SOUTHLINE
TRANSMISSION PROJECT

Building America's Next-Generation Infrastructure to Power Arizona's Future

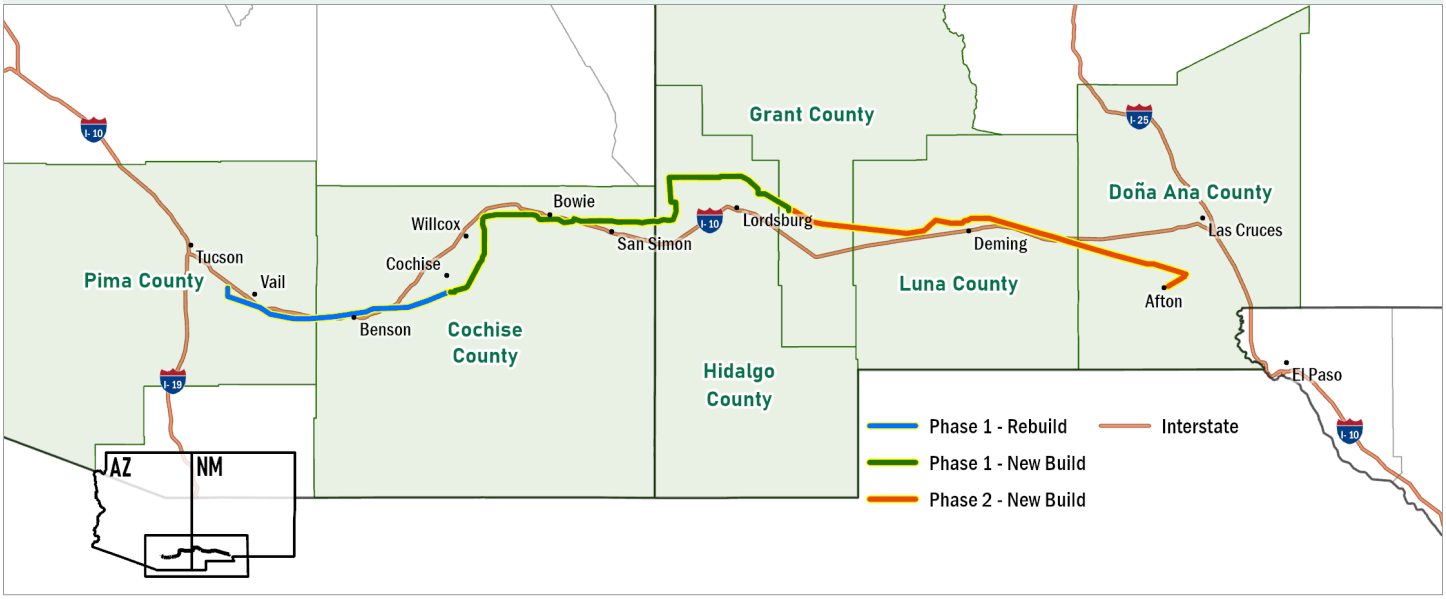
Southline Transmission Project (Southline) is a 280-mile, high-voltage transmission line that will connect the electrical transmission systems of the El Paso and Tucson areas. Southline will bidirectionally transport power and enable electricity generated in the Desert Southwest to reach key markets while improving grid reliability for the region.

Status: Southline successfully completed an in-depth, multi-year federal and state permitting process and obtained major state and federal permits. Southline is in the final stages of development, which includes completing detailed engineering, performing pre-construction environmental surveys, and finalizing commercial arrangements.

Southline expects to begin construction in 2027. The first phase could be operational in 2028, with the full project online in 2029.

Phase 1: Pima County, Arizona, to Grant County, New Mexico

Phase 2: Grant County, New Mexico, to Doña Ana County, New Mexico



ARIZONA BENEFITS

Support for Economic Growth

- Investing hundreds of millions of dollars in Arizona
- Creating hundreds of high-quality, construction-related jobs
- Increasing economic activity among local materials suppliers, professional services, and hospitality providers

Direct Community Investment

- Investing at least $3.8 million directly in local host communities through donations, sponsorships, and partnerships with local organizations including: Wings over Willcox, Rex Allen Days, and the Benson Lantern Festival

Improved Grid Reliability

- Providing access to new power markets for Arizona electricity producers by providing a path to export power during periods of low demand
- Supporting Arizona customers in times of high electricity demand by providing access to low-cost energy resources

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- U.S. Department of Energy selected Phases 1 and 2 for both rounds of the Transmission Facilitation Program to improve the electric grid for a combined capacity contract value of over $700 million
- Reviewed under the National Environmental Policy Act and has received federal and state permits
- In advanced stages of development (i.e., pre-construction phase)
- Worked with landowners to secure 100% of private land rights through voluntary acquisition in Arizona
- Development plan includes:
  - National Electric Safety Code clearances and industry-standard design and construction practices
  - Clearances and mitigation measures for existing vegetation, including a Vegetation Management Plan
  - Fire safety best practices during construction

LANDOWNER RELATIONS

Building strong and lasting relationships with landowners and communities is how Southline approaches development. Southline worked collaboratively with local landowners to acquire easements for the transmission line and to ensure that land surveys were conducted with respect for private property rights. Southline commits to continuing this collaborative approach beyond development and through construction.

ABOUT GRID UNITED

Grid United is an independent transmission company developing next-generation energy infrastructure to create a more resilient and efficient electric system to the benefit of all consumers. For more information, visit **www.gridunited.com**.

ABOUT BLACK FOREST PARTNERS

Black Forest Partners originated Southline and serves on the project development team. The Black Forest team has 30 years of investment and development expertise, ties to the local region, and a deep commitment leveraging existing assets to advance infrastructure that maximizes benefits and minimizes impacts.

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