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APPALACHIAN POWER ANNOUNCES OPEN HOUSE TO INTRODUCE A NEW PROJECT IN BOONE, LOGAN AND WYOMING COUNTIES

CHARLESTON, W.Va., October 12, 2017 – Appalachian Power and its affiliate, AEP West Virginia Transmission Company, plan to invest about \$60 million to improve the electric system in Boone, Logan and Wyoming counties.

The Becco – Kopperston Transmission Line Project will improve the power grid in southern West Virginia by replacing aging infrastructure with modern technology. This project will improve communication between transmission facilities, which will decrease restoration times.

Major project components include:

- Upgrading 13 miles of single-circuit transmission line to 69-kilovolt (kV) standards
- Building 3 miles of new double-circuit 138 kV transmission line
- Building a new Lacey Branch Substation
- Making upgrades to existing substations
- Replacing a mile of wire to improve communication between substations.

“All of these improvements will assist in creating a transmission system that can better provide continued reliable electric service, said Phil Moye, corporate communications manager for Appalachian Power. “With any transmission line project we want to improve electric service while minimizing our impact on the community.”

The projects study segments begin with the mile of wire to improve communications at the substation on Koppers Mine Road on the Wyoming – Boone County line. The next 16 miles of the project continues west starting at the tap point on the Kanawha – Baileysville 138 kV transmission line. The transmission line route then crosses into Boone County, where the line connects at the new Lacey Branch Substation on Route 85. The next 13 miles of the transmission line parallels Buffalo Creek Road until arriving at the Becco Substation.

The company will host an open house to share project details and to receive input from the community and affected landowners. The open house is scheduled for 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., Thursday,

Appalachian Power

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October 26, at Buffalo Elementary School, 2367 Buffalo Creek Rd, Accoville. Visitors may come any time during the open house to learn project details, view maps of proposed routes and share feedback with project team members.

“Talking with community members allows us to gather valuable information. Everything we learn at an open house is taken into consideration to determine a proposed route,” said Moye.

Construction is expected to start fall 2018 and be complete by summer 2019. Once complete, the project will bring Boone, Logan and Wyoming counties an estimated combined annual tax revenue of \$900,000.

Additional information about the project including maps, a timeline and updates can be found at www.AppalachianPower.com/Becco.

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 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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