



Aubrey Dunn, State Land Commissioner
State of New Mexico

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Commissioner Dunn moves Southline Transmission Project forward

SANTA FE, NM – New Mexico State Land Commissioner Aubrey Dunn today announced the finalization of a right-of-way easement for the Southline Transmission Project, a proposed 345-kilovolt (kV) double-circuit electric transmission line designed to collect and transmit New Mexico-generated renewable energy across the southern part of the state and southern Arizona.

Commissioner Dunn said the long-anticipated project will benefit the State Land Trust and New Mexico on multiple fronts.

“The Southline Transmission Project will improve New Mexico’s electric grid and support the transmission of renewable energy to key western markets while generating nearly \$12 million in revenue in annual payments to our Trust over the next 35 years,” Commissioner Dunn said. “In addition to the economic benefits, we appreciate Southline’s efforts to utilize existing corridors and minimize the overall footprint of their transmission project on State Trust Lands.”

The 200-foot wide transmission line will stretch more than 72 miles, traversing some 1,747 acres of State Trust Land. The company has elected to start with annual payments of approximately \$239,000, but have the option to make a lump-sum payment during the term of the right-of-way.

Commissioner Dunn’s announcement regarding the finalization of the right-of-way brings the project – already years in the making – closer to fruition.

“Many hours of preplanning, right-of-way administration and field review have gone into this project. The completion of this project marks the culmination of a cooperative effort between the Land Office and the Southline team,” Dunn said.

Southline Transmission, L.L.C. utilized an innovative approach that respects New Mexico’s communities and their natural and cultural resources.

“With this agreement, the Southline Transmission Project has reached another significant milestone in providing infrastructure critical to the integration of renewables and for reliable electric service to New Mexico and the Desert Southwest,” said Hunter Hunt, President of Hunt Power, the parent company of Southline Transmission, L.L.C. “We sincerely appreciate the support of Commissioner Dunn and the staff of the New Mexico State Land Office in moving this project forward.”

About Southline Transmission, L.L.C.

Southline Transmission, L.L.C., a subsidiary of Hunt Power, L.P., is the sponsor of the Southline Transmission Project. Hunt Power develops and invests in entrepreneurial electric opportunities and is part of a larger privately-owned group of companies managed by the Ray L. Hunt family that engages in oil and gas exploration, refining, power, real estate, ranching, and private equity investments. For more information, please visit www.southlinetransmissionproject.com.

Oil, gas, and mineral production, ranching and farming, and commercial development on State Trust Lands support public schools, seven universities, New Mexico Military Institute, New Mexico School for the Deaf, New Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, three hospitals, correctional facilities, water conservation projects, and public building construction and repair. In fiscal year 2017, the State Land Office collected \$664 million from lease payments, oil and gas lease sale earnings, rights-of-way, permits, interest, fees, and oil, gas, and mineral royalties.