

**Media Contact:**

Danny Lucio  
External Affairs Manager, AEP Texas  
(956) 626-2649

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****AEP Texas to Begin Transmission Line Work on South Padre Island**

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, Texas (September 17, 2020) – AEP Texas crews begin work this month on the second phase of the South Padre Island and Port Isabel Transmission Improvements Project, a \$51 million investment to ensure electric reliability for customers. The project involves rebuilding approximately 12 miles of electric transmission line in Port Isabel, on South Padre Island and across the Laguna Madre.

AEP Texas crews plan to begin construction along Padre Boulevard on Tuesday, Sept. 22. Crews plan to begin at the north end of the power line route, near Sea Turtle, Inc., and proceed south, along the west side of Padre Boulevard. Crews expect construction to conclude early next spring.

AEP Texas representatives expect to work Sunday through Thursday during daytime hours, with possible overnight construction at select locations during weekends.

Company representatives want to reduce the impact to residents and tourists during construction, and continue to coordinate with South Padre Island city officials to maintain communication and address concerns.

AEP Texas is committed to keeping customers, employees and contractors safe and healthy amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Crews plan to take ongoing measures to work safely, including practicing social distancing and other prevention measures as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Construction of the first phase of the project began in October 2019 and concluded this summer. The first phase involved rebuilding approximately 4.5 miles of transmission line between AEP Texas' Port Isabel Substation and Causeway Substation in Port Isabel. AEP Texas officials expect the third phase of the project, which involves rebuilding approximately 4 miles of transmission line over the Laguna Madre, to begin in March of next year and conclude in July. Learn more about the project at [AEPTexas.com/SPIandPortIsabel](http://AEPTexas.com/SPIandPortIsabel).

– 30 –

**About AEP Texas**

AEP Texas serves over one million electric meters in the deregulated Texas retail electric marketplace. As an energy delivery (wires) company, AEP Texas delivers electricity safely and reliably to homes, businesses and industry across its nearly 100,000 square mile service territory in south and west Texas. AEP Texas also builds new power lines, restores service following outages and reads the meters via advanced meter technology for retail electric providers (REPs) throughout its service territory. The company also connects or disconnects service upon the orders of the REPs. Connect with AEP Texas at [AEPTexas.com](http://AEPTexas.com), on Facebook and on Twitter @aeptexas.