

# Beverly – Hills (Johnson County) Transmission Line Project

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

ITC Midwest is planning to build an electric transmission line that travels through Linn and Johnson counties from ITC Midwest's Beverly Substation in Cedar Rapids in Linn County to the MidAmerican Energy Hills Substation located near Hills in Johnson County. The proposed route includes building a 345,000 volt (345 kV) transmission line that joins the route of an existing 161 kV transmission line which will be removed and rebuilt in a double circuit configuration (two circuits on the same structures). The structures will be built to be capable of accommodating another 345 kV transmission line. Altogether through the two counties, the line is approximately 40 miles. The segment in Johnson County is approximately 26 miles.

The final route may change and will be determined when easement negotiations with landowners are completed and the Iowa Utilities Commission has approved the project. (Please see map of the proposed line route corridor in Johnson County on the back.)

### ***Why is this line needed?***

In response to ongoing growth and the significant increase in electricity demand projected in the greater Cedar Rapids-Iowa City corridor over the next few years, the Beverly-Hills line is needed to provide essential electric transmission capacity. When placed in service, the new transmission infrastructure will also help ensure grid reliability and system resilience.

**The Beverly – Hills project will provide numerous benefits and drive value for electric consumers locally and regionally. When completed, this transmission line will:**

- Increase transmission infrastructure to **improve system reliability**
- Enhance grid resilience to better **withstand extreme weather**
- **Expand access to generation resources** for electric consumers by reducing transmission system congestion
- Improve distribution of **lower-cost energy resources**, including renewables
- **Increase transmission system capacity** to help meet current and future demand for electricity.

### ***Whose approval is required to build this line?***

The Iowa Utilities Commission (IUC) grants regulatory approvals, called franchises, to Iowa utilities seeking to build transmission lines in the state. As part of its review process, the IUC reviews many aspects of the project such as the need for the line and the proposed route. The IUC has very clear criteria and a clear process for utilities to follow to request a franchise.

### ***What is being done to ensure this line will be safe?***

This line will be designed to meet and even exceed the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), the nationally-recognized design standard in the United States, as well as the Iowa Electrical Safety Code. Among other things, these codes require construction to meet clearance requirements and withstand extreme weather conditions. As the line owner, ITC Midwest will make sure that the line is clear of trees and other vegetation.

