



NEWS from Indiana Michigan Power

MEDIA CONTACT:

Tracy Warner
Indiana Michigan Power Communications
(260) 408-3420
Cell: 260-479-9484
tkwarner@aep.com

April 14, 2017

I&M ANNOUNCES CENTRAL SOUTH BEND SUBSTATION DECISION

SOUTH BEND, Ind. – Indiana Michigan Power (I&M), an operating unit of American Electric Power, plans to rebuild and upgrade the existing Colfax Substation on Colfax Avenue as part of its Central South Bend Reliability Project.

All of the equipment at the existing Colfax substation will be removed, and an entirely new substation built at the same location. The new construction will allow I&M to place lines entering and exiting the station underground, reducing the number of poles and overhead wires at the location.

By rebuilding the Colfax substation, a new substation along Niles Avenue will no longer be necessary, and I&M does not intend to pursue plans to build there.

The final determination to build rebuild at the current Colfax location was reached following a comprehensive siting study, thorough evaluation of alternative sites, public input received during and following a public open house in February and evaluation of additional information from city and community representatives.

“Our goal in these complex projects is to identify a responsible solution by carefully balancing the needs to upgrade and maintain our electric infrastructure while minimizing impacts to our customers,” said Mark Robinson, Indiana Michigan Power Community Affairs Manager. “The project team evaluated alternatives and did its due diligence before determining to rebuild the Colfax Substation on the company’s property.”

Building a new substation is essential to ensure continued reliable electric service is delivered to South Bend area customers.

The Central South Bend project also includes replacing the Drewry Substation with the new Muessel Substation and constructing an approximately 2-mile 69-kilovolt underground transmission line given the congested and constrained urban area. The new line creates a redundant supply of electricity to improve reliability and lessen impacts of outages. The final line route will be announced at a later date.

To view an interactive map of the line route, receive project updates, and view schedule information, please visit the project website at www.IndianaMichiganPower.com/CentralSB

#

Indiana Michigan Power (I&M) is headquartered in Fort Wayne, and its 2,450 employees serve more than 589,000 customers. It operates 2,600 MW of coal-fired generation in Indiana, 2,160 MW of nuclear generation in Michigan and 22 MW of hydro generation in both states. The company also provides its customers 450 MW of purchased wind generation and approximately 15 MW of large-scale solar generation.

American Electric Power is 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 systems combined. AEP also operates 223,000 miles of distribution lines. AEP ranks among the nation's largest generators of electricity, owning approximately 31,000 megawatts of generating capacity in the U.S. AEP's utility units operate as AEP Ohio, AEP Texas, Appalachian Power (in Virginia and West Virginia), AEP Appalachian Power (in Tennessee), Indiana Michigan Power, Kentucky Power, Public Service Company of Oklahoma, and Southwestern Electric Power Company (in Arkansas, Louisiana and east Texas). AEP's headquarters are in Columbus, Ohio.

News releases and other information about I&M are available at IndianaMichiganPower.com