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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**September 26, 2024**

## **Kansas Corporation Commission Approves Grain Belt Express AC Collector Application**

TOPEKA, KS – Today, the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) approved a siting permit application from Grain Belt Express LLC, establishing the route for two inter-related 345 kV alternating current (AC) transmission lines and their associated facilities, as part of the Southwest Kansas “AC Collector System.” The AC Collector System together with the approved Grain Belt Express high-voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line will enable significant near- and long-term economic development, job creation, and tax revenues for the local region, at no cost to Kansas ratepayers. These facilities will help protect the local power grid from outages caused by extreme weather events and other regional grid emergencies.

The two approved AC Collector Lines include the Meade-Dodge City Line, which will traverse parts of Ford, Meade and Gray counties, and the Bucklin-Dodge City Line, which is in Ford County. Each line will serve as a delivery node for nearby electric generation facilities, minimizing overall transmission right-of-way requirements. The siting permit follows earlier KCC approvals that established the need for the Grain Belt Express transmission project, including the AC Collector System.

“This development milestone provides yet more certainty of the economic development and energy reliability benefits that Grain Belt Express will soon deliver for Kansas,” said Kevin Chandler, Director of Transmission Development with Invenergy. “New transmission infrastructure will make it possible for Southwest Kansas to harness its tremendous energy potential and create a new path to market that will benefit communities locally and the Midwest as a whole.”

Grain Belt Express LLC held public open houses for the AC Collector Lines in February and, after incorporating feedback from the public and stakeholders, submitted its application on May 31, 2024. The application was thoroughly reviewed, and a local public hearing was held in Dodge City on July 10. The KCC’s approval reflects public input received during this process.

Grain Belt Express LLC is committed to collaborating closely with route landowners and local governments. In the next month, landowners along the two AC Collector Lines will receive detailed communications from the project team regarding next steps, including the easement offer process.

Grain Belt Express has also been recently engaging Kansas stakeholders regarding the preliminary Midwest-Plains National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor (NIETC) that has been proposed by the U.S. Department of Energy. This month, Invenergy called on DOE to significantly narrow the proposed Midwest-Plains NIETC corridor from the proposed 5-mile width to 0.5 miles. [In its comments to DOE](#), Invenergy noted that narrowing the Midwest-Plains corridor to a half-mile width would provide further clarity for southeast Kansas residents and communities that the Kansas AC Collector System would not be included in a Midwest-Plains NIETC designation. To help further address stakeholder concerns, in its comments, Invenergy also encourages DOE to consider additional opportunities for stakeholder involvement and engagement.

The Order Granting the AC Collector Siting Permit can be read [here](#).

## **About Grain Belt Express**

Grain Belt Express is a \$7 billion electric transmission infrastructure project connecting four states—Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana—across 800 miles. An Invenergy project, Grain Belt Express will carry more affordable, reliable power to millions of homes and businesses across the Midwest and other regions, delivering 100% domestic, clean electricity while powering economic opportunity and energy security. Learn more at [GrainBeltExpress.com](http://GrainBeltExpress.com).

## **About Invenergy**

Invenergy is accelerating cleaner, more reliable, affordable energy. Invenergy and its affiliated companies develop, build, own, and operate large-scale renewable and other clean energy generation, transmission and storage facilities in the Americas, Europe, and Asia.

Headquartered in Chicago, Invenergy has regional development offices in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Spain, Japan, Poland, and Scotland.

Invenergy and its affiliated companies have successfully developed more than 32,000 megawatts of projects that are in operation, construction or contracted, including wind, solar, transmission infrastructure and natural gas power generation and advanced energy storage projects. Learn about Invenergy at [Invenergy.com](http://Invenergy.com)

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