

# 3RD 330 kV ESTONIA-LATVIA INTERCONNECTION







# **BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT**

- Increase of the maximum of transmission capacity on the Estonian-Latvian cross-border
- Increase the reliability of the electric power supply in the Baltics
- Improve electricity market efficiency in the Baltics
  - Increase of power transmission capacity
  - Improvements in competitiveness, both among the Baltic States, and between the Baltics and the Nordic countries

The third transmission network interconnection between Estonia and Latvia is an important infrastructure project for the entire Baltic region. For Latvia and Estonia, the transmission capacity will increase by 500/600 MW in both directions.

As of 2025, the electric power systems of the Baltic States will start operating synchronously with the electric power of continental Europe, and this project will serve as a prerequisite for reliable and stable operation of the electric power systems of the Baltic States.

#### LINE ROUTE

The new electric power transmission line will be built along an approximately 20 kilometre Rūjiena-Aloja stage from the border with Estonia; it will continue along the existing 110 kV line corridor, via Aloja, Limbaži, Skulte and Saulkrasti.

From Saulkrasti transmission line will be located along the planned railway RailBaltica, while the last two kilometre section to Riga CHP-2 will be parallel to the planned E22 highway.

The total length of the line is 176 km. The line will cross 11 municipalities. The total number of pylons is 560.

#### LANDOWNERS

# Landowners affected by the construction of the line will receive compensations.



Business activities are limited in the protection zone of the line, which is why the landowners affected by the new line will receive compensation, according to mutual agreement and Cabinet Regulation  $N^{\circ}$  603.

In addition to the protected zone, the law defines a zone that is cleared of any trees and bushes, with 13 m on both sides of the axis of the 110 kV lines, and 27 m on both sides of the axis of the 330 kV lines.



Zone cleared of trees and bushes

# Protection Zone Law requirements

Section 16 of the Protection Zone Law

# 110 kV

A protection zone of **7 m** from the outermost wires of electric transmission lines (ETL) is set for ETLs in towns and villages, while outside those, and within rural areas located in towns, the protection zone is **30 m** from the outermost wires. In forest areas, the zone is **35 m** from the ETL axis.

# 330 kV

A protection zone of **12 m** from the outermost wires of electric transmission lines (ETL) is set for ETLs in towns and villages, while outside those, and within fields located in towns, the protection zone is **30 m** from the outermost wires. In forest areas, the zone is **40 m** from the ETL axis.



#### **Completed stages**

#### **Planned activities**

## **ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD**

We maintain a very responsible attitude towards any public concerns that the effects of electromagnetic fields could negatively affect public health. The control of electromagnetic fields in the European Union is governed by the 1999/519/EC European Commission recommendations that set the maximum permissible electromagnetic field intensity to 100  $\mu$ T.

The electromagnetic field intensity in the immediate vicinity of the line will be  $25-30 \mu$ T, which is 4 times less than what is recommended by the European Commission.



Moreover, the impact of the electromagnetic field gradually decreases within the protection zone, and is virtually undetectable beyond it.

# PUBLIC SAFETY

Residents of areas located close to the transmission lines are urged to be cautious if there are any media announcements of major local storms coming. We will not create situations that could cause irreparable damage to public health and the environment.

It should be taken into account that business activities within the protection zone of electric lines are subject to limitations set by the Protection Zone Law, and the landowners affected must discuss and assess these zones with AST specialists.

Do not go close to damaged electric lines and equipment!



In the event of damage to an electric line, please call:

VUGD 112 AST +371 6732 8386

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

An environmental impact assessment has been carried out subject to European and Latvian environmental protection requirements.

A comprehensive study and assessment of the impact of the planned activities on the natural areas, protected bird, animal and plant species as well as other natural values has been carried out as part of the project. Furthermore, an assessment of the impact of the project on the general public and their



property, as well as a study of benefits and possible deficiencies of this project have been completed.

The environmental impact assessment and right of way studies have been co-financed by EU

For a full version of the environmental impact assessment, visit <u>www.vpvb.gov.lv</u>.





		Kurzemes Loks	Riga CHP-2 — Riga HPP	3rd EE-LV Interconnection	Valmiera — Tartu	Valmiera — Tsirguliina
PROJECTS	Year of commissioning	2019	2020	2020	2023	2024
SCHEDULED UNTIL 2025	Total cost	127 million EUR	19,98 million EUR	84 million EUR	23 million EUR	22 million EUR
	EU co-financing	55 million EUR	9,99 million EUR	65%	expected 50-75%	expected 50-75%
	Total length	214 km	13 km	176 km	49 km	49 km

# WHAT IS AST?

AS 'Augstsprieguma tikls' is the backbone of Latvia's electric power system: the company is an electric transmission system operator that provides the uninterrupted, reliable and sustainable transmission of electric power throughout the country.



#### There are three directions in the activities of AST

1

Transmission of electrical energy from producers and neighbouring countries to the distribution systems and big consumers

#### 2

Management and development of the Latvian transmission system, and its integration in the European energy system.

#### 3

Control, management and development of electricity market in Latvia



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