



energize**EASTSIDE** project newsletter

Summer 2017 project update

About Energize Eastside

The Eastside is outgrowing the backbone of the area's electric grid. Energize Eastside will build a new substation, upgrade existing transmission lines, and continue aggressive conservation efforts to keep Eastside lights on and foster economic development for years to come.

We've selected the existing corridor as our final route

After nearly four years of study and extensive dialogue with Eastside communities, PSE has selected the existing corridor "Willow 1" route as the final route to permit for Energize Eastside.

Multiple independent studies have made it clear that we need to upgrade the Eastside's electric infrastructure now to accommodate local population and economic growth and avoid planning for power outages in the very near future.

The existing corridor is the least impactful route to Eastside communities

PSE evaluated multiple route options and selected the existing corridor because it is the least impactful route to Eastside communities. Our decision was guided by two key factors:

1. **Our commitment to safety.** The project will be built and operated to the highest safety and engineering standards. Using the existing corridor, along with optimized designs and operations, the project can safely co-exist with the Olympic Pipeline.
2. **Our commitment to limit impacts to the environment.** This route affects the fewest trees and avoids the construction of new corridors. We know our customers value trees. Our goal is for there to be more trees when the project is complete, not fewer.

PSE will replace the poles in the existing corridor

Our plan is to upgrade the existing four wooden poles to one or two steel poles, which allows us to have fewer poles within the existing corridor. PSE is committed to keeping pole heights as low as possible. New poles will typically be in the same or similar locations as the existing poles.

Energize Eastside project route



PSE selected the existing corridor, known as the "Willow 1" route, as the final route to permit for Energize Eastside.



Photo simulation in north Bellevue



Photo simulation in Bellevue



Photo simulation in Newcastle



Photo simulation in Renton



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 to view additional photo simulations.

pse.com/energizeeastside

Pole types and heights details

Redmond, south to SE Newport Way in Bellevue

- At each location, we'll replace the existing four poles with one pole. Poles will typically be 90 feet to 100 feet in height.

Somerset

- At each location, we'll replace the existing four poles with two poles. Poles will typically be 70 feet to 80 feet in height.

South Bellevue

Between Coal Creek Parkway and SE 60th Street:

- At each location, we'll replace the existing four poles with one pole. Poles will typically be 90 feet to 100 feet in height.

South of SE 60th Street:

- At each location, we'll replace the existing four poles with two poles. Poles will typically be 75 feet to 85 feet in height.

Newcastle, south to SE 100th Street in Renton

- At each location, we'll replace the existing four poles with two poles. Poles will typically be 75 feet to 85 feet in height.

Renton

- At each location, we'll replace the existing four poles with one pole. Poles will typically be 80 feet to 90 feet in height.

Through the years, we've heard residents express concerns about pipeline safety, tree impacts, views and pole heights. We've continued to evaluate engineering options and we were recently able to make changes to lower pole heights within the existing corridor. This route also removes the fewest trees. The combination of safety and fewer tree impacts make the existing corridor the reasonable choice.



Growth is straining the backbone of the Eastside's electric grid. Energize Eastside will power the Eastside's growth into the future.

We're moving forward with permitting to keep the lights on

Reliable power is critical to Eastside communities' health, safety and economic vitality. Now is the time to upgrade.

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.

PSE will soon submit permit applications for the southern portion of the project. PSE's plan is to build and energize the new Richards Creek substation and the southern portion of the transmission lines by summer 2018. We anticipate submitting permits for the northern portion later this year.

We need to build Energize Eastside in two construction phases to keep the backbone of the existing transmission system online and serving customers. By having the southern portion in service by next summer, we can avoid the need for rolling blackout plans. Once we've energized the southern portion of the project, we will begin work on the northern portion.

Questions for the project team

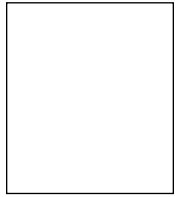
How is PSE working with property owners?

PSE continues to reach out to property owners along the existing corridor. We're currently meeting with property owners to talk about landscaping and tree replacement planning for the project. 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.

How will Energize Eastside affect rates?

Customers will not see an increase in their monthly bill as a direct result of Energize Eastside. That's because PSE's annual capital budget, which funds infrastructure upgrades, is already included in customer rates.

PSE is a heavily regulated investor-owned utility whose actions are carefully monitored and reviewed by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC). PSE's rates are reviewed and approved by the UTC.



What's inside


- PSE selects existing transmission line corridor, referred to as Willow 1, as final route
- PSE will soon begin the permitting process
- PSE will replace the poles in the existing corridor; view updated photo simulations

For more information

- For more information about PSE's final route, including maps, photo simulations and a video, visit pse.com/energizeeastside
- To learn more about the Bellevue, Kirkland, Newcastle, Redmond and Renton Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process, visit EnergizeEastsideEIS.org

Thank you for your interest in Energize Eastside.

 pse.com/energizeeastside

 1-800-548-2614

 energizeeastside@pse.com

energizeEASTSIDE



We'll keep property owners and the community up to date on project progress

We appreciate the community's input and ongoing interest in Energize Eastside.

During permitting and as we prepare for construction, we'll continue reaching out to property owners and keep the community up to date on our progress.

To date, 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