



Summary for Public Release

Project Title: State of Illinois: Joint Agency Path to Streamline Transmission Siting in Illinois

Applicant: State of Illinois - Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC)
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)

Project Managers/Key Personnel: Jim Zolnierek & James Harmening, ICC; Anna Margaret Barris, IDNR

Project Overview and Impacts: The State of Illinois, will implement a comprehensive transmission siting initiative with three goals: streamline the transmission line siting review and approval processes in Illinois; ensure better protection of natural resources and historical sites; and better incorporate community-identified needs into the transmission siting approval process. The initiative will specifically focus on upgrading IDNR customer-facing databases and the ICC and IDNR baseline data points applicable to MISO's Long Range Transmission Plan (LRTP) Tranche 1 and 2 projects, which both include significant transmission upgrades in Illinois. The improvements and data collected will also be used to inform siting review for future transmission projects, and lower the costs and time tied to project development and review.

Key Anticipated Impacts & Benefits:

- 5 stakeholder meetings with impacted communities, a corresponding workshop report published on ICC website, and inputs incorporated into ICC siting decisions.
- Illinois Transmission Impacts/Benefits Assessment and Transmission Siting/Routing Study published on ICC website and incorporated into ICC Renewable Energy Access Plan (REAP) update proposals.
- New easy to navigate, search, and update of IDNR Customer Relationship Management (CRM)/Geographic Information System populated with comprehensive data on historic and cultural resources along the MISO Tranche 1 and 2 routes (including from the converted and uploaded backlog data and 24 to 40 additional SHPO surveys produced under the project).
- IDNR Natural Heritage Database updated with 60 to 100 additional state-listed species surveys produced under the project for Illinois areas along the MISO Tranche 1 and 2 routes.
- IDNR Incidental Take Authorizations (ITA) website updated with 30 additional conservation guidance documents and 30 additional status assessments developed during the project for Illinois state-listed species areas along the MISO Tranche 1 and 2 routes.