Use of Aerial Applicators Near Transmission Lines

Based on similar transmission infrastructure in the region, aerial applicators should be able to operate parallel to the new transmission line much as they do today around existing facilities. Some flight path adjustments may be needed depending on the line's orientation across specific fields, and the project team will communicate details with landowners and applicators as plans advance.

Drain Tile

Protecting drain tile systems is a regular and important part of transmission construction. The project team will work with landowners to identify tile locations beforehand and minimize impacts as construction progresses. If drain tile is damaged, the project will repair it at no cost to the landowner. Long-term impacts are uncommon, and any issues that arise post-construction will be addressed through continued coordination with landowners.

MariBell Transmission Project

Transmission Lines and Agriculture

Transmission lines and agriculture

WHAT TO KNOW

Dairyland Power Cooperative and GridLiance Heartland are committed to collaborating closely with landowners to reduce and manage impacts from the MariBell Transmission Project, including those affecting agricultural operations. From early planning through construction and ongoing operation, the project team will work with landowners to support safe co-existence with farming equipment, livestock, crops, irrigation systems, and other essential agricultural infrastructure. This factsheet outlines what to expect, how safety is maintained and how land is restored so agricultural use can successfully continue.

TRANSMISSION LINES AND FARMING EQUIPMENT

We design structures and transmission lines to safely operate in agricultural areas. Some important safety notes about coexisting with transmission lines and your farming equipment:

- Do not lift, elevate, build or pass under a power line with any object, tool or vehicle that could make contact or near-contact with the wires.
- If you're unsure of your equipment height, have someone be a spotter to double check your clearance from a safe distance.

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MariBell Transmission Project

Transmission Lines and GPS Farming Navigation Systems

Proximity to a transmission line is unlikely to interfere with wireless signals from GPS, guided combines, tractors, sprayers in addition to standard household electronics such as Wi-Fi, computers, cell phones and satellite televisions. These signals have frequencies far above the range potentially affected by radio noise from transmission lines.

Transmission Lines and Animals

During construction, the project team will coordinate with landowners to limit disruption to livestock. This may include temporary relocation and the use of fencing or gating to maintain continuous access to feed and water. Once construction concludes, disturbed areas will be restored and livestock operations can return to regular routines.

> Decades of research have found no evidence that proximity to transmission lines harms livestock health or productivity.

Transmission Lines and Crops

Construction activities may temporarily affect some crop production. After construction, agricultural activities can resume and the project team will work closely with landowners to communicate preconstruction plans, construction schedules and potential short-term impacts. Landowners will be compensated for verified crop damage.

Locating Transmission Structures on Cultivated Land and Pastureland

As part of route development and design, the MariBell team works with landowners to identify potential impacts to cropland and pastureland well before construction begins. When structures must be placed on cultivated or grazed areas, the team will position them as thoughtfully as possible to minimize interference with fieldwork and other agricultural activities.

Locating Transmission Lines Near Irrigation Systems

The MariBell Project aims to reduce impacts on irrigation systems through careful route planning and structure placement. When irrigation systems operate near or beneath transmission lines, the project team will coordinate with landowners to ensure compatibility and safe operation. Key safety reminders include:

- Provide proper electrical grounding for all metal irrigation equipment, such as center pivots, wheel lines and linear move systems, to reduce the risk of induced voltages.
- Always maintain safe clearance between all irrigation equipment, water streams and the overhead conductors. Water must never contact or closely approach the lines.
- Inspect and bond all metal components annually to ensure effective grounding.

If landowners have questions or concerns about their irrigation systems and the new transmission line, project representatives are available to help.