COLORADO

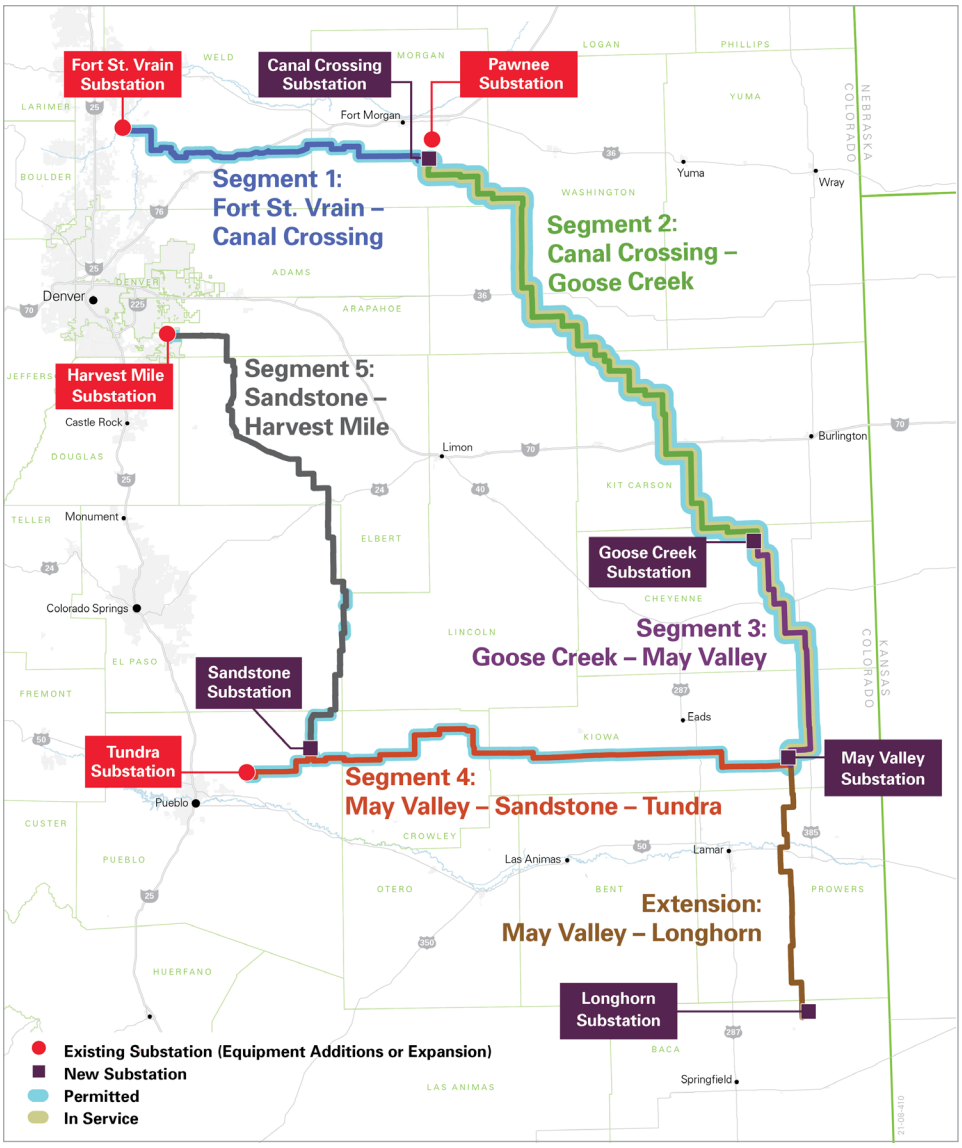
COLORADO'S POWER PATHWAY

PROPOSAL DELIVERS NEW ENERGY ECONOMY BENEFITS TO RURAL COLORADO, COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE STATE

SUMMER 2025 UPDATE

Colorado's Power Pathway is a $1.7 billion investment proposed by Xcel Energy that will boost the economy, connect new energy resources in eastern Colorado, increase the reliability of the electric grid and help ensure availability of power during severe weather. The Colorado Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) approved Colorado's Power Pathway in spring 2022, and Xcel Energy will build approximately 550 miles of new transmission lines, plus construction of four new substations and expansion, equipment additions, or equipment upgrades at four existing substations to carry power to Colorado homes and businesses.

Transmission is the backbone of the electricity network, with lines and poles moving large amounts of high-voltage power across long distances. Colorado has an open transmission system so power lines carry not only electricity generated by Xcel Energy but by utilities and cooperatives around the state too, benefitting everyone who uses electricity. Transmission planning is coordinated on a statewide level to ensure projects meet customer needs on a cost-effective and reliable basis.



INFORMATION SHEET

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The Eastern Plains of Colorado is one of the nation's best areas for wind and solar. New transmission lines encourage and support the construction of wind and solar power plants to bring more low-cost electricity to help meet the needs of our growing state. With these new projects come jobs, lease revenue and increased taxes for rural communities.

For example, in 2020 we completed the Cheyenne Ridge Wind Project in Cheyenne and Kit Carson counties. The 500-megawatts generated and carried by 70 miles of transmission line are enough to power 270,000 average Colorado homes. Over its lifetime, Cheyenne Ridge will produce an estimated $107 million in landowner payments and $29 million in new tax revenue for surrounding communities and counties. More than 200 workers built the project and 24 full-time operations and maintenance jobs were created.

Colorado's Power Pathway supports Xcel Energy's Clean Power Plan, which anticipates building approximately 5,500 megawatts of new wind, solar and other resources through 2030 to meet the state's growing electricity needs, reliably and affordably. The project's proposed 345-kilovolt transmission system will connect eastern Colorado to the Front Range.

We have been working with local jurisdictions, state and federal agencies, and landowners since summer 2021 to determine the preferred transmission line route for each segment and identify sites for new substations. Land use permit approvals have been obtained in ten jurisdictions and construction activities have been completed on Segments 2 and 3, including at the Canal Crossing, Goose Creek and May Valley substations, which are now in-service. Land use permitting activities continue for Segment 5 in Arapahoe, Elbert, and El Paso counties. Construction activities are underway on Segment 1 in Morgan and Weld counties and on Segment 4 in Crowley, Kiowa and Pueblo counties. Construction on Segment 1 will be complete in 2026. Construction on segments 4 and 5 will be complete in 2027.

The Colorado Public Utilities Commission did not approve construction of the May Valley – Longhorn Extension in the January 2024 Phase II Decision regarding our Electric Resource Plan and Clean Energy Plan. We may bring a proposal to construct the May Valley – Longhorn Extension and Longhorn Substation forward again in the future but have paused its further development as part of Colorado's Power Pathway. Development of Segments 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 of Colorado's Power Pathway will continue.

For more information about Colorado's Power Pathway, please go to the project web site at **ColoradosPowerPathway.com**, call our project hotline at **855-858-9037** or send an email to **ColoradosPowerPathway@xcelenergy.com**.

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