Grid Investment Plan

Druid Hills Update

About the Grid Investment Plan

Georgia Power’s Grid Investment Plan is a multi-year initiative to enhance service and reliability in communities across Georgia. Our plan focuses on upgrading transmission and distribution infrastructure across the power grid to decrease the number and length of power outages. We are committed to making smart investments for Georgia’s energy future to ensure our customers are provided clean, safe, reliable and affordable energy they expect and deserve.

About the Undergrounding Project

Overhead lines in certain areas may be more prone to outages caused by trees contacting lines or vehicular collisions. Placing targeted portions of overhead lines underground makes lines less prone to outages. Where the line is undergrounded, Georgia Power will remove its electric infrastructure that is no longer in use, but poles may also carry streetlights, electric service drops to homes, and lines owned by other companies, like cable or telephone, and will therefore remain in place.

Improvement Area Map

Our crews will be working in the Druid Hills and Kirkwood neighborhoods to place targeted portions of the overhead power lines underground. As a result, we expect fewer and shorter outages in the area once this work is complete.

The type of work planned may vary from street to street. For more information about work in your area, please visit georgiapower.com/grid or call 888-404-1056 to speak with a representative.

See next page for more info…
Typical Residential Equipment

Service Drop
The line from your house to the utility pole on the street will remain. The service drop to your house will be fed by the new underground distribution line that serves the community.

Single Phase Transformer
Location: Residential (every few homes)
Approximate size: 42” x 40” x 40” (in)
Clearance area: Approx. 5’ (feet) from the center of equipment on all sides
Purpose: Power delivery to residents

Single Phase Terminating Cabinet
Location: Residential (as needed)
Approximate size: 42” x 45” x 39” (in)
Clearance area: Approx. 5’ (feet) from the center of the equipment on all sides
Purpose: Run service to a side street or property off the direct path of the line

Switching Cubical
Location: In rare situations
Approximate size: 78” x 93” x 63” (in)
Clearance area: Approx. 15’ (ft) from the center of the equipment on all sides
Purpose: Allows connection and switching between lines

For more information on planned equipment, call us at 888-404-1056.

See next page for more information…

Right of Way and Easement Acquisition

This project will occur primarily in the road right-of-way, where the existing power lines, streets, sidewalks, and portions of lawn or vegetation are located. In certain areas, we may need to acquire easements from landowners to provide enough space to construct, install, and maintain new equipment.

Georgia Power has authorized contract land agents to work with landowners to acquire easements where needed to support the planned equipment.

This is a voluntary process and landowners are not required to grant easements. An easement will allow Georgia Power to place equipment on the landowner’s property. After construction, all disturbed areas will be restored.

If you are contacted by a land agent, they will be able to explain the easement process.

For further information, you may also call a project representative at 888-404-1056 or contact us on georgiapower.com/grid.
Community Questions and Answers

Q: How many trees need to be cut/pruned? Will Georgia Power replant if vegetation has to be removed? Can we get a commitment to zero loss of canopy? A: For a job of this type, tree trimming will be very minimal – especially the canopy. There may be some shrubs / landscaping that will need to be removed for underground equipment. Much of the trimming requirements will be based on final location of the equipment and where the construction equipment will need to be placed to support construction.

Q: What are the exact size specifications for the proposed boxes including the concrete pads and will there be only one box in each yard? A: For approximate sizes and locations of equipment, please refer to the “Typical Residential Equipment” table on previous page. In general, there will only be one piece of equipment every several homes. However, a landowner may approve placement of additional equipment during their individual negotiations. The most used piece of equipment in residential areas is the single-phase transformer.

Q: Is the homeowner allowed to plant shrubs around the box? A: Landowners will need to maintain the proper clearance around equipment as defined in the “Typical Residential Equipment” table on the previous page.

Q: Does Georgia Power have any flexibility with regard to site placements in the yards? Do the boxes have to be placed directly under the current transformers on the poles? Some yards are landscaped in ways that the boxes would be less visible. A: There is some flexibility regarding equipment placement. Placement will be included as part of the negotiations with individual landowners. Available placement locations may vary due to engineering capabilities.

Q: Georgia Power has stated that participation is voluntary and if you don’t want a box, you don’t have to have one. Is that, in fact, true? A: Yes, this is a voluntary process. Georgia Power will work with the community to find locations for all the equipment. If the community is does not wish to grant the easements required, GPC will explore other project alternatives.

Q: Why can’t Georgia Power collaborate with AT&T, Comcast and others so that all lines can be buried and poles removed? A: While we do collaborate with other utilities such as AT&T and Comcast, including making them aware of upcoming and ongoing projects we have in the area, we have no control over what other utilities choose to do with their facilities. Any decisions to relocate facilities underground will be the responsibility of each individual utility.

Q: Our section of South Ponce also has backyard power lines. They traverse private property on Clifton Terrace. Is this in scope? A: The majority of lines behind homes will not be placed underground. If access or easements to private property is required, then landowners will be contacted directly by land agents.

For more information on planned equipment, call us at 888-404-1056.

See next page for more information…
Community Questions and Answers Continued

Q: Will the lines and transformers at back-of-lots on Lullwater, Oakdale, Springdale be buried?  
A: No, the power lines running along the backyards will not be placed underground. However, the power lines that run along the street fronts of Lullwater Road, Oxford Rd and the The ByWay NE will be placed underground.

Q: Might we partner on sidewalk improvements where crews will be digging and leverage your sidewalk repair crew to fix adjacent bad ones at same time?  
A: We anticipate minimal sidewalk damage in relation to this project. Our construction crews will repair any sidewalk that is damaged due to our construction but will not repair any additional sidewalk in the area.

Q: I could imagine that the process of acquiring easements for the new infrastructure boxes might be contentious among neighbors, or between property owners and Georgia Power. Can Georgia Power tell us about their experience and challenges with implementing this process in a neighborhood like ours?  
A: For other projects around the City of Atlanta, our process has been working well. If a landowner chooses not to grant an easement, the land agent will reach out to adjacent landowners to see if they are willing to negotiate.

Q: Does this Kirkwood Project stop at North Decatur Road?  
A: Yes, the most northern conversions stop just prior to North Decatur Road.

Q: Will Georgia Power have maintenance crews at least check our lines behind the houses and remove vines, prune trees and do some regular maintenance in 2020?  
A: All Georgia Power circuits are on recurring schedules for vegetation maintenance. This circuit is due for maintenance in 2021. If you have any specific vegetation concerns unrelated to the Grid Investment Project, please reach out to us at 888-660-5890.

Q: Which streets east of Clifton Road are included in the project? The streets border the east side of golf course.  
A: Prior to construction landowners will receive a doohanger if the lines in their neighborhood are being converted to underground.

Q: If residents paid to have lines buried will Georgia Power reimburse them?  
A: Inquiries related to this item will be addressed on an individual basis. If you would like to discuss this item further, please contact us at 888-404-1056.

Q: What about the lines behind the home?  
A: The majority of lines behind homes will not be placed underground. There will be some lines along the south side of Ponce de Leon Avenue that will be place underground. The remaining underground conversions will take place on lines located along city streets.

For more information on planned equipment, call us at 888-404-1056.

See next page for more information...
Community Questions and Answers Continued

Q: What are the dimensions of the largest cubicle? A: For approximate sizes of equipment, please refer to the “Typical Residential Equipment” table located on Page 2.

Q: What if all landowners say "no?" What is Georgia Power Company’s ultimate authority and recourse? A: If the community does not wish to grant the easements required, Georgia Power will explore other alternatives.

Q: How do they get the power from the transformer to my house? A: Our construction crews will provide an underground line from the new transformer to the existing pole line, where the power source will be connected to the existing overhead service lines. All existing service lines from the poles to homes will remain in place to power the homes.

Q: Who are the Real Estate Agents? Do they work for Georgia Power or are they neighborhood and folks we know? A: The real estate agents are part of a third-party company contracted by Georgia Power, Contract Land Staff (CLS). The land agents who typically work in this area are, Michael Smith, Blair Ebersold, Mauricio Pesaresi and Dale Best.

Q: When you say negotiate, does that mean the homeowner gets a discount? A: Our references to negotiations refer to the ongoing conversations between land agents and landowners regarding the placement of and compensation for equipment on the landowner’s property.

Q: If homeowner refuses, will Georgia Power do a taking? A: No, this is a voluntary process. If a landowner chooses not to grant an easement, the land agent will reach out to adjacent landowners to see if they are willing to negotiate.

Q: If AT&T or other utility do not go underground, will the poles and wires remain up there, even though Georgia Power underground? A: Yes, the poles will remain in place. For the poles to be removed, all pole attachments including, but not limited to, communication lines, telephone lines, internet lines, streetlights, service lines, etc. will need to be removed or relocated. While we do collaborate with other utilities such as AT&T and Comcast, including making them aware of upcoming and ongoing projects we have in the area, we have no control over what other utilities choose to do with their facilities. Any decisions to relocate facilities underground will be the responsibility of each individual utility.

Q: Who bears the cost of connecting the power from the transformer to the home? A: There will be no impact to the existing overhead service lines running to each home, therefore there will be no cost associated with these lines.

For more information on planned equipment, call us at 888-404-1056. See next page for more information…
Community Questions and Answers Continued

Q: Will we experience power outages? A: Yes, we anticipate brief planned outages to cut over the lines and services. Impacted homeowners will be notified accordingly.

Q: What is the average length of time to do say 10 transformers on one street? Time of day? A: Construction activities will be performed during normal business hours. The timing of construction on individual streets may vary. The timeline for the construction of the Kirkwood project is currently scheduled from June 2020 thru December of 2020. General construction schedules can be found at www.georgiapower.com/grid.

Q: If the box can be installed in the right of way, does the homeowner have any way to fight the box being placed on their property? A: If you have a specific concern related to equipment being placed in the right of way in front of your home, please reach out to us at 888-404-1056.

Q: If we have already paid to have our lines buried. Will GA Power reimburse us? A: Inquiries related to this item will be addressed on an individual basis. If you would like to discuss this item further, please contact us at 888-404-1056.

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