



# energizeEASTSIDE

fact sheet

## The project

Puget Sound Energy's (PSE) Energize Eastside project will build a new substation and upgrade approximately 18 miles of existing transmission lines from Redmond to Renton. Combined with continued aggressive electric conservation efforts, Energize Eastside will keep the lights on and foster economic development in our Eastside communities for years to come.

## The Eastside has grown and it's time for our infrastructure to catch up

PSE's last major upgrade to the backbone of the Eastside's electric grid was in the 1960s. Since then, the Eastside's population has grown eight-fold and our economy relies on power in ways it did not 50 years ago.

Our customers have also learned to conserve energy and be increasingly more energy efficient. But it's not enough.

## Now is the time to upgrade

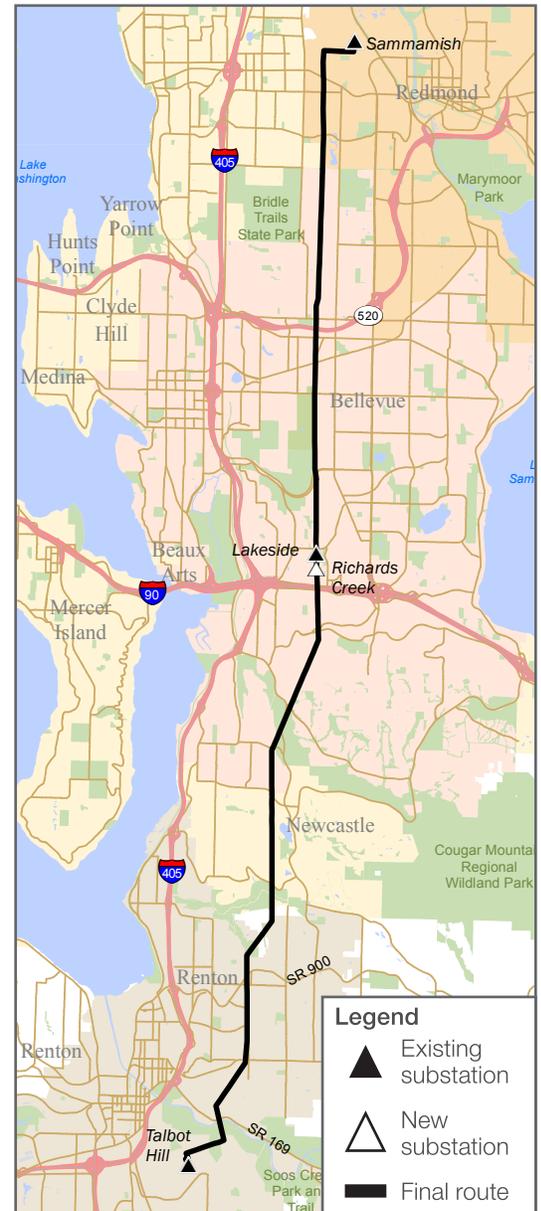
Studies project that growth on the Eastside could cause demand for electricity to exceed the capacity of the backbone of the Eastside's transmission system as early as winter 2017-18.

Federal regulations require PSE to have sufficient infrastructure to meet foreseeable demand requirements or plan for intentional rolling blackouts to customers. Our studies show that if no action is taken to upgrade the backbone of the Eastside's transmission system, PSE may have to utilize additional Corrective Action Plans that plan for intentional rolling blackouts to meet federal requirements. This could affect more than 130,000 customers as early as the summer of 2018, at a cost of tens of millions of dollars to the local economy.

## Energize Eastside solves the Eastside's electrical problem

PSE studied multiple solutions to address the Eastside's electrical needs. The most reliable and cost-effective solution is Energize Eastside: a combination of continued, aggressive conservation efforts and building new infrastructure - specifically, upgrading existing transmission lines and building a new substation.

## Energize Eastside project route



After evaluating multiple routes, PSE selected the existing corridor as the final route for the project.

The new substation, powered by the upgraded transmission lines, will provide additional capacity to ensure the local electric system can accommodate our customers' growing energy usage.

### PSE will replace the poles in the existing corridor

After nearly four years of study and extensive dialogue with the community, PSE selected the existing corridor as the final route for the project. Using the existing corridor is safe and minimizes impacts to the environment.

Our plan is to upgrade the existing wooden poles to steel poles, replacing four existing poles with one or two new poles, depending on location. In general, new poles will be in about the same or similar location as the existing poles. Typical pole design options range from 70 feet to 100 feet above ground. Some poles may need to be taller than 100 feet in certain locations, such as when crossing a highway.

### PSE is committed to building and operating the project safely

Safety is our top priority, and is critical to Energize Eastside's design, construction and operations.

Energize Eastside and Olympic Pipe Line Company's (Olympic) underground pipelines can safely co-exist, just as the existing lines and pipelines have done for decades. We continue to partner with Olympic to plan and implement safe construction practices that protect the pipelines and nearby neighborhoods.

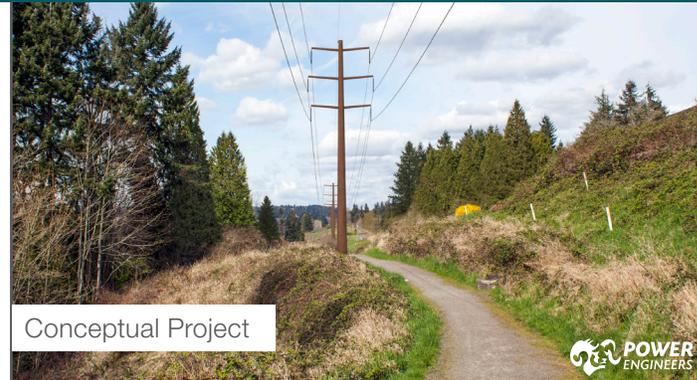
We've worked with DNV GL, a leading national expert in pipeline safety, to assist with developing design parameters to help ensure the continued safe operation of the co-located utilities. As recommended by DNV GL, PSE will optimize operations and improve safety by operating both lines at 230 kilovolts within the existing transmission line corridor.

### We're working with property owners

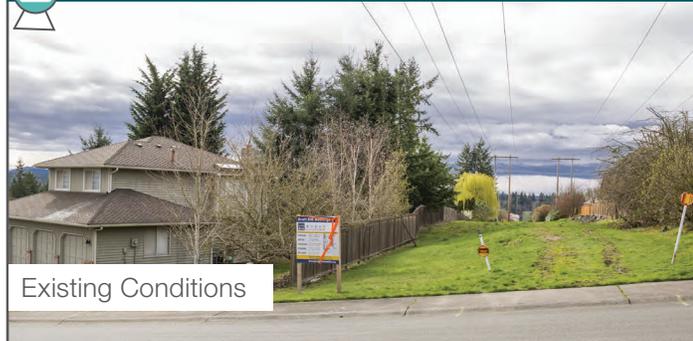
We are working with property owners to develop property-specific landscaping and tree replacement plans for Energize Eastside. As a responsible and respectful neighbor, we are reaching out to affected property owners to discuss their preferences and identify compatible vegetation to incorporate into these plans.

We know our customers value trees. By using the existing corridor for Energize Eastside, we will limit impacts to trees. Our goal is for there to be more trees when the project is complete, not fewer.

## Photo simulation in central Bellevue

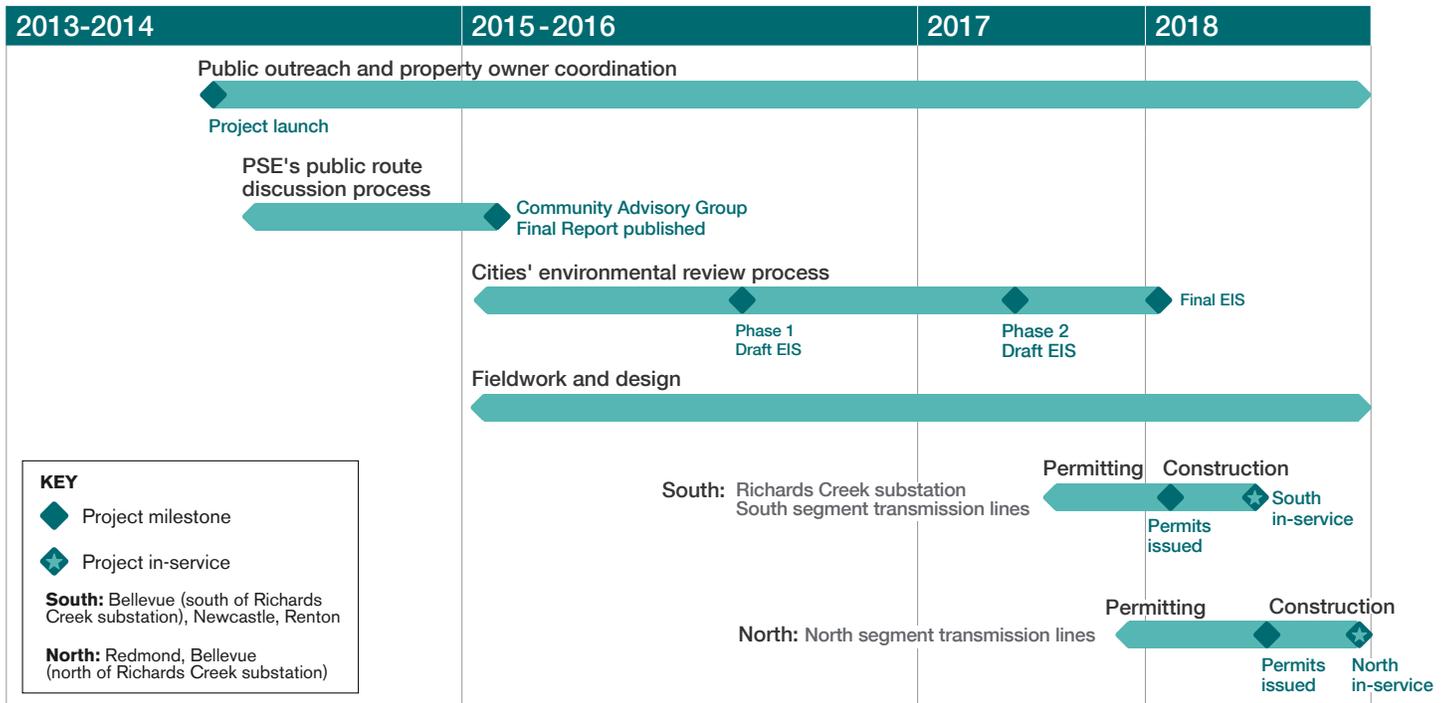


## Photo simulation in Newcastle



The photo simulations above show what the new transmission lines might look like, along with an image of existing conditions for comparison. Visit [pse.com/energizeeastside](https://pse.com/energizeeastside) to view additional photo simulations.

## Project schedule



Updated: Summer 2017

## Next steps

- Using input heard from property owners and community members, along with the results of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), we will submit applications for the necessary permits. The **permitting process** will also have opportunities for public involvement.
- During permitting and as we prepare for construction, we'll continue **reaching out to property owners** along the existing corridor and **keep the community up to date** on our progress.

## Staying involved

To learn more about the project, view photo simulations of the upgraded transmission lines, and read the latest news, visit [pse.com/energizeeastside](http://pse.com/energizeeastside).

For more information about the Cities' EIS and process, visit [EnergizeEastsideEIS.org](http://EnergizeEastsideEIS.org).

Since late 2013, our outreach has included:



Outreach to **500+** property owners



Nearly **550** briefings with individuals, neighborhoods, cities and other stakeholder groups



More than **2,900** comments and questions received



**9** project newsletters to **55,000+** households



**22** Community Advisory Group meetings, including **6** public open houses, **2** question and answer sessions, and **3** online open houses at key project milestones



Participation in **16** EIS meetings and hearings

Thank you for your interest in Energize Eastside.

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