

MERRITT AREA TRANSMISSION PROJECT



PROJECT UPDATE

Construction of the Merritt Area Transmission (MAT) Project is underway and is expected to be complete in fall 2014. Get full details of the construction schedule on the back of this page.

WHY IS THE PROJECT NEEDED?

Demand for electricity in the Merritt area is growing. BC Hydro load forecasts have determined that significant electrical load growth is anticipated in the Merritt area. Contributing factors to this growth include development of new hotels, residential subdivisions, commercial areas and a resort south of Merritt in the Coquihalla corridor. To meet the increasing demand for power in Merritt, a new transmission line must be in service by the end of 2014.

The MAT project will ensure Merritt's homes and businesses continue to have reliable electricity for the next 30 years.

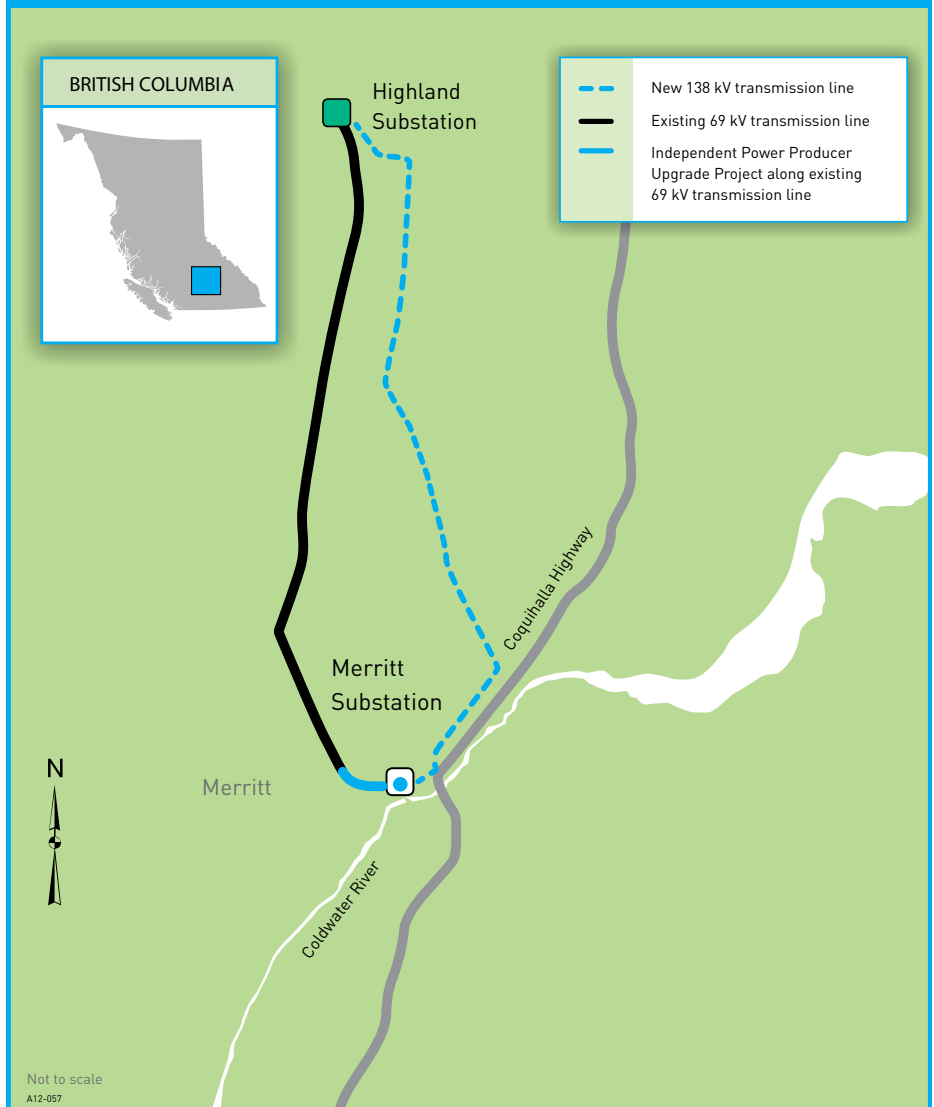
WHAT'S HAPPENING

The MAT project includes:

- A new 35-kilometre above-ground 138-kilovolt transmission line between the Merritt and Highland substations.
- Upgrading the Merritt Substation, including the addition of new equipment and a building, all within a new, expanded fenced area.
- Adding new equipment at the Highland Substation.

Routing of the MAT transmission line was selected to be cost effective, minimize environmental impacts and allow the project to be built on time to meet Merritt's electricity needs by the end of 2014.

MERRITT AREA TRANSMISSION PROJECT



Construction of the MAT project is underway. Work will continue over the coming months and is expected to be complete in September 2014. We will continue to update the MAT project web pages and welcome your questions and feedback.

Upcoming construction milestones include right-of-way preparation which will begin in January 2014, and installation of electrical equipment at the Merritt Substation in March 2014. Thank you for your patience and understanding during the construction of the MAT project.

SCHEDULE

Milestone	Date (subject to change)
Site preparation for Merritt Substation upgrade	Complete July 2013
Civil construction for Merritt Substation upgrade	August 2013 to July 2014
Transmission centre-line survey	October 2013 to January 2014
Right-of-way preparation (tree clearing and access road construction)	January 2014 to July 2014
Electrical construction for Merritt Substation upgrade (installation of electrical equipment at Merritt Substation)	March 2014 to September 2014
Transmission line design finalized	February 2014
Construction at Highland Substation	April 2014 to September 2014
Construction of transmission line (pole install and line stringing)	May 2014 to September 2014
In-service date	September 2014

MERRITT GREEN ENERGY PROJECT

Following completion of the MAT project, BC Hydro will upgrade a portion of the existing transmission line in Merritt to support Merritt Green Energy, an independent power producer, to provide safe reliable electricity. Three kilometres of the existing 69-kilovolt transmission line, starting at the Merritt Substation and heading west along Voght Street and Highway 8, will be removed and replaced with a 138-kilovolt transmission line.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you'd like more information on the MAT project, please visit: bchydro.com/mat

If you have any questions, please contact:

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A13-096