



GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY
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Sattler-Canyon Dam-Fischer-Highway 32 transmission line upgrade will help meet area growth

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SEGUIN – As Central Texas’ growing population struggles to cope with the area’s long, hot summers, resource planners are also struggling with how to meet increased demands for electricity.

One project, designed to address growth projections in the Sattler-Canyon Dam-Fischer-Highway 32 area is in the final stages of completion by the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA), the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) and the Pedernales Electric Cooperative (PEC).

Loading projections for Summer 2002 and beyond point to increased consumption in this service area. If this happens, the current allowable limits on the system could be exceeded. This project will keep the system in compliance with the LCRA and AWC (Association of Wholesale Customers) Transmission System Planning Criteria.

During the last two years, transmission lines have been upgraded to carry the increased electrical loads anticipated for the area. The final phase of the project will start on September 25, when employees from LCRA, GBRA and PEC begin a modification of the electric substation located at the GBRA Hydro Plant below Canyon Dam. The project should be completed by late Spring 2002.

Allen Ognoskie, GBRA Hydroelectric Manager said the Canyon Hydro Plant will be non-operational for approximately 35-40 days after the work begins, while GBRA installs a new power transformer. Canyon releases will not be passed through the plant during this time but will be released directly into the Guadalupe River.

PEC will be responsible for replacing the existing 69 kV potential transformers with three 138 kV transformers and three Line Surge Arresters. Other electric substation structural additions include relocating existing fences and constructing a spill containment moat around the transformer.

These upgrades, along with the earlier transmission line changes, will ensure that the system will be well within guidelines and capable of meeting the electric needs of customers for the foreseeable future.