

ATTENTION!

Lithuanian-Polish ELECTRIC POWER LINK!

The Lithuanian energy system is currently linked only with the common system of the CIS (ex-Soviet) countries, Latvia and Estonia, and still lacks an alternative link to Western Europe.

In Lithuania, this planned power line shall run from Alytus transformer substation to the Lithuanian-Polish border to the north of Lake Galadusys. The approximately 50 kilometre-long power transmission line will be installed on transmission towers; the average distance between towers shall be 320 m. The total number of towers can be 150.

Presently, the first stage of the project is under way. During this stage the specific location and the area shall be selected for the planned power line. This shall be achieved through the following three procedures:

- special planning;
- strategic environmental assessment;
- environmental impact assessment.

The following issues must be solved in order to build the power transmission line:

1. Select the most suitable location for the power line.
2. Agree with landowners whose plots the line will run through.
3. Conduct surveys of the selected route.
4. Prepare the detail design documentation.
5. Build the power line.

Construction works are expected to be completed in 2015. A transmission tower of the power line shall occupy the area of 19 m; additionally, a protection zone stretching 30 m to both sides from the outside wires shall be established. Thus, the land strip with the width of approximately 80 m shall be required for designing the power line. The height of the transmission tower shall not exceed 73 m.

During the construction of the power line, transmission towers needs a small area of land and do not physically divide the land plot; therefore, the land will not be bought out from the landowners.

AB Lietuvos energija will pay compensation for the established land easements.

Question: Does the establishment of the land easement violate the right of ownership of the owners of the land plot?

Answer: Pursuant to the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania, the State of Lithuania is socially-minded. Article 23 of the Constitution states that "Property shall be inviolable"; however, part 3 of the same Article has an exclusive provision stating that "Property may be taken over only for the needs of society according to the procedure established by law and shall be justly compensated for". This means that the rights of ownership is not absolute and that the needs of society should have the priority over personal needs. It is acknowledged that power supply facilities and companies that manage these facilities meet special needs of society.

A public discussion of this project shall be held at 5.30 p.m. on July 14 on the premises of Krosna Neighbourhood. Residents who have any questions or proposals are invited to attend the meeting with authority in charge of the drawing up of the project. A lot of relevant information is already available at the Neighbourhood.