# WELCOME

North McCamey to Bearkat 345-kV Transmission Line Project

# OPEN HOUSE

### ABOUT WETT

Wind Energy Transmission Texas, LLC (WETT) is owned by two worldwide leaders in infrastructure portfolio investment and management. WETT built and operates high-voltage transmission lines in West Texas as part of a state-wide program to deliver clean, renewable energy throughout the state. With a stellar operating history and a diverse and highly engaged team, WETT efficiently plans, constructs, and runs reliable and sustainable transmission infrastructure for Texans.

- WETT owns and operates approximately 380 miles of 345-kV transmission lines and six substations (with two more under construction) in 11 counties, extending from Lubbock to north of San Angelo and from Odessa to Snyder and spanning approximately 20,000 square miles of territory.
- WETT's facilities have enabled the interconnection of various types of generation totaling over 2,008 MW on the ERCOT grid – enough to power four medium sized cities.
- WETT's team of Texas-based professionals is headquartered in Austin, with a field office in Big Spring.
- WETT is regulated by the Public Utility Commission of Texas and pays sales and property taxes on facilities it owns.

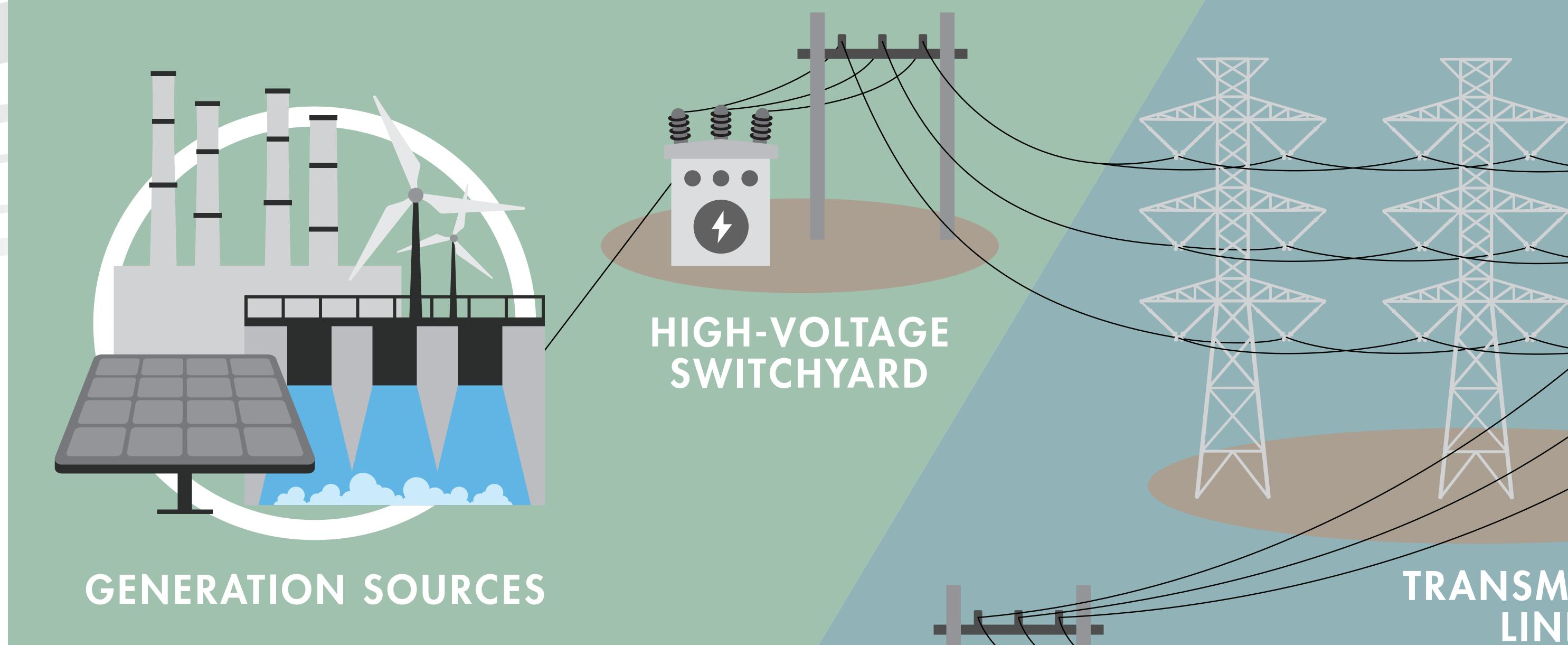


### ABOUT LCRA TSC

LCRA Transmission Services Corporation (LCRA TSC) is a nonprofit utility that provides safe, reliable and environmentally responsible electric transmission services in Texas. LCRA TSC's transmission lines and substations play a vital role in the transmission of electricity between power generation plants and local electric service providers.

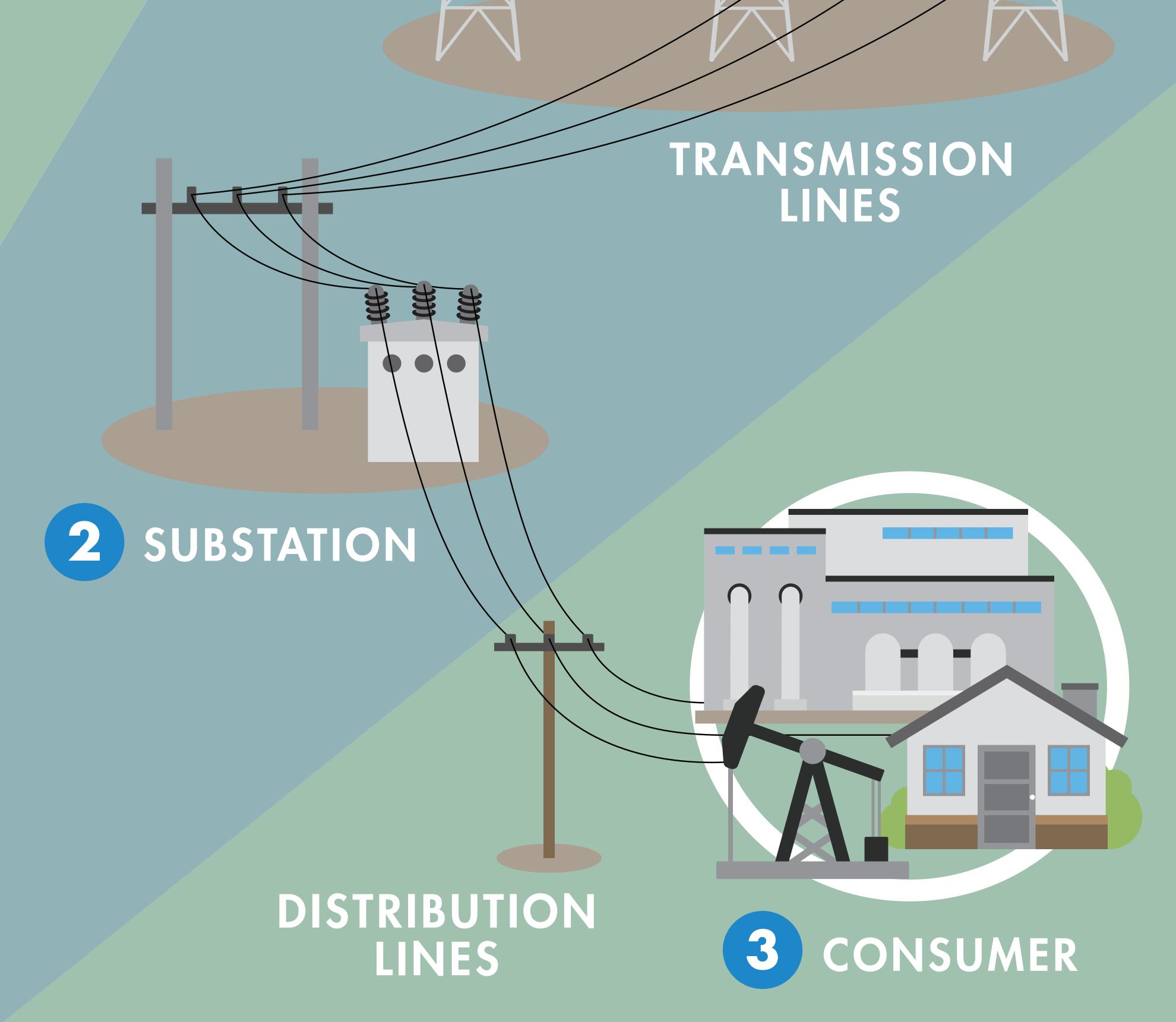
- LCRA TSC's facilities include approximately 5,400 miles of transmission lines and about 430 substations.
- LCRA TSC facilities connect to electric generators and other transmission providers to transmit electricity to municipal utilities, electric cooperatives and other electric distribution service providers within Texas.
- The electricity LCRA TSC transmits is delivered by local distribution service providers to homes and businesses to meet the energy needs of Texas' growing population.
- LCRA TSC is regulated by the Public Utility Commission of Texas and pays sales and property taxes on facilities it owns.





## THE ELECTRIC SYSTEM

- Electricity travels from generation sources through voltage transformation equipment and a network of transmission lines.
- Voltage is reduced to a lower distribution level through a transformer at a substation.
- Electricity then flows through local distribution lines to homes and businesses.



## NORTH McCAMEY TO BEARKAT 345-kV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

LCRA TSC and WETT are proposing to construct and operate a new double-circuit, 345-kV transmission line — approximately 60 miles in length — in Upton, Reagan, and Glasscock counties, to connect LCRA TSC's existing North McCamey Substation to WETT's existing Bearkat Substation.

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) conducted studies on the electric transmission infrastructure in West Texas and endorsed this specific transmission project. The ERCOT Board recently designated this project critical to grid reliability.

### Why is this project needed?

- Current and planned oil and gas production and processing in the region require a significant amount of electrical energy.
- The existing regional transmission system is at or near its capacity.
- The proposed project will help ensure that West Texans and others have continued access to reliable electrical energy.

## PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS CERTIFICATION PROCESS FOR 345-kV TRANSMISSION LINE WITH CRITICAL DESIGNATION

#### **ERCOT** and Transmission Utilities Define Project

- Conduct research and review studies to determine need.
- Identify needed facilities and end points of the project.

### Transmission Utilities Conduct Environmental Assessment and Routing Analysis

- Establish study area based on project definition.
- Gather data and map environmental and land use constraints in study area.
- Determine preliminary transmission line segments.
- Hold open house(s) to gather public input. ←
- Analyze data and feedback from the public to develop multiple alternative transmission line routes for the final application to the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC).
- Prepare an Environmental Assessment report.

#### Transmission Utilities Apply for CCN Amendments

- Submit application to the PUC to amend Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN).
- Send notices to landowners whose properties may be crossed or who own a habitable structure, such as a house or office building, within 500 feet of route alternatives (also referred to as the "notification corridor") at the time CCN application is filed.
- Send notices to municipalities and electric utilities within five miles of the project and to local government entities where the project will potentially be located.

### **Public Participation**

- After the CCN application is filed, people who are potentially impacted by the project have an opportunity to participate in the application proceeding at the PUC by filing a request to participate (intervene).
- If no parties intervene in the proceeding, the PUC staff conducts a review and issues a recommendation to the PUC.
- If parties have intervened in the proceeding, written testimony may be filed, information may be requested and exchanged, an administrative hearing may be held, and an administrative law judge will prepare a recommendation to the PUC regarding the application.

#### **PUC Decision**

- Within six months of a critical CCN application filing, the PUC will approve or deny the application, or approve it with modification.
- If it approves, the PUC directs the transmission utilities to build the transmission line along a specific route.

## EASEMENT ACQUISITION PROCESS

After the PUC approves and selects a specific route, LCRA TSC or WETT will work with affected landowners along that route to acquire an easement to construct, operate and maintain the new transmission line.

Transmission utility contacts landowners to arrange property access to conduct one or more of the following:

- Property survey
- Environmental/cultural resources survey
- Engineering site visits
- Geotechnical testing and soil boring

Property value is determined through an independent appraisal or available market data.

Transmission utility provides landowner with an offer letter, appraisal/compensation summary and copy of the Texas Landowner's Bill of Rights.

Transmission utility works with landowners to reach an agreement for acquisition of the necessary easement.

### Agreement reached:

Transmission utility pays landowner and enters into an easement agreement.

### Agreement not reached:

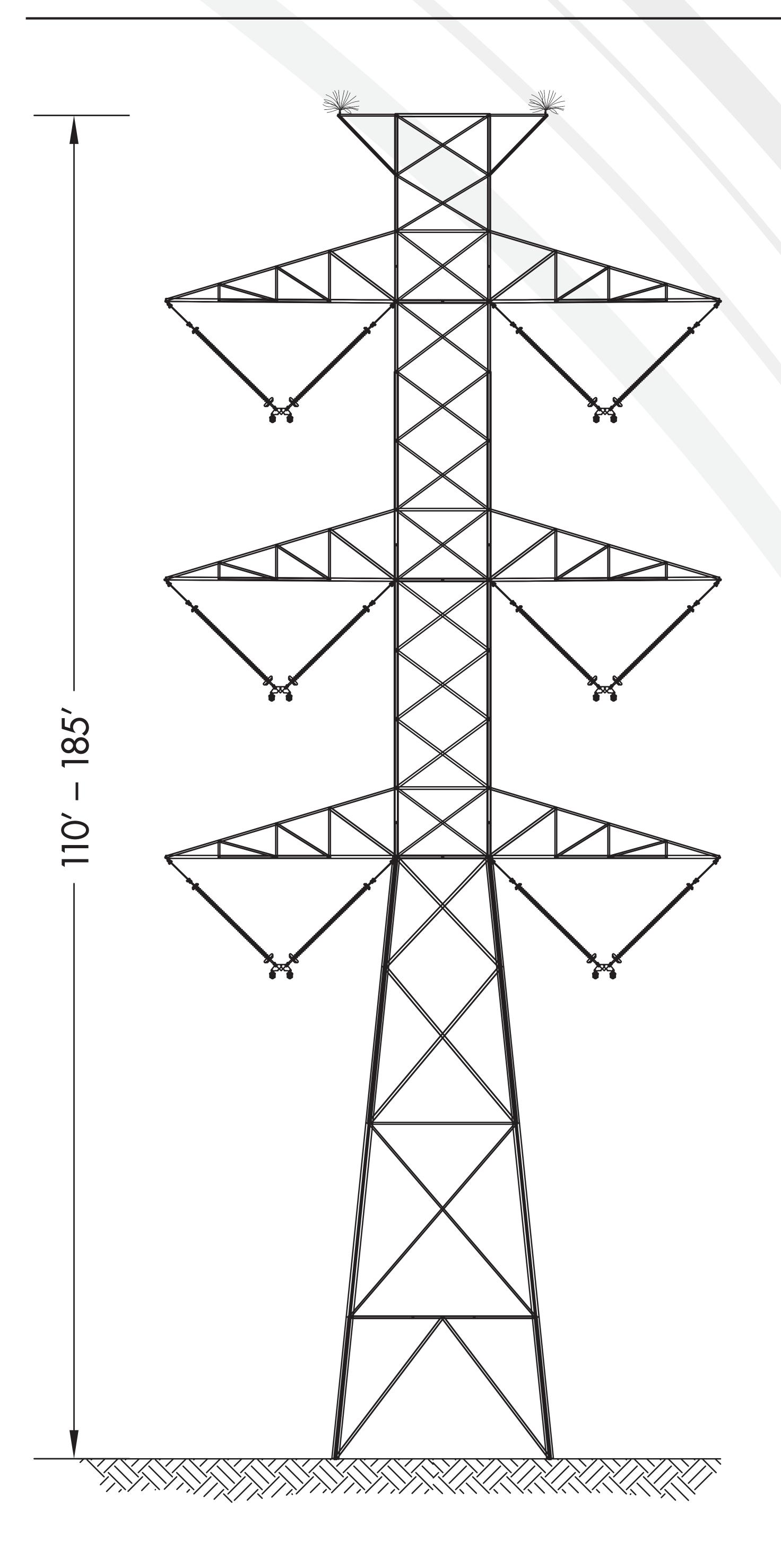
• Transmission utility initiates eminent domain process as described in the Landowner's Bill of Rights.

## TRANSMISSION RIGHTS OF WAY

A transmission line right of way is the right of the utility to use a portion of land to construct, operate and maintain transmission infrastructure.

- LCRA TSC and WETT purchase easements or other property rights and maintain these rights of way for safety and the long-term reliability of the transmission line.
- The transmission line is typically centered in the right of way, which can vary in width.
- The National Electrical Safety Code, American National Standard Institute and state law require minimum clearance distances between the transmission structures and wires and objects within the right of way.
- For new construction, rights of way are cleared of all vegetation. Over time, low-growing vegetation can generally be planted in the outer edges of the right of way, as long as the plants allow safe clearances.
- Many land uses within the right of way are permissible with the safe operation of the transmission line, including farming, grazing, gardening, biking and hiking.
- There are some restrictions though, so it is important to speak to LCRA TSC or WETT about how to keep rights of way clear of encroachments that could threaten the safety or accessibility of the transmission line.

## TYPICAL 345-kV LATTICE TOWER DESIGN

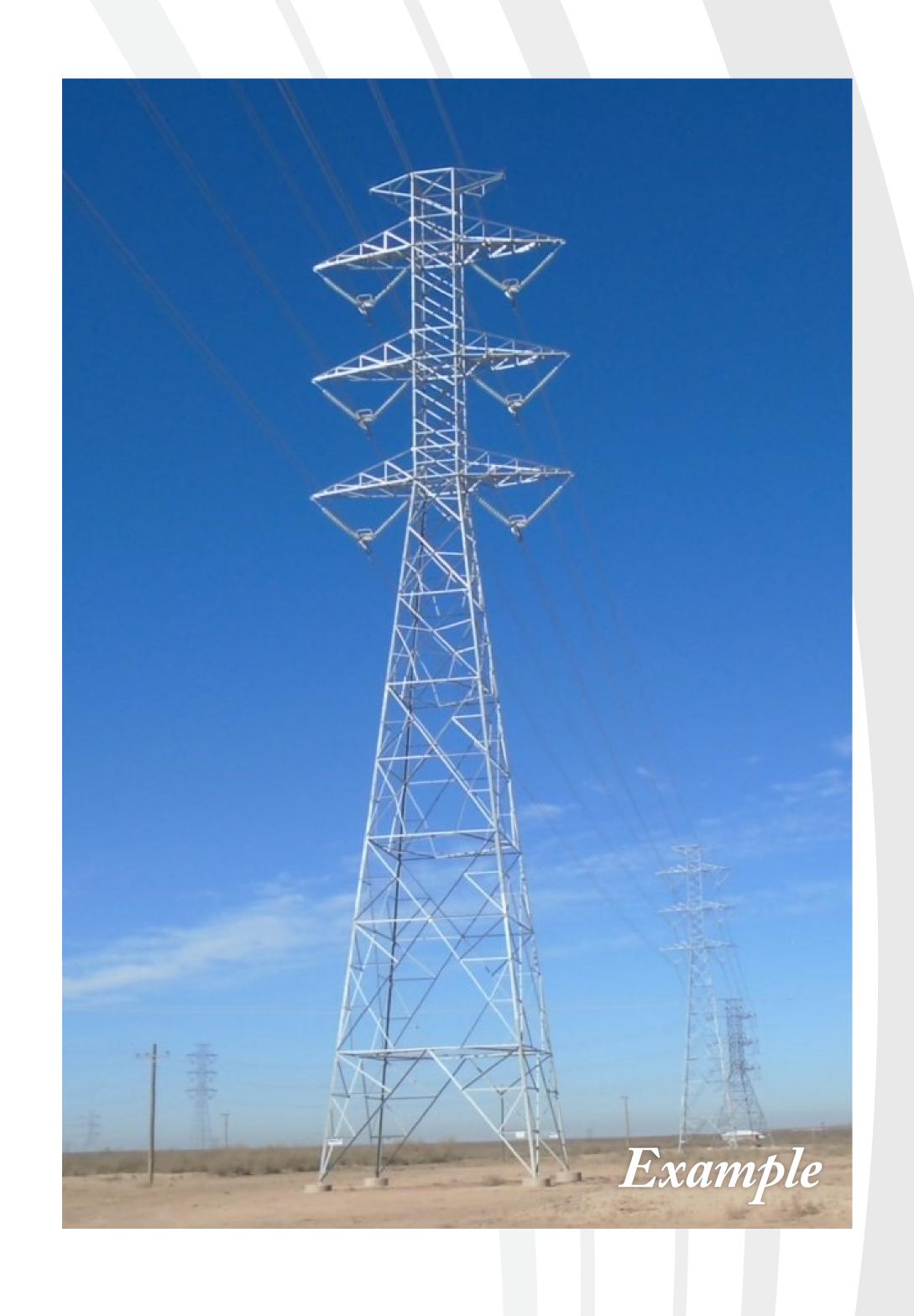


Typical Height 110 to 185 feet

Typical Easement Width 160 feet

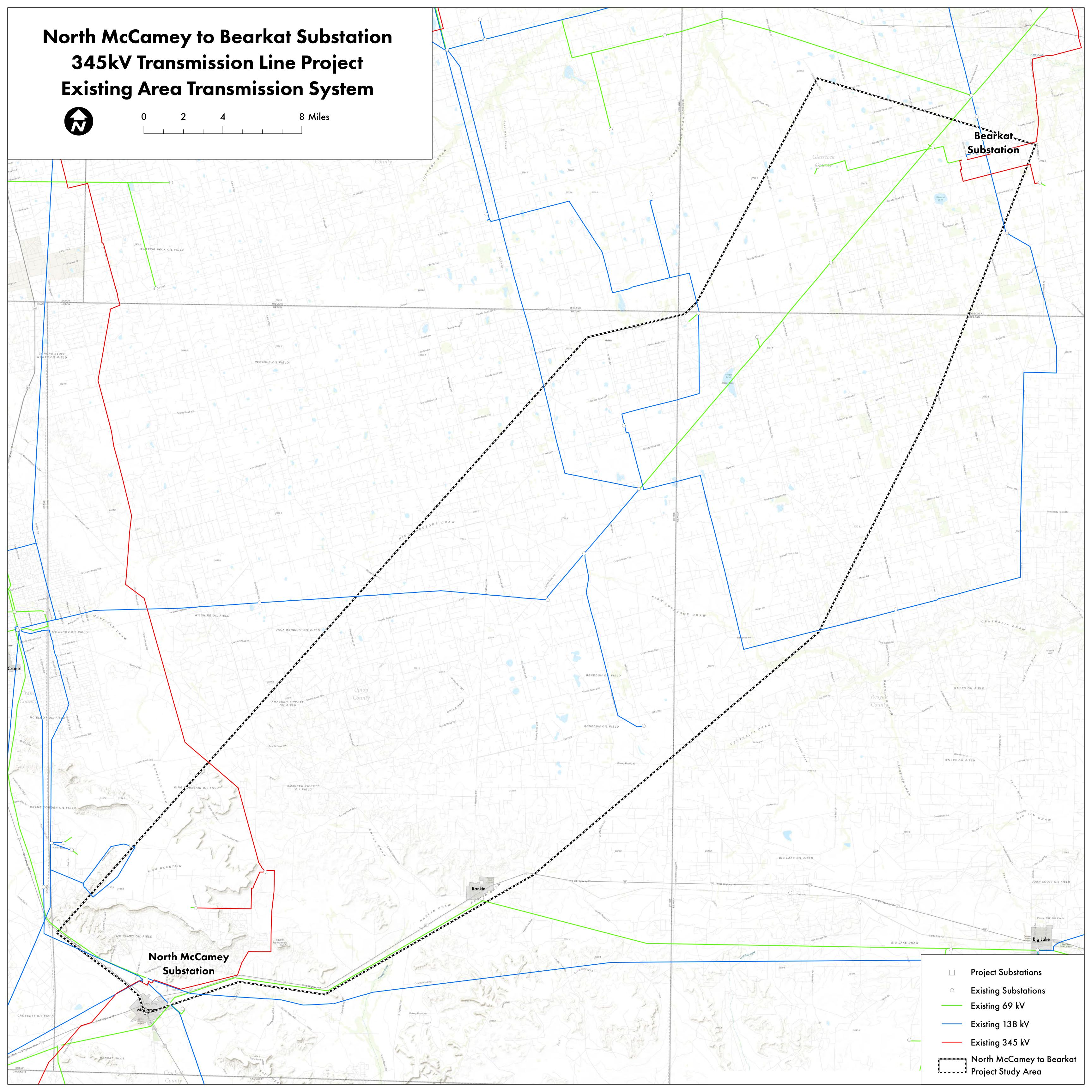
Typical Span Length 1,000 to 1,300 feet

Structure Material
Galvanized steel









### OUTREACH AND COORDINATION

### LCRA TSC and WETT seek input from the following:

### Local Agencies/Governments/Organizations

City of McCamey City of Rankin

Mayor

Mayor ProTem

City Council Members

School Districts

Upton County
Reagan County
Glasscock County

Chamber of Commerce
County Commissioners
Historical Commission

### State and Regional Agencies/Government

Texas Senate, Sen. Kevin Sparks

Texas Senate, Sen. Charles Perry

Texas Senate, Sen. Kel Seliger

Texas House of Representatives, Rep. Tom Craddick

Texas House of Representatives, Rep. Drew Darby

Texas House of Representatives, Rep. Andrew Murr

Railroad Commission of Texas

Texas Office of Public Utility Counsel

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Texas Department of Transportation, Aviation Division

Texas Department of Transportation, Odessa & San Angelo District

#### **Utilities**

AEP Texas, Inc.

City of Garland Utilities (GP&L)

Oncor Electric Delivery Company, LLC

South Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Texas-New Mexico Power Company

Xcel Energy, Inc.

Texas Department of Transportation, Environmental Affairs

Texas Department of Transportation, Planning and Programming

Texas General Land Office

Texas Historical Commission

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Texas Water Development Board

University Lands

Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission

Concho Valley Council of Governments

Colorado River Municipal Water District

### Federal Agencies/Government

U.S. House of Representatives, Rep. Tony Gonzales

U.S. House of Representatives, Rep. August Pfluger

Federal Aviation Administration, Southwest Region

Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region 6

Natural Resources Conservation Service

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque & Fort Worth District

Military Aviation and Installation Assurance Siting Clearinghouse (formerly the U.S. Department of Defense Siting Clearinghouse)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

National Park Service