

nationalgrid

The Interstate Reliability Project Massachusetts Updates



Project Update No. 10 October 03, 2014

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

Current and Future Activity

Weeks of October 6 and October 13, 2014

The Brontosaurus mower in the above photo is shown clearing remaining brush at a site just north of Central Street in Millville.

CURRENT TREE CLEARING ACTIVITY AND LOOK AHEAD

Tree clearing work scheduled in Millville and Uxbridge over the last few week has been completed. Tree clearing from the Millbury #3 Substation to the Rhode Island border has now been substantially completed with the exception of certain areas where environmental restrictions and access limit the work. These areas will be noted in future biweekly updates.



The above photo was taken from Central Street in North Smithfield, Rhode Island looking north toward the Massachusetts/Rhode Island border (just beyond the first set of structures in the foreground). Tree clearing crews working in Massachusetts have now moved across the border and are working in North Smithfield.

CURRENT CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY AND LOOK AHEAD



The above photo shows a work pad area which provides a safe, level and stable surface for equipment and workers during the drilling of foundations and the erection of steel structures for the new transmission line.

The installation of matting and work pads, and road construction in the right-of-way has been underway from the Millbury #3 Switching Station along the transmission corridor heading towards the Rhode Island border. The removal of the vacant lattice structures has been going smoothly with 65 of the 114 towers (57%) now removed.

The drilling stage of construction has been started in the area of the Millbury

#3 Substation. Foundation work will continue along the right-of-way towards Boston Road in Sutton.

The photo below shows crews in the process of installing a new 345-kV switch at the Millbury #3 Substation. Work continues at a steady pace to build the infrastructure needed to accommodate the new transmission line.



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. This work will continue over the coming months. Due to electric system constraints, it will occasionally be necessary to perform some of this work on Saturdays and Sundays.

Environmental Considerations

PRECONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

Prior to the start of the Interstate Reliability Project, National Grid's Environmental Department identified sensitive resource areas, traditional archaeological resources and areas of tribal concern within the right-of-way.

Measures, including redesigning the locations of the transmission line structures, implementing time-of-year restrictions and/or using best management practices (BMPs), were then taken to avoid or minimize impact to these areas. BMPs are mitigation measures, such as using existing or alternative access roads and utilizing timber swamp mats, to help ensure that the project is conducted with minimal disturbance to the environment.



The picture above represents a stretch of existing access road that is highly eroded due to the sandy substrate and impacts from ATV use. National Grid proposed and is constructing a new upland access road in the center of the right-of-way in order to minimize further disturbance to this area.

Hunting Season and the Safety of Our Workers

With the onset of hunting seasons in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, we ask hunters to refrain from hunting on and around the Interstate Reliability Project rights-of-way and access corridors. The Project areas are active work zones for well over 100 workers through 2015.

The safety of our workers is paramount, and we ask for your cooperation and consideration as you make your hunting plans.

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 at www.interstatereliabilityproject.com or on [Facebook](#)



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