



August 13, 2008

## Puget Sound Energy to upgrade electrical system in Kirkland and Redmond

### What is the project?

Puget Sound Energy plans to construct approximately 4.5 miles of 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from our Sammamish substation (located at 9221 Willows Rd. NE in Redmond) to our existing 115 kV line that currently terminates at 132<sup>nd</sup> Street between 109<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE and 110<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE in Kirkland, near our Juanita substation. PSE has not yet determined the specific route of our new transmission line, but anticipates that much of the new line will be located in and along public road rights-of-way.

### Why is PSE building a new transmission line?

PSE is building the new transmission line to increase the reliability and capacity of the electric system in the area. Currently our Juanita substation, as well as two other substations serving the Kirkland area, is served by a single transmission line. Under certain conditions, transmission lines can overload and result in loss of service to customers. Our new transmission line will provide additional transmission system capacity and redundancy to improve our system reliability as a whole, and reduce the possibility of system overloads.

### How will this benefit you and your community?

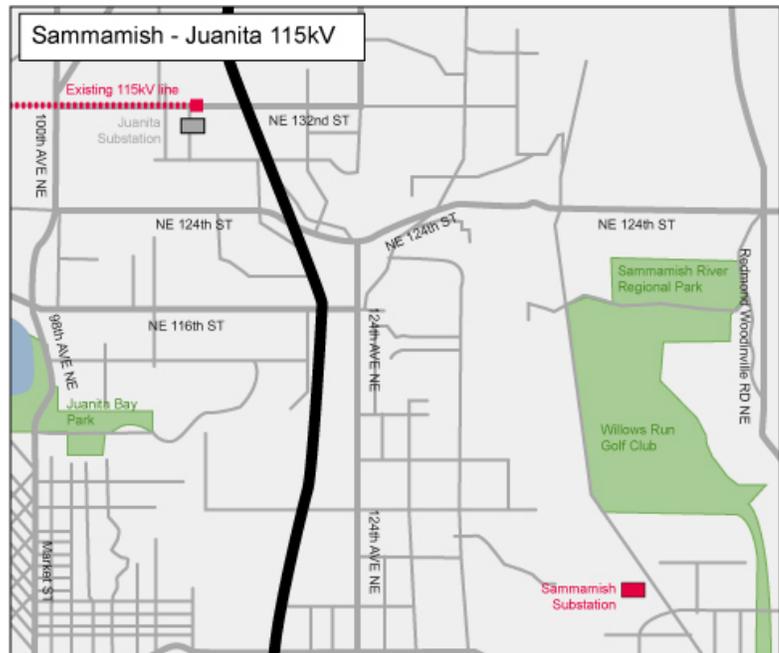
The new transmission line will increase electric reliability to customers in Kirkland and Redmond.

### What will the work entail?

- Trimming and removing vegetation along the route
- Installing new transmission poles and insulators
- Stringing transmission line
- Site restoration, including landscaping

### Project schedule

- Initial community meetings: 2008
- Design and permitting: 2008
- Construction: summer 2009
- Completion: fall 2009



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To strengthen our transmission system, PSE needs to connect our existing 115 kV line in Kirkland to our Sammamish substation in Redmond.

Construction will be confined to normal daytime working hours during the week, with the possibility of some work on Saturdays. The majority of the work will be in roads along public rights-of-way. When working in or along roads, signs and flaggers will help direct traffic.

**What can I expect to see or hear during construction?**

Typical construction equipment will be used, including back hoes, cranes, bucket trucks, and work trucks. Construction will involve vegetation removal and installation of new transmission poles and conductors.

**Why are transmission lines necessary?**

Transmission lines are key links in the electrical distribution process. The lines safely transport high voltage electricity from power sources, including hydroelectric dams and wind farms, to substations in local communities. Transmission normally takes place at voltages of 115 kV and higher. Transmission lines supply high-voltage power to substations where the power is then transformed to lower voltages that can be safely distributed to customers.

**PSE's commitment**

PSE remains focused on our vital mission to provide essential energy to our customers. At the same time, the company works hard to keep people informed of scheduled activities in their communities, and to ask for suggestions and opinions as those activities are being planned.

**For additional information/questions please contact:**

Roque Bamba  
Project Manager  
Puget Sound Energy  
425.462.3774  
[roque.bamba@pse.com](mailto:roque.bamba@pse.com)