NORTH PLAINS CONNECTOR

DEVELOPING AMERICA'S NEXT-GENERATION INFRASTRUCTURE TO POWER OUR FUTURE

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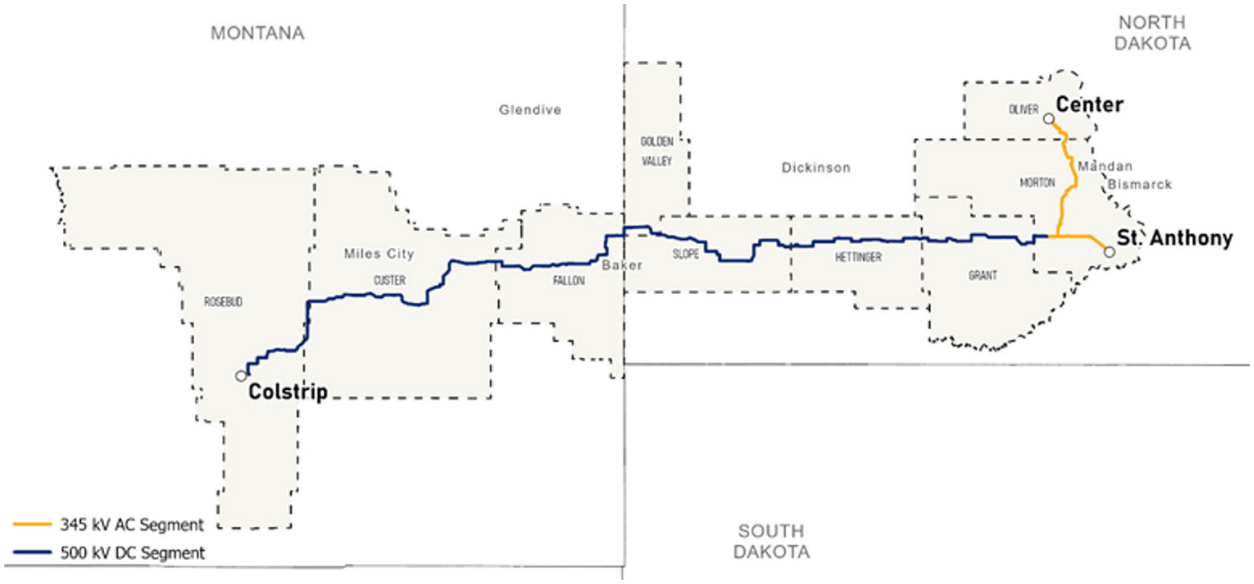
North Plains Connector is an approximately 420-mile, 525 kilovolt high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line connecting the U.S. Eastern and Western power grids in Montana and North Dakota. North Plains Connector is entering the permitting phase and initiating regulatory filings, with approvals expected in 2026. Construction is expected to commence in 2028, and and the line is expected to be operational in 2032.



BENEFITS

North Plains Connector represents an approximately $3.2 billion investment in Montana and North Dakota and will be a long-term asset for those states. The project will improve grid reliability and provide economic benefits through tax revenue payments, landowner payments, and job creation.

This high-capacity, bidirectional connection will improve reliability and resiliency of the electrical grid across the region and broaden market connections. The project will also provide electricity to consumers when they need more power and backup power during outages.

North Plains Connector will provide tens of millions of dollars in additional property tax revenue and community investment. The project anticipates construction will require a peak temporary workforce of approximately 800 workers. In addition, the project will stimulate the local economy through increased spending on project materials, professional services, and hospitality.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who is developing North Plains Connector?

Grid United is developing North Plains Connector.

What is the proposed route of the transmission line?

North Plains Connector will be an approximately 420-mile-long transmission line, extending from an existing substation in Colstrip, Montana to two separate end points in North Dakota – one near the town of Center and the other near St. Anthony.

Where will the electricity from North Plains Connector be sent?

By utilizing direct current technology, electricity can be sent in either direction, east or west. North Plains Connector will transport electricity when and where it is needed. It can serve to balance the electricity needs in the Western and Eastern Interconnections.

What type of electricity will be on the line?

North Plains Connector will be open to all sources of electrical power generation. Regulations governing the grid require the project to carry electricity without preference for any technology.

Why did North Plains Connector select DC technology?

Direct current (DC) is the preferred technology for moving large amounts of power over long distances, offering significant electrical, economic, and environmental advantages. DC transmission can transfer the same amount of power more efficiently and more reliably than alternating current. DC advantages include lower power losses on the line, the ability to control the power flow, and better land use due to reduced right of way footprint.

Why is the project needed?

The US Energy Information Administration (EIA) estimates that electricity consumption in the U.S. will increase by 15 percent by 2050, or an average of 2.6% growth every five years (EIA, 2023). Other forecasts based on changes in Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) filings in 2023 suggest load growth as high as 4.7% over the next five years (FERC 714 data, 2023). In addition to increasing demand, at least three primary factors affect the ability of the United States' electrical grid to reliably deliver energy to consumers and are hastening the need for significant transmission infrastructure investment. Changes in public policy are reducing reliable baseload generation, rapid changes in the generation resource portfolio mix are affecting reliability, and increasing frequency of extreme weather events are impacting system reliability.

This high-capacity, bidirectional connection into regional generation and transmission hubs is intended to improve reliability and resiliency across both Interconnections by increasing transfer capacity and access to additional generation in new markets, and by providing the ability to shift power quickly and efficiently to address peak demand or extreme weather events.

Does North Plains Connector have partnerships or opportunities for nearby community organizations?

North Plains Connector partnered with the Montana Community Foundation and North Dakota Community Foundation to establish the North Plains Connector Community Investment Program (CIP). The NPC CIP program helps address community needs in the counties through which North Plains Connector is being developed. To find out more information on how to apply for available grants in your community, please visit the Community Investment Program tab on North Plains Connector's website (northplainsconnector.com)

ABOUT GRID UNITED

Grid United is an independent transmission company aiming to develop next-generation energy infrastructure to create a more resilient and efficient electric system to the benefit of all consumers. For more information, visit **www.gridunited.com**.

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