

The Southline Transmission Project (Southline) is a 280-mile, double-circuit, high voltage transmission line and associated substation facilities. The design provides the capability to transport power bi-directionally and will enable wind and solar resources from the Desert Southwest to reach key markets while improving the grid reliability of the border region. Southline will connect the electrical transmission systems of the El Paso and Tucson metropolitan areas and comprises new facilities between the Afton, New Mexico and Apache, Arizona substations, as well as upgraded WAPA facilities between the Apache and Vail, Arizona substations.

Southline has teamed up with Grid United, an independent transmission company, for the final stages of development: initiating detailed engineering, concluding land acquisition, and finalizing commercial arrangements. Major state and federal permits (including NEPA) have been acquired.

Southline expects to begin construction in 2024. The first phase of the Project could be operational by 2026, with the full Project online by 2027.

## PROJECT BENEFITS

- Enhanced grid reliability and resiliency in the Desert Southwest, making the power system less vulnerable to price volatility and extreme weather events
- Minimized land and resource impacts by routing along existing infrastructure and upgrading existing transmission lines where feasible
- Enabling new energy generation projects to be built via improved intra and inter-regional transmission, providing access to geographically diverse renewable resources, which will enable more clean power generation, increase reliability and lower the cost of energy to consumers
- Potential for improved connection between Western, Eastern and Texas electrical grids
- Creation of high-quality jobs and increased tax revenues for six counties in the Border Region of New Mexico and Arizona



## LANDOWNER RELATIONS

Our relationship with landowners and communities is at the core of everything we do. We are committed to developing the Project using a collaborative process and conducting easement negotiations in a manner that is fair and respectful of private property rights.

## ABOUT GRID UNITED

Grid United is an independent transmission company aiming to modernize the United States' power grid to create a more resilient and efficient electric system that utilizes the nation's abundant and geographically diverse natural resources to the benefit of all consumers. Our team is composed of energy professionals with extensive experience developing, designing, permitting, and constructing large scale energy infrastructure across North America.

## ABOUT BLACK FOREST PARTNERS

Black Forest originated Southline and serves as the Project's managing member. The Black Forest team has thirty years of investment and development expertise, ties to the local region, and a deep commitment to leveraging existing assets to advance infrastructure that maximizes benefits and minimizes impacts.