

MariBell Transmission Project

Vegetation Management

Vegetation management is a key priority for all long-range transmission projects and is required by The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) to ensure safe construction and operation of transmission lines. NERC requires utilities to meet stringent requirements to keep electrical systems safe and reliable. This includes standards for maintaining proper distances from power lines including buildings and incompatible vegetation that could contact the power line.

A vegetation management plan is required to receive approval to build a transmission line. Trees and other forms of tall vegetation growing near power lines can be a safety hazard and are major contributors to power outages creating reliability issues.



The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) will require a satisfactory vegetation management plan that will undergo review before the project can be approved.

Here are key components included in Vegetation Management Plans:



COMPLIANCE AND SAFETY:

Complying with safety regulations to prevent outages and maintain and improve reliability.



METHODOLOGY:

Using a comprehensive, long-term approach to balance natural and mechanical methods to control undesirable vegetation and promote natural low-growing plant communities.



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND STEWARDSHIP:

Promoting native species, preventing the spread of invasive species, erosion control, proper revegetation following construction and minimizing herbicide use.



COORDINATION:

Working with landowners and planning with state and local governments concerning land use, drainage and maintenance.

Plans will be reviewed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and PSCW for compliance and made available to the public.

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