

POWER LINE

ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION SERVICES MONTHLY

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People. Safety. A Brighter Tomorrow.



SAFETY FIRST

E&CS Marks 1,000,000 Safe Hours

Our division has officially surpassed 1,000,000 consecutive hours worked without a recordable incident. As we enter the autumn maintenance cycle, remember that field safety trumps project speed.

WHAT THIS MILESTONE MEANS

- Daily discipline, not luck
- Tailboards, PPE checks, and hazard awareness
- A shared responsibility to protect one another

LEAD STORY

Substation Modernization Hits Major Milestone Ahead of Schedule

The Oakridge Substation Upgrades achieved a critical benchmark last week, successfully energizing its new transformer bank four days ahead of the projected timeline.

Inside this issue:
project delivery • smart-grid architecture • people & milestones • resources

SAFETY SPOTLIGHT



Fall Protection Saves Lives

Always use the proper fall protection equipment and follow job-specific procedures when working at heights.



Quick Tip

Pause before the task. Identify energy sources, escape routes, and the person responsible for the stop-work call.



Upcoming Training

- Fall Protection Refresher
- Job Hazard Analysis
- Defensive Driving

LEARN MORE ›

OPERATIONS DEEP DIVE

Navigating the Shift to Smart Grid Architecture

As our regional transmission infrastructure faces unprecedented demand and evolving environmental pressures, E&CS is accelerating the deployment of next-generation **Intelligent Electronic Devices (IEDs)** across all new substation builds and system-wide retrofits.

THE FIELD IMPACT: CUTTING OUTAGE TIMES

When a fault occurs (such as a tree limb striking a transmission line): The IED isolates the exact zone of the fault in milliseconds, preventing cascading blackouts.

It calculates the physical distance to the fault location.

It instantly transmits these coordinates to dispatchers, allowing field crews to bypass miles of visual line inspection and drive directly to the damaged asset.

Designing for the Next Decade

“Hitting our 1,000,000-hour milestone is no accident—it is the direct result of your daily discipline. As we look toward the upcoming fiscal year, our focus is grid hardening and proactive modernization. The designs we put on paper today must withstand the environmental and capacity demands of the next thirty years.”

— Kimberly Greene, Senior Vice President, E&CS

THE OAKRIDGE BUILD

The project required coordination across civil engineering, procurement, and field construction. During a 72-hour outage window, teams decommissioned legacy breakers and integrated new digital relays.

A BETTER SEQUENCE

When a control enclosure was delayed, civil teams advanced foundation work while electrical engineers pre-wired components offsite—turning a risk into an efficiency gain.



FROM THE VP'S DESK

Kimberly Greene

PEOPLE POWER

Five Minutes with David Chen

Senior Project Manager | Oakridge Modernization



15 YEARS OF PROJECT LEADERSHIP

Q What was the most rewarding part of the Oakridge build?

"Seeing the teamwork. When the enclosure shipment was delayed, nobody pointed fingers. The civil and electrical crews sat down in a trailer, mapped out a new sequence on a whiteboard, and executed it flawlessly."

Q How has utility engineering changed since you started?

"The data density. We used to rely entirely on physical blueprints and manual field checks. Today, we are using 3D CAD modeling and automated field telemetry. The speed of decision-making is night and day."

Q What advice do you have for junior engineers?

"Spend time on actual job sites. You can design a perfect system on a screen, but the linemen and field technicians who build and maintain it will teach you things a textbook never could."

INTERNAL MILESTONES & RECOGNITION

WELCOME TO THE TEAM

Elena Rostova
Associate Structural Engineer

James Albright
Field Construction Specialist

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

Patricia Miller (20 Years)
Lead Protection Engineer

Robert Torres (10 Years)
Project Controls Analyst

1M

SAFE-HOUR
MILESTONE

Every person
counts.

PROJECT RADAR

Quick Updates Across the System

Valley Transmission Line

Right-of-way clearing is 90% complete. Foundation drilling for monopole structures begins November 2.

Metro Substation Expansion

The procurement team secured all long-lead equipment items. On-site grading is under way.

Renewable Integration Study

The internal engineering task force completed its preliminary phase-one battery-storage feasibility study. The report is open for department review.

EMPLOYEE RESOURCES

Need IT support?

Submit a ticket through Internal Tech Help Desk (ext. 4100).

Continuing education

Q4 Advanced Relay Coordination opens next week in the learning portal.

Have news?

Share milestones, team photos, or safety-recognition suggestions: PowerLine@ECS.com

SAFETY IN ACTION

Before you begin, make the safe choice.

KNOW THE RISKS

Review the task, weather, energy sources, and work location response plan.

COMMUNICATE EARLY

Stay in touch with your supervisor and team. Raise concerns before they become incidents.

BE READY

Check equipment, review procedures, and know where to find support resources.

Safe work is good work.