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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**APPALACHIAN POWER ANNOUNCES PROPOSED ROUTE FOR BOONE COUNTY AREA IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

CHARLESTON, W.Va., Oct. 19, 2017 – Appalachian Power and its affiliate, AEP West Virginia Transmission Company, have determined a proposed route for the Boone County Area Improvements Project. The route was determined by incorporating public data gathered at open houses held in fall 2016 and spring 2017.

The project consists of:

- Rebuilding about 35 miles of existing transmission line
- Building one new substation
- Relocating a substation
- Making upgrades to several substations along the project route

The Boone County Area Improvements Project is a two-phase \$100 million investment that will strengthen the transmission grid in Boone and Kanawha counties by replacing aging infrastructure with new technology. The work will also ensure continued electric reliability to customer while meeting the region's increase in power demand.

Appalachian Power right-of-way representatives from O.R. Colan will start contacting affected property owners to discuss upcoming activities. Construction for phase one is expected to start summer 2018 and be completed by the end of 2019. Construction for phase two is expected to start in late 2018 and last about two years.

An interactive map of the proposed route can be found on the project website at [www.appalachianpower.com/boone](http://www.appalachianpower.com/boone).

Appalachian Power has 1 million customers in Virginia, West Virginia and Tennessee (as AEP Appalachian Power). It is a unit of American Electric Power, one of the largest electric utilities in the United States, delivering electricity and custom energy solutions to nearly 5.4 million customers in 11 states. AEP owns the nation's largest electricity transmission system, a more than 40,000-mile network that includes more 765-kilovolt extra-high voltage transmission lines than all other U.S. transmission

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systems combined. AEP also operates 224,000 miles of distribution lines. AEP ranks among the nation's largest generators of electricity, owning approximately 26,000 megawatts of generating capacity in the U.S. AEP supplies 3,200 megawatts of renewable energy to customers.

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