

Project overview

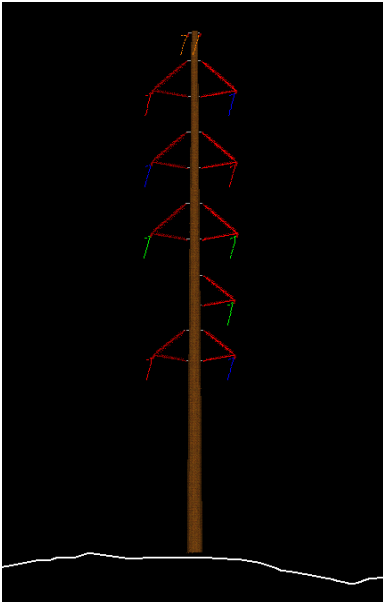
The new transmission line route will follow Highway 13 from south of Ashland to Highway 77 near Mellen and then into Hurley and Ironwood. The new lines will be built in the general area around existing rights-of-way between Ashland and Mellen and Mellen and Ironwood. The project will eliminate the transmission lines that cross the Bad River Indian Reservation and remove a 1.8-mile-long segment located in the Copper Falls State Park.

The 88 kilovolt (kV) line was built in the 1950s and a 115 kV line was built in the 1970s. Both lines are critical to providing reliable power to northern Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula area, including Xcel Energy, Bayfield Electric and Price Electric customers. Due to natural weathering and other factors, the wood pole structures are approaching the end of their useful service life. Additionally, approximately 90% of the lines run cross-country on separate corridors through difficult terrain features including wetlands, beaver ponds, bogs, rivers, steep ravines and rocky outcroppings that pose challenges for construction and maintenance.

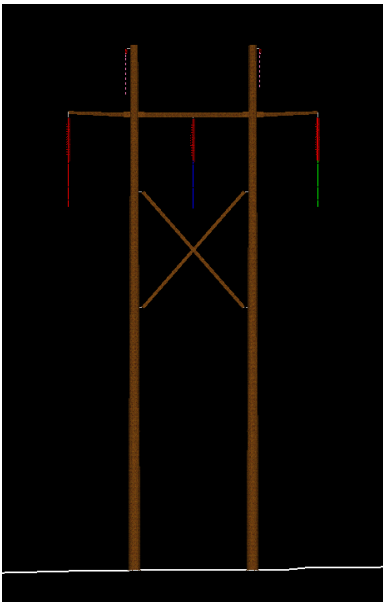


Structure selection will be based on physical location, with the majority of structures using single-pole designs. Both single-circuit and double-circuit poles will be used.

ASHLAND-IRONWOOD TRANSMISSION REBUILD PROJECT TO SUPPORT GROWTH AND MAINTAIN RELIABILITY



Triple Circuit 161kV/115kV/69kV



H-Frame

Timeline

Construction is expected to begin in August 2025, with expected completion in 2028. The following is a breakdown of activities based on section (see map).

Hurley, Wisconsin

- Preliminary construction 8/2025–12/2025
- Tree removal 1/2026–3/2026
- Remaining construction 2/2027–6/2027

Mellen, Wisconsin

- Tree removal 10/2025–12/2025
- Construction East 10/2025–4/2026
- Construction West 6/2027–10/2027

Upson, Wisconsin

- Tree removal 11/2025–2/2026
- Construction 6/2026–9/2026

Iron Belt, Wisconsin

- Tree removal 1/2026–3/2026
- Construction 9/2026–2/2027

High Bridge, Wisconsin

- Tree removal 11/2026–2/2027
- Construction 8/2027–1/2028

Marengo, Wisconsin

- Tree removal 1/2027–3/2027
- Construction 3/2028–5/2028

Contact us

You can submit questions or comments by sending an email to AshlandIronwood@xcelenergy.com or calling 715-737-1464.

Project information is also available at xcelenergytransmission.com/Ashland.

