

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Transource Energy Hires Local Companies to Build the Independence Energy Connection Project

Company employs Pennsylvania and Maryland labor unions and contractors to construct the transmission line project

COLUMBUS, Ohio, January 8, 2020 – Transource Energy announced today the selection of Harlan Electric as the line contractor for the company’s portion of the proposed Independence Energy Connection (IEC) project. Harlan Electric is based in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. This contract furthers Transource’s objective to use local contractors, workers and services, where possible. Construction will start upon the receipt of necessary approvals, including from the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission and the Maryland Public Service Commission.

“We’re proud to be a partner on a project of this scale,” said James Begley, Harlan Electric district manager. “The Independence Energy Connection presents a tremendous opportunity to update and reinforce the high-voltage electric grid here in our own backyard to deliver benefits for this region for years to come.”

Harlan Electric is securing subcontractors and will be working with local contractors such as Newville Construction, headquartered in Newville, Pennsylvania, Aldridge out of its Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, office and others. These companies provide civil and environmental services. Pennsylvania IBEW Local 126 and Maryland IBEW Local 70 will complete the electrical work.

“Anytime jobs are created, it’s a win,” said Bernie Kephart, business manager for IBEW Local 126. “Our workers earn family-sustaining wages building the infrastructure that supports our daily lives. We’re proud to build infrastructure that saves customers money and reinforces the grid against power outages in Maryland and Pennsylvania.”

“We support clean, safe and affordable power,” said William C. Tipton Jr., business manager/ financial secretary for Maryland IBEW Local 70. “Any conversation around energy comes to a quick halt if we do not have the transmission infrastructure to transfer that power to all who need it.”

Local companies contracted by Transource also completed much of IEC’s geotechnical survey work, which concluded last winter. Additional services and supplies such as concrete, gravel and rebar will be bid out as the project design moves forward.

Additionally, Transource will host a “vendor meet and greet” Feb. 13 in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. Companies interested in participating can visit www.TransourceHires.com for more information.

“Reinforcements of the regional electric transmission grid provide significant benefits to the regional economy,” said Todd Burns, Transource director. “We are looking forward to working with local contractors that share our commitment to safety while ensuring landowners and their properties are respected throughout the construction process.”

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The IEC project is designed to reduce costly congestion on the regional transmission grid that was identified by the regional transmission organization, PJM Interconnection, and to solve growing reliability violations in Pennsylvania and Maryland.

During construction, the project is expected to create 130 full-time jobs and support \$40 million in local economic activity.

Project construction is expected to begin in 2020.

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About Transource®

Transource® is a partnership between American Electric Power (AEP) and Evergy, Inc. focused on the development of, and investment in, competitive electric transmission projects across the United States. In all, AEP and Evergy own and operate nearly 45,000 miles of transmission lines and have more than 100 years of expertise in the planning, design, engineering, construction and operation of transmission systems. AEP owns 86.5 percent of Transource. Evergy owns 13.5. Transource is a member of three regional transmission organizations — PJM Interconnection, the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) and the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) — which together serve all or part of 28 U.S. states, the District of Columbia and the province of Manitoba in Canada. Headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, Transource also has offices in Kansas City, Missouri; Tulsa, Oklahoma; and Dallas, Texas.



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