

Building a Smarter, Stronger, Cleaner Energy Grid

North Watertown – Indian River 115kV Line 12 Transmission Project Frequently Asked Questions | May 2024

National Grid is transforming our energy delivery system and propelling economic growth across Upstate New York through a collection of transmission enhancement projects called the Upstate Upgrade. These initiatives, which include the North Watertown - Indian River 115kV Line 12 Transmission Project in Jefferson County, will deliver a smarter, stronger, cleaner energy grid to support a more reliable, resilient energy network for our customers for generations to come.

What does the North Watertown – Indian River project entail?

This project involves the siting and construction of a new 9.9-mile, 115kV transmission line in the towns of Brownville, Pamelaia, and LeRay in Jefferson County. The line will begin at the existing Indian River Substation off Rogers Road in LeRay and travel west to a new North Watertown Substation off State Route 12 in Brownville.

Why is the project needed?

Currently, this area is served by a single local transmission line. To meet the growing demand on our electric system, a new line is needed to increase reliability for over 30,000 customers in the area. The project will bolster the area's grid and serve as an alternate electric transmission connection for the Watertown community.

How did you pick this route?

National Grid chose this route to minimize impacts by keeping the line away from heavily populated areas. Building the new line in an existing transmission corridor would not provide the reliability benefits we are seeking to bring to the area.

What will the structures look like?

Approximately 83 new steel monopole structures will be placed in the new transmission corridor. The monopoles will be made of a dulled galvanized steel, which is grey in color.

What economic benefits will the Upstate Upgrade projects bring to our local communities?

These projects bring with them an economic opportunity for the local community. Construction crews will stay in local hotels and rental properties, shop in local stores, dine in local restaurants, and enjoy the entertainment venues available in our communities. And, the infrastructure upgrades will be powered by local goods, like fuel and gravel, and use local services.

How will you obtain land for the project?

National Grid's Real Estate group has identified a preferred corridor for a transmission right-of-way. We are coordinating directly with affected landowners to secure easements for the new corridor. Option agreements for rights to parcels on the project route have been proposed and negotiated. If your property will be affected, our team will contact you directly.

What is the timeline for the project?

The project is currently in the design and permitting phase. Construction is expected to start in fall of 2024 with completion in 2026.

How will you protect the environment?

The project will be designed and constructed to minimize impacts to the surrounding environment, including any agricultural activity. Plans, including a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, have been developed for the project.

What permitting is required?

The project will be permitted under Part 102 of the Public Service Law, which is overseen by the New York Department of Public Service. This permitting process will include the development of a report that is available for public inspection and is reviewed and approved by the New York Public Service Commission.

Are there opportunities for public comment?

National Grid invites comments from the public at any time during project development, construction, and operation. If you have a question, please contact us at **844-324-3589** or email us at **UpstateUpgradeCNY@nationalgrid.com**.