

PSE on bainbridge island

Fieldwork activities for the Winslow Tap rebuild

January 2020

Overview

Fieldwork describes a variety of surveys conducted by Puget Sound Energy (PSE) crews and industry experts to investigate on-the-ground characteristics of various locations. Data gathered from this fieldwork will help us evaluate on-the-ground conditions and shape our design.

Upcoming fieldwork

Fieldwork planned for the first quarter of 2020 will include general land surveys, utility mapping, tree inventories and critical area delineations.

Utility mapping surveys

The location of the existing underground utilities will be marked with paint and/or flags. Survey crews from David Evans and Associates (DEA) will then survey and map the marked utility locations.



Example of utility mapping

Rebuilding Winslow Tap

We plan to rebuild the existing Winslow Tap transmission line that supplies power to 3,500 customers. The transmission line was built in 1960 and its equipment is nearing the end of its useful life and needs to be replaced. In addition, the line is in a heavily vegetated corridor, which makes outage response challenging.

By replacing the aging infrastructure, improving access and reducing the number of trees falling into the lines, we'll improve safety and reduce outage durations.

Land surveys

Our contractors from DEA will conduct land surveying along the existing transmission line corridor to help identify the locations of property lines, driveways, fences, underground and overhead utilities and other property features.

What to expect:

- DEA crews will generally conduct this work from both the road right of way and within the existing corridor. Crews will wear safety vests and carry identification at all times.
- Crews will use thin wooden stakes and flags to mark the location of the transmission line corridor. The stakes will remain in place to help guide subsequent fieldwork crews.

Tree inventories

DEA crews will complete an inventory of trees along the existing corridor. Crews will collect data on tree height, diameter and species that we'll use to determine which trees may require trimming and/or removal (e.g., incompatible trees) to maintain safe operating conditions.

What to expect:

- DEA crews will attach small aluminum tags to certain trees using plastic zip ties, aluminum wires or nails and document tree-related details.
- Tree tags will be left in place to help minimize the time contractors are on your property in the future. The tree tag and nail will not harm the overall health of your tree. Typically, mature trees can seal off the hole from a nail to prevent exposure to infection or disease. For small trees, crews will tie the tag to the main branch or stem with a wire to avoid using a nail.
- Keep in mind not every marked tree may need to be trimmed or removed.

Keeping property owners and tenants informed

PSE is committed to keeping property owners informed. Generally, our contractors will access the utility corridor from established access points along public rights of way.

Crews may occasionally require access through private property to reach certain sections of the line. **Please reach out to the project team if you require advance notice** - we'll reach out 24 hours in advance to let you know when we need to access your property.

If additional fieldwork is required throughout the project, we'll notify you through mailed notifications.



Aluminum tree tags, nails and flags are used for the tree inventory for mature trees

Wetland delineations

Environmental specialists from HDR will walk properties to identify, classify and record the location and boundaries of critical areas (e.g., wetlands and streams). The data will support our project design and permitting efforts.

What to expect:

- This work will occur in the vicinity of streams and wetlands.
- HDR will deploy 2-person crews who will carry identification at all times.
- Crews will use flags to mark the areas of interest. The flags will be placed in trees, shrubs and on the ground.
- DEA's land survey crew will then visit the site and survey the delineation flags.



Example of how flags are placed in trees for wetland delineations

Thank you for your interest.



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