

MEDIA CONTACT:
Phil Moye
(304) 348-4188
pamoye@aep.com



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APPALACHIAN POWER TO INTRODUCE PLANS FOR TRANSMISSION UPGRADES IN LINCOLN AND LOGAN COUNTIES AT UPCOMING OPEN HOUSE

CHARLESTON, W.Va., July 18, 2017 – Appalachian Power and its affiliate, West Virginia Transmission Company, plan to strengthen electric reliability in Lincoln and Logan counties by providing the region with an additional power source.

The Lincoln – Logan Power Improvements is a \$90 million investment that includes building approximately 24 miles of new 138-kilovolt transmission line, two new substations and retiring about 17 miles of aging transmission line to provide customers with a more robust power source. The new transmission facilities will also reduce the likelihood of extended outages and decrease restoration times when outages do occur.

“An additional power source to Lincoln and Logan counties will strengthen the transmission grid,” said Phil Moye, corporate communications manager for Appalachian Power. “A stronger grid benefits customers by providing increased reliable electric service at an affordable price.”

Appalachian Power’s preliminary study segments cover an area from Sheridan to Chapmanville. The proposed routes follow Route 10 passing through Branchland, Midkiff, Ranger, Leet, and Big Creek. The transmission line to be retired runs from Sheridan to Huntington.

The company will host two open houses to provide the community and affected landowners with details of preliminary study segments. The first open house is scheduled for 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 2, at Lincoln County High School, 81 Lincoln Panther Way. The second open house is scheduled for 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., Thursday, August 3, at Chapmanville Regional High School, 200 Vance Street. Visitors may come any time during either open house to learn project details, view maps of proposed routes and speak with the project team members.

“Open houses allow us to talk directly with customers, share information and gather valuable feedback to help in determining the best route,” said Moye.

Construction is expected to start fall 2018 and be complete by the end of 2020. Once the new transmission line is complete and operational, the company plans to retire the 17 miles of transmission line between Sheridan and Huntington.

Once complete, the project will bring Lincoln and Logan counties an estimated combined annual tax revenue of \$1.2 million.

Additional information about the project including maps, a timeline and updates can be found at www.appalachianpower.com/lincolnlogan.

Appalachian Power has 1 million customers in Virginia, West Virginia and Tennessee (as AEP Appalachian Power). It is a unit of American Electric Power, one of the largest electric utilities in the United States, delivering electricity and custom energy solutions to nearly 5.4 million customers in 11 states. AEP owns the nation's largest electricity transmission system, a more than 40,000-mile network that includes more 765-kilovolt extra-high voltage transmission lines than all other U.S. transmission systems combined. AEP also operates 224,000 miles of distribution lines. AEP ranks among the nation's largest generators of electricity, owning approximately 26,000 megawatts of generating capacity in the U.S. AEP supplies 3,200 megawatts of renewable energy to customers.

###