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District of Columbia Power Line Undergrounding - DC PLUG



Mayor Muriel Bowser providing remarks at DC PLUG Groundbreaking on June 14, 2019



Chairman Willie L. Phillips addresses the media at the DC PLUG Groundbreaking



People's Counsel, Sandra Mattavous Frye, Mayor Bowser and DCPSC Chairman Willie L. Phillips



DCPSC Commissioners Richard A. Beverly, Willie L. Phillips and Greer J. Gillis.



Mayor Bowser, District's Department of Transportation, Pepco and the DCPSC kick off DC PLUG, a \$500 million private-public partnership to increase reliability and resiliency of the District's electric grid

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DC PLUG Breaks Ground in June 2019

Pepco and the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) will begin began construction work on placing major parts of the utility distribution system underground on June 3, 2019. DC PLUG is a multi-year program designed to migrate up to 30 of the District's most vulnerable overhead distribution lines underground, taking place over six to eight years. DC PLUG is a joint effort between the DCPSC, the Office of the Mayor, the City Council, Pepco, DDOT and other government agencies to improve the electric service reliability and reduce the impact of storm-related outages in the District. A groundbreaking event was held on June 14, 2019.

Every two years, Pepco and DDOT will file an application with the DCPSC for approval of a Biennial Plan for DC PLUG. The Biennial Plan will consist of DDOT's Underground Electric Company Infrastructure Improvement Activity and Pepco's Infrastructure Activity planned to be executed over a two-year period.

Construction has begun in the American University Park and Friendship Heights communities,

and is then expected to proceed to the Hawthorne, Barnaby Woods, Chevy Chase and Friendship Heights areas. However, DC PLUG activity will commonly occur in areas with the most vulnerable overhead lines: Wards 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8. DC PLUG also includes a comprehensive, 3-year reliability improvement plan for the Benning Road area.

A critical component of the Application filed with the Commission is the requirement of a Consumer Education Plan, which informs the steps each party will take to keep District residents advised of the potential disruptions that the project may create. The education plan includes notices to residents, ANCs, civic associations and other affected parties through meetings, notices, flyers, postcards and other targeted media. The DCPSC will monitor these activities throughout the project.

For additional information about DC PLUG visit <https://dcpluginfo.com/>.

The DC PLUG Semi-Annual Meeting occurred on June 20, 2019 to provide updates on the project.

Background

Due to severe weather events between 2010-2016 including the February 2010 winter storm, the June 2012 Derecho, and the January 2016 blizzard, the DC PLUG (DC Power Line Undergrounding) Initiative was established to primarily make the electric distribution system more resilient during severe weather events, reducing the duration and frequency of electric outages.

The Undergrounding Act



DDOT/Pepco Application



Location of the work



Status of Application Proceeding Before the Commission



Community Hearings



Additional Information



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