

Project Information Update

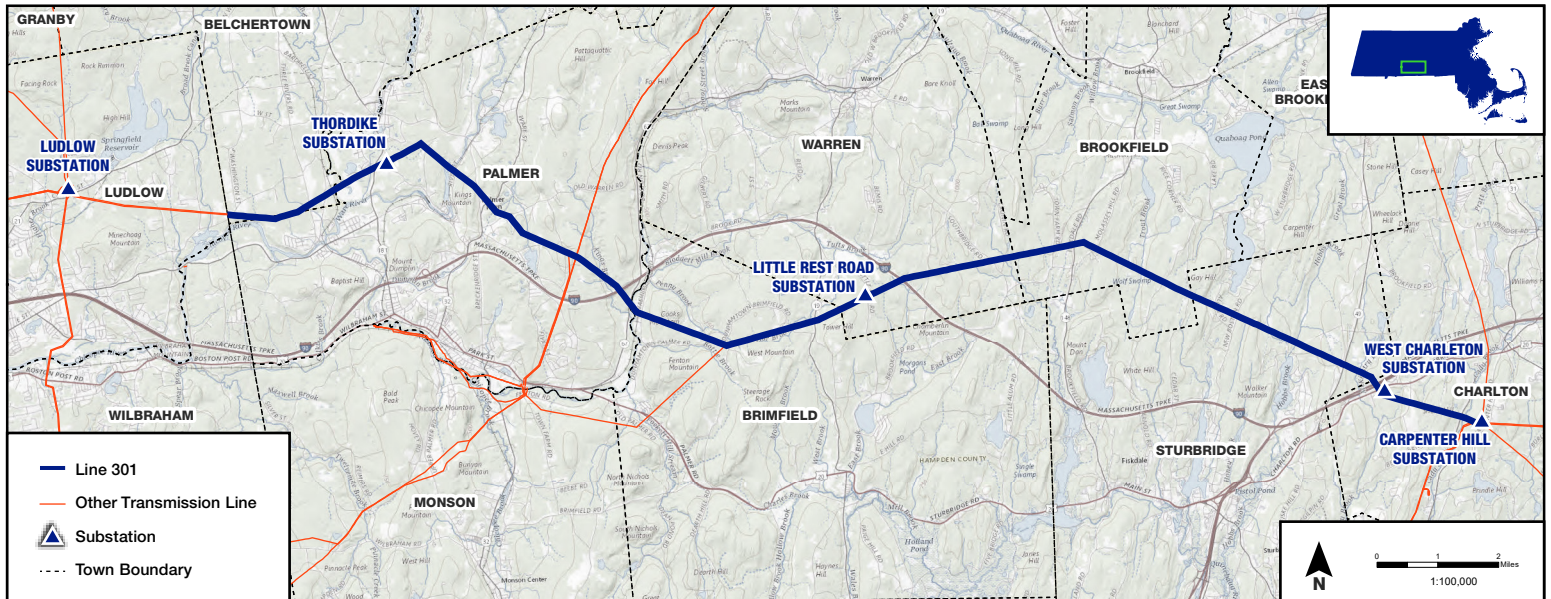
Line 301 Asset Condition Refurbishment (ACR) Project

April 2026

Dear Neighbor,

We are reaching out to share an update on New England Power's (d.b.a National Grid) Line 301 Asset Condition Refurbishment (ACR) project. This work is part of our effort to replace aging transmission structures along the 23-mile right-of-way (ROW) and improve reliability.

The Project route extends through the communities of Ludlow, Palmer, Brimfield, Warren, Brookfield, Sturbridge, and Charlton, Massachusetts.



Project scope

Project work includes replacing the existing wooden structures with new steel H frame structures and installing two optical ground wires (OPGW), which are fiber optic cables that will improve communication between the Ludlow and Carpenter Hill substations and provide added protection from lightning strikes. In addition, upgrades will be made to existing access ways and new access ways will be constructed, where necessary, to ensure safe access for construction activities and future maintenance.

Construction schedule (schedule is subject to change)

Construction is expected to begin in October 2026 and continue through Fall 2028. Work will generally move from west to east, starting in the Ludlow area and progressing toward Charlton, although crews may be working in different locations along the right of way at various times.

Construction activities will be completed in stages and may not occur continuously in one location. Residents and landowners may notice periods of activity followed by quieter intervals as different types of work are performed. Activities may include vegetation management, access way improvements, installation of temporary matting, drilling in advance of structure installation, installation of new steel structures, conductor replacement, and restoration where needed.

Project outreach staff will continue to coordinate with landowners and local officials as construction approaches specific areas.

Project structures



Existing structure to be replaced

Pre-construction activities



Timber mats "matting"



Sediment controls



Crushed stone

Current activities

In the fall of 2025, contracted personnel began repairing existing and installing new gates at select ROW locations. This work is anticipated to be complete in the coming weeks so you may still see crew members along any portion of the project route. All personnel conducting field activities will carry proper photo identification and personal protective equipment.

Upcoming activities

Soil testing is scheduled to be conducted in the Spring of 2026 at select locations.

Stay informed

New England Power is committed to keeping residents, businesses, local officials, and community groups informed and engaged in the project. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please call our toll-free project hotline at **(888) 367-5301**, or email our Project Engagement consultant, Todd Petrishki, at todd.petrishki@wsp.com.

Sincerely, Line 301 ACR Project Engagement Team

