



## The Trans-Allegheny Interstate Line

On June 23, 2006, PJM Interconnection approved its five-year transmission expansion plan that calls for the construction of new 500-kilovolt transmission lines to improve the reliability of the electric transmission system throughout the PJM region.

### The Trans-Allegheny Interstate Line

In June 2006, PJM directed the construction of \$1.3 billion in electric transmission upgrades in the PJM region. Included is a 240-mile, 500-kilovolt transmission line extending from southwestern Pennsylvania to existing substations at Mt. Storm, W.Va., and Meadow Brook, Va., along with an interconnection with Dominion Virginia Power and continuing east to Dominion's Loudoun Substation. Allegheny and Dominion will each construct the line in their respective transmission zones.

PJM is the regional grid operator and coordinates the movement of electricity; ensures the reliability of the transmission grid; and plans transmission and generation expansion in 13 states and the District of Columbia.

### Benefits of the Project

The line addresses imminent reliability problems within the PJM electric transmission system. Benefits of the proposed transmission expansion include:

- improving transmission system reliability;
- meeting the growing demand for electricity;
- increasing west-to-east transfer capability, making cost-effective generation available to more consumers; and
- economic benefits for West Virginia and southwestern Pennsylvania, including expanding markets for local coal, more jobs and the potential for new generation projects including clean-coal technologies and renewables, such as wind and hydro.

### The Need for Transmission Expansion

The line addresses imminent reliability problems and PJM's approval directs immediate action by Allegheny and Dominion to construct the line.

Throughout the PJM region, the demand for electricity has increased significantly, while the transmission infrastructure has not increased at a proportional pace. This has led to greater reliability risks and higher prices for consumers.

Each utility's transmission system was originally constructed to meet its needs with limited capability to transfer power to neighboring utilities. Now, the combined PJM system serves as an integrated transmission network connecting generators to local distribution systems. Due to the growth in the demand for electricity, additional transmission lines are needed to improve the grid's reliability and transfer the power from where it is generated to where it is needed.

### Regulatory Approvals

Allegheny will seek authority to build the line from the respective state utility commissions that the line crosses. At this time, the line is expected to cross portions of Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland and Virginia. In addition, approvals from other federal, state and local authorities may be required.

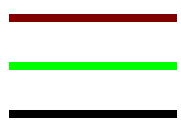
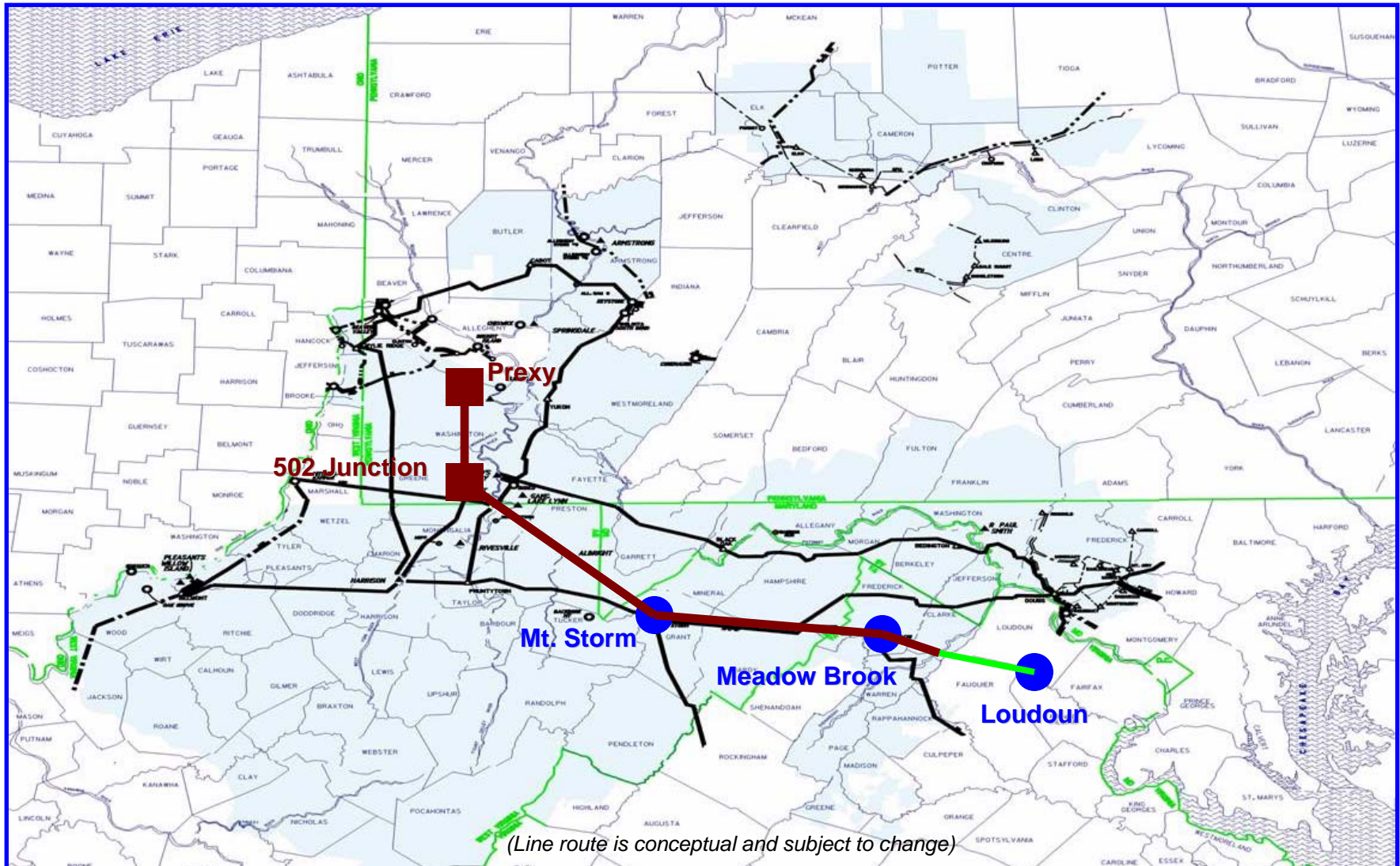
With PJM's approval, line siting and permitting will begin immediately with the lines targeted for completion in 2011. Construction of the line will make effective use of existing facilities, properties and rights-of-way.

### Line Siting Considerations

The specific line route has not been selected; the map shows the points that PJM determined should be connected electrically. Planning for the routing of the line is underway and Allegheny is committed to working with landowners, neighboring residents and business owners and regulators to balance all interests in an effort to minimize environmental and land use impacts.

# Trans-Allegheny Interstate Line

## Proposed Transmission Expansion in the PJM Region



500 kV Line Allegheny Power

500 kV Line Dominion Virginia Power

Existing EHV Transmission Lines



Existing Substation



Proposed Substation