



Shooting Creek Proposed Transmission Project

Open House

Tennessee Valley Authority is considering transmission improvements that would provide power for growing load and increase power reliability in Clay County, North Carolina.

Blue Ridge Mountain EMC (BRMEMC) takes delivery at 5-161-kV substations Weaver, Hanging Dog, Hayesville, Ranger, and Youngcane. The Shooting Creek area is currently served by the Hayesville and Woods Grove substations.

BRMEMC is facing transformer and line capacity issues with its 25-kV distribution system, particularly in the Shooting Creek area, served by the Hayesville and Woods Grove substations. Historical loads show that the Hayesville 161-kV Substation, which uses two 25/33/42 MVA transformers, has breached firm capacity with forecast loads continuing through firm capacity in late 2028 early 2029. Moreover, a trendline on the historical loading shows a more aggressive ramp of Hayesville's loading. Additionally, Woods Grove 69-kV is operating close to firm capacity during winter peaks; however, there is a project to convert Woods Grove to 161-kV which will alleviate the capacity concerns at Woods Grove but due to 25-kV line capacity constraints issues persist in the Shooting Creek area.

Load growth and projections in the area along with back feed scenarios during heavy loading will affect service reliability unless system improvements are implemented. The study area continues to develop with residential and small commercial. Adequate transformer and line capacity is not available from the existing 25 kV system to meet loads we have seen for back feed scenarios or to continue to meet the projected loads in the future.

The proposed project involves TVA building a new 161 kV transmission tap for the proposed Shooting Creek Substation, while BRMEMC constructs the substation with at least four circuits connecting to existing distribution lines. This plan offers the most reliable and efficient solution for handling load growth, providing increased reliability and less exposure on individual circuits. It is the most economical option and a better long-term solution for future load growth.

TVA proposes to build about 7.7 to 9.5 miles of single-circuit, 161-kilovolt power line to serve the new station. The proposed power line would begin somewhere along the line between TVA's Hayesville and Woods Grove stations at a point either near the Hayesville station or near the Chatuge dam. From the connection point, TVA's new line would extend east to Blue Ridge Mountain EMC's Shooting Creek Substation.

The new line would be built using primarily single-pole and double-pole (H-frame) structures centered on new 100-foot-wide right of way. TVA is considering 90 alternative routes consisting of 22 alternative segments for the path of the new power line.

Project Schedule

End of public comment period	January 5, 2026
Announce preferred route	Spring 2026
Begin surveys	Fall / Winter 2026
Begin easement purchase	Summer / Fall 2027
Begin construction	Winter / Spring 2028
Line in service	2029

These dates are estimates. Unexpected issues may result in the need to adjust the schedule. More project information and maps are available at the TVA website tva.com/transmissionprojects.

The purpose of this open house is to provide information, answer questions, and receive comments about the project. TVA's process for siting new transmission projects is designed to afford substantial public input, and TVA is committed to working with area stakeholders to address concerns during the course of the project.

We want to know what issues you think should be considered as we make plans. If you have comments, you may complete the attached comment form and leave it with the representative at the "Welcome" table. If you do not wish to leave your comments at this time, or if you later think of something you wish you had told us, you may mail your comments to John West at the address provided below. All comments will be considered by TVA in reaching a decision on the proposed transmission line route.

Comments will be accepted through January 05, 2026. Any comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the administrative record.

TVA will analyze the potential impact of this proposal under the National Environmental Policy Act and will minimize potential impacts to the extent practical.

For information or to submit comments:

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Thank you for attending and participating in our open house.