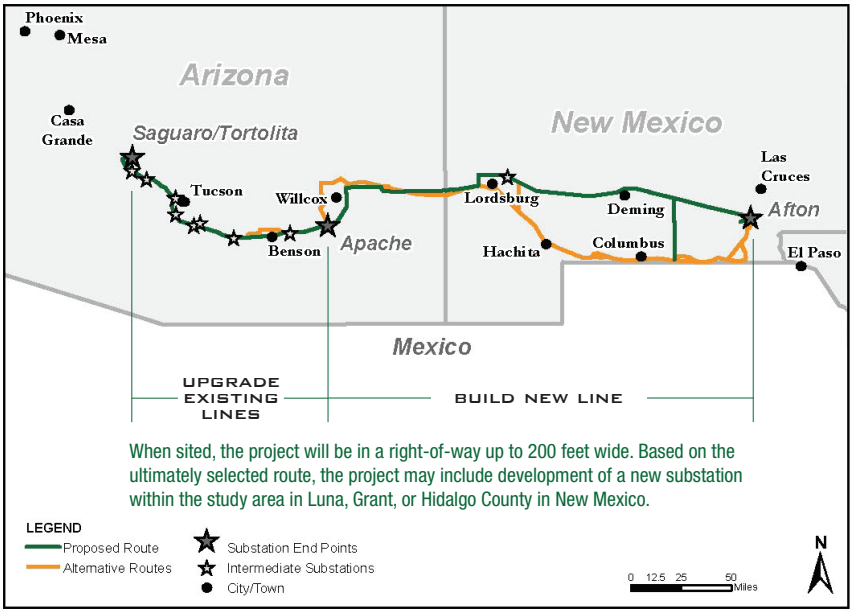
SOUTHLINE TRANSMISSION PROJECT

What is the Southline Transmission Project?

The Southline Transmission Project is a proposed transmission line designed to collect and transmit electricity across southern New Mexico and southern Arizona, bringing electric system benefits to the Desert Southwest, one of America's fastest-growing regions. The project is being designed to minimize land and resource impacts by developing a route along existing linear features and by upgrading existing transmission lines where feasible – an innovative approach that respects the region's communities and natural and cultural resources. The project will provide up to 1,000 megawatts of transmission capacity and will consist of two sections:

- Approximately **240 miles of new, 345-kilovolt (kV) double-circuit transmission lines** between the existing substations at Afton (NM) and Apache (AZ); and
- A series of upgrades to approximately **120 miles of existing transmission lines** (from single-circuit 115-kV to double-circuit 230-kV) between the Apache (AZ) and Saguaro (AZ) substations.



The Bureau of Land Management and Western Area Power Administration serve as the joint lead agencies for the environmental review process. For more information, please visit: www.blm.gov/nm/southline and http://go.usa.gov/E8I

Why is the Southline Transmission Project Needed?

- ***To improve reliability*** – There is limited existing electrical transmission capacity in the region, which causes system reliability risks.
- ***To relieve congestion*** – Since existing transmission capacity is fully used, additional transmission capacity in the region is needed to relieve congestion and help local utilities access the most cost-efficient energy sources
- ***To sustain growth*** – The Desert Southwest area is expected to experience substantial long-term growth, creating increased demand for energy and therefore a greater need for transmission capacity to provide that energy.
- ***To facilitate renewable energy*** – Satisfying the renewable energy requirements of western states will require access to transmission for renewable resources; a major challenge facing renewable energy development is insufficient transmission access.

What Benefits Does the Southline Transmission Project Bring?

- ***Cost-effective, reliable electricity*** – By interconnecting with more than 10 substations along its route, the Southline Transmission Project will enable local utilities to meet energy demands.
- ***Local economic development*** – The Southline Transmission Project will facilitate local economic development through project construction, enhanced power reliability, and by enabling additional local renewable energy development.
- ***Resource conservation*** – The Southline Transmission Project will minimize land use conflicts by working from federal and state energy and land use planning efforts, using existing infrastructure, and developing a route along existing infrastructure corridors.
- ***Renewable energy*** – The Southline Transmission Project will facilitate the connection of renewable energy projects to the electric system, helping states in the Desert Southwest meet renewable energy requirements.
- ***Smart, coordinated approach*** – The Southline Transmission Project team has worked closely with local utilities and other transmission providers since 2009 to ensure the Southline Transmission Project meets local needs and improves the region's electric system.

2011
Public engagement and outreach, including public workshops to develop routing alternatives

2012 – 2013
Federal, state, and local permitting processes

2013 – 2014
Right-of-way acquisition, procurement, and construction

2015
Targeted in-service date

We look forward to working with you

Please visit our website to sign up for updates, access the latest information, and find out how to participate.
We strive to respond rapidly to all inquiries, including requests for meetings and presentations.

Website: **www.southlinetransmissionproject.com** / Phone: **(888) 752-2822** / Email: **connect@southlinetransmissionproject.com**

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