



Nebraska Public Power District
Always there when you need us



July 2019

R-Project 345,000 Volt

Transmission Line PROJECT

R-Project Moving Forward

Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) has received the final permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service which allows the District to move forward with constructing the R-Project. The R-Project will provide a significant enhancement to the electrical grid in Nebraska.

“Now that we have the permit, we can proceed with construction activities such as preparing material and fly yards, stockpiling matting and rock, and developing engineering designs for the various structure and foundation types,” said Senior Project Manager **Paul Brune**.

Construction Contractor

Earlier this year, Forbes Bros. Timberline Construction, Inc. (Forbes Bros.) of Rapid City, South Dakota, was chosen by NPPD’s Board of Directors as the contractor for the R-Project. Forbes Bros., incorporated in 1977, acquired Timberline Construction in 2017. The company is experienced with completing large construction projects with challenges similar to what they will encounter on the R-Project.

Thedford Offices

The Thedford right-of-way field office is located at 39315 Highway 2. When not on the road meeting with landowners, Right-of-Way Agent **Richard Bunkers** can be found in the office. Since the office is not staffed at all times, it is best to call first. His office number is **308-645-2318** or he can be reached on his cell phone at

308-660-1836. Please contact Richard with any right-of-way questions.

Newly occupied and located in the same building is the Thedford construction office. This is where you will find Construction Manager **David Kezer**. His office number is **208-788-0403** or you can reach him on his cell phone at **907-371-4368**. David has 14 years of experience managing electrical projects and has held positions as General Foreman, Superintendent, and Project Manager.



David Kezer

Forbes Bros. has communicated interest in supporting local community activities as well as engaging local vendors.

“Bringing workers into the communities will lead to an uptick for lodging, dining, fuel, etc.,” explained Brune. “There may also be a need to hire local people to help with some of the work.”

Safety, Environmental Compliance

Prior to any construction activity, NPPD will hold safety and environmental training for all personnel who will be on the construction site or right-of-way.

(continued on back)

“Safety and environmental compliance are our top priorities,” said Brune. “We will keep a strong focus on both items throughout the project. Once construction begins, we will reach out to the public through newspaper and radio advertising to ensure they are aware of the various construction activities and where they are taking place.”

Next Steps

Finalize easement acquisitions

Begin preliminary field activities – July 2019

- Upgrade/prep material yards (gravel and access matting)
- Install field entrances / begin gate installations
- Preliminary access staking

Project in service – approximately two years after construction begins

“**Safety and environmental compliance are our top priorities. We will keep a strong focus on both items throughout the project.**”

Paul Brune
Senior Project Manager

More information on the R-Project can be found on NPPD’s website at rproject.nppd.com. Watch for more regular communication on the R-Project as construction begins.

The R-Project 345 kV Transmission Line Newsletter is published by NPPD’s transmission project team. It is intended to provide a project overview and communicate project developments.

Contributors: Senior Project Manager **Paul Brune**.
Project Team: **Al Beiermann, Brenda Blatchford, Ross DeBower, Larry Linder, Dennis Schroeder, and Ron Starzec.**

Printing and artwork:
Dan Zastera

Editor: **Jill Novicki**

Contact us:
powerline@nppd.com

Mailing address:
R-Project 345 kV Transmission Line Project,
NPPD, P.O. Box 499
Columbus, NE 68602-0499
Attention Jill Novicki
Phone (toll-free): 888-677-3412
Website: rproject.nppd.com