

WELCOME



South Branch Generation Tie (“Gen-Tie”) Line

COMMUNITY MEETING

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

5-7 PM



PROJECT FACTS

OVERVIEW:

Approximately 2.4-mile, 138 kilovolt (kV) overhead generation tie (Gen-Tie) electric transmission line that will connect the approved South Branch Solar Project to the existing Fostoria Central Substation in Washington Township.

PERMITTING:

- Gen-Tie application will be submitted to the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) with both a preferred and alternate route.
- As part of the OPSB permit review process, numerous studies and plans are required.

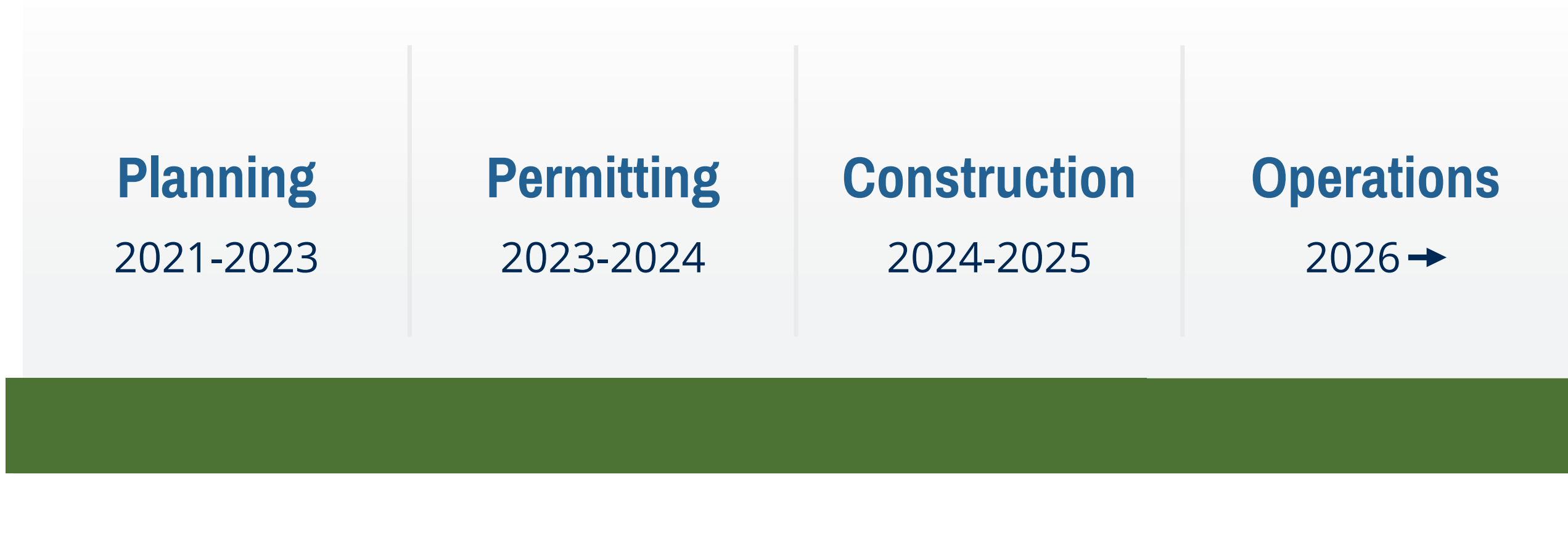
LOCATION:

Located on Norfolk Southern’s property, adjacent to the railway, extending from the southeast corner of the approved array footprint, 2.4 miles to the Fostoria Central Substation on County Road 218.

DESIGN:

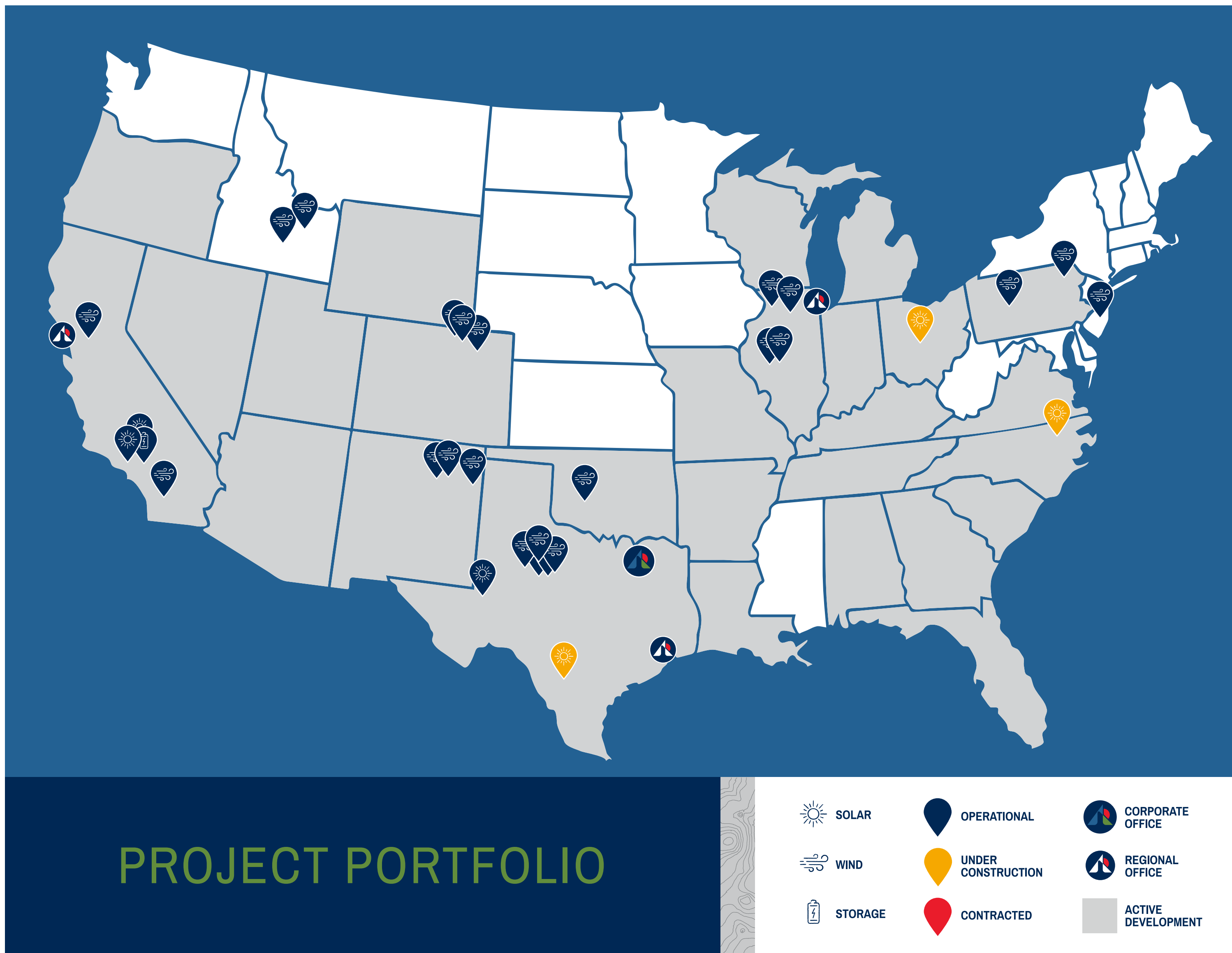
- Transmission line will utilize monopoles and an underground portion to minimize impact to neighboring homes.
- Located parallel to existing rail infrastructure in order to minimize impacting private residential or agricultural property.
- This Gen-Tie eliminates the need for constructing a utility switchyard.

SCHEDULE



WHO WE ARE

Leeward Renewable Energy



- Leading developer, owner and operator of U.S. renewable generation projects.
- 25 renewable energy facilities across nine states including an approved solar project in Ohio.
- 2,700+ Megawatts (MW) of renewable energy capacity.
- 25 Gigawatts (GW) under development, spanning more than 100 projects.
- Headquartered in Dallas, TX with regional offices in Chicago, IL, Houston, TX, and San Francisco, CA.
- Owner of South Branch Solar, LLC.
- Portfolio company of OMERS Infrastructure, one of Canada's largest pension plans.

PROJECT SITE SELECTION

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- The Gen-Tie provides an additional option for the approved South Branch Solar facility to connect to the bulk electric grid. If this option is selected, it would eliminate the need for a utility switchyard within the generating facility site by using AEP's existing Fostoria Central Substation.
- Use of existing infrastructure corridor will minimize environmental, cultural and community impacts.
- Direct route from the solar generating facility to the point of interconnection, which will result in greater efficiencies for operations and maintenance.

LAYOUT FEATURES

- Utilizes a 75-foot-tall monopole design rather than the metal A-frame design often used for other high-voltage infrastructure.
- Minimizes the visual impacts of the project and reduces the overall project footprint.
- Preferred project design currently reflects 37 monopoles spaced approximately 300 feet apart, with an underground segment.
- Compact positioning within rail property.
- Ability to span wetlands and streams located within the rail property.
- Minimal to no need for tree clearing.
- Designed to result in no adverse EMF levels or communications interference.

OPERATIONAL IMPACTS

- Similar, but lower voltage, than other nearby transmission infrastructure.
- Negligible noise, EMF, or communications interference.
- Appropriate drainage features to be incorporated to avoid offsite impacts.

PERMITTING STUDIES

The Ohio Power Siting Board application for the Gen-Tie will include the following studies and plans:



WETLANDS/STREAM DELINEATIONS

Formal delineations for the preferred route to support water resource avoidance and impact minimization, allowing project to span over wetlands and streams without disruption.



FEDERAL AND STATE THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION

Integrating protective measures, as appropriate, to avoid impact to listed species.



GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATION

Preliminary analysis of subsurface conditions in the preferred Gen-Tie corridor.



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Commitment to pre-construction development and a comprehensive stormwater management plan.



CULTURAL RESOURCES REVIEW

Any Cultural resource impact potential will be presented to the Ohio History Connection for review and concurrence.



AGRICULTURAL IMPACTS

The Gen-Tie's location completely within railroad property avoids potential impacts to agricultural land and activities.



DEMONSTRATION OF LOW EMF LEVELS

Where aboveground Gen-Tie features will extend within 100 feet of a residence, details confirming acceptable and safe levels of EMF will be calculated and presented to meet allowable threshold per OPSB.



COMMUNICATION INTERFERENCE

An analysis will be provided to confirm negligible interference to radio, television, or other communications technology.



NOISE RESTRICTIONS

Activities during construction will be restricted to daytime hours; once operational, noise potential will be limited.



LAND USE CONSIDERATIONS

Demonstrate limited land-use impacts by placing the Gen-Tie's location within an existing infrastructure corridor.



VISUAL IMPACTS

The Gen-Tie will be placed within an existing infrastructure corridor in a location where other above-ground transmission features already exist.



CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES AND BMPS

Assessment of representative views to plan landscaping and other viewshed mitigation strategies.



THANK YOU

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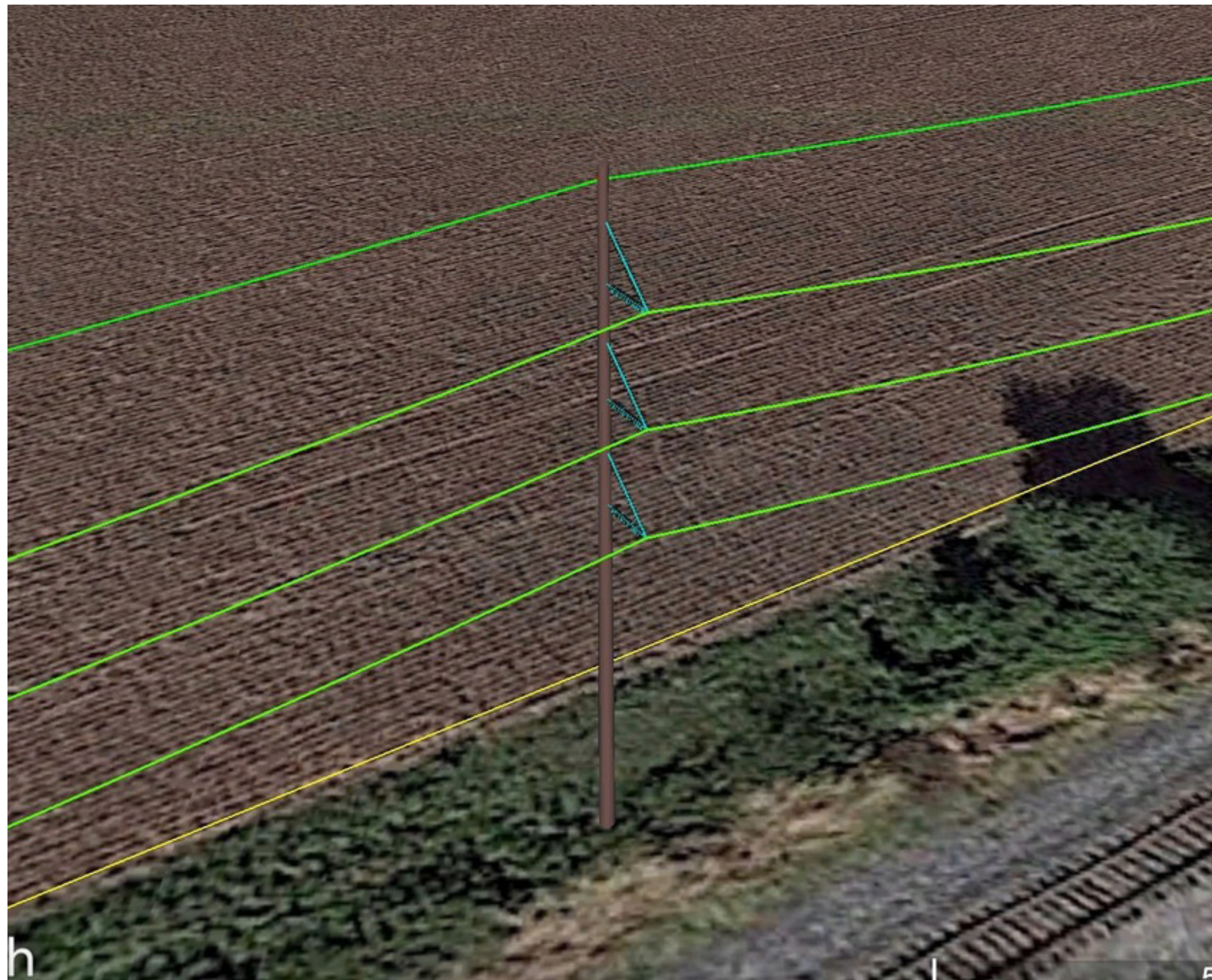
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PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN



PRELIMINARY SITE LAYOUT, SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED ON DETAILED DESIGN

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PRELIMINARY SITE LAYOUT, SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED ON DETAILED DESIGN