

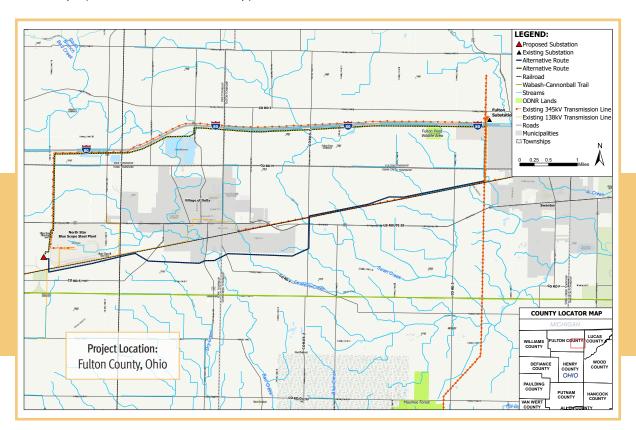
# DOWLING-FULTON 345-KILOVOLT TRANSMISSION LINE TO MELBOURNE SUBSTATION PROJECT

At FirstEnergy, it's our responsibility to deliver the power our customers depend on in their daily lives. American Transmission Systems, Inc. (ATSI), a FirstEnergy company, has identified a need for a new substation and 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Fulton County, Ohio, to enhance electric service reliability for existing customers, add redundancy to the network and allow for future growth.

# **PROIECT OVERVIEW**

ATSI has completed an evaluation of the existing 345-kV transmission system in Fulton County and identified the need to build a new 345-kV transmission line that will extend nine miles from the existing Dowling-Fulton 345-kV transmission line to the proposed Melbourne Substation. The transmission line will be supported primarily by steel monopole structures. ATSI will also construct two additional 345-kV transmission lines, each approximately half a mile in length, to connect the existing Sydney Substation to the proposed Melbourne Substation.

PJM, the regional transmission system operator, and the PJM stakeholders have reviewed the proposed project, which has been assigned the supplemental upgrade identification number s2237. More information about the project can be found at www.pjm.com.



Continued on back



### TRANSMISSION LINE SITING AND APPROVALS

A detailed routing study was performed to identify potential routes for the project. These routes were carefully evaluated to minimize impacts to environmentally sensitive areas, property owners and communities. ATSI will seek approval from the Ohio Power Siting Board ("OPSB") for the project.

As part of the siting process, detailed wetland, stream and other environmental and cultural resource evaluations will be performed. Necessary permits will be secured from local, state and federal agencies before construction.

## **EASEMENTS**

ATSI will negotiate with property owners to acquire necessary easements and vegetation management rights to support the new transmission line. Field agents will contact property owners to discuss transmission line easements and/or any temporary access needed during construction.

# PRELIMINARY PROJECT TIMELINE

Informal Public Open House	.August 2022
OPSB-Required Public Informational Meeting	.December 2022
OPSB Application Filed	.First Quarter 2023
Anticipated OPSB Order, Opinion and Certificate	.First Quarter 2024
Anticipated Start of Construction	.Second Quarter 2024
Anticipated Project Completion	.Second Quarter 2025

### **ENERGIZING THE FUTURE**

In addition to localized transmission projects like this one, FirstEnergy is upgrading and strengthening the transmission grid through its Energizing the Future initiative to meet the existing and future needs of our customers and communities. Projects are focused on upgrading or replacing aging equipment to harden our transmission infrastructure, reduce outages and cut maintenance costs; enhancing performance by building a smarter, more secure transmission system; and adding flexibility by building in redundancy and allowing system operators to react more swiftly to changing grid conditions.

For more information about *Energizing the Future*, visit firstenergycorp.com/transmission.

