

MEDIA CONTACT:

George Porter
540-314-2983
gaporter@aep.com



APPALACHIAN POWER PLANS TRANSMISSION IMPROVEMENTS IN BUCHANAN AND TAZEWell COUNTIES

ROANOKE, Va., Sept. 23, 2021 – Appalachian Power representatives plan upgrades to the electric transmission system serving customers in Buchanan and Tazewell counties.

The Mount Heron-Coal Creek Transmission Line Rebuild Project involves rebuilding approximately 10 miles of transmission line, building a new substation and retiring two substations. Crews plan to rebuild the line in or near the existing right-of-way.

“The project brings a new power source to the area and replaces equipment from the 1930s,” said George Porter, Appalachian Power spokesperson. “These upgrades strengthen the local grid and allow crews to retire about 4 miles of aging transmission line in the area.”

The upgrades begin at the Skeggs Branch Substation located off State Route 702 in Buchanan and continue 1.5 miles southeast to the proposed Mount Heron Substation located off Garden Creek Road. The upgrades continue southeast for about 2 miles to the Permac Substation located off Route 632. The rebuild along the remaining 6.5 miles of transmission line begins at a point near Whetstone Branch and US-460 in Raven and ends at the Coal Creek Substation located off Gov. George C. Perry Highway in Tazewell.

Company representatives invite landowners to a virtual open house at **[AppalachianPower.com/MountHeron](https://www.AppalachianPower.com/MountHeron)** to learn more about the project and submit comments to the project team. Landowners are encouraged to provide input by **Friday, October 22**.

Landowners within the project area can expect to receive a packet in the mail that includes additional project details and a comment card they can return by mail with their feedback.

Company representatives expect construction to start early 2023 and conclude the end of 2023. Visit the website for additional information about the project.

Appalachian Power has 1 million customers in Virginia, West Virginia and Tennessee (as AEP Appalachian Power). It is part of American Electric Power, which is focused on building a smarter energy infrastructure and delivering new technologies and custom energy solutions. AEP’s approximately 16,800 employees operate and maintain the nation’s largest electricity transmission system and more than 223,000 miles of distribution lines to efficiently deliver safe, reliable power to nearly 5.5 million customers in 11 states. AEP is also one of the nation’s largest electricity producers with approximately 30,000 megawatts of diverse generating capacity, including 5,500 megawatts of renewable energy.

###