

An aerial photograph of Lake Chelan, showing a long bridge crossing the lake. The surrounding landscape includes green hills, a small town with buildings, and a clear blue sky. The text is overlaid on a white rounded rectangle in the center-right of the image.

# Lake Chelan Regional Area Planning

Electrical System  
Reliability

March 13, 2019



An aerial photograph of a valley with a river, a bridge, and rolling hills in the background. A blue banner is overlaid on the right side of the image.

# Outcomes

## Desired Outcome of Presentation:

- Describe PUD long range planning for electrical infrastructure in the Lake Chelan Valley
- Understand the drivers of need for new electrical infrastructure
- Review options for hardening transmission infrastructure against fire risk
- Explain operational constraints for siting a new substation and transmission line
- Community stakeholders provide direct feedback and ask questions



# Lessons Learned

## Applying **Lessons Learned** when Planning for New Infrastructure:

- Inform early and often
- Identify & weigh options in partnership with community stakeholders
- Proactively plan for immediate and long term needs
- Incorporate community values into planning



An aerial photograph of a town nestled in a valley, with a river flowing through it. The town is surrounded by green hills and fields. A blue banner is overlaid on the right side of the image.

# Your Input

## Your Input Helps Guide the Direction of the PUD

- We want you to weigh in on our recommended approach to fire resiliency plans
- We are seeking input on substation siting & transmission line routes
- Your direct feedback will be shared with PUD Board of Commission
- Your input will be shared with future stakeholder groups & shape future outreach activities





# Objectives & Proposed Tactics

## PUD *objectives* in Chelan

Provide reliable utility services



Improve resiliency to fire storms



Ensure sufficient capacity exists for planned growth



## PUD *tactical* plan in Chelan

Balance system loads and strengthen failure points

Harden the transmission systems by replacing wood poles with steel poles over time

Build a new substation and connecting transmission line within the Chelan Dam vicinity



CHELAN COUNTY  
www.chelanpud.org

# The Electric Power System

The Electric Power System is divided into generation, transmission, and distribution.

## 1. Hydro Project

In Chelan County, electrical power is generated at one of the PUD's three hydroelectric projects.

## 2. Transmission lines.

Transmission lines leave hydro projects and transmission switchyards.

## 3. Transmission Switchyard

Power moves across large transmission lines to a transmission switchyard where electrical voltage is reduced by transformers.

## 5. Distribution lines

Distribution lines leave local substations and may be overhead or underground depending on the location and situation.

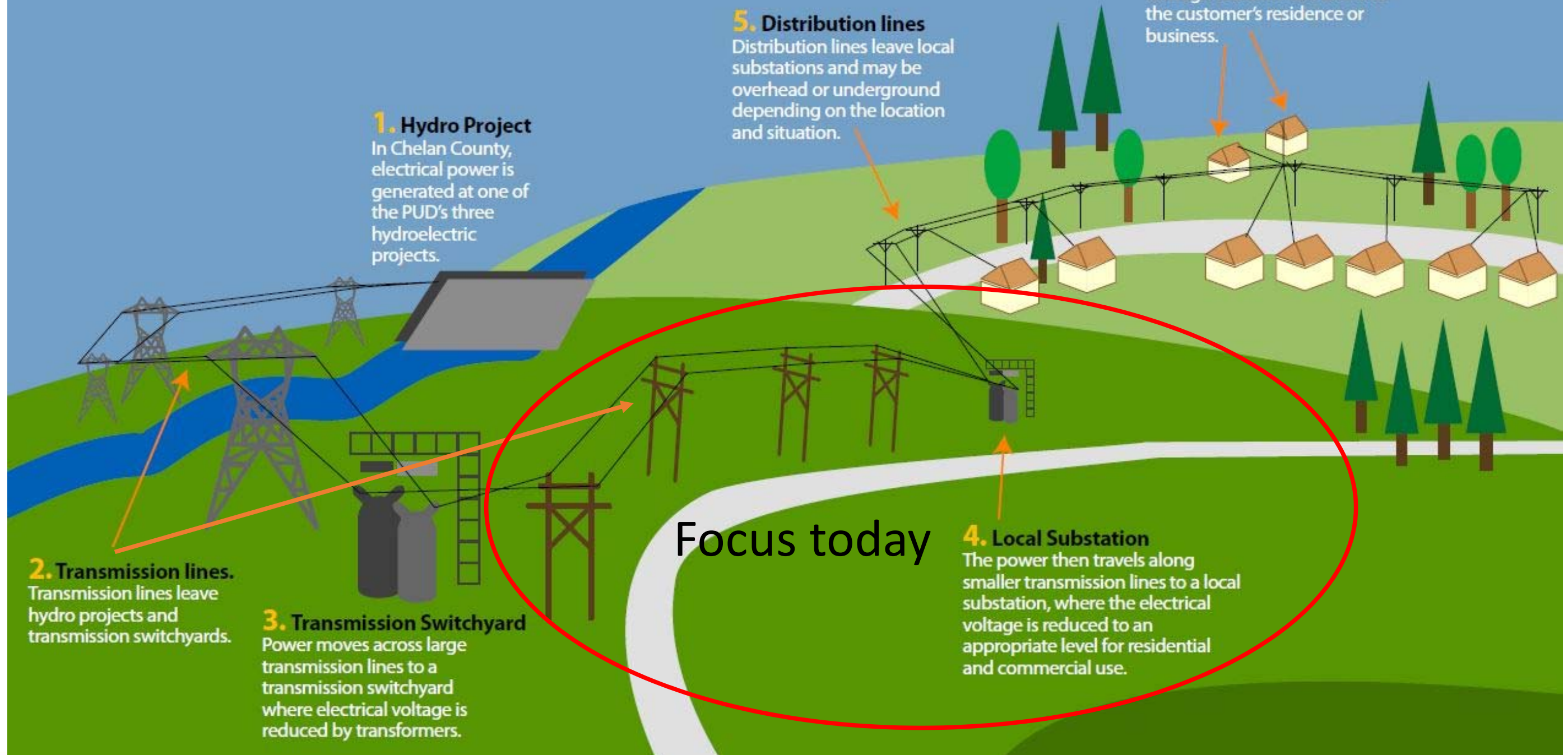
## 6. Your home or business

Finally, power travels along distribution lines and is converted to a standard voltage through transformers and into the customer's residence or business.

## 4. Local Substation

The power then travels along smaller transmission lines to a local substation, where the electrical voltage is reduced to an appropriate level for residential and commercial use.

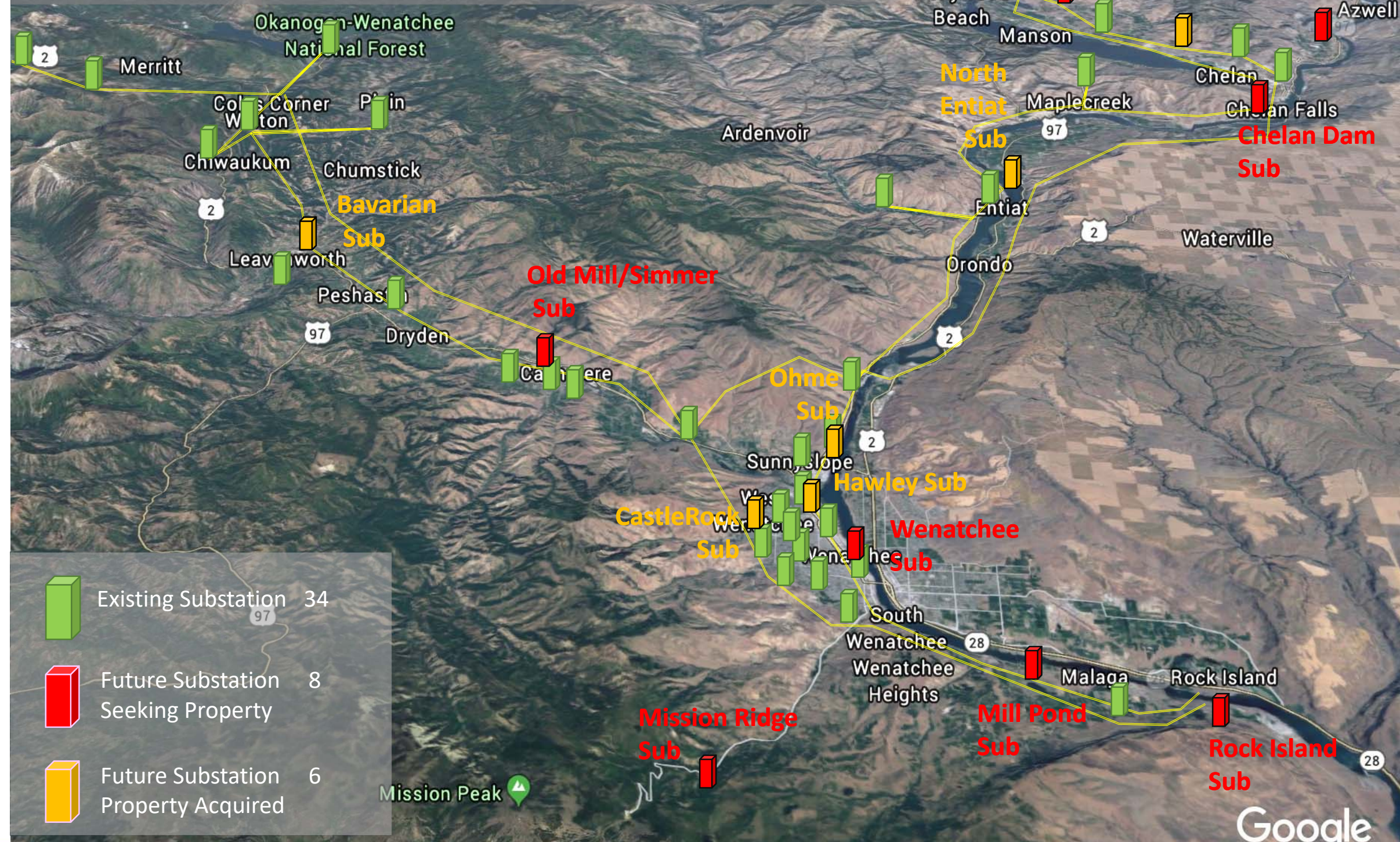
Focus today





# Distribution Substation Planning

Current & Future Locations Countywide



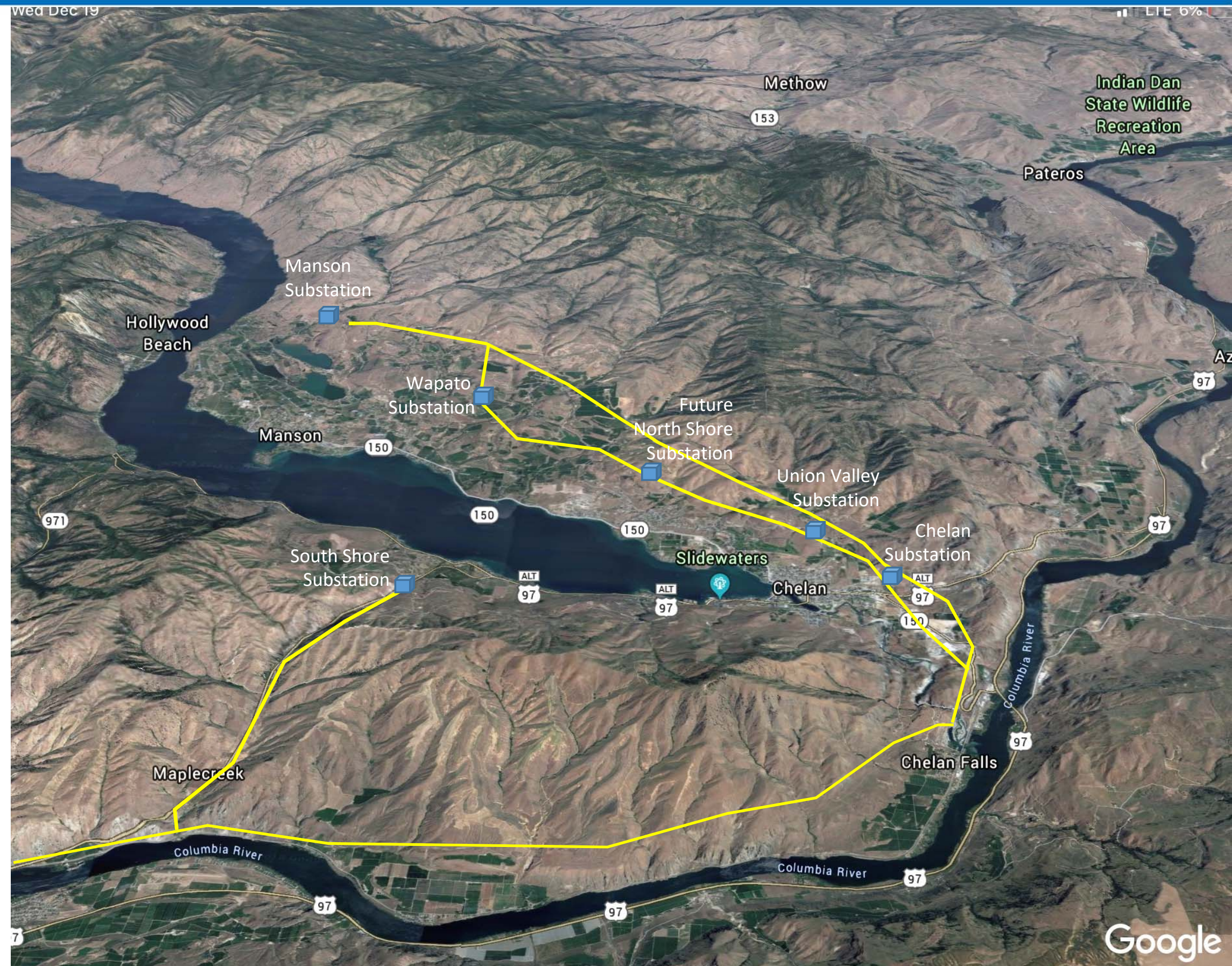


# Historical

## Chelan Regional Capital Infrastructure Investments :

- Chelan Falls Manson 115KV Rbld 1984
- Submarine Cable lake crossing- 1984
- Expanded Manson Sub - 1991
- Chelan Falls to Rocky Reach II - 1998
- Rebuilt Wapato Sub- 2001
- Knapps Coulee 115KV Line 2003
- Second circuit to Howard Flats 2003
- New South Shore Sub 2004
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Submarine cable 2008
- Expanded Chelan Substation- 2009
- South Shore Feeder Capacity 2013
- McNeil Canyon Transfer Douglas 2015
- North Shore Substation property 2017
- Union Valley Sub rehabilitation 2018

Since 1984 Investments  
> \$ 30 Million





# Lake Chelan Regional Electric Grid

Transmission & Substations

## 30 Year Vision

### Legend

Existing Transmission Line



Existing Substation

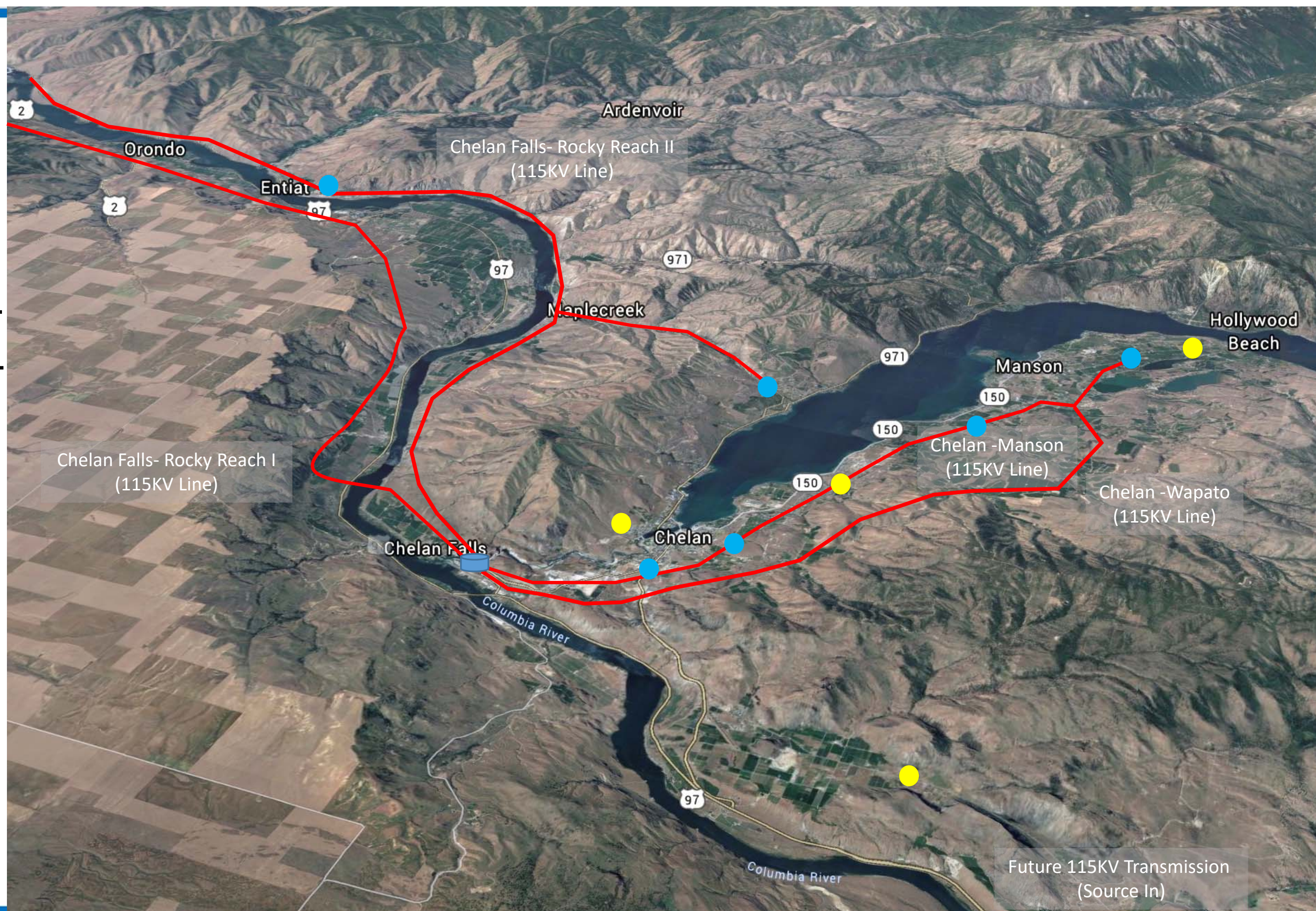


Existing Switchyard



Future Substation\*

*\*Note that future  
substations will require  
transmission connection not  
shown on this map*





A photograph of a large wildfire with thick, dark smoke rising from a hillside. Two firefighting aircraft are visible in the sky. The title 'Transmission Fire Hardening' is overlaid on a blue banner in the center-right of the image.

# Transmission Fire Hardening

- 2015-2019 Strategic Plan: “Customer-owners were most interested in replacing or rerouting some electric lines to protect against fire and weather risks.”
- As a result of the Strategic Plan, the PUD conducted a fire risk assessment of the PUD’s high voltage electrical transmission system that was completed in 2017.
- The Chelan service area was included in the top 3 areas that could benefit the most from fire hardening.
- The 2015 Chelan fire burned through both transmission lines that serve the Lake Chelan Valley.
- Power was out for over 36 hours while crews restored the first line, and the second line took 11 days.



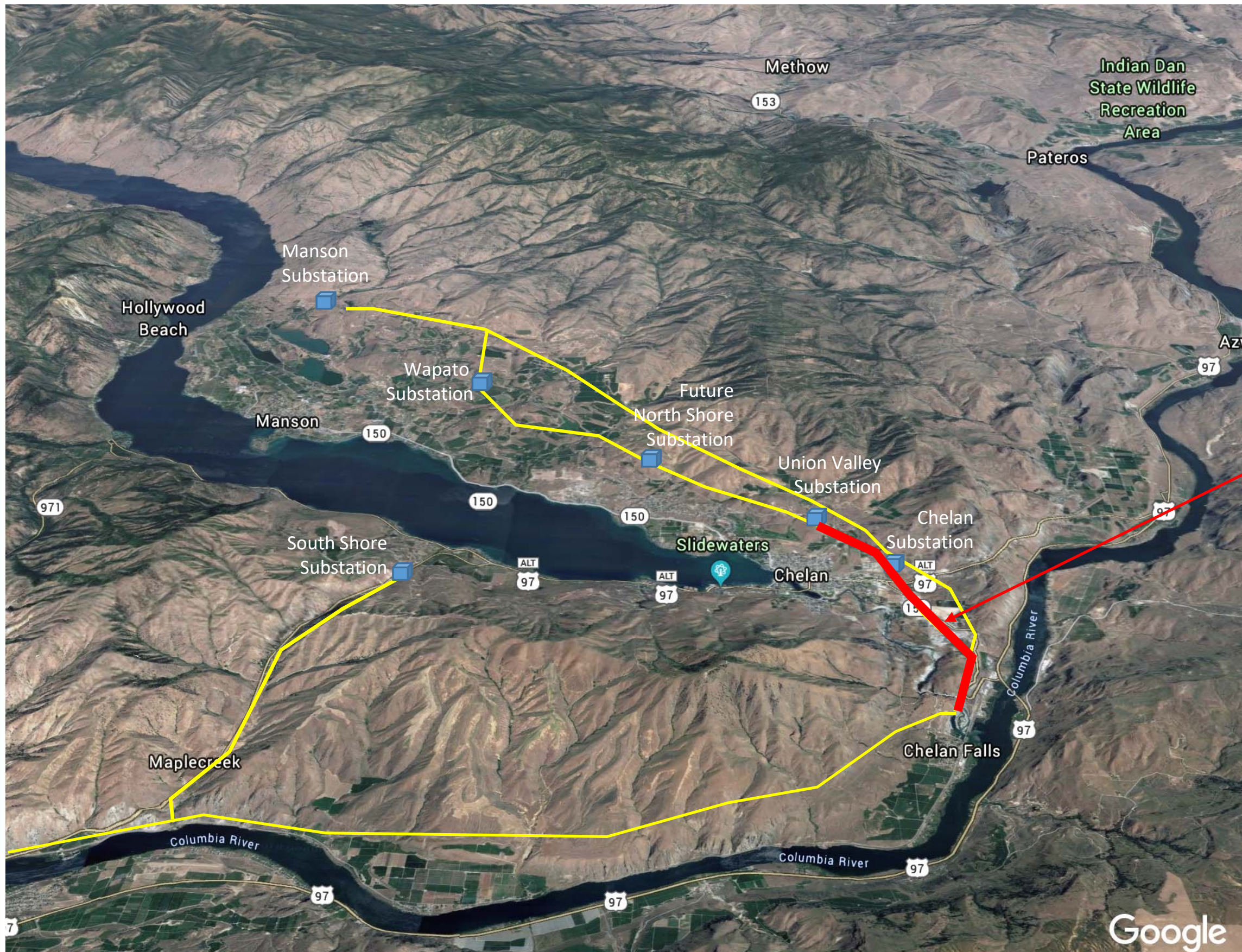
Steel Structure

Wood  
Structure

# Transmission Fire Hardening

- The recommendation is to replace existing wood transmission poles to steel.
- Steel poles reduce the frequency and duration of fire-related transmission outages because fires will burn past them.
- The new steel poles would be constructed in the same alignment and in the same general location as existing poles.
- Some poles may be slightly taller.
- The photo to the left is an example of a steel pole replacement.





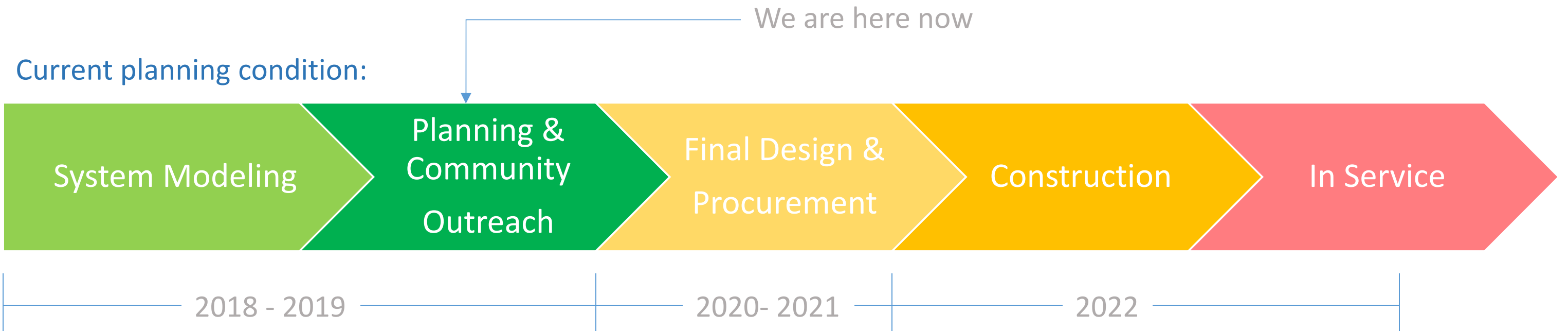
Potential transmission  
line section for  
conversion to steel  
poles  
(From Chelan Falls to Union Valley)





# Timeline For Replacing Transmission Line Wood Poles with Steel

(Chelan Falls – Manson 115KV - from CF to Union Valley)



An aerial photograph showing a wide river (Lake Chelan) flowing through a valley. The river is surrounded by green hills and some residential or commercial buildings. A blue banner is overlaid on the right side of the image.

## Chelan Dam Substation

### Why do we need a new substation in Chelan?

- Energy use in the Lake Chelan Valley has grown 3 to 5 times higher than in other areas of the county since 2015
- The existing substations serving this area are nearing capacity
- We are looking for community input as we find a location for the substation and transmission line in southeast Chelan, near the Chelan Dam
- The new substation will meet increased demand while maintaining reliable electrical service



# Current Electrical System Projection (2020)

KEY

Sub

Distribution Feeder

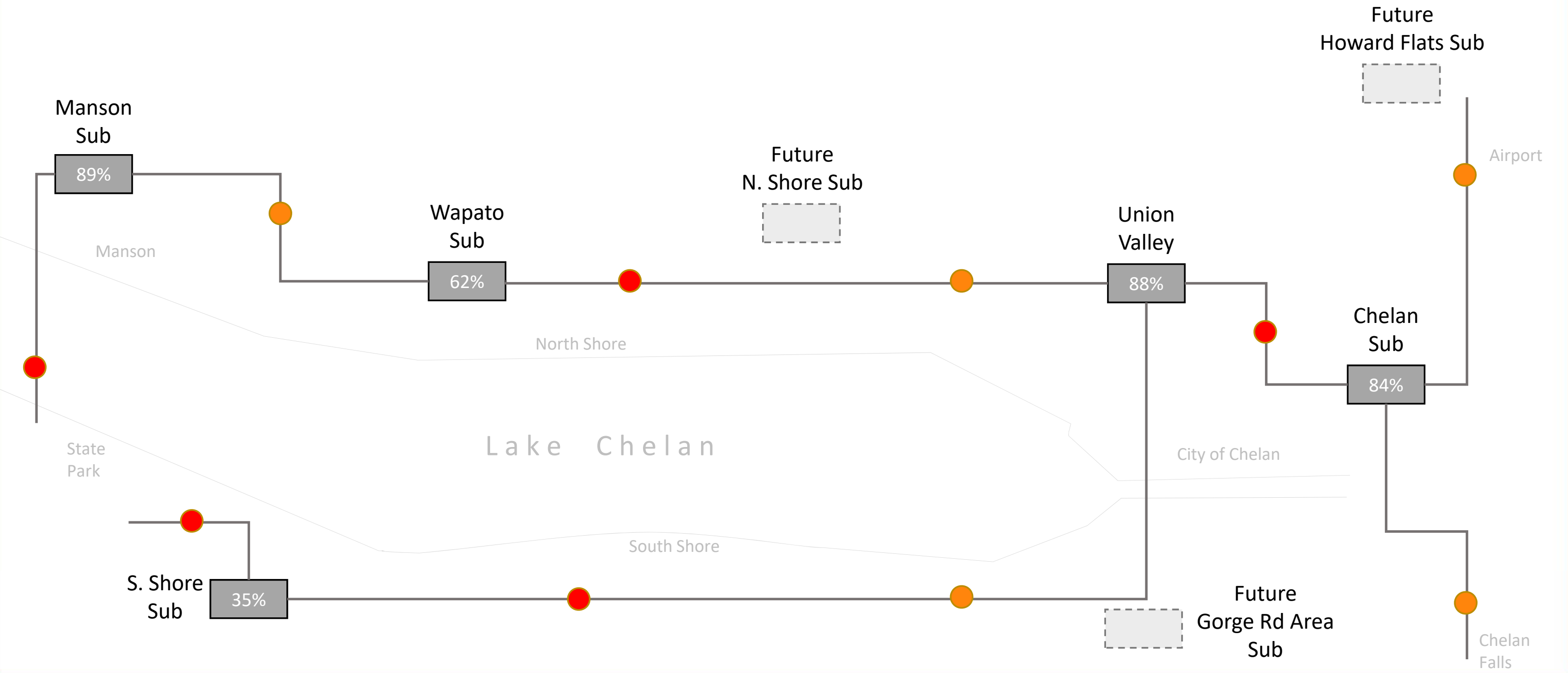
Below 70%

Above 70%

Above 80%

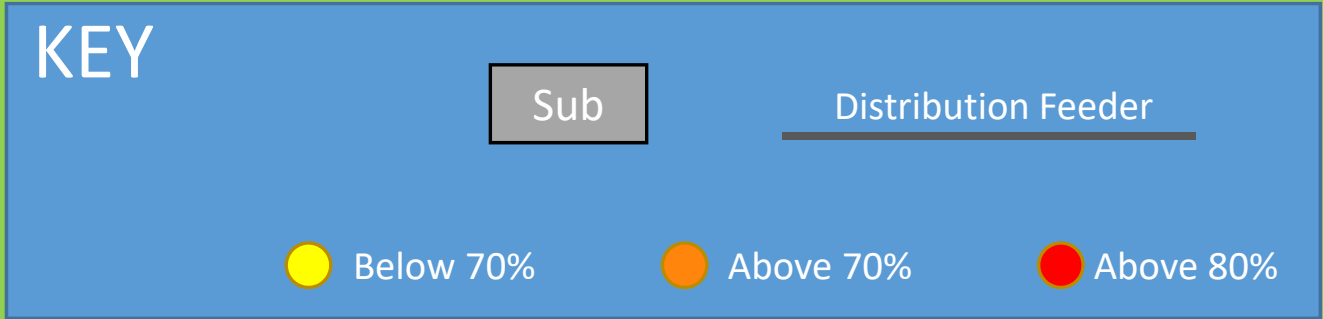
(Loading condition above 80% requires new planned construction)

## Lake Chelan Area Planning



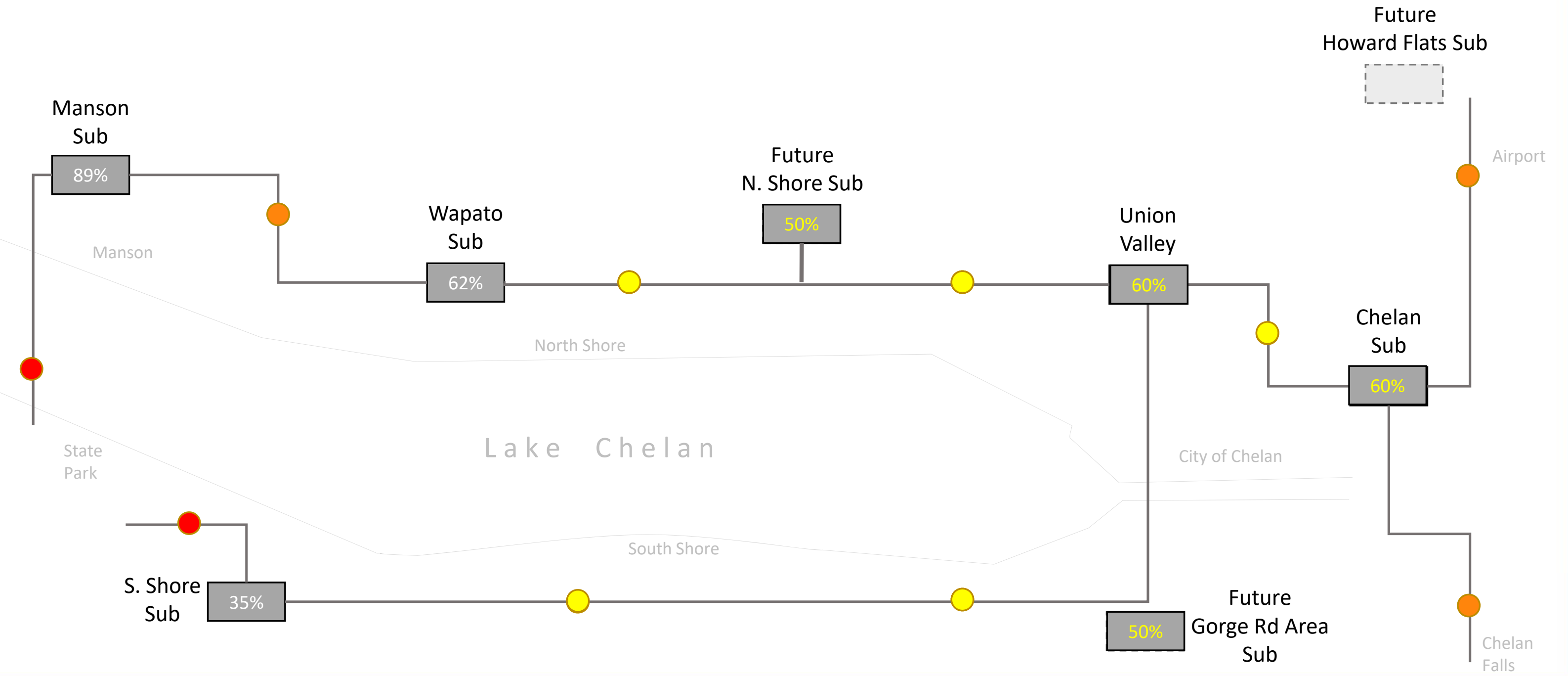


# Future State Electrical System



## Lake Chelan Area Planning

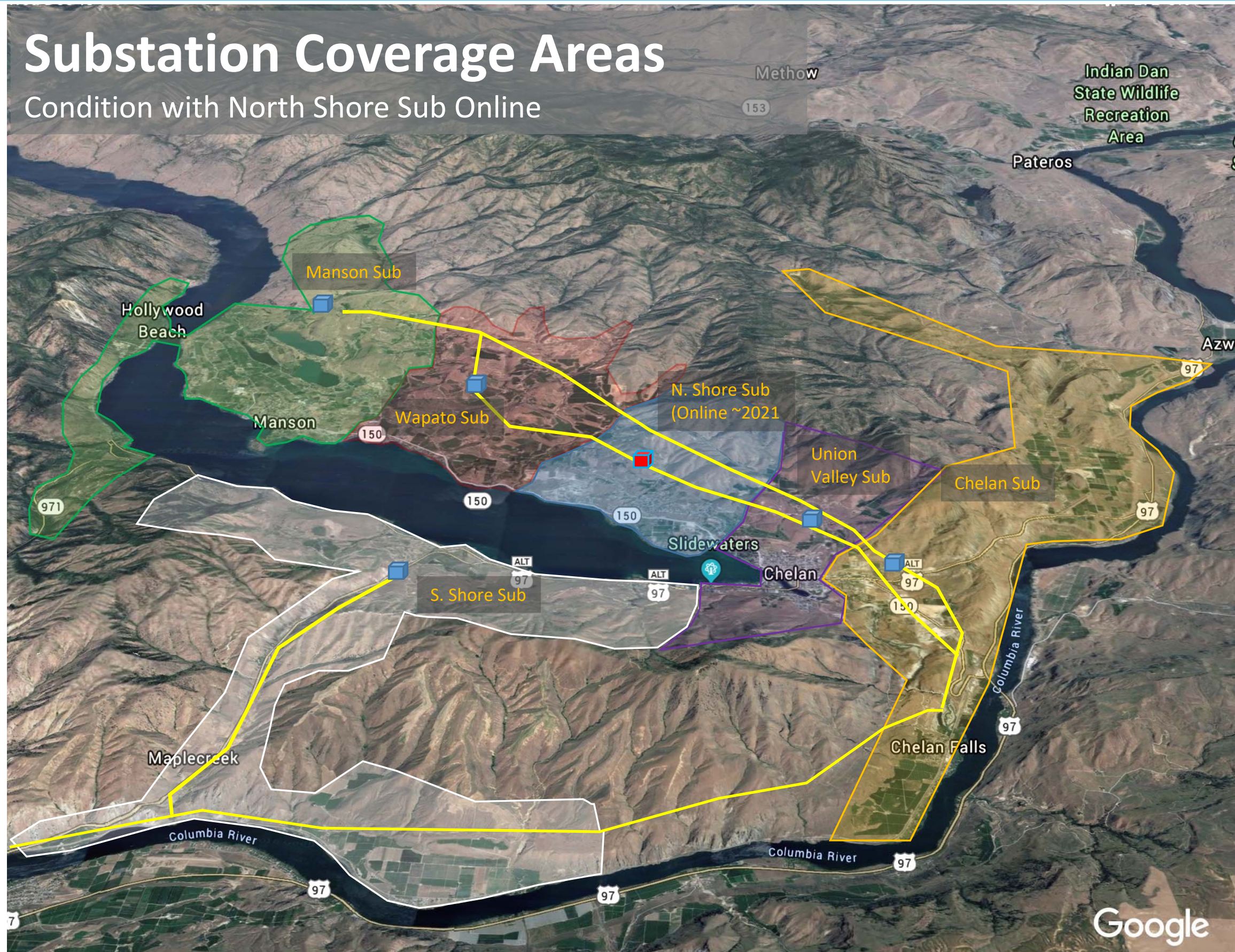
(Loading condition above 80% requires new planned construction)





# Substation Coverage Areas

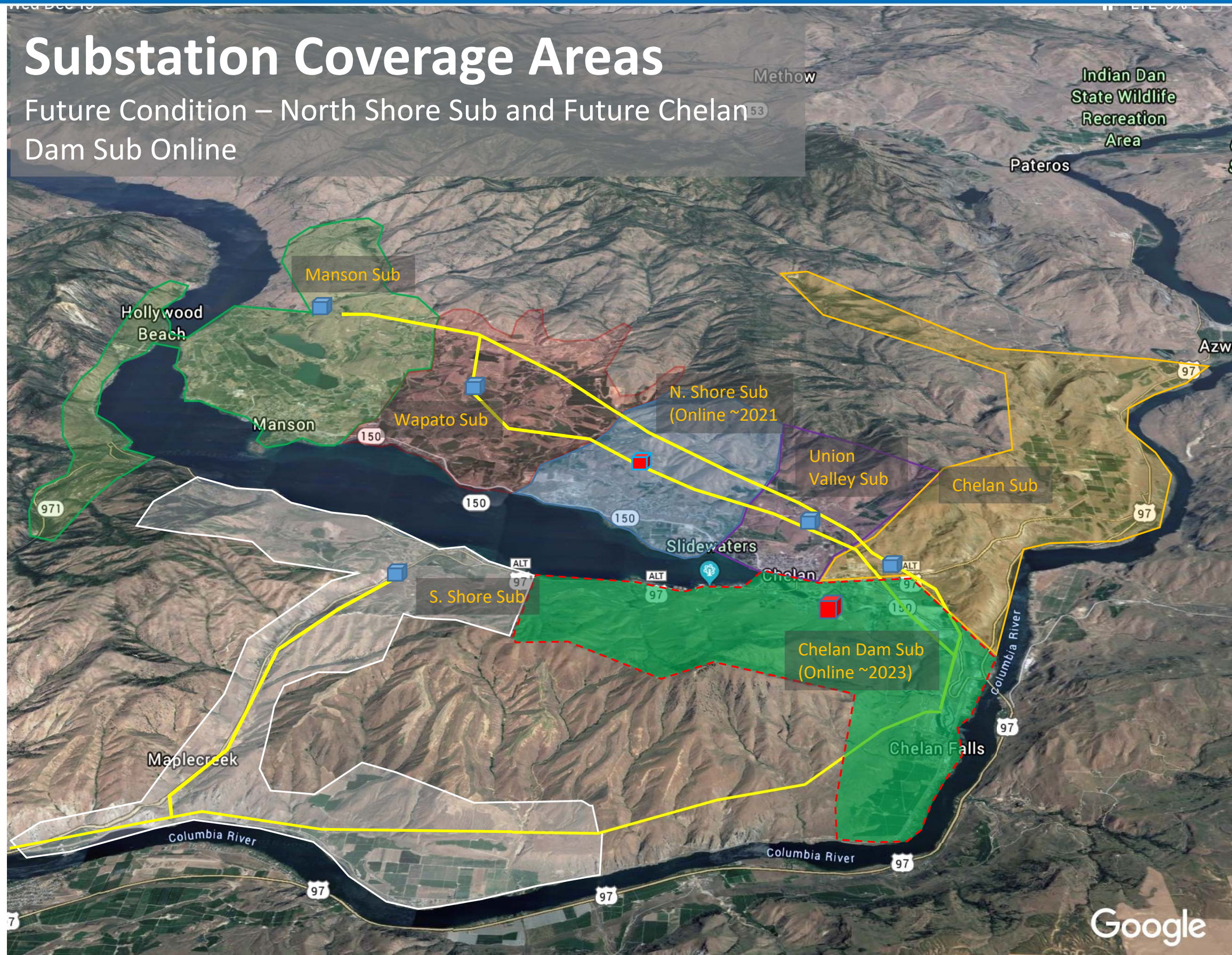
Condition with North Shore Sub Online





# Substation Coverage Areas

Future Condition – North Shore Sub and Future Chelan Dam Sub Online





Similar Substation Planned







## Feasibility Categories Substation & Transmission Locations

- Functional
- Safe
- Reliable
- Cost effective
- Accessible
- Standardized components
- Maintainable
- Expandable
- Compatible to environment
- Community supported
- Minimized aesthetic impacts
- Coexistent with other land use
- Resilient to Fire
- Permissible
- Future redundant capable
- Constructible
- Clear Zone, Right-of-way impacts



# Types of power lines

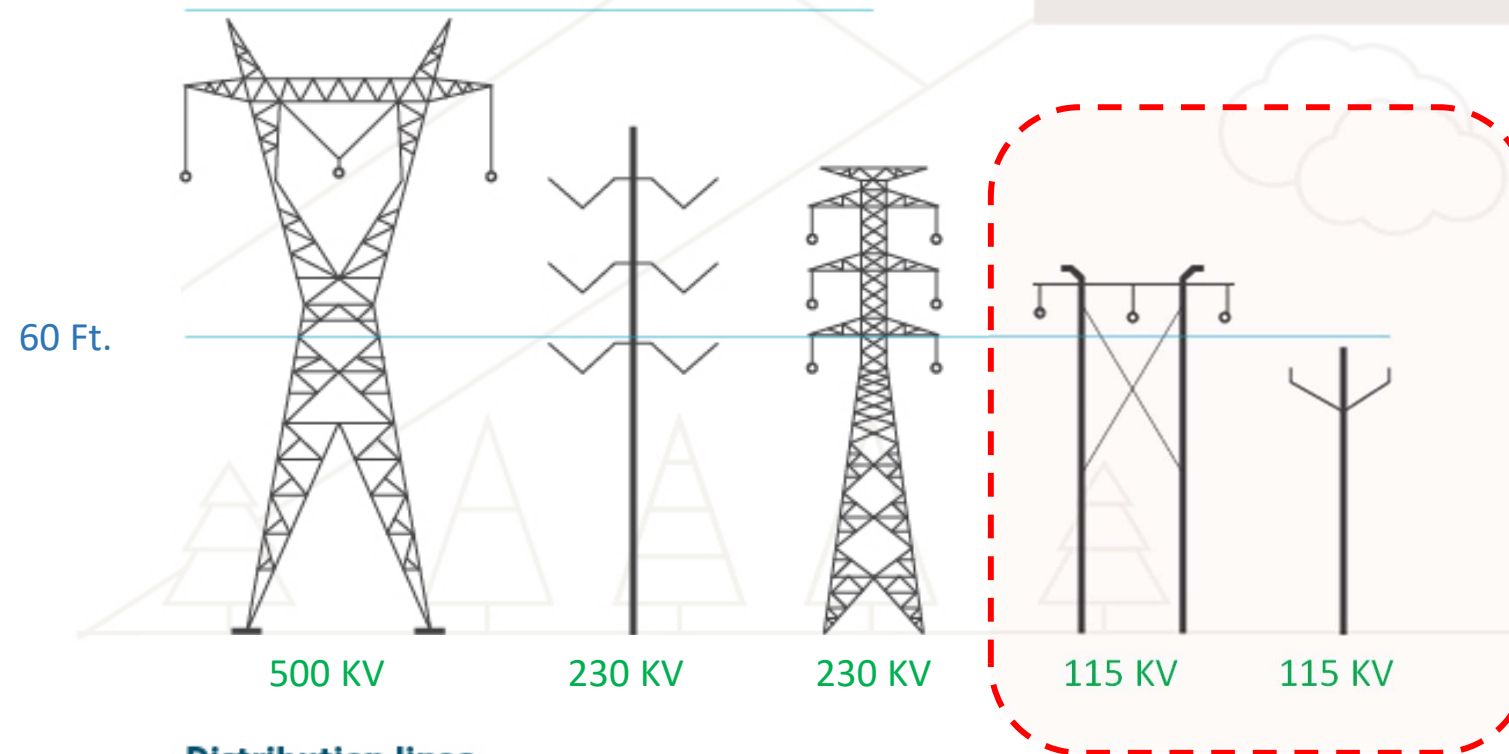
We rely on a system of transmission towers and power lines to carry the electricity produced at our hydro electric plants to the neighborhoods, homes and businesses in the County

## Transmission lines

Transmission lines are the big, high voltage power lines that bring electricity from where it's made at our generating stations to substations near communities

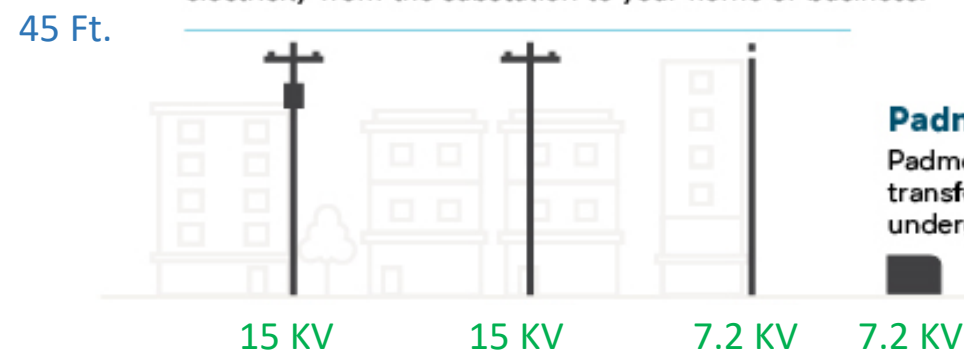
## What's a kV?

kV stands for kilovolt, which is a unit of potential energy. One kV is equal to 1,000 volts.



## Distribution lines

Distribution lines are the smaller, lower voltage lines that carry electricity from the substation to your home or business.



## Padmount box

Padmount transformers transfer electricity to underground power lines.

Transmission Line structures  
Similar to these will be required





Existing  
Transmission Line

### Optional Transmission Routes

A

Chelan Falls Powerhouse →  
Gorge Road → Chelan Dam  
vicinity

B

Tap Chelan – Wapato  
Transmission line →  
Highway 150 → Cross Gorge  
→ Chelan Dam vicinity

C

Tap Chelan – Wapato  
Transmission line →  
Robinson Street → Cross  
Gorge → Chelan Dam  
vicinity

D

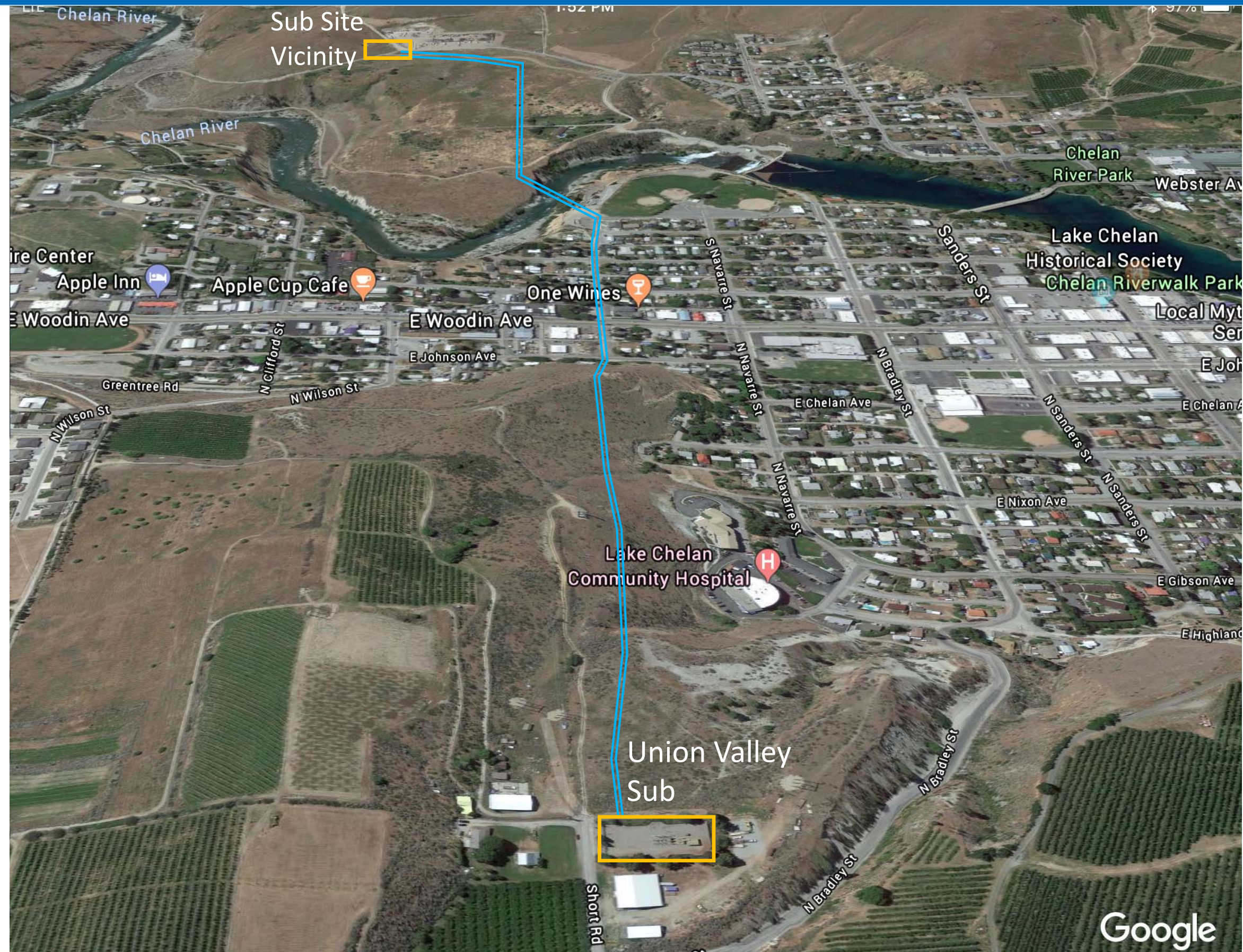
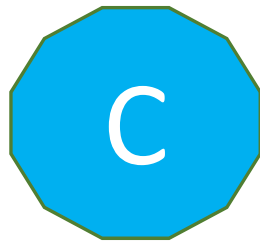
Tap RR #2 Line → Knapp's Coulee  
→ South shore of lake → Chelan  
Dam vicinity **(MAY NOT BE  
FEASIBLE)**



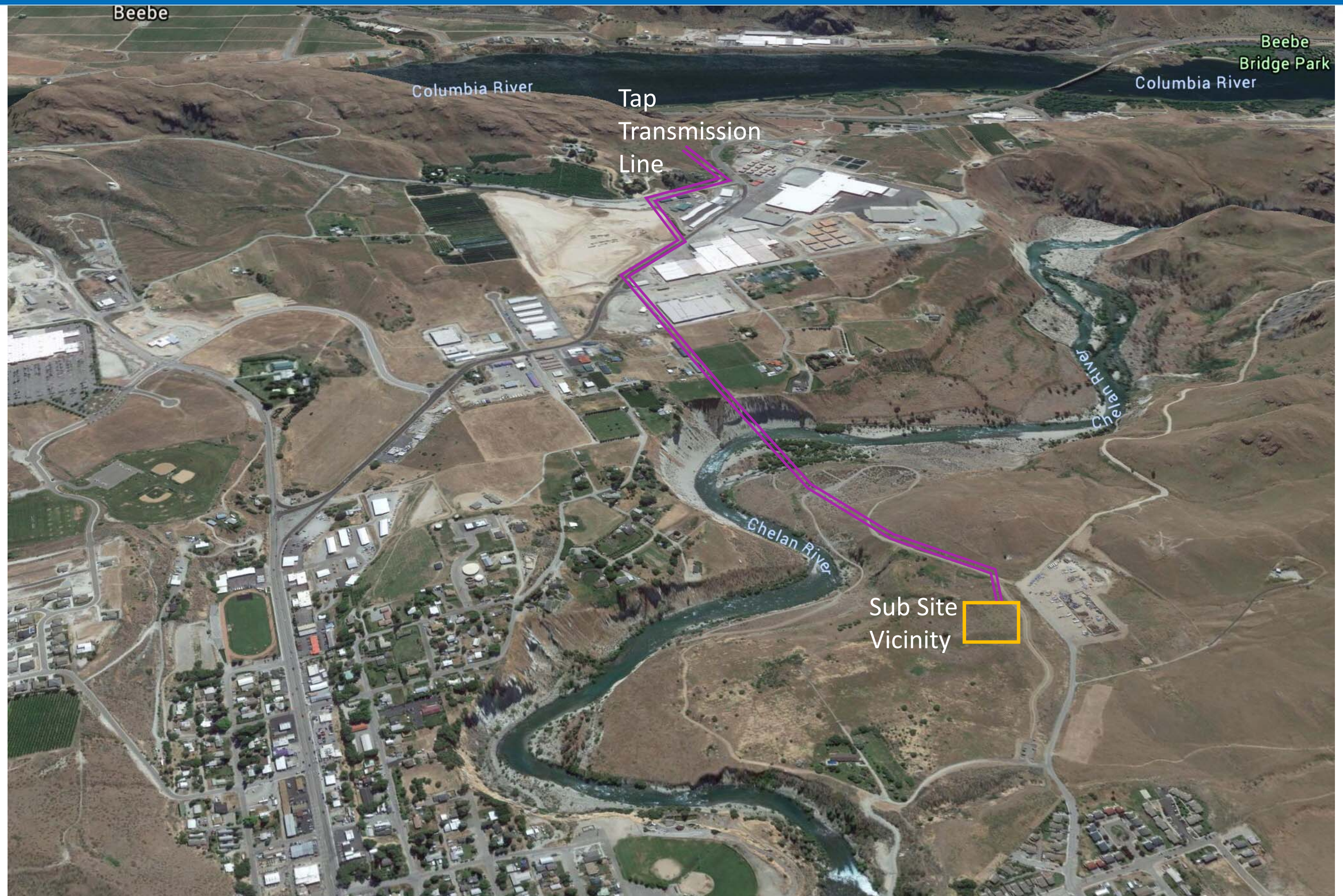
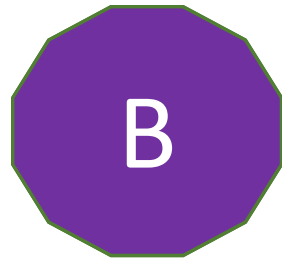
# Operational Pros and Cons of Alternatives

	<b>A</b> <b>Gorge Road</b>	<b>B</b> <b>SR 150</b>	<b>C</b> <b>Robinson St</b>	<b>D</b> <b>South shore</b>
<b>PROS</b>	Lowest estimated construction costs Shortest distance Highest reliability PUD owns property	Area is zoned industrial/commercial	Uses some existing right-of-way Uses existing distribution corridor	Uses some existing right-of-way Uses existing distribution corridor Highly accessible Less susceptible to fire
<b>CONS</b>	Permitting challenges	Permitting challenges Private property easements Challenging river crossing High estimated construction costs	Private property easements Challenging river crossing Through portion of downtown area	Private property easements Permitting challenges MAY NOT BE TECHNICALLY FEASIBLE













Verizon LTE 5:10 PM 56%

- Menu icon
- Search icon
- Street View icon
- Layers icon
- Camera icon
- Share icon

2D

Compass icon



A

Proposed  
Substation  
Vicinity

All Gold outline misc PUD lands

272224110050/140050  
Golden Gate Ventures  
City UGA zoned RL

272224616030/616035  
Darren Fox  
zoned R-1

272319616020  
JARO, Inc  
zoned RR5

Pt of 272318320050  
CRE Inc  
City UGA RM

Pt of 272320330050  
John McQuaig  
zoned RR10

272330240000/300050/420050  
Gordon Dick  
zoned RR10 and RR20

272330210050/220050/230050  
Washington State Fish & Wildlife  
zoned RR20

Chelan Falls  
Switchyard



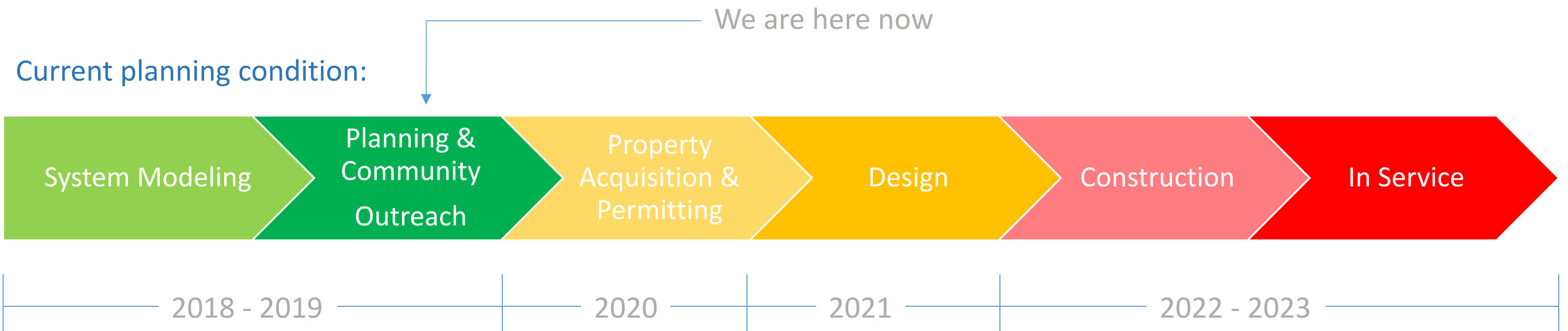
A







# Timeline For New Substation & New Connecting Transmission Line







## Planned Activities in 2019:

- Optimize feasibility analysis for alternative substation locations Q1
- Optimize a **set** of alternatives for transmission sources to new substation Q1
- Bring community stakeholders together to: Q1-Q2
  - Identify with the challenge and options
  - Solicit input from community and interest groups
  - Seek alignment on a selection process
  - Seek alignment on fire hardening recommendation
- Refine a plan & report back to Board of Commission: Q2



An aerial photograph of a scenic landscape. In the foreground, a large, calm blue lake reflects the sky. To the left, a small town with various buildings and greenery is visible along the shoreline. In the background, rolling hills and mountains are visible under a clear blue sky with a few wispy clouds.

# Questions?

More info:

[www.chelanpud.org/chelandamsubstation](http://www.chelanpud.org/chelandamsubstation)

[www.chelanpud.org/firehardening](http://www.chelanpud.org/firehardening)