

# RICHWOOD HILL TRANSMISSION PROJECT

*Proposed Substation and Transmission Line  
Will Support Local Shale Gas Industry*

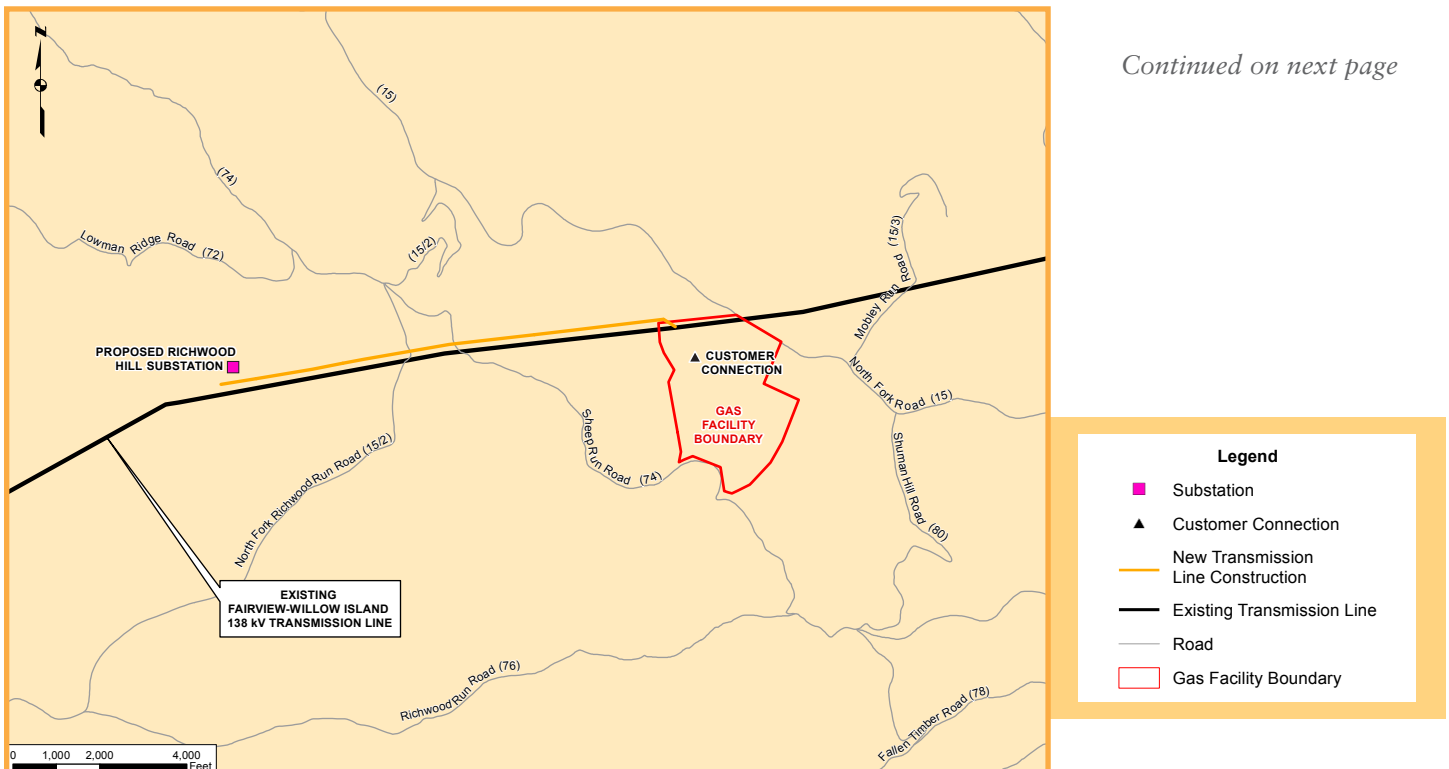
FirstEnergy and its operating companies are proposing to build a new 138-kilovolt (kV) substation and transmission line in Wetzel County to support West Virginia's growing Marcellus Shale industry, including a new natural gas processing facility in the area.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

A new 138-kV transmission line will extend about two miles from the proposed Richwood Hill Substation to a new natural gas processing facility, both located in Grant District, Wetzel County, West Virginia. The estimated cost of the project is \$63 million.

## ROUTING

A detailed routing study was completed to identify potential routes for the line that will minimize potential impact on communities and the environment. Initially, five distinct route locations were evaluated for overall environmental feasibility. The route shown on the map was selected for this project because it has the least overall impact and follows an existing transmission line corridor.



## PROJECT NEED

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This project will support the electric demands of the area's rapidly expanding Marcellus Shale industry, specifically a new, energy-intensive natural gas processing facility.

## REGULATORY APPROVAL

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FirstEnergy's Mon Power and TrAILCo affiliates will submit letters to the staff of the Public Service Commission of West Virginia advising them of the project.

## EASEMENTS

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In most locations, a new 150-foot wide right-of-way (ROW) will be needed for the proposed transmission line. In limited areas, depending on the topography, more ROW may be necessary to accommodate the line.

## PERMITTING

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Detailed wetland, stream and other environmental and historical evaluations will be performed along the transmission line route and substation. Necessary permit applications will be submitted to state and federal agencies.

## CONSTRUCTION

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Construction of the substation is scheduled to begin in January 2016. Clearing of the transmission line right-of-way is expected to begin in February 2016, with line construction scheduled to begin in spring 2016. The project is planned to be placed in service by November 2016.

## PRELIMINARY PROJECT TIME

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First and Second Quarter 2016	Permits received; start of construction
November 2016	Project complete; placed in service

## ABOUT ENERGIZING THE FUTURE

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*Energizing the Future* is a \$4.2 billion transmission initiative through 2017 that involves upgrading and strengthening the grid to meet the future demands of our customers and communities. Key factors driving this major investment in our transmission system include replacing existing equipment with advanced technologies designed to enhance system reliability; meeting projected load growth driven primarily by shale gas-related activity in our region; and reinforcing the system in light of power plant deactivations.

For more information, visit [firstenergycorp.com/transmission](http://firstenergycorp.com/transmission).

