

# PRESTONSBURG - THELMA TRANSMISSION LINE REBUILD PROJECT

Kentucky Power representatives plan to upgrade the electric transmission grid in Floyd and Johnson counties to enhance electric reliability for area customers. Crews plan to begin construction summer 2026 and conclude by early 2028.

## WHAT

The project involves:

- Rebuilding approximately 14 miles of transmission line to 69 kilovolt (kV) standards between the Prestonsburg and Thelma substations
- Retiring approximately 2 miles of 46-kV transmission line between Kenwood Substation and Van Lear Switch Station
- Retiring Jenny Wiley Switch Station
- Retiring Van Lear Switch Station

Kentucky Power officials announced this project and hosted an in-person open house in late 2022. The project team announced a proposed route in May 2023 before placing the project on hold. Following community feedback and additional reviews, the team developed an alternate route for a portion of the line rebuild. We re-announced the project in September 2024 with a virtual open house and public comment period.

The project team selected the updated proposed route after reviewing input submitted from landowners and community members.

This project involves filing an application for approval with the Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC).

## WHY

The existing transmission line has experienced multiple power outages in recent years due to lightning and other causes. Currently, the customers served from the Kenwood Substation may experience longer restoration time when the transmission line experiences an outage.

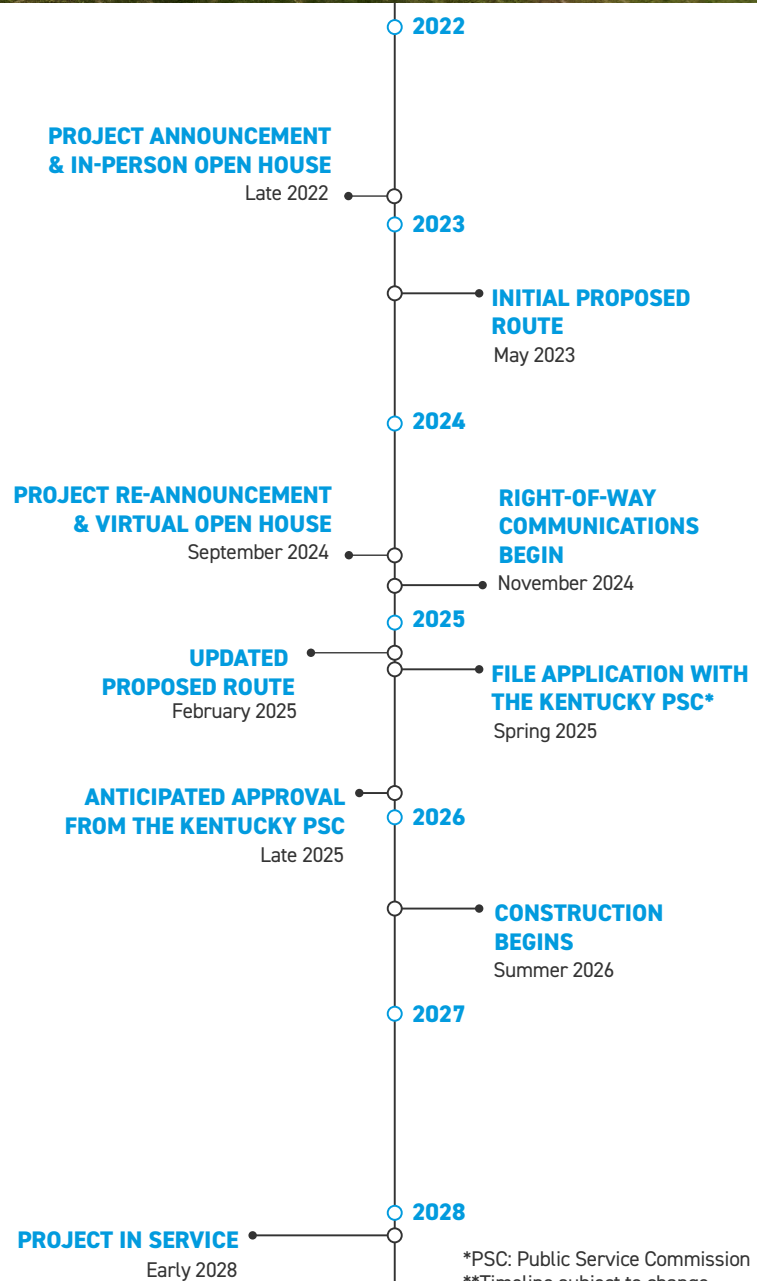
AEP and PJM, the regional transmission organization that monitors the electric transmission grid in our region, have identified additional needs for the upgrades. The proposed upgrades will mitigate identified reliability criteria violations and strengthen the transmission system to increase electric reliability for the area customers.

The proposed upgrades allow:

- Crews to rebuild the power line in an area with increased accessibility which accommodates construction equipment and more efficiently addresses maintenance needs and emergency situations
- Crews to replace aging wooden structures with modern steel structures
- Crews to add modern equipment that protects the line from lightning strikes

## WHERE

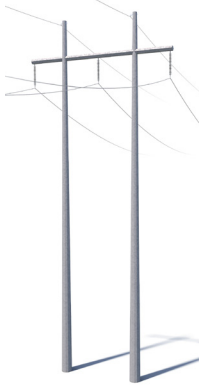
The project begins at the Prestonsburg Substation on Webb Lane in Prestonsburg and continues north to Thelma Substation in Thelma along Kentucky 1107.



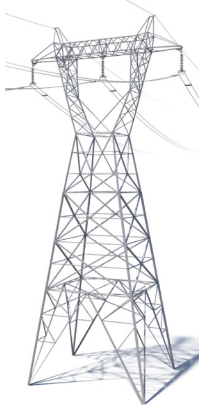
# TYPICAL STRUCTURES

Crews plan to install steel H-frame, lattice tower and three-pole structures along the line route.

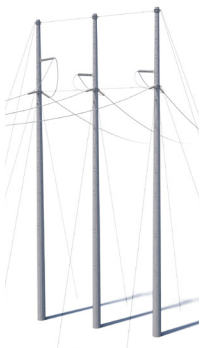
Typical Structure Height: [Approximately 80-100 feet\\*](#)  
 Typical Right-of-Way Width: [Approximately 100 feet\\*](#)



**\*PRIMARY STRUCTURE TO BE USED**  
**H-FRAME\***

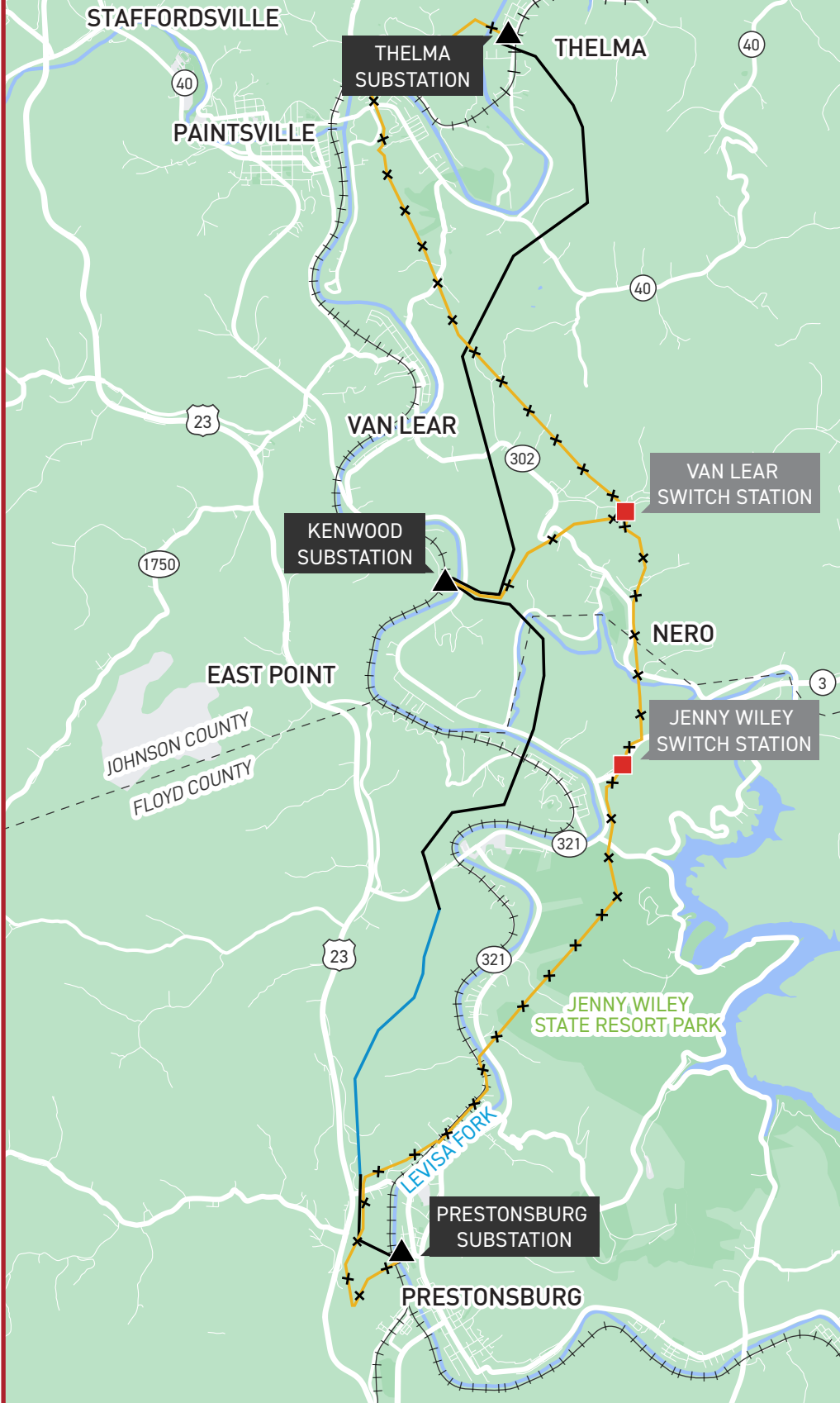


**LATTICE TOWER**



**THREE POLE STRUCTURE**

\*Exact structure, height, and right-of-way requirements may vary.



## PRESTONSBURG - THELMA TRANSMISSION LINE REBUILD PROJECT

- X EXISTING TRANSMISSION LINE TO BE RETIRED
- ▲ EXISTING SUBSTATION
- SWITCH STATION TO BE RETIRED
- PROPOSED ROUTE FOR TRANSMISSION LINE REBUILD
- UPDATED PROPOSED ROUTE - FEBRUARY 2025



**WE VALUE YOUR INPUT. PLEASE SEND COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS TO:**

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