

## La Junta 115 kV Area Upgrades

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Project Sponsor:</b>                    | Black Hills Colorado Electric  |
| <b>Additional Project Participants:</b>    |  |
| <b>Project Description:</b>                | Increase 115/69kV transformation capacity at BHCE's La Junta substation by 50 MVA; add new 1 x 6 MVAR 69 kV cap bank at Rocky Ford |
| <b>Voltage Class:</b>                      | 115 & 69 kV  |
| <b>Facility Rating:</b>                    | Varies   |
| <b>Point of Origin/Location:</b>           | Black Hills Colorado Electric La Junta 115 kV substation   |
| <b>Point of Termination:</b>               |  |
| <b>Intermediate Points:</b>                |  |
| <b>Length of Line (in Miles):</b>          |  |
| <b>Type of Project:</b>                    | Substation   |
| <b>Development Status:</b>                 | Planned  |
| <b>Routing:</b>                            |  |
| <b>Subregional Planning Group:</b>         | CCPG   |
| <b>Purpose of Project:</b>                 | Improved reliability in the La Junta area.   |
| <b>Estimated Cost (in 2017 Dollars):</b>   | \$3.9 Million  |
| <b>Schedule:</b>                           |  |
| <b>Construction Date:</b>                  | 2019   |
| <b>Planned Completion/In-Service Date:</b> | Q4 2019  |
| <b>Regulatory Info:</b>                    | Approved - Colorado PUC: Decision No. C09-1240   |
| <b>Regulatory Date:</b>                    | October 28, 2009   |
| <b>Permitting Info:</b>                    |  |
| <b>Permitting Date:</b>                    |  |
| <b>Contact Information:</b>                | Wes Wingen, Manager of Transmission Planning   |
| <b>Email</b>                               | wes.wingen@blackhillscorp.com  |
| <b>Phone</b>                               | 605-721-2268   |

## **La Junta 115 kV Area Upgrades**

The La Junta 115 kV Interconnection project as initially scoped consisted of a new parallel 115 kV and 69 kV line between the Tri-State and Black Hills La Junta substations. The connection of the two substations, which are approximately 0.5 miles apart, would provide increased reliability to the local area. An increase in 115/69 kV transformation capacity at the BHCE-owned La Junta substation, a 69 kV capacitor, a larger 115/69 kV transformer at Boone and local terminal equipment upgrades were also a part of this project to enhance load service in the area. As the project drivers evolved over time, the need to operate the 115 kV tie line normally open became apparent. Joint participation in the project was no longer of value to Tri-State G&T. The scope of the project was reviewed in 2015 and it was determined that the benefits of the project did not justify the cost. The 115 kV and 69 kV lines between the two La Junta substations were removed from the project scope, and the other projects remained.

The project previously included the replacement of the Boone 115/69 kV transformer, which was completed in October 2016 at a cost of \$2.7M. The addition of a second La Junta 115/69 kV transformer (50 MVA) is currently planned for completion and operation in Q4 2019 at an estimated cost of \$2.0 million. Upgrades to the La Junta area 115 and 69 kV system include replacement of limiting terminal equipment as well as a new 6 MVAR, 69 kV capacitor. A second 69 kV capacitor was previously planned but has been postponed until a later date as required by local load growth. The estimated cost for the La Junta area terminal upgrades and capacitor is approximately \$1.9M and will be completed in Q4 2019 which is a slight delay from the previously filed in-service date of Q1 2018. The total cost for all of the individual upgrades listed for the La Junta area is \$3.9M. In Decision C09-1240, the Colorado Public Utilities Commission found that the original project was in the ordinary course of business and that a CPCN was not necessary. A subsequent ruling was not pursued due to the 69 kV voltage level of the remaining projects.