



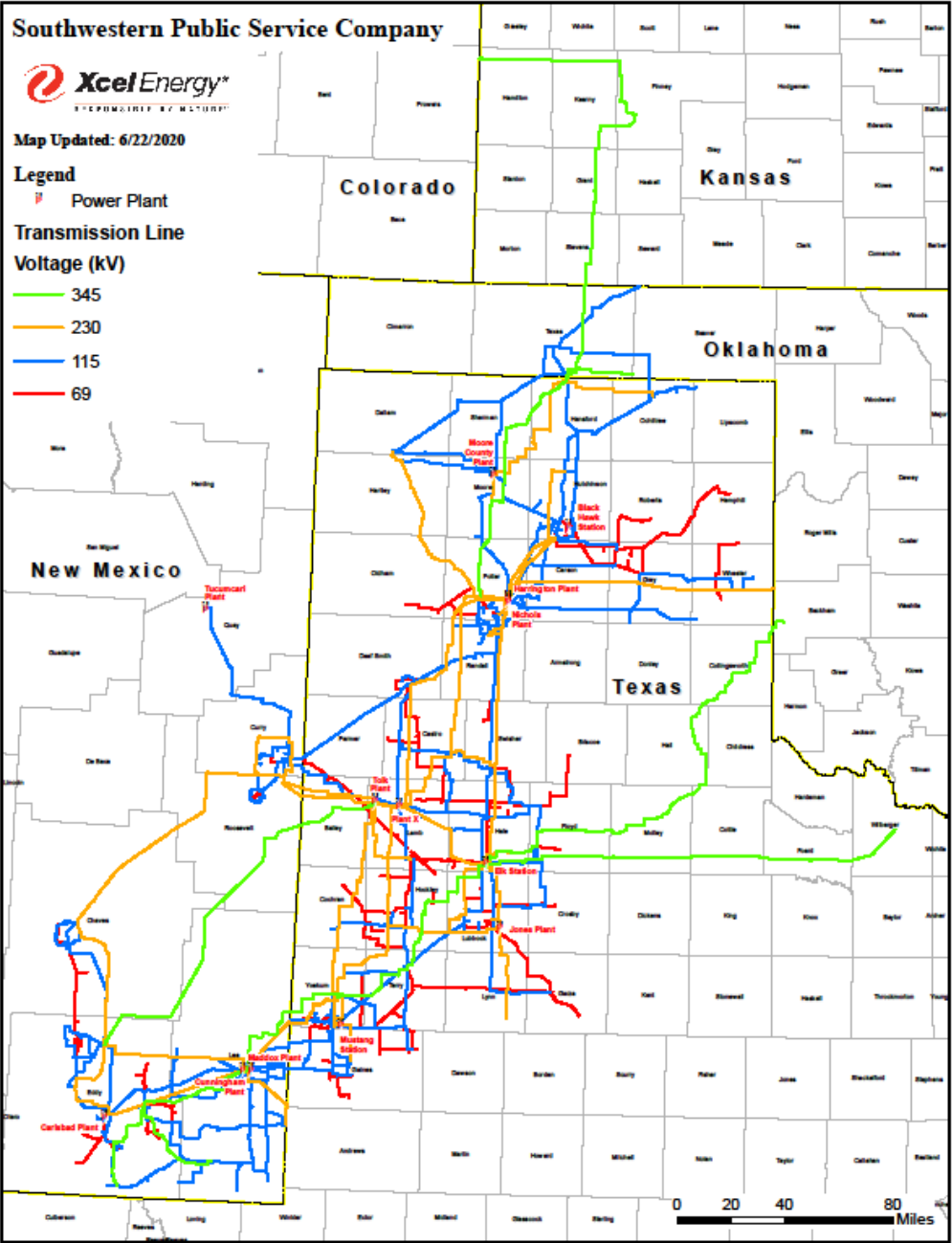
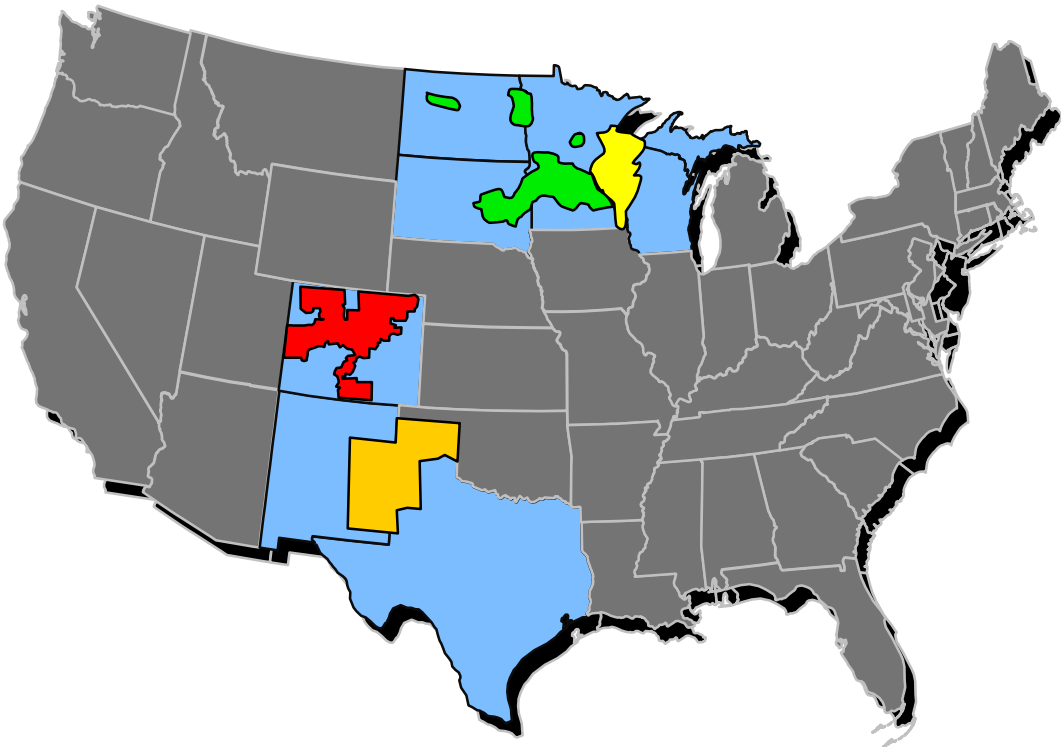
# **XCEL ENERGY-TX AND NM (SPS) SUB-REGIONAL TRANSMISSION PLANNING MEETING**

**Jarred Cooley – Manager, Transmission Planning**

October 5, 2020

# System Maps

## Xcel Energy



# Disclaimer

- All in-service dates (ISDs) of Active or Future projects are proposed and subject to change
- All project scopes have the possibility of changing based on new / evolving information
- These are projects from a Planning perspective as required from a reliability, load or generation interconnection, asset renewal, economic, etc.
- Presentation is for informational purposes and is not inclusive of every project being completed by Xcel Energy

# TRANSMISSION SYSTEM ADDITIONS

2019 – Sept 2020





# Potash Junction to Livingston Ridge (Rebuild)

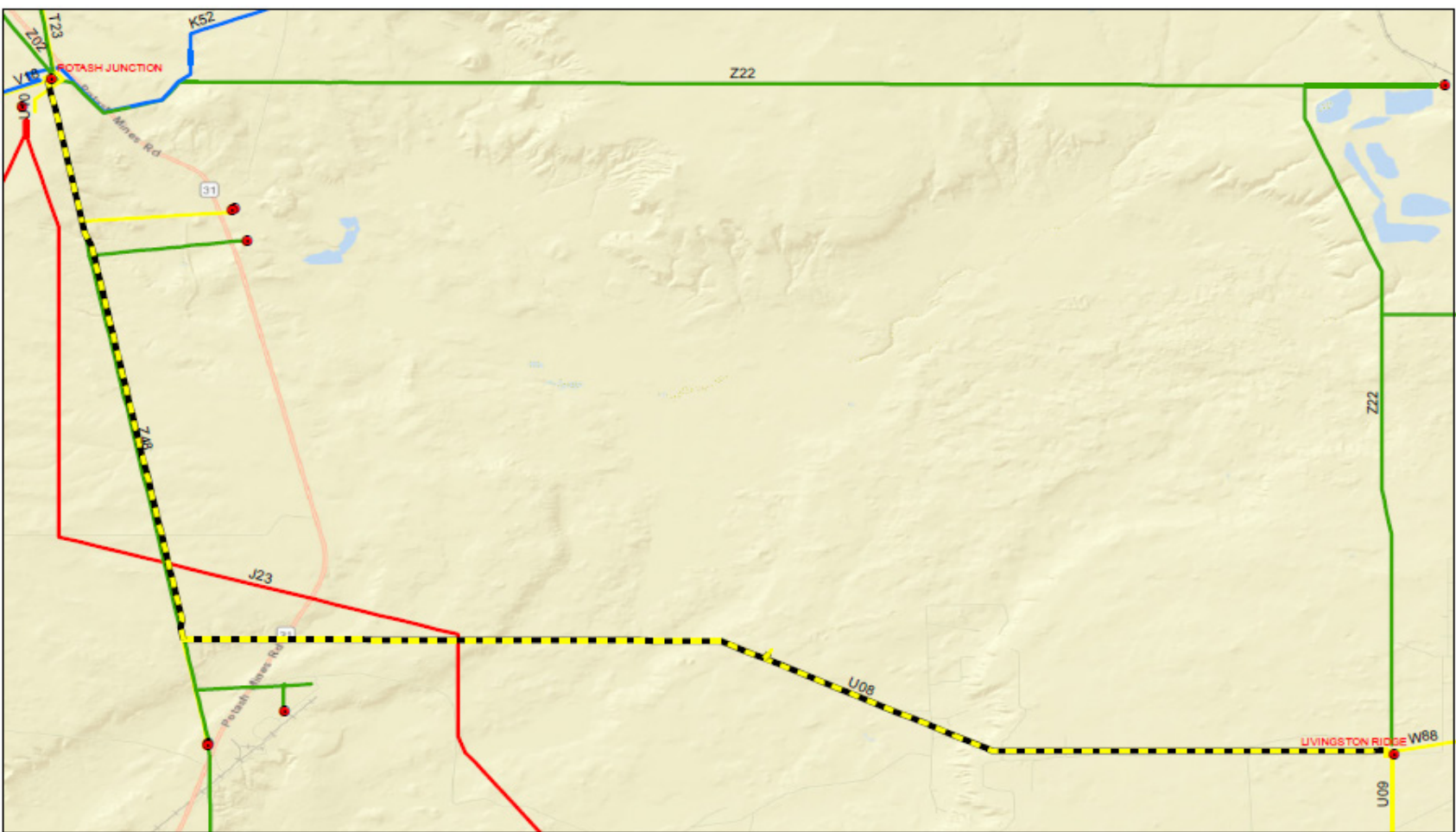
Voltage: 115 kV

ISD: March 2019

NTC: Yes

Description: Rebuilt the existing line (~15 miles long) to a higher rated conductor

Need: Reliability



# Mustang to Shell CO2 (New)

Voltage: 115 kV

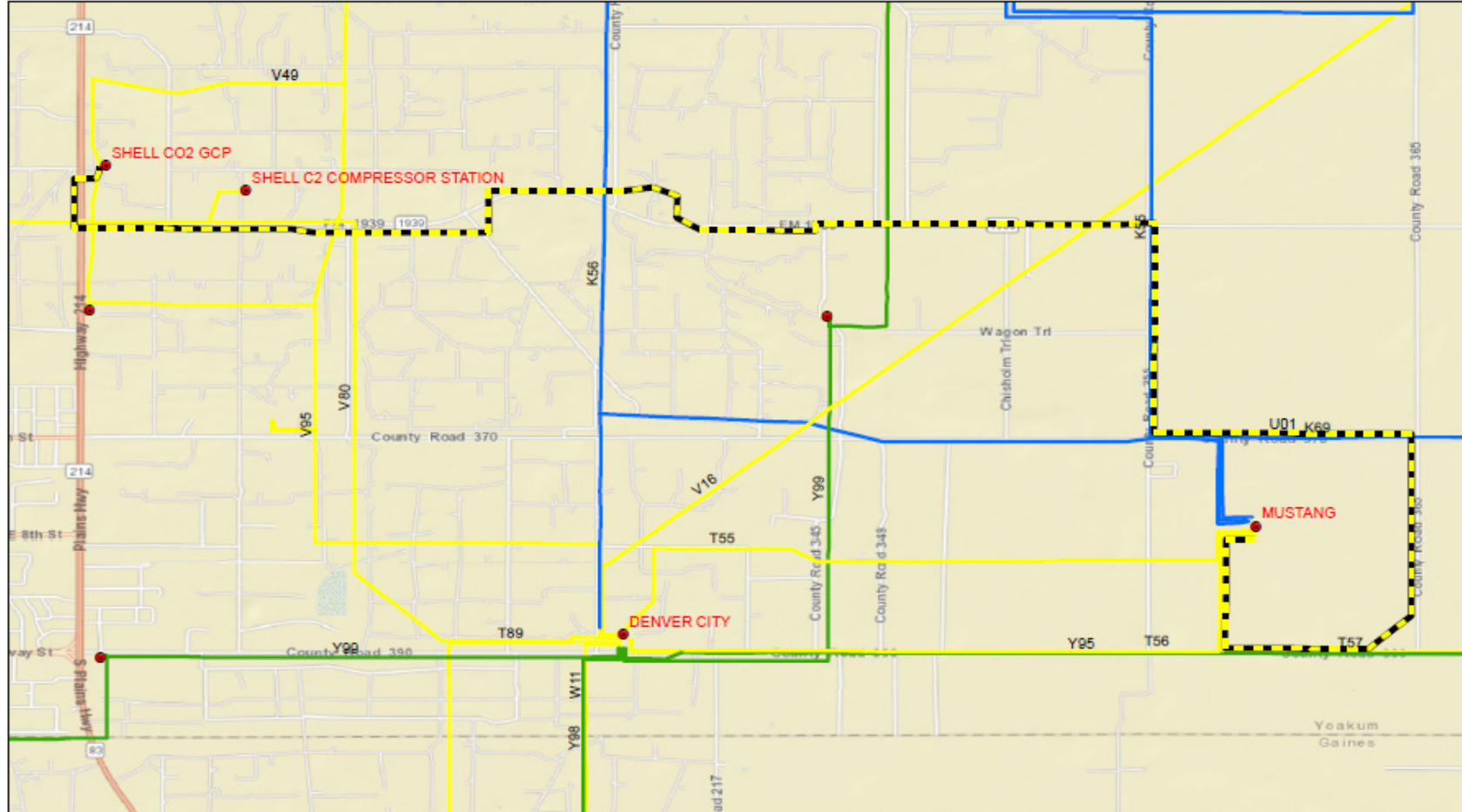
ISD: April 2019

NTC: Yes

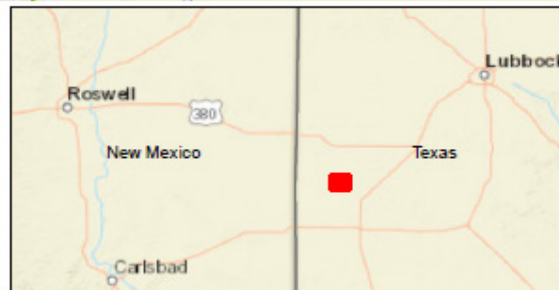
CCN: Yes

Description: Built a new line (~9 miles long). Expanded both substations

Need: Reliability



## SPS Transmission Project

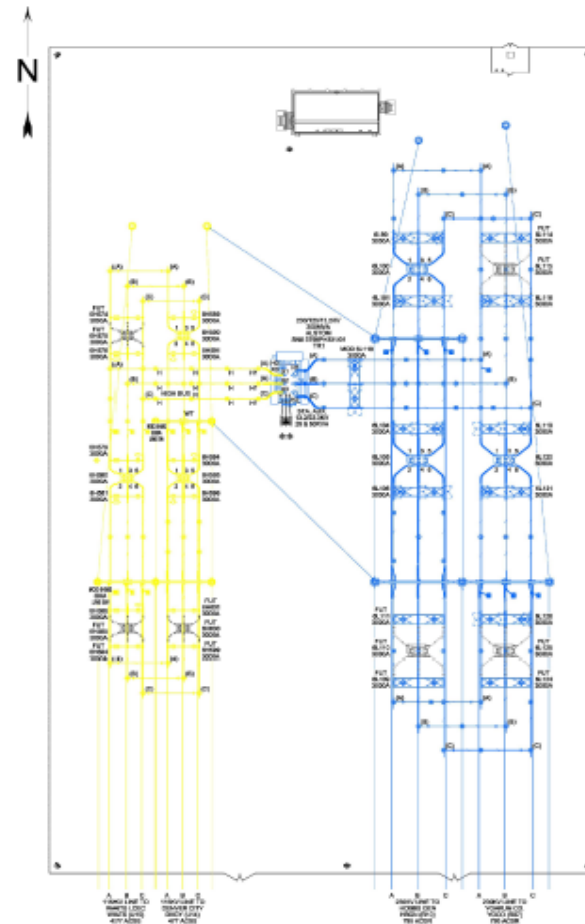
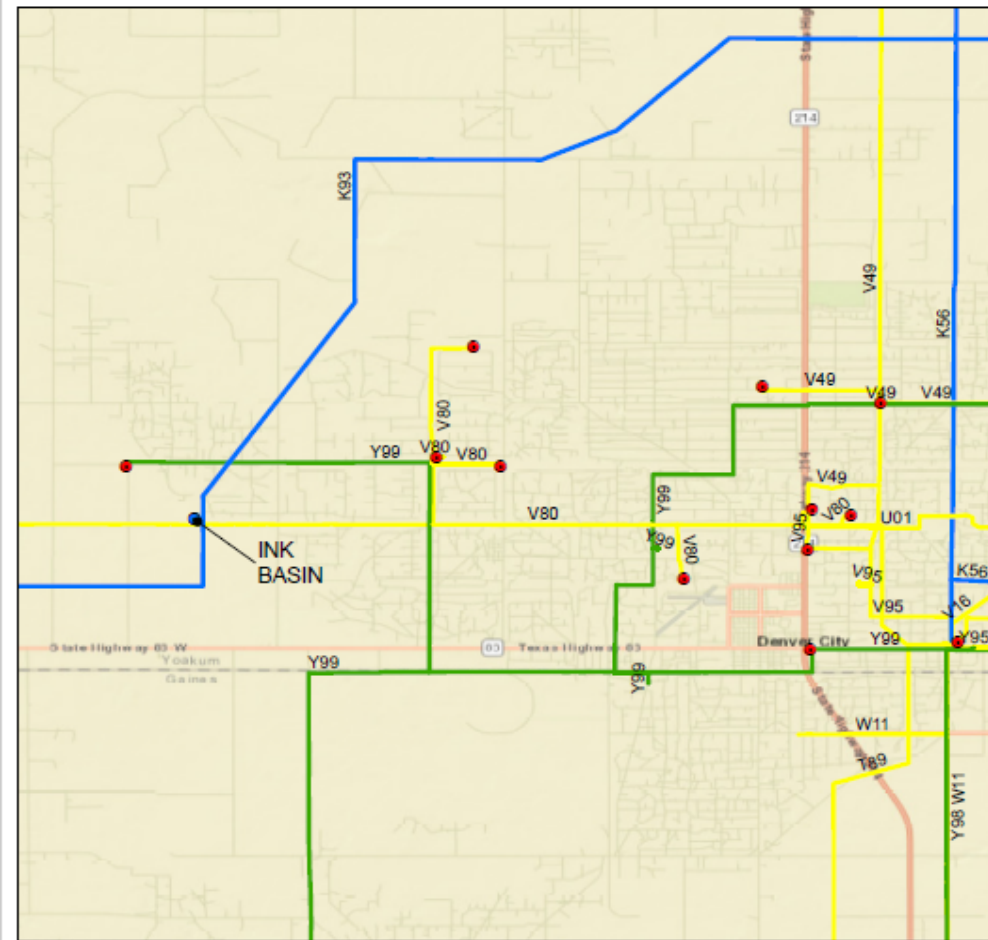


## Mustang to Shell CO2 115kV (New)

0 0.5 1 Miles



## Ink Basin Substation (New)



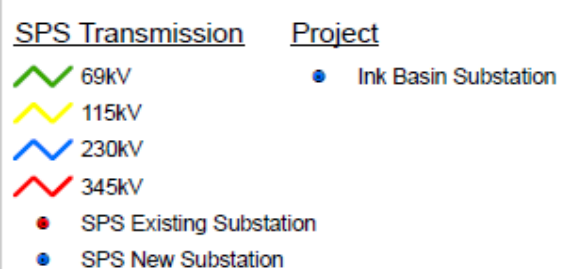
Voltage: 230 kV and 115 kV

ISD: June 2019

NTC: Yes

Description: Tapped Tuco – Yoakum 230 kV line and installed a 230/115 kV transformer

## Need: Reliability



**Ink Basin Substation  
(New)**





# Artesia Country Club 115 kV Substation (Conversion)

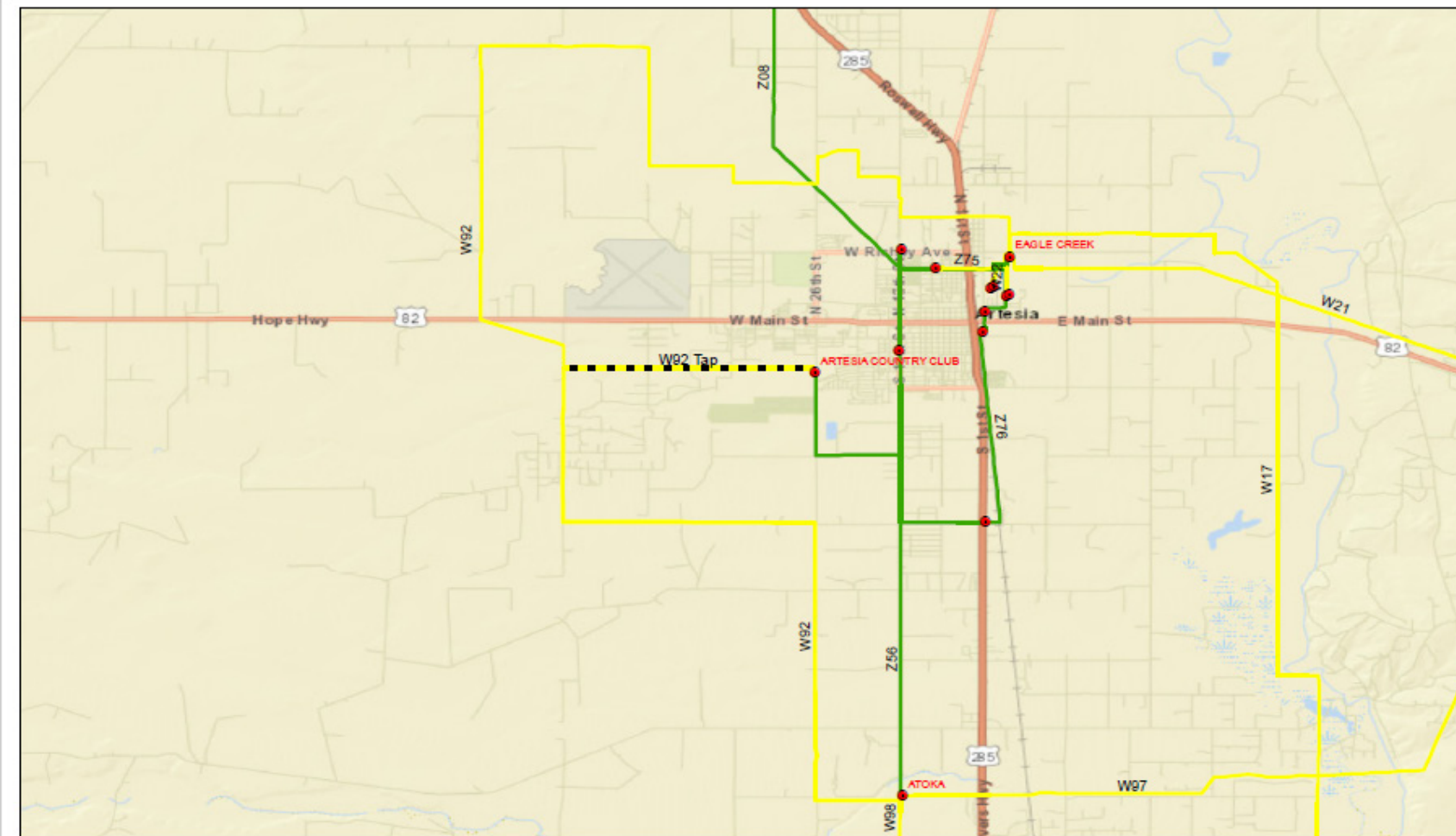
Voltage: 115 kV

ISD: November 2019

NTC: Yes

Description: Converted existing 69 kV substation to 115 kV, built new radial 115 kV line to serve substation

Need: Reliability

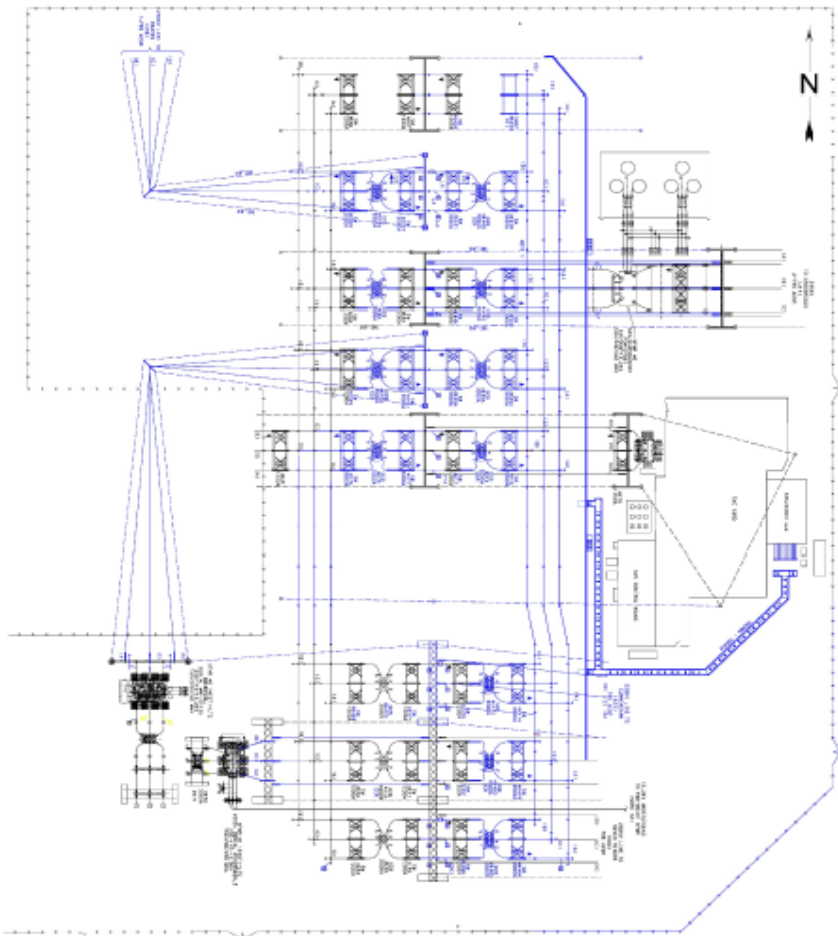
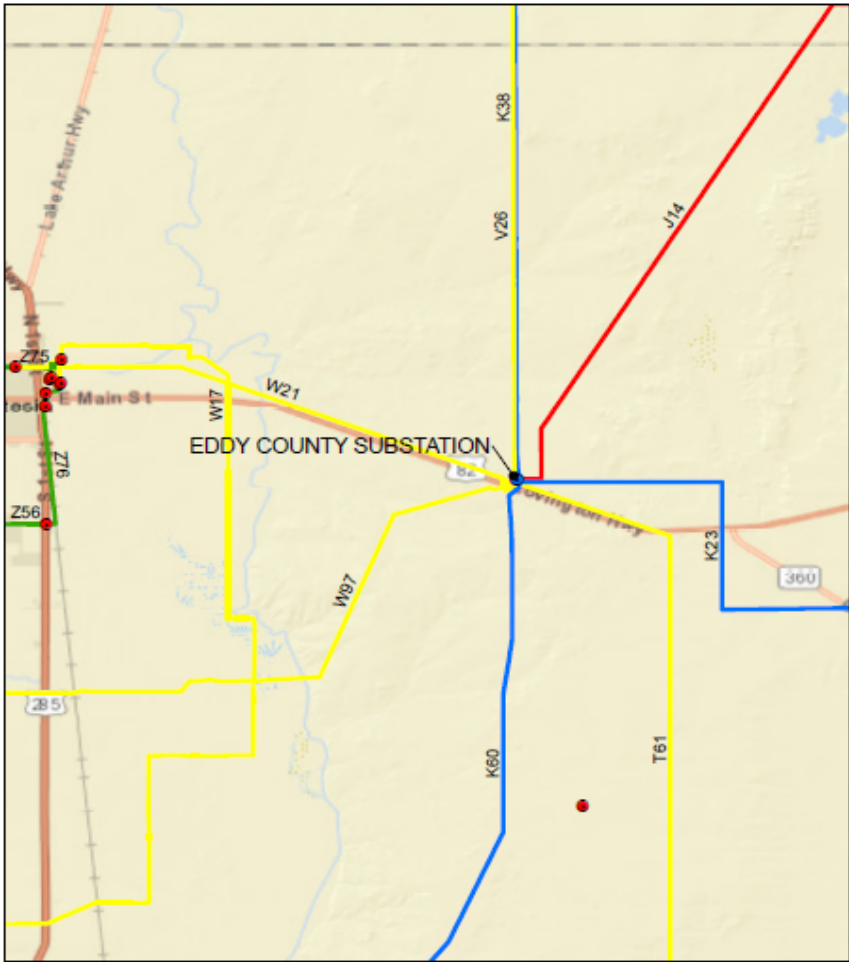


Artesia Country Club 115kV Substation (Conversion)

0 2 4 Miles



# Eddy County Substation (Conversion)



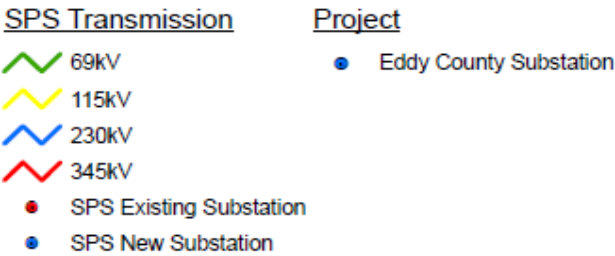
Voltage: 230 kV

ISD: December 2019

NTC: Yes

Description: Converted Eddy Co 230 kV bus from straight bus to a double bus – double breaker

Need: Reliability



**Eddy County Substation  
(230kV Conversion)**



# North Loving to Loving South (Conversion)

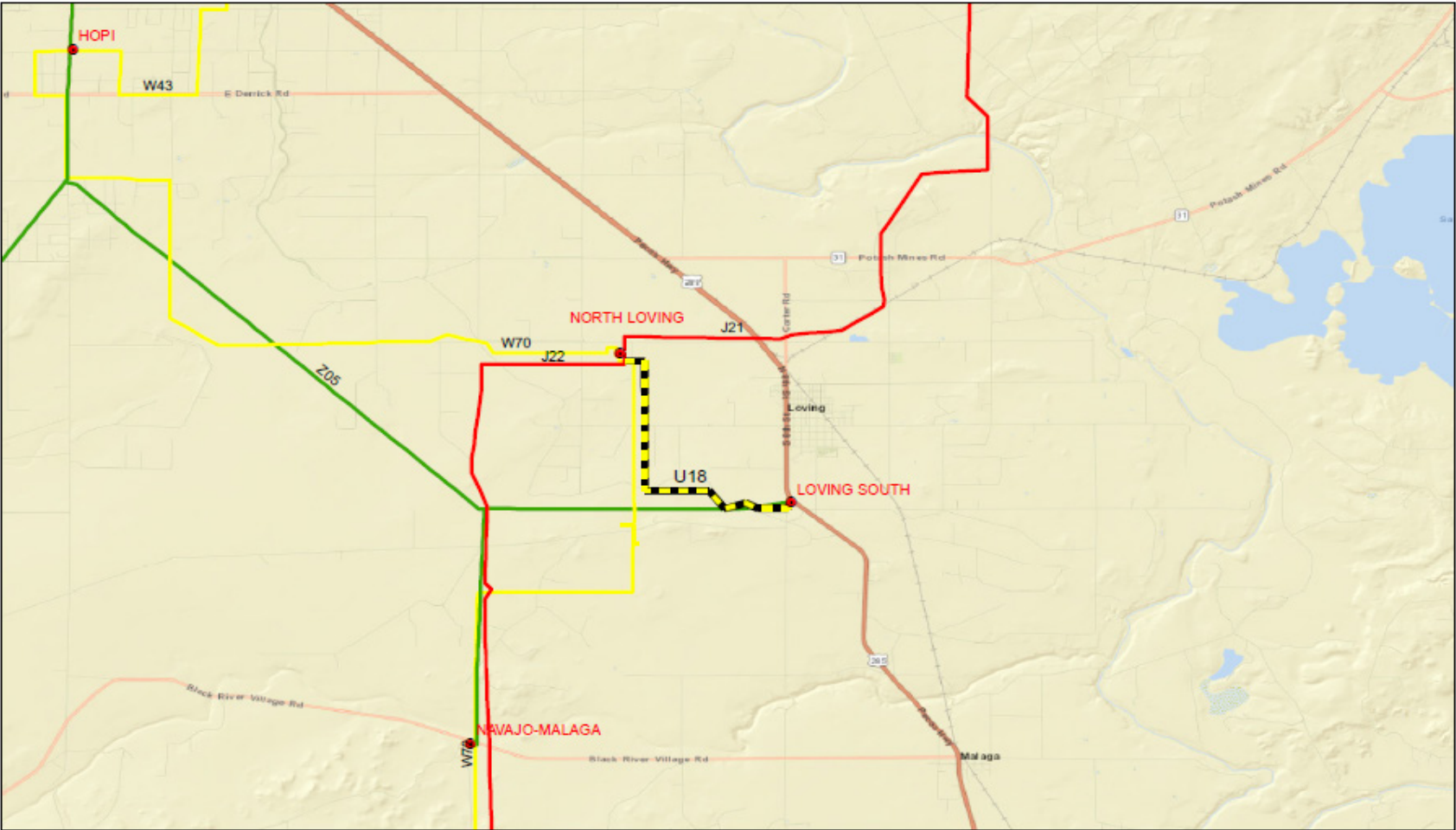
Voltage: 115 kV

ISD: December 2019

NTC: Yes

Description: Converted existing 69 kV Loving South substation to 115 kV, built new radial 115 kV line (~4 miles long) to serve substation. Expanded North Loving substation

Need: Reliability





# Canyon East Tap to Arrowhead to Randall Co (Rebuild)

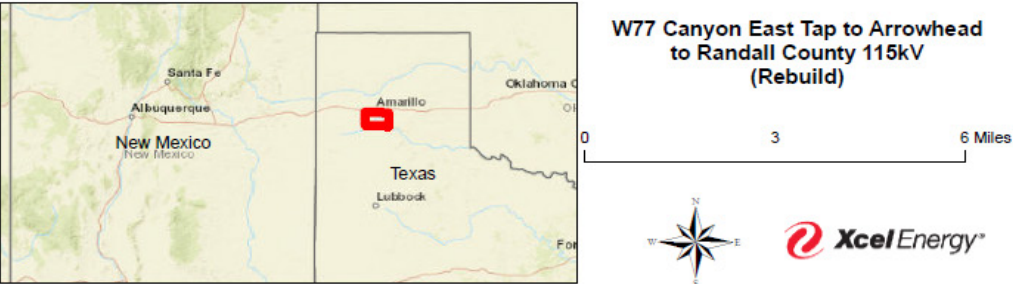
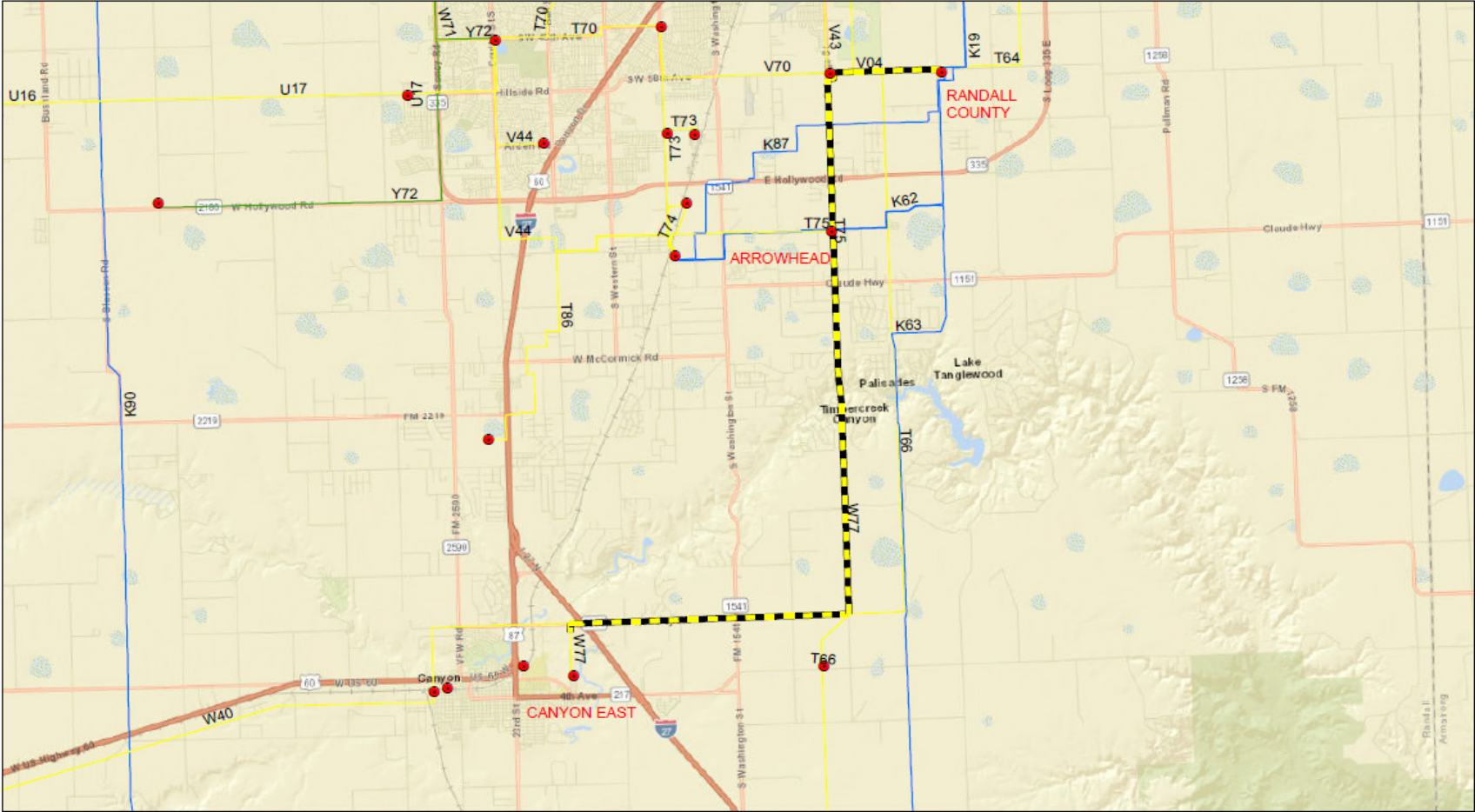
Voltage: 115 kV

ISD: April 2020

NTC: Yes

Description: Rebuilt existing line (~16 miles long) to a higher rated conductor

Need: Reliability



# Tuco to Yoakum County to Hobbs Generation (New)

Voltage: 345 kV

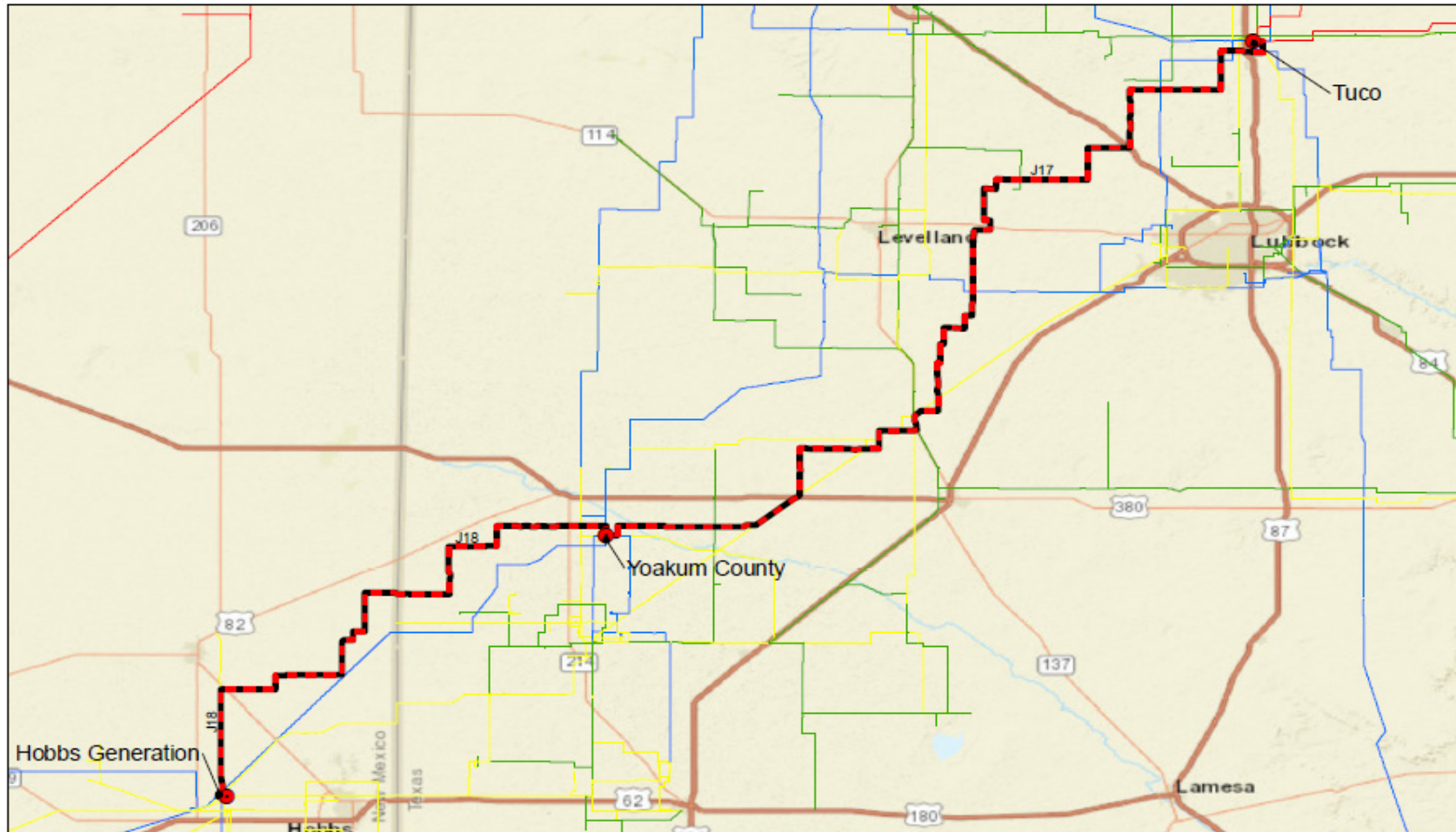
ISD: June 2020

NTC: Yes

CCN: Yes

Description: Built a new 345 kV line (~160 miles long), substation expansions at Tuco and Hobbs. Built a 345 kV yard and included transformers at Yoakum Co

Need: Reliability



SPS Transmission

69kV  
115kV  
230kV  
345kV

SPS Existing Substation  
SPS New Substation

Project

J17 & J18 Tuco-Hobbs 345kV



Tuco to Yoakum to Hobbs 345kV  
(New)

0 10 20 Miles





# Red Bluff – near Phantom (Rebuild)

Voltage: 115 kV

ISD: June 2020

NTC: No

Description: Rebuilt existing line (~8 miles long) to a higher rated conductor

Need: Load Growth / Reliability

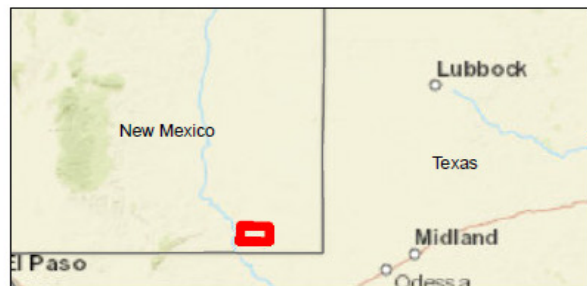


## SPS Transmission

- 69kV
- 115kV
- 230kV
- 345kV
- SPS Existing Substation
- SPS New Substation

## Project

- W39 Red Bluff to Str. 88 115kV



## W39 Red Bluff to Str. 88 115kV (Rebuild)

0 2 4 Miles



# TRANSMISSION SYSTEM ADDITIONS

**Active and Future**



# Amarillo Distribution Additions (New)

Voltage: 115 kV

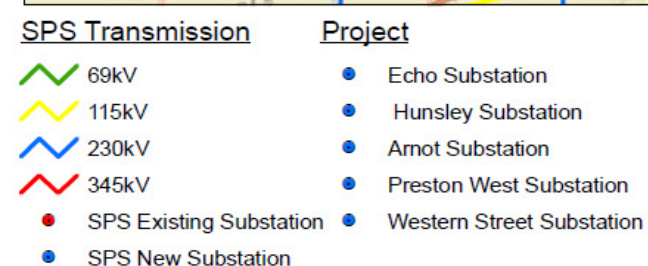
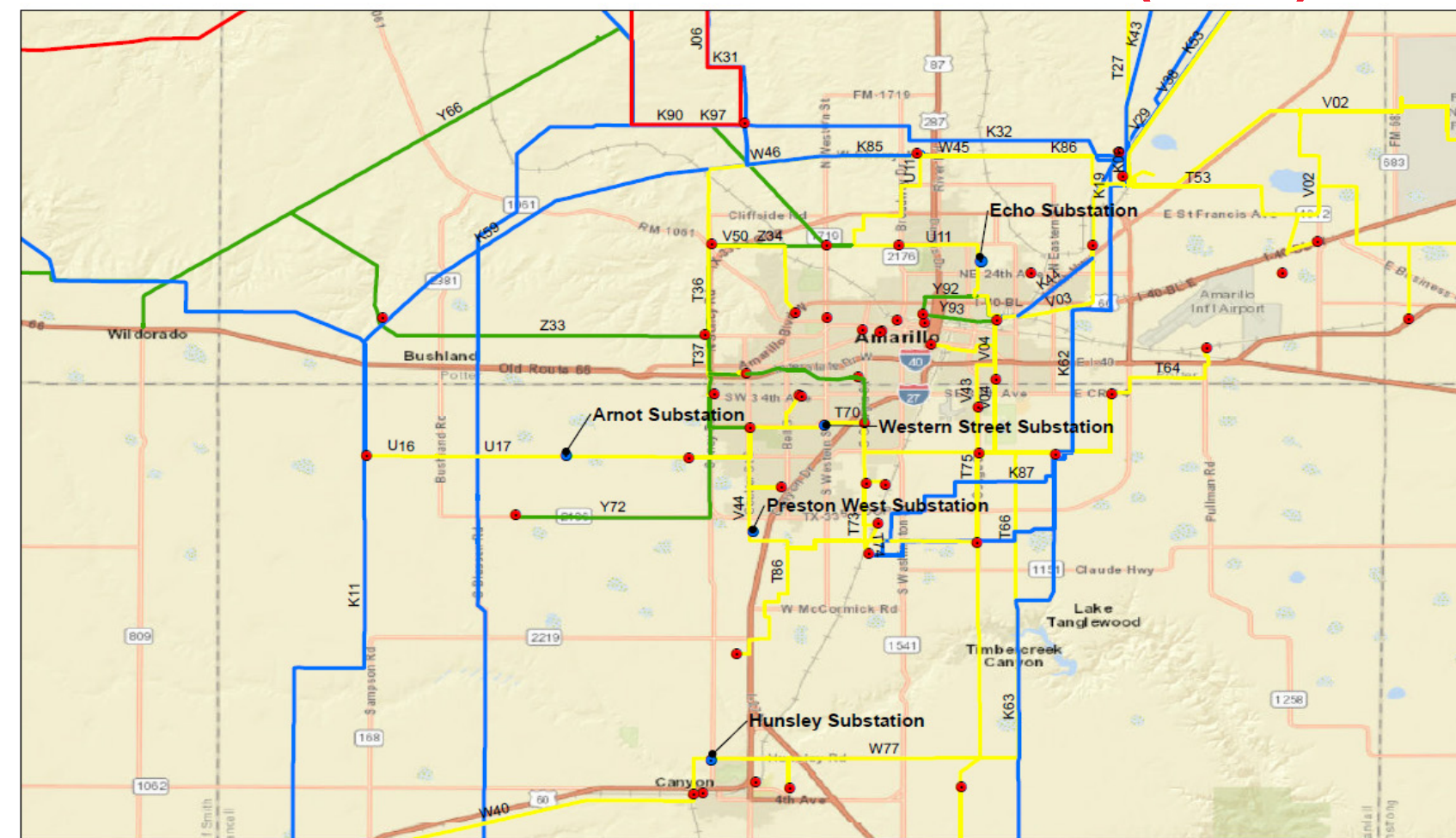
ISD: see below

NTC: No

Description: 5 new SPS  
Distribution substations

- Western Street (May 2020)
- Hunsley (December 2020)
- Arnot (May 2022)
- Preston West (Dec 2022)
- Echo (April 2023)

Need: Distribution driven





# SE New Mexico Distribution Additions (New)

Voltage: 115 kV

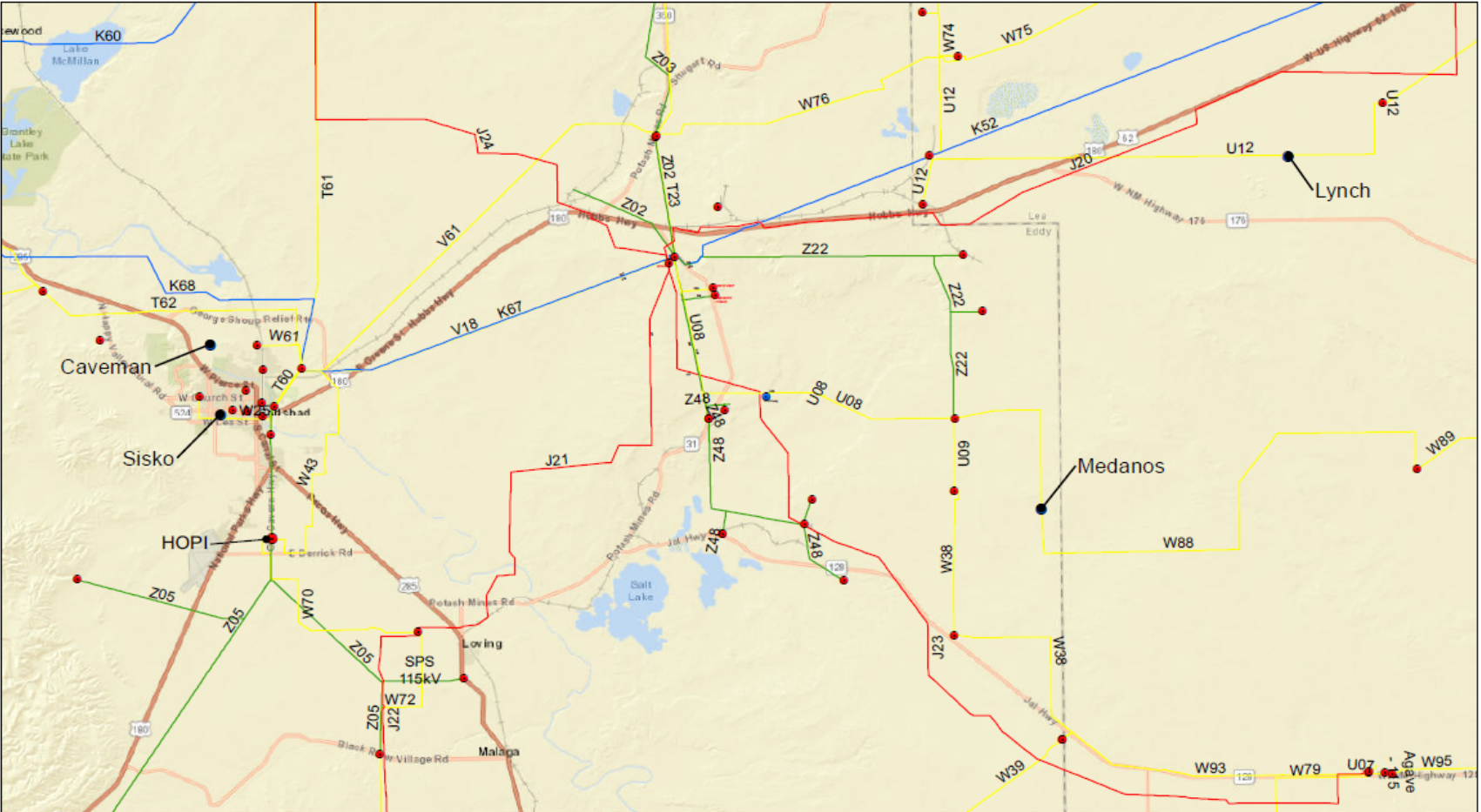
ISD: see below

NTC: No

Description: 4 new SPS substations

- Medanos (October 2020)
- Sisko (April 2021)
- Lynch (May 2021)
- Caveman (May 2022)

Need: Distribution Driven



SPS Transmission	Project
<span style="color: green;">—</span> 69kV	<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Sisko Substation
<span style="color: yellow;">—</span> 115kV	<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Medanos Substation
<span style="color: blue;">—</span> 230kV	<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Lynch Substation
<span style="color: red;">—</span> 345kV	<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Caveman Substation
<span style="color: red;">●</span> SPS Existing Substation	
<span style="color: blue;">●</span> SPS New Substation	



SE New Mexico Distribution Additions (New)



# Loving South to Malaga Bend to Phantom (New)

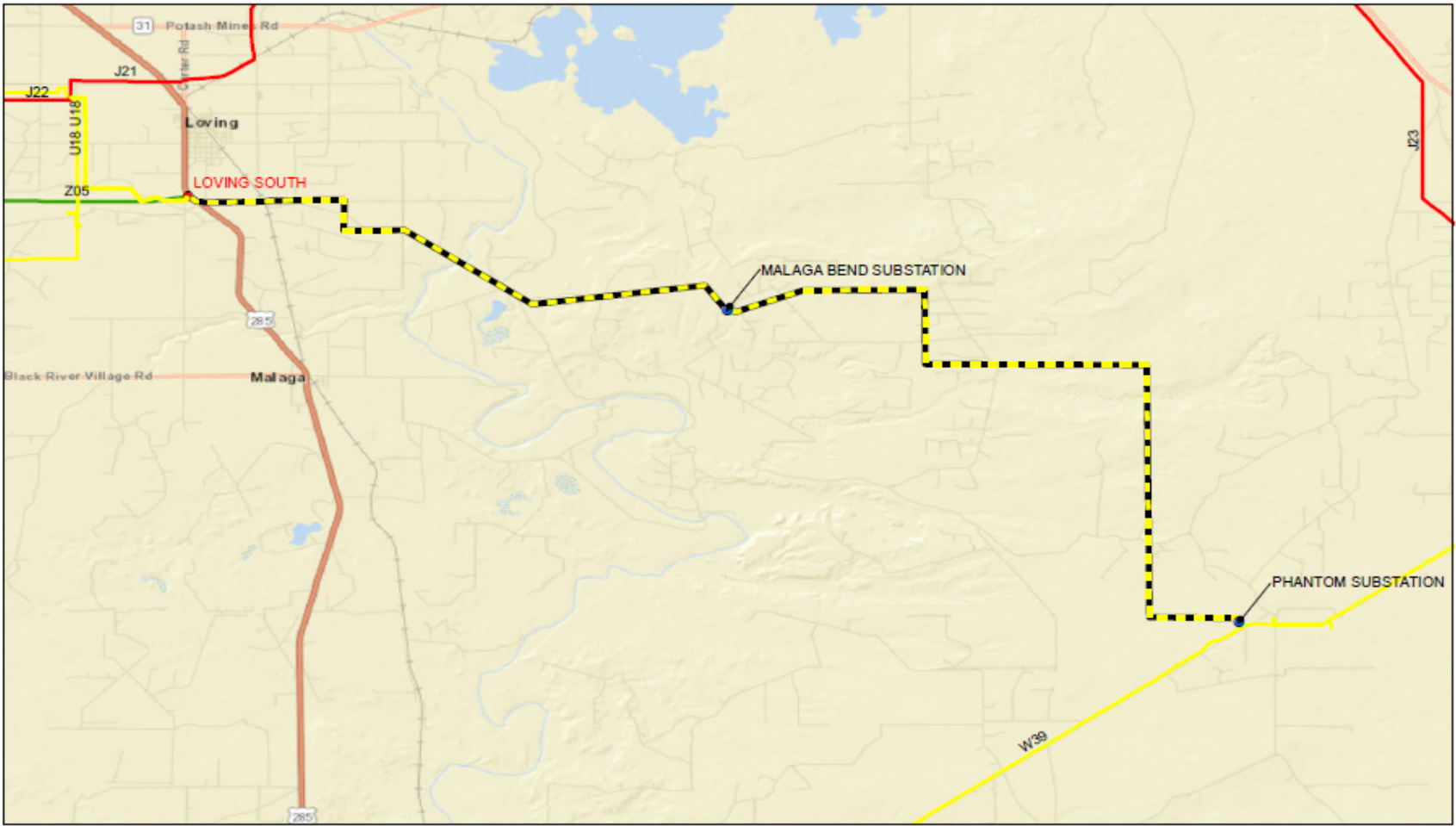
Voltage: 115 kV

ISD: November 2020

NTC: No

Description: Build a new 115 kV line (~21 miles long) from Loving South to the new Malaga Bend Dist. sub to the new 115 kV Phantom substation. Installing 2 Dist. transformers at Malaga Bend

Need: Load Growth / Reliability

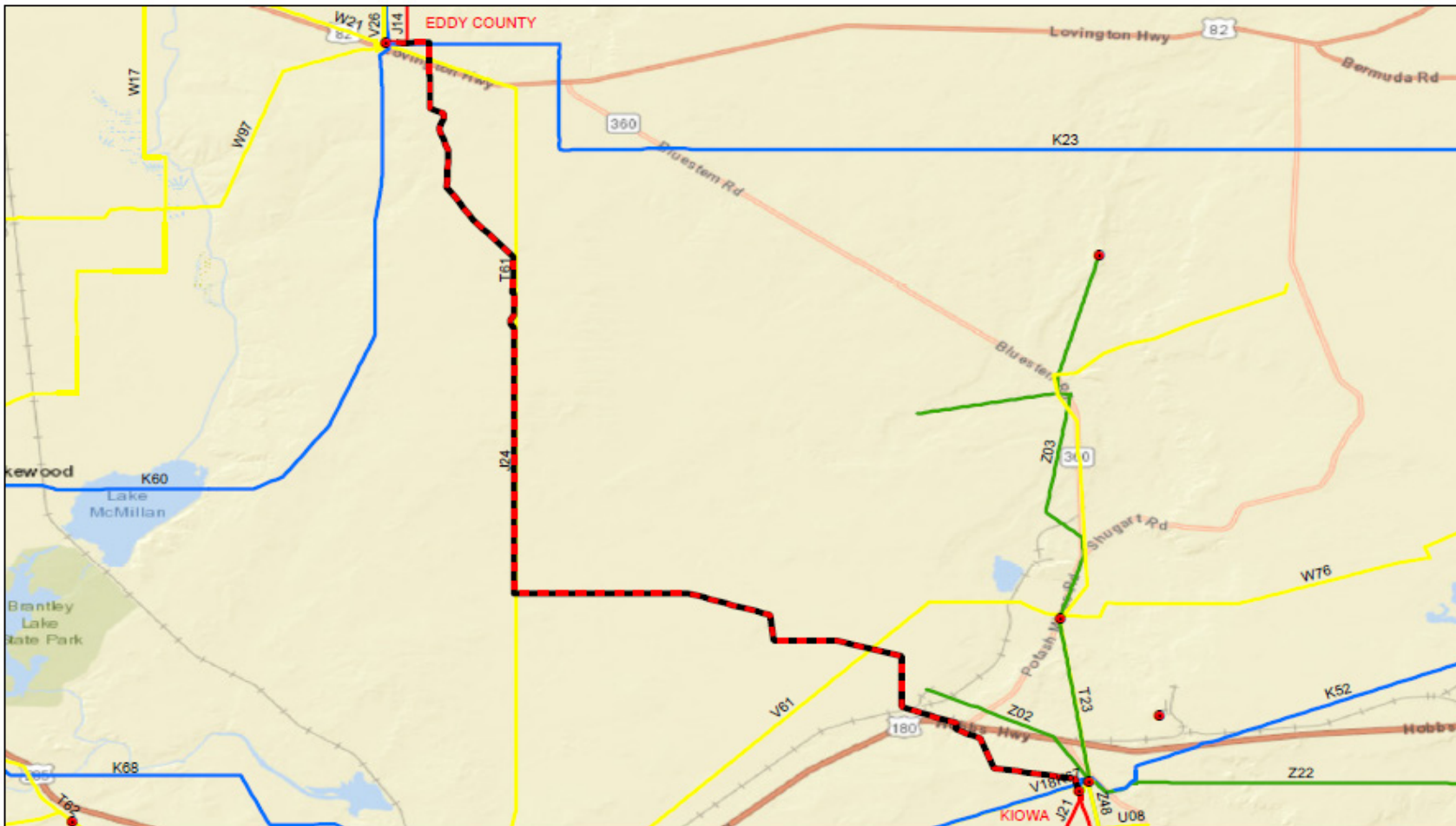


SPS Transmission	Project
69kV	Loving South-Malaga Bend 115kV
115kV	Malaga Bend-Phantom 115kV
230kV	Malaga Bend Substation
345kV	Phantom Substation
SPS Existing Substation	
SPS New Substation	





## Eddy to Kiowa (New)



Voltage: 345 kV

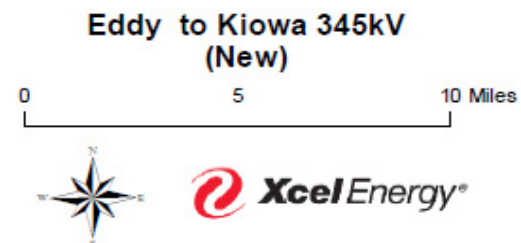
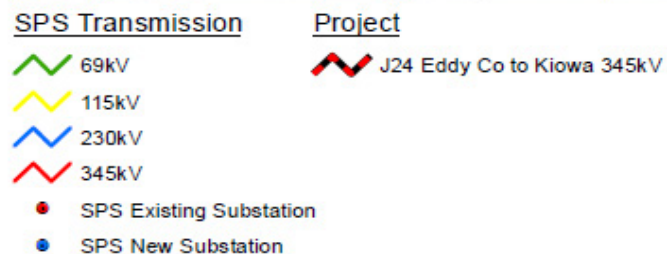
ISD: November 2020

NTC: Yes

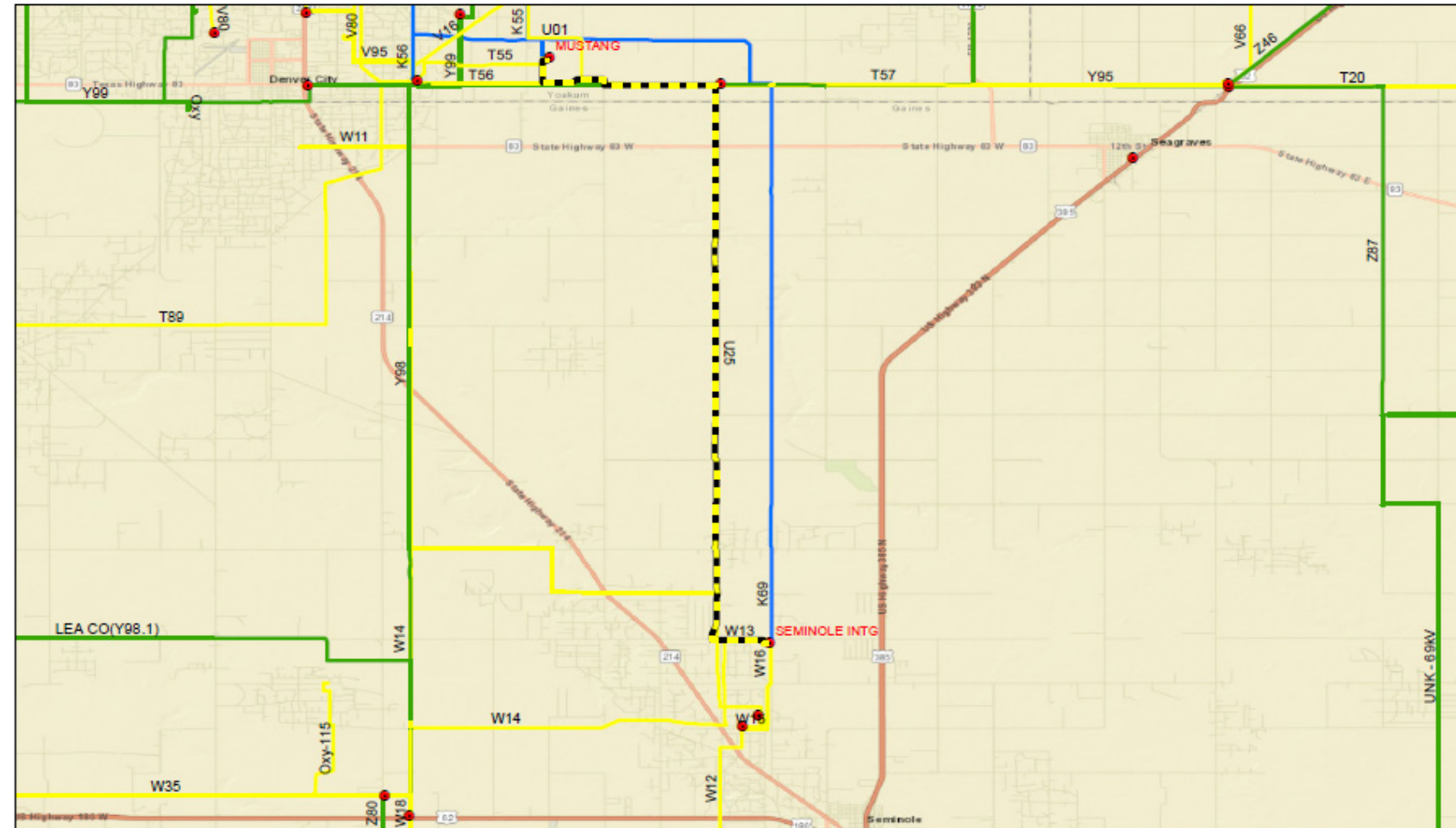
CCN: Yes

Description: Build a new 345 kV line (~34 miles long), expand substations at both ends

## Need: Load Growth/Reliability



## Mustang to Seminole (New)



Voltage: 115 kV

ISD: December 2020

NTC: Yes

CCN: Yes

Description: Build a new line (~20 miles long), substation expansion at both ends

## Need: Reliability



Mustang to Seminole 115kV  
(New)





# Rolling Hills to Northwest Interchange (Rebuild)

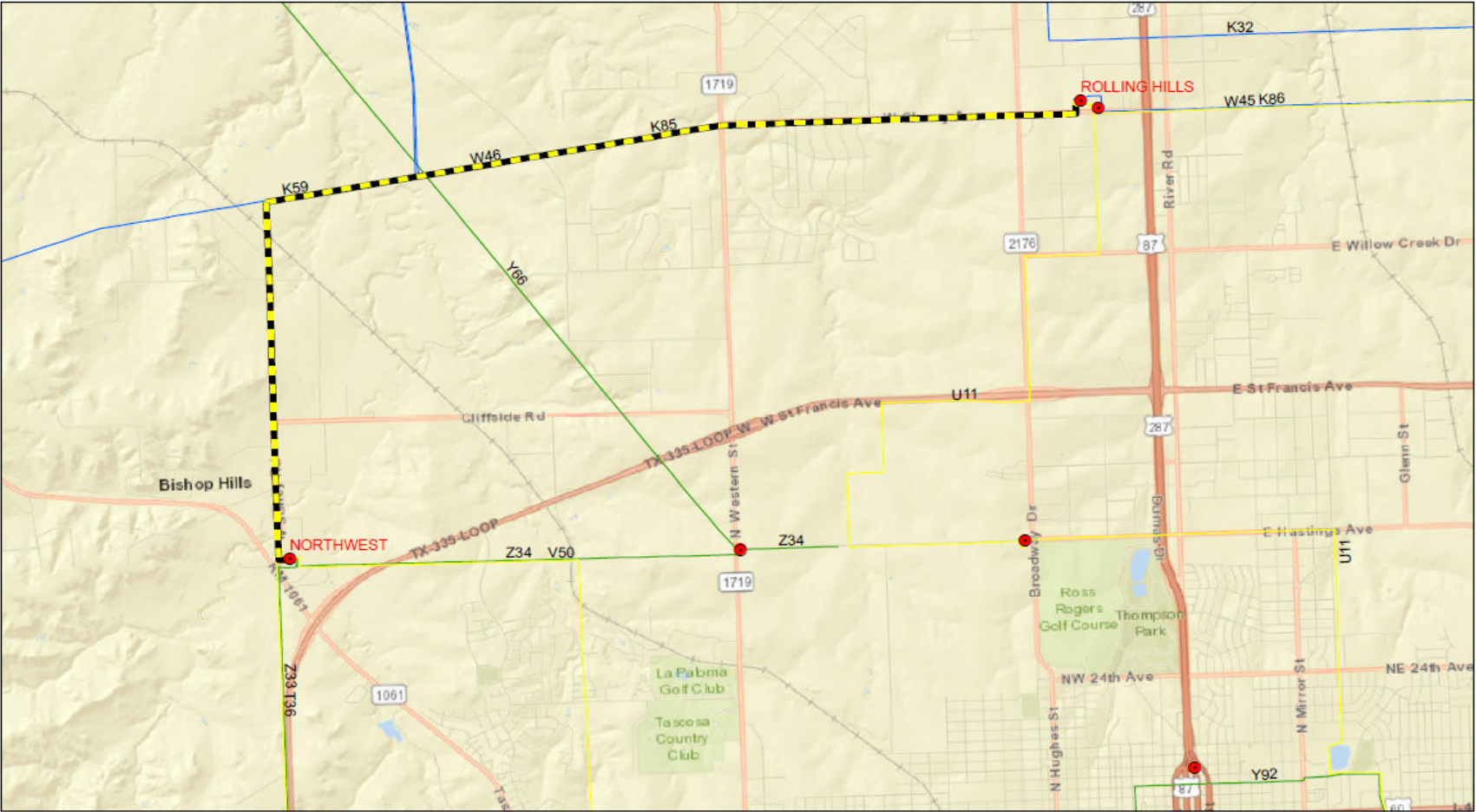
Voltage: 115 kV

ISD: March 2021

NTC: Yes

Description: Rebuild existing line (~8.3 miles long) to higher rated conductor

Need: Reliability



## SPS Transmission Project

- 69kV
- 115kV
- 230kV
- 345kV
- SPS Existing Substation
- SPS New Substation
- W46 Rolling Hills to Northwest Intg. 115kV



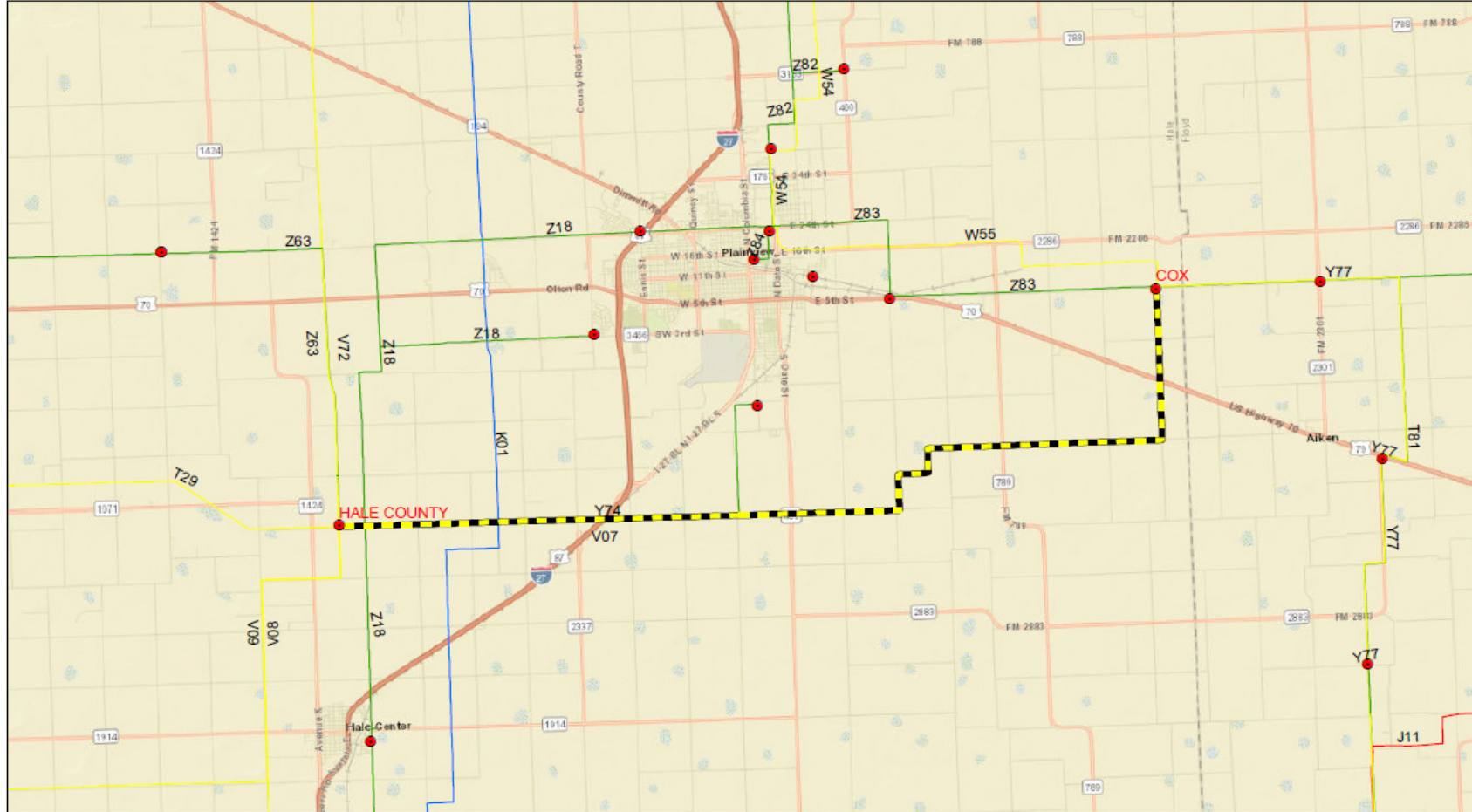
W39 Rolling Hills to Northwest Intg. 115kV (Rebuild)

0 1 2 Miles





# Hale County to Cox (Rebuild)



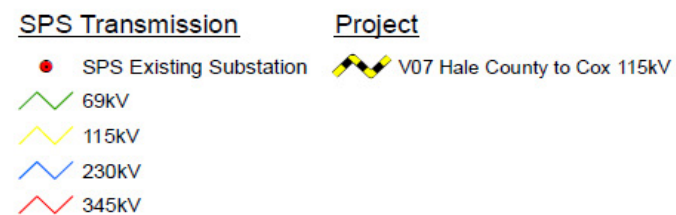
Voltage: 115 kV

ISD: April 2021

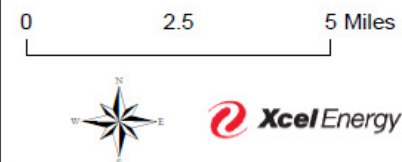
NTC: Yes

Description: Rebuild existing line (~20 miles long) to a higher rated conductor

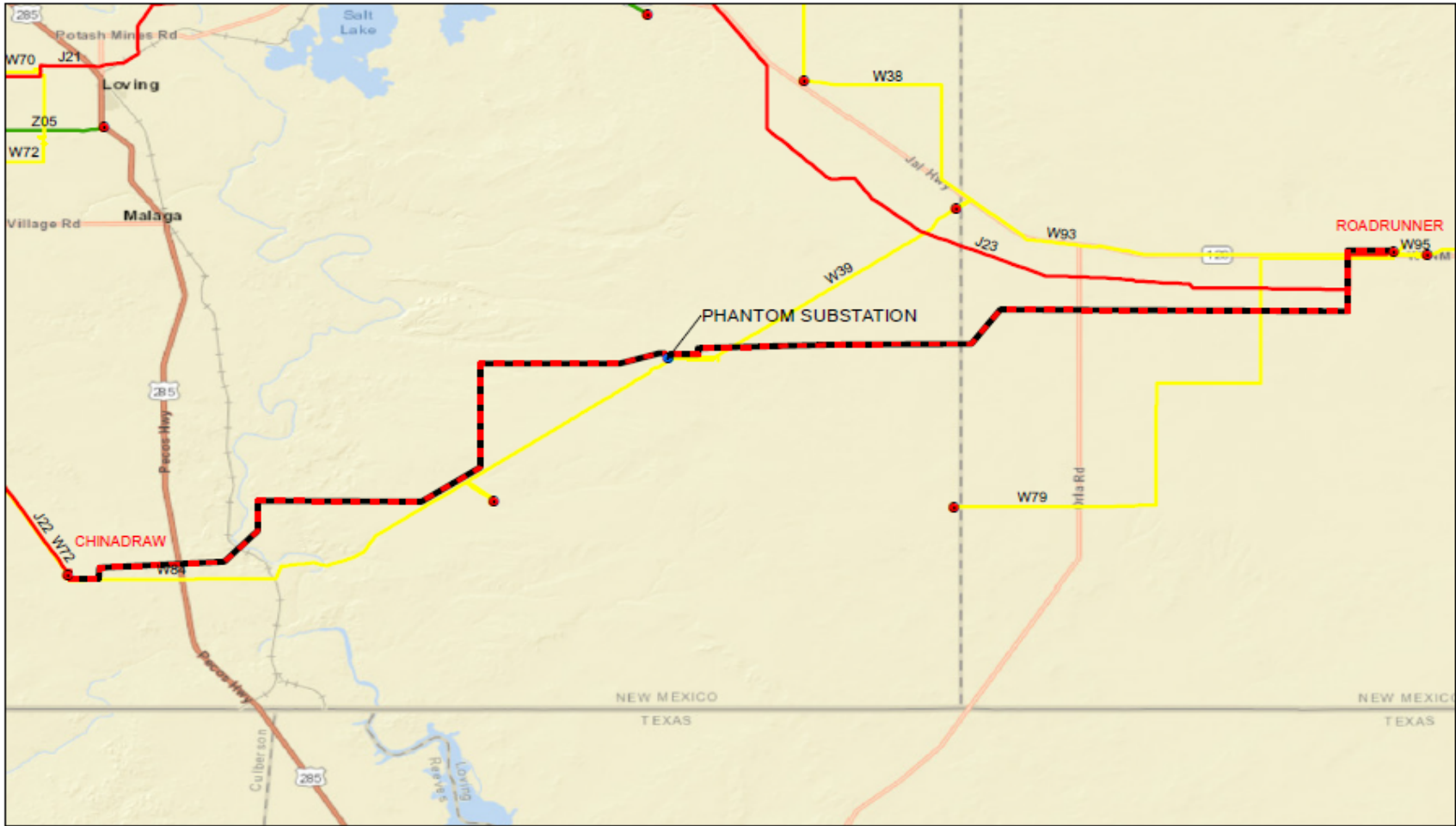
## Need: Reliability



**V07 Hale County to Cox115kV  
(Rebuild)**



# China Draw to Phantom to Roadrunner (New)



Voltage: 345 kV

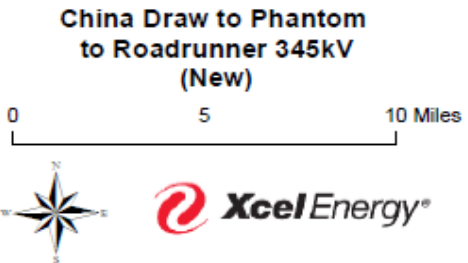
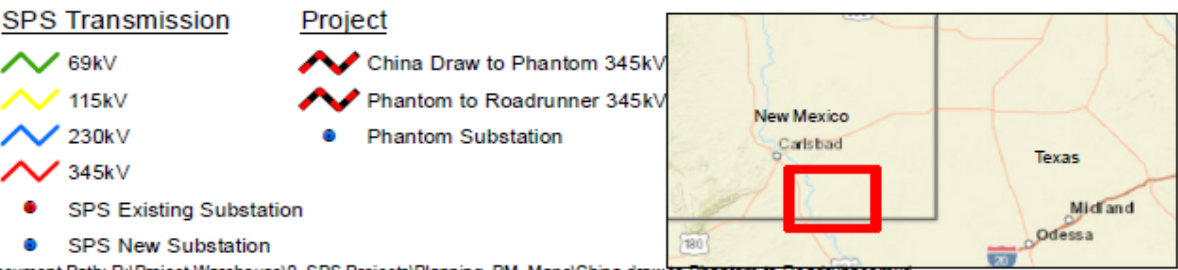
ISD: November 2021

NTC: Yes

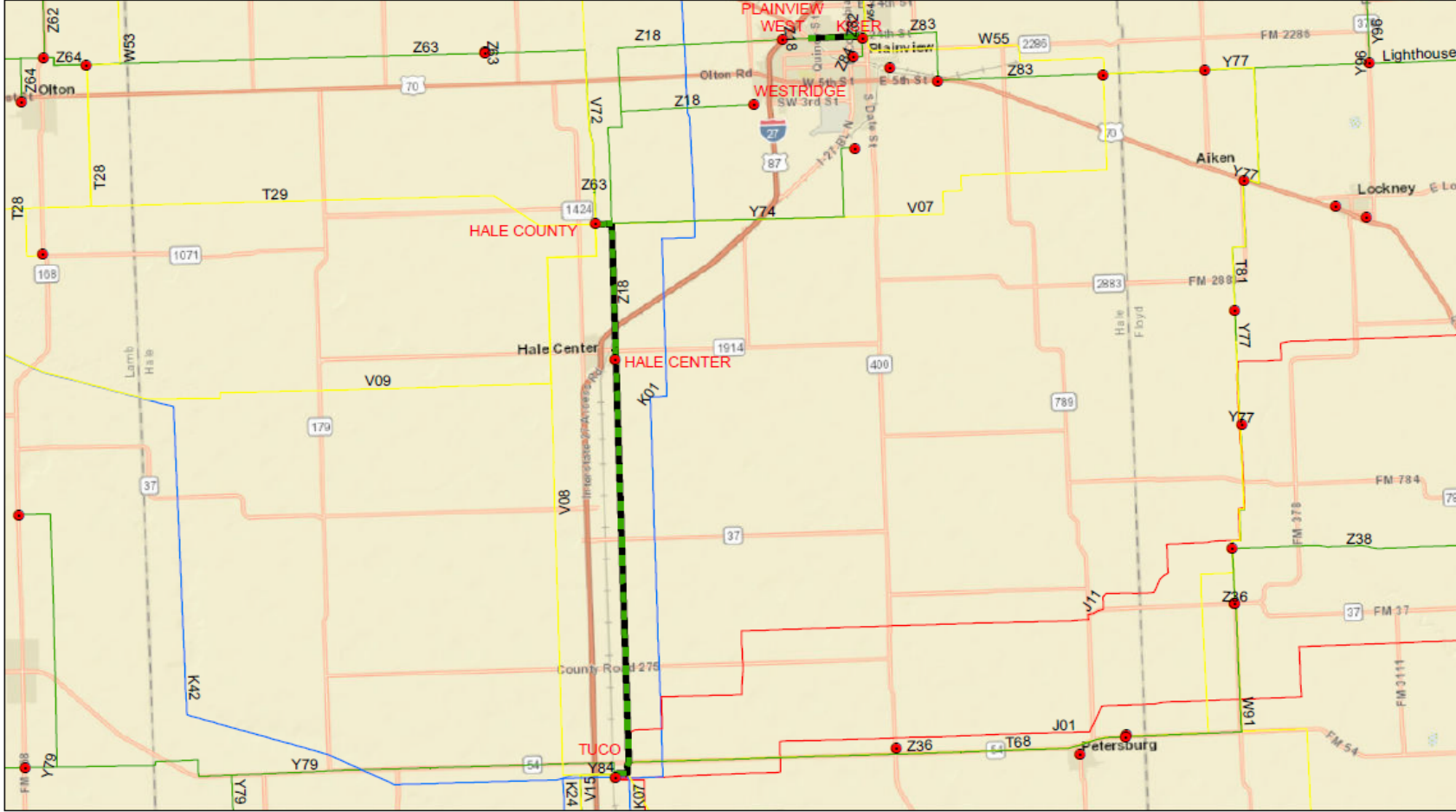
CCN: Awaiting NMPRC Approval

Description: Build a new 345 kV line (~42 miles long), expand China Draw and Roadrunner substations, and build a new Phantom 345/115 kV substation with two transformers

Need: Load Growth/Reliability



# Tuco to Hale County to Plainview (Rebuild)



Voltage: 69 kV

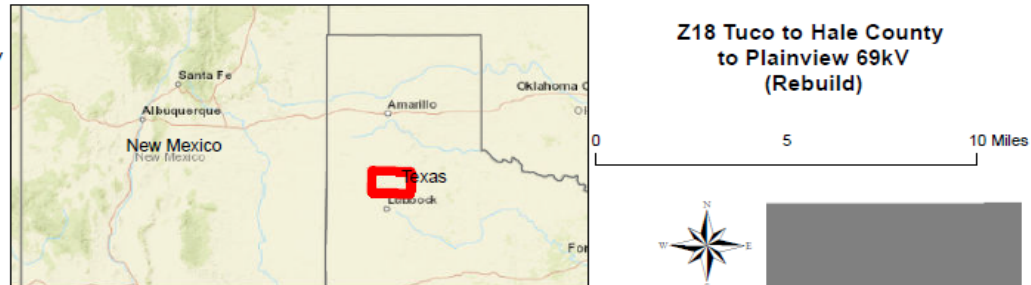
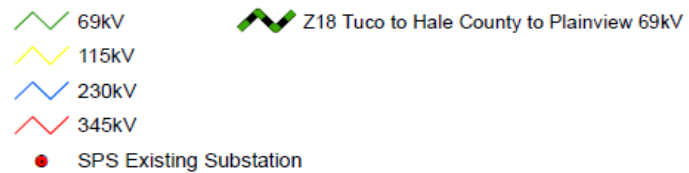
ISD: March 2022

NTC: No

**Description: Spaced out across 4 stages, rebuild 69 kV line**

## Need: Asset Renewal

SPS Transmission Project





# McDowell Creek Substation (New)

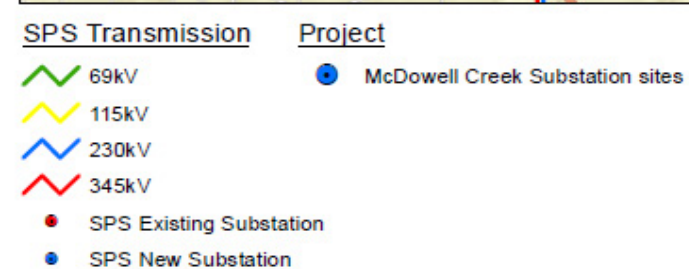
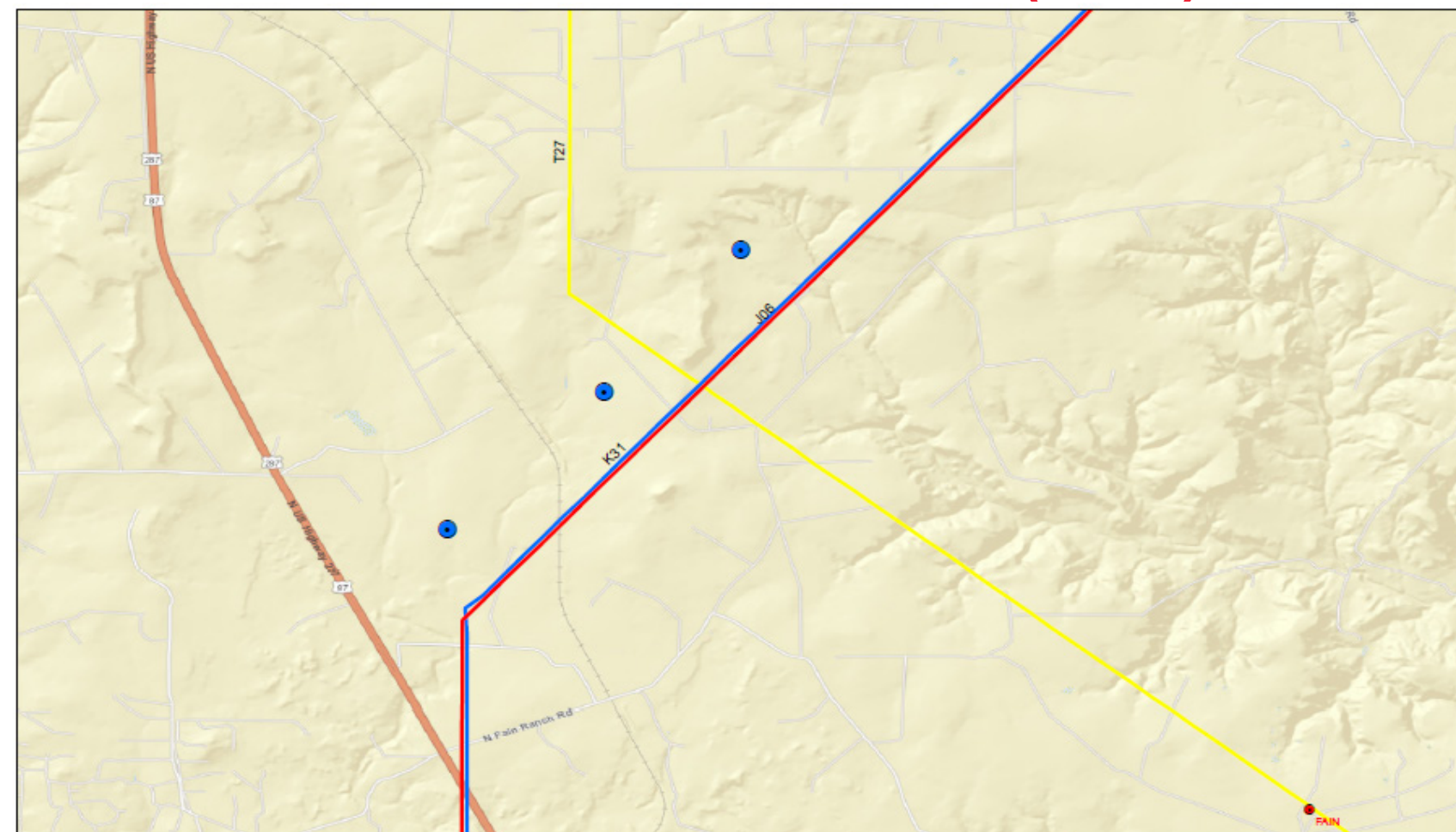
Voltage: 230 kV and 115 kV

ISD: April 2022

NTC: Yes

Description: Tap Moore Co – Potter Co 230 kV line and install a 230/115 kV transformer connecting to the 115 kV line from Nichols to Dumas

Need: Reliability



McDowell Creek Substation Sites 23-115kV (New)

0 0.5 1 Miles



# Tierra Blanca Substation (New)

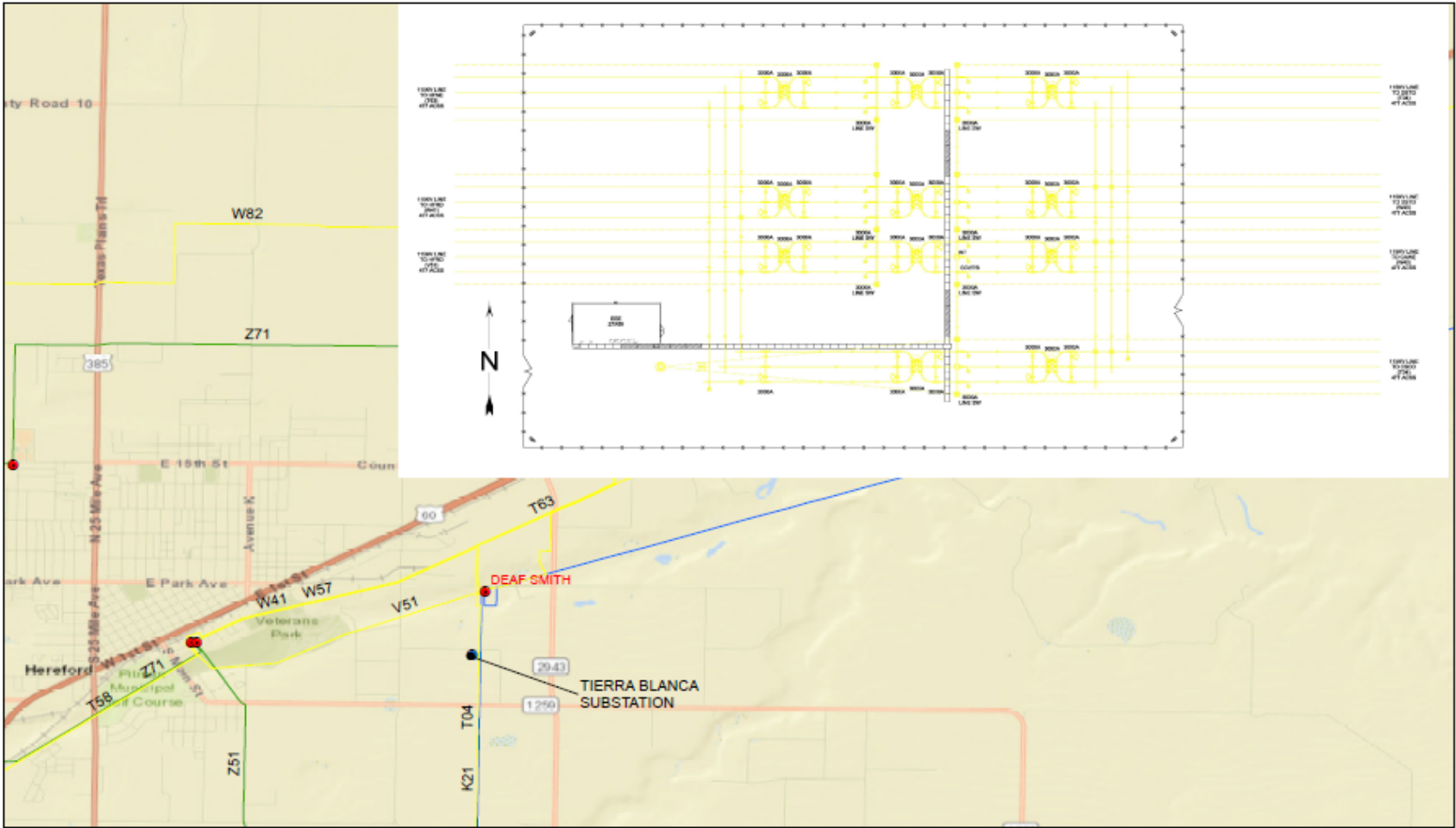
Voltage: 115 kV

ISD: April 2022

NTC: No

Description: Build a new breaker and a half substation and reterminate five 115 kV lines from the SPS Deaf Smith substation (existing straight bus) to address bus fault concerns

Need: Reliability

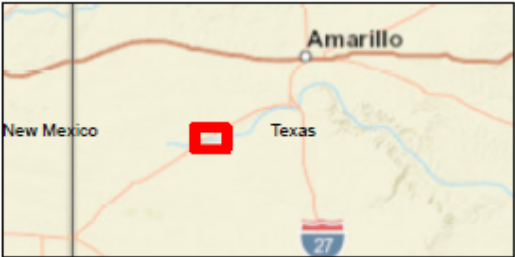


**SPS Transmission**

- 69kV
- 115kV
- 230kV
- 345kV
- SPS Existing Substation
- SPS New Substation

**Project**

- Tierra Blanca Substation



**Tierra Blanca Substation (New)**



# Tolk Substation (Conversion)

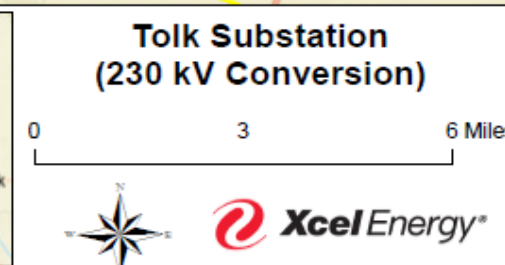
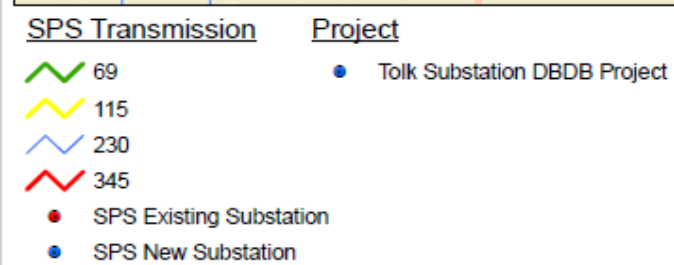
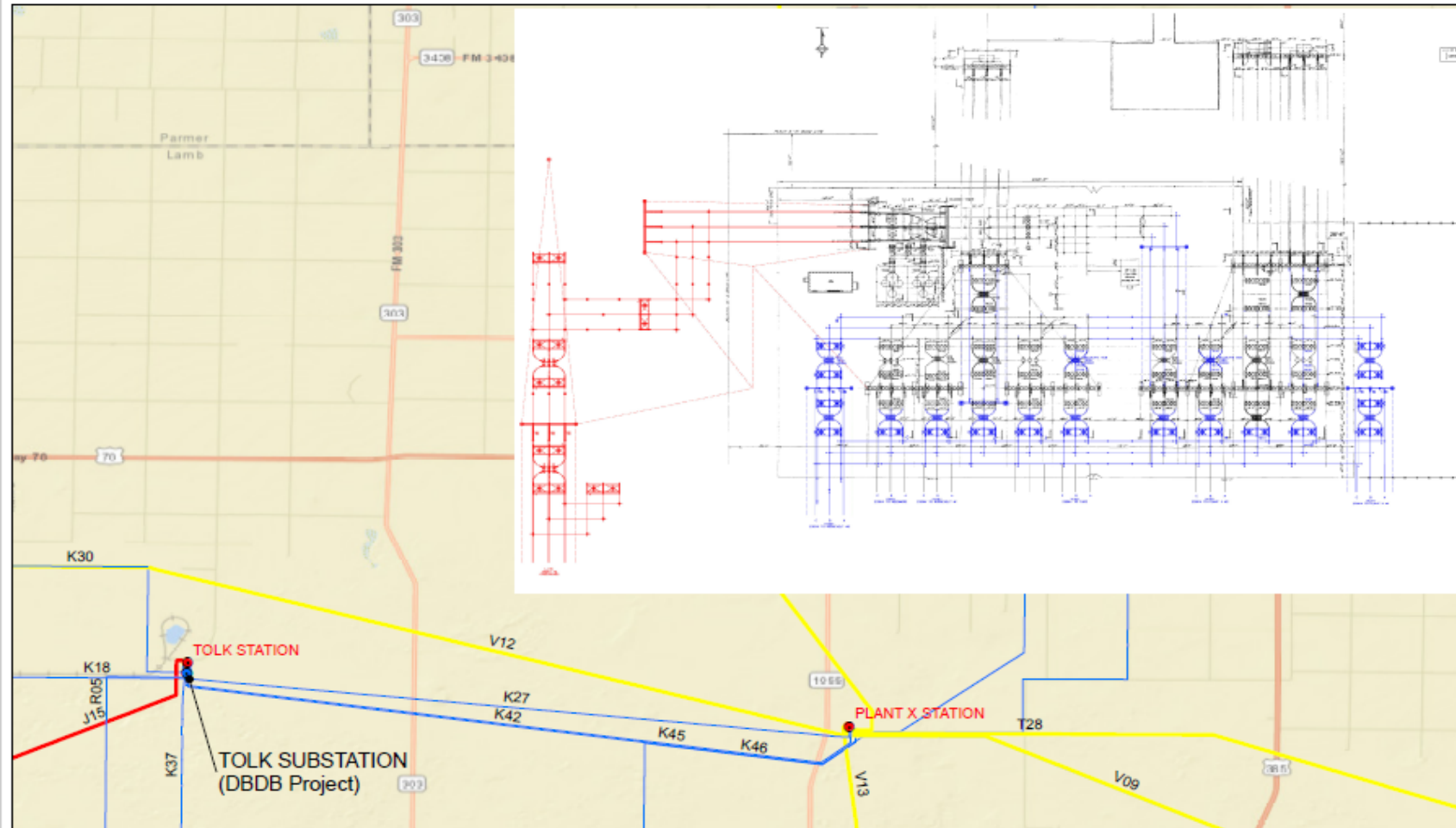
Voltage: 230 kV

ISD: May 2022

NTC: No

Description: Convert the existing 230 kV straight bus at Tolk to a double breaker - double bus configuration to address bus fault concerns

Need: Reliability





# Tuco to Indiana (Rebuild)

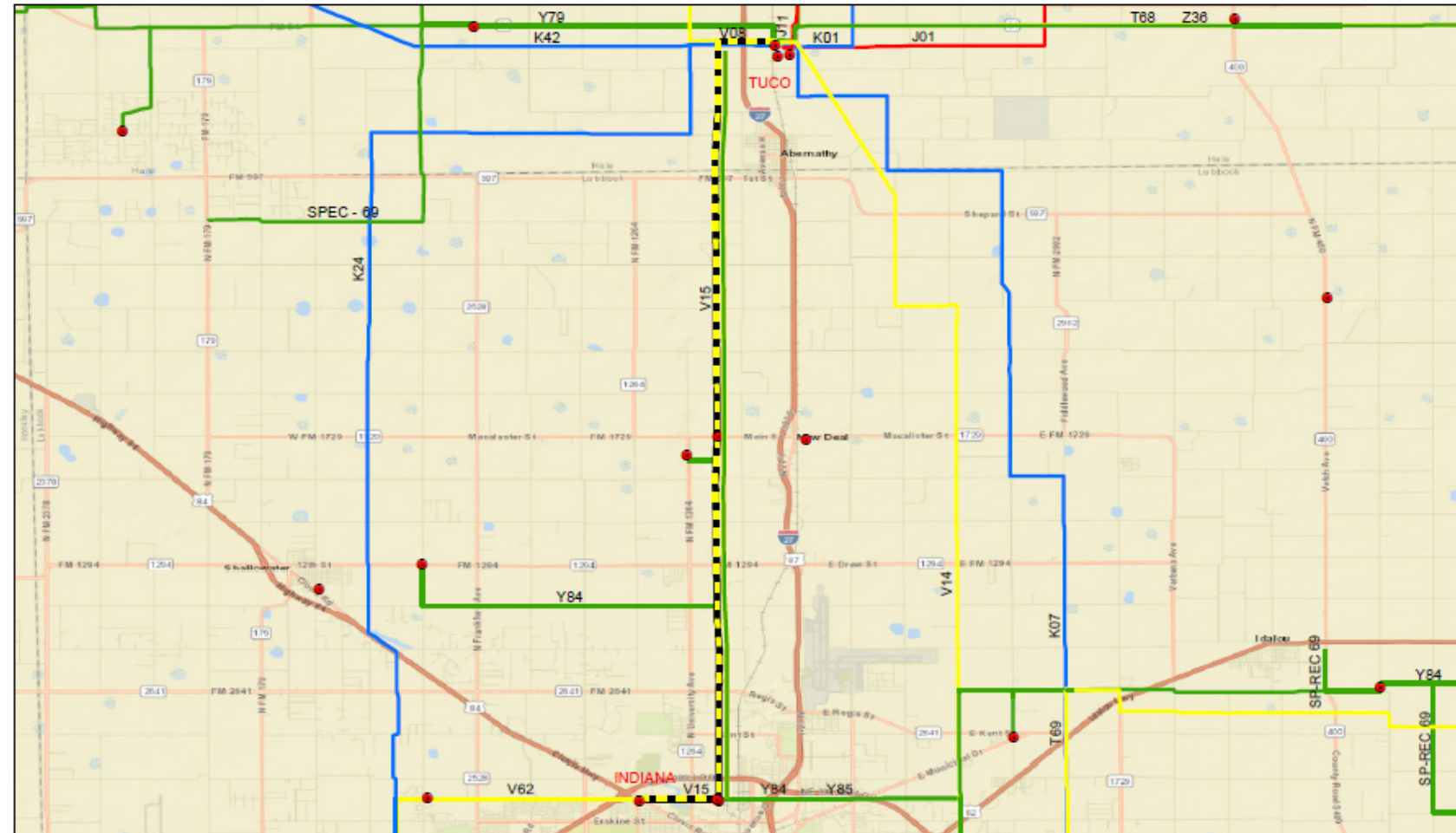
Voltage: 115 kV

ISD: Oct 2022

NTC: No

Description: Rebuild the double circuit 115/69 kV line (~19 miles)

Need: Asset Renewal



## SPS Transmission

- 69kV
- 115kV
- 230kV
- 345kV

- SPS Existing Substation
- SPS New Substation

## Project

- V15 Tuco-Indiana 115kV



## Tuco to Indiana 115kV (Rebuild)

0 3 6 Miles



# Y58 Hutchinson County to Gray County (Rebuild)

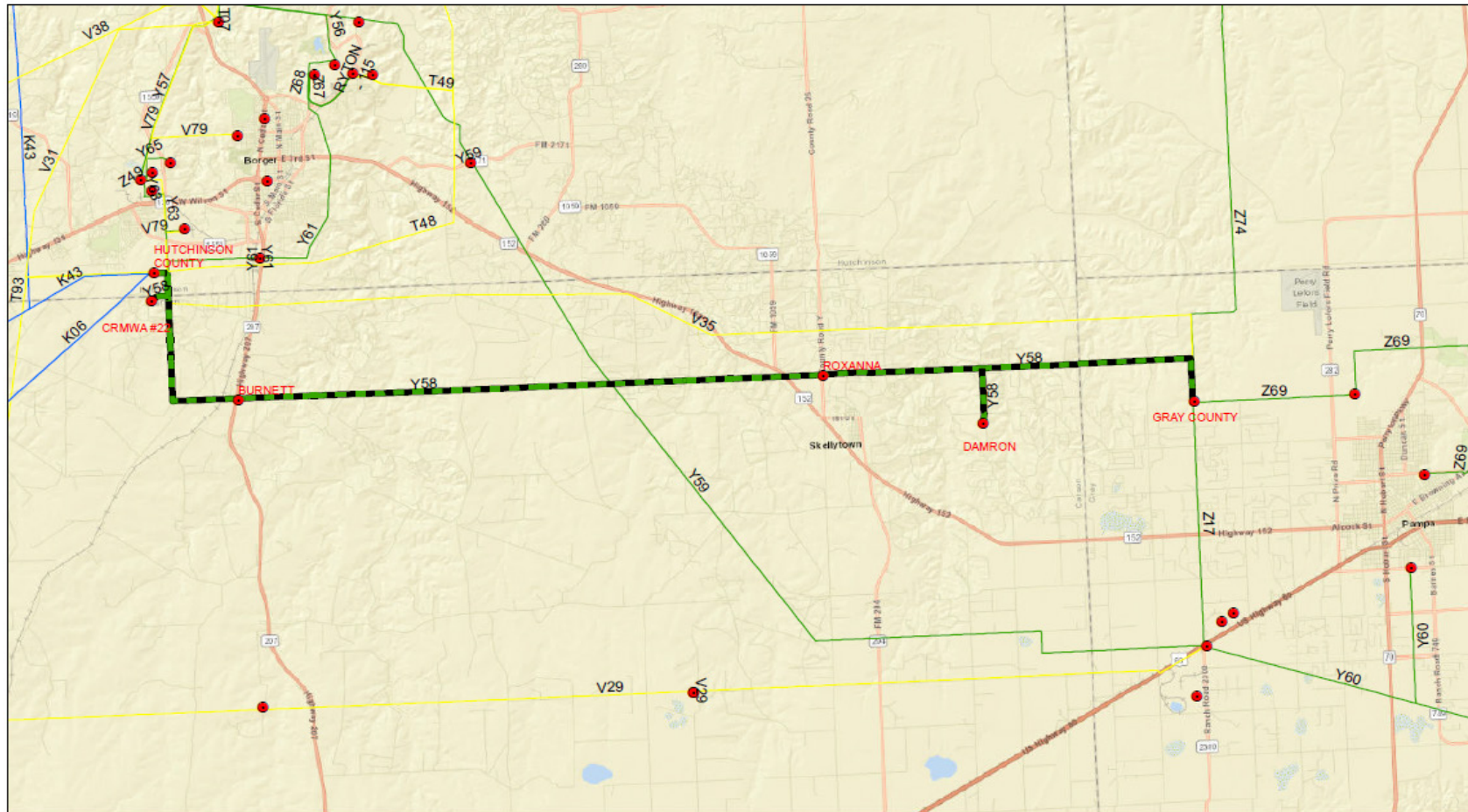
Voltage: 69 kV

ISD: November 2022

NTC: No

Description: Rebuild existing 69 kV line (~26 miles long)

Need: Asset Renewal



## SPS Transmission Project

- 69kV
- 115kV
- 230kV
- 345kV
- SPS Existing Substation
- Y58 Hutchinson County to Gray County 69kV



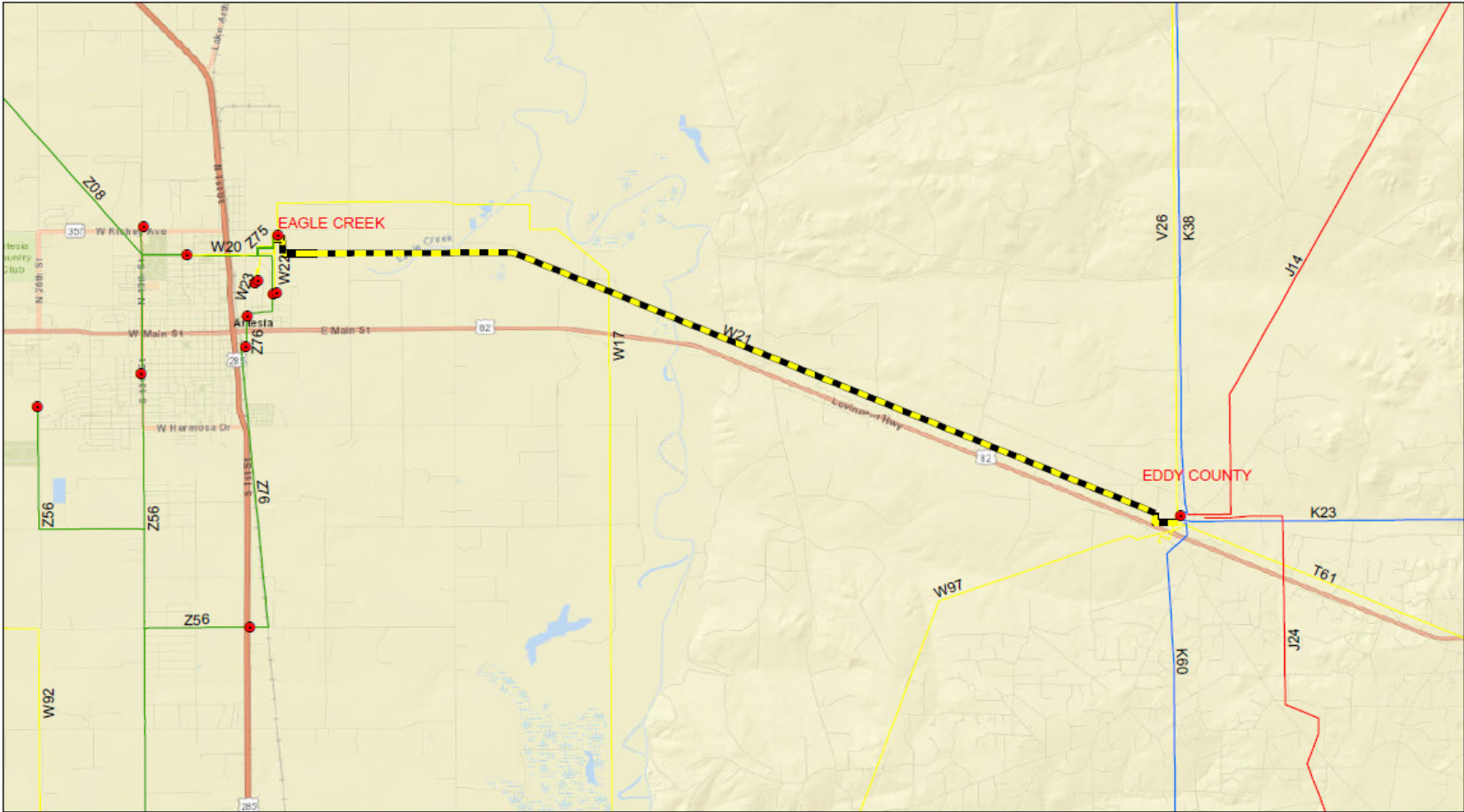
Y58 Hutchinson County to Gray County 69kV (Rebuild)

0 3 6 Miles





# W21 Eagle Creek to Eddy County (Rebuild)



Voltage: 115 kV

ISD: November 2022

NTC: No

Description: Rebuild existing 115 kV line (~9 mile long)

Need: Asset Renewal

**SPS Transmission Project**

- 69kV
- 115kV
- 230kV
- 345kV
- SPS Existing Substation
- W21 Eagle Creek to Eddy County 115kV



W21 Eagle Creek to Eddy County 115kV (Rebuild)



# V16 Terry County to Denver City (Rebuild)

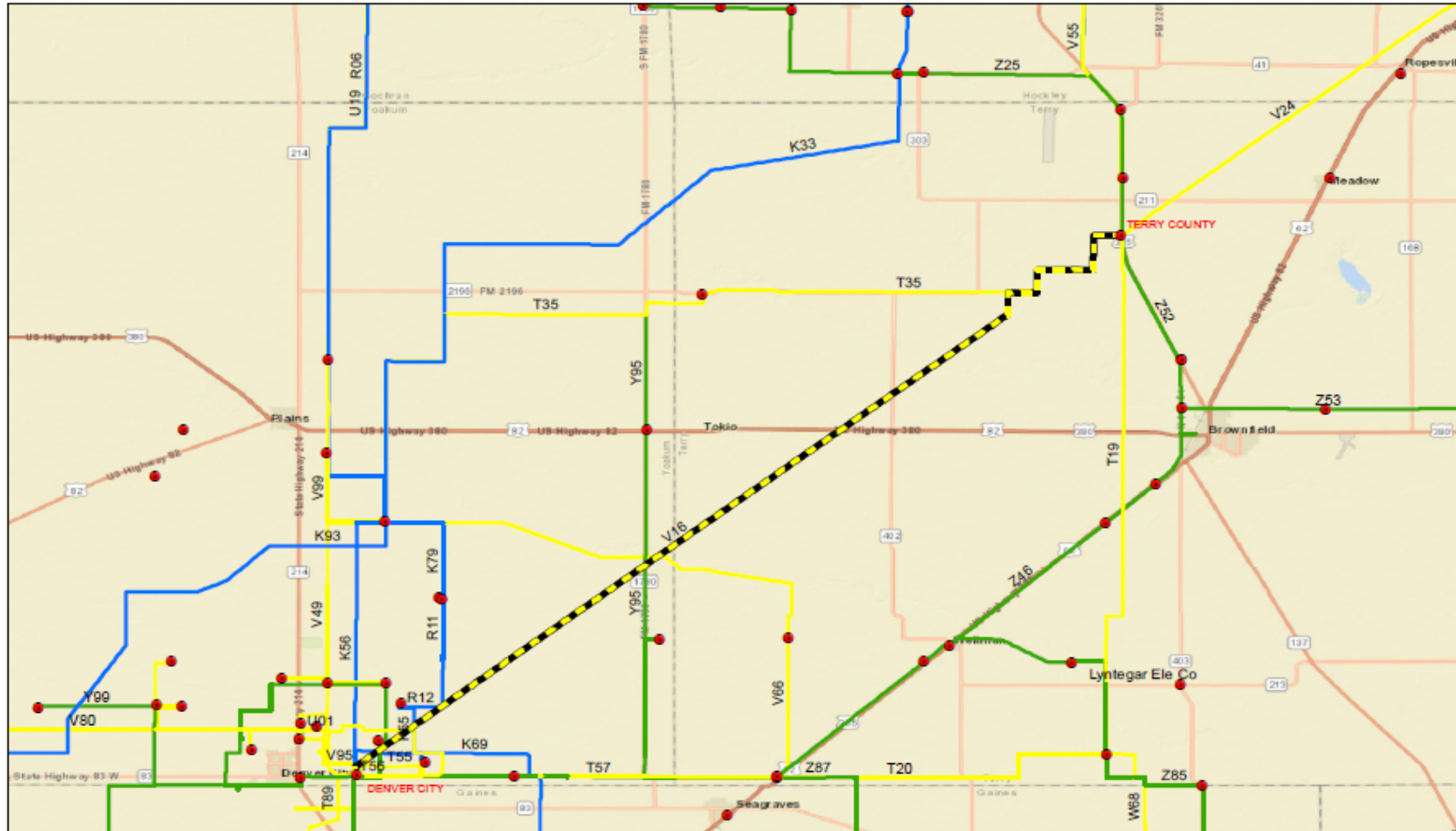
Voltage: 115 kV

ISD: May 2023

NTC: No

Description: Rebuild 115 kV line (~35 miles long)

Need: Asset Renewal



## SPS Transmission

- 69kV
- 115kV
- 230kV
- 345kV

- SPS Existing Substation
- SPS New Substation

## Project

- V16 Terry Co-Denver City 115kV



## Terry Co to Denver City 115kV (Rebuild)

0 5 10 Miles



# Additional Future Project

- Kiowa Substation - Add an additional 345 kV breaker in Series
  - Adding an additional breaker between two line terminals (in the breaker and a half configuration) to mitigate a breaker failure contingency
  - ISD: December 2021

# **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Cancelled NTC Projects**

**Network Upgrades Associated with DISIS 2016-002**

**2019 Integrated Transmission Plan (ITP) Project list**

**Power for the Plains**

# Cancelled NTC Projects

- Pecos 230/115 kV Transformer Upgrade
  - Requested to SPP by Xcel Energy due to internal review
  - Received NTC withdrawal letter – September 2019
- Byrd Tap – Cooper Ranch – Oil Center – Lea Road 115 kV Rebuild
  - Requested to SPP by Xcel Energy due to internal review
  - Received NTC withdrawal letter – August 2020



# DISIS 2016-002 Network Upgrades

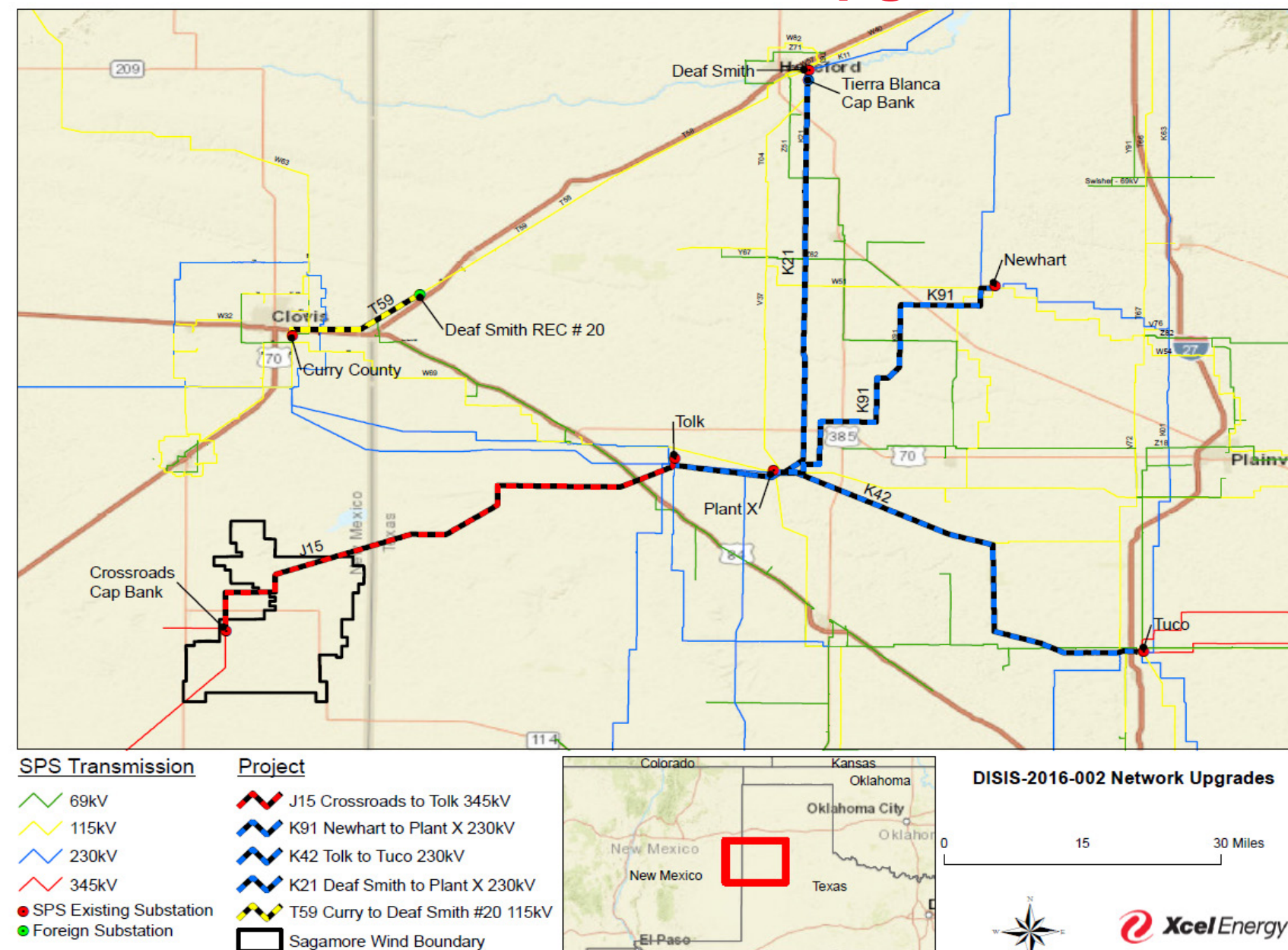
Voltage: 345, 230, 115 kV

ISD: see next slide

NTC: No, GIA

Description: see next slide

Need: Generation  
Interconnection



# DISIS 2016-002 Network Upgrades (continued) – SPS Projects

- Newhart – Plant X 230 kV line (uprate) ➤ ISD: April 2020
- Tolk – Tuco 230 kV line (uprate) ➤ ISD: April 2020
- Crossroads – Tolk 345 kV line (uprate) ➤ ISD: April 2020
- Crossroads – Eddy Co 345 kV line (uprate) ➤ ISD: April 2020
- Curry – Deaf Smith #6 115 kV (rebuild) ➤ ISD: November 2020
- Deaf Smith – Plant X 230 kV line (uprate) ➤ ISD: November 2020
- Crossroads capacitor bank – 100 MVAR ➤ ISD: November 2020
- Tuco capacitor bank – 100 MVAR ➤ ISD: May 2021
- Tierra Blanca capacitor bank – 100 MVAR ➤ ISD: November 2021
- Tolk 2<sup>nd</sup> 345/230 kV transformer ➤ ISD: November 2021

# 2019 Integrated Transmission Plan (ITP) Projects

- Overstressed breaker replacements
  - Carlsbad Interchange (1x) ➤ ISD:
  - Hale County 115 kV (3x) ➤ ISD: December 2020
  - Denver City Interchange (2x) ➤ ISD: March 2021
- Amoco – Sundown 115 kV
  - Need: Economic ➤ ISD: December 2020
  - Description: Upgrade terminal equipment
- Spearman – Hansford 115 kV
  - Need: Economic ➤ ISD: April 2021
  - Description: Upgrade terminal equipment and rebuild 1.2 miles of 115 kV line



# Power for the Plains Website

<http://www.powerfortheplains.com/>

- Description for some of the projects
- Routing maps, when available
- General project information



# SWITCH REQUIREMENTS for Load Interconnections

**Kenny Munsell | Senior Manager, Transmission Line Engineering**

Xcel Energy – Texas/New Mexico Sub-Regional Transmission Planning Meeting

October 5, 2020



A large white wind turbine stands in a green field under a blue sky with scattered clouds. The image is partially obscured by a white diagonal shape that serves as a background for the text.

## WHAT WE'LL REVIEW

1. Xcel Energy Interconnection Guidelines
2. Xcel Energy Line Switch Standard
3. What we've done in the past
4. What we're doing today
5. Questions



A large white wind turbine stands in a green field under a blue sky with some clouds. The image is partially obscured by a white diagonal shape that contains the text.

# INTERCONNECTION GUIDELINES

Link to Document:

[Interconnection Guidelines for Transmission Interconnected Customer Loads](#)

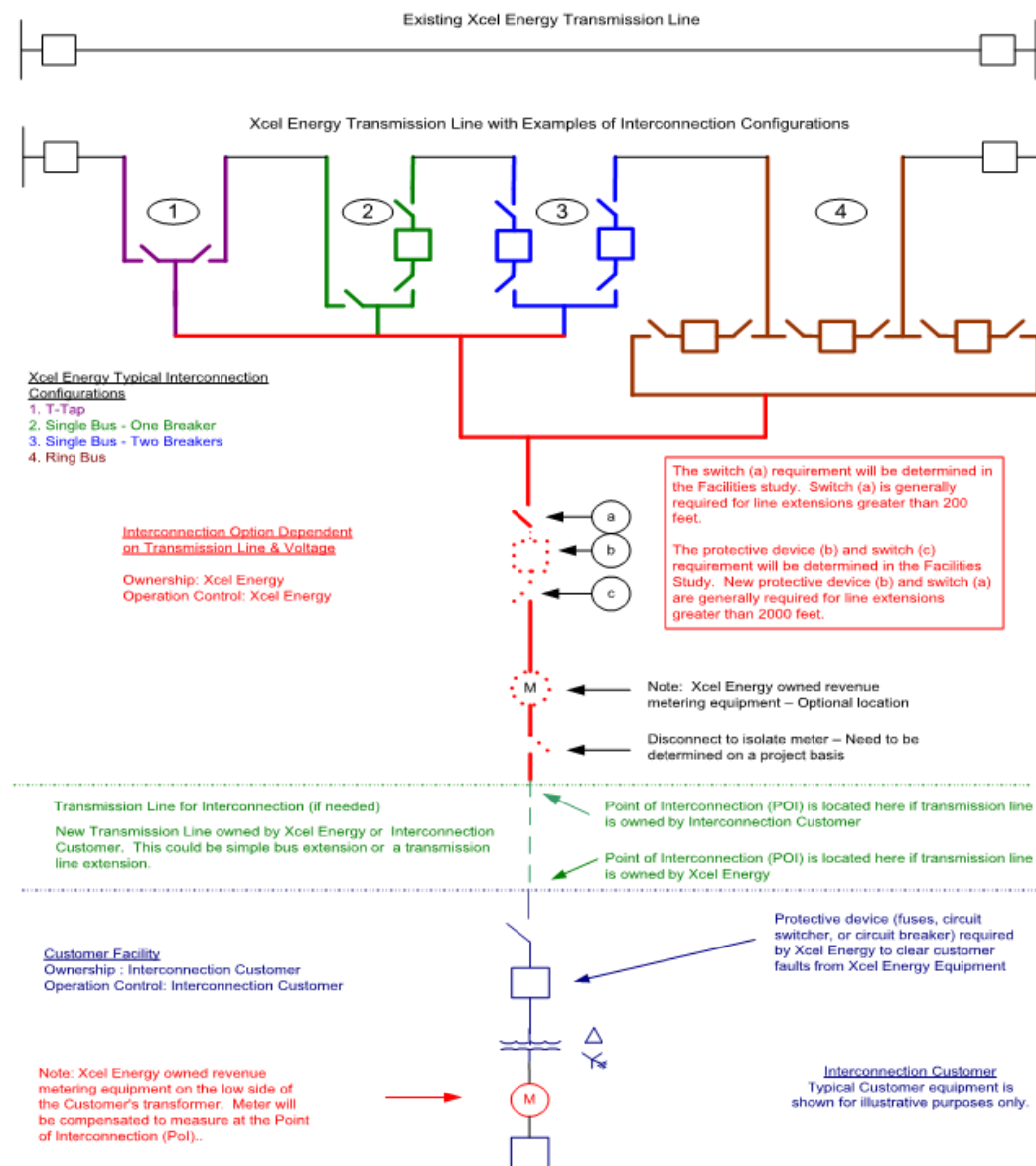
# Technical Requirements

## Interconnection Configuration

- Substation or line tap
  - Substation interconnections are more reliable, but also more costly
  - Line taps allowed for 69kV and 115kV
  - May require substation interconnection to limit potential loss of load for line fault
    - Limit number of taps
    - Limit load on taps
- Diagrams provided to illustrate typical configurations
- Facility Study determines configuration
- Let's focus on line taps

### TRANSMISSION TO LOAD INTERCONNECTIONS

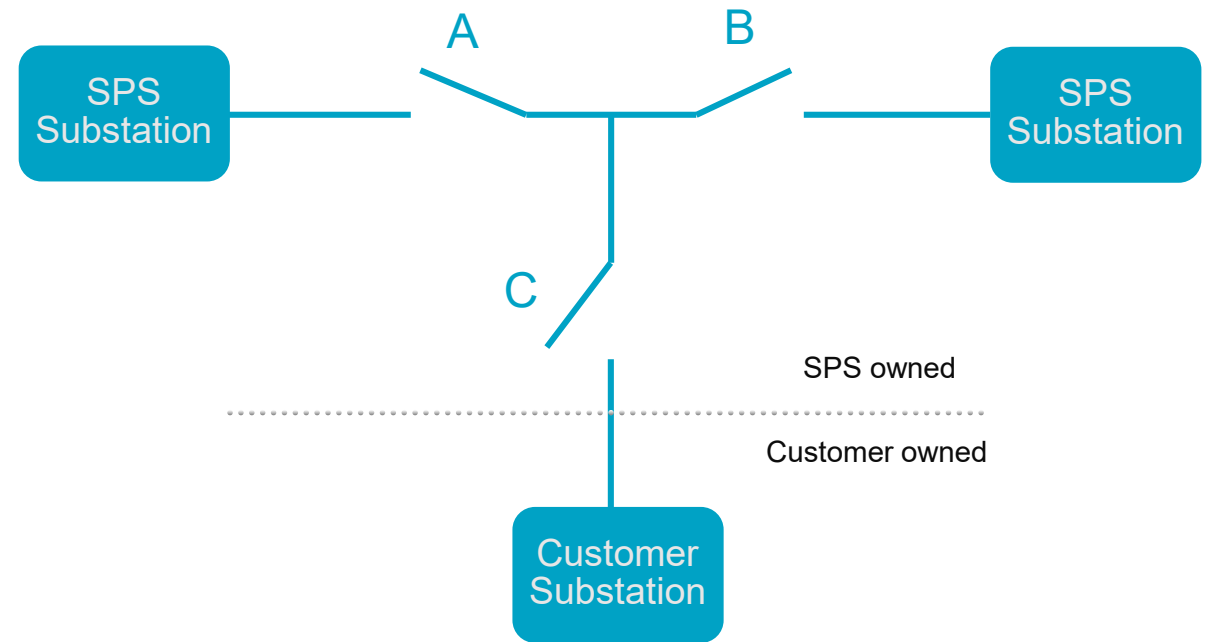
Figure 1 - Typical Interconnection To Existing Transmission Line



# Line Taps

## Switch Configuration

- Determined by Facility Study
- Switches either side of the tap – A and B
  - Always required
  - Allow for sectionalizing of the line
  - Better reliability for customer
  - Network upgrade cost
- Switch on tap – C
  - Normally required
  - Allows for disconnect of customer
  - Restore line in event of damage to customer equipment
  - Cost assigned to customer





A photograph of a white wind turbine standing in a green field under a blue sky with some clouds. The image is partially obscured by a large white diagonal shape that serves as a background for the text.

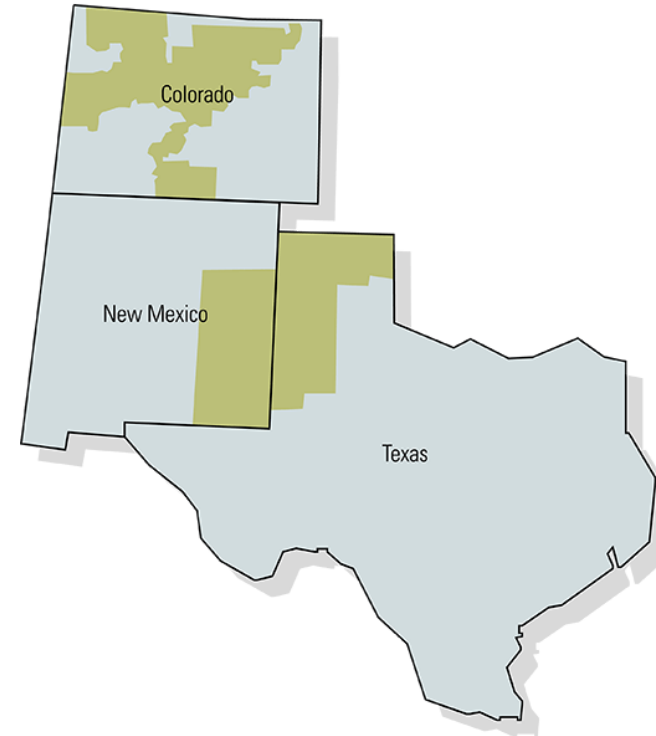
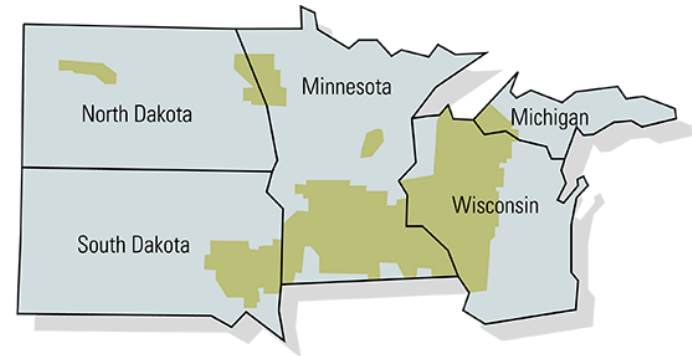
# **XCEL ENERGY TRANSMISSION LINE SWITCH STANDARD**

**Guideline for Engineering & Design of Switches – Pole Mounted**

# History

## And Applicability

- Created in 2013
- Applicable in all Xcel Energy Operating Companies
  - SPS
  - PSC
  - NSPM
  - NSPW

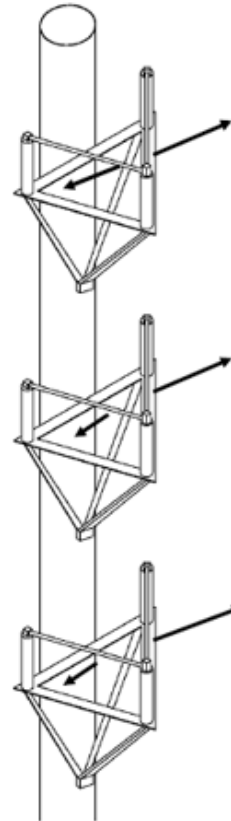


# What Does it Say

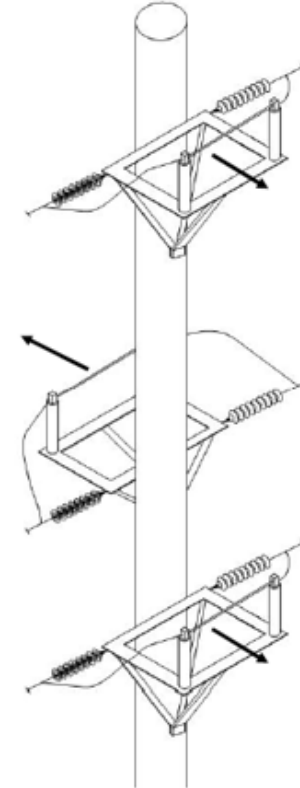
## Relevant Items

- Shall not install switches above 115kV
- All three-way or radial taps shall have switches
- Phase over phase and delta switch installations on steel structures
- Horizontal switch recommend on steel, but wood can be used if deflection limits met
- Transition structures required if installing phase over phase or delta switches on horizontal line

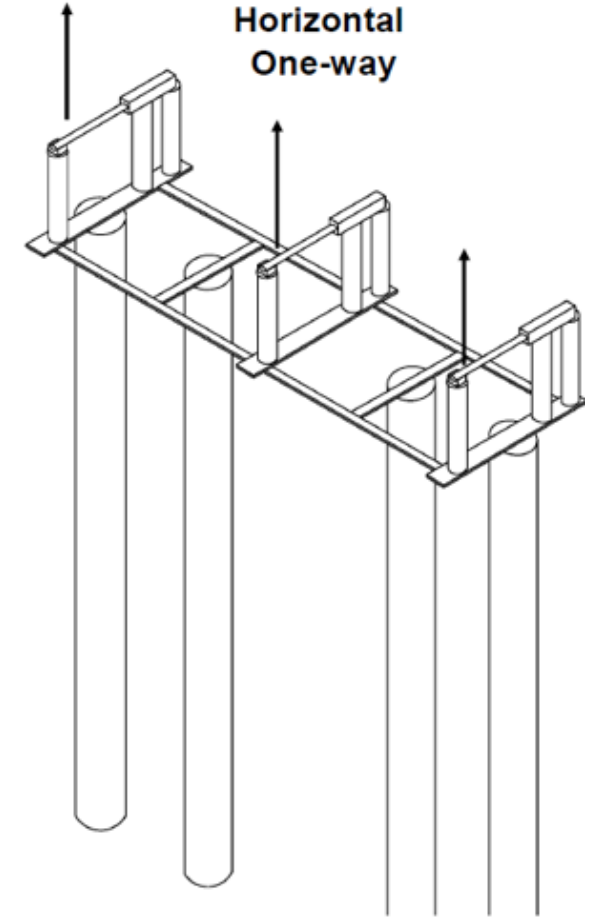
Phase over Phase  
Two-way/Three-Way



Delta  
One-way



Horizontal  
One-way





A large white wind turbine stands in a green field under a blue sky with some clouds. The image is partially obscured by a large white diagonal shape that contains the main text.

# WHAT WE'VE DONE IN THE PAST

# Legacy Installations

## Generally prior to 2000

- Substation tapped directly to SPS line with no switches



- Tap switch only



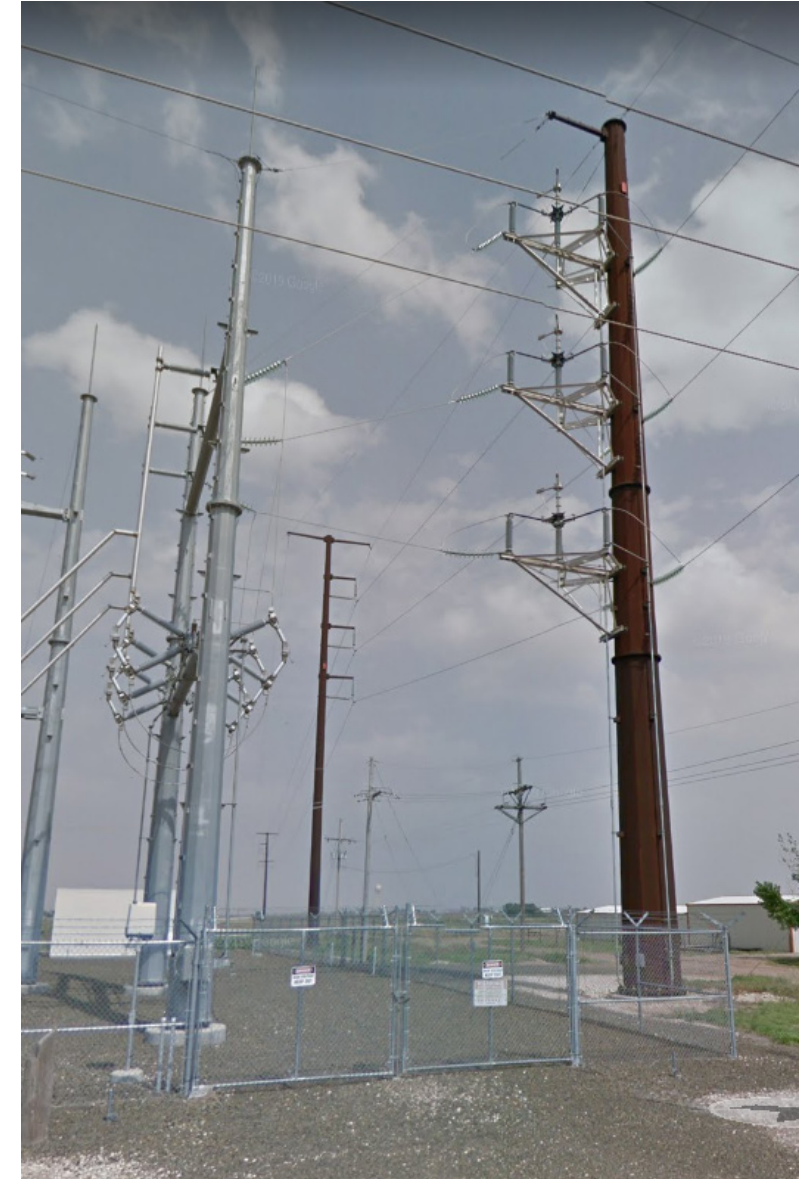
- Switches either side of tap, but no switch on tap





## More Recent Installations Since at least 2012

- Three-way switch on tap structure
  - Installed approximately 15 since 2012

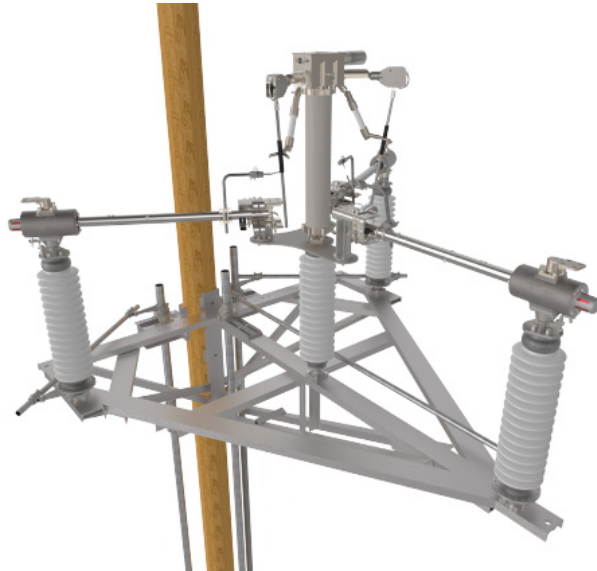




# Three-Way Switch Experience

## Installation and Maintenance Concerns

- More difficult to install and adjust
- Cannot maintain any switch with others energized
- Conductor tensions and pull off angle on tap



A large white wind turbine stands in a green field under a blue sky with some clouds. The image is partially obscured by a large white diagonal shape that contains the main text.

# WHAT WE'RE DOING TODAY



# Current Practice

## First Installation in 2018

- Three Single Switches
  - Alleviates concerns with three-way switch











# TEXAS HOUSE BILL 4150 Texas Transmission Line Inspections

**Corby White | Principal Engineer, Transmission Line Performance**

Xcel Energy – Texas/New Mexico Sub-Regional Transmission Planning Meeting

October 5, 2020

A large white wind turbine stands in a green field under a blue sky with some clouds. The image is partially obscured by a white diagonal shape that contains the text.

## WHAT WE'LL REVIEW

1. Texas House Bill 4150 (HB 4150) Origin
2. HB 4150 Requirements
3. Inspection Planning
4. Common Clearance Issues & Mitigation
5. Questions

A large white wind turbine stands in a green field under a blue sky with some clouds. The image is partially obscured by a white diagonal shape that serves as a background for the text.

# TEXAS HB4150

Links to House Bill 4150 information:

[Texas Legislature Online webpage for HB4150](#)

[PDF copy of the final HB4150](#)

# TEXAS HOUSE BILL 4150 ORIGIN

**Corps of Engineers: Power line in boating accident that killed 3 area Boy Scouts appeared lower than required**



**Power line safety bill passes Texas House;  
legislation renamed for Scouts who died**

By Glenn Evans [gevans@news-journal.com](mailto:gevans@news-journal.com) May 3, 2019



# TEXAS HOUSE BILL 4150 REQUIREMENTS

## Report to be kept on file with the PUC

- Training programs regarding Safety and NESC clearance for employees.
- File is to be updated within 30 days of any changes to these programs.

## 5 Year Report filed with the PUC

- The percentage of overhead transmission lines (over 60kV) that:
  - have been inspected for NESC compliance in the past 5 years
  - are anticipated to be inspected for NESC compliance in the next 5 years

## Annual Report filed with the PUC

- The number of identified occurrences on noncompliance with NESC vertical clearance code
- Whether the utility has knowledge that any part of the transmission system is not in compliance with NESC
- The number of fatalities or injuries to the public resulting from noncompliance with NESC vertical clearance requirements
- A description of corrective actions taken to prevent reoccurrence of injury.

## Lake Crossings

- All distribution and transmission lake crossings shall meet minimum NESC clearance over the 178 Texas lakes.

## Inspection Data

### 5 Year Report

Track percentage of system inspected

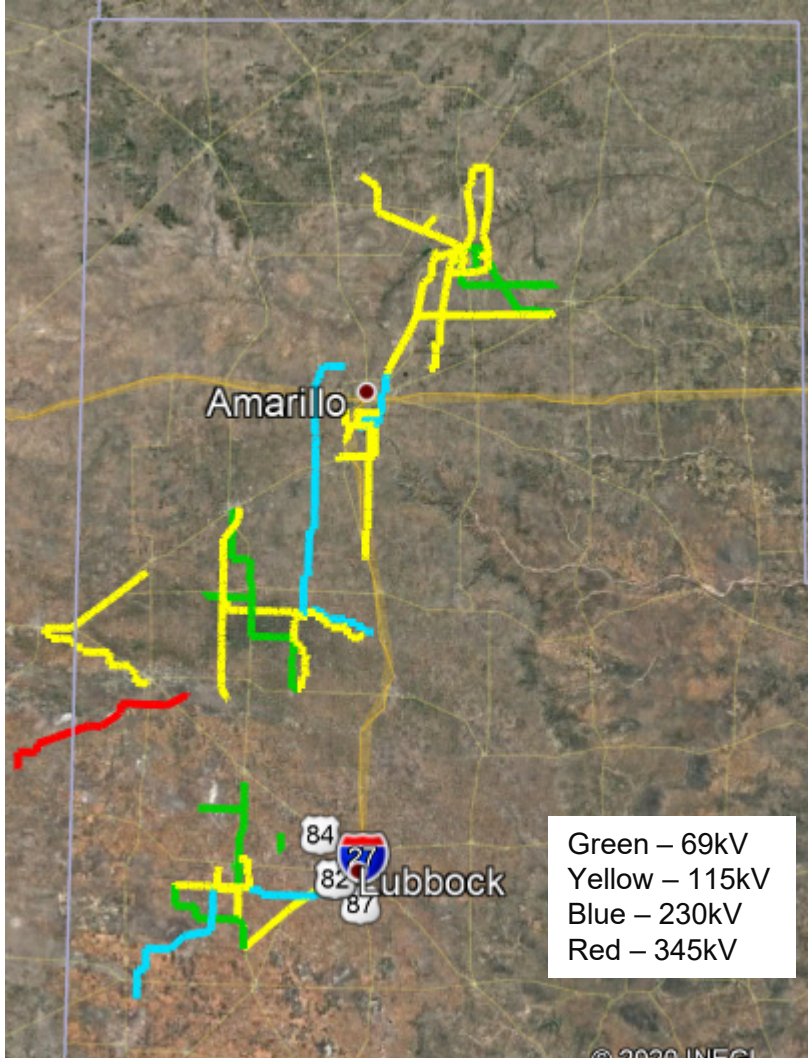
### Annual Report

Number of found clearance violations

### Annual Report

Unmitigated clearance violations

# TEXAS HOUSE BILL 4150 INSPECTIONS



Planned circuit inspections - 2020

Approximate mileage of SPS transmission lines in Texas:

- Total miles: 5500
  - 69kV: 1300
  - 115kV: 2200
  - 230kV: 1450
  - 345kV: 550

Approximate yearly average inspection miles:

- Total miles: 1100
  - 69kV: 260
  - 115kV and above: 840

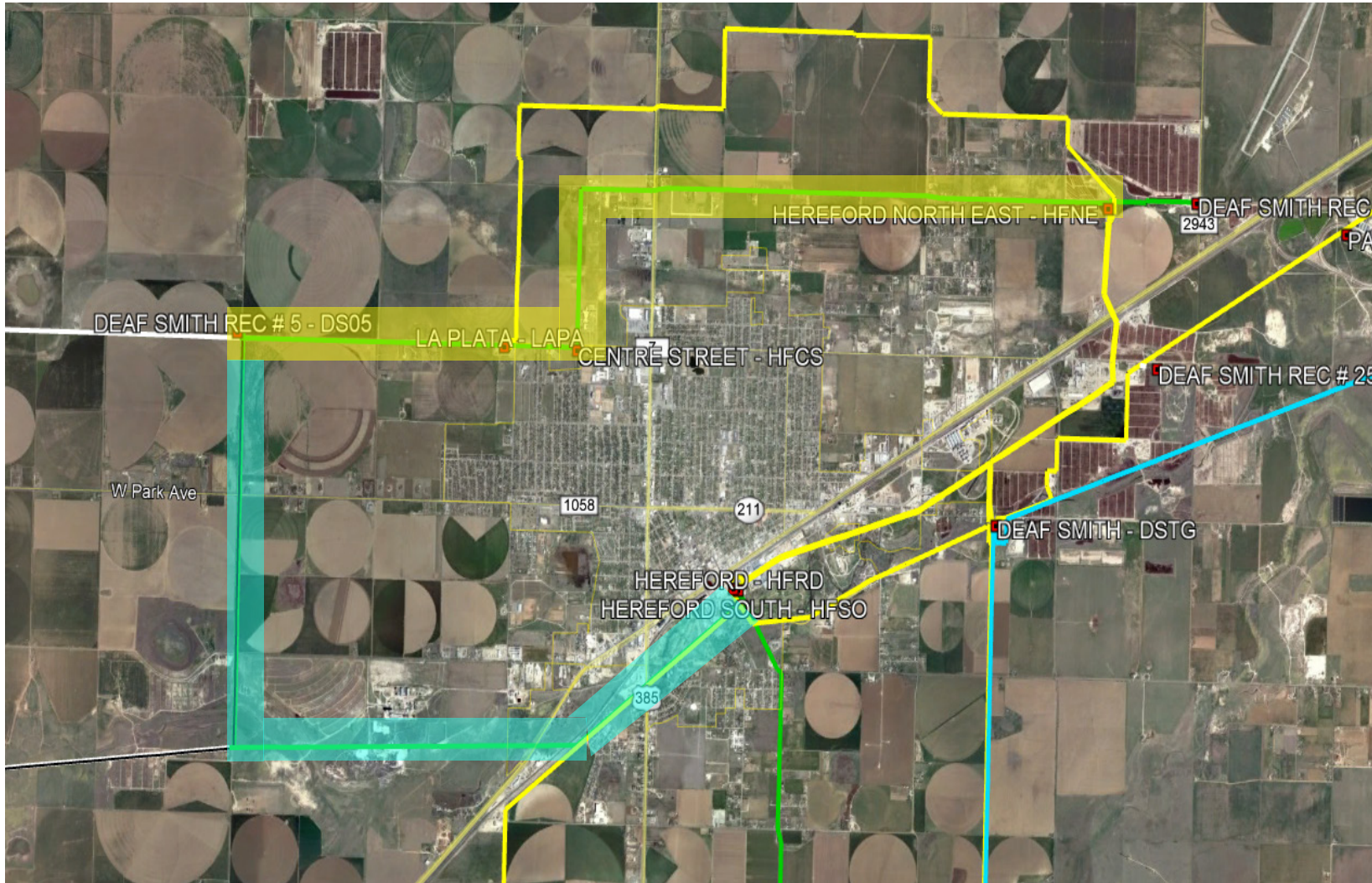
Inspections are done with LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) surveys using low-flying helicopters with specialized sensors. Ground surveys are done as needed for additional information.

The lines will be modeled using PLS-CADD software. Clearances will be looked at under emergency rating loads and various temperatures and weather conditions.



# TEXAS HOUSE BILL 4150 INSPECTIONS

## Multiple Sources



- Lines that have multiple sources have more than one option for feeding substations.
- These lines can usually be de-energized in sections for maintenance on the line.
- Can be seasonally dependent (typically fall and spring times)

# TEXAS HOUSE BILL 4150 INSPECTIONS

## Radial Feed – Single Source



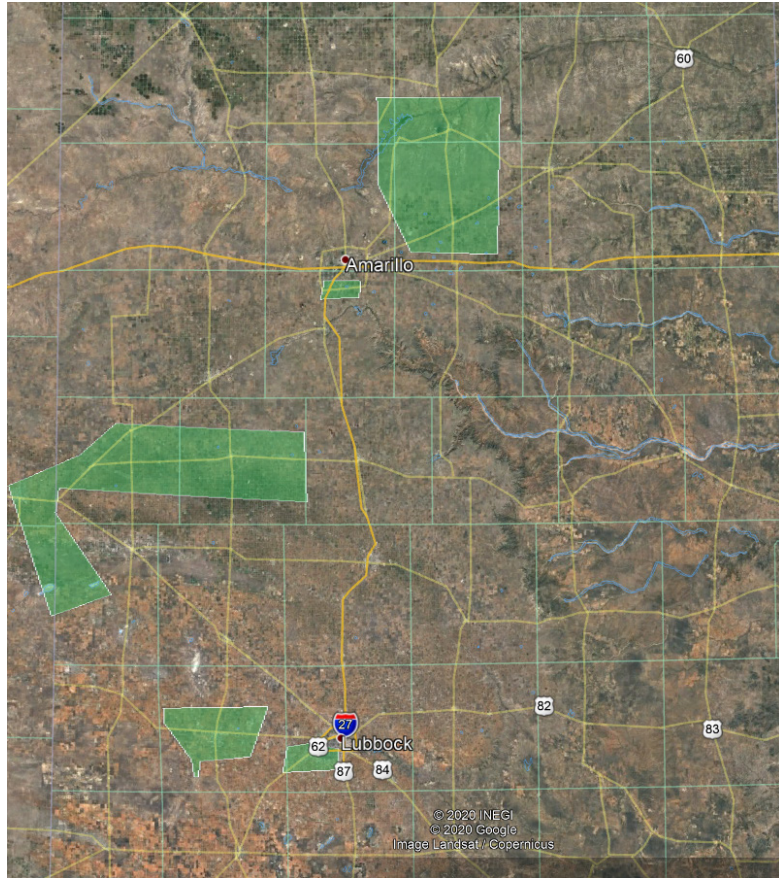
- Radial transmission lines (no normally open switches) are more challenging to work on than lines with multiple sources.
- Typical options to do work:
  - De-energize the line for construction
    - Feed the substation load with nearby substations
    - Coordinate an outage with the customers
  - “Hot” work with specially trained crews for certain types of maintenance
  - “Shoofly” around the work area with a temporary line

Radial lines are a major factor in our inspection plan.



# TEXAS HOUSE BILL 4150 INSPECTIONS

Priorities for the inspection schedule of all the SPS lines in Texas included outage coordination issues and radial lines.



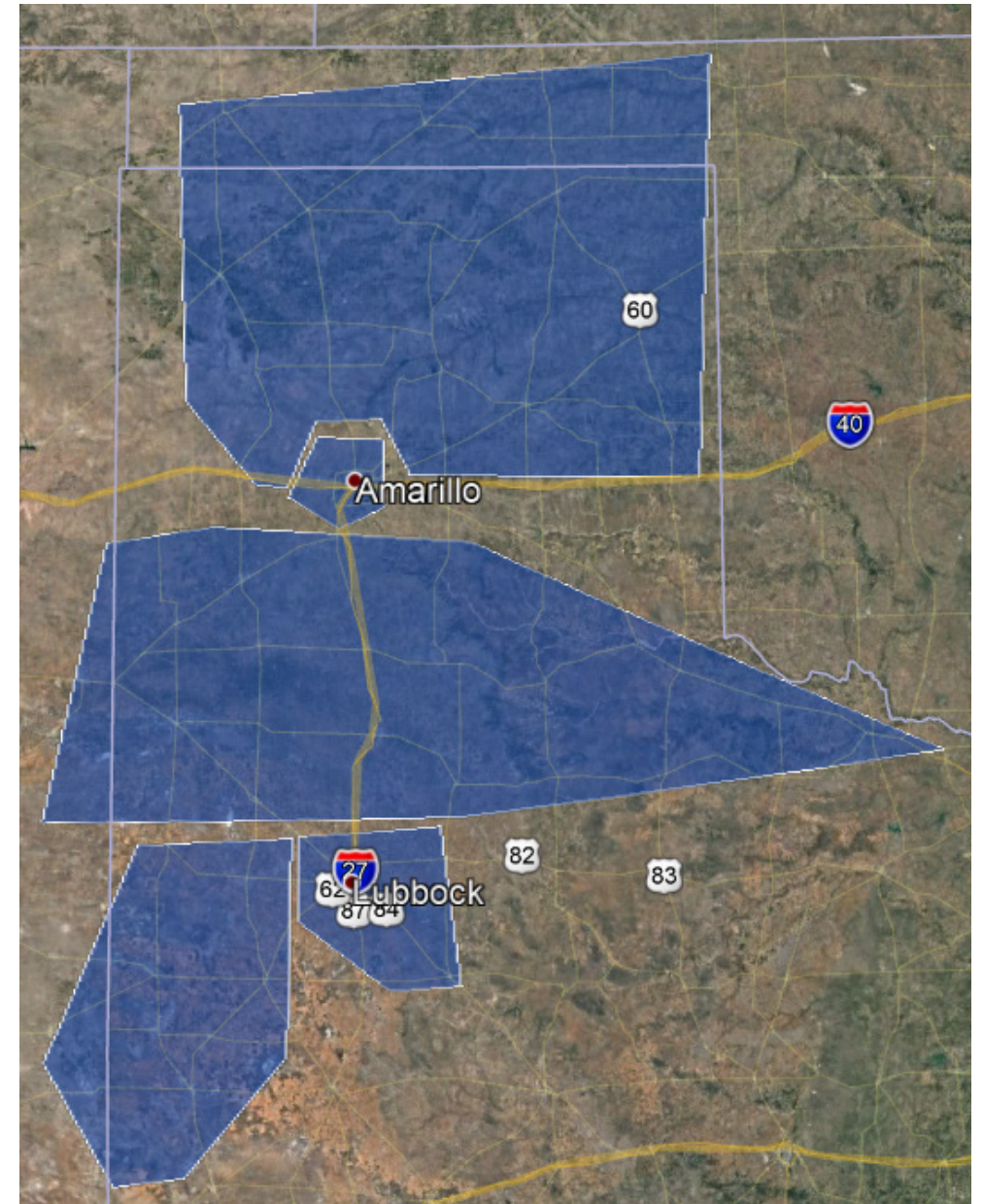
2020 portion of the 5 inspection areas

Five areas were created to help geographically spread the inspections.

- TX South
- TX Central
- TX North
- Lubbock
- Amarillo

Inspections will be done in each area every year.

As clearance issues are found, outages will be requested to address the issues. Too many outages in one area would increase the difficulty of planning these outages.



5 Inspection Areas



# COMMON CLEARANCE ISSUES & MITIGATION



## Transmission – Distribution Clearance Issues

A common clearance issue is the distance between transmission and distribution conductors.

A variety of solutions are possible for these violations.

- Lower the distribution attachment/crossarm
- Move the distribution pole
- Raise the transmission structures
- Bury the distribution line
- If the pole top is the problem then cut the top
- De-rate the transmission line

SPS transmission engineers will reach out to the owner of the distribution line to discuss possible solutions to these issues as they arise.

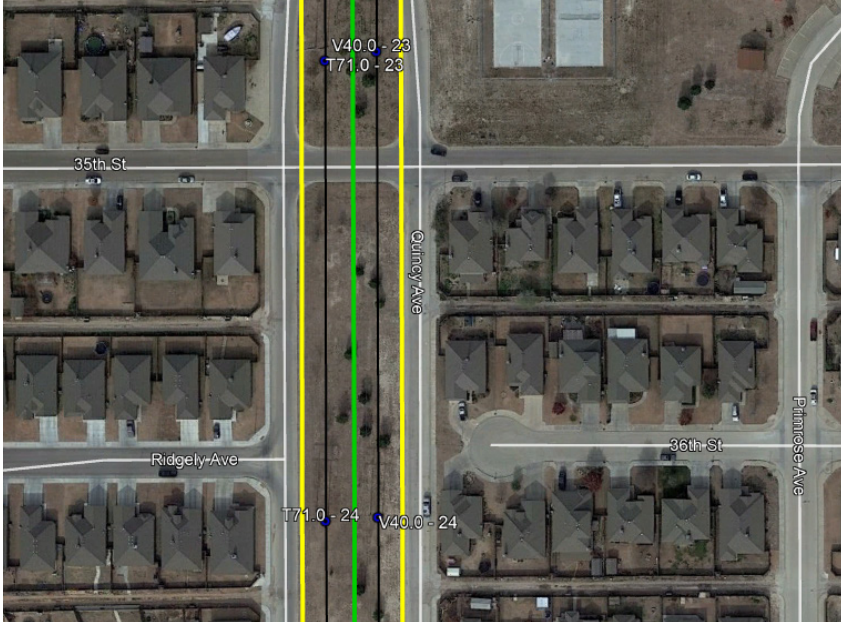


# COMMON CLEARANCE ISSUES & MITIGATION

## Transmission – Ground Clearance Issues

Violations related to ground clearance are another issue that could be common due to small elevation changes from weather or land development.

- Derate the transmission line
- Install fencing around the Right-Of-Way to prevent traffic under the clearance issue
- Install taller structures



Newly developed land can cause elevation changes leading to violations

Violations related to objects in the Right-Of-Way usually lead to either a line being derated or installing taller structures.

These objects usually can not be easily moved or modified, such as a building or an irrigation pivot.



Right-Of-Way Fence



Irrigation Pivots

