

**nationalgrid**

# The Interstate Reliability Project Massachusetts **Updates**

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**Project Update No. 20      February 20, 2015**

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

**Current and Future Activity**

**Weeks of February 23 and March 2, 2015**

### Join Our List

If you would like to receive frequent project updates, please email:

[projectinfo@interstatereliabilityproject.com](mailto:projectinfo@interstatereliabilityproject.com)

and put "IRP Updates - Massachusetts"

in the subject line.

You may also visit us at

[www.interstatereliabilityproject.com](http://www.interstatereliabilityproject.com)

or on [Facebook](#) or call us at

(800) 506-0815.

*The above photo shows the recent wire installation for the new 366 Line along Stone School Road in Sutton.*

### INSTALLATION AND FRAMING OF STRUCTURES

Structure work is underway along the transmission corridor near Purgatory Road and the intersection of Route 146 in Sutton. This work will continue south over the next few weeks, crossing Mendon Road and the section of right-of-way at Main Street and Oakhurst Road in Northbridge. Crews will also be working in the right-of-way off Lackey Dam Road, West Hartford Avenue, Hazel Street, Douglas Pike, High Street and Landry Lane in Uxbridge.



*The above photo shows one of the structures in place at the crossing of Route 146 in Sutton.*

### FOUNDATION DRILLING ACTIVITY

Foundation drilling activity is underway in the area of Richardson Street and Quaker Highway in Uxbridge. Over the next few weeks, drill crews will continue toward the area between Old Millville Road in Uxbridge and Quaker Street in Millville. Crews will be working in the area where the right-of-way crosses the Blackstone River in Uxbridge.



*The above photo shows the heavy equipment that has been required to keep the access roads in the right-of-way open for construction crews and line trucks during the recent snow storms.*

#### **ROPE AND WIRE PULLING ACTIVITY**

The wire work from the Millbury #3 Substation to Boston Road is nearly complete. Wire pulling activity over the next few weeks will be in the Sutton transmission corridor from Boston Road to Central Pike crossing Smith Road to the intersection with Route 146.

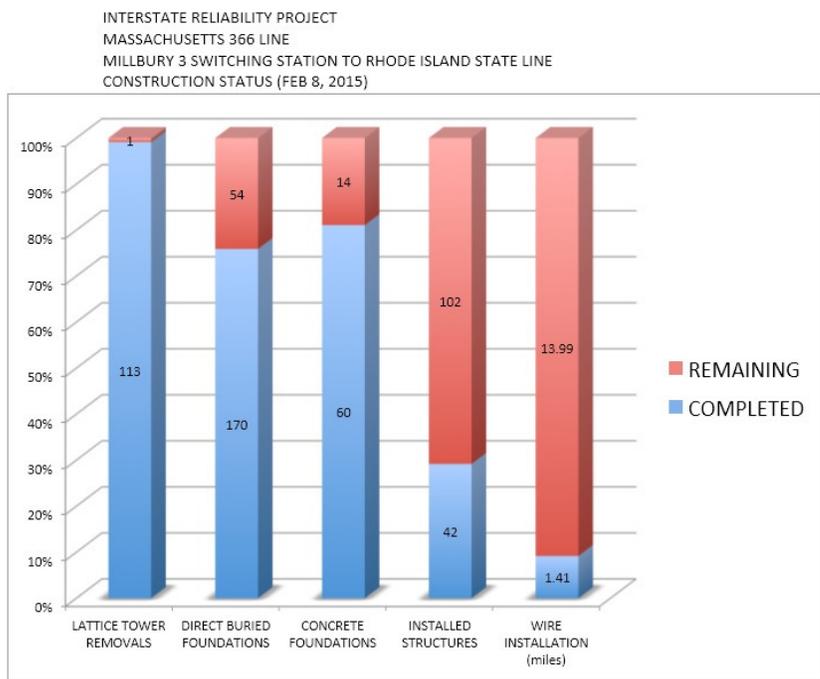
#### **ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND ACCESS WORK**

Over the next few weeks, access work and road construction activity in the right-of-way will continue at Quaker Street and Providence Street in Millville working towards the Rhode Island state line.

#### **REMOVAL OF OLD LATTICE STRUCTURES**

The removal of the old steel lattice towers to make way for the new 366 Line (345-kV) is 96% completed. Only five of the 114 decommissioned towers remain to be removed in the Massachusetts section of the right-of-way.

*The graph below shows the percentage of work completed for some of the construction components for the new 366 Line (345-kV) being built from the Millbury #3 Switching Station in Millbury and continuing through Sutton, Northbridge, Uxbridge and Millville to the Rhode Island state line.*



**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.

**SNOW REMOVAL AND EXTENDED WORK HOURS**

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.

**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.

## Hunting Season and the Safety of Our Workers

During the 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 online at [www.interstatereliabilityproject.com](http://www.interstatereliabilityproject.com) or on [Facebook](#).

**Interstate Reliability Project  
Stakeholder Relations Team**  
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