



Rock Tavern to Sugarloaf Project Update

October 1, 2022

Dear Neighbor:

New York Transco (Transco) would like to share some important vegetation management information with you on the Rock Tavern to Sugarloaf Upgrade (RTS).

Vegetation management is an important part of any electric transmission line and is needed to provide safe and reliable power to customers. In May of this year, the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) approved Phase II of the RTS Environmental Management and Construction Plan (EM&CP), including plans and specifications for construction activities, environmental protections and vegetation management.

The enclosed fact sheet provides information related to planned RTS vegetation management practices and Transco's vegetation management policy. We encourage you to read and keep this fact sheet handy as we prepare for vegetation management activities within the existing transmission corridor, most of which is starting as early as November 1, 2022 and may continue through March 31, 2023. Separately, off right-of-way danger tree removal assessments are on-going; future communication will be shared on this.

Construction work is currently underway on RTS throughout the project corridor and at station locations.

A two-week construction schedule is available on the homepage of our website www.RTSUpgrade.com. We anticipate completing construction by the end of 2023.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we continue work on RTS.

If you have any questions on RTS, or the enclosed information, please contact us at 800-314-4236 (toll-free) or questions@RTSUpgrade.com.

Thank you,

Shannon Baxevanis
Stakeholder & Communications Lead
New York Transco

Enclosure:
Vegetation Management Fact Sheet

About RTS

RTS is a proposed 12-mile transmission line upgrade from New Windsor to Chester that stays within existing utility corridors and/or utility-owned lands to help New York meet key environmental and economic goals by facilitating the flow of clean energy.

Note: More detailed information is available within NY Transco's Long-Range Right-of-Way Management Plan (Appendix C) on the NY Public Service Commission's DMM website (<https://documents.dps.ny.gov/>) under Case Number 20-T-0549 or on www.RTSUpgrade.com in Project Documents. Additionally, drawings showing areas of vegetation work (hatched yellow in the maps) are available on the DMM website under Case Number 20-T-0549, Revised Appendix A Drawings_Part 1, 2 and 3.

Vegetation management is an important part of any electric transmission line and is needed to provide safe and reliable power to customers. Transmission lines and trees may not be compatible. Trees that are too close to the lines could fall on the wires or cause other damage. To mitigate these hazards, a vegetation management plan is developed. Below is an overview of vegetation management for the Rock Tavern to Sugarloaf Upgrade (RTS).

Temporary Construction Removals

Vegetation removal can either be temporary or permanent. Temporary removal includes low-growth vegetation in the right-of-way (ROW) to accommodate work pads, wire pulling sites, and structure installation. Low-growth vegetation will be allowed to re-grow in the corridor. See information on Restoration.

Permanent Removals

Permanent tree removal for RTS is needed for the safe operation of the transmission lines as required by the North American Electric Reliability (NERC) and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Trees along the ROW must not be able to fall into the power lines (danger trees) or touch wires during periods of high winds. NY Transco's Long-Range Right-of-Way Management Plan* specifies that "non-compatible trees and shrubs that will exceed 15 feet in the right-of-way" will be removed. *This plan and details on the locations of removals can be found in the RTS Phase II Environmental Management & Construction Plan - Appendix C found through our website.

Danger Trees

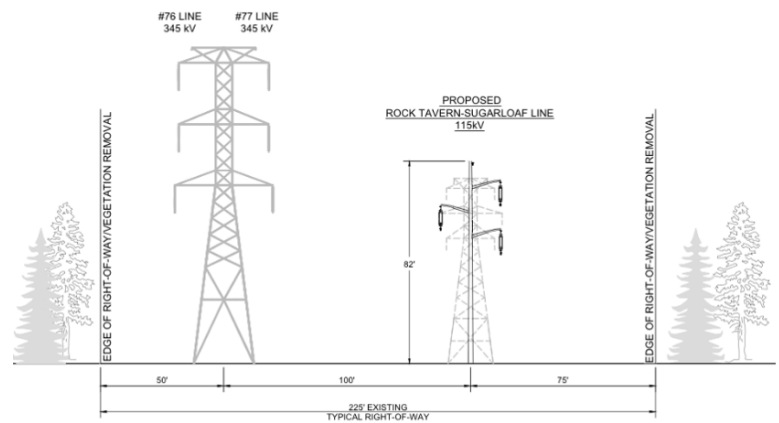
New York Transco's easement and property rights typically include removal of neighboring trees that may not be within the transmission easement but pose a danger to the transmission lines, called "danger trees." Possible danger trees will be identified and reviewed for health, age, height, etc. Removal of danger trees will be discussed with the landowner upon identification.

Pesticide & Herbicide

Pesticide and herbicide use is not planned during construction of the Project. After construction, maintenance of the ROW may require use of pesticide and herbicide in accordance with New York Department of Environmental Conservation regulations and guidelines.

Key Facts:

- **Vegetation removal is required for RTS**
- **Both temporary and permanent vegetation removals are needed**
- **Removals are within the existing transmission corridor as well as danger trees that are just outside the corridor**
- **Vegetation removal during construction of RTS will occur between November 1 - March 31**



Example cross section.

Restoration

The transmission corridor and access points are restored following construction, including planting of low-growing vegetation, grasses, etc. Any plantings need to meet NERC and FERC regulations for safety, operability, and maintenance. Landscaping plans will be developed as needed.

Questions? Get in touch:



Toll-free: 1-800-314-4236



Questions@RTSUpgrade.com



www.RTSUpgrade.com