



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Department of Public Works
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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager

From: Rob Jammerman, Development and Environmental Services Manager
Ray Steiger, P.E., Public Works Director

Date: October 6, 2011

Subject: PUGET SOUND ENERGY TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council receive a presentation from Puget Sound Energy (PSE) staff regarding their proposed high voltage transmission line project.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

In order to increase electric system capacity and reliability in and around the Kirkland, Redmond, Kenmore, Bothell and Woodinville areas, PSE will be constructing a new power transmission line sometime in 2013 (Attachment 1). The proposed above ground transmission line will run from their Sammamish switching station in Redmond to the newly constructed Juanita switching station on NE 132nd Street in Kirkland. Prior to alignment selection and design, PSE is conducting an extensive stakeholder involvement (Attachment 2) and outreach process to help develop a recommended route for the Project. Their first stakeholder meeting was held on Thursday, October 6.

For the City Council meeting, PSE will give a short presentation to the Council explaining the Project and the outreach process they have underway.

Attachments (2)

Sammamish-Juanita 115 kV transmission line project

Delivering your energy future

Fact sheet

PSE.com

August 2011

What is the project?

Peak customer demand at times can strain and/or exceed the capacity of the existing electric grid in northeastern King County, reducing our ability to reliably serve power to our customers in the area.

To increase electric system capacity and improve reliability for our customers, Puget Sound Energy plans to construct approximately 4 miles of 115 kilovolt transmission line from our Sammamish substation (9221 Willows Road NE in Redmond) to or near our existing Juanita substation (10910 NE 132nd Street in Kirkland). PSE is working with Kirkland and Redmond community members to select a preferred route for the project.

Where will PSE build the new transmission line?

At this time, we have not selected a route. Building on past public input on the project, we are convening a stakeholder advisory group to help us develop and evaluate possible routes. We will be holding additional public meetings during the route selection process.

Why does PSE need the new transmission line?

Demand for power is growing – our customers use more electronics and there are more and larger homes and businesses in the communities we serve. With the increased demand for power in the Kirkland, Redmond, Kenmore, Bothell and Woodinville areas, our local transmission lines are approaching their capacity limits. Under certain conditions, including during summer and winter peaks (periods of the heaviest use of electricity for cooling or heating), the existing system can be overloaded, resulting in loss of service to our customers.

We need to accommodate this growing demand for power in order to continue to provide reliable power to our customers. Adding a new 115 kV transmission line will allow PSE to respond to the area's current and future need for power and reduce the possibility of system overloads, while increasing overall reliability to our 57,000 residential, commercial and industrial customers in the area.

How will this benefit you and your community?

The new transmission line will increase our electric capacity and improve reliability for our customers in the Kirkland, Redmond, Kenmore, Bothell and Woodinville areas.

Project schedule

- Initial community meetings: Summer 2008 and spring 2009
- Stakeholder advisory group meetings: Fall 2011 – winter 2012
- Community meetings: Fall 2011
- Route analysis and selection: Winter 2012
- Community meeting: Winter 2012
- Design and permitting: Spring – fall 2012
- Construction: Summer 2013
- Completion: 2013

What will the work entail?

- Trimming and removing vegetation along the route
- Installing new transmission poles and insulators
- Stringing transmission line
- Site restoration, including landscaping

Construction will be confined to normal daytime working hours during the week, with the possibility of some work on Saturdays. When working in or along roads, signs and flaggers will help direct traffic.

Why are transmission lines necessary?

Transmission lines are key elements in the electrical distribution system. The lines safely transport high voltage electricity from power generation sources like dams and wind farms to substations in local communities. Transmission normally takes place at voltages of 55 kV and higher.

PSE's commitment

PSE's mission is to deliver vital energy to meet the needs of our customers now and in the future. We are committed to keeping everyone informed of scheduled activities in their communities, and to ask for suggestions and opinions as we plan those activities.

For additional information/questions, please visit our project Web page at www.PSE.com/SammJuan115 or contact:

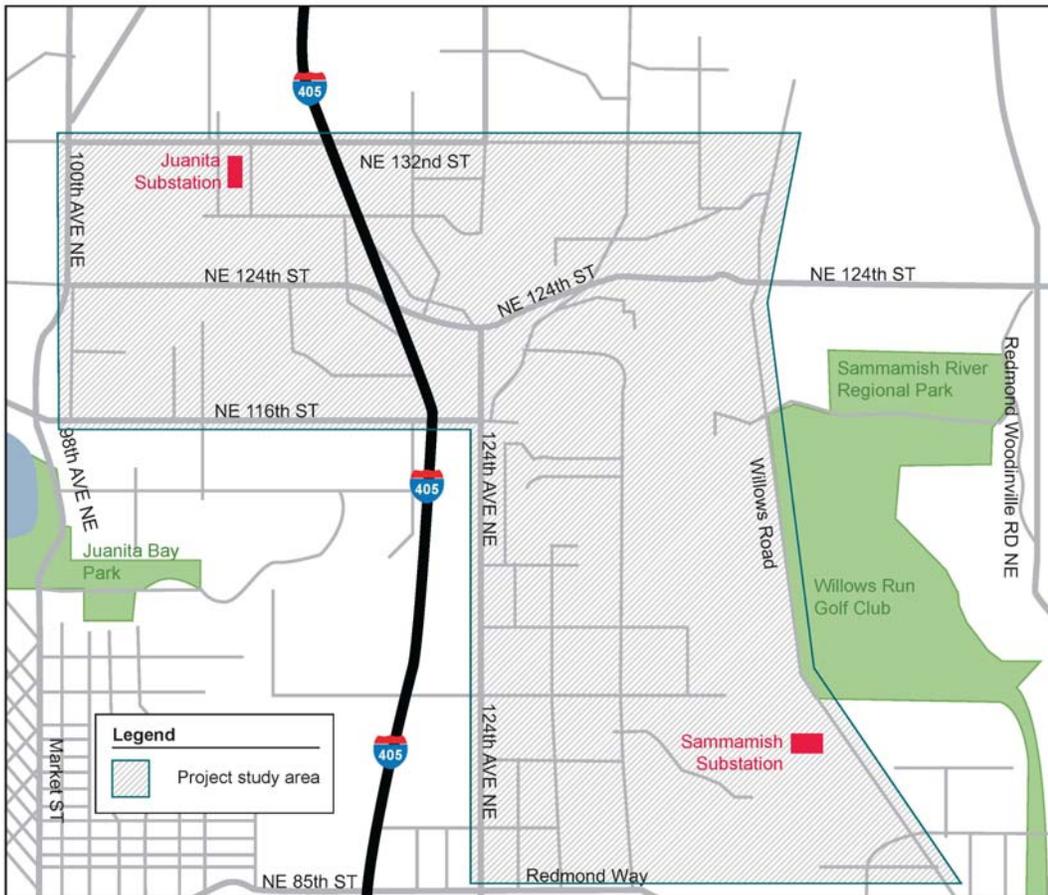
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We also welcome your comments and questions on our Sammamish – Juanita 115 kV transmission line project at info@sammjuan115.com.



Sammamish - Juanita
115 kV transmission line project



Attachment 2

PSE Transmission Line Project Advisory Group Members:

- **Wilson Anhar**, Aegis Lodge
- **Dirk Lakin**, Aerojet
- **Linda Murphy**, City of Kirkland – Parks and Community Services
- **Rob Jammerman**, City of Kirkland – Public Works
- **Eric McConaghy**, City of Redmond – Planning and Community Development
- **Jean Rice**, City of Redmond
- **Lynda Haneman**, Evergreen Hill Neighborhood
- **Lavon Weighall**, Evergreen Hospital
- **Ron Parker**, Greater Kirkland Chamber of Commerce
- **Danielle Lynch**, Greater Redmond Chamber of Commerce
- **Don Schmitz**, North Rose Hill Neighborhood
- **Mary Dunphy**, Juanita Neighborhoods
- **Andy Swayne**, Puget Sound Energy
- **Cindy Jayne**, Sustainable Redmond
- **Tom Matthews**, Willows Rose Hill Neighborhood

Purpose of the advisory group: The purpose of the project stakeholder advisory group is to collaborate with PSE to develop possible community-acceptable alternatives, as well as help PSE better understand the community issues to consider as they make the alignment decision on a route that will meet the needs of PSE’s customers, the local community and PSE.