



ASHDOWN - 12TH STREET TRANSMISSION LINE REBUILD PROJECT

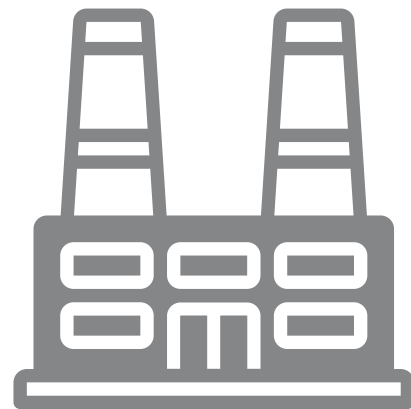
WELCOME TO OUR VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing recommendations made by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), SWEPCO invites you to attend this virtual open house in order to minimize in-person contact. SWEPCO remains committed to listening to your concerns and answering your questions, but we are also committed to keeping our customers and employees safe and healthy. We welcome your feedback via telephone and email as we strive to make the most informed decisions possible.

HOW THE SYSTEM WORKS

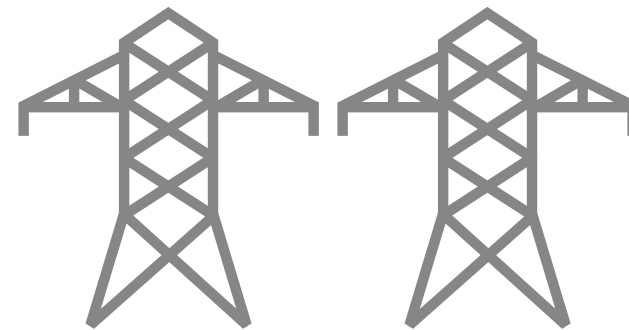
HIGH VOLTAGE

LOCAL TRANSMISSION >>



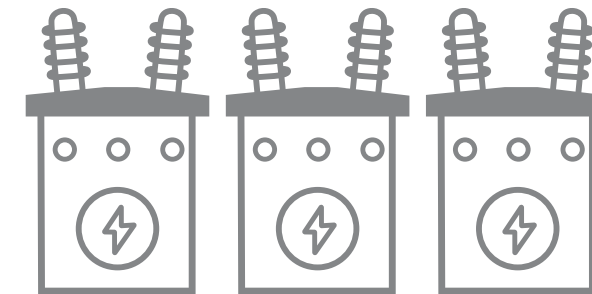
1) GENERATION STATIONS

SWEPSCO produces electricity at coal, natural gas and wind power stations and then transports it long distances over transmission lines.



2) EHV TRANSMISSION

Extra-high Voltage (EHV) electric transmission lines are generally 345-kilovolt on SWEPSCO's system.



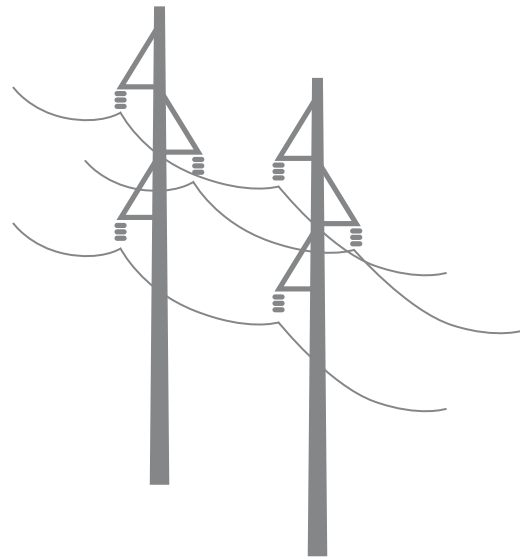
3) SUBSTATIONS

Substations direct the flow of electricity and either decrease or increase voltage levels for transport.

HOW THE SYSTEM WORKS

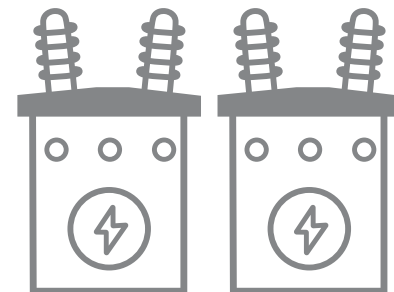
DISTRIBUTION >>

LOCAL TRANSMISSION



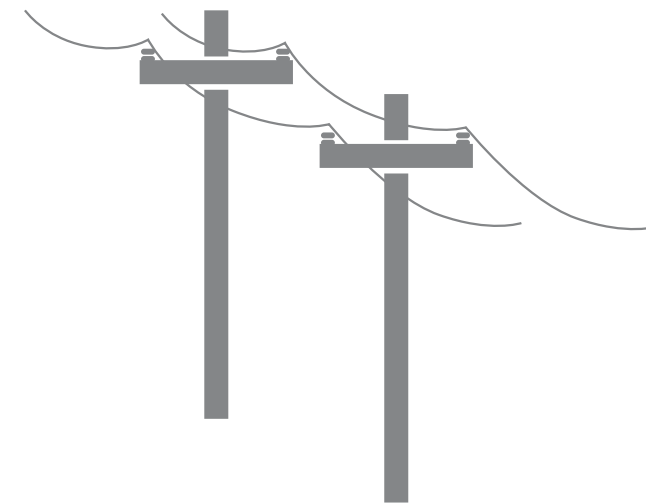
4) LOCAL TRANSMISSION

SWEPSCO typically uses 69-kV, 138-kV and 161-kV transmission lines to move power shorter distances - for example, to different parts of a city or county.



5) SUBSTATION

Substations transform 69-kV and 138-kV electricity into lower distribution level voltages such as 34.5 kV, 12 kV, or 7.2 kV.

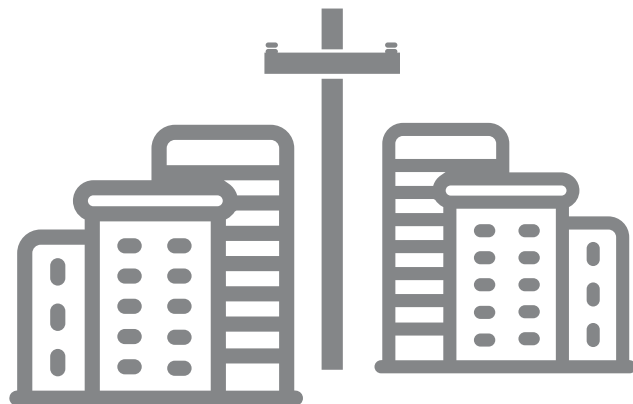


6) PRIMARY DISTRIBUTION

These main lines (also called circuits) connect substations to large parts of the community.

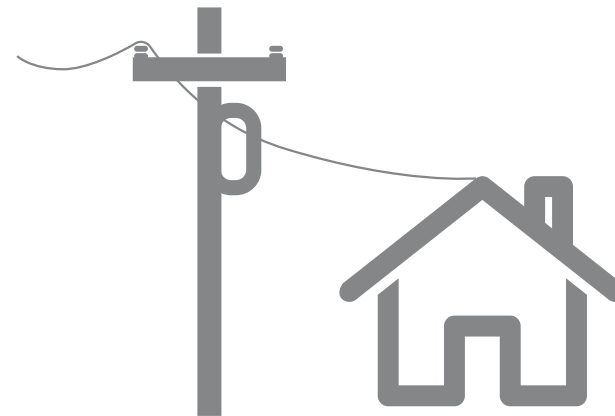
HOW THE SYSTEM WORKS

DISTRIBUTION



7) LATERAL DISTRIBUTION

These smaller capacity lines deliver electricity to neighborhoods and other smaller groups of customers.



8) INDIVIDUAL SERVICE

Smaller transformers step down voltage to levels customers can use -- typically 120 or 240 volts for individual residences.

TO USE AN ANALOGY, ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION IS SIMILAR TO OUR NATIONAL ROAD SYSTEM. THREE KINDS OF POWER LINES EXIST BETWEEN POWER PLANTS AND HOMES AND BUSINESSES:

- Extra-high Voltage lines are like electrical interstate highways.
- High-voltage local transmission lines are like four-lane roads.
- Distribution lines are like two-lane roads that eventually connect to your driveway.

PROJECT NEED & BENEFITS

WHY IS THE PROJECT IMPORTANT TO OUR COMMUNITY?

UPGRADED INFRASTRUCTURE

The project replaces wooden poles from the 1960s with modern equipment to strengthen the line against severe weather impacts, reduce maintenance frequency and reduce the likelihood of large, community-wide power outages.

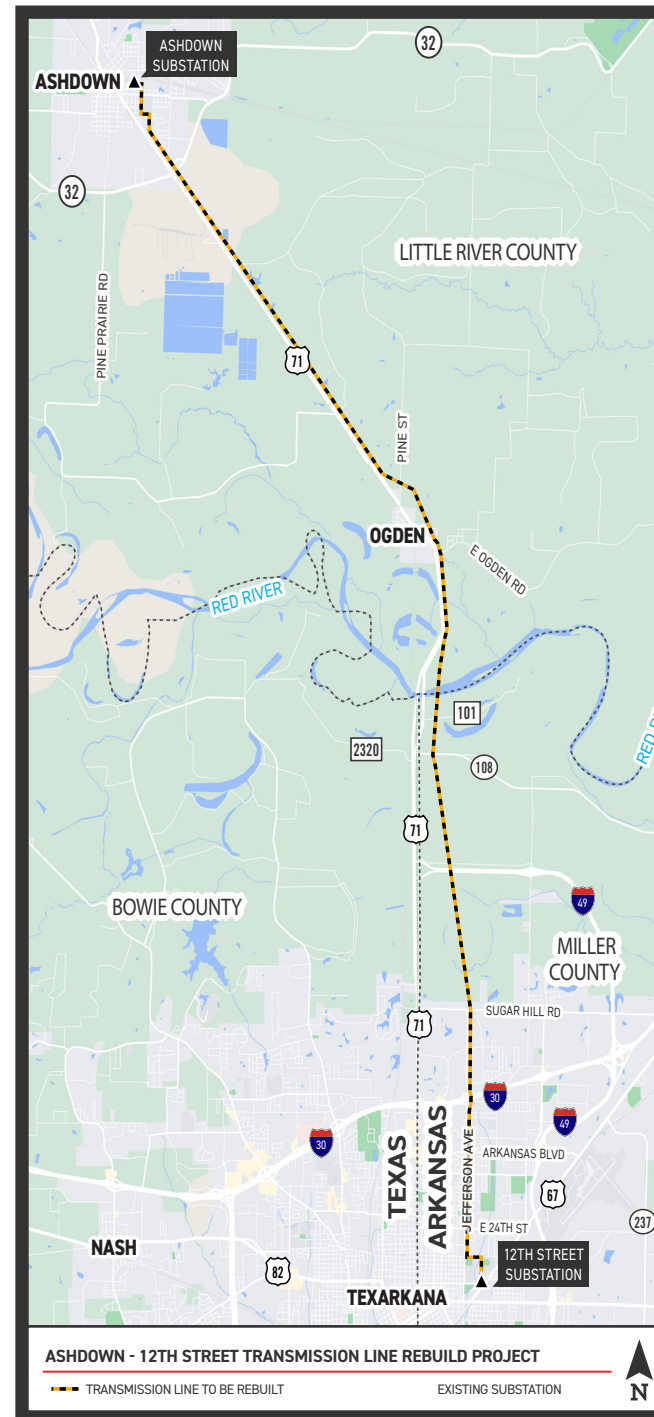
INCREASED CAPACITY

The Ashdown - 12th Street Transmission Line Rebuild Project increases electric capacity to ensure continued electric service reliability for customers.

MEETING FUTURE

The system needs to be upgraded in order to meet future power demands and accommodate growth in the Texarkana, Arkansas, region. At SWEPCO, we are committed to serving customers across western Arkansas by investing in a reliable, resilient grid.

PROJECT MAP

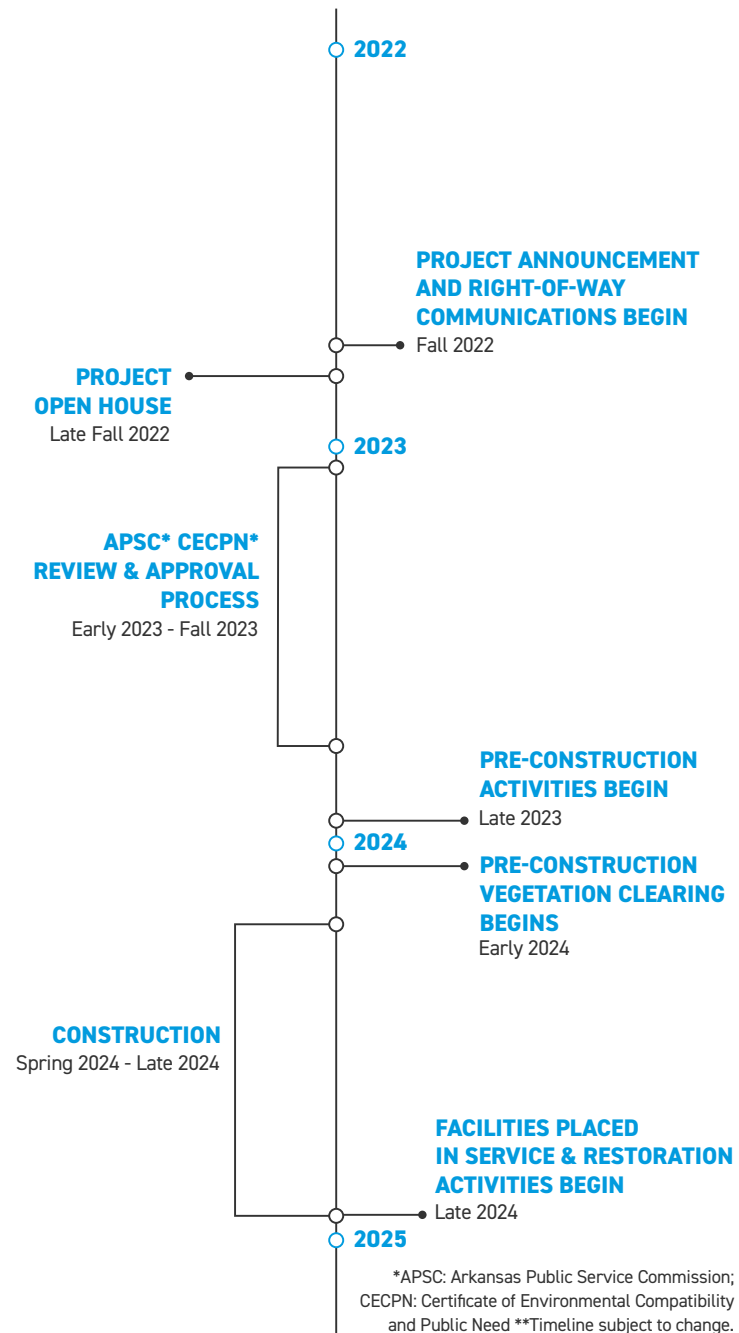




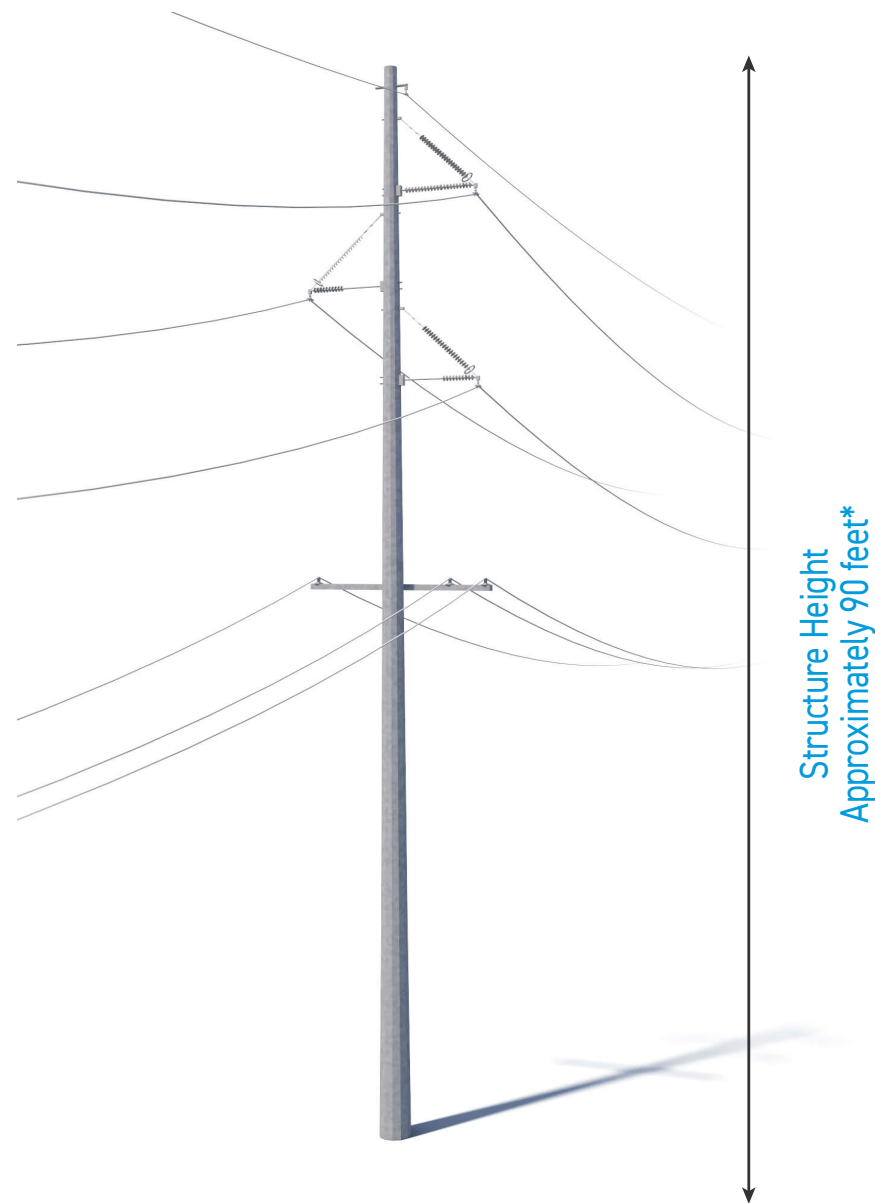
An AEP Company

BOUNDLESS ENERGY™

PROJECT SCHEDULE



PROPOSED STRUCTURES



SWEPCO engineers plan to use single-pole steel structures.

Typical Structure Height: **Approximately 90 feet***

Typical Distance Between Structures:

Approximately 600 feet*

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

RIGHT-OF-WAY

SWEPSCO HAS TWO KEY PHILOSOPHIES THAT PERTAIN TO POWER LINE RIGHTS-OF-WAY:



1 Routes should cause the least possible disturbance to people and the environment.



2 Property owners should be fairly compensated for any land rights that must be acquired.

RIGHT-OF-WAY

SWEPCO studies the land and proposes routes that reduce impacts on property owners.

SWEPCO reaches out to landowners in the following ways:

TO GAIN RIGHT-OF-ENTRY TO BEGIN:

- Environmental assessments
- Appraisal work
- Land surveying, soil boring and other field activities
- Cultural and historic resource reviews

TO SECURE RIGHT-OF-WAY AND COMMUNICATE:

- Landowner compensation
- Terms and conditions of easement
- Width of the right-of-way

TO OUTLINE I&M'S CONSTRUCTION PROCESS WITH A SPECIFIC FOCUS ON:

- Property restoration
- Damage mitigation as appropriate

ARKANSAS REGULATORY PROCESS

WHAT WE'RE DOING

Before constructing the new transmission line, SWEPCO must receive approval from the Arkansas Public Service Commission (APSC).

SWEPCO plans to file an application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (CECPN) in mid-January 2023.

Once filed, landowners are invited to monitor the proceedings and participate as they see fit, but all interventions or limited applications must be filed within 30 days of the CECPN filing, unless good cause is shown pursuant to Arkansas Code Ann. §23-18-517.

SWEPCO is required to provide notice to affected landowners at least 10 days prior to the filing of the CECPN application.

After filing, landowners can follow the proceeding at the APSC website, [Arkansas.gov/PSC](https://www.arkansas.gov/PSC).

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

WHAT WE'RE DOING

SWEPCO respects landowners, their property and the environment. In preparation for inclusion with the application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (CECPN) with the Arkansas Public Service Commission (APSC), SWEPCO representatives take the following measures:

- SWEPCO representatives prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with Arkansas law
- SWEPCO representatives complete environmental surveys that include collecting topographical data such as the location of streams, wetlands and potential habitats for endangered species, as required by state and federal agencies
- If a project crosses designated bodies of water, SWEPCO representatives file a Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) form with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- SWEPCO representatives conduct cultural and historic resource surveys as necessary and in accordance with the requirements of the State Historic Preservation Office

CONSTRUCTION FAQ

Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO) representatives plan to improve the electric transmission system in the Texarkana area. Crews plan to begin construction in fall 2023 and end in late 2024.

PROJECT COMPONENTS

The project involves rebuilding and upgrading a 19-mile, 69-kilovolt (kV) power line by replacing wooden poles with steel poles. The line's electric capacity will be increased from 69 kV to 138 kV. These upgrades improve reliability, enhance electric capacity and reduce the likelihood of large, community-wide power outages.

TRAFFIC CONTROL

SWEPCO representatives work to ensure public safety and minimize inconveniences during construction. Crews plan to:

- Close road lanes as needed
- Use flaggers and signs to aid traffic flow on city streets during the day
- Open road lanes at night if safety allows

DAILY CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

Construction typically takes place Monday - Sunday during daytime hours (7 a.m. - 7 p.m.), weather permitting.

PUBLIC SAFETY TIPS

- Keep your distance from construction workers and equipment
- Stay outside of temporary safety barriers
- Be aware of uneven or slippery surfaces
- Slow down when driving in the area and make sure your headlights are on
- Watch for posted signs
- Watch for road closures and traffic detours
- Follow flaggers' instructions

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING CONSTRUCTION

CONSTRUCTION SITE PREPARATION: EARLY FALL 2023 - FALL 2023

Crews mark utilities and pole locations along the power line route. Crews may remove fences, trees and other obstructions from the right-of-way area where necessary.

Crews also:

- Install fences around the construction area for the public's safety
- Remove parts of sidewalks around various pole locations
- Remove soil to make room for the larger bases of the new poles

CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY: FALL 2023 - LATE 2024

Crews place pole sections along the right-of-way corridor prior to pole installation.

At most pole locations, crews:

- Assemble the new pole and place it near the installation area
- Remove existing wires and other equipment from the existing poles
- Remove the existing poles
- Install and stabilize the base of the new pole
- Install and secure the new pole
- Install new wires on the new poles along the power line route

FACILITIES PLACED IN SERVICE: LATE 2024

Crews place the facilities in service after finishing pole and wire installations.

POST-CONSTRUCTION AND SITE RESTORATION: LATE 2024 - SPRING 2025

SWEPCO representatives follow construction crews throughout the project to restore sidewalks and other neighborhood properties to as close to their pre-construction condition as possible. Right-of-way agents also work with landowners to address any other property damages.

*Schedule subject to change based on weather or other factors.

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT



THE GOALS OF SWEPCO'S VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ARE TO:

- Protect our system and minimize outages
- Minimize any adverse environmental impacts
- Ensure compliance with all applicable laws and regulations
- Perform our work as safely as possible, and
- Maintain a positive relationship with land owners and the public

WHAT IS VEGETATION MANAGEMENT?

The practice of controlling the growth of trees and other woody stemmed vegetation in line corridors and around substations, while maintaining respect for the environment.

WHY IS IT DONE?



To minimize power outages caused by trees and other plants coming into contact with power lines.



ASHDOWN - 12TH STREET

TRANSMISSION LINE REBUILD PROJECT

THANK YOU!

Thank you for visiting the project virtual open house. For more information and project updates please visit the project website, or contact us with any additional questions.



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OPEN HOUSE**



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SLIDE DECK**



CONTACT US



**VISIT PROJECT
WEBSITE**