

# **Cam Wal Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CWEC)**



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. Department of Energy's Grid Deployment Office, Award Number DE-GD0000885.

## **Community Partnership Team (CPT)**

As part of this Project, CWEC will form a CPT made up of stakeholders in the local communities that will be affected by their wildfire mitigation project. The CPT will advise CWEC throughout the project, participating in virtual and in-person meetings and providing feedback to ensure that community interests are incorporated into the project. CPT members will also have the opportunity to raise any concerns about the plan's impact and identify other potential grid-related wildfire threats.

## **Grid Update Plan**

*(Coming soon)*

## **Kickoff Meeting Agenda**

- 1:00 PM CST, January 15
- Location: The Lighthouse, 203 Main St. N, Herried, SD, 57472
- CPT members will be selected in the near future, sometime after the kickoff meeting
- See the proposed meeting agenda in the table below

<b>Meeting Agenda</b>	<b>Description</b>
Welcome/Introduction	Information sharing
Purpose of Meeting	Briefly describe the meeting objectives, and Community Benefits Plan overview and objectives
Overview of the Proposed Project	WARN Project overview. Co-op-specific project overview
Impact on the System Resilience	Describe the improvements in the system and the impact of the outage
Year 1 tasks outline and time frame	Describe Year 1 tasks including project plans for Years 2 and 3
Feedback	To be solicited at kickoff meeting

## **Consortium Member Information**

Cam Wal Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CWEC) provides safe, reliable and affordable energy and services that improve the quality of life for our members and their communities. Founded in 1945, CWEC serves approximately 1,650 members in North Central South Dakota, in Campbell, Walworth and Potter Counties. CWEC's peak demand is 16 MW, with 1,575 miles of energized power lines, and 13 employees.

Cam Wal Electric Cooperative is a member of a consortium of 38 electric co-ops and other rural utilities selected to receive federal funding through the Wildfire Assessment and Resilience for Networks project or WARN. WARN projects will modernize and strengthen our nation's electric grid, protecting customers' access to electricity during wildfires and mitigating the risk of wildfires due to our nation's aging transmission and distribution infrastructure. This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. Department of Energy's Grid Deployment Office, Award Number DE-GD0000885.

## **Project Description**

CWEC has proposed to replace overhead powerlines with underground lines in Campbell County, southeast of Pollock. This project will eliminate wildfire risks inherent for overhead power line conductor and overhead recloser operations. The estimated project cost including ditching, labor and materials is around \$1.1 million dollars.

## **Benefits**

Undergrounding powerlines makes the electric system safer, stronger, more reliable, and more affordable. This project will prevent wildfires caused by powerlines or equipment. It also significantly hardens the system to protect it from wildfire caused by natural or human factors in this area.

## **Communities and Consumers Impacted**

The project area is located southeast of Pollock, South Dakota, east of SD State Highway 1804. The project would underground 8 miles of line to reduce the risk of wildfire.

Per the 2020 United States Census, Pollock's population is 224. The area includes residential homes.

## **Community Benefits Plan**

*(Coming soon)*

## **Timeline**

The project will take approximately 2 years, with construction broken up into four stages to be completed in the months of April through November in consecutive years.

- Design: 3-6 months
- Permitting: Overhead easements will be replaced with underground easements.
- Construction: April – November 2026-2027. Undergrounding a distribution line along the road will require some level of traffic control, and the operation of large excavation equipment along with maneuvering large reels of primary cable. Some disruption to traffic flow is inevitable.
- Operation: Moving overhead electrical systems to underground includes converting overhead services to underground services requiring utility line workers and operations personnel.

## **Contact for More Information**

Additional questions should be directed to:

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# Project Map

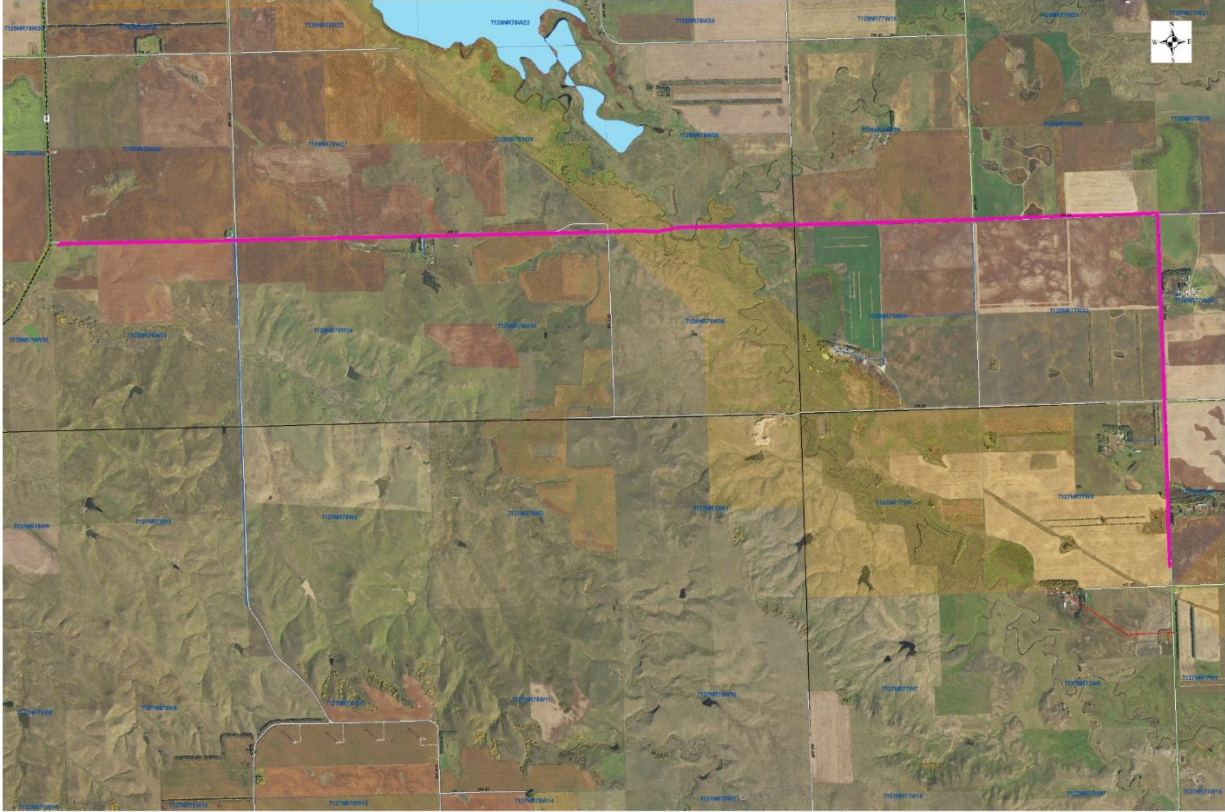


Figure 1: Approximate boundary of overhead lines (solid purple) to be converted to underground