# Welcome

## Falcon 138 kV Substation and Transmission Line Project

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# Purpose and need

## Falcon 138 kV Substation and Transmission Line Project

### What is the Falcon 138 kV Substation and Transmission Line Project?

The Falcon 138 kV Substation and Transmission Line Project (Project) consists of a new 138 kV single pole/double-circuit transmission line that will connect to the existing Entergy Texas, Inc. (ETI) Jacinto to Splendora 138 kV Transmission Line (L-871) or the Splendora to Apollo 138 kV Transmission Line (L-571) in Montgomery and Liberty Counties. The Falcon Substation is planned to be located approximately one mile east of the intersection of Farm-to-Market Roads 1010 and 2090 in Liberty County. The new transmission line could be approximately four to seven miles in length and follow a path through Montgomery and/or Liberty Counties until it reaches the new Falcon distribution substation, depending on the route ultimately approved by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT).

### What is the purpose and need of the Falcon 138 kV Substation and Transmission Line Project?

The primary purpose of the Project is to meet the area's growing power demands in Liberty County spurred by residential and business development. To accomplish this, a new distribution substation, to be called "Falcon substation", is needed to provide the additional capacity and distribution feeder delivery system to integrate into the existing distribution system in the area. The location of Falcon substation is determined by the existing distribution system and available suitable property.

### The proposed project will require the following scopes of work:

**1) Design and build the new Falcon 138 kV / 13.8 kV substation:** The Falcon substation will be new construction on property acquired by ETI. A 138 kV substation is required to facilitate the installation of the proposed new 138 kV line as well as the new distribution feeders that will provide power to the area's homes and businesses.

**2) Design and build the new Falcon 138 kV transmission loop (L-487):** The connecting transmission line will be a new single-pole, double-circuit 138 kV transmission line that would "Cut-in" and extend ETI's existing L-871 or L-571 transmission line and connect into the Falcon substation. ETI intends for the cut-in along L-871 or L-571 to be located between ETI's existing Jacinto or Apollo substations.

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# Certification process

## Falcon 138 kV Substation and Transmission Line Project

### Project development

- Identify project study area.
- Gather environmental and cultural data.
- Contact federal, state and local agencies.
- Identify routing constraints.
- Develop preliminary alternative route segments.
- Identify current landowners within 300 ft of alternative routes.
- Solicit public input via open house meetings. **(We Are Here)**
- Evaluate preliminary alternative routes and identify primary alternative routes.

### Certificate of convenience and necessity (CCN) application process

- Submit CCN Application to the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT), including an adequate number of alternative routes.
- Send notices to landowners within 300 ft. of an alternative route, municipalities, counties, electric utilities, Department of Defense, and pipeline owners in the area.
- All routes and route segments included in this notice are available for selection and approval by the Public Utility Commission of Texas. If approved, only one route (consisting of multiple route segments) from a “Cut-In” option to the Falcon substation site will be selected by the PUCT.
- Interested parties may file comments or a motion to intervene and participate in the PUCT proceeding (Intervention Period – 45 days)
  - If application is uncontested: application approved administratively in 80 days.
  - If application is contested: application processed within 180 days and could include a hearing.

### PUCT decision and next steps

- Approves or denies application.
- If approved, selects location of final approved route.
- Approval provides Entergy Texas, Inc. with the authorization to build the new transmission line along the route approved by the PUCT.
- Notices will be sent to landowners who received notice of Entergy Texas, Inc.’s application advising them of the decision and next steps.

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# Right-of-way (ROW) acquisition process

## Falcon 138 kV Substation and Transmission Line Project

Entergy Texas, Inc. conducts market analysis to establish approximate property values by type and use

An initial offer is prepared and provided to the landowner based on market analysis

Negotiation with landowner

Agreement

**Yes** → Execute easement

**No** → Condemnation proceeding

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# Right-of-way (ROW) clearing

## Falcon 138 kV Substation and Transmission Line Project

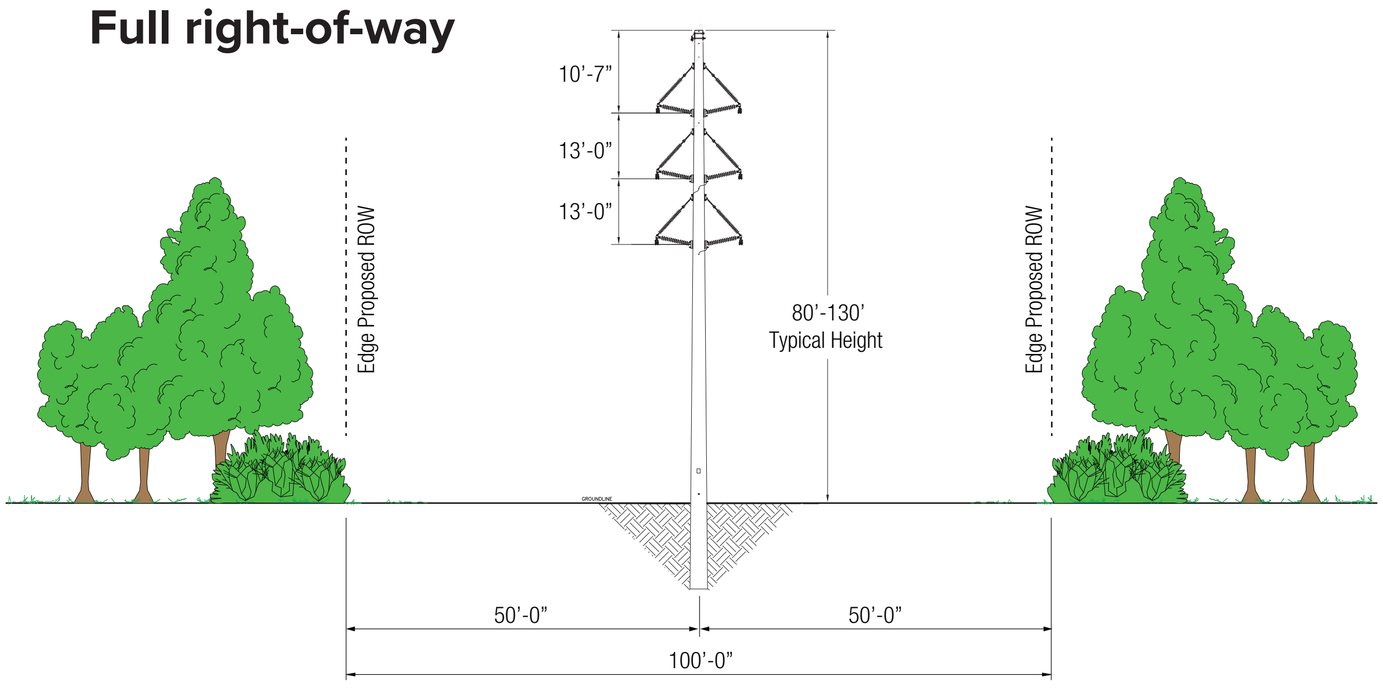
## About right-of-way clearing

- Trees and branches near or touching power lines can cause service interruptions.
- Electricity can arc or “flashover” from wires to nearby trees before actual contact is made, causing electric current to flow through the trees into the ground.
- To ensure everyone’s safety, Texas, like most states, has adopted the National Electrical Safety Code.
- The code establishes mandatory clearances to be maintained around power lines.

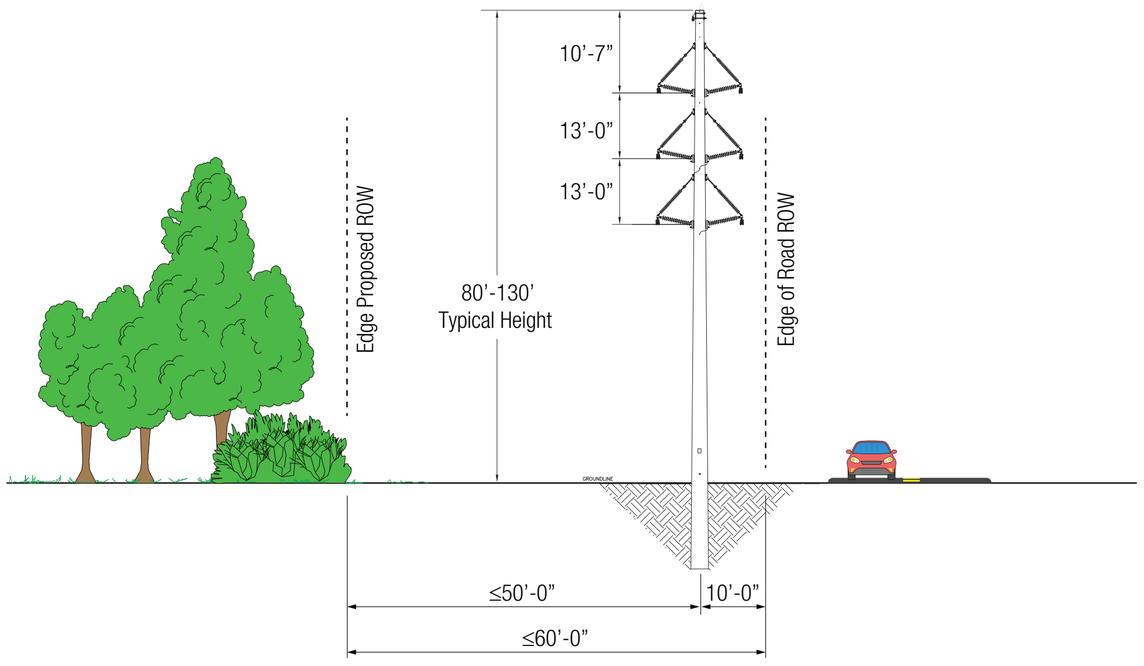
## Typical cross sections

Dimensions may vary depending on location and spatial constraints.

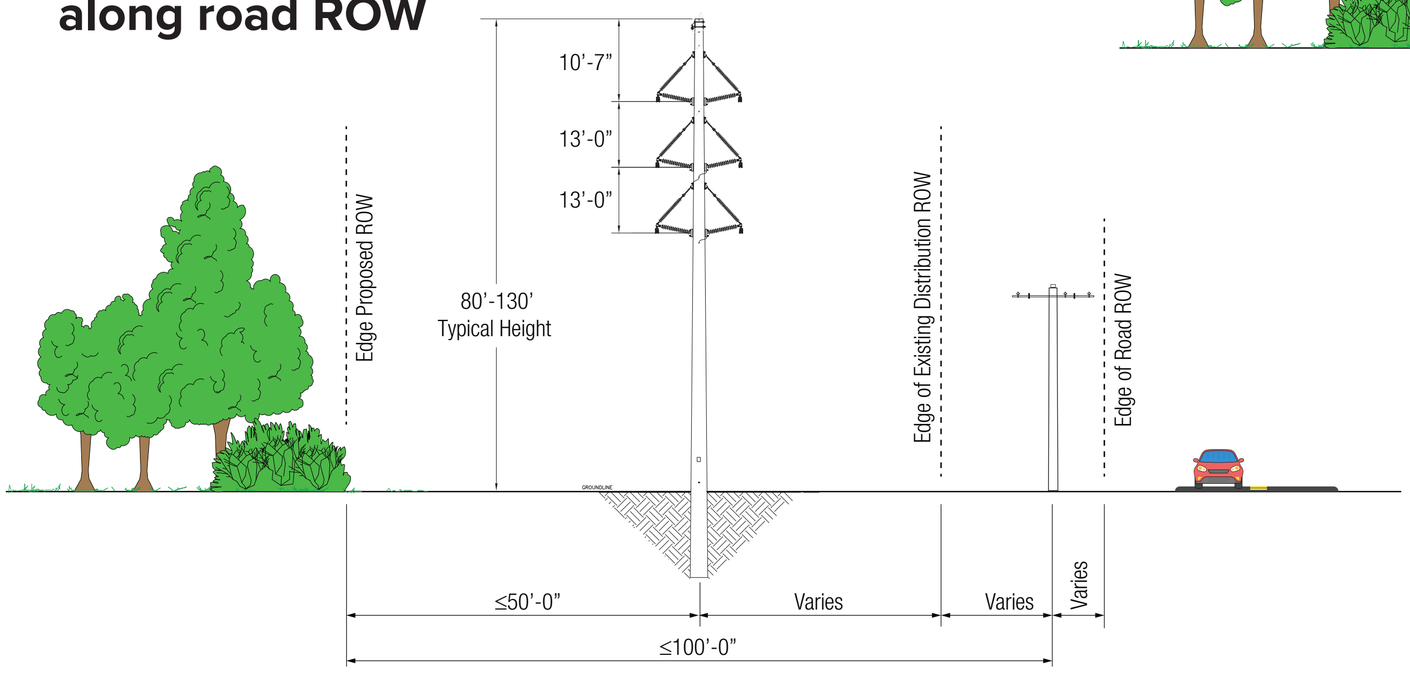
### Full right-of-way




### Right-of-way parallels road




### Right-of-way parallels distribution along road ROW

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# Typical structure

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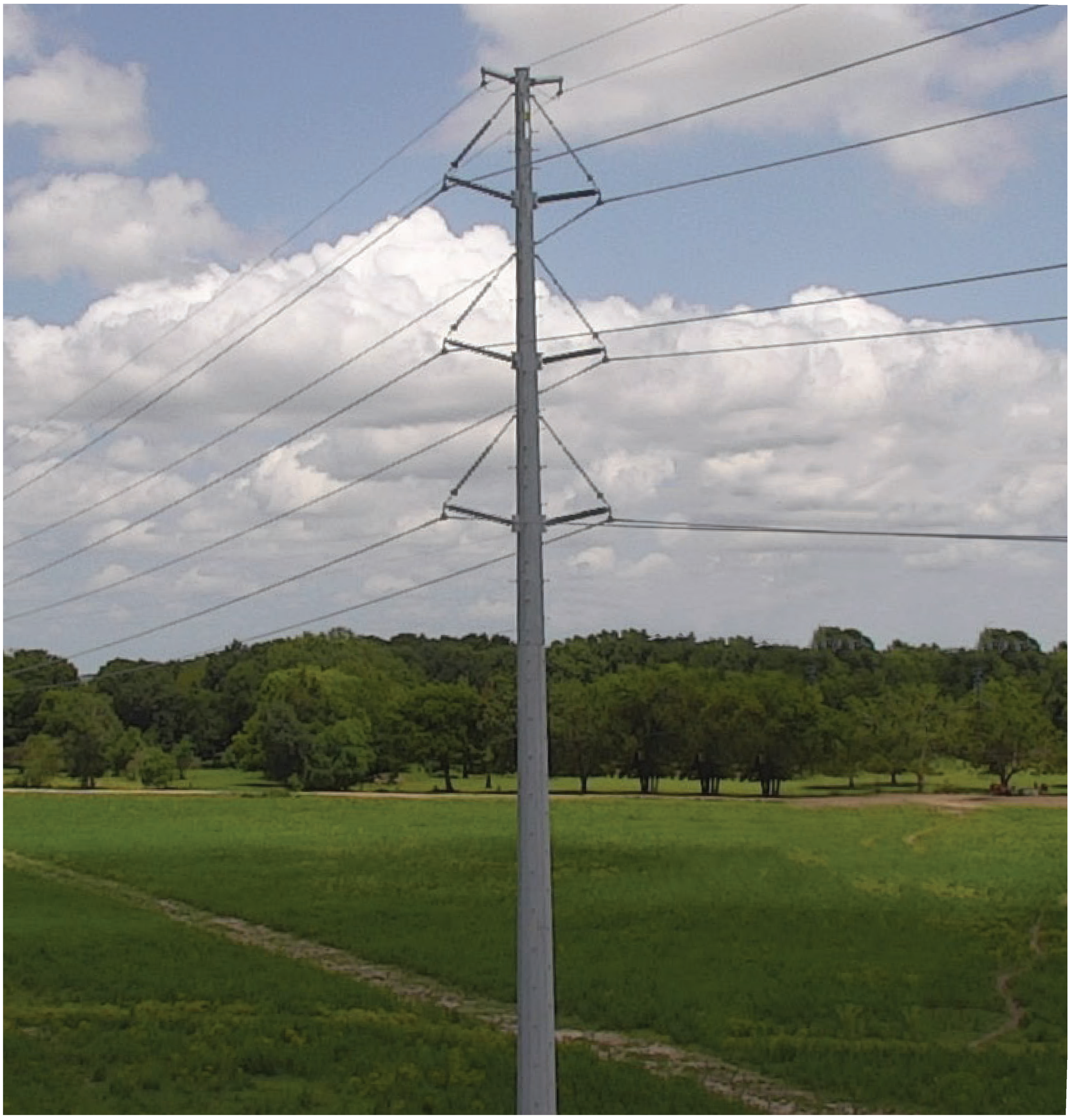

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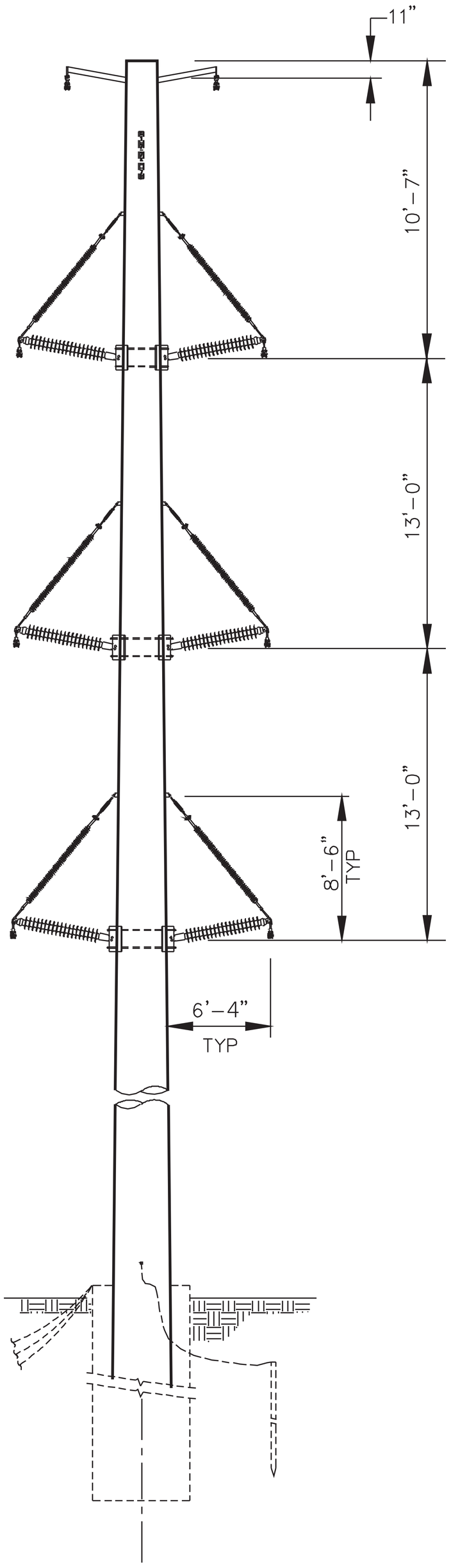
# Typical structure

## Falcon 138 kV Substation and Transmission Line Project

## Typical 138kV tangent structure

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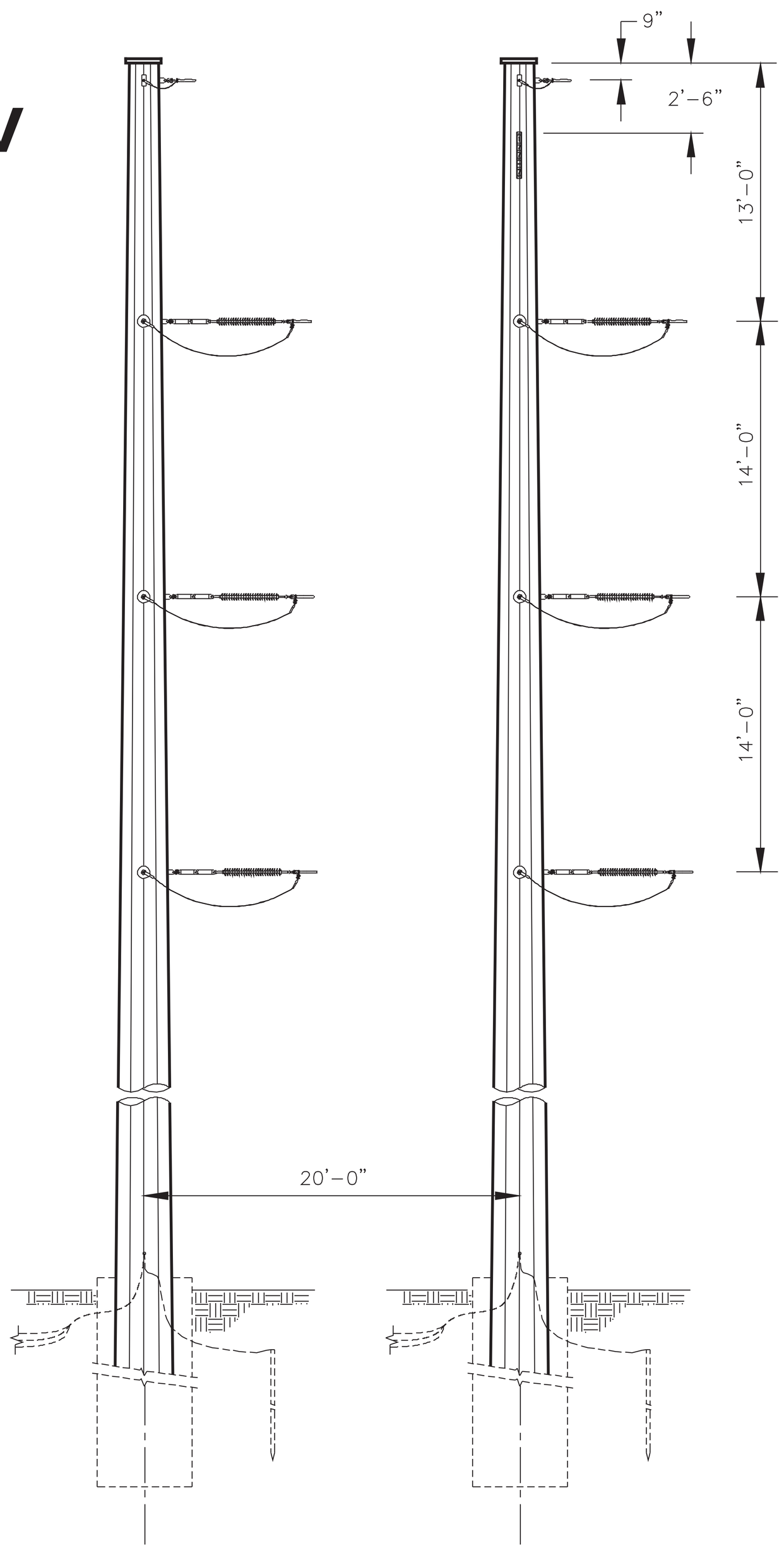
# Typical structure

## Falcon 138 kV Substation and Transmission Line Project

### Typical 138kV dead-end structure

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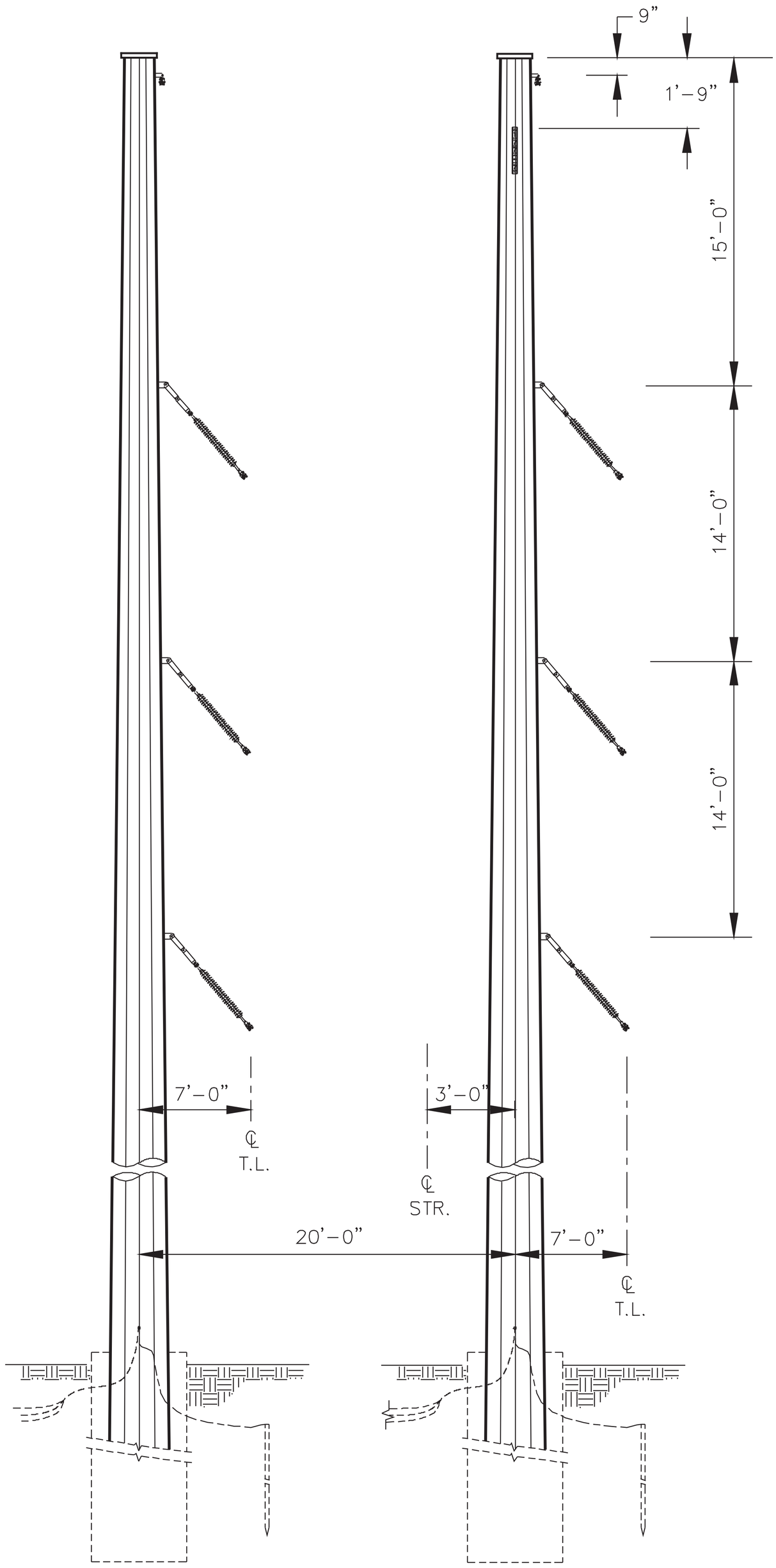
# Typical structure

## Falcon 138 kV Substation and Transmission Line Project

## Typical 138kV angle structure

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# Typical substation

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# Agencies contacted

## Falcon 138 kV Substation and Transmission Line Project

| | |
|---|---|
| **Federal** | Federal Aviation Administration<br>Federal Emergency Management Agency<br>National Parks Service<br>Natural Resource Conservation Service<br>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers<br>Military Aviation and Installation Assurance Siting Clearinghouse<br>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency |
| **State** | Railroad Commission of Texas<br>Texas Commission on Environmental Quality<br>Texas Department of Transportation<br>▪ Department of Aviation<br>▪ Environmental Affairs Division<br>▪ Transportation Planning & Programming<br>▪ Houston and Beaumont District Engineers<br>Texas General Land Office<br>Texas Parks and Wildlife Department<br>Texas Water Development Board<br>Texas Historical Commission |
| **Local** | Liberty and Montgomery County Judges<br>Liberty and Montgomery County Commissioners<br>Liberty County Permitting and Inspection Department<br>Montgomery County Engineering Department<br>Montgomery County Floodplain Administrator<br>Montgomery County Drainage District No. 6<br>City of Cleveland Officials<br>City of Patton Village Officials<br>City of Plum Grove Officials<br>City of Roman Forest Officials<br>City of Splendora Officials<br>San Jacinto River Authority<br>Liberty and Montgomery County Historical Commission Chair<br>Superintendents of Cleveland ISD, New Caney ISD, and Splendora ISD |
| **Non-Governmental Organizations** | Houston-Galveston Area Council<br>Texas Agricultural Land Trust<br>Texas Land Conservancy<br>Texas Land Trust Council<br>The Nature Conservancy, Texas<br>Bayou Land Conservancy<br>Houston Audubon Society |

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# Evaluation criteria

## Falcon 138 kV Substation and Transmission Line Project

### Land Use

01 Length of alternative route
02 Number of habitable structures[1] within 300 feet of the route centerline
03 Length of route utilizing existing electric facility ROW (transmission)
04 Length of route utilizing existing electric facility ROW[2] (distribution)
05 Length of route parallel and adjacent to existing electric facility ROW (transmission)
06 Length of route parallel and adjacent to existing electric facility ROW (distribution)
07 Length of route parallel and adjacent to other existing compatible ROW (roads, highways, railway, or telephone utility ROW, etc.)
08 Length of route parallel and adjacent to apparent property lines[3] (or other natural or cultural features)
09 Sum of evaluation criteria 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8
10 Percent of evaluation criteria 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8
11 Length of route parallel to pipeline ROW
12 Length of route across parks/recreational areas[4]
13 Number of additional parks/recreational areas[4] within 1,000 feet of the route centerline
14 Length of route across cropland
15 Length of route across pasture/rangeland (includes open fields)
16 Length of route across land irrigated by traveling systems (rolling or pivot type)
17 Length of route across gravel pits, mines, or quarries
18 Number of pipeline crossings
19 Number of electric transmission line crossings
20 Number of Interstate (IH), US Highway (US Hwy), and State highway (SH) crossings
21 Number of Farm-to-Market (FM) or Ranch-to-Market (RM) road crossings
22 Number of private use airstrips within 10,000 feet of the route centerline
23 Number of heliports within 5,000 feet of the route centerline
24 Number of FAA registered airports[5] (runways >3,200 feet) within 20,000 feet of the route centerline
25 Number of FAA registered airports[5] (runways <3,200 feet) within 10,000 feet of the route centerline
26 Number of commercial Amplitude Modulation (AM) radio transmitters within 10,000 feet of the route centerline
27 Number of FM radio transmitters, microwave towers, etc. within 2,000 feet of the route centerline
28 Number of existing water wells within 200 feet of the route centerline
29 Number of oil and gas wells within 200 feet of the route centerline

### Aesthetics

30 Estimated length of route within foreground visual zone[6] of US, Interstate, and State highways
31 Estimated length of route within foreground visual zone[6] of FM/RM roads
32 Estimated length of route within foreground visual zone[6] of parks/recreational areas[4]

### Ecology

33 Length of route across bottomland/riparian woodlands
34 Length of route across upland forest
35 Acreage of route across NWI mapped forested or scrub/shrub wetlands
36 Acreage of route across NWI mapped emergent wetlands
37 Length of route across known critical habitat of federally-listed threatened or endangered species
38 Length of route across known occupied red-cockaded woodpecker cluster habitat
39 Length of route across open water (lakes, ponds, etc.)
40 Number of stream/river crossings
41 Length of route parallel (within 100 feet) to natural streams or rivers
42 Length of route across FEMA mapped 100-year floodplains

### Cultural Resources

43 Number of cemeteries within 1,000 feet of the route centerline
44 Number of recorded historic or archaeological resources crossed by route
45 Number of additional recorded historic or archaeological resources within 1,000 feet of route centerline
46 Number of resources determined eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places crossed by route
47 Number of additional resources determined eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places within 1,000 feet of route centerline
48 Length of route across high archaeological/historical site potential

## Notes

1 Single-family and multi-family dwellings, and related structures, etc., mobile homes, apartment buildings, commercial structures, industrial structures, business structures, churches, hospitals, nursing homes, schools or other structures normally inhabited by humans or intended to be inhabited by humans on a daily or regular basis within 300 feet of the centerline of a transmission project of 230 kV or less.
2 Includes instances of proposed under/overbuilding existing distribution lines and may require the expansion of the existing distribution ROW utilized.
3 Apparent Property lines created by existing roads, highway, or railroad ROW are not “double-counted” in the length of route parallel to apparent property lines criteria.
4 Defined as parks and recreational areas owned by a governmental body or an organized group, club, or church within 1,000 feet of the centerline of the project.
5 As listed in the Chart Supplement South Central U.S. (FAA 2023b formerly known as the Airport/Facility Directory South Central U.S.), FAA 2023a.
6 One-half mile, unobstructed. Lengths of ROW within the foreground visual zone of Interstates, US and state highway criteria are not “double-counted” in the length of ROW within the foreground visual zone of FM roads criteria.
7 One-half mile, unobstructed. Lengths of ROW within the foreground visual zone of parks/recreational areas may overlap with the total length of ROW within the foreground visual zone of interstates, US and state highway criteria and/or with the total length of ROW within the foreground visual zone of FM roads criteria.

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