

Star Pulaski – Tatertown Telecommunications Fiber Project

Construction FAQ

I&M representatives plan to install approximately 15 miles of telecommunications wire and equipment – commonly called a fiber optic system – in Pulaski County. The wires connect the company's existing Tatertown Substation, located west of County Road 700 W, to the proposed Star Pulaski Substation south of County Road 100 N.

Project Components & Benefits

Crews plan to bury fiber underground within the right-of-way along County Roads 400 S, 500 W, 100 N and 700 W. The fiber lines help I&M officials monitor transmission facilities, respond quickly to power outages, strengthen electric service and improve reliability for customers throughout the area.

What to Expect During Construction

- Permitted work hours from 7 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday - Friday.
- Construction equipment including plows, directional drilling equipment and mini excavators.
- Increased noise, dust and vibration during working hours.
- Longer travel times through the work zones.

Traffic Control

While work occurs outside the traveled roadway, crews may implement the following Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT)-approved temporary traffic control measures for safety:

- Single-lane closures with flaggers.
- Full road closures and detour routes only when necessary.
- Construction signage identifying active work areas.
- Crews maintain local and emergency access at all times.

Safety Tips

- Keep your distance from construction workers and equipment.
- Stay outside of temporary safety barriers.
- Slow down when driving in the area and make sure your headlights are on.
- Watch for posted signs.
- Watch for road closures and traffic detours.
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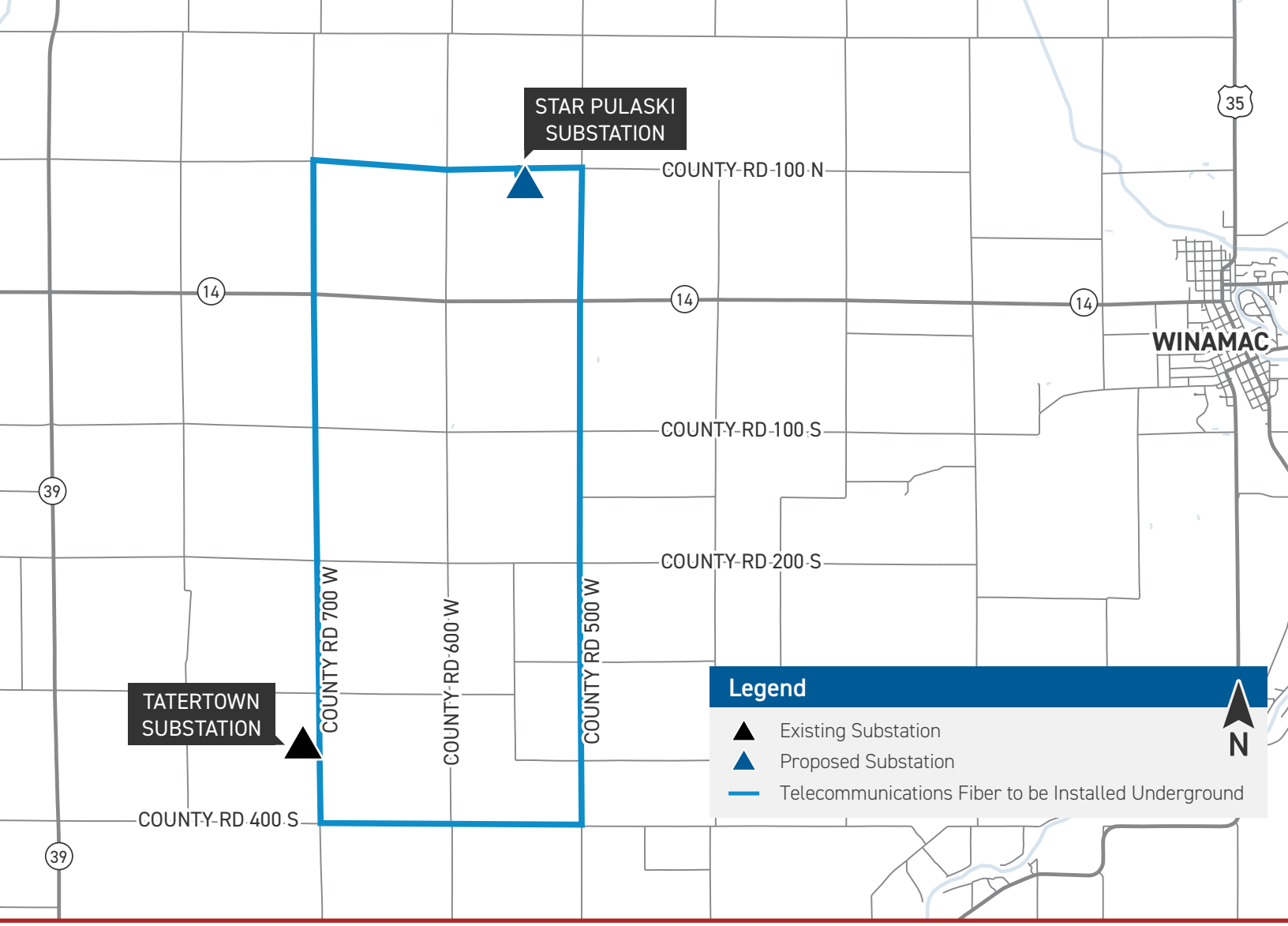
Underground Installation

Crews may use any of the following methods to bury plastic conduits that house communication wire. They determine which method to used based on municipal requirements, soil conditions, proximity to other buried utilities and other factors.

- **Boring:** Involves drilling a hole horizontally below the ground's surface to install the conduits.
- **Plowing:** Involves pulling a single vertical blade behind a piece heavy machinery to create a slot in the earth for the conduits.
- **Trenching:** Involves using heavy machinery such as an excavator to dig a trench and then placing the conduits in the trench before refilling with dirt.

Working with Nearby Residents

- **Before Installation:** I&M representatives communicate upcoming work in the area and seek to address questions and concerns.
- **During Installation:** Crews work to limit traffic delays, although occasional road closures could occur.
- **After Installation:** Crews restore the right-of-way per County requirements.



Schedule

Construction begins September 2026 and concludes February 2027, weather permitting.

Anticipated Timeline

- September – November 2026: Underground conduit installation and trenching operations
- November 2026 – January 2027: Fiber optic cable installation, splicing and terminations
- February 2027: Final connections, testing, restoration and project cleanup

Construction Sequence

1. Advance notification to residents and businesses before work begins.
2. Locate existing utilities and confirm the planned route.
3. Install underground conduit in the road right-of-way using directional boring and trenching.
4. Place junction boxes and related conduit equipment.
5. Connect fiber optic cable.
6. Test the system, restore disturbed areas and clean up the work site.

We value your input. Please send comments and questions to:

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08/12/2026