

Big Rock – Wheatland (Clinton County) 69 kV Transmission Line Project



PROJECT OVERVIEW

ITC Midwest is planning to rebuild an existing 34.5 kV (34,500 volt) electric transmission line to 69 kV (69,000 volt) standards. The line travels through Clinton and Scott counties from the future Big Rock Substation, owned by Alliant Energy, to ITC Midwest's existing 69 kV capable line near Highway 30 in the city of Wheatland. In total, the proposed line in both counties is approximately 5 miles long. The segment in Clinton County is approximately 4.25 miles. (See the proposed route map on the back page.) The final route may change and will be determined when easement negotiations with landowners are completed, and the Iowa Utilities Commission has approved the project.

Why is this line needed?

The proposed new transmission line is part of ITC Midwest's continuing efforts to improve system reliability, enhance grid resilience to better withstand extreme weather, increase capacity of the electric transmission system, and reduce electric system congestion to improve grid efficiency. This new 69 kV line will be networked to provide additional backup capability during planned and unplanned outages and better serve the area's electricity demand during normal and contingency operations. The line will be built to new construction standards and include lightning protection for enhanced system reliability. This line project is part of a comprehensive plan to upgrade the outdated 34.5 kV system to a modern 69 kV system across Iowa to meet the growing needs of energy consumers.

Whose approval is required to rebuild this line?

The Iowa Utilities Commission (IUC) grants regulatory approvals, called franchises, to utilities seeking to build transmission lines in the state. As part of its review process, the IUC reviews many aspects of the project such as the need for the line and the proposed route. The IUC has very clear criteria and a clear process for utilities to follow to request a franchise.

What is being done to ensure this line will be safe?

This line will be designed to meet and even exceed the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), the nationally-recognized design standard in the United States. This code requires construction to meet clearance requirements and withstand extreme weather conditions. As the line owner, ITC Midwest will ensure that the line is clear of trees and other vegetation.

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What is ITC Midwest doing to minimize impact on landowners and current land uses?

ITC Midwest seeks to minimize the impact of the line on existing land uses and is committed to protecting the environment. ITC Midwest will fully compensate landowners for any damages that occur during the construction process. To minimize the footprint of the line, the company plans to use mostly wood monopoles with a few wood laminate and steel monopoles.

How will ITC Midwest work with landowners?

Under Iowa law, ITC Midwest cannot negotiate for easements until after the Iowa Utilities Commission holds a public information meeting. For this project, the Clinton County meeting was held in Wheatland on September 23, 2026.

In the coming months, ITC Midwest representatives will begin meeting with affected landowners in the proposed corridor to explain the process and their rights, and ultimately, to begin negotiations to secure voluntary easements. Landowners are compensated for permitting ITC Midwest to secure an easement on their property. ITC Midwest understands and appreciates the impact that new line construction has on landowners and pledges to treat *all* landowners with the utmost respect during this important process.

Project Contacts

If you have questions, you can contact ITC using our toll-free customer line at 1-877-482-4829. Once construction begins, Bryce Emehiser and Nick Troendle will be ITC Midwest's project leads.



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Big Rock – Wheatland project proposed line route corridor route in Clinton County

