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APPALACHIAN POWER PLANS OPEN HOUSES IN PUTNAM AND CABELL COUNTIES

CHARLESTON, W. Va., July 25, 2024 – Appalachian Power representatives plan to upgrade the transmission system in Cabell and Putnam counties in West Virginia as part of the Bancroft-Milton Transmission Line Rebuild Project. The project team plans to host two open houses to inform the community and collect feedback.

The project involves:

- Rebuilding approximately 20 miles of 69-kilovolt electric transmission line.
- Retiring a section of the original line built in 1922.
- Upgrading equipment at Milton, Hurricane, Teays, Putnam Village, Winfield Hydro and Bancroft substations.

“The existing transmission line dates back to 1922 and has experienced many outages related to vegetation, lightning and operational performance issues,” said George Porter, Appalachian Power spokesperson. “It’s important for the community to learn more about the project and provide feedback to the project team so we can make important upgrades in this area. We rely on their knowledge of their properties and the area where preliminary route options are shown to help us determine the proposed line route for the power line.”

The project team has developed preliminary route options to rebuild the line that incorporates new and existing right-of-way. In some areas, moving the power line to a new right-of-way is necessary to meet current engineering and safety requirements.

Company representatives encourage community members to attend one of the open houses planned next month to learn more and provide their input. Attendees can attend at the location and date that is most convenient for them:

- **August 13, 4:30 – 7:30 p.m.** – Valley Park Conference Center, 1 Valley Park Drive, Hurricane, WV 25526
- **August 14, 4:30 – 7:30 p.m.** – Winfield Community Center, 178 Second Street, Winfield, WV 25213

Residents who are unable to attend the open house can visit the project website and virtual open house at **AppalachianPower.com/Bancroft-Milton**.

Landowners within the project area can expect to receive a packet in the mail that includes additional project details. The project team plans to use input from the community and additional field work to determine a power line route that reduces impact on the community and environment.

Company representatives plan to file an application with the Public Service Commission of West Virginia this fall. If the project is approved, construction is expected to begin in fall 2027 and conclude by early 2030.

Appalachian Power has 1.1 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 16,000 employees operate and maintain the nation's largest electricity transmission system and more than 225,000 miles of distribution lines to efficiently deliver safe, reliable power to nearly 5.6 million customers in 11 states. AEP is also one of the nation's largest electricity producers with approximately 29,000 megawatts of diverse generating capacity, including 5,900 megawatts of renewable energy.

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