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An excerpt from ATC's 2011 10-Year Transmission System Assessment An annual report describing economic and regional solutions to electric reliability needs



## Zone 1 – North Central Wisconsin

ADAMS FOREST (southwestern portion) FOND DU LAC (northwest portion) GREEN LAKE JUNEAU LANGLADE LINCOLN MARATHON MARQUETTE MONROE (eastern portion) ONEIDA PORTAGE SHAWANO (western portion) VERNON (eastern portion) VILAS (southern portion) WAUPACA WAUSHARA WINNEBAGO (western portion) WOOD



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Zone 1

# Economics, public policy increasingly influence transmission planning

## Mandatory reliability standards, renewable portfolio requirements affect plans

While reliably meeting the needs of electricity customers is the top priority for any transmission owner, market economics and public policy initiatives are playing a major role in how utilities plan for their system needs. Traditionally, transmission owners performed planning studies and analysis for their individual needs; today, however, while local reliability remains the responsibility of the owner, the trend is toward broader-based planning driven by regional transmission organizations, government agencies and electricity market economics.

Changing the way transmission system costs are allocated also affects the planning as well as permitting for system improvements. Regional planning initiatives increasingly focus on projects that provide additional benefits beyond local-area reliability. These multi-benefit, or Multi-Value Projects (as defined by Midwest Independent System Operator, Inc.), also include economic savings and the ability to move renewable energy from where it is generated to where it can be used. As these projects are identified, regulators from multiple states will need to work together to determine cost sharing as well as permitting. We are working diligently with all stakeholders to design an incremental regional build-out of these projects to move forward efficiently and cost-effectively.

Enforceable, mandatory reliability standards, developed by the North American Electric Reliability Corp. and approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in 2007, also play a role in how we plan, operate and maintain our system. Earlier this year, NERC issued a set of high-priority reliability issues to help the industry focus on standards setting, compliance, training and education. Several of those priorities, including a changing resource mix and the integration of new technologies, will impact the way we plan and operate our system.

Our planning process also is affected by pending Environmental Protection Agency regulations for electric generators and the recently issued FERC Order 1000 governing regional planning, public policy requirements and cost allocation.

The 2011 Assessment covers the years 2011 through 2020 and indicates a need for \$3.8 to \$4.4 billion in transmission system improvements. The total includes \$1.0 billion in specific network projects, \$1.0 billion in asset maintenance, \$0.7 billion in multi-benefits projects, and this year a range of \$1.1 to \$1.7 billion in other capital categories. Other capital categories can include developing or unspecified network projects, interconnection projects and infrastructure relocation.

Cost estimate of system improvements					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total 10-Year Capital Cost	\$2.8B	\$2.7B	\$2.5B	\$3.4B	\$3.8/\$4.4B

#### Transmission is the vital link in bringing power to communities

Transmission lines move electricity at high voltages over long distances – from power plants to communities where local utilities deliver power to homes and businesses via distribution lines. A reliable transmission network provides access to many sources of power, whether they are local or regional. Having multiple paths to get power from producers to consumers lessens the chance that they will experience service interruptions.

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## North Central Wisconsin – Zone 1

#### **Electric System Overview**

#### Slight increases expected in population, employment

Population in Zone 1 is projected to grow at 0.6 percent annually between now and 2020. Employment is projected to grow at 0.9 percent annually between now and 2020. Marathon County will realize the largest increase in population and employment, while Adams County will have the highest growth rate.

#### **Electricity usage growing**

Peak electric demand typically occurs during the summer months, with some winter peaks appearing in the northern portion. Primary electricity users in Zone 1 include a number of large paper mills and food processing plants.

Electric load is projected to grow approximately 0.66 percent annually through 2020.







# System Limitations North Central Wisconsin – Zone 1

#### **Transmission system characteristics in Zone 1**

ATC delivers power in Zone 1 with various transmission facilities including:

- East-west 345-kV line from Arpin Substation through Stevens Point extending to the Appleton area,
- ▶ 345-kV line extending from Wausau to northeastern Minnesota,
- ▶ 345-kV line extending from Wausau to Stevens Point to eastern Outagamie County (Highway 22),
- ▶ 115-kV network in the northern portion of the zone, and
- ▶ 138-kV and 69-kV network in the southern portion of the zone.

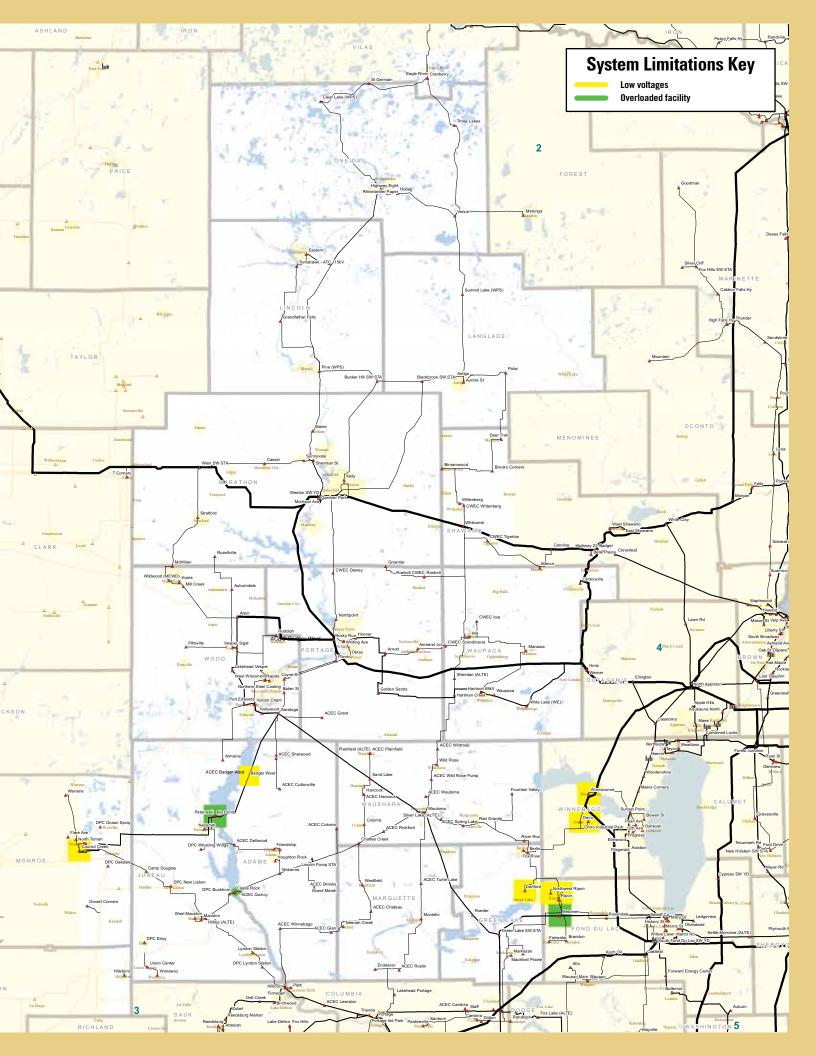
There are a number of transmission system performance issues in Zone 1 including overloaded lines and equipment and low system voltages.

#### **Transmission system limitations in Zone 1**

Key system performance issues in Zone 1 include low voltages and thermal overloads in the southern portion of the zone. These issues will necessitate a combination of reinforcements.

Zone 1	includ	des the	counties	of:

ADAMS	MARATHON	VILAS (southern portion)
FOREST (southwestern portion)	MARQUETTE	WAUPACA
FOND DU LAC (northwest portion)	MONROE (eastern portion)	WAUSHARA
GREEN LAKE	ONEIDA	WINNEBAGO
JUNEAU	PORTAGE	(western portion)
LANGLADE	SHAWANO (western portion)	WOOD
LINCOLN	VERNON (eastern portion)	



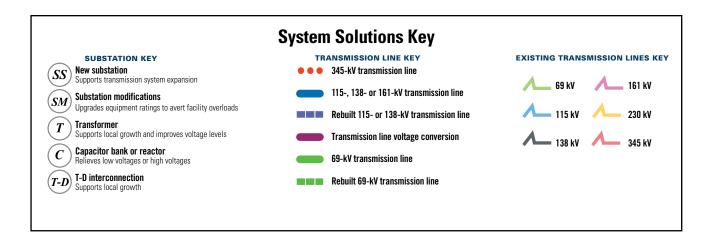
# Transmission projects in Zone 1 North Central Wisconsin – Zone 1

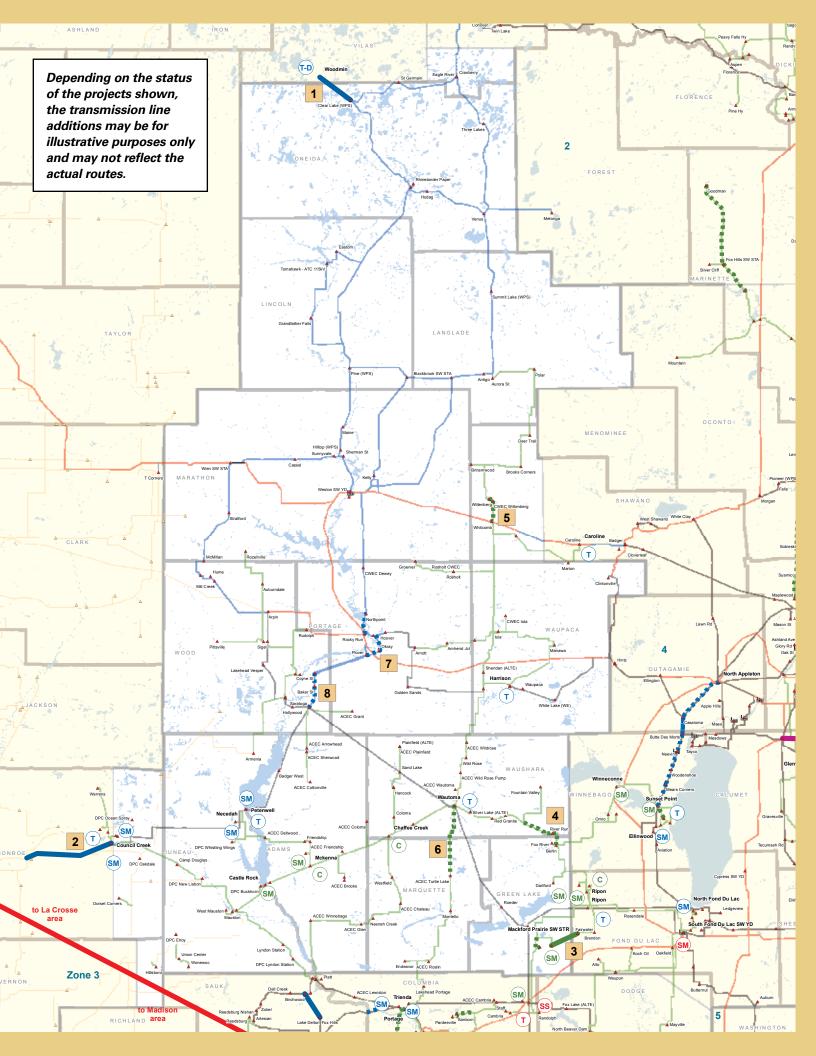


We have implemented one project in Zone 1 since the 2010 Assessment, which was the construction of a new 69-kV line to the new Warrens Substation tapped from the Council Creek-Tunnel City 69-kV line.

Our current plans in Zone 1 include 15 system reliability and economic projects between 2011 and 2025. These projects are in various stages of development. The most notable planned, proposed, provisional and asset renewal projects in Zone 1, along with their projected year of completion and the factors driving the need for the projects, are listed below.

	Project description	In-service year	Need driver
	Planned projects		
1	Clear Lake-Woodmin 115-kV line	2012	T-D interconnection
	Proposed projects		
2	Monroe County-Council Creek 161-kV line	2014	Low-voltage, economics, avoids reconfiguration during emergencies
	Provisional projects		
3	Fairwater-Mackford Prairie 69-kV line	2017	Overloads, low-voltages, and economic
	Asset Renewal projects		
4	Wautoma-Berlin 69-kV line rebuild	2011	Condition and performance
5	Whitcomb-Deer Trail 69-kV line partial rebuild	2011	Condition and performance
6	Montello-Wautoma 69-kV line rebuild	2017	Condition and performance
7	Plover-Whiting 115-kV line rebuild	2019	Condition and performance
8	Coyne-Saratoga 115-kV line partial rebuild	2020	Condition and performance









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### **ATC AT A GLANCE**

- Formed in 2001 as the first multi-state, transmission-only utility
- Owner and operator of approximately
   9,440 miles of transmission line and 515 substations
- Meeting electric needs of more than five million people in 72 counties in four states: Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota and Illinois
- **\$2.9 billion** in total assets

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