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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**APPALACHIAN POWER TO HOST OPEN HOUSE FOR CONAWAY TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

ROANOKE, Va., June 27, 2024 – Appalachian Power representatives are upgrading the transmission system and hosting an open house in Buchanan County as part of the Conaway Transmission Improvements Project, which involves:

- Building approximately 6 miles of new 69-kilovolt (kV) transmission line.
- Retiring approximately 6 miles of 34.5-kV transmission line.
- Building the new Conaway Substation.
- Upgrading the Looney Creek Substation.
- Retiring the Big Rock and Thomas substations.

The upgrades to the local electric transmission system benefit area customers by replacing deteriorating equipment with modern technology.

“These upgrades improve the resilience of the local electrical grid, leading to fewer and shorter power outages for customers in the area,” said George Porter, Appalachian Power spokesperson. “This project also allows crews to locate the new transmission line in a more accessible location, which will aid in future maintenance.”

The project team has developed preliminary transmission line route options and is looking for feedback from area residents to reduce impacts to the community. Landowners and community members are invited to an open house to provide feedback.

**Wednesday, July 17 from 5 to 7 p.m. at  
Riverview Elementary/Middle School (REMS)  
27382 Riverside Drive, Grundy VA 24614**

There is no formal presentation, so attendees may come and go any time during the two-hour event to talk to project representatives and view detailed maps. Residents who cannot attend the open house can visit the project website and virtual open house at [AppalachianPower.com/Conaway](https://www.AppalachianPower.com/Conaway).

## **Appalachian Power**

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Landowners within the project area can expect to receive a packet in the mail that includes additional project details and a comment card to provide feedback on or before **Friday, July 26**. Construction is expected to begin fall 2027 and conclude by late 2028.

Appalachian Power has 1 million customers in Virginia, West Virginia and Tennessee (as AEP Appalachian Power). It is part of American Electric Power (AEP), which is focused on building a smarter energy infrastructure and delivering new technologies and custom energy solutions. AEP's approximately 16,700 employees operate and maintain the nation's largest electricity transmission system and more than 224,000 miles of distribution lines to efficiently deliver safe, reliable power to nearly 5.5 million customers in 11 states. AEP is also one of the nation's largest electricity producers with approximately 31,000 megawatts of diverse generating capacity, including 5,300 megawatts of renewable energy.

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