

Transmission lines construction

Most existing land uses can continue while still maintaining an obstruction-free right-of-way during construction. There are processes already in place to coordinate with landowners, and the utilities will communicate with landowners every step of the way.

Common impacts during construction can include soil compaction, the need to temporarily relocate or limit access of livestock to avoid construction zones, and limitations of crop planting or harvest in the right-of-way.

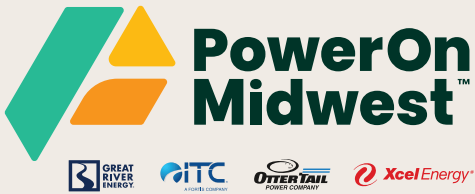
Drain tile

Protecting drain tile during construction is a common concern, and it's something we deal with regularly. We've successfully built transmission lines on properties that depend on drain tiles. We work with landowners to identify where drain tile is located and will work with landowners to minimize any impacts caused during construction.

If drain tile damage occurs during construction, we will work with landowners to repair the issue at our cost. Once construction is complete, it's rare that any long-term impacts occur, and we will work with landowners to correct any issues that are identified.



Agriculture and electric transmission lines have coexisted for more than 100 years, and today they both drive our economy. Crop cultivation and livestock farming feed our nation and the world. Today untapped energy sources across the Midwest are becoming increasingly important to economic growth in rural areas. Building stronger electric infrastructure is essential to ensure the Midwest continues to thrive. Modern infrastructure can be integrated safely into everyday life. This guide provides information about how electric transmission lines and agricultural crops and practices coexist now and for this project.



Electric transmission and agriculture

What to know

The PowerOn Midwest utilities are working with landowners and communities to power our region today and into the future. As power sources evolve and electricity demand grows, PowerOn Midwest and other electric transmission upgrades are needed to maintain reliable low-cost power for customers.

Transmission in the community

There are more than 500,000 miles of transmission lines currently operating in the U.S. and millions of miles of distribution lines carrying electricity to homes and businesses. This safe, reliable infrastructure allows our communities and economies to thrive. PowerOn Midwest is enabling cost-effective, reliable generation and doing so in a way that can coexist with the Midwest agricultural landscape.



Across the Midwest, agriculture and energy infrastructure have shared the landscape for decades. PowerOn Midwest is being developed in a way that recognizes the agricultural way of life.



Transmission lines and animals

We will work with landowners during construction to minimize impacts to livestock. We will coordinate any needed temporary relocations with temporary fencing or gating, and other measures as needed, making sure the livestock have access to feed and water supplies throughout construction. After construction, the construction areas are restored and livestock uses can return to normal. Decades of scientific research have shown that exposure to transmission lines is not a demonstrated cause of adverse effects on livestock.

Transmission lines and crops

During construction of the transmission line there may be temporary restrictions on some agricultural activities. Once construction is complete, agricultural activities can resume. The PowerOn Midwest team will communicate with landowners in advance of all pre-construction and construction activities. We will strive to coordinate construction activities with farming and livestock operations to minimize inconveniences. Landowners will be compensated for any crop damage.

Locating transmission line structures on cultivated land and pastureland

PowerOn Midwest will coordinate with landowners early in the planning process to identify and address potential impacts to cultivated land and pastureland before construction begins. When needed, transmission structures may be placed on cultivated or pastureland. In such cases, we will strive to position structures to minimize disruption to farming operations.



Transmission lines and farming equipment

The PowerOn Midwest team designed structures and transmission lines for safe operation in agricultural areas.

✓ Safety snapshot:

- Do not lift, elevate, build or pass under a power line with any object, tool or vehicle that could make contact or near-contact with the wires.
- If you're unsure of your equipment height, have someone be a spotter to double check your clearance from a safe distance away.

Locating transmission lines near irrigation systems

We will work with landowners to limit the impacts that the transmission lines may have on irrigation systems, including through thoughtful placement of the transmission structures. Where irrigations systems are going to be operated around or underneath the transmission lines, we will work with landowners to make sure the systems are set up to be compatible.

✓ Safety snapshot:

- Provide a good electrical ground for the pivot point.
- Prevent a solid stream of water from hitting the transmission lines.
- Contact a PowerOn Midwest representative before installing a new irrigation system.

Use of aerial applicators near transmission lines

Based on our experience with transmission lines, aerial applicators should be able to parallel new transmission infrastructure similar to how they work with existing infrastructure today. Some adjustments to aerial applicator flights may be necessary based on the line's orientation along fields.