

nationalgrid

The Interstate Reliability Project Massachusetts Updates



Project Update No. 21 March 6, 2015

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Project information for the communities of Millbury, Sutton, Northbridge, Uxbridge and Millville, Massachusetts

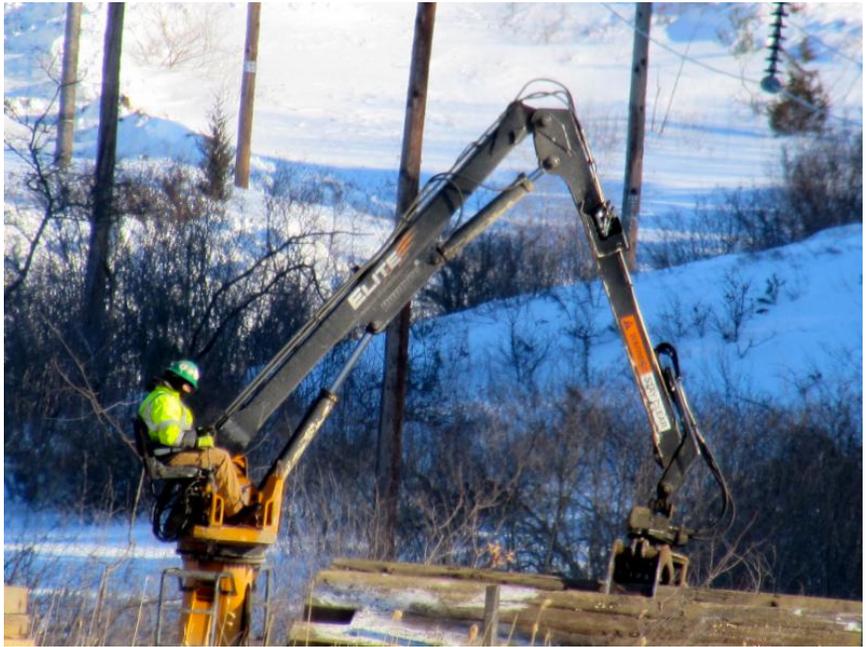
Current and Future Activity

Weeks of March 9 and March 16, 2015

The above photo shows the recent conditions facing crews conducting access road work.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND ACCESS WORK

Access work and road construction activity in the right-of-way is nearing completion in Uxbridge and Millville. Most of the road construction crews have moved across the state line at Central Street and are now working on the Rhode Island section of the new 366 Line.



The above photo shows a worker unloading swamp mats at a site just over the Massachusetts/Rhode Island state line at Central Street in North Smithfield, RI. Swamp mats are wood timbers bolted together and temporarily placed in wetland areas to minimize disturbance to soil and facilitate access to vehicles.

FOUNDATION DRILLING ACTIVITY

Foundation drilling is near completion in the area off Old Millville Road in Uxbridge. Drilling work is also near completion at Providence Street and Quaker Street in Millville. More than 80% of the drilling work for the Massachusetts section of the 366 Line has been completed. Several drill rig crews have now crossed the Rhode Island state line at Central Street and are working in the transmission corridor at Pratt Pond.



The above photo shows workmen positioning a 7,800 pound concrete base used to hold a wood pole in place. The poles are used for building temporary safety guard structures at street crossings prior to the wire pulling work. These bases are called "flower pots" by the work crews.

INSTALLATION AND FRAMING OF STRUCTURES

In March, framing crews will be working in the right-of-way near West Hartford Avenue, Hazel Street, Taft Hill Road, Douglas Pike and High Street in Uxbridge. Structure installation activity will take place over the next few weeks in the right-of-way from Mendon Road to the Rhode Island state line.



The above photo shows the temporary guard structures at Central Turnpike in Sutton. These structures, shaped like football goal posts, are used to protect people and vehicles during the wire pulling work across the right-of-way intersections. The guard structures are removed after the wire installation.

ROPE AND WIRE PULLING ACTIVITY

The wire work from The Millbury #3 Substation to Central Pike in Sutton has been completed. Wire pulling activity will continue in Sutton over the next few weeks from Central Pike to a point where the right-of-way intersects with Route 146. The wire pulling work at the intersection of the right-of-way and Route 146 is scheduled for completion by mid-May, and will take place between 5 a.m. and noon on Saturdays and Sundays. The wire work will then continue to a point just past Purgatory Road.

EXTENDED WORK HOURS NOTIFICATION

Due to heavy snow accumulation, National Grid crews plan to work extended hours to maintain access into the Interstate Reliability Project

right-of-way. This includes work activities on Sundays for the next few weeks along the right-of-way in Millbury, Northbridge, Uxbridge and Millville. Crews will not be working extended hours in Sutton. Crews may arrive on site earlier than usual or remain on site after dark. Once National Grid has maintained access, crews will return to typical daylight working shifts.

Best management practices are being followed for snow plowing and snow removal along the right-of-way. This includes locating all snow disposal areas outside of environmentally sensitive resources (including away from water resources and drinking water wells), restricted access zones and stormwater catch basins. Additionally, workers are minimizing impacts to topsoil, subsoil and gravel during plowing operations and are immediately repairing soil and erosion controls damaged during the snow removal and/or stockpiling process.

REMOVAL OF OLD LATTICE STRUCTURES

The removal of the old steel lattice towers to make way for the new 345-kV Line is 96% completed. Only five of the 114 old towers remain to be removed in the Massachusetts section of the Interstate Reliability Project.

MILLBURY SUBSTATION CONSTRUCTION

Work is underway at the Millbury #3 Switching Station, located off Cross Street in Millbury. National Grid's contractor is performing various equipment upgrades and additions within the existing fence line of the station, which will continue over the coming months. On occasion, due to electric system constraints, it will be necessary to perform some of this work on Saturdays and Sundays.

HELICOPTER ACTIVITY UNDERWAY IN TRANSMISSION CORRIDORS

National Grid is conducting a semiannual helicopter inspection of more than 2,900 miles of high-voltage transmission lines in the service area for Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont. The helicopter flyovers help to identify potential problems in the transmission lines. The inspection began the week of January 12th and is scheduled to be completed by mid-March.

Public Safety

To ensure public safety during construction of this project, access to the right-of-way will be restricted to National Grid, its contractors and authorized personnel only. Unauthorized use of the right-of-way is prohibited at all times.

- **All National Grid employees will have IDs and subcontractors will have contractor cards and IDs**
- **Signs and traffic controls will be in place to minimize any disruption and to protect public safety**
- **Please keep well away from active work areas and equipment**
- **If you have questions, please call (800) 506-0815**

Our Continued Commitment To You

We continue to meet with abutters along the right-of-way. If you would like to meet with one of our stakeholder relations field representatives, please email or call us. You may also visit us online at www.interstatereliabilityproject.com or on [Facebook](#).

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