indicated on the comment form check boxes that they are commenting on all of the route segments and that they are most concerned with residential land use, wildlife in general, and avian wildlife. The commenter provided the following comment: "It would be more cost effective to route this phase by the road (I-76) as of the connections and shorter distance for its hook up. It would be away from areas that have the most concentrations of wildlife and would go along with what the highway looks like. Some nice landscaping (trees) would look nice around the poles that wouldn't interfere with lines or any repairs."
- Commenter indicated on the comment form check boxes that they are commenting on all of the route segments and that they are most concerned with wildlife in general, avian wildlife, and visual quality. The commenter provided the following comment: "Being in the landscape business and a wildlife 'nut' I would like to see trees along the proposed route and shrubs to benefit the wildlife around said area. 'Too many ugly 'posts' and no camouflage to hide them'."
- Commenter indicated on the comment form check boxes that they are commenting on route segments A, B, C, D and E and that they are most concerned with impacts to transportation, avian/birds, and visual quality. The commenter provided the following comment: "We live in the Bromley Park Subdivision and would much prefer the A-B-C-D-E route as this routing creates the least visual clutter along the Highway corridor. It also is farther away from any aviary activity around Barr Lake. Thirdly, the Prairie Center businesses face I-76 in order to attract highway travelers. Fronting those businesses with power lines could negatively affect their business now and in the future as our local economy grows."

One comment form was received after the deadline of November 4th. It contained the following comments:

- Commenter indicated on the comment form check boxes that they are commenting on route segment M and that they are most concerned with impacts to land use-residential, land use-commercial/retail, and visual quality. The commenter provided the following comment: "Input from Swink Family in regards to power transmission line going through the Swink Family Trust property. 1) Overground or underground line would reduce usable land and value. Existing utilities (gas pipelines) through the middle of our property have already made recent planning for commercial and residential developments difficult. Any additional utilities could make reasonable future development impossible. Results: Would be a major negative impact to family. 2) Overground power line on adjacent lands of other ownership would reduce value because of negative aesthetics. 3) Visual effects of large power lines and poles through the property will have large impact on value of property for future development. 4) Underground power line on adjacent property should not impact usable area or value. This alternative is recommended by the family."

The following summary includes oral comments and feedback recorded by staff members during the open house:

- Utility and transportation projects have continued to take land from the Mowry family with one condemnation for transportation condemning a family home in past years. They are looking for fair compensation based upon the price paid to landowners on Phase II. Tim Mowry would like to see the parcel he owns eventually go to some sort of conservation, perhaps associated with the state park. Currently, he has plans to move cattle back onto the property for grazing.
- There was some confusion regarding the survey permissions letters sent by the Right of Way agent. The Mowry family initially thought the letters meant they were giving their approval for the project/route crossing their property.
- Landowners located northwest of Bromley indicated that the west I-76 route would cause less impact to residential areas than the other two options.
- Other landowners were from outside of the Project area or were not crossed by routes and did not indicate a preference or concern regarding the project.
- The landowners understood that the line has to be built.
- Mr. Swink, a landowner, stated preference for a route along Tower Road or on the western edge of their property (next to K-Mart warehouse) that crossed Bromley Lane and traveled east on the southern side of Bromley Lane. Mr. Swink was strongly opposed to the line being down the middle of his property. He stated that a plat was being presented by a developer to Brighton and when the negotiation for the property failed, the plat was removed from the planning commission.

One comment letter was sent to Tri-State after the neighborhood meeting from the RMBO. The RMBO provided a two-page commentary on the Project. The entire letter is included in Appendix C. The focus of the comments concerned the location of the transmission line routes in proximity to breeding and nesting sites of various bird species including Bald Eagle, Double-crested Cormorant, Great-blue Heron, Snowy Egret and Black-crowned Night-Heron. The commenter also expressed concern with Burrowing Owl, Northern Harrier, Swainson's Hawk, and Red-tailed Hawk species being at risk for collision with the transmission line. The commenter expressed their preference for a route combination that includes C-D-E, that construction take place only during August to October, and that markers be placed on the transmission line.

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United Power System Improvement Project: Phase III

Notification Area

Legend

- Project Study Area
- Parcel Included in Notification Area

Utilities

- Existing Substation
- Existing 230 kV Double Circuit Transmission Line
- Existing Gas Pipeline
- Phase 1 Transmission Line
- Phase 2 Transmission Line

Transportation

- Interstate
- U.S. Highway
- State Highway
- Major Road
- Local Road
- Railroad

Hydrology

- Perennial Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Canal or Ditch

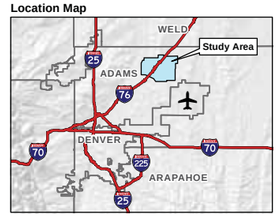
Routes

- East I-76 Route
- West I-76 Route
- Alternative I-76 Crossing Option
- Route 5A
- Route 5B
- Considered, But Eliminated

0 0.25 0.5
Miles
Scale 1:18,000 (when printed at 22x34)

Revised: 10/24/2011
Sources: CDOT, BLM, NAIP, ESRI, CDOW
File Name: Notification_Area
MXD Path: P:\3995_United_Power_Phase_III\GIS\Layouts\Pub_Inv\Notification_Area.mxd

Location Map



TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

TETRA TECH EC, INC

Figure 1: Notification Area

Appendix A:

Notifications

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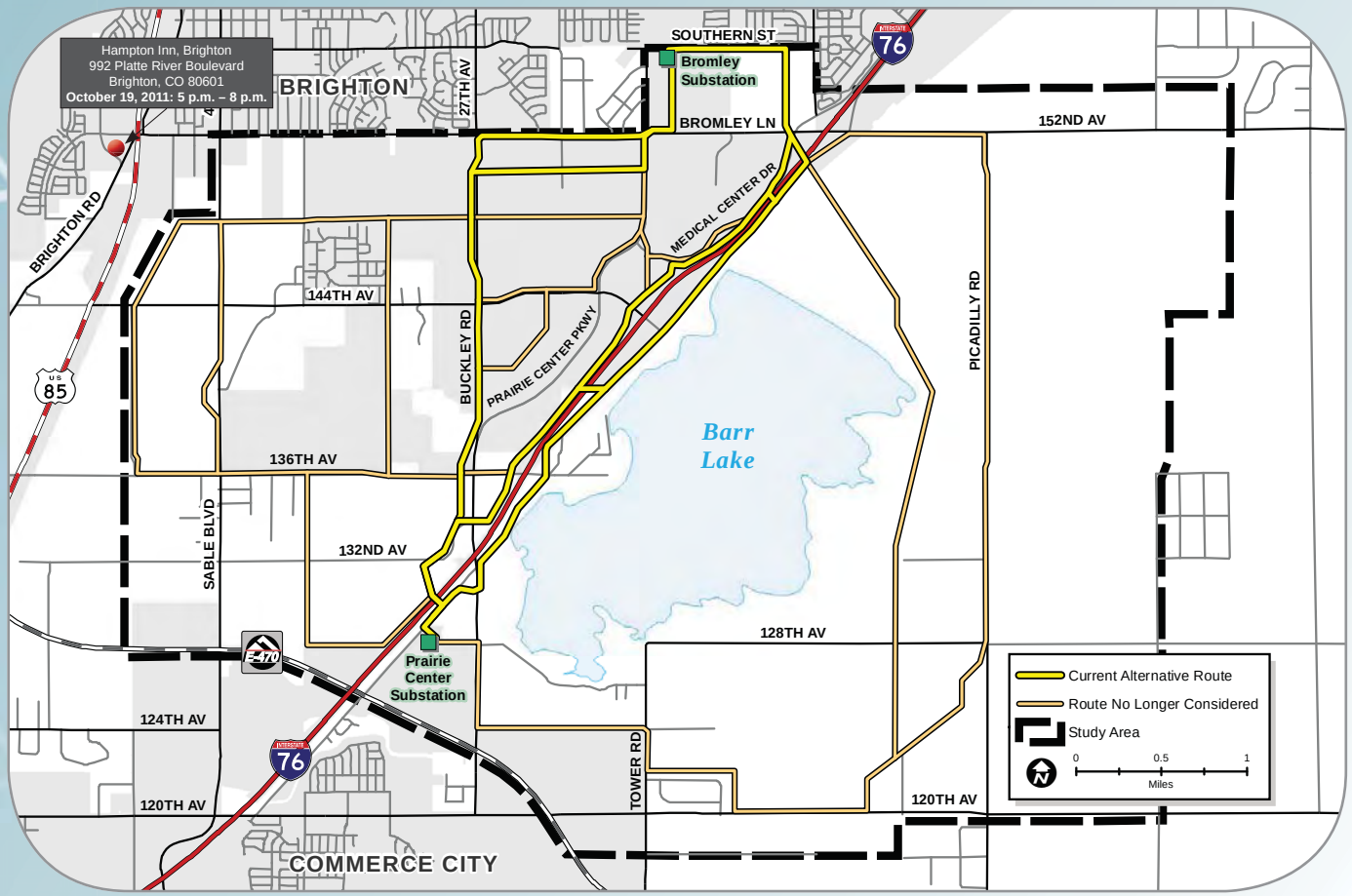
LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NEXT PHASE...



UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

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TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

UNITED POWER
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Phase III of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project consists of a proposed 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the existing Bromley and Prairie Center substations, and would be located in the City of Brighton and in unincorporated Adams County, Colorado. Phase III would complete the third and final phase of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project, which is needed to ensure that United Power can continue to reliably supply electricity to residents, businesses, and critical services in the rapidly growing local community.

Please join us at a public open house to learn more about this project, ask questions, and provide your comments. We will provide display boards, maps, and take-home materials and have project staff available to answer questions.

October 19, 2011
5 p.m. – 8 p.m
Hampton Inn, Brighton
992 Platte River Boulevard
Brighton, CO 80601

For further information, contact Sarah Carlisle
scarlisle@tristategt.org
303-254-3396

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. | P.O. Box 33695, Denver, CO 80233

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any of Jeromy's football games.

Many fundraising events will begin Oct. 15 in order to raise money for a new method of cancer treatment. A poker run will take place that morning, along with a concert, dinner and auction at the Copper Rail, 174 S. Main St., at 5 p.m. The cost is $10 for adults and $5 for kids, which includes dinner and a concert.

The planning committee is also working on getting a walk organized later on.

"We are grateful to have people in our lives that have dedicated their time to helping my dad and my family," Jeromy said.

· Dave Lucero's insurance

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Fort Lupton (203 S. Harrison Ave., 303-857-4200) recreation centers will accept Brighton Recreation Center quarterly and annual passes during the time the facility is closed. Brighton's facility reopens at 5:30 a.m., Oct. 10. Call 303-655-2200 with questions.

Coffee talk

Sen. Mary Hodge, D-Brighton, will host an October Coffee Talk at the International House of Pancakes, 962 S. Fourth Ave., at 6 p.m., Oct. 13.

The subject is the upcoming election and ballot initiatives.

Teen trip to Elitch's

The Brighton Recreation Center's Youth and Teen Department hosts a trip to Elitch Garden's Fright Fest Oct. 14 for 12- to 16-year-olds.

Meet at the recreation center, 555 N. 11th Ave. at 6 p.m. The group returns by 10:30 p.m.

The cost is $48.99, which includes transportation and admission. Call 303-655-2207.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NEXT PHASE.

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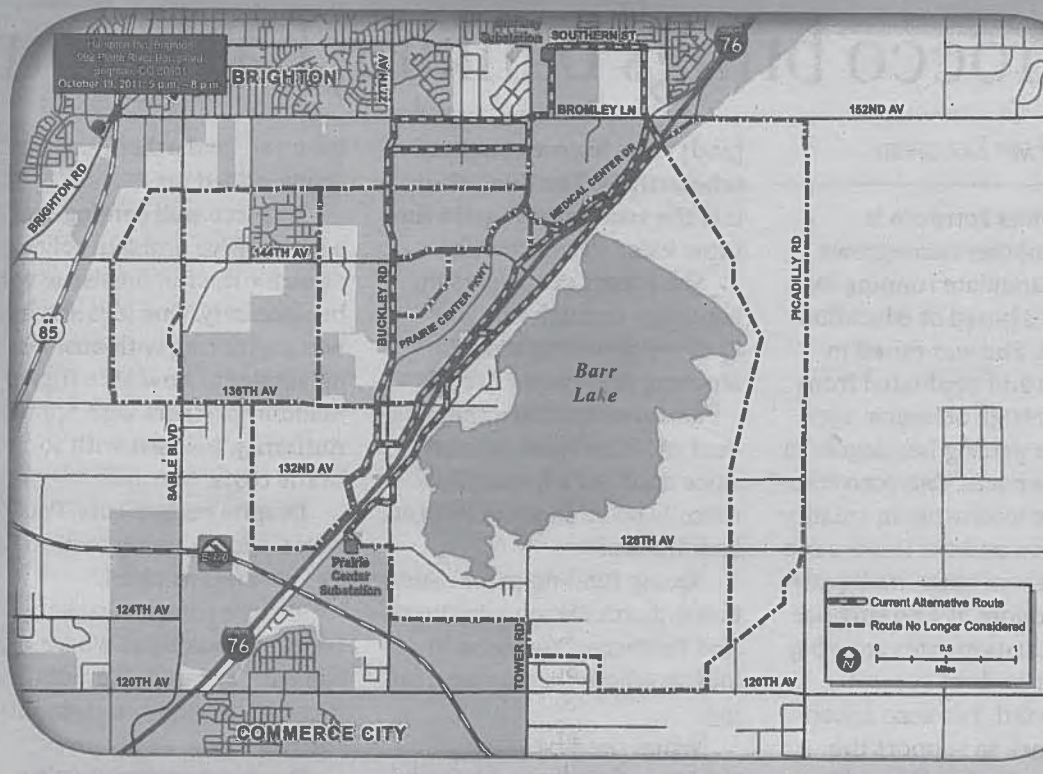

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJE
Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Lin

on, a Second Creek health worker, sprays blue hair color-
east Elementary student Brenna Lambrecht's hair after
paint on Brenna's sister Rianne's hair at the Second
ooth during the school district carnival Saturday at Prairie
9 schools within School District 27J were represented at
raise funds and awareness for the school's requested
erride issue for the Nov. 1 election. *Tonja Castaneda photo*

ol district carnival
s support, awareness

p called Parents for 27J Students organized a carni-
ie Center to bring awareness and community sup-
ool Ballot Issue 3D. Every school in 27J had a booth
val, which was a fundraiser to support the mill-
de campaign for the district. Voters will decide a 27J
roposal on the Nov. 1 ballot.
ed, 3D would generate about $4.8 million annually
District 27J. That cost would be about a $100 per
yearly increase in property taxes based on an
lue of a home at about $200,000.
day, supporters of the mill levy for 27J schools will
munity "Walk 'n' Knock" event starting at 8:30 a.m.
iddle School, 879 Jessup St. Parents and community
re invited to help deliver yard signs in support of
y issue. For more information, call Joan Kniss at
6.

– Tonja Castaneda

Nebraska General Hospital in 1944 as a registered nurse, and worked at the Brighton Community Hospital for more than 30 years.

She loved her animals, especially dogs. Survivors include her daughters Linda and Nancy Berger; and brother Bill (Judy) Douglas.

Memorial service, 10 a.m. Friday at Tabor-Rice Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to the Denver Dumb Friends League, 2080 S. Quebec, Denver, CO 80231.

Tabor-Rice Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Dorreta Huston

Dorreta Huston, 85, of Brighton died Sept. 27, surrounded by her family.

Doretta is survived by her daughters, Linda Knox of Commerce City; Rachel (Mark) Fabiano of Platteville, and Renee (Mark) Aragon of Commerce City; sister Bessie Schrader of Wheat Ridge; 14 grandchildren; and 20-plus great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by sons Daniel and Richard; daughter Sharon; two grandsons; two

the direction of Olinger Highland Mortuary & Cemetery.

Joshua T. Dillon

Joshua T. Dillon, 19, of Brighton, died Sept. 26. He was born in Denver to Paul and Tami Prentiss. He attended schools in Brighton and was a senior at Brighton High School.

Joshua enjoyed playing the guitar and riding his BMX bicycle at the different skate parks in the area. He loved to camp and fish with his family and friends. He also enjoyed studying the solar system.

He always had a big, loving smile and would always ask his mom "how much do you love me?" He was a loving and caring child.

Brighton; aunts K
and Dawn; uncle
girlfriend, Sara A
Services were hel
week.

Memorial cont
may be made to
Dillon Memorial
Chase Bank, 1362
Pkwy., Westmins
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Tabor-Rice Funeral Home, Inc.

75 S. 13th Ave.
Brighton
303-654-0112

304 Denve
Fort Lup
303-857-

Visit us online at taborfuneralhome

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NEXT PHASE.

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TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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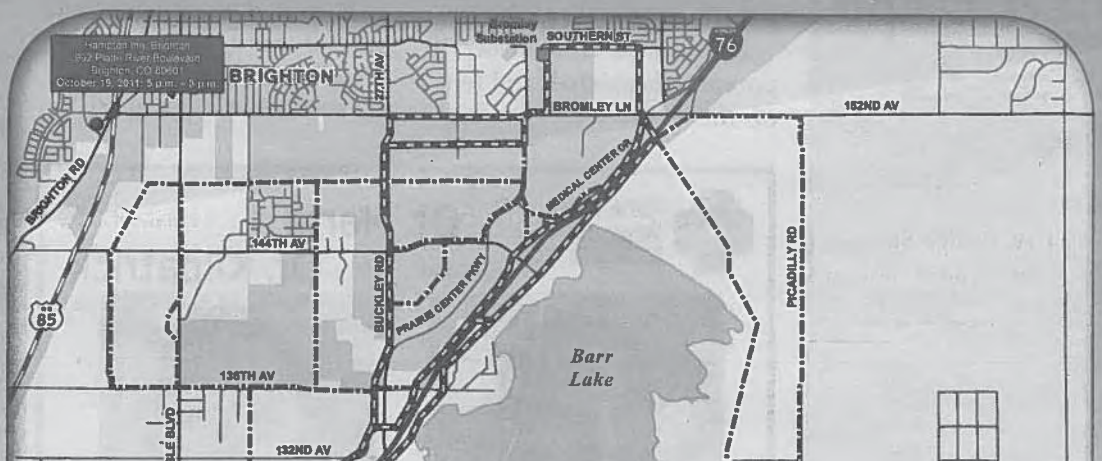

Please join us at a public o
to learn more about this pr
ask questions, and provide
comments. We will provide
boards, maps, and take-ho
materials and have project
available to answer questi

October 19, 2011
5 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Hampton Inn, Bright
992 Platte River Bou

The Daily Post™

from Local Color® & The Banner

Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2011

Want the *Daily Post* every morning?
E-mail us at:
dailypost@localcolormag.com

Brighton window

Carolyn Dencklau, left, and Jane Starrett look at a handmade children's book for sale at the Lutheran Women in Mission Fall Festival bazaar on Friday at Zion Lutheran Church. Proceeds from the salad luncheon and sale benefit Christian missions through the Zion Lutheran Women's group and the Good Shepherd Auxiliary.

Tonja Castaneda Photo

All welcome at Shopneck club webcast

The public is invited to the Armory, 300 Strong St., at 10 a.m. for a special webcast and presentation, from America's Promise Alliance and ING, involving youth in Brighton.

An announcement is expected during the webcast, originating in Washington, D.C.

About 20 high school students, from Brigthon, Prairie View and Eagle Ridge Academy are expected to attend the event, to be emceed by the Brighton Youth Commission's Lane Shivley with Hannah Armentrout.

Another 35 students from North Elementary and 25 from Vikan Middle School also are planning to attend, it was announced Tuesday at the City Council study session.

Mayor Dick McLean, School Superintendent Rod Blunck and Boys & Girls Club Director Dan Ruybal also plan to attend, expecting a special announcement during the event.

Last call for Top Boss 2011 nominees

There's still time … but not much. Nominations for the Second Annual Brighton's Top Boss Award is today.

Petals & Pearls' Mary Ann Harper Blood will accept nominations (a paragraph or two each on why your boss is tops) by e-mail to brighton-petalsandpearls@gmail.com.

The winner will be honored Oct. 17 at his/her workplace with a framed Top Boss plaque and a gift basket with items from participating community businesses.

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E-mail news and photos to:
dailypost@localcolormag.com

Funeral notices

Complete local obituaries Thursdays in *The Banner*

Mark Andrew Rush, III, 1, of Brighton, died Oct. 9 in Aurora. He was born on Feb. 24, 2010, to Mark and Roxie (Thomas) Rush. Mark is survived by his parents; grandparents Toby and Martha Thomas, Mark Sr. and Ann Rush, and Daren Teller and Bonnie Madril. Visitation, 5-8 p.m. **Thursday** at Tabor-Rice Funeral Home. Funeral service, 11 a.m. **Friday** at the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Fort Lupton. **Full obit: Tabor-Rice.**

Three days

Today

9 a.m. – Muffin Madness, Senior Center, 25 cents

9:30 a.m. – Baby Bounce, Anythink Brighton; babies to 23 months and caregivers; RSVP *anythinklibraries.org*

10 a.m. – America's Promise Alliance Webcast, Armory, 300 Strong St., see story this page

10 a.m. – Rowdy Readers Book Club, Anythink Brighton.; *Return to Sullivan's Island* by Dorothea Frank.

10:30 a.m. – Primetime for Preschoolers, Anythink Brighton; ages 3-5; RSVP *anythinklibraries.org*

11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. – Lunch and Dinner at United Methodist Church, 625 S. Eighth, potato soup, chili, beverage, dessert; $6 adults, $2.50 under 10

12:30-1 p.m. – Heart Rhythm Meditation, Platte Valley Medical Center Meditation Room; for health and wellness

3 p.m. – Wednesday Works, Anythink Brighton; grades 6-12; Painting; RSVP *anythinklibraries.org*

6:30 p.m. – Full-Moon Walk, Barr Lake State Park; for adults and families with children 6 and up, 303-659-6005

Thursday

10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. – Bonfils Blood Drive, 101 N. Main

10-11:30 a.m. – Caregivers Support Group, Senior Center; information, support, all welcome, 303-426-4408

6 p.m. – Town Hall with Sen. Mary Hodge, IHOP, Fourth and Bromley; What's on the ballots this November?

7 p.m.– Bulldog Singers Fall Concert, BHS Auditorium

7 p.m. – Exploring E-Readers, Anythink Brighton; Learn to use e-readers; Bring your e-reader, laptop, questions

Friday

Noon – Joint Pain Seminar, Platte Valley Medical Center; Daniel Hamman, M.D.; symptoms, temporary relief options, non-surgical and surgical alternatives, partial/total knee and shoulder replacements, recovery, more; Plan to **tour The Zimmer Mobile Learning Center, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.,** to see what's new in orthopedics and join replacement; RVSP 303-498-1481

Gas gauge

$3.28.9 Lowest unleaded price as of 8 p.m. Tuesday:

• **U-Pump-It** station on South Main

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project - Phase III

Please join us at a public open house to learn more about this project:

October 19, 2011
5 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Hampton Inn, Brighton
992 Platte River Blvd.
Brighton, CO 80601

For further information:
Sarah Carlisle | scarlisle@tristategt.org | 303-254-3396

TRI-STATE GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION ASSOCIATION, INC.
HEADQUARTERS: P.O. BOX 33695 DENVER, COLORADO 80233-0695 303-452-6111

October 4, 2011

FIRST AND LAST NAME
ORGANIZATION
ADDRESS
CITY, ST ZIP

Subject: **Proposed United Power Transmission System Improvement Project Phase III, Public Open House**

Dear TITLE NAME:

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. (Tri-State) and United Power are proposing to construct Phase III of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project in Brighton and unincorporated Adams County, Colorado. Phase III consists of a proposed 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the existing Bromley and the Prairie Center substations. Phase III would complete the third and final phase of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project, which is needed to ensure that United Power can continue to reliably supply electricity to residents, businesses, and critical community services in the rapidly growing local community.

Tri-State and United Power will be co-hosting a public open house to introduce the project to the general public, to provide information about the project's purpose and need, and to gather feedback on route options identified to date, shown in the enclosed map. No formal presentation will be given. Information will be provided on factsheets and informational boards, and Tri-State and United Power staff will be present to answer questions. Comments from the general public, government agencies, and other stakeholders will be gathered and used in the selection of the proposed route.

Open House Information:

October 19, 2011 (Wednesday)
5 p.m. – 8 p.m. Hampton Inn, Brighton
992 Platte River Boulevard
Brighton, CO 80601

This project is subject to a federal environmental review process under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and will require development of an Environmental Assessment without scoping. The lead federal agency for the NEPA review is the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service. The project will also require a Conditional Use Permit from the City of Brighton, and an Areas and Activities of State Interest (1041)/Conditional Use Permit from Adams County. A neighborhood meeting will be required for the Adams County permitting process. Public hearings will be held for both the Adams County and Brighton permitting processes.

Comments will be collected from the public and other stakeholders for two weeks after the public information meeting. After the comment period has ended, Tri-State and United Power will refine routes to address agency and public comments. A preferred route and a select number of feasible alternatives will be identified based upon the comparative analysis and feedback from agencies and the public.

Please feel free to call or email me with questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
1100 W. 116th Avenue
Westminster, CO 80234
(303) 452-6111
mbarningham@tristategt.org

Enclosures: Project Area Map
Comment Form

FORMAL TITLE	FIRST	LAST	TITLE	DEPARTMENT	ORGANIZATION
	Irv	Mallo	Region 6 Property Manager		CDOT
					The Swink Family Trust
	Karen	Blumenstein			THF Realty
	Liza	Hunholz			Colorado Division of Wildlife
	Brian	Ocepek	Real Estate Section Manager		Colorado State Parks
	Michelle	Seubert	Park Manager	Barr Lake State Park	Colorado State Parks
	Jeff	Thompson	Stewardop Biologist	Natural and Cultural Resources Program	Colorado State Parks
	Rob	Billerbeck			Colorado State Parks
	Tammy	VerCauteren			Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory
	Susan	Linner	Project Leader		U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
	Peter	Plage			U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
	Sandy	Vana-Miller			U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
	Abel	Montoya	Director	Planning and Development Department	Adams County
	Chris	LaRue	Planner		Adams County
	Kimberly	Dall	Development Engineering Manager		City of Brighton
	Marv	Falconburg	Community Development Director		City of Brighton
	Holly	Prather	Planning Manager		City of Brighton
Commissioner	W.R.	Fischer	District 1 County Commissioner		Adams County Board of Commissioners
Commissioner	Alice	Nichol	District 2 County Commissioner		Adams County Board of Commissioners
Commissioner	Erik	Hansen	District 3 County Commissioner		Adams County Board of Commissioners
	Jim	Robinson	Adams County Administrator		Adams County
	Manuel	Esquibel	Brighton City Manager		City of Brighton
Mayor	Dick	McLean			Brighton City Council
Mayor Pro Tem	Wayne	Scott			Brighton City Council
Council Member	Chris	Maslanik			Brighton City Council
Council Member	Terry	Moore			Brighton City Council
Council Member	Cynthia	Martinez			Brighton City Council
Council Member	Rex	Bell			Brighton City Council
Council Member	Rob	Farina			Brighton City Council
Council Member	Wilma	Rose			Brighton City Council
Council Member	Daryl	Meyers			Brighton City Council

Appendix B:

Meeting Materials

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Display Boards

Note:

The display boards, presented originally at 48 inches by 36 inches, are reproduced at 11 inches by 17 inches.

Routing Power Lines

The Responsible Approach

Routing a transmission line is a step-by-step process during which various alternatives are identified and then compared to each other based on a range of criteria. Routing a transmission line requires an open and comprehensive process that considers various factors, including:

- Electric system planning
- Economics
- The environment
- Public involvement
- Regulatory requirements
- Land rights
- Engineering

The routing process is designed to consider the full range of values attached to the study area, including those issues raised by the public. Once input is received from many sources on the alternatives, a preferred route has been selected and proposed during the permitting process.

Typical Transmission Line Routing Considerations

Engineering Considerations	Social and Economic Values
» Length of the transmission line	» Cultural and historic sites
» Cost	» Economics
» Right-of-way requirements	» Land rights
» Length paralleling existing linear features (e.g. roads)	» Community facilities
Land Use Considerations	**Environmental Considerations**
» Visual impact	» Wildlife, including birds
» Proximity to residences	» Vegetation
» Agricultural activities	» Threatened/Endangered species
» Future land use	» Wetlands
» Zoning	» Air quality
» Parks and recreation	» Water quality
» Oil and gas development	

The Routing Process

The major steps in the routing process are:

Step 1: IDENTIFY A STUDY AREA based upon the project's endpoints that are defined by the purpose and need. The study area should encompass several route alternatives of reasonable length and potential opportunities for placement.

Step 2: IDENTIFY ROUTE SEGMENTS within the study area, which are typically along existing linear features such as roads, railroads, pipelines, and existing utility lines. Impacts from a new transmission line often are reduced where paralleling such linear features, because a disturbance already exists on the landscape and new access routes would not be needed. Other linear features also may be identified as connecting segments, such as parcel boundaries, field or fence lines, or natural boundaries defined by slope or vegetation.

Step 3: FORM PRELIMINARY ROUTE SELECTIONS by linking route segments together and conducting a comparative analysis. Preliminary routes are assessed against a series of routing criteria, which are tailored to the individual project area. In addition to agency, county and city input, public input may identify additional criteria appropriate for use in the selection of the preferred route.

Step 4: SELECT A PREFERRED ROUTE after the comparative analysis is complete and public input has been collected. The preferred route will be identified in permit applications.

Involving the Public

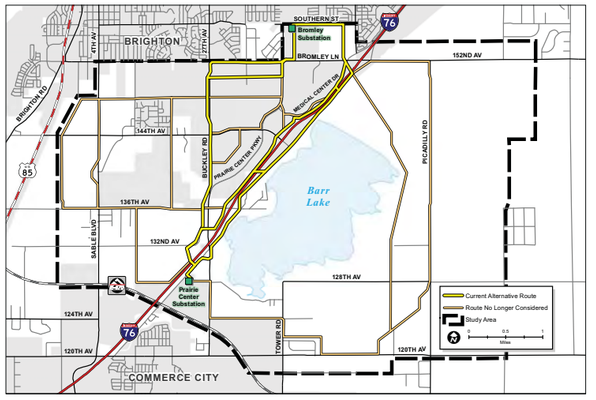
Tri-State uses an open and comprehensive process when routing any transmission line project that emphasizes input from local communities, landowners, regulatory agencies, and the public. Public meetings provide opportunities to speak with industry experts and utility staff regarding a proposed project.

Public Comment Opportunities

- Open House held by Tri-State and United Power (Fall 2011)
- Adams County Neighborhood Meeting (Winter 2011)
- Adams County Planning Commission Hearing (Spring 2012)
- Adams County Board of County Commissioners Hearing (Spring 2012)
- City of Brighton City Council Hearing (Spring 2012)

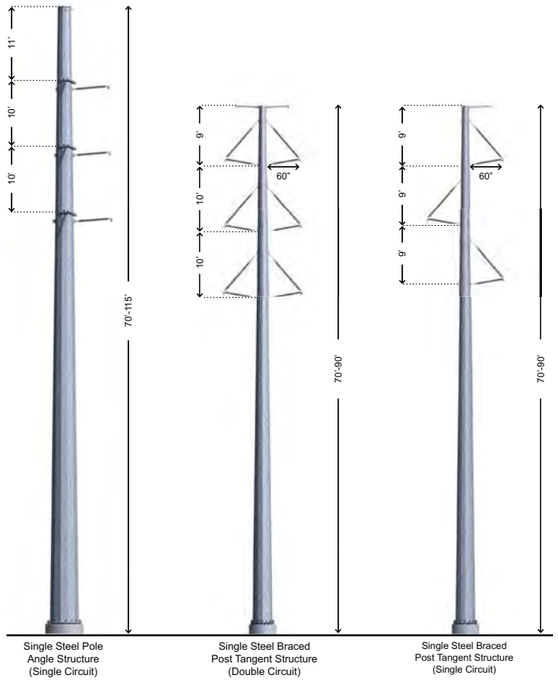
Current Status

The routing process for the United Power Phase III Project is currently at Step 3. Public input is a critical component of Step 3, since additional route alternatives may be added after a public meeting currently planned for Fall 2011. At this meeting, Tri-State and United Power will present preliminary route alternatives, and ask for the public's input on these alternatives. Step 4 will proceed after the first public information meeting is held.



Constructing Power Lines

A Look at Engineering



Structure Types

Tri-State is proposing to build a single-circuit 115-kV transmission line with single steel pole structures. The anticipated structures are shown above, and would typically be 70 to 90 feet tall depending upon the span distances. Taller structures may be required to obtain required clearance and distance over Interstate 76 and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. The right-of-way required would be 75 feet (37.5 feet on either side of the center line).

Engineering Solutions to Routing Challenges

Engineering plays a critical role in identifying alternative routes for proposed transmission lines, particularly in urban environments where potential routes are highly constrained by existing and planned development, and in environmentally sensitive areas. Among the engineering strategies Tri-State is considering for United Power Phase III alternative routes are:

- Use of taller structures to maintain required clearances over I-76 according to Colorado Department of Transportation utility requirements and railroads according to Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railroad requirements
- Use of swan flight diverters near Barr Lake State Park to protect avian species, particularly bald eagles
- Use of long spans to avoid wetlands wherever possible
- Use of single-pole steel structures to reduce visual impacts
- Identifying locations of existing utility lines, including natural gas pipelines, to maintain required clearances

Phase 1 Near Bromley Substation

One potential route segment follows the Phase I transmission line by Bromley Substation (shown at right). If this segment was utilized for the proposed Phase III line, the second circuit would likely be placed on the existing Phase I transmission structures, with modifications to angle structures possible.

Engineering Characteristics

Design Component: 115-kV Single Steel Pole	
Typical Right-of-Way Width	75 Feet
Typical Distance Between Structures	550 Feet
Typical Structure Height	70-90 Feet
Typical Structures Per Mile	9
Typical Ground Clearance (beneath conductor under maximum operating conditions)	24 Feet
Minimum Clearance of Equipment to Energized Conductor	14 Feet

Clearances would be maintained in accordance with the National Electric Safety Code.

During Construction

Tri-State would hire a contractor to construct the transmission lines. Construction would take approximately nine months and would be completed in several phases: access development, staging structures, foundation construction, framing and erecting the structures, and stringing conductor. Several work phases may be in progress simultaneously at different locations along the route.

Construction of the transmission line would be undertaken in a manner that minimizes disruption to land uses along the proposed route. Safeguards would include:

- Assigning a right-of-way agent to liaison with landowners
- Assigning inspectors to ensure environmental compliance by contractors
- Installing temporary erosion control structures where necessary
- Revegetating disturbed areas

Powering Community Development

Phase III: Bromley - Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

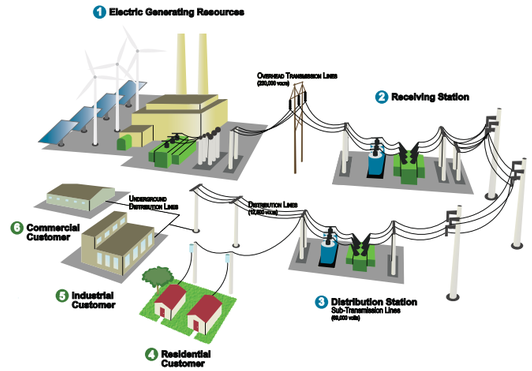
The Electric System

Transmission lines are designed to carry large amounts of electricity at high voltages (typically 115 to 500 kV) across long distances.

Tri-State's networks of transmission lines transfer electricity from power plants or other interconnections to a number of substations, including United Power's Bromley Substation and Prairie Center Substation.

At the substation, the high-voltage electricity is "stepped down" to a lower voltage, and is carried to residential, business, and governmental consumers via distribution lines.

Distribution lines carry the electricity at lower voltages (12.5 to 34.5 kV) to small transformers, which convert the electricity to a voltage of 110 and 220 volts, suitable for consumer use.



Phase III of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project consists of a proposed 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the existing Bromley and Prairie Center substations, and would be located in the City of Brighton and in unincorporated Adams County, Colorado. Phase III would complete the third and final phase of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project, which is needed to ensure that United Power can continue to reliably supply electricity to residents, businesses, and critical services in the rapidly growing local community.

Why Phase III is Needed

To meet the growing electrical needs of Brighton and Adams County, additional power delivery infrastructure is required because:

- Tri-State needs to be able to maintain an adequate and reliable supply of electricity to United Power
- United Power needs to be able to reliably distribute this electricity to its member-consumers

The Bromley Substation has been United Power's most heavily loaded substation for the last several years. The proposed transmission line and substation improvements associated with Phase III will allow United Power to continue serving the needs of residential, commercial, and governmental consumers.

Project Benefits

The Phase I and Phase II system additions have already resulted in a more robust and reliable transmission backbone to support the loads served by United Power's Bromley, Prairie Center, and Reunion substations. Phase III is expected to have the following benefits:

- To ***fulfill regulatory standards*** for electric utility service
- Allows for ***increased electrical load serving capacity*** to the residential, commercial, and governmental development located in and around the City of Brighton
- Provides ***redundant transmission service*** that will allow an alternate source for restoring electric service in the event of a transmission line outage

Phase I Line Out-of-Service Scenario

The Phase I line is currently the only transmission source to United Power's Bromley Substation. If the Phase I line is out of service, the Bromley Substation would lose its main source of power, reducing the capability of United Power to serve loads in the area, and possibly resulting in outages until the line is repaired. The load cannot be served from the south because no transmission line exists to the Prairie Center Substation.

Consumers most affected:

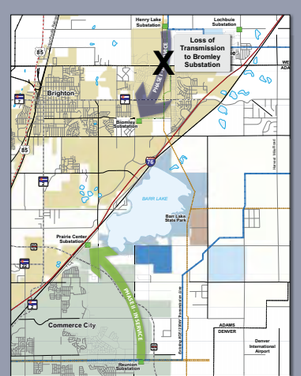
- Platte Valley Medical Center
- Adams County Detention Center and Justice Center
- Brighton Police and Fire facilities and Water Treatment Plant
- Two nursing homes, the K-Mart distribution warehouse, Office Depot warehouse, Lowe's home improvement store, and the Western United Electric Supply Corporation.
- Residential consumers served by United Power

Phase II Line Out-of-Service Scenario

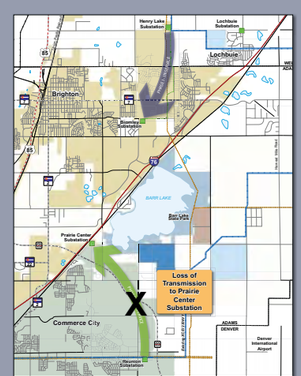
The Phase II line is the only transmission source to United Power's Prairie Center Substation. An outage in the Phase II line will cause Prairie Center Substation to lose its main power source, reducing the capability of United Power to serve loads in the area, and possibly resulting in outages until the line is repaired. The load cannot be served from the north because no transmission line exists to the Bromley Substation.

Consumers most affected:

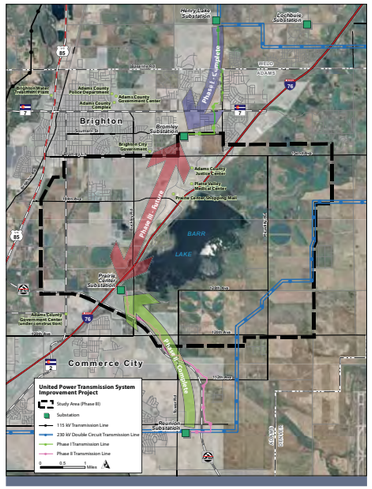
- Adams County Complex (includes the 911 Call Center, a county data center, and offices)
- Adams County Government Center
- Prairie Center Shopping Mall (JC Penney, Kohl's, Super Target, Home Depot, Office Depot, Dick's Sporting Goods, PetSmart, Holiday Inn Express, Wells Fargo, and 14 small consumer-service businesses, and nine restaurants)
- Residential consumers served by United Power



Phase I out-of-service, Phase III not built



Phase II out-of-service, Phase III not built



Phase III: A Close Look

The Phase I and Phase II system additions have resulted in a more robust and reliable transmission backbone to support the loads served by United Power's Bromley, Prairie Center, and Reunion substations, however, the Phase I and Phase II transmission lines are only "radial" lines, with a single source of power.

Phase III is the critical missing link needed to form a "loop" system in the area, which would enable the electrical network to perform more reliably than it could under the Phase I and Phase II system additions alone. The completion of a loop system allows power to flow from two different directions, rather than from a single source. With a loop system, if transmission from one direction was out of service, transmission from the other direction would supply consumers and prevent outages.

Environment and Permitting

Tri-State uses several strategies to reduce the number of birds that are injured or killed when they contact power lines or electrical equipment. These strategies include:

- Conducting risk assessments for collision potential during planning
- Using avian safe designs where feasible
- Monitoring existing lines and substations for avian issues
- Training for maintenance and engineering departments on avian issues and mitigation
- Development of an Avian Protection Plan (APP)

Roosting and Nest Management

Tri-State implements a variety of perch management and nest management strategies to protect the birds and prevent power outages caused by bird nesting or roosting on transmission line structures and equipment including:

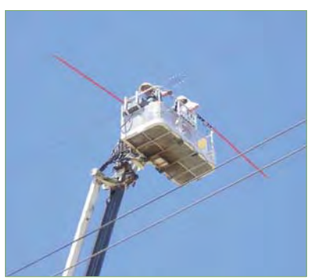
- Installing perch deterrents and nesting deterrents on structures
- Installing nest boxes or platforms in safe areas on or near structures
- Coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to remove or relocate nests when appropriate

Collision Minimization Measures

The top wires on a power line (the static wires) pose the greatest risk for collision because they are smaller and can be more difficult for birds to see and avoid. To minimize collision risks, Tri-State implements several measures where feasible, including:

- Consider clustering lines during the planning process to increase visibility
- Locate lines away from known flyways and important habitats
- Utilize structure configurations that minimize collision risk in sensitive areas
- Marking lines to make the lines more visible to birds in flight
- Monitoring collisions on existing lines

Different types of markers vary in effectiveness. Devices include stationary bird and swan flight diverters.



Electrocution

Electrocution of birds typically is not associated with transmission lines of 115 kilovolts (kV) and higher. The electrical components generally are far enough apart that a bird can avoid contact with two of them at once, thereby avoiding fatally completing a circuit. Problems that do arise can be corrected by:

- Isolation: Moving the components farther apart to get the necessary clearance
- Insulation: Covering materials on various electrical components to prevent direct contact with the component that would cause the electrocution

Potential Project Permits and Approvals

Local
City of Brighton
Adams County
State
Department of Public Health & Environment
Colorado Department of Transportation
Colorado Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation
Federal
USDA's Rural Utilities Service
Federal Aviation Administration
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Permitting

Once a preferred transmission line route has been determined, Tri-State will submit permit applications to local, state, and federal authorities for their consideration and approval.

Tri-State is a borrower from the Rural Utilities Service, and therefore must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). To comply with NEPA, Tri-State would prepare an Environmental Assessment that analyzes the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Establishing Rights-of-Way

Working with Landowners

Working with Landowners

Tri-State uses a comprehensive and methodical process to determine the location for new transmission facilities, which involves an interactive process that includes gathering comments and concerns from property owners during a public participation phase.

Not only does Tri-State work with individual landowners along transmission line routes, but for most projects the association also must receive easements from cities and counties, rights-of-way grants from state and tribal entities, and permits and/or easements from federal land agencies.

Easements and Agriculture

Center Pivots—Tri-State will avoid irrigation equipment to the extent possible. Each individual situation will be worked out with the landowner.

Planting and Harvesting—Tri-State will work with individual landowners to avoid construction during the planting and harvesting seasons. If damage to crops cannot be avoided, compensation for crop loss will be offered.

Livestock—Segments of fences may be removed during line construction, but Tri-State will construct temporary fences and work with landowners to minimize impacts to livestock and their safety.

The Nuts and Bolts

The width of a transmission line easement is determined based on the voltage of the line, height of structures, spacing between structures, design requirements and safety considerations. Easements are determined by applying engineering specifications to meet the design and safety requirements of the National Electric Safety Code (NESC) and the Rural Utility Service (RUS).

- A right-of-way for both the long-term operation of the power line and short-term construction phase are typically required for new lines. It also addresses access to the line during the facility's operational life.
  - For this project, the structure types that are being proposed are to be single steel pole structures.
  - The structures will be placed approximately 500-550 feet apart. Span lengths are maximized where possible.
  - Structure heights for this project will be approximately 70 to 90 feet tall.
  - Shorter structures result in more structures per mile.
- In accordance with the NESC and RUS, the conductors (or wires) for a 115-kV transmission line are never to be less than 24 feet above the ground when the lines reach maximum operational temperatures.
- The width of an easement is intended to contain the potential sway of the conductors.
- This proposed line will be a 115-kV transmission line and will require an easement width of 75-feet.
- Specific details are always provided to landowners once design details are finalized.

Establishing Rights-of-Way

The goal for all projects is to identify a transmission line route that balances the need for reliable electric service with environmental concerns, public acceptance, engineering needs, economics, and legal and regulatory requirements.

Once a route is selected and the necessary land use permits have been obtained, Tri-State works directly with affected landowners to acquire the necessary power line and access easements for projects.

- Tri-State typically contracts with qualified land management and acquisition consultants to obtain the easements.
- Tri-State also obtains access easements for construction and long-term maintenance of transmission lines.
- Tri-State acquires temporary access or survey permission from landowners to perform various survey activities and possible geotechnical investigations on their property.
- Engineering, environmental and land surveying studies are conducted to complete a detailed assessment of a line's alignment.
- Should a property be subject to a conservation easement, approved uses of a conservation easement typically include power lines and other public utilities.
- Landowners are justly compensated by Tri-State for the granted easement.

Tri-State's objective is to work closely with the landowners to negotiate easement terms. When negotiations are unsuccessful, as an electric utility, Tri-State may have to exercise its eminent domain authority.

Fact Sheets

Note:

The fact sheets, originally presented at 11 inches by 17 and 8.5 inches by 11 inches, are reproduced at 8.5 inches by 11 inches.

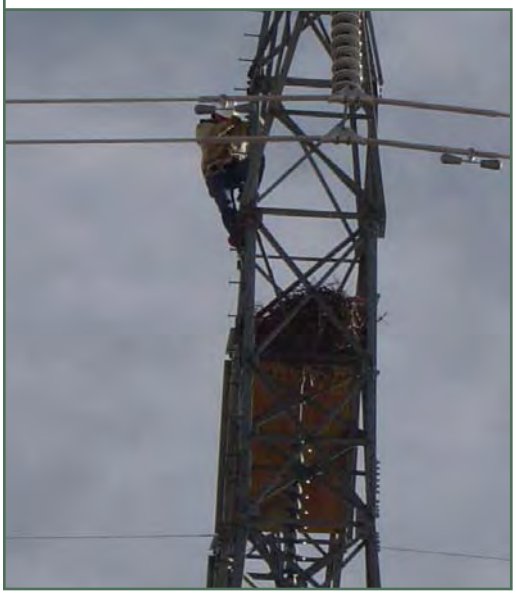
Birds and Power Lines

Avian Protection

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Nest management programs include installing perch deterrents and nesting deterrents on structures, and installing nest boxes or platforms in safe areas on or near structures.



Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association (Tri-State) uses several strategies to reduce the number of birds that are injured or killed when they contact power lines or electrical equipment. These strategies include:

- Conducting risk assessments for collision potential during planning
- Using avian safe designs, where feasible
- Monitoring existing lines and substations for avian issues
- Training for maintenance and engineering departments on avian issues and mitigation

Utilities try to minimize the risk of injury to birds, damage to electrical equipment, and outages to customers that may result when birds come in contact with power lines or their structures. Tri-State is developing a system-wide Avian Protection Plan (APP) to address and minimize bird interactions with the company's equipment and power lines.

Roosting and Nest Management

Transmission line structures and equipment are attractive to birds for roosting and nesting. Tri-State implements a variety of perch management approaches on structures to protect the birds and prevent power outages caused by bird interactions.

Nest management programs include installing perch deterrents and nesting deterrents on structures, and installing nest boxes or platforms in safe areas on or near structures. Additionally, Tri-State's APP sets an established reporting protocol by which co-op personnel report avian issues to Tri-State's environmental department, which then coordinates with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to remove or relocate nests when appropriate.

Collision Minimization Measures

Bird species have the potential to collide with power line wires. In general, the top wires (the static wires) pose the greatest risk for collision. The static wires are smaller than the electrical conductors and can be more difficult for birds to see and avoid. To minimize the risk of birds colliding with power lines, Tri-State implements several measures including:

- Consider clustering lines during the planning process to increase visibility
- Locate lines away from known flyways and important habitats, if possible
- Utilize structure configurations that minimize collision risk in

sensitive areas where feasible

» Marking lines to make them more visible to birds in flight

» Monitoring collisions on existing lines through the reporting system established as part of the APP

Marking Lines

Marking lines with various types of markers can decrease but not eliminate bird collisions. The different types of markers vary in effectiveness. The decision to utilize markers is based on:

» Effectiveness

» Line voltage rating

» Line location

» Durability

» Ease of installation

Examples of these devices are shown in the photos. For the proposed Phase III transmission line, Tri-State is proposing to use the swan flight diverters to mark the top static wire, similar to those used on the Phase II transmission line.

Electrocution

Electrocution of birds typically is not associated with transmission lines of 115 kilovolts and higher. The electrical components generally are far enough apart that a bird can avoid contact with two of them at once, thereby avoiding fatally completing a circuit.

Problems that do arise can be corrected in two primary ways:

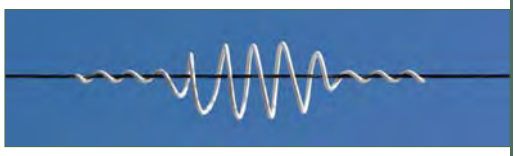
» Isolation: Moving the components farther apart to get the necessary clearance

» Insulation: Using covers or cover-up materials on various electrical components to prevent direct contact with the component that would cause the electrocution

For additional information regarding birds and power lines, visit the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee Web site at www.aplic.org.

Above: Installation of swan flight diverters

Below: Swan flight diverters on the Phase II transmission line



For More Information, Please Contact:

TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Sarah Carlisle
scarlisle@tristategt.org
303-254-3396

Constructing Power Lines

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Engineering Characteristics

Design Component: 115-kV Single Steel Pole	
Typical Right-of-Way Width	75 Feet
Typical Distance Between Structures	550 Feet
Typical Structure Height	70-90 Feet
Typical Structures Per Mile	9
Ground Clearance (beneath conductor under maximum operating conditions)	28 Feet
Minimum Clearance of Equipment Allowed to Operate Under Energized Conductor	14 Feet

Clearances would be maintained in accordance with the National Electric Safety Code.

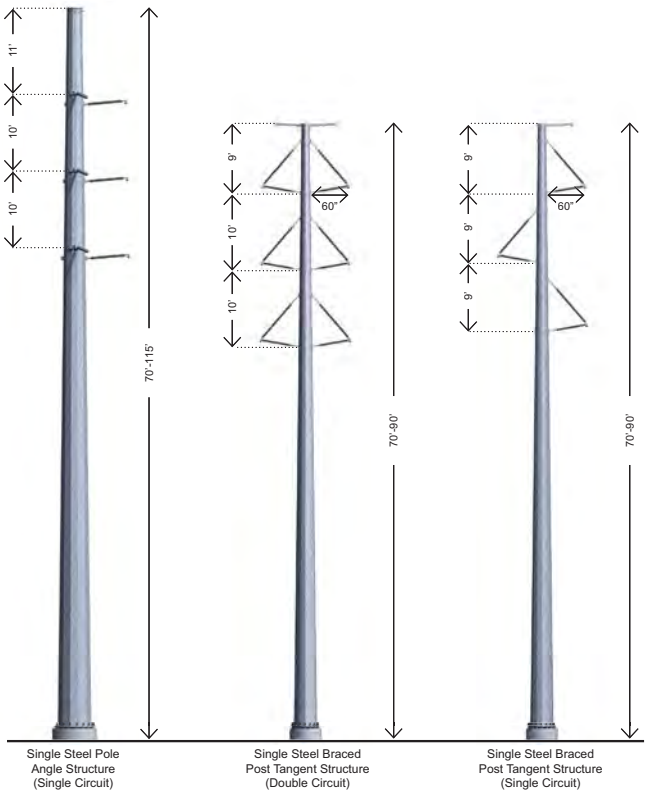
A portion of this existing United Power Phase I line would have a second circuit added to the left side of the structures to accommodate the proposed transmission line.

Phase III of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project consists of a proposed 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the existing Bromley and Prairie Center substations, and would be located in the City of Brighton and in unincorporated Adams County, Colorado. Phase III would complete the third and final phase of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project, which is needed to ensure that United Power can continue to reliably supply electricity to residents, businesses, and critical services in the rapidly growing local community.

Structure Types

Tri-State is proposing to build a single-circuit 115-kV transmission line with single steel pole structures. The anticipated structures are shown below, and would typically be 70 to 90 feet tall depending upon the span distances. Taller structures may be required to obtain required clearance and distance over Interstate 76 and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. The right-of-way required would be 75 feet (37.5 feet on either side of the center line).

One potential route segment follows the Phase I transmission line by Bromley Substation (shown at left). If this segment was utilized for the proposed Phase III line, the second circuit would likely be placed on the existing Phase I transmission structures, with modifications to angle structures possible.



Engineering Solutions to Routing Challenges

Engineering plays a critical role in identifying alternative routes for proposed transmission lines, particularly in urban environments where potential routes are highly constrained by existing and planned development, and in environmentally sensitive areas. Among the engineering strategies Tri-State is considering for United Power Phase III alternative routes are:

- Use of taller structures to maintain required clearances over I-76 according to Colorado Department of Transportation utility requirements, and railroads according to Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railroad requirements
- Use of swan flight diverters near Barr Lake State Park to protect avian species, particularly bald eagles.
- Use of long spans to avoid wetlands wherever possible
- Use of single-pole steel structures to reduce visual impacts
- Identifying locations of existing utility lines, including natural gas pipelines, to maintain required clearances

During Construction

Tri-State would hire a contractor to construct the transmission lines. Construction would take approximately nine months and would be completed in several phases: access development, staging structures, foundation construction, framing and erecting the structures, and stringing conductor. Several work phases may be in progress simultaneously at different locations along the route.

Construction of the transmission line would be undertaken in a manner that minimizes disruption to land uses along the proposed route. Safeguards would include:

- Assigning a right-of-way agent to liaison with landowners
- Assigning inspectors to ensure environmental compliance by contractors
- Installing temporary erosion control structures where necessary
- Revegetating disturbed areas

I-76 and Bromley Lane

Engineering plays a critical role in identifying alternative routes for proposed transmission lines, particularly in urban environments where potential routes are highly constrained by existing development, and in environmentally sensitive areas.

Near Barr Lake State Park

For More Information, Please Contact:

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303-254-3396

Establishing Rights-of-Way

Working with Landowners

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Working with Landowners

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association (Tri-State) owns (wholly or jointly) or has maintenance responsibilities for more than 5,200 miles of transmission line across Colorado, Nebraska, New Mexico and Wyoming. Line crews and substation technicians work to ensure power delivery is safe and reliable.

As a not-for-profit power supplier, Tri-State continues to invest in transmission infrastructure to ensure dependable power delivery to its 44 member cooperatives throughout its four-state service territory. The West's vast power supply network is currently strained and improvements and expansion to the system are essential to enhancing regional power reliability.

Tri-State uses a comprehensive and methodical process to determine the location for new transmission facilities, which involves an interactive process that includes gathering comments and concerns from property owners during a public participation phase.

Not only does Tri-State work with individual landowners along transmission line routes, but for most projects the association also must receive easements from cities and counties, rights-of-way grants from state and tribal entities, and permits and/or easements from federal land agencies.

Establishing Rights-of-Way

Once a route is selected and the necessary land use permits have been obtained, Tri-State works directly with affected landowners to acquire the necessary power line and access easements for projects.

- Tri-State typically contracts with qualified land management and acquisition consultants to obtain the easements.
- Tri-State also obtains access easements for construction and long-term maintenance of transmission lines.
- Tri-State acquires temporary access or survey permission from landowners to perform various survey activities and possible geotechnical investigations on their property.
- Engineering, environmental and land surveying studies are conducted to complete a detailed assessment of a line's alignment.
- Should a property be subject to a conservation easement, approved uses of a conservation easement typically include power lines and other public utilities.
- Landowners are justly compensated by Tri-State for the granted easement.

Tri-State's objective is to work closely with the landowners to negotiate easement terms. When negotiations are unsuccessful, as an electric utility, Tri-State may have to exercise its eminent domain authority. Fortunately, these are rare cases. The goal for all projects is to identify a transmission line route that balances the need for reliable electric service with environmental concerns, public acceptance, engineering needs, economics, and legal and regulatory requirements.

The Nuts and Bolts

The width of a transmission line easement is determined based on the voltage of the line, height of structures, spacing between structures, design requirements and safety considerations. Easements are determined by applying engineering specifications to meet the design and safety requirements of the National Electric Safety Code (NESC) and the Rural Utility Service (RUS).

- A right-of-way for both the long-term operation of the power line and short-term construction phase are typically required for new lines. It also addresses access to the line during the facility's operational life.
  - For this particular transmission line project, the structure types that are being proposed are to be single steel pole structures.
  - The structures will be placed approximately 500-550 feet apart. Span lengths are maximized where possible.
  - Structure heights for this project will be approximately 70 to 90 feet tall.
  - Shorter structures result in more structures per mile.
- In accordance with the NESC and RUS, the conductors (or wires) for a 115-kV transmission line are never to be less than 24 feet above the ground when the lines reach maximum operational temperatures. Ground clearance will be increased as appropriate to allow for the elevation of the line, snow levels and due to engineering considerations.
- The width of an easement is intended to contain the potential sway of the conductors.
- This proposed line will be a 115-kV transmission line and will require an easement width of 75-feet.
- Specific details are always provided to landowners once design details are finalized.

Easements and Agriculture

Center Pivots—Tri-State will avoid irrigation equipment to the extent possible. Each individual situation will be worked out with the landowner.

Planting and Harvesting—Tri-State will work with individual landowners to avoid construction during the planting and harvesting seasons. If damage to crops cannot be avoided, compensation for crop loss will be offered.

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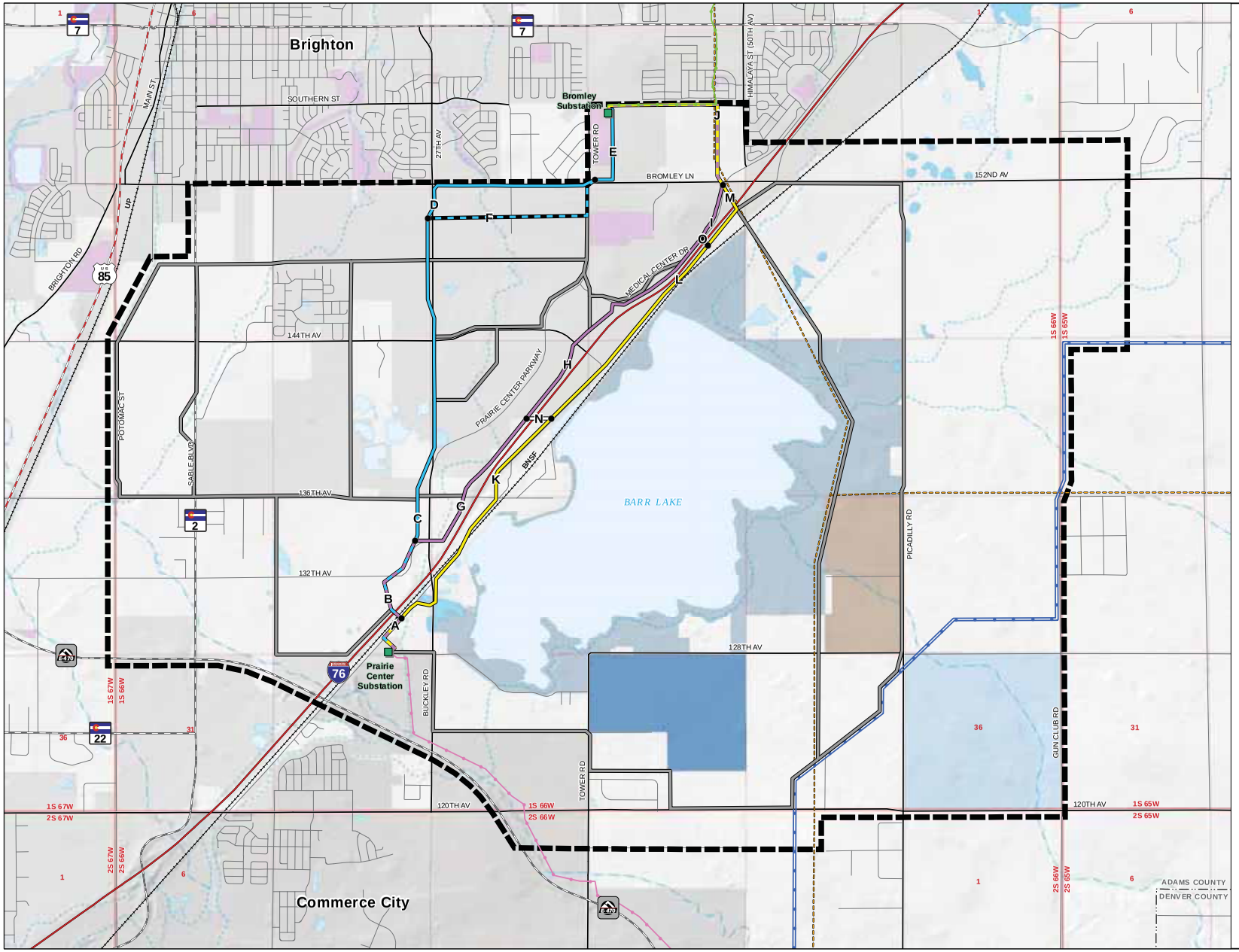

Project Area

Legend

Project Study Area

Utilities

- Existing Substation
- Existing 230 kV Double Circuit Transmission Line
- Existing Gas Pipeline
- Phase 1 Transmission Line
- Phase 2 Transmission Line

Municipal Boundaries
(Brighton, Commerce City)

- City of Brighton
- Commerce City

Jurisdiction
(CSU NREL)

- Colorado Department of Wildlife - White Horse State Wildlife Area
- City of Brighton Owned and Managed
- Conservation Easement
- State of Colorado
- Colorado Department of Natural Resources - Barr Lake State Park

Routes

- Route Segment End Point
- East I-76 Route
- West I-76 Route
- Alternative I-76 Crossing Option
- Route 5A
- Route 5B
- D = Route Segment Letter
- Considered, But Eliminated

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

Scale 1:18,000 (when printed at 22x34)

Revised: 10/18/2011
Sources:
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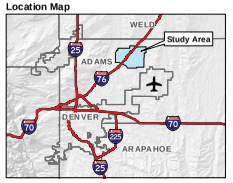
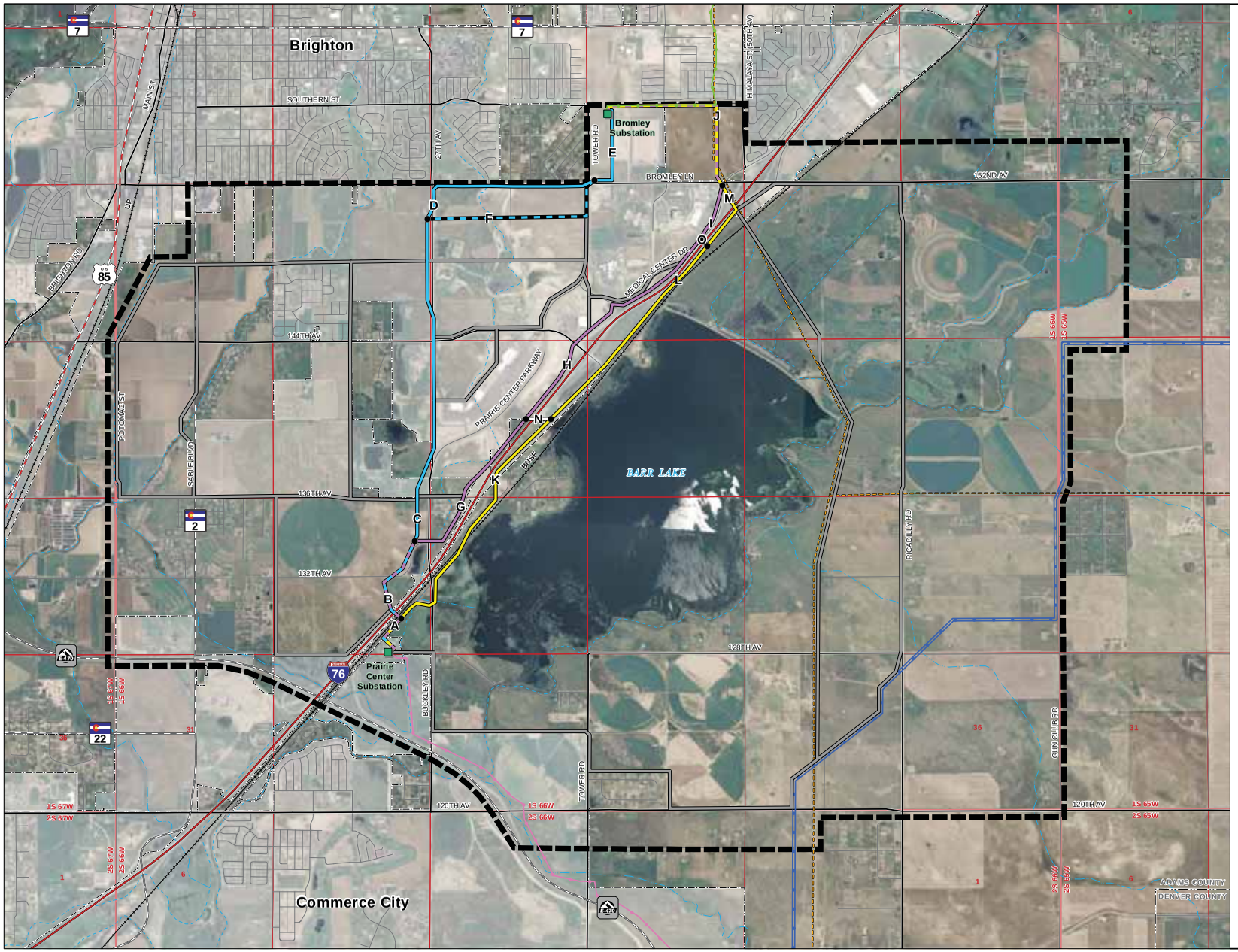
Location Map



TRI-STATE

TETRA TECH

United Power System Improvement Project: Phase III



Project Area

Legend

- Project Study Area
- Municipal Boundary

Utilities

- Existing Substation
- Existing 230 kV Double Circuit Transmission Line
- Existing Gas Pipeline
- Phase 1 Transmission Line
- Phase 2 Transmission Line

Transportation

- Interstate
- U.S. Highway
- State Highway
- Major Road
- Local Road
- Railroad

Hydrology

- Perennial Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Canal or Ditch

Routes

- Route Segment End Point
- East I-76 Route
- West I-76 Route
- Alternative I-76 Crossing Option
- Route 5A
- Route 5B
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- Considered, But Eliminated

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Scale 1:18,000 (when printed at 22x34)

Revised: 10/18/2011
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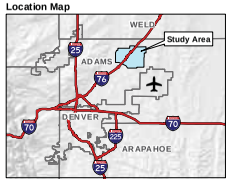
Location Map



TRI-STATE

TETRA TECH

United Power System Improvement Project: Phase III

Permitting & Public Involvement

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Above: Public meetings provide opportunities to speak with industry experts and utility staff regarding the project.

Phase III of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project consists of a proposed 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the existing Bromley and Prairie Center substations, and would be located in the City of Brighton and in unincorporated Adams County, Colorado. Phase III would complete the third and final phase of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project, which is needed to ensure that United Power can continue to reliably supply electricity to residents, businesses, and critical services in the rapidly growing local community.

Permitting

Once a preferred transmission line route is determined, Tri-State will submit permit applications to local, state, and federal authorities for their consideration and approval. The following permits or regulatory compliance would be required:

Potential Project Permits and Approvals

Local	
City of Brighton	Conditional Use Permit
Adams County	Conditional Use Permit or 1041 Permit
State	
Department of Public Health & Environment	Construction General Stormwater Permit and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)
Colorado Department of Transportation	Access Permits if necessary
Colorado Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation	Determination of Compliance with National Historic Preservation Act Section 106
Federal	
USDA's Rural Utilities Service	Environmental Assessment
Federal Aviation Administration	Title 14 CFR Part 77, Objects Affecting Navigable Airspace
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Clean Water Act, Section 404/Nationwide Permit 12, Jurisdictional Waters of the U.S.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Endangered Species Act, Section 7 Consultation

Tri-State is a borrower from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), and therefore must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). To comply with NEPA, Tri-State would prepare an Environmental Assessment that analyzes the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Public Involvement

Tri-State and United Power have been coordinating with the City of Brighton, Adams County, Barr Lake State Park, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, the Colorado Department of Transportation, and large landowners in the study area since the beginning of the alternatives development process. Tri-State will be holding an open house in the fall 2011 to share project information and solicit input from the public on preliminary alternatives. Local, state, and federal agencies will be invited to participate.

Landowners and the general public will also have an opportunity to provide comments during the county and city permitting processes. Adams County will require a "neighborhood meeting" to be held as part of the permit application process. A neighborhood meeting is not required by the City of Brighton's permitting process, but the City of Brighton, landowners, agencies, and the general public will be invited to participate in the process.

The City of Brighton and Adams County both hold public hearings after permits are submitted. Adams County will hold a public hearing on the project before the Planning Commission, and then a public hearing before the Board of County Commissioners. The City of Brighton will hold a public hearing before the City Council.

Public Comment Opportunities (Tentative Schedule)

- Open House held by Tri-State and United Power (Fall 2011)
- Adams County Neighborhood Meeting (Winter 2011)
- Adams County Planning Commission Hearing (Spring 2012)
- Adams County Board of County Commissioners Hearing (Spring 2012)
- City of Brighton City Council Hearing (Spring 2012)

For More Information, Please Contact:

TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Sarah Carlisle
scarlisle@tristategt.org
303-254-3396

Phase I Line Out-of-Service Scenario

The Phase I line is currently the only transmission source to United Power's Bromley Substation. If the Phase I line is out of service, the Bromley Substation would lose its main source of power, reducing the capability of United Power to serve loads in the area, and possibly resulting in outages until the line is repaired. The load cannot be served from the south because no transmission line exists to the Prairie Center Substation.

Consumers most affected:

- Platte Valley Medical Center
- Adams County Detention Center and Justice Center
- Brighton Police and Fire facilities and Water Treatment Plant
- Two nursing homes, the K-Mart distribution warehouse, Office Depot warehouse, Lowe's home improvement store, and the Western United Electric Supply Corporation.
- Residential consumers served by United Power

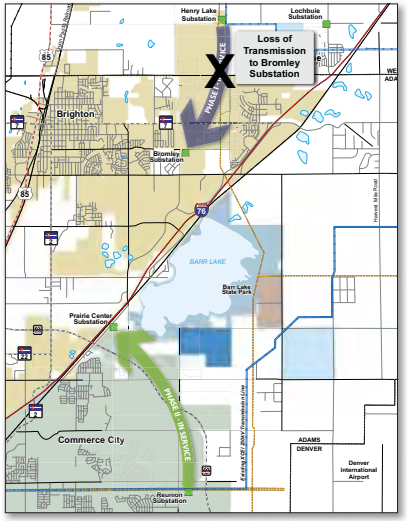
Phase II Line Out-of-Service Scenario

The Phase II line is the only transmission source to United Power's Prairie Center Substation. An outage in the Phase II line will cause Prairie Center Substation to lose its main power source, reducing the capability of United Power to serve loads in the area, and possibly resulting in outages until the line is repaired. The load cannot be served from the north because no transmission line exists to the Bromley Substation.

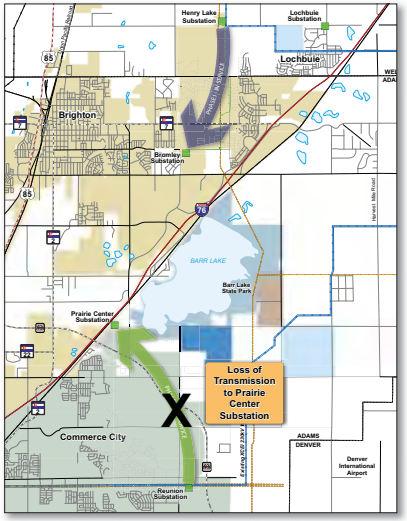
Consumers most affected:

- Adams County Complex (includes the 911 Call Center, a county data center, and offices)
- Adams County Government Center
- Prairie Center Shopping Mall (JC Penney, Kohl's, Super Target, Home Depot, Office Depot, Dick's Sporting Goods, PetSmart, Holiday Inn Express, Wells Fargo, and 14 small consumer-service businesses, and nine restaurants)
- Residential consumers served by United Power

Phase I out-of-service, Phase III not built



Phase II out-of-service, Phase III not built



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Powering Community Development

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Population Growth

2000-2008	
City of Brighton	55%
Commerce City	87%
Adams County	19%
State of Colorado	15%

Source: US Census Bureau; Colorado DOLA, State Demographer's Office

The Electric System

Transmission lines are designed to carry large amounts of electricity at high voltages (typically 115 to 500 kV) across long distances.

Tri-State's networks of transmission lines transfer electricity from power plants or other interconnections to a number of substations, including United Power's Bromley Substation and Prairie Center Substation.

At the substation, the high-voltage electricity is "stepped down" to a lower voltage, and is carried to residential, business, and governmental consumers via distribution lines.

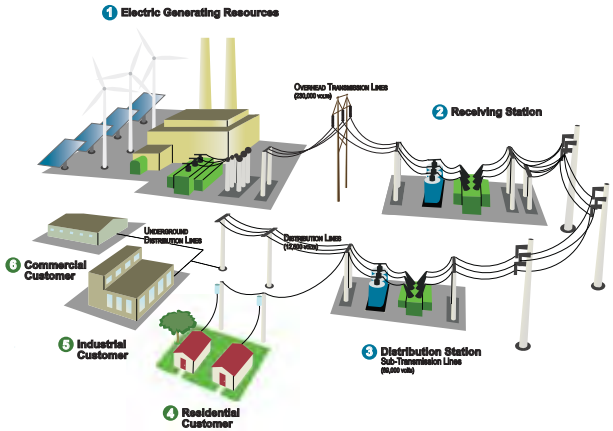
Distribution lines carry the electricity at lower voltages (12.5 to 34.5 kV) to small transformers, which convert the electricity to a voltage of 110 and 220 volts, suitable for consumer use.

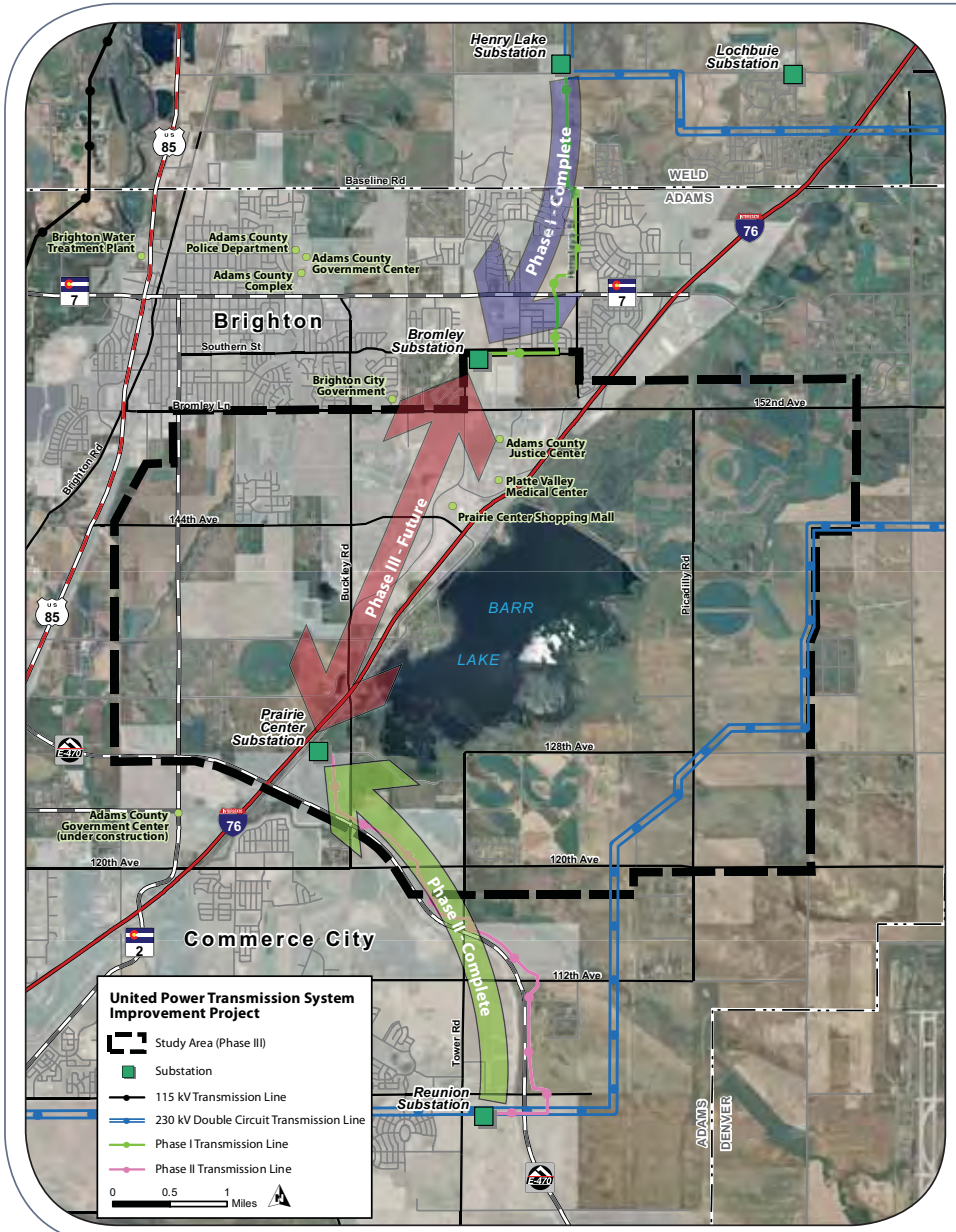
Phase III of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project consists of a proposed 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the existing Bromley and Prairie Center substations, and would be located in the City of Brighton and in unincorporated Adams County, Colorado. Phase III would complete the third and final phase of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project, which is needed to ensure that United Power can continue to reliably supply electricity to residents, businesses, and critical services in the rapidly growing local community.

To meet the growing electrical needs of Brighton and Adams County, additional power delivery infrastructure is required because:

- Tri-State needs to be able to maintain an adequate and reliable supply of electricity to United Power, and
- United Power needs to be able to reliably distribute this electricity to its member-consumers.

The Bromley Substation has been United Power's most heavily loaded substation for the last several years. The proposed transmission line and substation improvements associated with Phase III will allow United Power to continue serving the needs of residential, commercial, and governmental consumers.





The United Power Transmission System Improvement Project: An Overview

The Phase I and Phase II system additions have already resulted in a more robust and reliable transmission backbone to support the loads served by United Power's Bromley, Prairie Center, and Reunion substations. Phase III is expected to have the following benefits:

- To ***fulfill regulatory*** standards for electric utility service;
- Allows for ***increased electrical load serving capacity*** to the residential, commercial, and governmental development located in and around the City of Brighton; and
- Provides ***redundant transmission service*** that will allow an alternate source for restoring electric service in the event of a transmission line outage.

Fulfilling Regulatory Standards

Construction of Phase III will reduce system electrical losses and help maintain acceptable voltage levels required by the mandatory regulations imposed upon transmission providers, including Tri-state, by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC). NERC is the reliability regulatory organization charged by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to set operational standards for electric utilities required to improve the reliability and security of the bulk power system in North America.

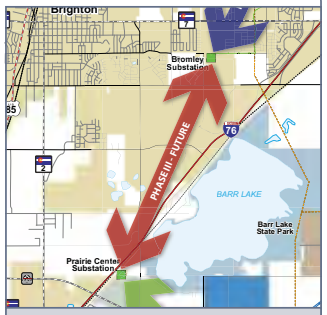
Increasing Capacity

There are a number of critical community service consumers that are served by United Power that will benefit from the additional capacity, including the Platte Valley Medical Center; The Adams County Campus Offices which include the new 911 Call Center for the county, with a data center and office complex; the Adams County Detention Facility and district police and fire stations for Brighton; the Adams County Justice Center; and the Prairie Center retail development.

Providing Redundant Transmission Service

The Phase I and Phase II transmission lines are radial lines with a single source of power. Phase III forms the critical missing link needed to form a "loop" system in the area, which would enable power to flow from two different directions, rather than from a single source. With a loop system, if transmission from one direction was out of service, transmission from the other direction would supply consumers and prevent outages.

Without Phase III, United Power customers could experience service disruptions if weather, accident, or system malfunction removed the Phase I or Phase II lines from service, especially during peak summer demand. Without the addition of Phase III, future development would also be limited.



Phase III: A Closer Look

The Phase I and Phase II system additions have resulted in a more robust and reliable transmission backbone to support the loads served by United Power's Bromley, Prairie Center, and Reunion substations, however, the Phase I and Phase II transmission lines are only "radial" lines, with a single source of power.

Phase III is the critical missing link needed to form a "loop" system in the area, which would enable the electrical network to perform more reliably than it could under the Phase I and Phase II system additions alone. The completion of a loop system allows power to flow from two different directions, rather than from a single source. With a loop system, if transmission from one direction was out of service, transmission from the other direction would supply consumers and prevent outages.

Routing Power Lines

The Responsible Approach

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Typical Transmission Line Routing Considerations

Engineering Considerations

- Length of the transmission line
- Cost
- Right-of-way requirements
- Length paralleling existing linear features (e.g. roads)

Land Use Considerations

- Visual impact
- Proximity to residences
- Agricultural activities
- Future land use
- Zoning
- Parks and recreation
- Oil and gas development

Social and Economic Values

- Cultural and historic sites
- Economics
- Land rights
- Community facilities

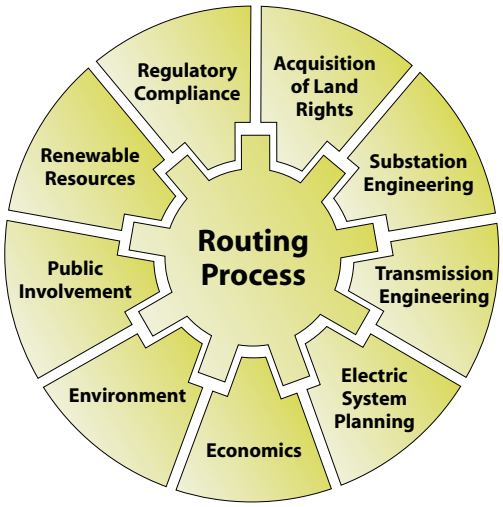
Environmental Considerations

- Wildlife, including birds
- Vegetation
- Threatened/Endangered species
- Wetlands
- Air quality
- Water quality

Phase III of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project consists of a proposed 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the existing Bromley and Prairie Center substations, and would be located in the City of Brighton and in unincorporated Adams County, Colorado. Phase III would complete the third and final phase of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project, which is needed to ensure that United Power can continue to reliably supply electricity to residents, businesses, and critical services in the rapidly growing local community.

The Routing Process

Routing a transmission line is a step-by-step process during which various alternatives are identified and then compared to each other based on a range of criteria. Routing a transmission line requires an open and comprehensive process that considers various factors, including electric system planning, economics, the environment, public involvement, regulatory requirements, land rights, and engineering inputs.



The routing process is designed to consider the full range of values attached to the study area, including those issues raised by the public. Typical considerations include engineering, land use, social and economic values, and environmental resources. Once input is received from many sources on the alternatives, a preferred route is selected and proposed during the permitting process.

The major steps in the routing process are:

1. **IDENTIFY A STUDY AREA** based upon the project's endpoints that are defined by the purpose and need. The study area should encompass several route alternatives of reasonable length and potential opportunities for placement.
2. **IDENTIFY ROUTE SEGMENTS** within the study area, which are typically along existing linear features such as roads, railroads, pipelines, and existing utility lines. Impacts from a new transmission line often are reduced where they parallel such linear features, because a disturbance already exists on the landscape and new access routes would not be needed. Other linear features also may be identified as connecting segments, such as parcel boundaries, field or fence lines, or natural boundaries defined by slope or vegetation.
3. **FORM PRELIMINARY ROUTE SELECTIONS** by linking route segments together and conducting a comparative analysis. Preliminary routes are assessed against a series of routing criteria, that are tailored to the individual study area. In addition to agency, county and city input, public input may identify additional criteria appropriate for use in the selection of the preferred route.
4. **SELECT A PREFERRED ROUTE** after the comparative analysis is complete and public input has been collected. The preferred route will be identified in permit applications.

Current Status

The routing process for the United Power Phase III Project is currently at Step 3. Public input is a critical component of Step 3, since additional route alternatives may be added after a public meeting currently planned for Fall 2011. At this meeting, Tri-State and United Power will present preliminary route alternatives, and ask for the public's input on these alternatives. Step 4 will proceed once the first public information meeting has been held.

Involving the Public

Responsibly routing power lines involves not only compliance with local, state, and federal regulations, but also proactive communication with stakeholders and transparency in the routing process. Tri-State uses an open and comprehensive process when routing any transmission line project that emphasizes input from local communities, landowners, regulatory agencies, and the public. Public meetings provide opportunities to speak with industry experts and utility staff regarding a proposed project.

Simulation along I-76

Visual simulations are sometimes used in the routing process to evaluate an alternative route's compliance with regulations, such as Colorado Department of Transportation highway regulations.

For More Information, Please Contact:

TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Sarah Carlisle
scarlisle@tristategt.org
303-254-3396

Sheet Maps

Note:

The sheet maps, presented originally at 48 inches by 36 inches, are reproduced at 11 inches by 17 inches.

Routing Process Status October 2011

Sheet Map 1

Legend

- Project Study Area
- Platte Valley Medical Center Helipad 1/4 mile Buffer

Utilities

- Existing Substation
- Existing 230 kV Double Circuit Transmission Line
- Existing Gas Pipeline
- Phase 1 Transmission Line
- Phase 2 Transmission Line

Routes

- Route Segment End Point
- East I-76 Route
- West I-76 Route
- Alternative I-76 Crossing Option
- Route 5A
- Route 5B
- **D** = Route Segment Letter
- Considered, But Eliminated

Municipal Boundaries
(Brighton, Commerce City)

- City Boundary

Jurisdiction
(CSU, NREL)

- Colorado Department of Wildlife - White Horse State Wildlife Area
- City of Brighton Owned and Managed
- State of Colorado
- Colorado Department of Natural Resources - Barr Lake State Park
- Adams County Conservation Area
- Conservation Easement

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Miles
Scale 1:6,000 (when printed at 36x48)

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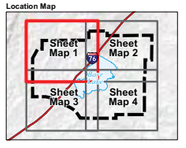
Location Map



TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.

TETRA TECH EC, INC

United Power System Improvement Project: Phase III

Routing Process Status October 2011

Sheet Map 2

Legend

- Project Study Area
- Platte Valley Medical Center Helipad 1/4 mile Buffer

Utilities

- Existing Substation
- Existing 230 kV Double Circuit Transmission Line
- Existing Gas Pipeline
- Phase 1 Transmission Line
- Phase 2 Transmission Line

Routes

- Route Segment End Point
- East I-76 Route
- West I-76 Route
- Alternative I-76 Crossing Option
- Route 5A
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Municipal Boundaries
(Brighton, Commerce City)

- City Boundary

Jurisdiction
(CSU, NREL)

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- City of Brighton Owned and Managed
- State of Colorado
- Colorado Department of Natural Resources - Barr Lake State Park
- Adams County Conservation Area
- Conservation Easement

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Location Map

TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

TETRA TECH EC INC

United Power System Improvement Project; Phase III

Routing Process Status October 2011

Sheet Map 3

Legend

- Project Study Area
- Platte Valley Medical Center Helipad 1/4 mile Buffer

Utilities

- Existing Substation
- Existing 230 kV Double Circuit Transmission Line
- Existing Gas Pipeline
- Phase 1 Transmission Line
- Phase 2 Transmission Line

Routes

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Municipal Boundaries
(Brighton, Commerce City)

- City Boundary

Jurisdiction
(CSU, NREL)

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- City of Brighton Owned and Managed
- State of Colorado
- Colorado Department of Natural Resources - Barr Lake State Park
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Location Map

TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

TETRA TECH EC, INC

United Power System Improvement Project: Phase III

Routing Process Status October 2011

Sheet Map 4

Legend

- Project Study Area
- Platte Valley Medical Center Helipad 1/4 mile Buffer

Utilities

- Existing Substation
- Existing 230 kV Double Circuit Transmission Line
- Existing Gas Pipeline
- Phase 1 Transmission Line
- Phase 2 Transmission Line

Routes

- Route Segment End Point
- East I-76 Route
- West I-76 Route
- Alternative I-76 Crossing Option
- Route 5A
- Route 5B
- **D** = Route Segment Letter
- Considered, But Eliminated

Municipal Boundaries
(Brighton, Commerce City)

- City Boundary

Jurisdiction
(CSU, NREL)

- Colorado Department of Wildlife - White Horse State Wildlife Area
- City of Brighton Owned and Managed
- State of Colorado
- Colorado Department of Natural Resources - Barr Lake State Park
- Adams County Conservation Area
- Conservation Easement

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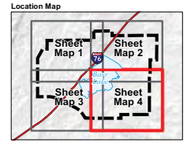
Location Map



TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

TETRA TECH EC INC

United Power System Improvement Project: Phase III

Appendix C:

Public Open House Sign-In Sheets and Completed Comment Forms

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Sign-In Sheet

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Thank you for attending the public open house; we appreciate your input. Please provide your name and contact information to be added to the mailing list.

FIRST AND LAST NAME	ORGANIZATION & TITLE	ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER
Tim, Vernon, Mildred Mowery	Buckley L.L.C.	12895 Buckley Rd., 13100 Cameron Dr.
Jim & Gale Hoffner		11981 Orleans Cr, C. City
Brandel "Skip" Wright		21504 Orleans Cir, Commerce City Co.
Glaudene Ryder		12449 O'Brien Way Brighton
Darrell Ryder		12449 O'Brien Way, Brighton
Dick McLean		500 S. 4th Brighton
MARV FALKENBERG	CITY	
Joanna Sakata		
Michelle Seubert	Barr Lake State Park	13401 Picadilly Rd.
BRIAN POTEET		526 TANAGER ST, 3036596870

Date: 10/19/11 Venue: Hampton Inn

Sign-In Sheet

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Thank you for attending the public open house; we appreciate your input. Please provide your name and contact information to be added to the mailing list.

FIRST AND LAST NAME	ORGANIZATION & TITLE	ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER
Laura Augustine	↑	20799 E Bromley Ln Brighton Co
Betty Mathis	homeowner	23331 E. 128th Ave. CC Co
Alvin Swink		13595 ~~Harvest~~ Rd. Comm. City Co.
Cathy & Bob Sanders	HO.	367 Cerillos St. Brighton

Date: Venue: Page of

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **November 4, 2011**.

Please choose the route segment(s) that you are commenting on:

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route segment(s) you are commenting on:

- [x] Land Use - Residential
- [ ] Land Use - Other
- [x] General Wildlife
- [x] Visual Quality
- [ ] Land Use - Commercial/Retail
- [ ] Transportation
- [x] Avian/Birds
- [ ] Recreation
- [ ] None
- [ ] Other: _____

Please provide specific comments on the route segment(s) you chose above or about the project as a whole:

It would be more cost effective to route this phase by the road (I-76) as all of the connections & shortest distance for its hook up. It would be away from areas that have the most concentrations of wildlife & would go along w/ what the highway looks like. Some nice landscaping (trees) would look nice around the poles that wouldn't interfere w/ lines or any repairs!

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TRI-STATE
Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

P.O. Box 33695
Denver, CO 80233

Place Stamp Here

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
c/o Sarah Carlisle
P.O. Box 33695
Denver, CO 80233

FOLD HERE

Please submit your comments by November 4, 2011.

You may submit comments related to the Project by any of the following methods:

- Leave this form at the public scoping meeting
- Email: scarlisle@tristategt.org
- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
  c/o Sarah Carlisle
  P.O. Box 33695
  Denver, Colorado 80233

FOLD HERE

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Gale Hoffnagle

Organization and Title: _____

Mailing Address: 11981 Orleans Cir.

City: C. City **State:** CO **Zip Code:** 80022

Daytime Phone (Optional): _____

Email (Optional): _____

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **November 4, 2011**.

Please choose the route segment(s) that you are commenting on:

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route segment(s) you are commenting on:

- ☐ Land Use - Residential
- ☐ Land Use - Other
- ☒ General Wildlife
- ☒ Visual Quality
- ☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail
- ☐ Transportation
- ☒ Avian/Birds
- ☐ Recreation
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other: _____

Please provide specific comments on the route segment(s) you chose above or about the project as a whole:

Being in the landscape business & a wildlife "nut" I would like to see trees along the proposed route & shrubs to benefit the wild life around said area. "Too many ugly "poles" & no camouflage to hide them"

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- Email: scarlisle@tristategt.org
- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
  c/o Sarah Carlisle
  P.O. Box 33695
  Denver, Colorado 80233

FOLD HERE

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Amanda M. "Skip" Wolff

Organization and Title: LANDSCAPE DESIGNS BY SKIP VON WOLFF

Mailing Address: 21504 ORLEANS CIRCLE

City: COMMERCE CITY **State:** COLO. **Zip Code:** 80022

Daytime Phone (Optional): _____

Email (Optional): _____

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **November 4, 2011**.

Please choose the route segment(s) that you are commenting on:

☒ A	☒ C	☒ E	☐ G	☐ I	☐ K	☐ M	☐ O
☒ B	☒ D	☐ F	☐ H	☐ J	☐ L	☐ N	

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route segment(s) you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☐ General Wildlife	☒ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☒ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☐ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route segment(s) you chose above or about the project as a whole:

We live in the Bromley Park Subdivision and would much prefer the A-B-C-D-E route as this routing creates the least visual clutter along the Highway corridor. It also is farther away from any aviary activity around Barr Lake. Thirdly, the Prairie Center businesses face I-76 ~~and greet~~ in order to attract highway travelers. Fronting these businesses with power lines could negatively affect their business now and in the future as our local economy grows.

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P.O. Box 33695
Denver, CO 80233

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c/o Sarah Carlisle
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Denver, CO 80233

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Please submit your comments by November 4, 2011.

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- Email: scarlisle@tristategt.org
- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
  c/o Sarah Carlisle
  P.O. Box 33695
  Denver, Colorado 80233

FOLD HERE

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: BRIAN & CHERYL POTEET

Organization and Title:

Mailing Address: 526 TANAGER ST

City: BRIGHTON **State:** CO **Zip Code:** 80601

Daytime Phone (Optional):

Email (Optional): bcpoteet@hotmail.com

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN BIRD OBSERVATORY

Conserving birds and their habitats www.rmbo.org

Sarah Carlisle
Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association
P.O. Box 33695
Denver, CO 80233

November 3, 2011

Dear Sarah,

On behalf of Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory (RMBO), we are providing our recommendations regarding the proposed power line routing options for United Power System Improvement Project Phase III. RMBO has been headquartered at Barr Lake since our inception in 1988. Barr Lake was chosen for our headquarters due to its juxtaposition between the mountains and prairies and location along the Central Flyway, a primary pathway used by migrating birds. There are 240 species of birds that breed in Colorado, but more than 350 species have been documented at Barr Lake because of its importance for migratory species passing through our state. Barr Lake State Park encompasses nearly 2,000 acres of wetland, and grassland habitat that supports healthy populations of birds, fish, mammals, and insects. In addition, in 2010, 104,000 people visited the park for recreation and education opportunities.

Our primary concern is the juxtaposition of the Prairie Center Substation and all routes in regard to our Bald Eagle nest site. Bald Eagles have been nesting at Barr Lake since 1986. This nest site is the oldest for the Front Range of Colorado. The nest at Barr Lake has fledged 42 eaglets several of which have returned to the Front Range and established new nests. We are currently monitoring 18 nests across the Front Range of Colorado extending from West Minister to Fort Collins, Colorado. An additional concern are the Double-crested Cormorant, Great-blue Heron, Snowy Egret and Black-crowned Night-Heron breeding colonies near the substation and proposed power lines. Double-crested Cormorants have nested at the lake since 1931 and Great Blue Herons since the 1938. Common foraging areas for the Bald Eagles as well as the herons, cormorants and egrets are to the southwest of Barr Lake. Hundreds of observation hours by volunteers in our Bald Eagle and Colony Watcher programs have documented these flight patterns. The birds move from their nesting habitat at Barr Lake to foraging grounds along the South Platte River. In additions Bald Eagles roosting during the winter at Barr Lake are on the rise and frequent the snags that are inter-mixed with current and historic nesting sites. We have also noticed the Eagle nests have tracked the heron colony. The heron colony has shifted to the northwest of historic sites and we anticipate Bald Eagles in the next year or two will follow a similar pattern. This will put the Eagles well within the 0.5 mile buffer required by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for minimizing disturbance to nesting eagles.

Several other species including state and federal species of conservation concern nest near Barr Lake and have been documented to be at collision risk for power lines including Burrowing Owl, Northern Harrier, Swainson's Hawk and Red-tailed Hawk.

Main office:
14500 Lark Bunting Lane
PO Box 1232
Brighton, CO 80601
(303) 659-4348
Fax (303) 654-0791

Fort Collins office:
230 Cherry Street
Fort Collins, CO 80521
(970) 482-1707
Fax (970) 472-9031

Scottsbluff office:
100547 Airport Road
P.O. Box 489
Scottsbluff, NE 69363
(308) 220-0052
Fax (308) 220-0053

ROCKY MOUNTAIN BIRD OBSERVATORY

Conserving birds and their habitats www.rmbo.org

Our preferred route is the blue route which immediately crosses I-76 and keeps the power line outside the 0.5 mile buffer for the majority of the route. Our secondary preference is the pink route on the west side of I-76 and our least preferred option is the yellow route with a crossover option to the interstate. However, the yellow route will provide maximum risk of nest disturbance and fatalities to breeding eagles and wetland nesting species. To avoid disturbance and potential abandonment of the site for nesting eagles, we recommend no disturbance from development from January through July. This will also cover the nesting season of herons, cormorants, egrets and neotropical migratory bird species that are protected under the Migratory Bird Conservation Act. Our preferred window for development is August through October when nesting birds will have fledged. We do not recommend development in November or December as winter roosting Bald Eagles will be returning to Barr Lake and the resident adult breeding pair will begin establishing their territory and identifying their nest site in preparation for courtship and nest building in January. We also recommend markers on the lines to help reduce potential risks for collision.

RMBO has recently raised more than $150,000 to improve habitat, recreation and educational opportunities on the north end of Barr Lake. We have converted our headquarters into an Environmental Learning Center to demonstrate how a healthy home for birds is healthy home for all of us. A new parking lot, trails, demonstration gardens and interpretative signage have all been installed. We want people to experience nature and enjoy recreating outdoors. Barr Lake is only 20 minutes from Denver and provides an escape and prairie oasis for visitors to enjoy. Having the power line west of the interstate will help keep our view sheds intact and reduce potential collision risks from nesting, foraging and migratory birds. We appreciate the opportunity to comment and have greatly appreciated the support from United Power for our conservation and education efforts. We understand the economics and need for enhanced power distribution to this growing community and county. We just want to protect the amazing natural resources that occur at Barr Lake.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions.

Sincerely,

Tammy VerCauteren

Tammy VerCauteren
Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory
Executive Director
14500 Lark Bunting Lane
P.O. Box 1232
Brighton, CO 80601

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **November 4, 2011**.

Please choose the route segment(s) that you are commenting on:

☐ A	☐ C	☐ E	☐ G	☐ I	☐ K	☑ M	☐ O
☐ B	☐ D	☐ F	☐ H	☐ J	☐ L	☐ N	

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route segment(s) you are commenting on:

☑ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☐ General Wildlife	☑ Visual Quality
☑ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☐ Avian/Birds	☐ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route segment(s) you chose above or about the project as a whole:

Input from Swenk Family in regards to power transmission line going through the Swenk Family Trust property.

1) Over ground or Underground line would reduce useable land and Values. Existing utilities (gas pipelines) through the middle of our property. Have already made recent planning for commercial & residential developments difficult. Any additional utilities could make reasonable future developments impossible.
Results: Would be a major negative impact to family.

2) Over ground power line on adjacent lands of other ownership would reduce Value because of negative aesthetics.

3) Visual effects of large power lines & poles through the property will have large impact on Value of property for future development.

4) Underground powerline on adjacent property should not impact useable area or Value.
This alternative is recommended by the family.

Swenk Family.

Respectfully,
Alvin Swenk Sylvia Swenk
Terry Swenk Sheryl Swenk

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Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

P.O. Box 33695
Denver, CO 80233

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
c/o Sarah Carlisle
P.O. Box 33695
Denver, CO 80233

FOLD HERE

Please submit your comments by November 4, 2011.

You may submit comments related to the Project by any of the following methods:

- Leave this form at the public scoping meeting
- Email: scarlisle@tristategt.org
- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
  c/o Sarah Carlisle
  P.O. Box 33695
  Denver, Colorado 80233

FOLD HERE

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: ALVIN SWINK OR TERRY SWINK

Organization and Title: SWINK FAMILY TRUST 42

Mailing Address: 13595 HARVEST Rd. ~~42~~ STAGECOACH TRL.
COMM. CITY, CO. 80022 LYONS, CO. 80540

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Daytime Phone (Optional): 303-901-0251 720-352-4955

Email (Optional): _____

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project – Phase III

Bromley–Prairie Center 115kV Transmission Line

Neighborhood Meeting Summary Report for April 5, 2012

TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

1100 W. 116th Ave
Westminster, CO 80234

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Contents

Appendices

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1. Introduction

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc (Tri-State) and United Power, Inc. (United Power) are proposing to build a new 115kV transmission line within the City of Brighton and unincorporated Adams County. The Project will connect the existing Prairie Center Substation to the existing Bromley Substation, completing the third and final phase of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project. As part of the Adams County Areas and Activities of State Interest Permit process, Tri-State and United Power hosted a neighborhood meeting to discuss the Project and the route alternatives with the public. This Report identifies and summarizes substantive comments received during the public meeting for the Project. The neighborhood meeting was held in Brighton, Colorado, at the Eagle View Adult Center, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., on April 5, 2012.

2. Project Description

Tri-State and United Power are proposing to construct the third and final phase of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project, the Bromley to Prairie Center 115kV transmission line (Project). The Project will be located in the City of Brighton and unincorporated Adams County, Colorado (Figure 1).

The Project is needed to ensure that United Power can continue to reliably supply electricity to residents, businesses, and critical services in the rapidly growing local community. To meet the growing electrical needs of Brighton and Adams County, additional power delivery infrastructure is required because:

- Tri-State needs to be able to maintain an adequate and reliable supply of electricity to United Power, and
- United Power needs to be able to reliably distribute this electricity to its member consumers.

The Bromley Substation has been United Power's most heavily loaded substation for the last several years. The proposed Project will:

- Provide the critical missing link to form a "loop" system which increases reliability;
- Provide increased electric load serving capacity to urban, residential, and commercial development;
- Provide additional reliability for the Adams County Justice Center, Platte Valley Medical Center, Prairie Center Retail, and Adams County Detention Center;
- Reduce system electrical losses and help maintain acceptable voltage levels required by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC).

3. Neighborhood meeting

3.1. Notifications

Property owners within 500 feet of all parcels crossed by the preferred or alternative routes received postcard notifications of the meeting via standard U.S. Postal Service on March 22, 2012. A map of the notification area is provided in Figure 2. The content of the postcard, notification distance, and timeframe were consistent with Adams County Development Standards and Regulations (DSR) 2-01-02-03-01, which provides regulations for notice of the neighborhood meeting. Other stakeholders who are not landowners, such as the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, and public officials from the City of Brighton and Adams County were notified by direct mail letters. Copies of the regular mail notifications to landowners, the stakeholder invitation letter, and the stakeholder mailing list are included in Appendix A.

The public was also notified through advertisements in print editions of *The Brighton Banner* on March 29, 2012; *The Brighton Standard Blade* on March 28, 2012; and online in The Daily Post (the online version of *The Brighton Banner)* on March 29, 2012. Copies of the actual print ads and the online ad submittal are included in Appendix A.

3.2. Meeting materials

An open house format was used to encourage discussion and information sharing and to ensure that the public had opportunities to speak with the staff on-hand. Information stations included:

- Sign-in and Welcome Table
- Project Overview/Purpose & Need
- Routing Process
- Environmental and Permitting Process
- Working with Landowners (Land Rights)
- Transmission Engineering and Construction
- Aesthetics/Visual Simulations
- Electric & Magnetic Field Effects
- Public Comment Table

Meeting materials are included in Appendix B. Comment forms were made available to all attendees and are included in Appendix C.

3.3. Routes Presented

Three routes were presented to the public during the Neighborhood meeting; the Preferred Route, Alternative A, and Alternative B. Below is a brief description of each route.

Preferred Route

The Preferred Route exits the Prairie Center Substation and proceeds east on the south side of Cameron Drive. The route crosses Buckley road and heads northeast for a short distance before turning east to parallel the BNSF Railway. The route then crosses the railway and continues to parallel the railway for approximately ¼ mile. The route then proceeds northeast, crossing 136th Avenue. The Preferred route is then between I-76 and the railway until Bromley Lane. At

Bromley Lane, the route crosses I-76 and then parallels a pipeline up to the existing Henry Lake to Bromley 115kV transmission line. The preferred route will then be place on the empty circuit of the existing transmission line and will end at Bromley Substation.

Alternative A

Alternative A exits the Prairie Center Substation and turns north to cross I-76. The route than crosses 132nd Avenue before turning east to cross Buckley Road. From here, the route continues along the west side of I-76 until Bromley Lane where it will enter Bromley Substation as described in the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative B

Alternative B is a hybrid of the Preferred Alternative and Alternative A. Alternative B follows the Alternative A alignment out of Prairie Center Substation and proceeds along the same alignment as Alternative A until it reaches a point where it crosses back to the east side of I-76. The crossing will be to the north of the Barr City (2nd Filing) on the east side. The route than continues along the alignment of the Preferred Alternative to Bromley Substation.

3.4.Public comments

A total of sixteen people signed-in at the public meeting. Thirty seven written comments were received at or following the neighborhood meeting. Included within these 37 comments were letters from the Audubon Society of Greater Denver, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, and Platte Valley Medical Center. A summary and response to the public comments received are organized below. The main issues brought up in the public comments involved:

- Wildlife,
- Land use,
- Visual quality,
- Heliport interference,
- Recreation at Barr Lake, and
- Underground installation of the transmission line.

Appendix C includes all of the public comments received by Tri-State from the neighborhood meeting.

3.4.1. Wildlife and Birds

Commenters were concerned about impacts to wildlife in Barr Lake State Park. Specifically, comments were received on potential impacts to avian species colliding with the transmission line and the overall presence of the transmission line so close to the wildlife of the park. Several commenters commented that the transmission line should be put on the west side of I-76 to eliminate concerns for wildlife and birds.

3.4.1.1. Response

While the preferred route is closer to Barr Lake State Park than Alternative A or B, the preferred route is still within a highly developed and very actively used transportation corridor. The preferred route follows existing linear transportation corridors, which include the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad, I-76, and local county roads. The preferred route would be closest to

Barr Lake State Park on the southwestern portion of the Project near Buckley Lane. The alignment then crosses over the railroad and stays between the railroad and I-76 until it crosses I-76 at the northern end of the route. United Power currently has an overhead distribution line on the east side of I-76 that will be buried and the new transmission line will occupy that section of ROW. The new transmission structures will be taller than the distribution poles but fewer in number.

Tri-State will construct the transmission line outside the breeding/nesting season for migratory birds to avoid impacting nesting birds. Tri-State will also construct the transmission line before the winter roosting begins for bald eagles. Therefore, impacts to nesting birds will not occur as a result of construction activities. Tri-State will mark the overhead ground wire with Swan Flight Diverters which are devices designed to increase the visibility of the wire and prevent collisions. The Project will be designed to comply with Avian Power Line Interaction Committee (APLIC) standards to minimize risk of electrocution.

3.5. Land Use

One commenter was concerned about diminished property values if the preferred route was selected. A few commenters were concerned about diminishing the rural nature of the area with the transmission line on the eastern side of the highway. One commenter was concerned that the preferred route was too close to residences. Several comments were received stating the transmission line should be sited on commercial land.

3.5.1. Response

The preferred route follows four existing infrastructure corridors: I-76, BNSF Railway, an oil and gas pipeline, and the United Power distribution line. The preferred route would be located adjacent to one or more of these linear features for almost 100% of the route. By keeping the transmission line within existing infrastructure corridors, the current characteristics of the area are maintained.

For properties crossed by the transmission line route, Tri-State will work directly with affected landowners to acquire the necessary transmission line and access easements for the project. Landowners will be justly compensated by Tri-State for the granted easement.

Tri-State conducted discussions with THF Prairie Center Development (owner/developer of the Prairie Center Development -"THF"), the Prairie Center Metropolitan Districts, and the City of Brighton during the last two years. THF stated that the presence of a high-voltage transmission line across the commercial development would reduce property values, impact visibility of the retail development and impede their ability to further develop the retail center. THF Realty would ultimately lease or sell space to retailers and the presence of the transmission line will deter clientele from either leasing or purchasing space.

3.6. Visual Quality

Commenters were concerned about the visual impact of the transmission line on visitors to Barr Lake State Park. Additional commenters were concerned about the visual impacts from their residences.

3.6.1. Response

Photographic visual simulations, including one from the neighborhood east of Telluride Street, were displayed at the public meeting. Man-made structures including the highway (including lighting and signage associated with the highway), railroad, electric distribution lines, communications facilities, and other structures are prevalent in the I-76 corridor, and the transmission line will not be out-of-character with the existing visual environment. Additionally, valued views towards Barr Lake are preserved because the preferred route will be located between the highway and the residential area, not between the residential areas and Barr Lake.

The transmission line will be visible from portions of the Barr Lake Perimeter Trail. The most visible point will be on the western segment portion of the Perimeter Trail at the point before the transmission line crosses the railroad. This area is also immediately adjacent to the BNSF railroad. Observers looking to the northwest will see the transmission line, the railroad, the highway, and the Prairie Center development across the interstate.

3.7. Heliport Interference

One commenter was concerned about Alternative A on the west side of I-76 and potential safety issues with the Platte Valley Medical Center Heliport.

3.7.1. Response

Tri-State hired an aviation expert to complete a full evaluation of flight paths associated with the Platte Valley Medical Center helipad to determine if the proposed transmission line routes pose a hazard to navigable airspace per Federal Aviation Administration guidelines. The evaluation concluded the preferred and alternative routes provide adequate buffers between the top of the structures and the start of a typical departure/arrival surface that exists for the hospital heliport. The study indicated that of the three alternatives, the preferred alternative allows for the widest buffer zone between the structures and the heliport.

3.8. Recreation

Commenters were concerned about recreational impacts of the Project. Several commenters noted they use Barr Lake for fishing and wildlife viewing and were concerned about the presence of the transmission line.

3.8.1. Response

Neither the preferred route nor any of the alternative routes are located on Barr Lake State Park property. The project will not significantly impact fishing or wildlife viewing at Barr Lake.

Trail closures on the western edge of the park are not anticipated at this time. If trail closures are required during construction for safety issues, they will be temporary.

3.9. Undergrounding the Transmission Line

Several commenters suggested that the transmission line should be undergrounded along with the distribution lines.

3.9.1. Response

Underground construction is frequently used with distribution lines that operate at 34.5 kV or less. At these relatively low voltages, the problems of electrically insulating each phase and of dissipating the heat generated by the conductors are not a concern. With lines of greater voltage, such as the proposed Project, the material costs, construction costs, and the heating of the cable all become a greater concern.

High-voltage overhead transmission lines are a reliable, low-cost, easily maintained and established method to transport bulk electricity across long distances. Tri-State's line crews have a topnotch performance and safety record for repairing and maintaining its extensive overhead infrastructure. Construction of high-voltage transmission lines underground are appropriate in densely urban and suburban settings, or in some instances where sufficient right-of-way is not available for an overhead line. When an electric utility considers whether or not to construct high-voltage underground transmission facilities, it must evaluate the following considerations:

- Any damage to underground power lines is difficult to pinpoint and repair and the required repairs may take weeks to months. Damage to overhead lines is easily located and typically takes hours to days to repair.

- The environmental impacts of construction are greater for an underground transmission line than for a comparable overhead line. An overhead line typically requires one or more augured foundations that may be several feet in diameter. Such foundations will be required at every structure location, and each foundation can vary from 400 to more than 1,000 feet apart. As a minimum, an underground transmission line would require a continuous trench at least 3 feet in width at the bottom and 5 feet deep. Considerable clearing and grading is expected, and dust and noise from construction will last three to six times the duration of an overhead transmission line. Concrete manholes or large splice vaults are needed at recurring intervals. During repairs, a whole segment between these vaults may need to be excavated again.

- Depending on the choice of cable system, the life expectancy of an underground line is about half that of an overhead line.

- An underground line is expected to be four to 14 times the cost (depending on voltage) of an overhead line due to time, materials, process and the use of specialized labor. An underground line must also be routed to avoid other underground installations such as water, gas and sewer lines. Unstable slopes, hazardous material sites, wetlands and bedrock must be avoided if possible. Placing the underground in existing paved road, highway requires additional costs for resurfacing the road or highway. Crossing roads, highways or under a river requires expensive construction techniques such as directional boring. All these aspects of underground transmission construction lead to a much higher cost than overhead line construction. The additional cost for the underground must be paid by others.

4. Project Status

Tri-State and United Power will be submitting permit applications to Adams County and the City of Brighton for the preferred route in the late summer/early fall of 2012. Following approval, Tri-State will acquire the necessary land rights and crossing permits. Construction of the project is anticipated to begin in 2013.

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United Power System Improvement Project: Phase III

Preferred and Alternative Routes - April 2012

Brighton City Boundary

Utilities

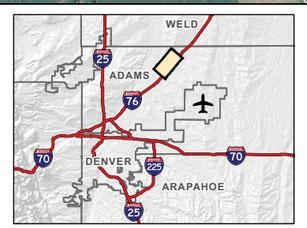
- Existing Substation
- Phase I Transmission Line
- Phase II Transmission Line
- Existing Gas Pipeline

Routes

- Preferred Route
- Alternative A
- Alternative B

0 0.25
Miles

Scale 1:9,000 (when printed at 22x34)



TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

TETRA TECH EC, INC

Path: P:\3995_United_Power_Phase_III\GIS\Layouts\Pub_Inv\Stakeholder_Map.mxd Date: 4/2/2012 Sources: CDOT, BLM, NAIP, ESRI, CDOW

Figure 1: Preferred and Alternative Routes (April 2012)

United Power System Improvement Project: Phase III

Notification Area

Legend

- Project Study Area
- Parcel Crossed by Route
- Parcel 500' from Routes and Barr City

Utilities

- Existing Substation
- Existing 230 kV Double Circuit Transmission Line
- Existing Gas Pipeline
- Phase 1 Transmission Line
- Phase 2 Transmission Line

Transportation

- Interstate
- U.S. Highway
- State Highway
- Major Road
- Local Road
- Railroad

Hydrology

- Perennial Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Canal or Ditch

Routes

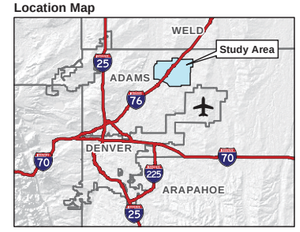
- Preferred Route
- Alternative A
- Alternative B
- Considered, But Eliminated

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

Scale 1:18,000 (when printed at 22x34)

Revised: 3/8/2012
Sources:
CDOT, BLM, NAIP, ESRI, CDOW
File Name: Notification_Area_Neighborhood_Mtg
MXD Path: P:\3995_United_Power_Phase_III\GIS\Layouts\Pub_Inv\Notification_Area_Neighborhood_Mtg.mxd

Location Map



TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

TETRA TECH EC, INC.

Figure 2: Notification Area

Appendix A:

Notifications

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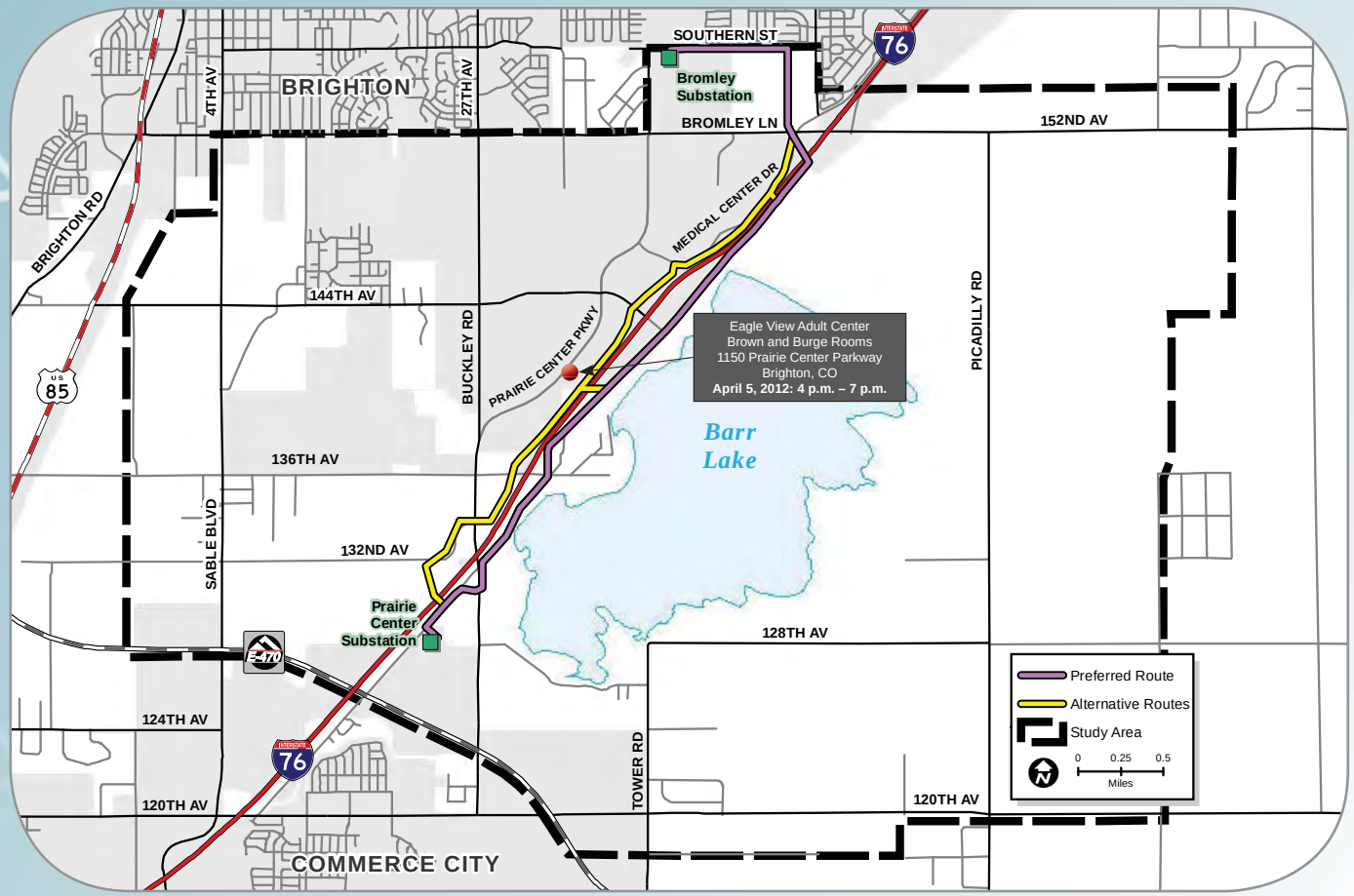
YOU'RE INVITED TO A NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING



UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

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TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

UNITED POWER
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Phase III of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project consists of a proposed 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the existing Bromley and Prairie Center substations, and would be located in the City of Brighton and in unincorporated Adams County, Colorado. Phase III would complete the third and final phase of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project, which is needed to ensure that United Power can continue to reliably supply electricity to residents, businesses, and critical services in the rapidly growing local community.

Please join us at a neighborhood meeting to learn more about the preferred and alternative routes, ask questions, and provide your comments. The neighborhood meeting is being held in compliance with Adams County permitting regulations. Comments received will be applied to permit applications for Adams County and City of Brighton. We will provide display boards, maps, and take-home materials and have project staff available to answer questions.

April 5, 2012
4 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Eagle View Adult Center
Brown and Burge Rooms
1150 Prairie Center Parkway
Brighton, CO 80601

For further information, contact Sarah Carlisle
scarlisle@tristategt.org
303-254-3396

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. | P.O. Box 33695, Denver, CO 80233

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TRI-STATE GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION ASSOCIATION, INC.
HEADQUARTERS: P.O. BOX 33695 DENVER, COLORADO 80233-0695 303-452-6111

March 22, 2012

FORMAL TITLE FIRST LAST
ORGANIZATION
ADDRESS
CITY, STATE, ZIP

Subject: **Proposed United Power Transmission System Improvement Project Phase III, Neighborhood Meeting**

Dear FIRST LAST:

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. (Tri-State) and United Power are proposing to construct Phase III of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project in Brighton and unincorporated Adams County, Colorado. Phase III consists of a proposed 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the existing Bromley and Prairie Center substations. Phase III would complete the third and final phase of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project, which is needed to ensure that United Power can continue to reliably supply electricity to residents, businesses, and critical community services in the rapidly growing local community.

The project will require a Conditional Use Permit from the City of Brighton, and an Areas and Activities of State Interest (1041) Permit from Adams County. This project is also subject to a federal environmental review process under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and will require development of an Environmental Assessment without scoping. The lead federal agency for the NEPA review is the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service.

Tri-State and United Power will be co-hosting a neighborhood meeting in compliance with Adams County Development Standards and Regulations to provide information about the project's purpose and need, and to gather feedback on the preferred and alternative routes, shown in the enclosed map. No formal presentation will be given. Information will be provided on factsheets and informational boards, and Tri-State and United Power staff will be present to answer questions. Comments from the general public, government agencies, and other stakeholders will be gathered and applied to development of the final Adams County Areas and Activities of State Interest Permit Application, and the City of Brighton Conditional Use Permit Application.

TRI-STATE GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION ASSOCIATION, INC.
HEADQUARTERS: P.O. BOX 33695 DENVER, COLORADO 80233-0695 303-452-6111

Neighborhood Meeting Information:

April 5, 2012 (Thursday)
4 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Eagle View Adult Center
Brown and Burge Rooms
1150 Prairie Center Parkway
Brighton, CO 80601

Comments will be collected from the public and other stakeholders for two weeks after the neighborhood meeting, with comments due on April 20th, 2012. After the comment period has ended, Tri-State and United Power will submit permit applications to Adams County and the City of Brighton for construction and operation of the proposed Project. Public hearings will be held by both Adams County and the City of Brighton after the draft permits are accepted as complete by each jurisdiction.

Please feel free to call or email me with questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
1100 W. 116th Avenue
Westminster, CO 80234

Enclosures: Project Area Map
Comment Form

United Power Phase III Transmission System Improvement Project
Stakeholder Mailing List for April 5, 2012 Neighborhood Meeting
Mailed 3/22/2012

FIRST	LAST	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
Irv	Mallo	Region 6 Property Manager	CDOT	2000 South Holly Street	Denver	CO	80222
			The Swink Family Trust	11910 Allison Street	Broomfield	CO	80020-2736
Karen	Blumenstein		THF Realty	600 Grant Street, Suite 610	Denver	CO	80203
Liza	Hunholz		Colorado Division of Wildlife	6060 Broadway	Denver	CO	80216
Brian	Ocepek	Real Estate Section Manager	Colorado State Parks	1313 Sherman Street, Room 618	Denver	CO	80203
Michelle	Seubert	Park Manager	Colorado State Parks	13401 Picadilly Road	Brighton	CO	80603
Jeff	Thompson	Stewardop Biologist	Colorado State Parks	1313 Sherman Street, Room 618	Denver	CO	80203
Tammy	VerCauteren		Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory	230 Cherry Street	Fort Collins	CO	80521
Susan	Linner	Project Leader	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	P.O. Box 25486 - Denver Federal Center	Denver	CO	80225
Peter	Plage		U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	P.O. Box 25486 - Denver Federal Center	Denver	CO	80225
Sandy	Vana-Miller		U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	P.O. Box 25486 - Denver Federal Center	Denver	CO	80225
Abel	Montoya	Director	Adams County Planning and Development	4430 South Adams County Parkway First Floor Suite W2000A	Brighton	CO	80601
Chris	LaRue	Senior Planner	Adams County Planning and Development	4430 South Adams County Parkway First Floor Suite W2000A	Brighton	CO	80601
Kimberly	Dall	Development Engineering Manager	City of Brighton	22 S. 4th Avenue	Brighton	CO	80601
Marv	Falconburg	Community Development Director	City of Brighton	22 S. 4th Avenue	Brighton	CO	80601
Holly	Prather	Planning Manager	City of Brighton	22 S. 4th Avenue	Brighton	CO	80601
W.R.	Fischer	District 1 County Commissioner	Adams County Board of Commissioners	4430 South Adams County Parkway, Fifth Floor, Suite C5000A	Brighton	CO	80601-8204
Alice	Nichol	District 2 County Commissioner	Adams County Board of Commissioners	4430 South Adams County Parkway, Fifth Floor, Suite C5000A	Brighton	CO	80601-8204
Erik	Hansen	District 3 County Commissioner	Adams County Board of Commissioners	4430 South Adams County Parkway, Fifth Floor, Suite C5000A	Brighton	CO	80601-8204
Jim	Robinson	Adams County Administrator	Adams County	4430 South Adams County Parkway	Brighton	CO	80601
Manuel	Esquibel	Brighton City Manager	City of Brighton	22 S. 4th Avenue	Brighton	CO	80601
Dick	McLean	Mayor	Brighton City Council	22 S. 4th Avenue	Brighton	CO	80601
Wayne	Scott	Mayor Pro Tem	Brighton City Council	22 S. 4th Avenue	Brighton	CO	80601
Chris	Maslanik	Council Member	Brighton City Council	22 S. 4th Avenue	Brighton	CO	80601
Terry	Moore	Council Member	Brighton City Council	22 S. 4th Avenue	Brighton	CO	80601
Cynthia	Martinez	Council Member	Brighton City Council	22 S. 4th Avenue	Brighton	CO	80601
Rex	Bell	Council Member	Brighton City Council	22 S. 4th Avenue	Brighton	CO	80601
Wilma	Rose	Council Member	Brighton City Council	22 S. 4th Avenue	Brighton	CO	80601
Lynn	Baca	Council Member	Brighton City Council	22 S. 4th Avenue	Brighton	CO	80601
J.W.	Edwards	Council Member	Brighton City Council	22 S. 4th Avenue	Brighton	CO	80601

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project - Phase III

Please join us at a neighborhood meeting to learn more about the proposed routes:

April 5, 2012
4 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Eagle View Adult Center: Brown and Burge Rooms
1150 Prairie Center Parkway
Brighton, CO 80601

For further information:

Sarah Carlisle | scarlisle@tristategt.org | 303-254-3396

AUTHOR

from page 1

they've invited back twice.

"Kids connect with him and love his sense of humor," Allan said.

To bring Matott back to class, Allan applied for a grant through Brighton 27J's Education Foundation. After providing a description and budget for the event, she could only sit and wait. This was the third time she has applied for the grant and, for her, the third time was the charm.

Allan has arranged for an author to visit Northeast for the past seven years.

"It gets kids excited about writing and inspires some to become authors themselves," she said. "It has always been a big success."

The writing workshop was geared to get kids thinking about the entire writing process, from coming up with story ideas to creating characters to deciding what main elements they want to include in the book, such as comedy, romance, mystery or thrill.

The best way to learn is to do, so Matott and the students got started on writing a book together.

First, Matott focused on the importance of planning and told students how he works in a writer's notebook to plan ideas for stories – which excited the student who also have writer's notebooks.

Then, in the midst of screams and laughter, the students came up with three main characters, for whom they also created bodies and personalities.

Strongman is a strong male figure, but has a squeaky voice and loves kittens. Secret Agent Sam has a big voice but is weak in form, and he loves salmon. Stick Man is actually a girl, though she acts like a boy. She loves Secret Agent Sam and carries a purse with her.

After coming up with the characters, the students imagined them in a setting. They went with New York, but Matott made them get more specific.

"Where in New York?" New York City.

"Where in New York City?" Central Park.

"Where in Central Park?" At a sushi stand by some tall trees.

"What time is it?" 10:30 p.m.

"What's the weather like?" It's winter.

Each question led the students further into creating a setting and purpose for their story.

"Planning is a very crucial first step that is very often forgotten or not taught," said Allan. "Planning allows students to keep their writing organized and stay on a central idea or topic. The students really enjoyed seeing an author plan and begin a story with them."

One of Allan's main goals in teaching writing is to make students feel like they are real authors. They select their own topics and work through the writing process.

"I think everyone wants to become an author after they meet Justin," Allan said. "I love seeing our students getting inspired to read and write."

One of Matott's major focuses in his books is a message on bullying. He describes his experiences with bullies and gives kids ideas on how to deal with one.

According to Allan, he approaches all the serious issues with a sense of humor, which makes students feel comfortable talking about tough times.

"He shows students what power writing can have. You can make people laugh, make people cry," she said. "Writing gives you a voice. It is a powerful tool."

In addition to bullying advice, Matott's other skill is to excite kids about reading and writing.

"Many students struggle with reading and writing at grade level," said Allan, yet students want to read Matott's stories because students can connect with them.

"Kids struggle with many adult issues, and Justin lets them know that they are not alone. He talks about how his brother is dyslexic and has always struggled to read."

One book Matott wrote, "The Sky is Falling," was written specifically with dyslexic students in mind.

"He told the kids that everyone has disabilities to overcome, and that is what makes us strong," Allan said.

Matott's presence sparked a writing fury among students who participated in an essay contest in which they explained why they should be selected for a special workshop session with Matott.

According to Allan, students from first through fifth grade wanted to stay after school to participate.

"This is huge, especially after a long few weeks of testing," she said. "Students were ecstatic to be selected, and many of their parents were able to come and enjoy the experience with them."

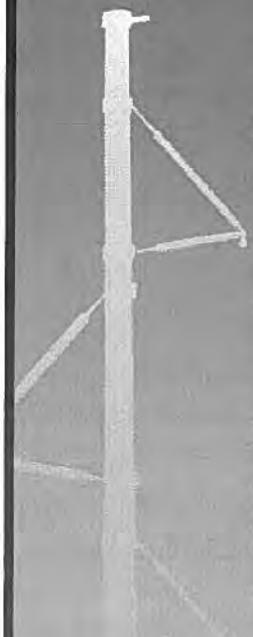
The literacy night that brought parents and community members out included a green chili contest, book swap, Race to Read racecars and drivers, take-home reading activities and a book signing and autograph session with Matott.

"Families were having such a great time, it was almost hard to stop on time," Allan said. "This is the first time we had literacy night. We are trying to bring our school together with the families and the community."

Visit www.justinmatott.com.

Contact Emily Dougherty at 303-659-2522 ext. 223 or edougherty@metrowestnewspapers.com.

YOU'RE INVITED TO A NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING



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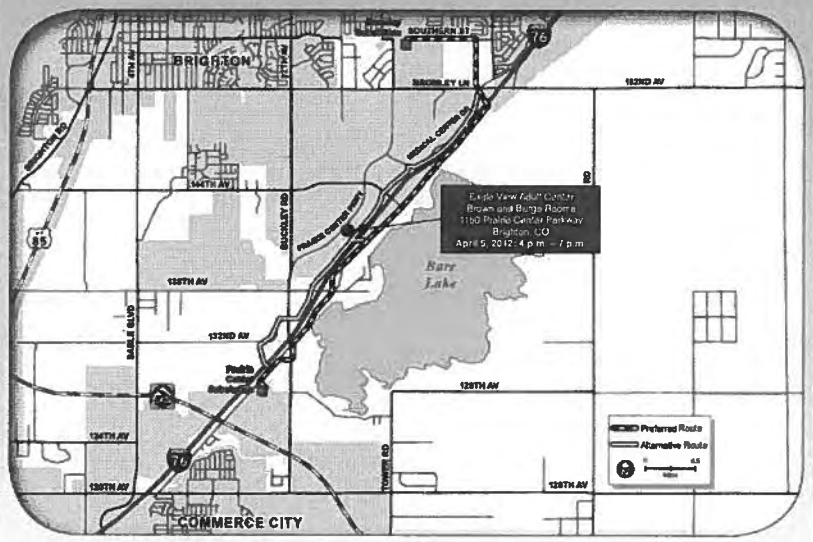

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

www.bvgcl.com
Brighton's Hometown Commercial Builder!

DAVE SIMON AGENCY 303-659-9065 420 Court Place Brighton

124 W. Bridge St.
Watch for DEALS on our reader board & in The Daily Post.

Their relationship is intriguing to me, since we never find out if it is genuine of my questions, but I will have to wait for the next movie.

YOU'RE INVITED TO A NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

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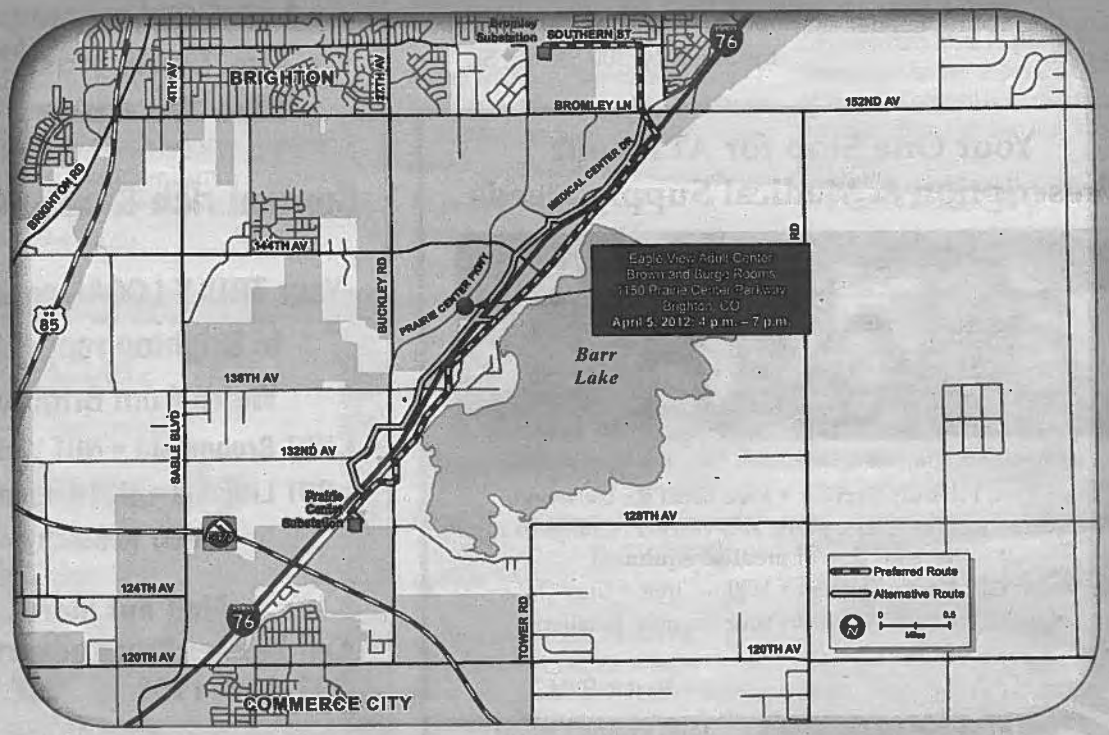

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Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Appendix B:

Meeting Materials

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Display Boards

Note:

The display boards, presented originally at 48 inches by 36 inches, are reproduced at 8.5 inches by 11 inches.

Powering Community Development

Phase III: Bromley - Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

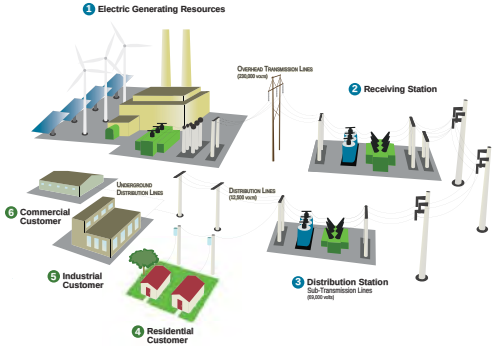
The Electric System

Transmission lines are designed to carry large amounts of electricity at high voltages (typically 115 to 500 kV) across long distances.

Tri-State's networks of transmission lines transfer electricity from power plants or other interconnections to a number of substations, including United Power's Bromley Substation and Prairie Center Substation.

At the substation, the high-voltage electricity is "stepped down" to a lower voltage, and is carried to residential, business, and governmental consumers via distribution lines.

Distribution lines carry the electricity at lower voltages (12.5 to 34.5 kV) to small transformers, which convert the electricity to a voltage of 110 and 220 volts, suitable for consumer use.



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Why Phase III is Needed

To meet the growing electrical needs of Brighton and Adams County, additional power delivery infrastructure is required because:

- Tri-State needs to be able to maintain an adequate and reliable supply of electricity to United Power
- United Power needs to be able to reliably distribute this electricity to its member-consumers

The Bromley Substation has been United Power's most heavily loaded substation for the last several years. The proposed transmission line and substation improvements associated with Phase III will allow United Power to continue serving the needs of residential, commercial, and governmental consumers.

Project Benefits

The Phase I and Phase II system additions have already resulted in a more robust and reliable transmission backbone to support the loads served by United Power's Bromley, Prairie Center, and Reunion substations. Phase III is expected to have the following benefits:

- To ***fulfill regulatory standards*** for electric utility service
- Allows for ***increased electrical load serving capacity*** to the residential, commercial, and governmental development located in and around the City of Brighton
- Provides ***redundant transmission service*** that will allow an alternate source for restoring electric service in the event of a transmission line outage

Phase I Line Out-of-Service Scenario

The Phase I line is currently the only transmission source to United Power's Bromley Substation. If the Phase I line is out of service, the Bromley Substation would lose its main source of power, reducing the capability of United Power to serve loads in the area, and possibly resulting in outages until the line is repaired. The load cannot be served from the south because no transmission line exists to the Prairie Center Substation.

Consumers most affected:

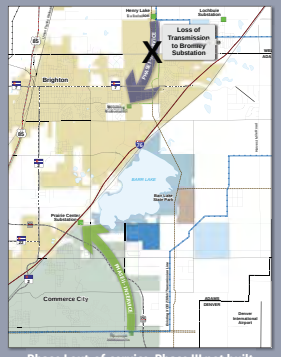
- Platte Valley Medical Center
- Adams County Detention Center and Justice Center
- Brighton Police and Fire facilities and Water Treatment Plant
- Two nursing homes, the K-Mart distribution warehouse, Office Depot warehouse, Lowe's home improvement store, and the Western United Electric Supply Corporation.
- Residential consumers served by United Power

Phase II Line Out-of-Service Scenario

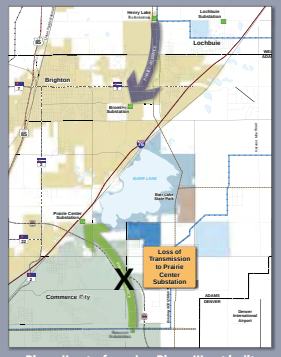
The Phase II line is the only transmission source to United Power's Prairie Center Substation. An outage in the Phase II line will cause Prairie Center Substation to lose its main power source, reducing the capability of United Power to serve loads in the area, and possibly resulting in outages until the line is repaired. The load cannot be served from the north because no transmission line exists to the Bromley Substation.

Consumers most affected:

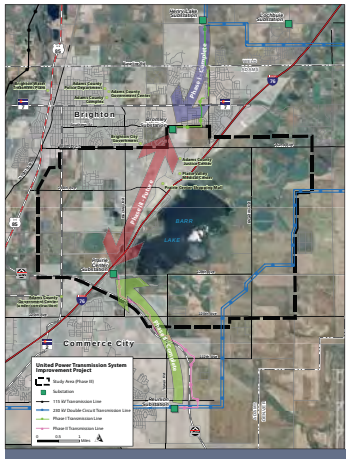
- Adams County Complex (includes the 911 Call Center, a county data center, and offices)
- Adams County Government Center
- Prairie Center Shopping Mall (JC Penney, Kohl's, Super Target, Home Depot, Office Depot, Dick's Sporting Goods, PetSmart, Holiday Inn Express, Wells Fargo, and 14 small consumer-service businesses, and nine restaurants)
- Residential consumers served by United Power



Phase I out-of-service, Phase III not built



Phase II out-of-service, Phase III not built



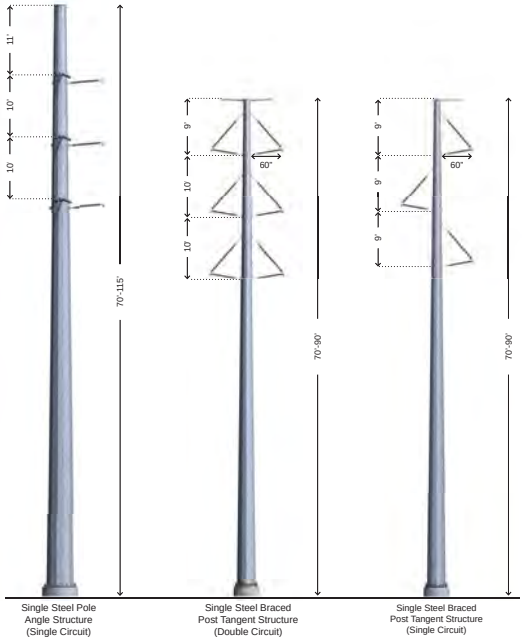
Phase III: A Close Look

The Phase I and Phase II system additions have resulted in a more robust and reliable transmission backbone to support the loads served by United Power's Bromley, Prairie Center, and Reunion substations, however, the Phase I and Phase II transmission lines are only "radial" lines, with a single source of power.

Phase III is the critical missing link needed to form a "loop" system in the area, which would enable the electrical network to perform more reliably than it could under the Phase I and Phase II system additions alone. The completion of a loop system allows power to flow from two different directions, rather than from a single source. With a loop system, if transmission from one direction was out of service, transmission from the other direction would supply consumers and prevent outages.

Constructing Power Lines

A Look at Engineering



Structure Types

Tri-State is proposing to build a single-circuit 115-kV transmission line with single steel pole structures. The anticipated structures are shown above, and would typically be 70 to 90 feet tall depending upon the span distances. Taller structures may be required to obtain required clearance and distance over Interstate 76 and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. The right-of-way required would be 75 feet (37.5 feet on either side of the center line).

Engineering Solutions to Routing Challenges

Engineering plays a critical role in identifying alternative routes for proposed transmission lines, particularly in urban environments where potential routes are highly constrained by existing and planned development, and in environmentally sensitive areas. Among the engineering strategies Tri-State is employing for United Power Phase III preferred and alternative routes are:

- Use of taller structures to maintain required clearances over I-76 according to Colorado Department of Transportation utility requirements and railroads according to Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railroad requirements
- Use of swan flight diverters near Barr Lake State Park to protect avian species, particularly bald eagles
- Use of long spans to avoid wetlands wherever possible
- Use of single-pole steel structures to reduce visual impacts
- Identifying locations of existing utility lines, including natural gas pipelines, to maintain required clearances

Phase 1 Near Bromley Substation

A portion of this existing United Power Phase I transmission line by Bromley Substation (shown at right) would have a second circuit added to the left side of the structures to accommodate the proposed transmission line. Some modifications to angle structures may be necessary.

Engineering Characteristics

Design Component: 115-kV Single Steel Pole	
Typical Right-of-Way Width	75 Feet
Typical Distance Between Structures	550 Feet
Typical Structure Height	70-90 Feet
Typical Structures Per Mile	9
Typical Ground Clearance (beneath conductor under maximum operating conditions)	28 Feet

Clearances would be maintained in accordance with the National Electric Safety Code.

During Construction

Tri-State would hire a contractor to construct the transmission lines. Construction would take approximately nine months and would be completed in several phases: access development, staging structures, foundation construction, framing and erecting the structures, and stringing conductor. Several work phases may be in progress simultaneously at different locations along the route.

Construction of the transmission line would be undertaken in a manner that minimizes disruption to land uses along the proposed route. Safeguards would include:

- Assigning a right-of-way agent to liaison with landowners
- Assigning inspectors to ensure environmental compliance by contractors
- Installing temporary erosion control structures where necessary
- Revegetating disturbed areas

Environment and Permitting

Tri-State uses several strategies to reduce the number of birds that are injured or killed when they contact power lines or electrical equipment. These strategies include:

- Conducting risk assessments for collision potential during planning
- Using avian safe designs where feasible
- Monitoring existing lines and substations for avian issues
- Training for maintenance and engineering departments on avian issues and mitigation
- Development of an Avian Protection Plan (APP)

Roosting and Nest Management

Tri-State implements a variety of perch management and nest management strategies to protect the birds and prevent power outages caused by bird nesting or roosting on transmission line structures and equipment including:

- Installing perch deterrents and nesting deterrents on structures
- Installing nest boxes or platforms in safe areas on or near structures
- Coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to remove or relocate nests when appropriate

Collision Minimization Measures

The top wires on a power line (the static wires) pose the greatest risk for collision because they are smaller and can be more difficult for birds to see and avoid. To minimize collision risks, Tri-State implements several measures where feasible, including:

- Consider clustering lines during the planning process to increase visibility
- Locate lines away from known flyways and important habitats
- Utilize structure configurations that minimize collision risk in sensitive areas
- Marking lines to make the lines more visible to birds in flight
- Monitoring collisions on existing lines

Different types of markers vary in effectiveness. Devices include stationary bird and swan flight diverters.

Electrocution

Electrocution of birds typically is not associated with transmission lines of 115 kilovolts (kV) and higher. The electrical components generally are far enough apart that a bird can avoid contact with two of them at once, thereby avoiding fatally completing a circuit. Problems that do arise can be corrected by:

- Isolation: Moving the components farther apart to get the necessary clearance
- Insulation: Covering materials on various electrical components to prevent direct contact with the component that would cause the electrocution

Potential Project Permits and Approvals

Local
City of Brighton
Adams County
State
Department of Public Health & Environment
Colorado Department of Transportation
Colorado Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation
Federal
USDA's Rural Utilities Service
Federal Aviation Administration
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Permitting

Once a preferred transmission line route has been determined, Tri-State will submit permit applications to local, state, and federal authorities for their consideration and approval.

Tri-State is a borrower from the Rural Utilities Service, and therefore must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). To comply with NEPA, Tri-State would prepare an Environmental Assessment that analyzes the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Establishing Rights-of-Way

Working with Landowners

Working with Landowners

Tri-State uses a comprehensive and methodical process to determine the location for new transmission facilities, which involves an interactive process that includes gathering comments and concerns from property owners during a public participation phase.

Not only does Tri-State work with individual landowners along transmission line routes, but for most projects the association also must receive easements from cities and counties, rights-of-way grants from state and tribal entities, and permits and/or easements from federal land agencies.

Easements and Agriculture

Center Pivots—Tri-State will avoid irrigation equipment to the extent possible. Each individual situation will be worked out with the landowner.

Planting and Harvesting—Tri-State will work with individual landowners to avoid construction during the planting and harvesting seasons. If damage to crops cannot be avoided, compensation for crop loss will be offered.

Livestock—Segments of fences may be removed during line construction, but Tri-State will construct temporary fences and work with landowners to minimize impacts to livestock and their safety.

The Nuts and Bolts

The width of a transmission line easement is determined based on the voltage of the line, height of structures, spacing between structures, design requirements and safety considerations. Easements are determined by applying engineering specifications to meet the design and safety requirements of the National Electric Safety Code (NESC) and the Rural Utility Service (RUS).

- A right-of-way for both the long-term operation of the power line and short-term construction phase are typically required for new lines. It also addresses access to the line during the facility's operational life.
  - For this project, the structure types that are being proposed are to be single steel pole structures.
  - The structures will be placed approximately 500-550 feet apart. Span lengths are maximized where possible.
  - Structure heights for this project will be approximately 70 to 90 feet tall.
  - Shorter structures result in more structures per mile.
- In accordance with the NESC and RUS, the conductors (or wires) for a 115-kV transmission line are never to be less than 28 feet above the ground when the lines reach maximum operational temperatures.
- The width of an easement is intended to contain the potential sway of the conductors.
- This proposed line will be a 115-kV transmission line and will require an easement width of 75-feet.
- Specific details are always provided to landowners once design details are finalized.

Establishing Rights-of-Way

The goal for all projects is to identify a transmission line route that balances the need for reliable electric service with environmental concerns, public acceptance, engineering needs, economics, and legal and regulatory requirements.

Once a route is selected and the necessary land use permits have been obtained, Tri-State works directly with affected landowners to acquire the necessary power line and access easements for projects.

- Tri-State typically contracts with qualified land management and acquisition consultants to obtain the easements.
- Tri-State also obtains access easements for construction and long-term maintenance of transmission lines.
- Tri-State acquires temporary access or survey permission from landowners to perform various survey activities and possible geotechnical investigations on their property.
- Engineering, environmental and land surveying studies are conducted to complete a detailed assessment of a line's alignment.
- Should a property be subject to a conservation easement, approved uses of a conservation easement typically include power lines and other public utilities.
- Landowners are justly compensated by Tri-State for the granted easement.

Tri-State's objective is to work closely with the landowners to negotiate easement terms. When negotiations are unsuccessful, as an electric utility, Tri-State may have to exercise its eminent domain authority.

Routing Power Lines

The Responsible Approach

Routing a transmission line is a step-by-step process during which various alternatives are identified and then compared to each other based on a range of criteria. Routing a transmission line requires an open and comprehensive process that considers various factors, including:

- Electric system planning
- Economics
- The environment
- Public involvement
- Regulatory requirements
- Land rights
- Engineering

The routing process is designed to consider the full range of values attached to the study area, including those issues raised by the public. Once input is received from many sources on the alternatives, a preferred route has been selected and proposed during the permitting process.

Typical Transmission Line Routing Considerations

Engineering Considerations	Social and Economic Values
» Length of the transmission line	» Cultural and historic sites
» Cost	» Economics
» Right-of-way requirements	» Land rights
» Length paralleling existing linear features (e.g. roads)	» Community facilities
Land Use Considerations	**Environmental Considerations**
» Visual impact	» Wildlife, including birds
» Proximity to residences	» Vegetation
» Agricultural activities	» Threatened/Endangered species
» Future land use	» Wetlands
» Zoning	» Air quality
» Parks and recreation	» Water quality
» Oil and gas development	

The Routing Process

The major steps in the routing process are:

Step 1: IDENTIFY A STUDY AREA based upon the project's endpoints that are defined by the purpose and need. The study area should encompass several route alternatives of reasonable length and potential opportunities for placement.

Step 2: IDENTIFY ROUTE SEGMENTS within the study area, which are typically along existing linear features such as roads, railroads, pipelines, and existing utility lines. Impacts from a new transmission line often are reduced where paralleling such linear features, because a disturbance already exists on the landscape and new access routes would not be needed. Other linear features also may be identified as connecting segments, such as parcel boundaries, field or fence lines, or natural boundaries defined by slope or vegetation.

Step 3: FORM PRELIMINARY ROUTE SELECTIONS by linking route segments together and conducting a comparative analysis. Preliminary routes are assessed against a series of routing criteria, which are tailored to the individual project area. In addition to agency, county and city input, public input may identify additional criteria appropriate for use in the selection of the preferred route.

Step 4: SELECT A PREFERRED ROUTE after the comparative analysis is complete and public input has been collected. The preferred route will be identified in permit applications.

Involving the Public

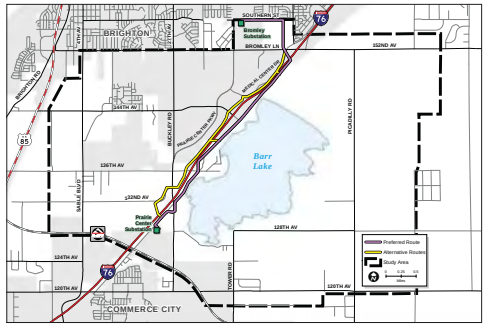
Tri-State uses an open and comprehensive process when routing any transmission line project that emphasizes input from local communities, landowners, regulatory agencies, and the public. Public meetings provide opportunities to speak with industry experts and utility staff regarding a proposed project.

Public Comment Opportunities

- Open House held by Tri-State and United Power (October 2011)
- Adams County Neighborhood Meeting (April 2012)
- Adams County Planning Commission Hearing (Summer 2012)
- Adams County Board of County Commissioners Hearing (Summer 2012)
- City of Brighton City Council Hearing (Summer 2012)

Current Status

The routing process for the United Power Phase III Project is currently at Step 4. Tri-State and United Power have selected a Preferred Route and two alternative routes. Tri-State and United Power will collect comments on these route alternatives at the neighborhood meeting, and make final decisions regarding the routes proposed in the City of Brighton and Adams County permit applications.



United Power Transmission System Improvement Project

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Fact Sheets

Note:

The fact sheets, originally presented at 11 inches by 17 and 8.5 inches by 11 inches, are reproduced at 8.5 inches by 11 inches.

Phase I Line Out-of-Service Scenario

The Phase I line is currently the only transmission source to United Power's Bromley Substation. If the Phase I line is out of service, the Bromley Substation would lose its main source of power, reducing the capability of United Power to serve loads in the area, and possibly resulting in outages until the line is repaired. The load cannot be served from the south because no transmission line exists to the Prairie Center Substation.

Consumers most affected:

- Platte Valley Medical Center
- Adams County Detention Center and Justice Center
- Brighton Police and Fire facilities and Water Treatment Plant
- Two nursing homes, the K-Mart distribution warehouse, Office Depot warehouse, Lowe's home improvement store, and the Western United Electric Supply Corporation.
- Residential consumers served by United Power

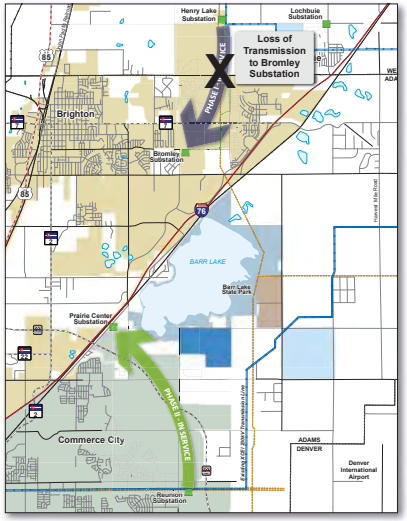
Phase II Line Out-of-Service Scenario

The Phase II line is the only transmission source to United Power's Prairie Center Substation. An outage in the Phase II line will cause Prairie Center Substation to lose its main power source, reducing the capability of United Power to serve loads in the area, and possibly resulting in outages until the line is repaired. The load cannot be served from the north because no transmission line exists to the Bromley Substation.

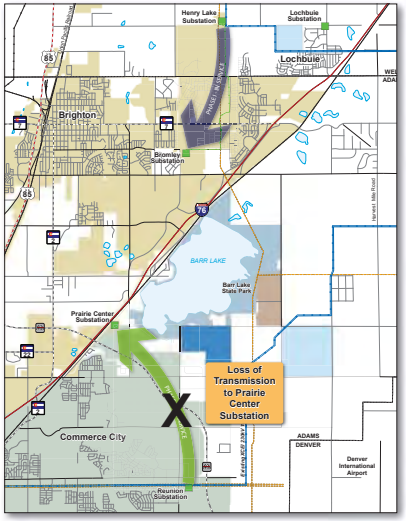
Consumers most affected:

- Adams County Complex (includes the 911 Call Center, a county data center, and offices)
- Adams County Government Center
- Prairie Center Shopping Mall (JC Penney, Kohl's, Super Target, Home Depot, Office Depot, Dick's Sporting Goods, PetSmart, Holiday Inn Express, Wells Fargo, and 14 small consumer-service businesses, and nine restaurants)
- Residential consumers served by United Power

Phase I out-of-service, Phase III not built



Phase II out-of-service, Phase III not built



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Powering Community Development

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Population Growth

2000-2008	
City of Brighton	55%
Commerce City	87%
Adams County	19%
State of Colorado	15%

Source: US Census Bureau; Colorado DOLA, State Demographer's Office

The Electric System

Transmission lines are designed to carry large amounts of electricity at high voltages (typically 115 to 500 kV) across long distances.

Tri-State's networks of transmission lines transfer electricity from power plants or other interconnections to a number of substations, including United Power's Bromley Substation and Prairie Center Substation.

At the substation, the high-voltage electricity is "stepped down" to a lower voltage, and is carried to residential, business, and governmental consumers via distribution lines.

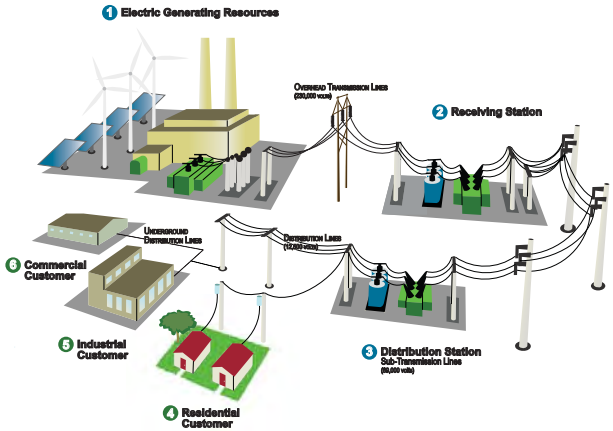
Distribution lines carry the electricity at lower voltages (12.5 to 34.5 kV) to small transformers, which convert the electricity to a voltage of 110 and 220 volts, suitable for consumer use.

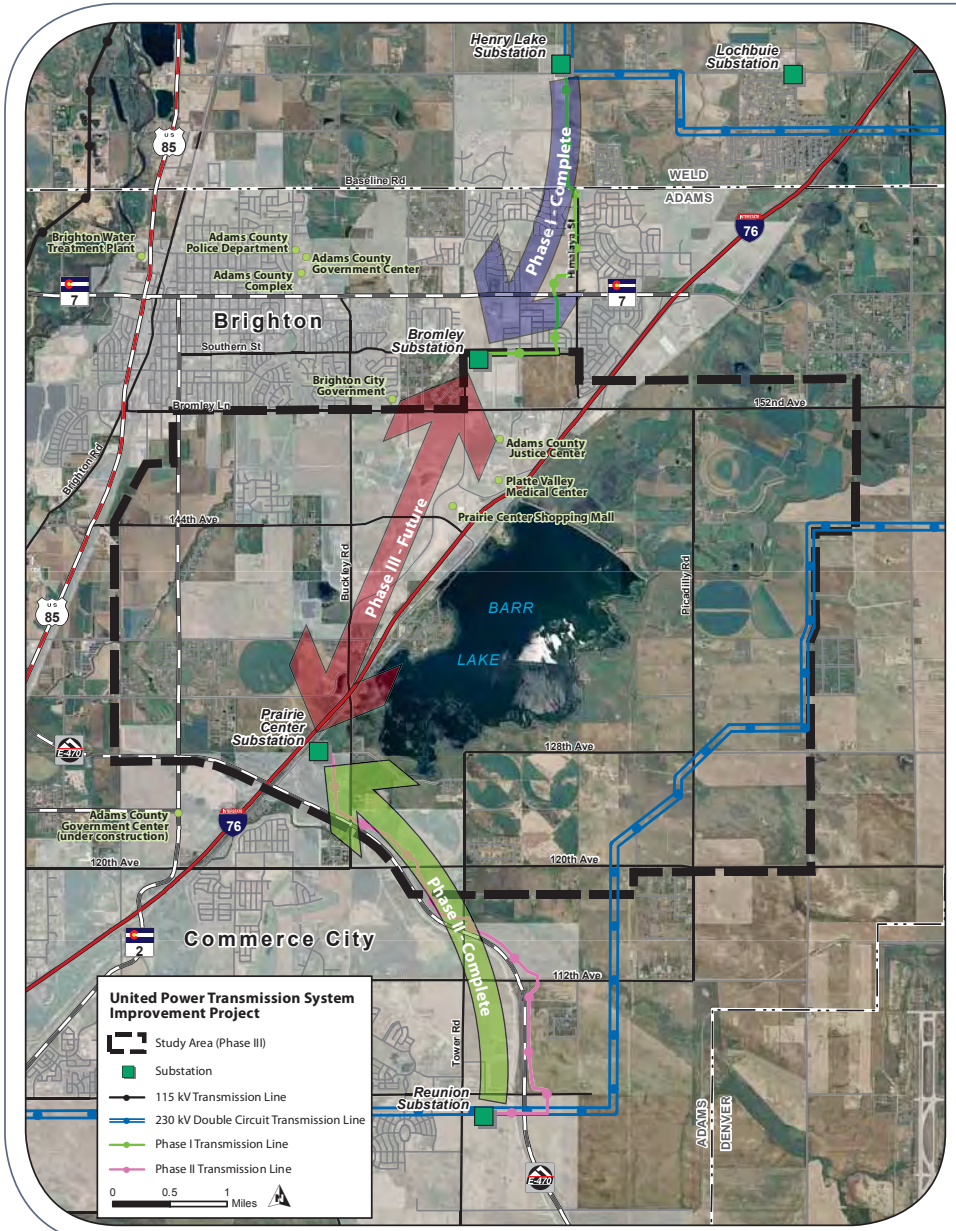
Phase III of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project consists of a proposed 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the existing Bromley and Prairie Center substations, and would be located in the City of Brighton and in unincorporated Adams County, Colorado. Phase III would complete the third and final phase of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project, which is needed to ensure that United Power can continue to reliably supply electricity to residents, businesses, and critical services in the rapidly growing local community.

To meet the growing electrical needs of Brighton and Adams County, additional power delivery infrastructure is required because:

- Tri-State needs to be able to maintain an adequate and reliable supply of electricity to United Power, and
- United Power needs to be able to reliably distribute this electricity to its member-consumers.

The Bromley Substation has been United Power's most heavily loaded substation for the last several years. The proposed transmission line and substation improvements associated with Phase III will allow United Power to continue serving the needs of residential, commercial, and governmental consumers.





The United Power Transmission System Improvement Project: An Overview

The Phase I and Phase II system additions have already resulted in a more robust and reliable transmission backbone to support the loads served by United Power's Bromley, Prairie Center, and Reunion substations. Phase III is expected to have the following benefits:

- To ***fulfill regulatory*** standards for electric utility service;
- Allows for ***increased electrical load serving capacity*** to the residential, commercial, and governmental development located in and around the City of Brighton; and
- Provides ***redundant transmission service*** that will allow an alternate source for restoring electric service in the event of a transmission line outage.

Fulfilling Regulatory Standards

Construction of Phase III will reduce system electrical losses and help maintain acceptable voltage levels required by the mandatory regulations imposed upon transmission providers, including Tri-state, by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC). NERC is the reliability regulatory organization charged by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to set operational standards for electric utilities required to improve the reliability and security of the bulk power system in North America.

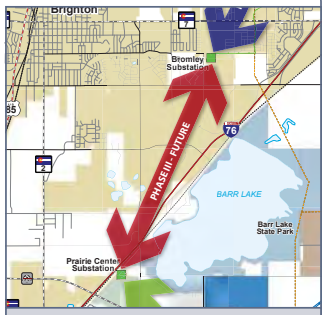
Increasing Capacity

There are a number of critical community service consumers that are served by United Power that will benefit from the additional capacity, including the Platte Valley Medical Center; The Adams County Campus Offices which include the new 911 Call Center for the county, with a data center and office complex; the Adams County Detention Facility and district police and fire stations for Brighton; the Adams County Justice Center; and the Prairie Center retail development.

Providing Redundant Transmission Service

The Phase I and Phase II transmission lines are radial lines with a single source of power. Phase III forms the critical missing link needed to form a "loop" system in the area, which would enable power to flow from two different directions, rather than from a single source. With a loop system, if transmission from one direction was out of service, transmission from the other direction would supply consumers and prevent outages.

Without Phase III, United Power customers could experience service disruptions if weather, accident, or system malfunction removed the Phase I or Phase II lines from service, especially during peak summer demand. Without the addition of Phase III, future development would also be limited.



Phase III: A Closer Look

The Phase I and Phase II system additions have resulted in a more robust and reliable transmission backbone to support the loads served by United Power's Bromley, Prairie Center, and Reunion substations, however, the Phase I and Phase II transmission lines are only "radial" lines, with a single source of power.

Phase III is the critical missing link needed to form a "loop" system in the area, which would enable the electrical network to perform more reliably than it could under the Phase I and Phase II system additions alone. The completion of a loop system allows power to flow from two different directions, rather than from a single source. With a loop system, if transmission from one direction was out of service, transmission from the other direction would supply consumers and prevent outages.

Constructing Power Lines

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Engineering Characteristics

Design Component: 115-kV Single Steel Pole	
Typical Right-of-Way Width	75 Feet
Typical Distance Between Structures	550 Feet
Typical Structure Height	70-90 Feet
Typical Structures Per Mile	9
Ground Clearance (beneath conductor under maximum operating conditions)	28 Feet

Clearances would be maintained in accordance with the National Electric Safety Code.

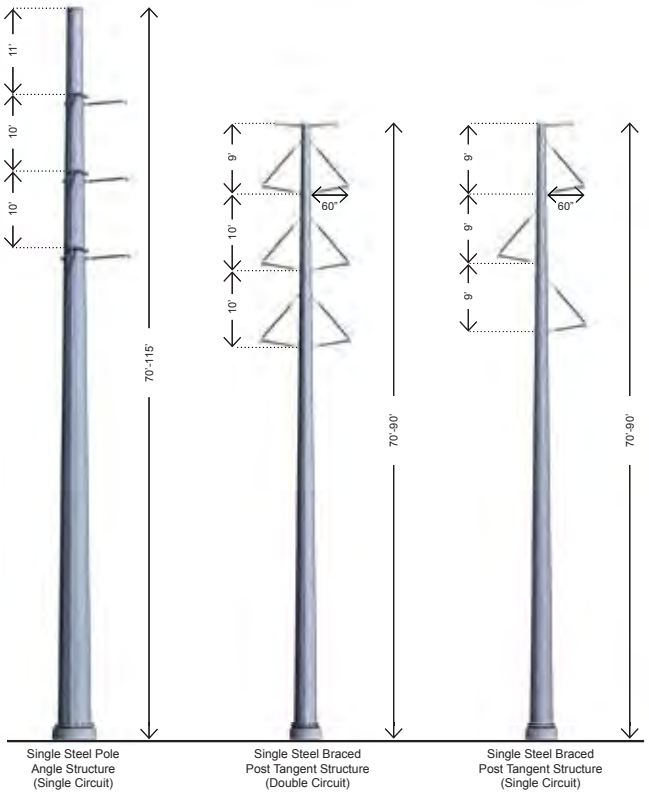
A portion of this existing United Power Phase I line would have a second circuit added to the left side of the structures to accommodate the proposed transmission line.

Phase III of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project consists of a proposed 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the existing Bromley and Prairie Center substations, and would be located in the City of Brighton and in unincorporated Adams County, Colorado. Phase III would complete the third and final phase of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project, which is needed to ensure that United Power can continue to reliably supply electricity to residents, businesses, and critical services in the rapidly growing local community.

Structure Types

Tri-State is proposing to build a single-circuit 115-kV transmission line with single steel pole structures. The anticipated structures are shown below, and would typically be 70 to 90 feet tall depending upon the span distances. Taller structures may be required to obtain required clearance and distance over Interstate 76 and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. The right-of-way required would be 75 feet (37.5 feet on either side of the center line).

A 0.7 mile segment of the preferred and alternative routes follows the Phase I transmission line by Bromley Substation (shown at left). Based on preliminary engineering design, the second circuit would likely be placed on the existing Phase I transmission structures, with modifications to angle structures possible.



Engineering Solutions to Routing Challenges

Engineering plays a critical role in identifying alternative routes for proposed transmission lines, particularly in urban environments where potential routes are highly constrained by existing and planned development, and in environmentally sensitive areas. Among the engineering strategies Tri-State is employing for United Power Phase III preferred and alternative routes are:

- Use of taller structures to maintain required clearances over I-76 according to Colorado Department of Transportation utility requirements, and railroads according to Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railroad requirements
- Use of swan flight diverters near Barr Lake State Park to protect avian species, particularly bald eagles.
- Use of long spans to avoid wetlands wherever possible
- Use of single-pole steel structures to reduce visual impacts
- Identifying locations of existing utility lines, including natural gas pipelines, to maintain required clearances

I-76 and Bromley Lane

During Construction

Tri-State would hire a contractor to construct the transmission lines. Construction would take approximately nine months and would be completed in several phases: access development, staging structures, foundation construction, framing and erecting the structures, and stringing conductor. Several work phases may be in progress simultaneously at different locations along the route.

Construction of the transmission line would be undertaken in a manner that minimizes disruption to land uses along the proposed route. Safeguards would include:

- Assigning a right-of-way agent to liaison with landowners
- Assigning inspectors to ensure environmental compliance by contractors
- Installing temporary erosion control structures where necessary
- Revegetating disturbed areas

Engineering plays a critical role in identifying alternative routes for proposed transmission lines, particularly in urban environments where potential routes are highly constrained by existing development, and in environmentally sensitive areas.

Near Barr Lake State Park

For More Information, Please Contact:

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Birds and Power Lines

Avian Protection

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Nest management programs include installing perch deterrents and nesting deterrents on structures, and installing nest boxes or platforms in safe areas on or near structures.

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association (Tri-State) uses several strategies to reduce the number of birds that are injured or killed when they contact power lines or electrical equipment. These strategies include:

- Conducting risk assessments for collision potential during planning
- Using avian safe designs, where feasible
- Monitoring existing lines and substations for avian issues
- Training for maintenance and engineering departments on avian issues and mitigation

Utilities try to minimize the risk of injury to birds, damage to electrical equipment, and outages to customers that may result when birds come in contact with power lines or their structures. Tri-State is developing a system-wide Avian Protection Plan (APP) to address and minimize bird interactions with the company's equipment and power lines.

Roosting and Nest Management

Transmission line structures and equipment are attractive to birds for roosting and nesting. Tri-State implements a variety of perch management approaches on structures to protect the birds and prevent power outages caused by bird interactions.

Nest management programs include installing perch deterrents and nesting deterrents on structures, and installing nest boxes or platforms in safe areas on or near structures. Additionally, Tri-State's APP sets an established reporting protocol by which co-op personnel report avian issues to Tri-State's environmental department, which then coordinates with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to remove or relocate nests when appropriate.

Collision Minimization Measures

Bird species have the potential to collide with power line wires. In general, the top wires (the static wires) pose the greatest risk for collision. The static wires are smaller than the electrical conductors and can be more difficult for birds to see and avoid. To minimize the risk of birds colliding with power lines, Tri-State implements several measures including:

- Consider clustering lines during the planning process to increase visibility
- Locate lines away from known flyways and important habitats, if possible
- Utilize structure configurations that minimize collision risk in

sensitive areas where feasible

» Marking lines to make them more visible to birds in flight

» Monitoring collisions on existing lines through the reporting system established as part of the APP

Marking Lines

Marking lines with various types of markers can decrease but not eliminate bird collisions. The different types of markers vary in effectiveness. The decision to utilize markers is based on:

» Effectiveness

» Line voltage rating

» Line location

» Durability

» Ease of installation

Examples of these devices are shown in the photos. For the proposed Phase III transmission line, Tri-State is proposing to use the swan flight diverters to mark the top static wire, similar to those used on the Phase II transmission line.

Electrocution

Electrocution of birds typically is not associated with transmission lines of 115 kilovolts and higher. The electrical components generally are far enough apart that a bird can avoid contact with two of them at once, thereby avoiding fatally completing a circuit.

Problems that do arise can be corrected in two primary ways:

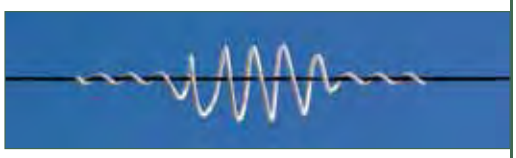
» Isolation: Moving the components farther apart to get the necessary clearance

» Insulation: Using covers or cover-up materials on various electrical components to prevent direct contact with the component that would cause the electrocution

For additional information regarding birds and power lines, visit the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee Web site at www.aplic.org.

Above: Installation of swan flight diverters

Below: Swan flight diverters on the Phase II transmission line



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Establishing Rights-of-Way

Working with Landowners

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Working with Landowners

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association (Tri-State) owns (wholly or jointly) or has maintenance responsibilities for more than 5,200 miles of transmission line across Colorado, Nebraska, New Mexico and Wyoming. Line crews and substation technicians work to ensure power delivery is safe and reliable.

As a not-for-profit power supplier, Tri-State continues to invest in transmission infrastructure to ensure dependable power delivery to its 44 member cooperatives throughout its four-state service territory. The West's vast power supply network is currently strained and improvements and expansion to the system are essential to enhancing regional power reliability.

Tri-State uses a comprehensive and methodical process to determine the location for new transmission facilities, which involves an interactive process that includes gathering comments and concerns from property owners during a public participation phase.

Not only does Tri-State work with individual landowners along transmission line routes, but for most projects the association also must receive easements from cities and counties, rights-of-way grants from state and tribal entities, and permits and/or easements from federal land agencies.

Establishing Rights-of-Way

Once a route is selected and the necessary land use permits have been obtained, Tri-State works directly with affected landowners to acquire the necessary power line and access easements for projects.

- Tri-State typically contracts with qualified land management and acquisition consultants to obtain the easements.
- Tri-State also obtains access easements for construction and long-term maintenance of transmission lines.
- Tri-State acquires temporary access or survey permission from landowners to perform various survey activities and possible geotechnical investigations on their property.
- Engineering, environmental and land surveying studies are conducted to complete a detailed assessment of a line's alignment.
- Should a property be subject to a conservation easement, approved uses of a conservation easement typically include power lines and other public utilities.
- Landowners are justly compensated by Tri-State for the granted easement.

Tri-State's objective is to work closely with the landowners to negotiate easement terms. When negotiations are unsuccessful, as an electric utility, Tri-State may have to exercise its eminent domain authority. Fortunately, these are rare cases. The goal for all projects is to identify a transmission line route that balances the need for reliable electric service with environmental concerns, public acceptance, engineering needs, economics, and legal and regulatory requirements.

The Nuts and Bolts

The width of a transmission line easement is determined based on the voltage of the line, height of structures, spacing between structures, design requirements and safety considerations. Easements are determined by applying engineering specifications to meet the design and safety requirements of the National Electric Safety Code (NESC) and the Rural Utility Service (RUS).

» A right-of-way for both the long-term operation of the power line and short-term construction phase are typically required for new lines. It also addresses access to the line during the facility's operational life.
  - For this particular transmission line project, the structure types that are being proposed are to be single steel pole structures.
  - The structures will be placed approximately 500-550 feet apart. Span lengths are maximized where possible.
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» The width of an easement is intended to contain the potential sway of the conductors.

» This proposed line will be a 115-kV transmission line and will require an easement width of 75-feet.

» Specific details are always provided to landowners once design details are finalized.

Easements and Agriculture

Center Pivots—Tri-State will avoid irrigation equipment to the extent possible. Each individual situation will be worked out with the landowner.

Planting and Harvesting—Tri-State will work with individual landowners to avoid construction during the planting and harvesting seasons. If damage to crops cannot be avoided, compensation for crop loss will be offered.

Livestock—Segments of fences may be removed during line construction, but Tri-State will construct temporary fences and work with landowners to minimize impacts to livestock and their safety.

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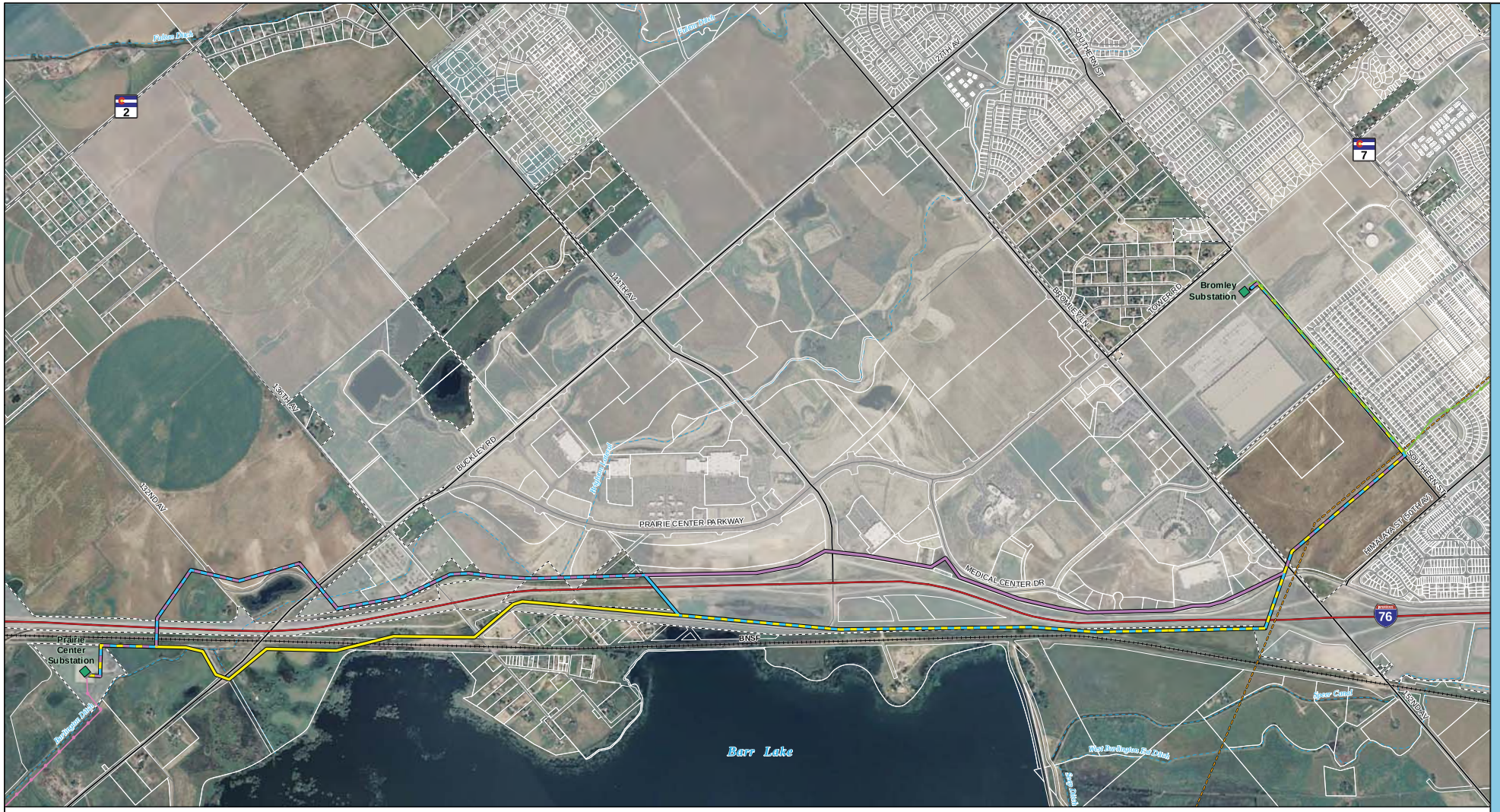


Preferred and Alternative Routes - April 2012

Brighton City Boundary

Utilities

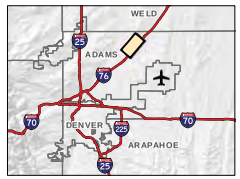
- Existing Substation
- Phase I Transmission Line
- Phase II Transmission Line
- Existing Gas Pipeline

Routes

- Preferred Route
- Alternative A
- Alternative B

0 0.25 Miles

Scale 19,000 (when printed at 22x34)



TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association Inc.

TETRA TECH EC, INC

United Power System Improvement Project: Phase III

Path: P:\3995_United_Power_Phase_III\GIS\Layouts\Pub_InvStakeholder_Map.mxd Date: 4/2/2012 Sources: CDOT, BLM, NAIP, ESRI, CDOW

Permitting & Public Involvement

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Above: Public meetings provide opportunities to speak with industry experts and utility staff regarding the project.

Phase III of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project consists of a proposed 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the existing Bromley and Prairie Center substations, and would be located in the City of Brighton and in unincorporated Adams County, Colorado. Phase III would complete the third and final phase of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project, which is needed to ensure that United Power can continue to reliably supply electricity to residents, businesses, and critical services in the rapidly growing local community.

Permitting

Once the preferred transmission line route is finalized, Tri-State will submit permit applications to local, state, and federal authorities for their consideration and approval. The following permits or regulatory compliance would be required:

Potential Project Permits and Approvals

Local	
City of Brighton	Conditional Use Permit
Adams County	1041 Permit
State	
Department of Public Health & Environment	Construction General Stormwater Permit and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)
Colorado Department of Transportation	Access Permits if necessary
Colorado Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation	Determination of Compliance with National Historic Preservation Act Section 106
Federal	
USDA's Rural Utilities Service	Environmental Assessment
Federal Aviation Administration	Title 14 CFR Part 77, Objects Affecting Navigable Airspace
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Clean Water Act, Section 404/Nationwide Permit 12, Jurisdictional Waters of the U.S.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Endangered Species Act, Section 7 Consultation

Tri-State is a borrower from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), and therefore must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). To comply with NEPA, Tri-State will prepare an Environmental Assessment that analyzes the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Public Involvement

Tri-State and United Power have been coordinating with the City of Brighton, Adams County, Barr Lake State Park, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, the Colorado Department of Transportation, and large landowners in the study area since the beginning of the alternatives development process. Tri-State held a public open house in the fall 2011 to share project information and solicit input from the public on preliminary alternatives. Local, state, and federal agencies were be invited to participate.

Landowners and the general public will also have an opportunity to provide comments during the county and city permitting processes. Adams County regulations require a "neighborhood meeting" to be held as part of the permit application process. A neighborhood meeting is not required by the City of Brighton's permitting process, but the City of Brighton, landowners, agencies, and the general public will be invited to participate in the neighborhood meeting in April 2012.

The City of Brighton and Adams County both hold public hearings after permit applications are submitted. Adams County will hold a public hearing on the project before the Planning Commission, and then a public hearing before the Board of County Commissioners. The City of Brighton will hold a public hearing before the City Council.

Public Comment Opportunities (Tentative Schedule)

- Open House held by Tri-State and United Power (October 2011)
- Adams County Neighborhood Meeting (April 2012)
- Adams County Planning Commission Hearing (Summer 2012)
- Adams County Board of County Commissioners Hearing (Summer 2012)
- City of Brighton City Council Hearing (Summer 2012)

For More Information, Please Contact:

TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Sarah Carlisle
scarlisle@tristategt.org
303-254-3396

Routing Power Lines

The Responsible Approach

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Typical Transmission Line Routing Considerations

Engineering Considerations

- Length of the transmission line
- Cost
- Right-of-way requirements
- Length paralleling existing linear features (e.g. roads)

Land Use Considerations

- Visual impact
- Proximity to residences
- Agricultural activities
- Future land use
- Zoning
- Parks and recreation
- Oil and gas development

Social and Economic Values

- Cultural and historic sites
- Economics
- Land rights
- Community facilities

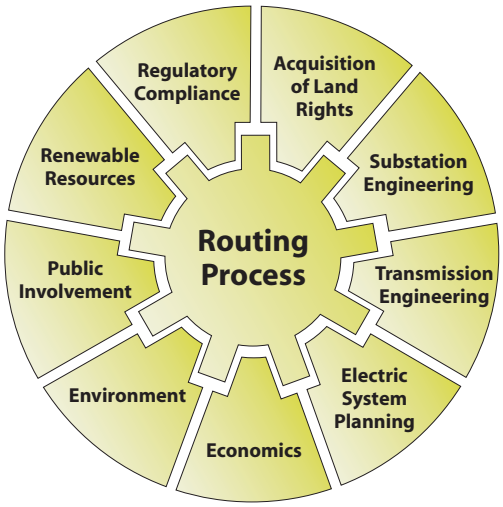
Environmental Considerations

- Wildlife, including birds
- Vegetation
- Threatened/Endangered species
- Wetlands
- Air quality
- Water quality

Phase III of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project consists of a proposed 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the existing Bromley and Prairie Center substations, and would be located in the City of Brighton and in unincorporated Adams County, Colorado. Phase III would complete the third and final phase of the United Power Transmission System Improvement Project, which is needed to ensure that United Power can continue to reliably supply electricity to residents, businesses, and critical services in the rapidly growing local community.

The Routing Process

Routing a transmission line is a step-by-step process during which various alternatives are identified and then compared to each other based on a range of criteria. Routing a transmission line requires an open and comprehensive process that considers various factors, including electric system planning, economics, the environment, public involvement, regulatory requirements, land rights, and engineering inputs.



The routing process is designed to consider the full range of values attached to the study area, including those issues raised by the public. Typical considerations include engineering, land use, social and economic values, and environmental resources. Once input is received from many sources on the alternatives, a preferred route is selected and proposed during the permitting process.

The major steps in the routing process are:

1. **IDENTIFY A STUDY AREA** based upon the project's endpoints that are defined by the purpose and need. The study area should encompass several route alternatives of reasonable length and potential opportunities for placement.
2. **IDENTIFY ROUTE SEGMENTS** within the study area, which are typically along existing linear features such as roads, railroads, pipelines, and existing utility lines. Impacts from a new transmission line often are reduced where they parallel such linear features, because a disturbance already exists on the landscape and new access routes would not be needed. Other linear features also may be identified as connecting segments, such as parcel boundaries, field or fence lines, or natural boundaries defined by slope or vegetation.
3. **FORM PRELIMINARY ROUTE SELECTIONS** by linking route segments together and conducting a comparative analysis. Preliminary routes are assessed against a series of routing criteria, that are tailored to the individual study area. In addition to agency, county and city input, public input may identify additional criteria appropriate for use in the selection of the preferred route.
4. **SELECT A PREFERRED ROUTE** after the comparative analysis is complete and public input has been collected. The preferred route will be identified in permit applications.

Current Status

The routing process for the United Power Phase III Project is currently at Step 4. Public comment was taken during the public open house held in October 2011. At this meeting, Tri-State and United Power presented preliminary route alternatives, and asked for the public's input on these alternatives. Tri-State and United Power have since selected a Preferred Route and two alternative routes (Alternative A and Alternative B) to be discussed at the neighborhood meeting in April 2012. Tri-State and United Power will collect comments on these route alternatives at the neighborhood meeting, and make final decisions regarding the routes proposed in the City of Brighton and Adams County permit applications.

Involving the Public

Responsibly routing power lines involves not only compliance with local, state, and federal regulations, but also proactive communication with stakeholders and transparency in the routing process. Tri-State uses an open and comprehensive process when routing any transmission line project that emphasizes input from local communities, landowners, regulatory agencies, and the public. Public meetings provide opportunities to speak with industry experts and utility staff regarding a proposed project.


Simulation along I-76

Visual simulations are sometimes used in the routing process to evaluate an alternative route's compliance with regulations, such as Colorado Department of Transportation highway regulations.

For More Information, Please Contact:

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Sarah Carlisle
scarlisle@tristategt.org
303-254-3396

Appendix C:

Comment Forms and Sign-in Sheets

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UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☒ **Preferred** Yellow ☐ **Alternative A** ☐ **Alternative B**

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☒ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☐ General Wildlife	☐ Visual Quality
☒ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☐ Avian/Birds	☐ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

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TRI-STATE
Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

P.O. Box 33695
Denver, CO 80233

Place Stamp Here

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
c/o Sarah Carlisle
P.O. Box 33695
Denver, CO 80233

FOLD HERE

Please submit your comments by April, 20 2012.

You may submit comments related to the Project by any of the following methods:

- Leave this form at the neighborhood meeting
- Email: scarlisle@tristategt.org
- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
  c/o Sarah Carlisle
  P.O. Box 33695
  Denver, Colorado 80233

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Organization and Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Daytime Phone (Optional): _____

Email (Optional): _____

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

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Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☒ **Preferred** ☐ **Alternative A** ☐ **Alternative B**

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential
☐ Land Use - Other
☐ General Wildlife
☐ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail
☐ Transportation
☐ Avian/Birds
☐ Recreation
☐ None
☐ Other: _____

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

The preferred route appears to be the most economical to build and creates fewer safety hazards than the other two.

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  c/o Sarah Carlisle
  P.O. Box 33695
  Denver, Colorado 80233

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Shawn Wiant

Organization and Title: Chairman Platte Valley Medical Center

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Daytime Phone (Optional): ~~303~~ 303 929-8495

Email (Optional): Shawnwiant@yahoo.com

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☑ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

- [x] **Preferred**
- [ ] **Alternative A**
- [ ] **Alternative B**

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

- [ ] Land Use - Residential
- [ ] Land Use - Other
- [ ] General Wildlife
- [ ] Visual Quality
- [x] Land Use - Commercial/Retail
- [ ] Transportation
- [ ] Avian/Birds
- [ ] Recreation
- [ ] None
- [ ] Other: _____

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

Representing PVMC - We highly support the preferred Route given our Heli-pad and Flight paths of the helicopters coming & going from our campus. High wires and helicopters "Do Not Mix". Safety & common sense would dictate the Preferred Route. FAA and the Medical Pilots Assoc. have both lended their support for the Preferred.

Thanks

CEO PVMC

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Organization and Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Daytime Phone (Optional): _____

Email (Optional): _____

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

barr lake state park

FY09-10









who we are

The location for one of Colorado's annual bird censuses, Barr Lake State Park is a premier bird watching location in the state, with over 350 bird species identified in the park. The park offers opportunities for hiking, flat-water boating (kayaking, canoeing and sailing) and a well stocked fishery. During the May to October season, park visitors can enjoy the Eagle Express, a motorized, guided tour of the wildlife refuge at the park. Staff and volunteers provide a number of educational and interpretative presentations for school children and other groups.

Visitors to the Barr Lake State Park spend over $117,000 annually in local communities.
*Source: Corona Research, **Colorado State Parks Marketing Assessment,** "Visitor Spending Analysis 2008-2009."*

top attractions

- Premier bird watching location! Great horned owls, Swainson hawks, great blue herons, double-crested cormorants, snowy egrets and bald eagles are just a few of the species that nest around Barr Lake.
- Channel cat fish, small and large mouth bass, rainbow trout, walleye, bluegill, wiper, and tiger muskie are the principle species stocked by Colorado Division of Wildlife.
- A 10-hp limit on boat motors on the lake, makes this an ideal spot for canoeing, kayaking and day sailing.
- Staff and volunteers provide education programs for school groups and for the general public. These may include tours of the wildlife refuge on the Eagle Express from May through October.
- Equestrians can enjoy almost nine miles of riding trails around the lake shore.

our partners

- Adams County
- Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory
- Barr Lake State Park Volunteer Corp
- City of Brighton
- Farmer's Reservoir and Irrigation Co.
- Reunion, a Shea Homes Community
- THF Realty
- Adams County Open Space
- Little Valley Wholesale Nursery
- AmeriCorps - National Civilian Community Corps
- Adams County Workforce Center

challenges we face

- Historically, the park is home to flocks of waterfowl and other birds due to the presence of the reservoir and adjacent vegetation. Housing and other developments now surround the park further isolating natural access corridors for wildlife.
- Increased urban development near the park and resulting runoff may degrade water quality in Barr Lake.
- Concerns over the spread of aquatic nuisance species (ANS) requires continued inspection efforts to protect of the quality of the Barr Lake ecosystem.
- Funding reductions could seriously affect the the environmental quality at Barr Lake, especially as development increases and water issues become more affected.

our enduring vision

Colorado State Parks offer exceptional settings for renewal of the human spirit. Residents and visitors enjoy healthy, fun-filled interaction with the natural world, creating rich traditions with family and friends that promote stewardship of our natural resources. Park employees and their partners work together to provide ongoing and outstanding customer service through recreational programs, amenities and services.

barr lake state park

FY09-10

statistics and ratios

Visitation FY 09-10: **104,912**

Estimated expenditures within 50 miles of the park: **$117,139 (2008-2009)**

Full-time staff: **3**

Visitor to full-time staff ratio: **34,971:1**

Temporary employees: **5**

Volunteers: **175**

Volunteer hours contributed: **11,571**

County: **Adams**

Congressional District: **7**

State Legislative Districts
Senate: **25**
House: **30 and 32**

expenses/revenue

Total operating expenses:	**$425,418**
Total construction expenses:	**$ 37,259**
Total revenue generated:	**$191,308**

Self-sufficiency ratio: **45%**
(FY 09-10 revenues/operating expenses)

park inventory

Year became a state park:	**1977**
Land acres:	**1,814**
Water acres:	**1,950**
Elevation:	**5,100'**
Ownership	
State parks:	**27%**
Other:	**73%**
Miles of Roads	
Paved:	**2.0**
Unpaved:	**0**
Miles of Trails	
Hiking/biking/horse	**12.0**
Boat ramps:	**1**
Picnic sites:	**60**
Park Store: Conveniences and souvenirs	
Concessions:	**0**

Major buildings/structures:
Nature Center and bookstore
Meadowlark Picnic Pavilion

land acquisitions FY 09-10

There were no new acquisitions in FY 09-10.

volunteer activities

- Provide 10-15 Eagle Scout projects each year. Scouts also complete other service projects.
- Volunteers provide over 11,500 hours of service to Barr Lake in a variety of areas, including naturalist-led guided hikes, tours and programs, park maintenance, visitor information, pass sales, trail construction and vegetation management.
- There are two park host positions available year round. They perform a variety of jobs ranging from working in the nature center to park maintenance.

42 great state parks!

Colorado State Parks

to contact us:

Barr Lake State Park • (303) 655-1495 • Park Manager: Michelle Seubert
13401 Picadilly Rd. • Brighton, CO •80603 • barr.lake@state.co.us • www.parks.state.co.us

Carlisle, Sarah

From: Thompson, Jeff <Jeff.Thompson@state.co.us>
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2012 3:15 PM
To: Carlisle, Sarah
Cc: Seubert, Michelle
Subject: United Power Transmission System Improvement Project: Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line comments
Attachments: BAR_United_Power_public_comment_II_Jeff_Thompson_April_2012.pdf

Hello Sarah,

Please accept my attached comments on the Bromley-Prairie Center phase of the power line improvement project.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Jeff

Jeff Thompson
Resource Stewardship Biology Coordinator
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
1313 Sherman St. Room 618
Denver, CO 80203
office: (303) 866 - 3203 x4340
cell: (303) 242 - 1375
jeff.thompson@state.co.us

Under Colorado's Open Records Act (CORA), all e-mails sent by or to me on this state-owned e-mail account may be subject to public disclosure.

TO: Sarah Carlisle: United Power / Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association Inc.

FROM: Jeff Thompson, Resource Stewardship Coordinator, Colorado Parks & Wildlife

DATE: April 2012

SUBJECT: Comments: United Power Transmission System Improvement Project
Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Route Segments for Comment: Preferred Route and Alternative Routes

Issues of Concern: Visual Quality, Recreation, Avian/Birds, Land Use – other

The Denver metro area continues to grow and by 2030 the population is projected to be 3.8 million people, 1.1 million more that currently live in the area. This growth will occur in outlying areas like the City of Brighton and will put an increased reliance on State Parks and other local natural areas to provide experiences that offer a feeling of being in nature and "away from it all". This growth in population will likely also lead to an increase in Barr Lake State Park's contribution to the standard of living of this area, to the visitation to the park, and an increase in the contribution of the park's visitors to the local economy. Barr Lake State Park currently averages over 104,000 visitors per year. A recent independent analysis of visitor spending showed that Barr Lake State Park visitors contribute over $117,000 to the area's annual local economy (Corona Research, Colorado State Parks Marketing Assessment, "Visitor Spending Analysis 2008-2009"). This contribution relies on the park's ability to maintain its capacity to provide the most natural setting possible in this ever changing suburban landscape.

Nearly all of the industrial and urban development that has occurred over recent years in the Brighton area has happened on the west side of Interstate Highway 76 in the area called the Prairie Center. The location of this development complex west of Interstate 76 has kept major development away from the park and has allowed Barr Lake to maintain its identity as a natural oasis in this growing suburban area.

The main draws to visitation to Barr Lake State Park are bird watching, fishing, nature education programs, and hiking. Maintaining a look and feel of being in nature is critical to meeting visitor's expectations for these State Park experiences. Tens of thousands of dollars have been granted by Adams county and other sources to continue to restore the wildlife habitat around Barr Lake and to develop facilities to bring adults and their children to Barr Lake to learn about and experience the natural world.

350 bird species use the wildlife habitat at Barr Lake making Barr Lake a birding hotspot in the northeast part of Colorado. Many of these birds nest and fledge their young within the boundaries of the park. Included in this group of nesting birds are Bald Eagles, Northern Harriers, Burrowing Owls, Swainson's Hawks, Red-tailed hawks, Great-horned Owls, American Kestrels, Great-blue Herons, Black Crowned Night Herons, Double-crested Cormorants, and Snowy Egrets. Bald Eagles are protected by the federal Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, which protects eagles year-round. Bald Eagles are known to winter roost in all the cottonwoods on the western shore of the park, which is also protected by this federal law. Bald eagles have nested on the south end of the park since the mid-1980's and have fledged over 40 eaglets from this one location. These eagles provide a primary draw for visitation to the park. There is no guarantee that Tri-State will be able to acquire the necessary permit to aid in compliance with the Eagle Act and the presence of bald eagles could likely constrict the construction time frame to a very small window. Conflicts with bird biology, federal natural resource law, as well as impacts to a primary source of visitation could be greatly reduced or avoided by choosing routes west of I-76 and would avoid possible impacts to nesting species during construction.

The identity of Barr Lake State Park as natural oasis that provides the local community and the broader community opportunities to experience nature is fundamental to the mission of the agency, as well as to park visitation and the programs and services parks provide. Visitor perception of a decreased or marginalized natural environment in a State Park detracts from the agency's mission. The wildlife habitat that Barr Lake State Park provides is vital, not only to park visitation, but to many wildlife species. As urbanization and its related industrial projects continue, the cumulative impacts of urbanization could irreversibly change the wildlife biology at Barr Lake State Park. It could only take one unfortunate incident for eagles to abandon this historic nesting location and never return. Every chance should be taken to route development disturbance away from the parks and natural areas that will serve as habitat islands and natural oases within an ever more urbanized landscape. Choosing a western power line route would eliminate nearly all wildlife considerations from your construction project and greatly reduce your project's impacts to the core functions and purpose of Barr Lake State Park.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your power line project.

Sincerely,

Jeff Thompson

Contact Information:
Jeff Thompson
Stewardship Biology Coordinator
Colorado Parks & Wildlife
1313 Sherman St. Rm. 618
Denver, CO 80203
(303) 866 – 3203 x4340
Jeff.Thompson@state.co.us

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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Denver, CO 80233

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c/o Sarah Carlisle
P.O. Box 33695
Denver, CO 80233

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Please submit your comments by April, 20 2012.

You may submit comments related to the Project by any of the following methods:

- Leave this form at the neighborhood meeting
- Email: scarlisle@tristategt.org
- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
  c/o Sarah Carlisle
  P.O. Box 33695
  Denver, Colorado 80233

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Mary Bennett

Organization and Title: _____

Mailing Address: 13640 Lake Ave

City: Brighton State: CO Zip Code: 80603

Daytime Phone (Optional): _____

Email (Optional): Mary.Bennett@RKYMTSTAX.com

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☒ Yes ☐ No

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing

UNITED POWER | TRI-STATE

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
Phase III: Bromley - Prairie Center 115 kV Power Line

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ Preferred ☒ Alternative A ☒ Alternative B

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☒ General Wildlife	☒ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☐ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other:		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

50' High Power lines will destroy quality of life ~~destroy~~ under and near.

Property values will diminish for home owners.

Birds will be killed. Possibility of cracking, possibility of fires

Power lines ~~on~~ need to be placed West Side I-76 as they benefit that industrial area.

Carlisle, Sarah

From: Tammy VerCauteren <tammy.vercauteren@rmbo.org>
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 4:47 PM
To: Carlisle, Sarah; Spears, Laurie
Subject: Tri-State Power line

Sarah,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide additional feedback on the proposed routes for the United Power Transmission Improvement Project Phase III. The issues we are most concerned about are avian/birds, visual quality and recreation. As indicated in our prior letter Bald Eagles, Great Blue Herons, Cormorants and more have been nesting at Barr Lake for decades. Barr Lake is situated within the Great Plains and provides an oasis for wildlife in this arid landscape. Birds in particular rely on wetland habitats for critical nesting, migratory and wintering sites in the Great Plains.

Barr Lake has been fortunate with the development and growth of Brighton and surrounding communities to still provide critical bird and other wildlife habitat within this urban/rural interface. However, we are deeply concerned about continued development particularly within the park boundaries and the long-term impacts on birds and other wildlife. Though the poles and lines will be outfitted with devices to minimize collisions, these devices will be not visible during inclement weather including blizzards, heavy rainstorms and fog; conditions that are common at Barr Lake. In addition, they are located within the recommended buffer for avoiding development and activities as outlined by the USFWS to avoid disturbance for Bald Eagles. The potential for displacing this 25-year old nesting site for Eagles, Cormorants and more needs higher consideration. Since the Prairie Center development already has limited natural habitat, the power line would not cause additional fragmentation of natural habitats there. We strongly recommend you choose alternate routes A and or B and stay west of I-76.

In addition, attendance at Barr Lake is on the rise and we have recently enhanced education and recreation opportunities on the north end of Barr Lake by creating the Environmental Learning Center (ELC). Hundreds of thousands of Open Space dollars have been put on the ground to provide recreation and educational trails, signage and more. The goal is to demonstrate how a healthy home for birds is a healthy home for all of us. The amazing view sheds of the prairie and mountains are what have drawn people to this area for more than a century. With the ELC we plan to connect and engage youth and families in nature and the role they play in stewardship. Getting away from the city and outside is essential for our spiritual wellbeing as well as growth and development. The proposed power lines will significantly impact the view shed from our new learning center, the ability of children to escape from development and the overall quality of experiences we can provide on-site.

Please feel free to contact with me questions or concerns. We wish you the best in making the most sustainable decisions for our citizens and wildlife.

Tammy VerCauteren

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory

Executive Director

230 Cherry St. Suite 150

Fort Collins, CO 80521

970-482-1707 Ext. 16

Conserving birds and their habitats

http://www.rmbo.org

Carlisle, Sarah

From: Polly P. Reetz <reetzfam@juno.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2012 4:52 PM
To: Carlisle, Sarah
Cc: jeff.thompson@state.co.us; michelle.seubert@state.co.us
Subject: Powerline at Barr Lake State Parki

April 19, 2012

Sarah Carlisle
Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association Inc.
P.O. Box33695
Denver,CO80233

Dear Ms. Carllisle:

The comments below are made on behalf of the Audubon Society of Greater Denver (ASGD), a grassroots conservation organization with approximately 3,000 members in theDenvermetro area. Our Society, in collaboration with the National Audubon Society, pushed successfully for the creation ofBarrLakeState Parkin the mid-1970's, and over the years we have run numerous field trips to the Park. We also worked with the Denver Mayor's office,Brighton, and State personnel on the Barr Lake Buffer Zone Plan in the 1980's. More recently, National Audubon inColoradohas designatedBarrLakeState Parkas an Important Bird Area, which means that the Park has met certain criteria for importance to migrating, breeding, or over-wintering bird species.

Tri-State's proposal to build a major powerline along I-76 has recently come to our attention. We strongly support the position of Colorado Parks and Wildlife that the line should run on the west side of I-76, in an already-developed area, rather than on the east side. Our reasons are as follows:

- A line on the east side, on the boundary of the State Park, would significantly impact the nature of the Park, reducing its integrity and identity as a primarily-natural area. The hikers, canoers, boaters, fishermen, photographers, hunters and wildlife watchers who now use the park average over 100,000 per year, and a major power line on its boundary would change their perceptions and enjoyment of the park radically. We believe that the contribution that visitors make to the local economy would be jeopardized by such a change. Certainly Audubon's field trip planners would take pause at such development on the park boundary.

- Powerlines are known to contribute to avian death tolls each year due to collisions between flying birds and the transmission lines. Putting a power line so close to a major bird concentration area likeBarrLakeState Parkcould cause significant injury and death to ducks, geese and other species that form large flocks on the lake. It's just asking for trouble with these species, which are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. We also have concerns about electrocution of raptors, although this problem can be readily solved if the power line owner takes measures to eliminate that possibility. We would hope that Tri-State has taken such concerns into account.

- Bald eagles roost in the cottonwoods on the west side ofBarrLakein the winter, and Audubon members have counted 45 – 60 birds at one time in January and February. There has been an active bald eagle nest on the south end of the lake since 1986; the nesting pairs have produced over 40 eaglets from this location. Both the roost and the nest, as well as the birds themselves, are protected by the federal Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. In addition, the State ofColoradohas guidelines for buffers around eagle nests. Both federal and state regulations and guidelines would put a severe restriction on the timing of construction of the power line along the west side of the Park.

- The west side of the park is also the site of heron and cormorant rookeries. These are a relatively scarce resource on the Front Range that could be significantly impacted by a powerline close by.

- We feel that preservation of the integrity and resources of Barr Lake State Parkoutweighs the problems presented by gas lines and development on the west side of I-76. We respectfully urge Tri-State to work out such problems, to create a win-win situation for the Park and local residents on the one hand, and power users on the other.

State Parks like Barr Lake are highly important to the residents of theFront Range; they are accessible, affordable, and provide a place for families to experience the natural world out-of-doors. We feel that the integrity of all State Parks should be zealously guarded and protected, and for this reason we strongly support the location of the proposed powerline west of I-76, in the area where industrial and urban development is currently concentrated. We sincerely hope that Tri-State will choose to support the park and the adjacent communitites by opting for the western powerline route.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Pauline P. Reetz
Conservation Chairman
Audubon Society of GreaterDenver
9308 S. Wadsworth Blvd.
Littleton,CO80128

By email and hard copy

Cc: Michelle Seubert,BarrLakeState Park
Jeff Thompson,ColoradoParksand Wildlife

Carlisle, Sarah

From: Christy Dowling <necahs1@live.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 10:50 AM
To: Carlisle, Sarah
Subject: Serious Concerns about Tri State transmission lines near Barr Lake

Hello,

I am a customer of United Power and Tri-State Generation & Transmission. I DO NOT support proposed transmission lines about the east side of I76 directly next to Barr Lake State Park for many reasons.

The towers and lines will create serious disturbance to Bald Eagle nesting from 168th Ave. southward along Barr Lake's west side. Much of this area is a longstanding wildlife refuge, major Migratory Bird flyway (in all directions) for large raptors, water birds, and smaller song birds, who may be year around residents or travel thousands of miles, requiring safe habitats, like Barr, for their survival. Towers and Lines in areas like this seriously compromises and potentially destroys habitat. People come to Barr for Birding, please don't ruin it.

The Public, RMBO's Environmental Learning Center, and proposed Camp Host site use this area extensively, which will only grow due to a new Park access site on the North side, and Public environmental education programming at RMBO are other reasons the proposed lines and towers in this area are flawed choices.

The Towers and Lines will block some of the most beautiful views of the Rocky Mountains looking toward Lon'g Peak possibly anywhere along the Front Range! Year around, the views from the east and west sides of the Park across the reservoir are stunning, especially when the large Raptors fly above. Many people come to the Park for this beauty and personal relaxation that Nature provides. The Lines and Towers will destroy that.

There are wild land fires in this area on hot days when trains go thru, sparking grass fires. I don't think electrical lines and towers would be a good combination with potential fire, especially where people live and recreate.

Can these lines be buried or re routed along Powhatan Rd. where towers and lines already exist?

Thank you for taking all of these concerns. I hope the project will be done differently. I hope getting public input would be part of your decision making now and in the future.

Christy Dowling

Carlisle, Sarah

From: CFV1945@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 10:13 AM
To: Carlisle, Sarah; jrobinson@adcogov.org; Jeff.Thompson@state.co.us; michelle.seubert@state.co.us; hprapher@brightonco.gov
Cc: cfv1945@aol.com
Subject: Power line placement off I-76
Attachments: Barr Lake Canada Geese.jpg; Barr Lake Deer.jpg; Barr Lake Eagle Roost.jpg; Barr Lake Owls.jpg; Barr Lake Swainson Hawk.jpg; Barr LakeOsprey.jpg

Hello,

We are taking this opportunity to express our opinion regarding the placement of a power line off I-76.

Since 2002 we have been Barr Lake raptor monitors for Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, Colorado Division of Wildlife and Colorado State Parks.

We would grant that some places for whatever reasons are better places to install high power lines than other places.

However as raptor monitors over the last 10 years we are greatly impressed with how the wildlife,including raptors and especially Bald eagles have increased in numbers over time. This has been due to increase in fish population, the lack of DDT and the protection of the environment that the wildlife inhabit.

A specific example is our observing the Bald Eagle roost site in the winter months. In January 2008, the first month we observed the roost, the most eagles we observed on any one evening was 6. One evening in January 2012 we observed 52 Bald eagles.

This protected environment has come at the expense of some freedom to the Park visitors. Boats are not allowed in the wildlife refuse, and the horse power on the boats used in the northern part of the Lake has been reduced to cut down on noise and vapor pollution. Foot and pet travel and fishing have been restricted in the southern park of the Lake to accommodate the many species of nesting birds.

Our point is there has been some restriction on the visitors at Barr Lake and we would like to ask that the same loss of freedom be honored by the power company and their location of power lines.

It is our opinion that the power lines on the east side of I-76 would be a disruption to the food chain and the physical environment such as noise and activity that would be detrimental to all of the wildlife especially nesting birds.

Bar Lake administration recognized this possibility and curtailed the activities of the visitors to protect this environment.

So it is obvious to us that this restriction of freedom within the park has allowed the wildlife to thrive and it was not what the visitors would have chosen.

Having seen the results of this protection we therefore require a compromise that the power line be built on the west side of I-76.

It is well established that high voltage power lines are detrimental to wildlife especially flying birds on their way to their food sources. Sixty cycle frequency buzz put out by wires is a known annoyance to wildlife. Some folks say that radiation put out by power lines is detrimental to people as well.

We grant that due to increase in population and need for more power lines are required but we ask that the location be chosen where it well present the least disruption to the environment.

The Federal, State and local governments, citizens and now industry must curtail their choices to protect this unique environment.

Please see the attached photos.

Don McNair and Cathy Vaughn

Carlisle, Sarah

From: James Ratzloff <james.ratzloff@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 8:41 AM
To: Carlisle, Sarah
Subject: Tri State Power Lines, Barr Lake

I am writing to voice my support for a western option for the Tr-i-State Power Lines, on the west side of I-76, to reduce impacts to Barr Lake. Having the power lines on the eastern side, close to Barr Lake, would reduce the rural nature of the park.

I have been visiting Barr Lake since 1975, before it became a park. It is a wonderful place to view birds and wildlife. Please do not route the powerlines near the park, which would negatively alter the recreation around Barr Lake, by making it more urbanized.

- James Ratzloff

3784 Union Ct
Wheat Ridge CO 80033

303-423-2843
jim@poetsheart.com

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13 APR 2012 PM 2 L

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80233695S

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Please submit your comments by April, 20 2012.

You may submit comments related to the Project by any of the following methods:

- Leave this form at the neighborhood meeting
- Email: scarlisle@tristategt.org
- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
  c/o Sarah Carlisle
  P.O. Box 33695
  Denver, Colorado 80233

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Christopher J Bates

Organization and Title:

Mailing Address: 14851 North Ridge ST

City: Brighton State: Co Zip Code: 80603

Daytime Phone (Optional): 303-912-7683

Email (Optional):

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☒ Yes ☐ No

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ Preferred ☒ Alternative A ☐ Alternative B

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☒ Land Use - Other	☒ General Wildlife	☒ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☒ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other:		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

Fish at Barr lake concerned about wild life

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Please submit your comments by April, 20 2012.

You may submit comments related to the Project by any of the following methods:

- Leave this form at the neighborhood meeting
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- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
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  P.O. Box 33695
  Denver, Colorado 80233

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Pamela Martinez

Organization and Title:

Mailing Address: 17750 E 136th Ave.

City: Brighton **State:** Colo **Zip Code:** 80603

Daytime Phone (Optional):

Email (Optional):

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☑ Yes ☐ No

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ **Preferred** ☑ **Alternative A** ☐ **Alternative B**

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☑ General Wildlife	☐ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☑ Avian/Birds	☑ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

Put it on Commercial Land.

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- Leave this form at the neighborhood meeting
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- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
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  Denver, Colorado 80233

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Hilaria Chacon

Organization and Title:

Mailing Address: 18200 E 136th Ave

City: Brighton **State:** CO **Zip Code:** 80603

Daytime Phone (Optional):

Email (Optional):

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☒ Yes ☐ No

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

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Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

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Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☒ General Wildlife	☒ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☒ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

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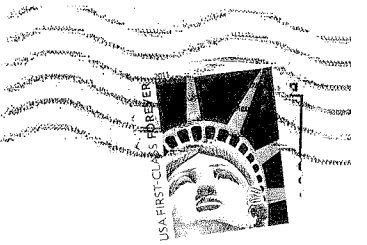
DENVER CO 802

17 APR 2012 PM 4 L



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- Email: scarlisle@tristategt.org
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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Stacy Gunnerson

Organization and Title:

Mailing Address: 13678 Lake Ave

City: Brighton **State:** CO **Zip Code:** 80603

Daytime Phone (Optional): 720-448-9922

Email (Optional): stacy@stacyshelpinghand.com

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☑ Yes ☐ No

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ **Preferred** ☑ **Alternative A** ☐ **Alternative B**

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☑ Land Use - Residential	☑ Land Use - Other	☑ General Wildlife	☑ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☑ Avian/Birds	☐ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other:		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

We have animals and 2 young children that we moved into the country to stay away from this stuff. Please preserve our nature and by keeping on the other side of I-76.

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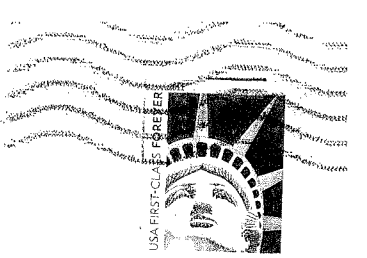
DENVER CO 802

17 APR 2012 PM 4 L



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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Mary S. Allen

Organization and Title:

Mailing Address: 13715 Lake Ave

City: Brighton **State:** Co. **Zip Code:** 80603

Daytime Phone (Optional): 303 659 2832

Email (Optional):

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☒ Yes ☐ No

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UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYS
Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Cente

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: ... ...-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ **Preferred** ☒ **Alternative A** ☐ **Alternative B**

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☑ General Wildlife	☒ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☒ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

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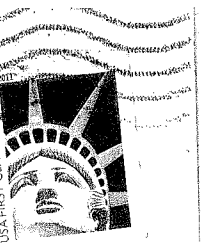

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- Leave this form at the neighborhood meeting
- Email: scarlisle@tristategt.org
- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: BRIAN A. CARABELOS

Organization and Title:

Mailing Address: 16300 ELECTRA ST.

City: BRIGHTON **State:** CO **Zip Code:** 80603

Daytime Phone (Optional): 303 710-1348

Email (Optional):

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☒ Yes ☐ No

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Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ **Preferred** ☒ **Alternative A** ☐ **Alternative B**

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☒ General Wildlife	☐ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☒ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

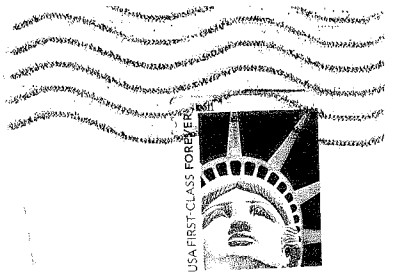
Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

LEAVE BAR LAKE THE WAY IT IS.

TAPE HERE (DO NOT STAPLE)

DENVER CO 802

17 APR 2012 PM 1 1



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- Leave this form at the neighborhood meeting
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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Bernadette Betancourt

Organization and Title: _____

Mailing Address: 9451 Welby Rd. #917

City: THORNTON State: CO Zip Code: 80229

Daytime Phone (Optional): _____

Email (Optional): _____

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☑ Yes ☐ No

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Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

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☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☑ Avian/Birds	☑ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

Perferred line is too close to residential and state Park.

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- Email: scarlisle@tristategt.org
- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
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  P.O. Box 33695
  Denver, Colorado 80233

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: MAX C Hinn

Organization and Title: _____

Mailing Address: 7644 Kingsgrove

City: Denver **State:** CO **Zip Code:** 80249

Daytime Phone (Optional): _____

Email (Optional): _____

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☒ Yes ☐ No

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

UNITED POWER | TRI-STATE

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

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Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☒ General Wildlife	☒ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☒ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

I go To Barr Lake All The Time To fish & watch birds.

TAPE HERE (DO NOT STAPLE)

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Please submit your comments by April, 20 2012.

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  Denver, Colorado 80233

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Michael T. Janssen

Organization and Title: _____

Mailing Address: 2870 W. 116th Pl. #101

City: Westminster State: CO Zip Code: 80234

Daytime Phone (Optional): 720-887-0426

Email (Optional): _____

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☑ Yes ☐ No

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UNITED POWER TRI-STATE

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

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☐ Land Use - Residential	☑ Land Use - Other	☑ General Wildlife	☑ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☑ Avian/Birds	☑ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

Enjoy using Barr Lake and appreciate wild raptors residing there. I believe this encroachment would negatively impact my and others enjoyment and wild bird population there.

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- Email: scarlisle@tristategt.org
- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
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  Denver, Colorado 80233

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: LARRY D. SPAHR

Organization and Title: LEAD MATERIAL SPECIALIST

Mailing Address: 1158 S Rifle Cir

City: AURORA **State:** CO **Zip Code:** 80017

Daytime Phone (Optional):

Email (Optional):

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☒ Yes ☐ No

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ **Preferred** ☒ **Alternative A** ☐ **Alternative B**

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☒ General Wildlife	☒ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☒ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

Do not deface anything east of I76.

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DENVER CO 802
17 APR 2012 PM 1 L

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  Denver, Colorado 80233

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Nathaniel Sandoval

Organization and Title: _____

Mailing Address: 7955 East 136th Ave

City: Brighton State: Colorado Zip Code: 80603

Daytime Phone (Optional): 720-393-9329

Email (Optional): VE7IGA@yahoo.com

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☒ Yes ☐ No

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Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ Preferred ☒ Alternative A ☐ Alternative B

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☒ General Wildlife	☒ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☒ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other:		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

Keep plan ON Commercial land.

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- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
  c/o Sarah Carlisle
  P.O. Box 33695
  Denver, Colorado 80233

FOLD HERE

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: DEVERN L IRWIN

Organization and Title:

Mailing Address: 17750 E 136TH AVE

City: BRIGHTON **State:** CO **Zip Code:** 80603

Daytime Phone (Optional):

Email (Optional): virwin@wildmail.com

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☒ Yes ☐ No

Fold information facing inward when mailing

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ **Preferred** ☒ **Alternative A** ☐ **Alternative B**

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail
☐ None
☐ Land Use - Other
☐ Transportation
☐ Other: _____
☒ General Wildlife
☒ Avian/Birds
☒ Visual Quality
☒ Recreation

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

The farthest away from Barr Lake.
The better for these concerns
and the overall life in the area.

TAPE HERE (DO NOT STAPLE)

DENVER CO 802

17 APR 2012 PM 2 L

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Denver, CO 80233

80233B6595

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Please submit your comments by April, 20 2012.

You may submit comments related to the Project by any of the following methods:

- Leave this form at the neighborhood meeting
- Email: scarlisle@tristategt.org
- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
  c/o Sarah Carlisle
  P.O. Box 33695
  Denver, Colorado 80233

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Richard A Martin

Organization and Title: _____

Mailing Address: 136 45 Lake Ave.

City: Brighton State: Colo Zip Code: 80603

Daytime Phone (Optional): _____

Email (Optional): _____

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☑ Yes ☐ No

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ Preferred ☑ Alternative A ☐ Alternative B

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☑ General Wildlife	☑ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☑ Avian/Birds	☑ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

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DENVER CO 802
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Please submit your comments by April, 20 2012.

You may submit comments related to the Project by any of the following methods:

- Leave this form at the neighborhood meeting
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  c/o Sarah Carlisle
  P.O. Box 33695
  Denver, Colorado 80233

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Michael V Roybal

Organization and Title:

Mailing Address: 2980 Ivy St

City: Den **State:** Co **Zip Code:** 80217

Daytime Phone (Optional):

Email (Optional):

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☑ Yes ☐ No

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ Preferred ☒ Alternative A ☐ Alternative B

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☒ Land Use - Other	☒ General Wildlife	☒ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☒ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other:		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

Love Barr Lake

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  Denver, Colorado 80233

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Dan & MARTHA SANDOVAL

Organization and Title:

Mailing Address: 13635 LAKE AVE

City: BRIGHTON **State:** Colorado **Zip Code:** 80603

Daytime Phone (Optional): 303 659-1491

Email (Optional):

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☒ Yes ☐ No

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ Preferred ☒ Alternative A ☐ Alternative B

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☒ General Wildlife	☒ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☒ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

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80233069S B008

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Please submit your comments by April, 20 2012.

You may submit comments related to the Project by any of the following methods:

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Kenneth R Williams

Organization and Title: _____

Mailing Address: 803 Homestead Dr.

City: Highlands Ranch State: CO Zip Code: 80126

Daytime Phone (Optional): 303-548-5999

Email (Optional): _____

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☒ Yes ☐ No

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ Preferred ☒ Alternative A ☐ Alternative B

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☒ Land Use - Other	☒ General Wildlife	☒ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☒ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

Too Close to Res & Barr Lake.

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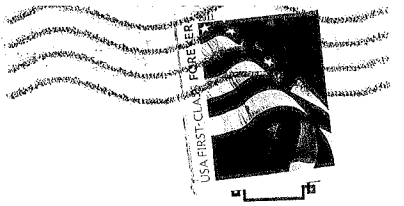
17 APR 2012 PM 1 L



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80233069S B08

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Please submit your comments by April, 20 2012.

You may submit comments related to the Project by any of the following methods:

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  P.O. Box 33695
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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Andrea Irwin

Organization and Title:

Mailing Address: 18121 E. 136th Ave

City: Brighton **State:** CO **Zip Code:** 80603

Daytime Phone (Optional):

Email (Optional):

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ **Preferred** ☒ **Alternative A** ☐ **Alternative B**

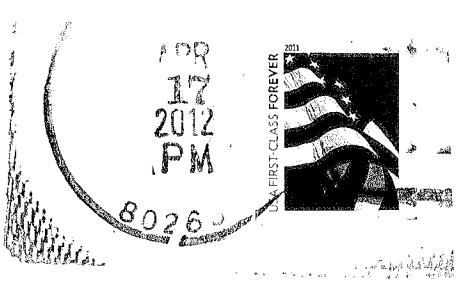
Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☒ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☒ General Wildlife	☒ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☒ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

Will diminish our property value. We paid top $ for our land.

TAPE HERE (DO NOT STAPLE)



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Please submit your comments by April, 20 2012.

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: LES Sims

Organization and Title:

Mailing Address: 1542 Leroy Dr.

City: Arvada **State:** Co **Zip Code:** 80233

Daytime Phone (Optional):

Email (Optional):

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☐ Yes ☐ No

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Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ Preferred ☒ Alternative A ☐ Alternative B

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☒ Land Use - Other	☒ General Wildlife	☒ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☒ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

Too Close To Residents @ Burr Oak Acres.

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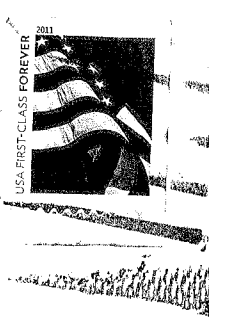

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Corlan Martinez

Organization and Title: Teamsters Union local 955

Mailing Address: 13762 Colorado Blvd # 124 PMB124

City: Thornton **State:** CO **Zip Code:** 80602

Daytime Phone (Optional): 303.883.7150

Email (Optional): GMartinez1@gmail.com

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☒ Yes ☒ No

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ Preferred ☒ Alternative A ☐ Alternative B

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☒ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☒ General Wildlife	☒ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☒ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

I love Barr Lake & hate walmart with a passion. Keep them out. They are rich enough to keep it on their own land.

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  Denver, Colorado 80233

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Maria Huerta

Organization and Title:

Mailing Address: 13655 Lake Ave

City: Brighton **State:** Co. **Zip Code:** 80603

Daytime Phone (Optional): 303-901-4037

Email (Optional):

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☒ Yes ☐ No

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ Preferred ☒ Alternative A ☐ Alternative B

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☒ General Wildlife	☒ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☒ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

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Please submit your comments by April, 20 2012.

You may submit comments related to the Project by any of the following methods:

- Leave this form at the neighborhood meeting
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- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
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  Denver, Colorado 80233

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Randy Summers

Organization and Title:

Mailing Address: 5131 Perth ST

City: Denver **State:** Co **Zip Code:** 80249

Daytime Phone (Optional):

Email (Optional):

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☒ Yes ☐ No

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project

Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

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Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ Preferred ☒ Alternative A ☐ Alternative B

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☒ General Wildlife	☒ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☒ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

Please put it on Commercil Land

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- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
  c/o Sarah Carlisle
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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Frank Oyos

Organization and Title: _____

Mailing Address: ~~5085~~ 55000 Tower Rd 607#

City: Denver State: CO Zip Code: 80249

Daytime Phone (Optional): 303 342 5073

Email (Optional): _____

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☑ Yes ☐ No

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

lease choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ **Preferred** ☑ **Alternative A** ☐ **Alternative B**

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☑ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☑ General Wildlife	☑ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☐ Avian/Birds	☐ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

should be installed on commercial property.

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P.O. Box 33695
Denver, CO 80233

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- Leave this form at the neighborhood meeting
- Email: scarlisle@tristategt.org
- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
  c/o Sarah Carlisle
  P.O. Box 33695
  Denver, Colorado 80233

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: W Gomez Jr.

Organization and Title:

Mailing Address: 13607 Lake Ave

City: Brighton **State:** Colo **Zip Code:** 80603

Daytime Phone (Optional): 6543585

Email (Optional):

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☒ Yes ☐ No

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ **Preferred** ☒ **Alternative A** ☐ **Alternative B**

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☒ General Wildlife	☒ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☒ Avian/Birds	☒ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other: _____		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

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c/o Sarah Carlisle
P.O. Box 33695
Denver, CO 80233

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Please submit your comments by April, 20 2012.

You may submit comments related to the Project by any of the following methods:

- Leave this form at the neighborhood meeting
- Email: scarlisle@tristategt.org
- Mail: Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
  c/o Sarah Carlisle
  P.O. Box 33695
  Denver, Colorado 80233

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Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Mark + Cathy Fiscus

Organization and Title:

Mailing Address: 17850 E. 136th AVE.

City: Brighton **State:** Co. **Zip Code:** 80603

Daytime Phone (Optional): 303-654-1493

Email (Optional): Bimbunnyhaven@q.com

I am intersted in receiving notice about the upcoming public hearings:

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Please fold this form letter style with your contact information facing inward when mailing.

UNITED POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

- [x] **Preferred**
- [x] **Alternative A**
- [x] **Alternative B**

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

- [ ] Land Use - Residential
- [x] Land Use - Other
- [x] General Wildlife
- [x] Visual Quality
- [x] Land Use - Commercial/Retail
- [ ] Transportation
- [x] Avian/Birds
- [x] Recreation
- [ ] None
- [ ] Other: _____

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

SEE ATTATCHED PAGE

There should be no question that the route should be Alternative A, Alternative B at minimum. Most of the land for these routes is vacant field areas and will not be developed for a long time if ever.

We don't understand why you would choose, other than for convenience, as the cost would seem to be the same as the distance is about the same, to put *huge* towering electrical lines through our *residential* area.

Not only will these towers *dwarf* our area, the lines will place the eagles, herons, sandhill cranes, geese and other birds in great danger – *even with* any flight diverters, that you can hardly tell are there – the birds come and go from the cove at the west end of the lake and the structures/lines would be right in their path as they are *sooo* close to the lake on that end!! The lines should be as far away as possible from the lake! I can't imagine losing one of the eagles that have nested here as long as we have been here – 25½ years. What about the Adams County Open Space plans and priorities – trails and preserving nature – which doesn't include huge power lines.

I'm sure THF would be difficult to deal with for easements, but they will also be a huge benefactor of the additional power – not our small residential area. Why should the little guy, the wildlife, our property values and view have to be at risk to benefit the big developer – they are already getting many benefits that we already pay for!

We were told that the current distribution lines would be buried, we don't understand why then these wouldn't be buried at the same time, unless there are plans for expanding added capacity at a later date that we weren't told about.

Please, please, bigger is not always better. Our area doesn't need all this extra power – we haven't been without power for more than a short time the whole time we have lived here. Please put the huge towers and lines over where there are vacant fields and by the commercial and undeveloped areas. We're just a small area that would like to preserve our "nature-al" way of living.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mark & Cathy Fiscus 17850 E. 136th Ave. Brighton

4/24/12

United Power Transmission System Improvement Project
Phase III: Bromley–Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line

Please take a few minutes to provide your comments regarding the **Phase III: Bromley-Prairie Center 115-kV Power Line Project** and return your completed comment form today or mail by **April 20, 2012**

Please choose the route that you are commenting on:

☐ **Preferred** ☐ **Alternative A** ☐ **Alternative B**

Please choose the issues that you are most concerned with for the route you are commenting on:

☐ Land Use - Residential	☐ Land Use - Other	☐ General Wildlife	☐ Visual Quality
☐ Land Use - Commercial/Retail	☐ Transportation	☐ Avian/Birds	☐ Recreation
☐ None	☐ Other:		

Please provide specific comments on the route you chose above or about the project as a whole:

Please see and consider the attached comments submitted to Tri-State.

From Mark & Cathy Tesso
17850 E. 160th Ave.
Brighton CO 80603

Copies To: Adams County Commissioners
City Council, City of Brighton
Mike Bramingham, Tri State (& Sarah Carlisle)
Ron Asche, United Power
The Banner
The Standard Blade

For More Information, Please Contact:

TRI-STATE Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Sarah Carlisle
scarlisle@tristategt.org
303-254-3946

There should be no question that the route should be Alternative A, Alternative B at minimum. Most of the land for these routes is vacant field areas and will not be developed for a long time if ever.

We don't understand why you would choose, other than for convenience, as the cost would seem to be the same as the distance is about the same, to put *huge* towering electrical lines through our *residential* area.

Not only will these towers *dwarf* our area, the lines will place the eagles, herons, sandhill cranes, geese and other birds in great danger – *even with* any flight diverters, that you can hardly tell are there – the birds come and go from the cove at the west end of the lake and the structures/lines would be right in their path as they are *sooo* close to the lake on that end!! The lines should be as far away as possible from the lake! I can't imagine losing one of the eagles that have nested here as long as we have been here – 25½ years. What about the Adams County Open Space plans and priorities – trails and preserving nature – which doesn't include huge power lines.

I'm sure THF would be difficult to deal with for easements, but they will also be a huge benefactor of the additional power – not our small residential area. Why should the little guy, the wildlife, our property values and view have to be at risk to benefit the big developer – they are already getting many benefits that we already pay for!

We were told that the current distribution lines would be buried, we don't understand why then these wouldn't be buried at the same time, unless there are plans for expanding added capacity at a later date that we weren't told about.

Please, please, bigger is not always better. Our area doesn't need all this extra power – we haven't been without power for more than a short time the whole time we have lived here. Please put the huge towers and lines over where there are vacant fields and by the commercial and undeveloped areas. We're just a small area that would like to preserve our "nature-al" way of living.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mark & Cathy Fisaus 17850 E. 136th Ave. Brighton, Co. 80603

April 19, 2012

Sarah Carlisle
Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association Inc.
P.O. Box 33695
Denver, CO 80233

Dear Ms. Carllisle:

The comments below are made on behalf of the Audubon Society of Greater Denver (ASGD), a grassroots conservation organization with approximately 3,000 members in the Denver metro area. Our Society, in collaboration with the National Audubon Society, pushed successfully for the creation of Barr Lake State Park in the mid-1970's, and over the years we have run numerous field trips to the Park. We also worked with the Denver Mayor's office, Brighton, and State personnel on the Barr Lake Buffer Zone Plan in the 1980's. More recently, National Audubon in Colorado has designated Barr Lake State Park as an Important Bird Area, which means that the Park has met certain criteria for importance to migrating, breeding, or over-wintering bird species.

Tri-State's proposal to build a major powerline along I-76 has recently come to our attention. We strongly support the position of Colorado Parks and Wildlife that the line should run on the west side of I-76, in an already-developed area, rather than on the east side. Our reasons are as follows:

- A line on the east side, on the boundary of the State Park, would significantly impact the nature of the Park, reducing its integrity and identity as a primarily-natural area. The hikers, canoers, boaters, fishermen, photographers, hunters and wildlife watchers who now use the park average over 100,000 per year, and a major power line on its boundary would change their perceptions and enjoyment of the park radically. We believe that the contribution that visitors make to the local economy would be jeopardized by such a change. Certainly Audubon's field trip planners would take pause at such development on the park boundary.

- Powerlines are known to contribute to avian death tolls each year due to collisions between flying birds and the transmission lines. Putting a power line so close to a major bird concentration area like Barr Lake State Park could cause significant injury and death to ducks, geese and other species that form large flocks on the lake. It's just asking for trouble with these species, which are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. We also have concerns about electrocution of raptors, although this problem can be readily solved if the power line owner takes measures to eliminate that possibility. We would hope that Tri-State has taken such concerns into account.

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- Bald eagles roost in the cottonwoods on the west side of Barr Lake in the winter, and Audubon members have counted 45 – 60 birds at one time in January and February. There has been an active bald eagle nest on the south end of the lake since 1986; the nesting pairs have produced over 40 eaglets from this location. Both the roost and the nest, as well as the birds themselves, are protected by the federal Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. In addition, the State of Colorado has guidelines for buffers around eagle nests. Both federal and state regulations and guidelines would put a severe restriction on the timing of construction of the power line along the west side of the Park.

- The west side of the park is also the site of heron and cormorant rookeries. These are a relatively scarce resource on the front range and could be significantly impacted by a powerline close by.

- We feel that preservation of the integrity and resources of Barr Lake State Park outweighs the problems presented by gas lines and development on the west side of I-76. We respectfully urge Tri-State to work out such problems, to create a win-win situation for the Park and local residents on the one hand, and power users on the other.

State Parks like Barr Lake are highly important to the residents of the Front Range; they are accessible, affordable, and provide a place for families to experience the natural world out-of-doors. We feel that the integrity of all State Parks should be zealously guarded and protected, and for this reason we strongly support the location of the proposed powerline west of I-76, in the area where industrial and urban development is currently concentrated. We sincerely hope that Tri-State will choose to support the park and the adjacent communiti es by opting for the western powerline route.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Pauline P. Reetz

Pauline P. Reetz
Conservation Chairman
Audubon Society of Greater Denver
9308 S. Wadsworth Blvd.
Littleton, CO 80128

By email and hard copy

Cc: Michelle Seubert, Barr Lake State Park
Jeff Thompson, Colorado Parks and Wildlife