

Denton Municipal Electric City of Denton 1659 Spencer Road Denton, TX 76205

July 16, 2014

Project Information
Eagle Substation

# **Description of the Project**

Denton Municipal Electric (DME) has identified several projects within the DME system that are critical to maintaining reliability and allowing Denton to continue to grow. Construction of the Eagle Substation is one project that is necessary. Information on the project is presented herein (see attached map for project location). The project will consist of the following:

- > Construction of a new substation.
- Rerouting of transmission and distribution lines into the new substation.

The construction of the Eagle Substation will require a minimum of 1.9 acres to accommodate the 138 kV system equipment. Additional acreage could allow for future site upgrades and allow for larger setbacks and landscape buffers. Several alternatives have been considered as possible locations for construction of the Eagle Substation. A map is attached that shows the location options that are being considered. All facilities will be owned and operated by DME.



## Why is the project needed?

This new substation is needed to provide load serving capability in the central area of DME's service territory. There is not adequate substation capacity in existing substations to provide the level of reliable service to this area. The proposed new Eagle Substation is required to provide additional capacity that could support loss of major circuits or loss of a transformer in either the Hickory Substation or Locust Substation. Load has grown in this area of the city to a point where long term loss of a transformer or major circuit in either of these two area substations could result in a situation where maintaining power to all customers would be challenging. With a three to five year time frame for getting a new substation on line, DME must be proactive in construction of a new substation in advance of a significant power loss event.

The location options that have been identified for the Eagle Substation will address the need for additional power delivery capacity, and will provide a good location for new distribution circuits to originate. The site options can beneficially serve in all directions from these locations.

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This new station will provide backup to the Hickory and Locust substations. A map is attached that shows the location of these existing substations and the areas that DME is authorized to provide service by the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

The location options that have been identified for this new station were chosen in part because there is an existing transmission line available in the immediate vicinity making it unnecessary to construct additional transmission lines.



State and federal laws mandate specific and well defined performance requirements for utility systems. DME must comply with these requirements not only to ensure regulatory compliance, but more importantly, to maintain the best reliability of electric service to our customers.

Annual studies are completed to determine whether or not each transmission line segment and substation provide the performance needed. If performance deficiencies are identified, projects must be defined and constructed that resolve the deficit. In determining a solution for a deficiency, alternatives are considered that take into account benefits, impacts, and costs.

### **Project Location**

DME has investigated this area for potential locations for the Eagle Substation. The proposed locations were chosen due to them being adjacent to an existing transmission line. Any possible sites to the east and south are not viable due to the close proximity to the Locust Substation. Sites to the north conflict with the University of North Texas Denton Campus 2005 Master Plan which was approved by the UNT Board of Regents and updated in 2013. Sites to the west would involve routing transmission line segments through neighborhoods and would impact a greater number of homes and citizens.

### **The Site Selection Process**

The analysis phase of project development only identifies that a project is needed, what the project should accomplish, and a potential area for the needed project. It does not mandate the use of a specific site. The site selection process, which includes requesting public input, is employed to determine the location for the new substation. The option sites have been identified for the substation and are depicted on the attached map. This

Eagle

Driveway

Location Map
UNT Substation
Proposed Location

open house is intended to communicate the need for the project and to provide an opportunity for individuals to learn about the project and make comments. Potentially affected land owners and those within 500 feet of the sites have been notified by mail of the project and the public open house.

The City Council has approved the substation site selection process. This process presents the public with several opportunities to provide input. The first step is for DME to conduct an open house where

information is made available on the proposed project, questions may be asked, recommendations can be made, and written or verbal comments may be provided. Interested individuals may also contact DME at any time. Contact information for DME is provided below and on the comment form handed out at the open house. After all comments received at the open house for a project are compiled, DME will consider all comments, complete additional reviews as appropriate, and will provide a recommendation to the Public Utilities Board (PUB). During its consideration of DME's proposal, the PUB will conduct a public hearing and direct DME to take additional actions or recommend a site for consideration by the City Council. During its consideration of the PUB's findings, the City Council will again conduct a public hearing to receive comments from interested residents. Ultimately, the City Council will select the site for the Eagle Substation.

DME will provide notice by mail for the open house and for the PUB and City Council public hearings.

**DME's contact for questions:** Brian Daskam

**Energy Services Development Officer** 

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Please visit the project website for additional information, updated project information, and an online comment form <a href="http://www.cityofdenton.com/departments-services/departments-a-f/denton-municipal-electric/projects/eagle-substation">http://www.cityofdenton.com/departments-services/departments-a-f/denton-municipal-electric/projects/eagle-substation</a>.

#### **Timeline for the Proposed Substation Relocation**

Following approval by the City Council of the proposed site, DME will undertake procurement of land for the proposed site. The time required for purchase of the land is unknown at this time. Design of the station will begin as soon as practical after it appears that land issues will be settled. DME would hope to have the new station in service 2 years after the site is selected by City Council and the land is acquired.

#### **Procurement of Land and Easements**

Land and easement procurement processes are governed by state laws and local ordinances such as Senate Bill 18. Once the City Council has approved the transmission line route and substation sites, the procurement process will follow these requirements. The City will pay fair market prices for land and land rights. Fair market value is determined by conducting market studies and appraisals.

