

NEW TRANSMISSION LINE WILL IMPROVE ELECTRIC RELIABILITY, INCREASE ACCESS TO LOW-COST RENEWABLE ENERGY

WESTERN WISCONSIN TRANSMISSION CONNECTION TO PROVIDE RELIABLE ELECTRICITY FOR WISCONSIN



Simulated image demonstrates a 345-kV transmission line 'double-circuited' with a 1150kV transmission line.

Xcel Energy has received approval from the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) to build the Western Wisconsin Transmission Connection, a new 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to serve communities throughout western Wisconsin. The new transmission line will help ensure regional electric reliability and increase access to new renewable energy being developed in the Upper Midwest.

Changing energy system brings need for new transmission project to serve Wisconsin customers

As the regional electric system evolves and changes, new high voltage 'backbone' transmission is needed to provide reliable electricity and increase access to renewable energy being generated in the Upper Midwest.

The project is part of a series of other projects that will work together to form the expanded regional grid upon which all of us depend. These projects, and others proposed in Minnesota and to the west, will help meet the region's changing energy needs, including maintaining reliability as older plants are retired, resilience in the face of extreme weather, and delivering new renewable energy to customers throughout the Upper Midwest.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

2026:

- Landowner negotiations and easement acquisition
- Design and engineering

2026-2027:

- Construction

2027-2028:

- Project complete and line placed in service

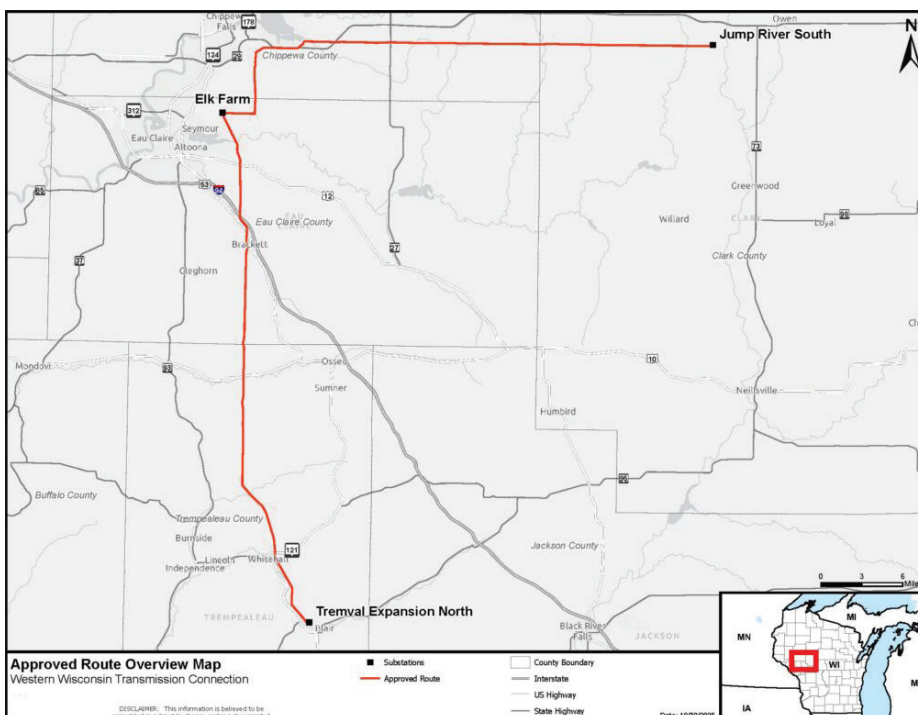
The Mid-Continent Independent System Operator (MISO) operates the regional transmission grid and studies projects needed to serve customers. Along with utility and other stakeholder representatives, MISO identified several transmission projects that will meet customers needs in the coming years as the energy mix changes from one featuring fossil fuel plants to a system with more variable renewable energy. High-voltage transmission projects like Western Wisconsin Transmission Connection that link to local substations will help deliver energy to customers as they need it as plants retire and renewable energy from longer distances serve Wisconsin energy users.

Project route

The project includes route segments to connect the new transmission infrastructure to

existing and new substations that will serve communities throughout western Wisconsin. The PSCW approved the Western Wisconsin Transmission Connection project on October 30, 2025 and issued its final written order on December 10, 2025.

The approved route (referred in application as Route 2) will travel from the new Larkin Valley Substation (previously referred to as Tremval Substation Expansion), located approximately 0.5 miles to the north of the existing Tremval Substation near Blair into Eau Claire County to connect with the new Elk Farm Substation, east and north into Chippewa County generally following State Highway 29, before connecting to the new Jump River Substation (owned by ATC) near Owen in Clark County.



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