



Advancing Wind Power in Illinois Conference 2011

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Environmental Resources Management

**Transmission Expansion for Wind Energy
Breakout Session**

Friday, July 22, 2011, 11:15 AM

Transmission Expansion for Wind Energy Advancing Wind Power in Illinois

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Environmental Resources Management



ERM Transmission and Wind

- Critical issues assessments/fatal flaw analyses
- Strategic planning, feasibility studies and impact assessments
- Stakeholder engagement and public participation
- Licensing and permitting
- NEPA compliance
- Field studies and surveys
- Agency consultation
- Federal, state, and local environmental permitting
- Environmental mitigation and monitoring
- Right-of-way management

Impact Assessment and Planning

Regional Experience



- Risk analysis, communication and management
- Due diligence and compliance audits
- Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) management systems
- Environmental Management Information Systems (EMIS)
- Acoustics, noise and vibration
- Air, water and wastewater
- Environmental compliance

Performance and Assurance



Transmission Siting in Illinois – Past Trends

Siting Approaches

- Identification of route(s) followed by public meeting(s)
- Identification of routes, stakeholder engagement, public meeting(s)
- Stakeholder engagement, identification of routes, public meeting(s)
- Stakeholder engagement and multiple public meetings parallel to development of route alternatives, with emphasis on NEED and benefits



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Need and Benefits – Past Trends

- **Most transmission projects to-date in Illinois driven by more local reliability needs**
 - Load growth
 - NERC reliability standards or other transmission planning criteria
 - Transmission upgrades/improvements
- **More local benefits generally perceived as offsetting local impacts**



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Transmission Siting in Illinois – Past Trends

Stakeholder/Public Reactions or Perceptions

- Sole focus on route location
- Increased understanding of route selection process
- Increased understanding of need



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Transmission Siting – Looking Forward

- **Continued emphasis on need, but equal emphasis on benefits**
 - Facilitating renewable generation is not new, but taking on a more pronounced role in Illinois
 - Not uncommon to hear from those affected – “...if I accept why, who really benefits and how?”
- **Other considerations**
 - Right-of-way and land acquisition



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