



## Project Information & Notice of Survey & Field Work April 15, 2019

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Dear Neighbor:

During the last several years, in response to State-identified needs, New York's investor-owned utilities have been working to develop electric transmission solutions to relieve congestion on New York's power grid. One of those solutions is the New York Energy Solution ("NYES"), a proposed transmission project to retire, replace, and upgrade existing, aged electric infrastructure to relieve congestion, enhance reliability, and facilitate renewable energy. The project was selected earlier this month by the New York Independent System Operator ("NYISO") following a competitive process and detailed analysis. NYES will now proceed to siting and permitting.

This communication serves as an official notification of the project's selection and intent to advance key field survey activities (fact sheet enclosed). A top priority for NYES is stakeholder engagement and communication to ensure a two-way dialogue throughout the project's progress. We welcome your questions and comments, and look forward to meeting with you and other members of the community in the coming weeks. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our team with any questions at 855-433-3611 or [info@ny-es.com](mailto:info@ny-es.com).

**What is NYES?** NYES is an electric transmission project that will stay within existing rights-of-way to unbottle New York's electric grid and facilitate the flow of clean energy. This will be done by replacing 80-year-old transmission assets with a new 54-mile 345 kV overhead line in an existing utility corridor from Schodack to Pleasant Valley, as well as building a new switching station and upgrading two existing stations on utility owned-land. The project will not cross the Hudson River or expand the existing transmission corridor. NYES will meet key environmental goals while providing for a more reliable, resilient electric system.

**Who is developing NYES?** The project is being developed and permitted by New York Transco, an owner and developer of transmission facilities in New York. New York Transco is owned by subsidiaries of National Grid, Con Edison, AVANGRID, and CH Energy Group.

**What are the next steps for NYES?** NYES will focus on stakeholder engagement, siting and permitting. The project is required to go through the New York Article VII permitting and approval process

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overseen by the New York Public Service Commission (“PSC”). This is a “one-stop shop” permitting and approval process for State and local permits for large transmission projects like NYES. This process incorporates many public involvement opportunities.

**What will I see from NYES?** In the near term, we will be conducting surveys and other field work throughout the spring and summer to support required environmental analyses. Please see the attached fact sheet for more information. Our team will also be present at upcoming local meetings and events to share information about the project and process, and to answer your questions.

**What is the background on NYES?** NYES was originally proposed in 2013 under the PSC’s AC Transmission Upgrades competitive proceeding. The project today is largely the same as presented back then: a 54-mile 345 kV overhead transmission line from Schodack to Pleasant Valley, using existing National Grid rights-of-way. The project stays within existing rights-of-way and replaces aging assets.

**How can I get more information or become involved?** Our team will be conducting local meetings, starting this spring. We are available via our project hotline at 855-433-3611 or email at [info@ny-es.com](mailto:info@ny-es.com), and will regularly post information on our project website, [www.NY-ES.com](http://www.NY-ES.com). The Article VII process also includes many opportunities for public involvement.

Thank you for reviewing these materials. We look forward to meeting you soon and welcome working together to ensure timely delivery of this important New York infrastructure project .

Best Regards,

Shannon Baxevanis  
Stakeholder & Communications Lead  
New York Energy Solution

Encl. Survey & Field Work Fact Sheet

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## Information on Survey Activities Spring & Summer 2019

The New York Energy Solution (NYES) is a proposed transmission line upgrade in Rensselaer, Columbia, and Dutchess Counties. To support the siting and permitting process, field crews will undertake the following activities from spring to fall 2019.

### Photography (April–June)

Photography will include crews taking many photographs from ground-level. Ideally, there will be two rounds of this photography: one round with the leaves off the trees, and one round with leaves on the trees. LIDAR measurements, which help determine an area's topography, will also be taken. Crews will use a small aircraft to take measurements using a pulsed laser light. Several control points will be needed at the ground-level for the LIDAR.

### Noise Testing (May)

A two-person crew will use specialized equipment at each substation site where work is proposed (in the towns of Schodack, Claverack, and Pleasant Valley) to determine ambient noise levels. The tests will run during both the day and night. Some areas where roads cross the existing transmission line corridor may also be tested.

### Environmental Surveys (May–July)

Environmental surveys will consist of wetland boundary flagging, identification of potential rare, threatened, and endangered species habitats, and flagging for potential areas of invasive species. The crews will consist of two to three people who will be taking photos and filling out forms.

### Archeological Shovel Testing (May–July)

In order to test for archeologically-significant artifacts, shovel tests will be done by crews of typically two people. The crew will use shovels to dig 18" by 18" test pits, up to three feet deep, and fill out forms and take pictures. Once this is done, the holes will be refilled. A report will be made to the State Historic Preservation Office.

### Geotechnical Testing (Soil Borings) (Summer–Fall)

Small machinery, such as a skidsteer, will be mobilized to dig test holes in the transmission right-of-way to determine soil types. These tests are important for finalizing design on the transmission structure foundations.

### Get In Touch



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