

Second Round of Meetings Announced for High Voltage Power Line Project

(KTNC) - A second round of public meetings is planned to give residents of northwest Missouri and southeast Nebraska a chance to review and comment on a network of preliminary routes for the Midwest Transmission Project. That is a planned 345-kilovolt electric power transmission line that will stretch from Sibley, Missouri to Nebraska City, Nebraska.

The meetings will be open houses, where anyone interested in the project can drop by at any time to gather information and speak directly with project planners.

Six meetings are scheduled, beginning Monday, January 21 in Stanberry, Missouri.

Two meetings in the immediate area are Monday, January 28, from 3:00 till 7:00 p.m., at the High School Gym in Fairfax, Missouri; and Tuesday, January 29, also from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m., at the Nemaha County Wellness Center at 601 J Street in Auburn.

Other meetings will be held in Maryville, Cameron, and Excelsior Springs, Missouri.

K-C-P-and-L and the Omaha Public Power District announced plans last August to build a 150-to-190 mile transmission line from Sibley, connecting to a new substation to be built south of Maryville, then on to Nebraska City. The project is expected to cost approximately \$400 million dollars and be in service by June 2017.

Since last summer, project planners have been reviewing potential routes through a 16-county area of southeast Nebraska and northwest Missouri.

According to K-C-P-and-L project manager Brent Davis, they hope to narrow the possible routes to two or three finalists by next summer. He says they have not yet selected a final route.

Midwest Transmission Project planners say landowners should watch their mail in the next few days. Approximately eight thousand property owners within one thousand feet of any potential new power line route can expect to receive an invitation by first class mail to attend one of the open houses.